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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXXVI

No. 32

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2008

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

U.S. groups establish Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund

WASHINGTON — The Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund has been established by the coalition of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC), Ukrainian Federation of America (UFA), Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (UACC) and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) to raise money and in-kind support from individuals, institutions, organizations and businesses for the people, homes and villages in western Ukraine hit in late July by what officials are calling the worst rainstorms in a century.

At least 38 people were killed in late July by a massive flood that hit the Vinnytsia, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv and Chernivtsi regions. Hundreds of towns and villages were flooded, with more than 40,000 houses affected and thousands of people evacuated, officials said. Some 655 settlements and over 57,000 hectares of farmland were washed out by the floods. The Ivano-Frankivsk region suffered the most.

According to the Ukrainian Ministry of Emergencies, more than 422 miles (679 kilometers) of highways and roads, and more than 900 bridges were destroyed in the storms, leaving more than 300 towns and villages without electricity, downing communication lines, and blocking food access routes throughout five regions of western Ukraine.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has called on international governments, organizations and businesses for major assistance. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor, has encouraged U.S. businesses and individuals working in Ukraine to provide funds and in-kind donations for emergency and longer term rebuilding assistance.

The Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund coalition was to meet with Mr. Taylor in Washington on August 7 to discuss the flood damage as assessed by U.S. Embassy personal, the U.S. government response and how the U.S. private for-profit and not-for-profit sector can work together with the U.S. government and the Ukraine government to provide effective assistance.

Donations accepted

The Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund is now accepting donations. To make a donation, readers may log on www.usukraine.org/donate.shtml, scroll down the page and mark your donation. Checks can be made out to Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund/USUF and mailed to the Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund, c/o U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1701 K St.,

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by Danylo Peleschuk
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The death toll rose to 38 people — including eight children — as the Ukrainian government scrambled to pick up the pieces in the aftermath of the deadly flooding that swept through six western Ukrainian oblasts on July 23-27.

More than 24,000 families were evacuated, and 19 inhabited villages still remain flooded as a result of what authorities claimed was the worst flooding disaster in over a century.

Both President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko returned to the affected areas on working visits, meeting with residents and officials. Both promised effective and efficient action against the devastation left behind after the water levels receded.

During her visit to the Chernivtsi Oblast on August 4, Ms. Tymoshenko accused local authorities of deliberately underestimating the degree of destruction suffered by residents whose houses and properties were destroyed government compensation to be paid out.

The Verkhovna Rada had voted on July 31 to allocate about \$300 million in emergency funds to the six oblasts, of which Chernivtsi was supposed to receive \$100 million. Local oblast



Web-portal of the Ukrainian Government
Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko tours flood-devastated regions of western Ukraine via helicopter.

authorities were responsible for dividing the sum and dispensing advance payments of between \$200 and \$1,000 to each affected family, depending on their level of need.

"I'm very disappointed with the current advance payments to citizens who suffered from the floods," Ms.

Tymoshenko said. "I will hold very serious conversations with local bodies of power because they just cannot treat people in such a way."

About 30,000 families have received advance payments toward property dam-

(Continued on page 9)

Ukraine fields largest team ever for Beijing Olympics

KYIV — Two hundred fifty-four athletes from Ukraine are participating in the XXIX Summer Olympic Games in Beijing. This is largest Olympic team fielded by Ukraine since the country has been competing in the Games as an independent state.

The team is accompanied by 160 coaches and trainers, as well as 26 other staff members, including doctors and therapists.

President Viktor Yushchenko on July 27 took part in a send-off ceremony on Kyiv's Independence Square for the Ukrainian athletes headed to Beijing. He

addressed the athletes, telling them that participation in the Olympic Games is very important for the country. "First of all you represent a large European country, you represent Ukrainian sports and your own ambitions."

He wished the Olympic team "a happy journey and victory in competition" and expressed his hope that the athletes would "return home with glory."

The president presented the team's captain, shot putter Yurii Bilonoh, with an icon blessed in St. Sophia Cathedral by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I. As well, the team received a Ukrainian national flag.

Also attending the ceremony was Family, Youth and Sports Minister Yurii Pavlenko and the National Olympic Committee Chairman Serhii Bubka.

Pop musicians Oleksander Voyevudskyi, Kampalia, Natalia Valevska, Vitalii Kozlovskyi and Viktor Pavlik performed on stage. The ceremony ended with a fireworks display.

Ukraine's team will compete in 28 sports events during the course of the Games, which are being held August 8 through 24.

Sources: Ukrinform, UNIAN, Official Website of Ukraine's President, Ukrayinske Radio.



Vitalii Kozlovskyi sends off Ukraine's Olympic athletes with a song.

ANALYSIS

Viktor Yushchenko switches support from Our Ukraine to United Center

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

On July 12 Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko's fourth party of power, United Center, held its inaugural congress in pompous style at the Ukrayina Palace; the proceedings were broadcast live on state television Channel 1. Although Presidential Secretariat chief Viktor Baloha was touted by the Ukrainian media as the most likely candidate, because of the use of administrative resources in the party's construction, Ihor Kryl was re-elected as leader (edc.org.ua).

United Center's inability to find a charismatic and well-known leader is endemic to the party's crisis from its inception. The merger of United Center with the People's Democratic Party failed to materialize prior to the congress (Ukrayinska Pravda, June 27).

United Center was established on March 27 after five deputies resigned from Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) but opted to remain in the Orange coalition. At a maximum, United Center may grow to number 15 out of the 72 OU-PSD national deputies, still far short of the necessary majority of 37 required to vote for OU-PSD's withdrawal from the coalition.

United Center supports a grand coalition of OU-PSD and the Party of the Regions of Ukraine (PRU). United Center is a "constructive alternative," Mr. Baloha said, using a codeword for pragmatists in PRU and OU-PSD to unite. "We are of one mind with

the president, our aims are the same," he said (Ukrayinska Pravda, July 8).

The new party of power is being established administratively through oblast state administration chairs, also known as governors, with three joining (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 27). In Dnipropetrovsk a large proportion of the governor's staff have joined.

United Center is being established "from above, using the advantages of administrative offices, reminiscent of Kuchma-era methods," Zerkalo Nedeli (June 28) bemoaned. Officials employed in oblast governments refusing to join United Center have been released from employment (Ukrayinska Pravda, July 1). In half of Ukraine's 27 regions, United Center is headed by the governor or his deputies.

United Center has two major pitfalls. First, under constitutional reforms supported by Parliament's two largest factions, PRU and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), governors would be placed under government control, leaving the president with few "administrative resources." The People's Democratic Party halted unification talks with United Center after its leader Ludmilla Suprun was not offered the post of Zaporizhia governor.

Second, United Center's choice of allies is marginal. The People's Democratic Party, the Democratic Party and the Republican Christian Party stood in the 2007 elections in the Ludmilla Suprun-Ukrainian Regional Active bloc that obtained 0.34 percent (10th place). Two other marginal allies are the

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Former Yushchenko ally calls president's poisoning claims a myth

by **Pavel Korduban**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has made it clear that he holds Davyd Zhvania, the sponsor of the populist People's Self-Defense bloc (PSD), responsible for his mysterious poisoning at the height of the presidential election race in 2004. Mr. Zhvania denies this. He also insists that Mr. Yushchenko's illness was a case of ordinary food poisoning and that his poisoning with dioxin was nothing more than a myth created in order to help him win the election.

The next presidential race, expected in 2009, is probably at stake now. The Yushchenko team suspects PSD and Mr. Zhvania – a businessman of Georgian descent, Mr. Yushchenko's former close ally and the godfather of his son – of supporting Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's

presidential ambitions. PSD is part of Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD), but the Presidential Secretariat suspects that it is loyal to Mr. Tymoshenko, who may run for president against Yushchenko. Mr. Zhvania's claims that Mr. Yushchenko's dioxin poisoning was a fabrication cast a shadow over the president's integrity, potentially spoiling his chances of re-election.

Mr. Zhvania's troubles began this past May, when the Procurator General's Office (PGO) opened a criminal case on the suspicion that he illegally obtained Ukrainian citizenship. In return, Mr. Zhvania claimed that Mr. Yushchenko's wife had illegally kept her U.S. citizenship, and that the criminal case against him was revenge for his disobeying dience in regard to the president's orders related to the recent mayoral election in Kyiv. Mr. Yushchenko's team denied Mr. Zhvania's allegations.

Speaking in an interview on May 30, Mr. Zhvania sensationally claimed that Mr. Yushchenko was not poisoned with dioxin in 2004 (RFE/RL, May 30). He said Mr. Yushchenko suffered from an attack of pancreatitis caused by ordinary food poisoning and that his face was subsequently disfigured not by dioxin but by an inflammation not related to the poisoning. Mr. Yushchenko's team, he said, decided to sell it to the public as deliberate poisoning (Komsomolskaya Pravda Ukraina, July 2).

Asked why he did not reveal this earlier, Mr. Zhvania said that he did not want the spirit of the pro-Yushchenko Orange Revolution in November-December 2004

(Continued on page 18)

NEWSBRIEFS

U.N. estimates flood damage

KYIV – Heavy rain and storm in Central and Eastern Europe that started on July 22 led to a sharp rise in water levels in the Dnister and Prut rivers and devastating floods in Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia and Hungary. A total of 42 people, including 32 residents from Ukraine's western regions, were killed by the flood, according to the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs, Ukrinform reported on August 6, citing the U.N. News Center. According to the United Nations, the damage done to Ukraine's western regions after the flooding is estimated at \$650 million to \$870 million (U.S.). The flood-stricken regions urgently need field kitchens, tents, power generators and other materials, as well as equipment needed to evacuate people and conduct restoration work. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko praises Rada's action

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on August 4 praised the Verkhovna Rada's decision to pass a law on the introduction of amendments to the Ukrainian law on the national budget of Ukraine for 2008 and on the introduction of amendments to some Ukrainian laws on the elimination of the flood's aftermath in the country's six regions. "In my opinion, the Verkhovna Rada brilliantly demonstrated that it, even in an urgent situation, can be Ukrainian and resolve all issues," he told journalists in the village of Verkhovyna, Ivano-Frankivsk region, on August 3. He was in the region to inspect disaster relief efforts. Mr. Yushchenko said that the funds had been allocated by local authorities to deal with the flooding's aftermath. The president said that 750 million hrv (nearly \$155 million U.S.) is currently sufficient to tackle the consequences of the flood in the Ivano-Frankivsk region. He said that proposals on budget amendments for the flood-hit regions had been taken into account in his bill of budget amendments in the Verkhovna Rada. Infrastructure and roads were worst hit by the flood in Verkhovyna district, Ivano-Frankivsk region. (Ukrinform)

Sociologists predict start of campaign

KYIV – The presidential election campaign will informally start this autumn, according to the SocioVymir center of sociology and policy studies. Commenting on a survey of Ukraine's 25 leading political experts, SocioVymir head Serhii Taran said on August 5 that an election in two rounds is beyond question. According to the forecasts, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko (96 percent of respondents) and Party of the Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich (88 percent) will compete in the run-off. Only 20 percent of the experts polled said President Viktor Yushchenko has any chance to get to the second round. Other possible participants in the presidential race are Parliament Chairman Arseniy Yatseniuk and Volodymyr Lytvyn, leader of the eponymous parliamentary bloc that is not a member of either the majority or the opposition. Experts believe Mr. Yushchenko will employ administrative resources most of all during the presidential election campaign, while Ms. Tymoshenko will rely on electoral resources to receive the broad support of the population. Mr. Yanukovich is expected to mainly use financial resources, focusing on "cost-is-no-object political projects and the support of financial circles." At the same time, the three candidates will equally distribute information resources "for the first time in the history of Ukrainian elections," Mr. Taran noted. (Ukrinform)

Floods will affect harvest

KYIV – The floods in western Ukraine will not have a negative impact on the grain crop, because grain-growing areas are mainly located in the central regions of the country, but they may affect the sugar beet and potato harvest, according to experts. Statements to this effect were made by Andrii Huta, MRIYA Agro Holding company supervisory board member, and Volodymyr Hryhorevskyi, executive manager of the open joint stock company UKRROS Sugar Union, during a telephone conference organized for the

(Continued on page 14)

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: Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510
UNA: 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, August 10, 2008, No. 32, Vol. LXXVI
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Corrections

The front page photo accompanying the story about Soyuzivka's second Ukrainian Cultural Festival (July 27) was improperly credited. The photo was taken by Russ Chelak.

Photos appearing with the story about the first tour of "Tabir Ptashat" at Soyuzivka (August 3) should have been credited to Andrij Wojtowycz (group photo) and Lesia Naumenko (photos of activities).

Dragon Capital courts middle-class investors for Ukraine's stock market

by Zenon Zawada

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Disappointed with the U.S. stock market?

Ukraine's biggest investment bank, Dragon Capital, announced last month it is courting middle-class investors to buy into the Ukrainian stock market, which provided extraordinary returns to investors in 2007 but is struggling this year.

After Dragon Capital helped launch the Ukrainian stock market in 1996, about three-quarters of its investors were Western financial institutions, and the remaining quarter consisted of Ukrainian investors and individuals with at least \$100,000 to risk.

Since the Orange Revolution, a middle class has emerged in Ukraine's biggest cities, earning annual salaries of \$13,000 or higher, who are looking to broaden their investment, Taras Lukachuk, the retail network director at Dragon Capital, told a July 2 press conference in Kyiv.

"We want to propose to the public the possibility to diversify savings," Mr. Lukachuk said. "For those who are ready to take the next step and look at additional instruments of investing their savings, we are offering to accompany them with our professional experience of working on the Ukrainian market, our analyses and our service."

Ukrainians are behind the Russians and Poles, whose emerging middle class began investing in their nation's stock markets as early as 10 years ago.

While working in Poland for a year, Dmytro Tarabakin, Dragon Capital's head of trading and domestic sales, said he observed Polish students investing thousands in their stock market. "And many taxi drivers are even familiar with the prices on the stock market," he added.

"Looking at the development of the Ukrainian financial markets, after the rather buoyant development of the banking sector and exceptional development of the insurance market in recent years, the stock market is the sector that hasn't entered an appropriate level of development compared to other markets," Mr. Lukachuk said.

Most middle-class Ukrainians place their investments in either bank deposits or real estate, he said.



Taras Lukachuk, retail network director at Dragon Capital, Ukraine's biggest investment bank.

Convincing Ukrainians to enter the stock market might be a challenge, considering many were hesitant to trust banks with their money after millions of Ukrainians lost more than \$25 billion in the Soviet Union's collapse.

Banks have regained trust among Ukrainians, who have invested 200 billion hrv (\$43 billion U.S.) into savings accounts that offer attractive deposit rates because of the risk involved, Mr. Lukachuk said.

For example, a one-year deposit in euros offers a return of between 7.5 and 9 percent in Ukrainian banks; U.S. dollars offer a 9 to 11 percent return and placing hryvni in one-year savings will result in a 13 to 17 percent gain after a year.

Ukrainians have another 300 billion hrv (\$65 billion) in real estate, he said.

To enable Ukrainians to make the transition, Dragon Capital will offer full-service consulting at no cost. The only expense clients will pay will be in trade commissions, ranging from 0.3 to 0.5 percent of the trade's value.

Dragon Capital's target clients are educated, middle-class residents of Ukraine's "millionyks" (cities with more than a million residents) who have already invested in bank deposits and real estate.

The minimum investment is 10,000 hrv (\$2,155), Mr. Lukachuk said. Ukraine's stock market posted the second-best performance in the world in 2007, skyrocketing 130 percent and more than doubling the wealth of its investors.

However, the market has declined 35 percent this year, reaching a 15-month low. That shouldn't discourage investors, experts said, particularly because it opens a buying opportunity.

"If you entered the stock market in January 2007, you obtained a bigger return than investing in a bank deposit in the same period," Mr. Lukachuk said.

The first of five Dragon Capital retail outlets planned for this year opened in Kyiv's Leonardo Business Center at the intersection of Khmelnytsky and Volodymyrska streets.

At least one will be opened in another milionyk, such as Dnipropetrovsk or Donetsk.

Dragon Capital was launched in 2000 by Czech investment banker Tomas Fiala and Czech partners, who recruited Goldman Sachs as a minority shareholder.

Since 2005 the company has completed 25 initial public offerings and public placements of stock, raising \$1.7 billion. Its asset-management arm manages about \$1 billion.

Americans and Canadians interested in investing in the Ukrainian stock market through Dragon Capital can do so as non-residents of Ukraine.

They should keep in mind "our specialty and focus is the Ukrainian stock market and the shares of Ukrainian enterprises listed on foreign stock exchanges," Mr. Lukachuk said.

Foreigners must sign and send an agreement creating the account, which overseas clients can monitor via the Internet.

NEWS ANALYSIS: Is Ukraine on the brink of an energy crisis?

by Roman Kupchinsky

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Come January 2009, Ukraine will, in all likelihood, begin paying Russia's Gazprom in the range of \$400 per 1,000 cubic meters for natural gas, or \$22 billion per year. Presently the country pays \$179 per 1,000 cubic meters, or \$9.9 billion per year.

Will Ukraine be able to survive the new price?

For years, Ukraine has been hard-pressed to pay its debts to Gazprom and has regularly been indebted to Gazprom to the tune of about \$1 billion per year.

Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller stated that by July of this year Ukraine had hoarded 1 billion cubic meters of gas – destined for sale to European customers – into its underground gas storage facilities, withholding it from RosUkrEnergo, the Swiss-based intermediary company that sells Central Asian gas to a number of European companies (Kommersant, July 21). Mr. Miller explained that this was a maneuver by Naftohaz Ukrainy, the Ukrainian state-owned oil and gas monopoly, to stock up on cheaper gas in order to reduce costly imports in 2009.

All indications point to the fact that Ukraine is decidedly unprepared for such a dramatic increase in energy costs, and few believe it will be able to convince Central Asian leaders to lessen the blow by reducing the price at which they sell their gas to Gazprom or to make the increase incremental over a span of five years.

Yulia Tymoshenko, the Ukrainian prime minister, held out hope by saying that during her meeting with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in June, Mr. Putin

promised to distribute the price increase over a five-year span (Ukrayinska Pravda, June 28). Earlier, however, Mr. Putin told Ukraine's leadership that Russian "subsidies" for their energy imports had come to an end.

Both sides in the ongoing negotiations have been careful thus far in their comments and have avoided confrontational remarks – the sole exception being Ukrainian Minister of the Economy Bohdan Danylyshyn, who stated that if the price of gas were to jump to \$400, Ukraine should block Russia's entry into the World Trade Organization.

Gazprom could conceivably agree to an incremental price increase for Ukraine over a span of five years, thus allowing the country to radically improve its highly energy-wasteful economy and reduce yearly gas imports from the current 55 billion cubic meters (bcm) to 40 bcm or less and to develop alternative energy sources. In the end, however, Ukraine will need to pay the accumulated debt.

The worst-case scenario would be for Gazprom to refuse to grant the Ukrainians debt postponement and demand cash up front for gas deliveries. This could be a death blow to Ukrainian industry and agriculture, which are highly reliant on gas for manufacturing and fertilizer production.

Such a price increase could have unpredictable consequences for Ukrainian politics. Many industrialists might blame President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Tymoshenko for not preparing the country for such a predictable escalation of energy costs and might not support them in the 2009 presidential election.

Voters in eastern Ukraine could lose some of their pro-Russian enthusiasm if higher gas prices lead to wide-scale unem-

ployment in their region. Some would place the blame on Russia for "squeezing" Ukraine – and them – into an economic crisis.

Others, however, might argue that if Ukraine were part of Russia, they would pay low Russian domestic prices for gas and thus avoid a crisis.

The opposition pro-Russian Party of the Regions (PRU) has maintained silence about the price increase, knowing that it shares full responsibility with the ruling coalition for Ukraine's inability to cope with rising energy costs. Nonetheless, if the increase is not modified, Viktor Yanukovich, the leader of the PRU, will in all probability benefit most and be elected president.

Gazprom and the Kremlin might be

tempted to play the "gas card" in order to see Mr. Yanukovich elected and to gain control – if not direct ownership – of the Ukrainian trunk gas pipeline, a longtime objective of Russian policy meant to give Gazprom the ultimate say over the largest supply route of Russian gas to Europe.

With a possible debt of over \$10 billion by late 2009, the new Ukrainian government might be forced to sell the pipeline to Gazprom – as well as a substantial part of its industrial base, maintain the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol: and renounce its intention to join NATO.

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

Most popular names in Ukraine: Oleksander and Anastasia

Ukrinform

KYIV – About 30 names are the popular choice of parents in Ukraine, according to children's registration documents filed during the past several years. The names Oleksander and Anastasia are most popular in the country, the Department for the Civil State of Citizens at the Ukrainian Justice Ministry reported.

Among male names, Ukrainian citizens most often choose Oleksander, Danylo, Maksym, Vladyslav, Mykyta, Artem, Kyrylo, Yehor, Illia, Andrii,

Oleksii, Bohdan, Denys, Dmytro and Yaroslav.

Among female names, Ukrainians choose Anastasia, Daryna, Maria, Natalia, Sofia, Yulia, Viktoria, Yelyzaveta, Hanna, Veronika, Uliana, Oleksandra, Yana and Khrystyna.

The Justice Ministry also reported that Ukrainian citizens sometimes choose such unusual male names as Loammii, Lenmar, Yustyk, Ararat, Avhustyn, Zelay, Pietro and Ramis, and such unusual female names as Elita, Navista, Piata, Eloria, Karabina and Yurdana.

Global Museum on Communism seeks exhibits and information

WASHINGTON – The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation announced on August 1 that it has transmitted a worldwide “call for exhibits and information” for its upcoming online Global Museum on Communism, slated to be launched in early 2009.

According to the foundation’s chairman, Dr. Lee Edwards, the announcement is being sent to hundreds of organizations and individuals worldwide via the Internet.

Museums, think-tanks, ethnic associations and governments in nearly 40 countries are being contacted, stated Dr. Edwards. The announcement is part of outreach efforts designed to collect and inventory, electronically, the broadest possible assortment of historical objects and records related to the people who lived under communism.

According to Dr. Edwards, the announcement is expected to yield a wealth of information from groups and people already included in the foundation’s global network, as well as dozens of new partners. Many of

these organizations have participated in the foundation’s memorial events and educational activities on behalf of communism’s 100 million victims for a decade.

Dr. Edwards stated that the initial emphasis would be on identifying representative stories from people whose histories can be recorded and digitally displayed online. He stated that the museum would first focus upon collecting video and audio testimony from people who experienced communism while they are still in good health. These individual testimonies are expected to produce a more personalized understanding for museum visitors about the impact of communism.

“Time is not on our side,” Dr. Edwards stated. “The evidence of Communist tyranny is constantly being buried with the passing of survivors.”

Dr. Edwards stated that the online museum is expected to “go live” sometime in early 2009 and will feature exhibits from the countries who suffered the most under communism.

A preview site of the museum was launched on the

first anniversary of the dedication of the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, on June 12.

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez and U.S. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer headlined a speakers’ roster that included a dozen members of Congress from both sides of the aisle. More than a dozen ambassadors and embassy representatives, and organizations from 23 countries also took part in the commemoration.

The preview of the museum was presented to the attendees at a subsequent luncheon. It may be viewed at: <http://www.globalmuseumoncommunism.org>

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation is dedicated to educating this generation and future generations about the history, philosophy and legacy of communism.

A global appeal for museum materials

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation is dedicated to memorializing the more than 100 million victims of communism. We believe that informing people around the world about communism is crucial to preventing its resurgence.

We have, therefore, begun a global effort to educate the public about the dark era of communism through an online museum. Slated to open in early 2009, the Global Museum on Communism will tell the complete history, philosophy and legacy of communism.

We recognize that many institutions have collected great amounts of information and artifacts regarding communism. Our goal is to electronically link these efforts and spark new collection efforts before the evidence is forever lost.

Our museum will network with regional museums, educational institutions and ethnic associations from around the world in one common educational mission. It will serve as an online “meeting place” for scholars, researchers and activists to interact and build their research and educational capabilities.

We invite you join us. We ask you to help create an online exhibit that tells the unique story of your family, community, people or nation, including those who suffered under communism and those who successfully resisted it.

You can view a preview site of our museum at <http://www.globalmuseumoncommunism.org>

Please contact our director of public affairs, Ed Priola, by telephone, 202-589-1991, or e-mail, info@victimsofcommunism.org, for more details.

– Dr. Lee Edwards, chairman

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: July

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TOTAL: \$3,820.00

*Sincere thanks to all contributors to
The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund.*

*The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund is the only fund
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YOUR E-MAIL MESSAGES TO THE WEEKLY

Due to the quantity of messages The Ukrainian Weekly receives at its address (staff@ukrweekly.com), we kindly ask senders to have consideration for those on the receiving end.

1. If you send us a message by e-mail, please expect that we will respond likewise. Therefore, please do not block our responses or ask us to fill out request forms in order to become “approved senders.” (We simply haven’t got the time to fill out such requests.)

2. If you send us information in attachment form, please do not label the attachment “The Ukrainian Weekly,” “Ukrainian Weekly,” “The Weekly,” or any other variation thereof. Please use an appropriate label for your attachment that will distinguish it from others. (We receive many attachments each week that are called “Ukrainian Weekly” – not a good idea...)

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Thank you for your anticipated cooperation!

Cambridge taps Columbia grad as Ukrainian studies lecturer



Rory Finnin

NEW YORK – Rory Finnin of Columbia University has been appointed temporary lecturer in Ukrainian studies at the University of Cambridge.

A five-year, fixed-term post supported entirely by external funding, the lectureship will initiate and develop a pilot scheme for a Ukrainian studies program at Cambridge – one of the first programs of its kind in Europe. Its first stage will be an introductory course in the 2008-2009 academic year on the language, literature and culture of Ukraine available to students in their second year and above.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Finnin has been a part of Ukrainian studies at Columbia University since 2002. As a doctoral candidate in Columbia's department of Slavic languages and the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, he represented the Ukrainian studies program at international academic conferences and taught elementary

(Continued on page 8)

Ukraine appoints film advisor from U.S.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. – The head of the Film Department of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine has appointed Peter Borisow its first official advisor and representative in the United States.

The decree authorizes Mr. Borisow to support creation of direct bilateral relations between foreign and Ukrainian film distributors, producers and exhibitors; advise film company executives, distributors and producers regarding laws and regulations



Peter Borisow

applying to the film industry in Ukraine and undertake negotiations regarding co-productions and production services in Ukraine.

Mr. Borisow is president of the Hollywood Trident Foundation and a member of the board of directors of the Center for U.S. Ukrainian Relations. He works in film finance risk management and travels frequently to Ukraine to advise the film sector.

“Ukraine has a rich history of filmmaking and great potential to become a major player in the world film industry,” stated Mr. Borisow. “It was the heart of the Soviet film industry under the USSR. Many important Hollywood players in the business today descend from Ukrainian families who fled the Russian tsar’s pogroms in the early 1900s. Max Factor (born Maxim Faktorovich), for example, came to Hollywood from Kyiv, Ukraine’s capital, where he made make-up for the local theater. Jack Palance, Natalie Woods, Michael Douglas and Dustin Hoffman all came from families that emigrated from Ukraine.”

Mr. Borisow pointed out that “Today

(Continued on page 18)

Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute sponsors Study Days

OTTAWA – Almost 200 people from as far away as San Diego and Lviv on July 2-5 participated in the first Study Days of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies at St. Paul University in Ottawa.

The participants were treated to a program of lectures and workshops by renowned Orthodox and Eastern Catholic speakers. The Study Days also included vespers, matins and the divine liturgy as well as film presentations, a youth program and opportunities for fellowship.

The Rev. Thomas Hopko, dean emeritus of St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary in New York, presented the first plenary address, “Christian Doctrine in an Age of Relativism.” The highly acclaimed dogmatic theologian stressed the holistic means needed to approach the truth.

“I always counsel people, don’t even begin to ask theological questions until you have made an honest attempt to live the commandments, read all four gospels slowly at least three times, and spend time in prayer and silence,” he said. The Rev. Hopko noted how truth is not a “what” but a “who” – Jesus Christ – and that only a preparatory purification can enable our minds to approach Him.

The next day, the Rev. Peter Galadza, Kule Family Professor of Liturgy at the Sheptytsky Institute, spoke on “Eastern Liturgy in a Western World.” In a trenchant analysis of North American culture



Close to 200 participants from throughout North America and from Ukraine in Ottawa for Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute Study Days.

and lifestyles, the Rev. Galadza indicated how Eastern Christians can capitalize on positive aspects of Western life to realize the potential of their traditional liturgies; but he also reflected on how consumerism, narcissism, and “entertainment” hinder the goal.

The noted Orthodox author and media personality Frederica Mathewes-Green spoke on the third Study Day on “Christian Morality in a Post-Christian Age.”

She analyzed the influence of films – beginning with the era of silent movies – in transforming our sense of right and wrong. She noted that Christians need not succumb to a sense of inevitable decline. “In the 1940s and 1950’s adultery and drunkenness were valorized as

‘necessary’ and comical, respectively. Today, in spite of moral decline in other areas, the man who cheats on his wife, or the individual who does stupid things while drunk is not treated sympathetically in movies.” The speaker suggested that Christians can work effectively to change sensibilities in other areas of morality.

The Rev. Andriy Chirovsky, Peter and Doris Kule Professor of Theology and Spirituality at the institute, capped the four-day event with an inspiring, brilliant and humorous reflection on evangelization. He noted how the small size of many Eastern Christian parishes can be turned to advantage. “People can actually get to know one another well in such small communities. We also need to overcome our inferiority complexes and see the treasures that can – and do – attract outsiders to our churches,” said the Rev. Chirovsky.

All of the morning plenary addresses were followed every afternoon by smaller workshops focusing on other areas of Eastern Christian thought and life. To feature the outstanding teaching personnel of the Sheptytsky Institute, the organizing committee invited the Revs. John Jillions, Andrew Onuferko, Maxym Lysack and Stephen Wojcichowsky – all full-time or sessional lecturers at the institute – to lead workshops on pastoral theology, scripture, spirituality and social justice, respectively.

Out-of-town workshop presenters included Lesya Sabada Nahachewsky from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, who presented her newly released book on the Melkite Archbishop Joseph Raya and his

efforts for reconciliation in the Middle East.

Irene Galadza from Brampton, Ontario, spoke on catechesis. She highlighted the popular “Generations of Faith” program, noted for its adaptability to different kinds of communities – small and/or aging included.

The evenings were devoted to a guided screening of the excellent DVDs on the sacraments by Sister Ann Laszok, OSBM, their producer.

Topping off the workshop schedule was cantor training. Melita Mudri-Zubacz of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and the Rev. Roman Galadza of Brampton taught advanced and beginner groups, respectively. Ms. Mudri-Zubacz focussed on the resurrectional tones, and the Rev. Galadza taught the common chants of the divine liturgy. The participants then had an opportunity to apply their knowledge at the daily Study Days liturgical services.

A particular feature of this family-friendly event was the youth program, coordinated by Lisa Hladio of western Pennsylvania. Over 30 youths age 5 to 15 spent their mornings and afternoons learning the Word of God through prayer, Bible readings, skits, games, songs and crafts. The adult participants were regaled with their enthusiastic learnings at the Friday evening community supper as they sang a number of the songs they had learned during the week.

Most of the participants of Study Days expressed a desire to return next year; the next Study Days are tentatively planned for July 2 to 4, 2009.



Frederica Mathewes-Green, a noted author, speaker and media personality, speaks on morality in a post-Christian age.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Help Ukraine's flood victims

In what Ukrainian officials have described as the worst flooding in a century, western Ukrainian regions have been devastated by rising waters of the Prut and Dniester rivers and landslides that occurred in the wake of heavy rains over the course of five days at the end of July. The International Red Cross said tens of thousands in Ukraine and Moldova were forced to flee their homes and that food and clean water were urgently needed by flood victims. Also affected was neighboring Romania.

The flooding in Ukraine hit six oblasts: Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Zakarpattia, Chernivtsi, Ternopil and Vinnytsia, where more than 40,000 buildings and homes were destroyed, 360 roads and 900 bridges were damaged and more than 50,000 hectares of land were submerged. More than 20,000 people were evacuated. The death toll, at last count, was 38. The flooding was so severe that, to cite just one example, the village of Chornohuzy, located in the picturesque Chernivtsi Oblast, was obliterated.

President Viktor Yushchenko has declared the six regions disaster areas, a move endorsed by the Verkhovna Rada, which met in extraordinary session and voted to allocate funds for disaster relief. Incidentally, experts from the United Nations said the damage from the natural disaster has been estimated at between \$650 million and \$870 million (U.S.).

The president and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko toured the flood-ravaged areas to assess the scale of devastation and to reassure the people that help was on its way. Meanwhile officials worked to restore water, gas and electricity supplies, to fortify riverbanks and dams, to reconstruct roads, to deliver food, water and medicine to those in need.

The people of Ukraine have responded also. The Donetsk region sent 700,000 hrv in funds and several businesses from that oblast sent humanitarian aid, including food and clothing. Among the biggest contributors to relief efforts are large Ukrainian enterprises such as Energoatom (which donated 1 million hrv), the Odesa Portside Factory (250,000 hrv) and the Bohdan Corp. (250,000 hrv). Ukrainian government employees have donated portions of their earnings to disaster relief; President Yushchenko has contributed one week's salary. And Ukraine's stars also are lending support, with singer Ruslana and boxer Vitalii Klitschko seizing the initiative to form a committee called "Carpathians. Flood. SOS. 2008" (see <http://www.karpatysos.info/>) to coordinate delivery of disaster relief, and singer Sofia Rotaru donating funds to her native village in the Chernivtsi region.

Aid is coming in from abroad. Japan, for example, has provided humanitarian aid in the form of tents, blankets, generators and water filters. Other governments providing assistance are: Austria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Spain and the United States.

The needs in flood-ravaged western Ukraine are great. The Ukrainian diaspora also can – and should – help its brothers and sisters in our homeland – in fact, the Ukrainian World Congress has issued an appeal titled "Western Ukraine Under Water," calling on all Ukrainians and Ukrainian institutions to provide assistance.

Here in the United States, we know we can always count on a major humanitarian aid organization with a sterling track record of helping Ukrainians in need, wherever they may be. The United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) is accepting donations for aid to flood victims. Readers can donate online at www.uuarc.org or mail donations to: UUARC Inc. – Flood Relief, 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

As well, donations can be sent via the Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund (see story on page 1) established by a coalition of four Washington-based organizations: the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, the Ukrainian Federation of America, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. The new fund is collecting not only money but also in-kind support from individuals as well as organizations, institutions and businesses. To donate readers may log on to www.usukraine.org/donate.shtml or write to: Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund, c/o U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1701 K St., NW, Suite 903, Washington, DC 20006.

In Canada, donations are being accepted by Ukrainian Canadian Social Services Inc., 2445 Bloor St. W., Toronto, ON M6S 1P7.

There is simply no excuse for any of us not to help those in need in Ukraine, to help people in flood-ravaged areas rebuild their homes, their towns and their lives. Dear Readers: Show your care!

NEWS AND VIEWS

British government continues cover-up of genocidal nature of the Holodomor

by Steve Komarnyckyj

Anyone who drives through the Ukrainian countryside in summer is struck by the fertility of the soil. The endless fields roll past, respiring gently like a sea. The Holodomor, the genocidal famine that affected Ukraine in 1932-1933, seems as insubstantial as the clouds overhead. But millions died in a genocide that still is not widely acknowledged as such.

The facts are simple. Stalin had written to his henchman Lazar Kaganovich on August 11, 1932, that there were difficulties collecting bread in Ukraine and that the Communist Party of the Ukrainian SSR was becoming a "caricature of a Parliament."¹ He claimed that nationalist spies working for Poland must be behind a plot to sabotage grain requisitioning. Then he introduced measures that included sealing Ukraine's borders, and the borders of the Ukrainian areas of the Russian Federation, while removing everything edible from the rural population and using armed units to surround villages and stop starving peasants from fleeing.

These measures, which were introduced under the "Directive of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government Prohibiting the Departure of Starving Peasants from Ukraine and the Kuban,"² applied only to the ethnically Ukrainian territories of the Soviet Union. The result was mass starvation that was intended to ensure, according to a key architect of the Holodomor, Vsevolod Balyckyj, that the "ethnographic material [of Ukraine] would be changed." The Italian diplomat who quoted these words, writing from Kharkiv on May 31, 1933, estimated that 10 million to 15 million people had died and that what Stalin saw as "the Ukrainian problem" would be liquidated in a few months and that Ukraine would become "a Russian country."³

In the 1930s British civil servants in Whitehall were aware of the Famine but with a kind of Oxbridge-educated detachment viewed it as an unpleasant but minor detail – "awful shame... millions dead... doesn't concern us."

The present Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) seems determined to avoid what it doubtless sees as an "embarrassment" and a threat to Britain's trade relations with Russia that might be caused by recognizing the Holodomor as a genocide. Like many of the researchers they quote

Steve Komarnyckyj is a writer, poet and Ukrainian-English translator who has undertaken translation for the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Committee, Vsesvit Magazine and Ukrainska Pravda. His literary translations and poems have appeared in Poetry Salzburg Review, the North and the Echo Room, and his articles have appeared in Family Tree Magazine and the Institute of Translators and Interpreters bulletin. He is also the editor of www.holodomor.org.uk and a founder of Rock Against Genocide. He may be reached at steve@writerandtranslator.co.uk.

who deny the genocidal nature of the Holodomor, they simply do not analyze the event in the light of the 1948 Convention on Genocide. Instead they snatch at any bit of research that can be used and abused to justify their view like a magpie rifling through a garbage can for bits of tinfoil.

The Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide adopted by the United Nations in 1948 clearly states that genocide is "any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, such as... deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part."⁴ Academics, researchers and politicians who continue to deny that the Holodomor was a genocide need to look at the facts and explain why deliberately starving Ukrainian peasants to death does not fit the definition given by the convention.

What of the British research? The documents that the government has provided following Freedom of Information requests include a heavily censored letter from the British Embassy in Kyiv dated October 2, 2006. The ambassador states that "we will also have to get our lines straight on whether the famine was genocide and think about how to respond to Ukrainian desires to have a U.N. resolution. Perhaps in the first instance research analysts [at FCO] could set out the facts as we know them on the famine."⁵

Most of the letter has been censored on the grounds that "it falls under the exemption in section 27(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act." This is because it might "potentially damage the bilateral relationship between the U.K. and Ukraine."⁶

I believe that the material which has been omitted considered the political consequences of acknowledging the Holodomor and that the research document subsequently produced was intended to provide an academic fig leaf for a cowardly policy. The research begins by summarizing the main points that the FCO wishes to make, including a statement that "The consensus among historians is that the famine killed 3-6 million Ukrainians. Several factors caused the disaster. One was a policy of deliberate starvation by the Stalin leadership. The most controversial issue is whether the famine was an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people. The evidence suggests not."

The evidence summarized to produce the conclusion that there was no policy of starving Ukrainians to death acknowledges that the Ukrainian border was closed but does not explain why and simply ignores the increasing evidence that Stalin used the Famine to break Ukrainian independence. The letters from Stalin to Kaganovich, the slaughter of Ukrainian writers during this period⁷, the delight expressed by Panas Liubchenko at "smashing" during the "Glorious Year" 1933⁸, Balyckyj's delighted exclamation that "the ethnographic material will be changed" and numerous

(Continued on page 18)

August
12
1993

Turning the pages back...

Fifteen years ago, on August 12, 1993, the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, on behalf of the Ukrainian government, issued a plea for humanitarian aid for the flooded areas of the northern Rivne region.

The devastation, which was estimated at \$90 million, was responsible for killing six residents and left over 300,000 people

without basic means of support. Continuous heavy rains caused the Prypiat River to crest and submerged 750,000 acres of arable land and pastures. The flooding ruined 4,500 homes and 700 industrial facilities.

Environmental officials commented that elevated radiation levels were found around Kyiv and in northern Ukraine. Valentina Okipna, head of the Kyiv regional ecological control department, told the newspaper Kievskiyi Vedomosti that high water had raised levels of background radiation from 19 to 24 curies per week in the Dniro River. In particular, levels of strontium-90 had increased due to the floods. But she said that the increase posed no immediate threat to the residents near the river.

Source: "Floods cause rise in radiation levels," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 22, 1993.

¹ "Holodomor 1932-1933 yak Henotsyd," Stanislav Kulchytsky, Nash Chas, 2008, p. 252.

² With thanks to Prof. Roman Serbyn "Tragedia Sovetskoi Derevni. Kollektivizatsiia i Raskukachivanie. Dokumenty i Materialy v 5 tomakh 1927-1939," Tom 3 "Konets 1930-1933." Moscow, ROSSPEN, 2001, pp. 634-635.

³ "Vidlunnia Holodomoru Henotsydu," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 2005, p. 8.

⁴ See http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu3/b/p_genoci.htm.

⁵ See www.holodomor.org.uk for details of the research.

⁶ Richard Bielby, desk officer for Ukraine at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in a letter dated April 25, 2008.

⁷ See "Rozstriliane Vidrozhennia," Yuri Lawrinenko, Smoloskyp, 2004, for details of the work and the fate of some of these authors.

⁸ "The Ninth Circle," Olexa Woropay, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, 1983, pp. 37-38.

FOR THE RECORD

A letter to the U.K. government regarding the Famine-Genocide

In response to the United Kingdom's reluctance to take a position on Holodomor as genocide, Dr. Ihor Stebelsky, professor emeritus of political science at the University of Windsor in Ontario, wrote a letter to the government's foreign secretary, David Miliband, with a critique of the materials presented by the U.K.'s research analysts.

Dear Mr. Miliband:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the work of your research analysts of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office regarding the Holodomor.

I am a specialist of historical geography of the Soviet Union. My doctoral dissertation (University of Washington, 1967) was on land tenure and farm holdings before collectivization and touched, in part, on the issue of collectivization and its aftermath. I personally knew the late Alec Nove [noted authority on Soviet economic history – ed.] and had great respect for him as a colleague.

Your research analysts suggest that the issue of whether the Holodomor should be defined as a genocide is not straightforward for a number of reasons:

1. The United Nations definition of genocide was restricted to the eradication (in whole or in part) of certain groups based on ethnicity or religion, but not on other criteria. It should be remembered that this was done upon the insistence of the Soviet delegation, which knew that a broader definition would definitely qualify the Holodomor as a genocide.

2. The action conducted by the Soviet government in 1932-1933 was never stated as one targeting any specific ethnic group, only as an effort related to economic and social development goals of the USSR. One should remember that the Soviets specified that collectivization would be a "class war" that would eliminate the "Kulaks as a class," an action that began in earnest in 1930. This declared motivation would appear to support, in the words of Mr. Nove, that Stalin "starved to death those whom he believed to be recalcitrant peasants, many of whom were Ukrainians, rather than Ukrainians, many of whom were peasants." Thus, according to your analysts, by the strict U.N. definition of genocide, reluctant peasants cannot be included as a valid target group, regardless of whether peasants of one nationality were mass murdered while peasants of another were not punished to the same extent.

Yet there are compelling reasons why the Holodomor should be treated as genocide conducted by Stalin's regime against Ukrainians:

1. Starvation was intentionally induced to target the rural, ethnically Ukrainian, population. Starvation began in Ukraine in 1932 and reached its apogee in 1933, at a time when the majority of the peasant households were already collectivized, while the reluctant peasants had been dispossessed and sent to Siberia, or worse. The form of collectives enforced at the time excluded a private plot, a concession that was allowed later for individual survival. Instead, all food was taken away from the households.

Collective fields and animals were protected by armed guards, and pilfering was penalized by death. Desperate Ukrainian peasants were forced to sell any valuables for food in government stores or starve. They were forbidden to leave Ukraine (not even to Russia or

Belarus within the USSR, as those borders were controlled) to save themselves or their children from starvation.

The same controlling was applied in the Kuban region of the North Caucasus of the Russian Federation, where the majority of the population was Ukrainian. Perhaps by coincidence, the killer famine also hit the middle Volga Region of the Russian Federation, where there were large areas with a majority of Ukrainian and German farmers.

While huge losses of life also occurred in Kazakhstan in the course of settling the nomadic Kazakhs, the response to the excesses of collectivization and the deadly results was the provision of food to the starving by the Soviet government. Moreover, the borders of Kazakhstan were not sealed, and many mobile Kazakhs escaped to the Chinese province of Sinkiang.

2. All-out collectivization and then the starvation of Ukrainians coincided with the political repression of outspoken Ukrainian patriots and then of the Ukrainian National Communists. The policy of rooting out "bourgeois nationalists" began in 1930 with show trials in Kharkiv (then the capital of the Ukrainian SSR) of the Ukrainian intelligentsia and the destruction of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (arrests of its clergy and the destruction of its churches). The dragnet then percolated downward to include village teachers and priests in the elimination process.

The purging of the Communist cadres of the Ukrainian National Communists followed two years later, in 1932-1933, after they pleaded with authorities in Moscow to ease up on the food requisitions in Ukraine. Given this scenario one might reverse Mr. Nove's corollary that in this instance Stalin destroyed patriotic Ukrainians, many of whom were peasants.

3. Both Lenin and Stalin were obsessed with Ukraine. Lenin, in his article "Tax in Kind" (1921) deemed it essential to retain the resource-rich "South" at any cost.

Stalin, concerned about the growing Ukrainian National Communists in 1932, ordered his henchmen, [Viacheslav] Molotov and [Lazar] Kaganovich, who were placed in charge of grain requisitions in Ukraine, that "we must do everything not to lose Ukraine." Clearly, special measures were warranted in the case of Ukraine, including mass starvation in the Ukrainian villages, which were perceived by Stalin as the incubators of Ukrainian nationalism.

On the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, Russia and Ukraine have reached a crescendo of war of words. The Ukrainian government, led by President [Viktor] Yushchenko and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, adamantly insists on the international recognition of the Holodomor as genocide directed by Stalin (not Russia or the Russian people) against the Ukrainian people. They view this as a cornerstone of retrieving Ukrainian history that has been concealed for far too long. To facilitate research in this former taboo subject, they have opened the archives in Ukraine, particularly those of the former KGB, to public access.

The Russian government, led by President / now Prime Minister [Vladimir] Putin, denies that the Holodomor was a genocide, or that the Famine was directed against the Ukrainians. It claims, wrongly, that an

(Continued on page 19)

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Caffe alla Leopolitana

According to the eminent gastronome Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin, "coffee induces a high state of excitement in the brain" ("The Physiology of Taste," Chapter VI, Section 9). By blocking the neurotransmitter adenosine, the caffeine also prevents sleep. In some, it induces a mild state of euphoria.

These properties have given coffee an important place in cultural history. It helped the night-owl Balzac, immortalized by Rodin in a dressing-gown, write novels while his creditors slept. Voltaire's reputed 50 cups per day might have accounted for his optimistic view of human nature, reflected in the benevolent smile captured by the sculptor Houdon. And what the Father of Foodies called "extreme cerebral exaltation," experienced at Paris' Café de Foy, may have sparked the French Revolution. Considering the possible link between caffeine-induced excitement and political violence, one would not be surprised if the CIA were already plotting to dampen the jihadists' zeal by secretly decaffeinating their coffee.

Made from seeds (not beans) of the coffee plant, roasted, ground and brewed with water, coffee probably arose in 15th-century Arabia. By 1511 the mecca of coffee drinkers was, well, Mecca, which had at least one coffeehouse. Merchants and conquerors introduced the potion to Europe. There was, however, a problem: it was the drink of the Turkish infidels. According to a possibly apocryphal story, Pope Clement VIII (the same one who received the Ruthenians into the Roman Church in 1596) tasted this "devil's drink" and, with exemplary cultural openness and a willingness to embrace and transform what others found alien and threatening, decided to "cheat the devil by baptizing it."

Coffeehouses reportedly opened at Venice, Marseilles and The Hague in the 1640s, Oxford in 1650 and London in 1652. They became the focus of English literary life. Courier, scout and entrepreneur Georg Franz Kulchitsky is credited with opening Vienna's first coffeehouse, the Blue Bottle, in the wake of the failed Second Turkish Siege of 1683. Ukraine's first coffeehouse is said to have been established in Kamianets-Podilskyi in 1672, after the Poles ceded the fortress to the advancing Turks. Once Halychyna had passed to Austria a century later, coffee pavilions sprang up in Lviv. These were followed from the 1820s by real coffeehouses catering to homesick Viennese bureaucrats.

It was only in the late 19th and early 20th centuries – the golden age of the Continental coffeehouse – that Ukrainian writers, painters and musicians began to frequent these hotbeds of cultural creativity. Writing in the 1930s, Modernist author Petro Karmansky fondly recalled the turn-of-the-century Leopoldin café as a haven where the penniless artist could find "comfortable seating, warmth, a good deal of light, lots of periodicals, journals in several languages and, finally, interesting company and entertainment and momentary oblivion of grim reality."

For the price of a cup of coffee, he could "play the role of a real human being" and engage in intellectual work for hours on end. The coffeehouse created "a kind of brotherhood of like-minded individuals with shared ambitions" (quoted in Vynnychuk, cited below, p. 14). Karmansky's experience of Lviv's

Monopol or Central resembled that of Alfred Polgar at the Viennese Central or, in the 1920s, Ernest Hemingway at Paris' Closserie des Lilas.

Soviet occupation shut down Lviv's café culture. But, with time, artists began to gather in state-owned enterprises like the Nectar and the Virmenska. With the end of Soviet rule, new cafes like Lialka and Za Kulisamy sprang up, as the city began to revive its Austrian traditions.

Today, residents of Kyiv are offered special weekend get-aways to Lviv focusing on that city's coffeehouses. Among them are Pid Synoiu Fliashkoiu off the Rynok (Market Square), named after Kulchitsky, is Viennese establishment and bristling with Habsburg mementos; Videnska Kavarnia (Prospekt Svobody), with billiard-tables, framed prints of the old imperial capital and a charmingly mistranslated menu featuring drinks "low in coffin"; the dim, cavernous, and enchantingly decorated Zoloty Dukat (vul. Ivana Fedorova 20); Svit Kavy (pl. Katedralna 6), with its splendid variety of gourmet coffees and a canopied terrace; and the Tsukernia (vul. Staroievreiska 3), a meticulous recreation of a Viennese Konditorei.

Lviv's café revival has even attracted the attention of scholars. Ihor Junyk sees it as the embodiment of a particular post-modern type of nostalgia, characterized by a carnivalesque variety of clients engaging in debate and dialogue as well as celebration ("Under the Blue Bottle: Habsburg Nostalgia in Post-Soviet Lviv," *Krytyka XII*: 1-2, January-February 2008, pp. 22-23).

Can't you find the same thing here? Not really. While you can create a perfect replica of a Continental coffeehouse in America, you can't replicate the atmosphere, which depends on the education, habits, manners and mentality of the clientele, as well as on the surrounding culture. And why even try? The great American novel is far less likely to be scrawled in longhand by a wannabe Hemingway in a pseudo-continental café than keyboarded by a computer programmer in a plastic diner or a bored housewife in the kitchen of her tract home in some faceless Midwestern suburb.

But some writers describe home best when abroad. Joyce and Hemingway evoked Dublin and Michigan, respectively, in a Parisian café. About 80 years earlier Mykola Hohol (Gogol), who frequented the Caffè Greco, could depict dreary Russia in sunny Rome. Perhaps another Ukrainian expatriate may some day pen paeans to Donetsk at a Dunkin' Donuts in Podunk.

Today the European coffeehouse offers much the same attractions as it did a century ago: a place to be alone yet in public, to read, to meet with friends, to think and to talk, to dream and to write. In the imaginary world of the nostalgic, these lines would be composed in a cozy nook of Tsukernia, accompanied by a Viennese coffee with whipped cream and a slice of sour cherry tart, with Petro Karmansky and Ivan Franko conversing at the next table.

For further reading: Noel Riley Fitch, "The Grand Literary Cafes of Europe" (London, 2006); Iurii Vynnychuk, "Knaipya Lvova" (Lviv, 2000).

Andrew Sorokowski can be reached at samboritanus@hotmail.com.

Ukrainian Technological Society awards scholarships to Pennsylvania and Ohio students

PITTSBURGH – The Ukrainian Technological Society (UTS) of Pittsburgh presented its 2008 Scholarship Awards to undergraduate and graduate students from Western Pennsylvania and Ohio in ceremonies at the Henry Clay Frick Fine Arts Building on the University of Pittsburgh campus on Sunday, July 27.

Students, family members, UTS members and guests were welcomed by UTS Executive Board President Dr. Rokhsana Korchynsky, who provided an overview of the UTS – now in its 38th year – and its activities.

Dr. Korchynsky thanked the many donors who have continuously offered their financial support, particularly those who have underwritten permanent scholarships. She also gave special thanks to long-time UTS patron Kateryna Dowbenko for making arrangements for the use of the Frick Fine Arts Building for the day's event and for arranging for the musical portion of the program.

Dr. Korchynsky noted that the UTS scholarships being awarded will likely cover only a fraction of the cost of a year in college, but she underscored that they represent the support of an entire community that shares a common belief in the importance of higher education in an increasingly competitive and demanding world. Students are encouraged to not only work hard to reach their professional goals but to also consider ways they can make a contribution to their Ukrainian

community and to the larger community in return, she added.

Nickolas C. Kotow, UTS secretary, along with George Honchar, UTS vice-president, then awarded the 12 scholarships totaling \$6,500. This marked the 36th year of the UTS Scholarship Program, with 351 separate awards made totaling more than \$150,000.

The Korchynsky Family Scholarship, underwritten by Dr. Korchynsky, Marina Korchynsky Morari, and Michael Korchynsky Jr., was awarded to Iryna Pavlyshak of Ukraine, now residing in Pittsburgh.

The Chester Manasterski Memorial Scholarship, underwritten by Olga Manasterski and her sons, Myron and Gregory, was awarded to Christine L. Wachnowsky of Oakdale, Pa.

The Ukrainian Selfreliance of Western Pennsylvania Federal Credit Union Scholarship was awarded to Anastasia C. Markiw of Scott Township, Pa.

Receiving Akim and Tatiana Kutsenkow Memorial Scholarships, underwritten by Dr. and Mrs. Michael Kutsenkow, were Vitaly Cherednichenko of Pittsburgh; Anna Lernatovych of Carnegie, Pa.; Marc E. Senedak of Austintown, Ohio; and Janel K. Sudiak of Crafton, Pa.

Ukrainian Technological Society Scholarships were presented to Amy Dolnack of Verona, Pa.; Aleksandra J. Kocelko of Castle Shannon, Pa.; Maryann M. Kokus of Ebensburg, Pa.; Nicholas A.



Ukrainian Technological Society scholarship recipients (from left) Iryna Pavlyshak, Maryann M. Kokus, Nicholas A. Kokus, Anastasia C. Markiw, Christine L. Wachnowsky, Aleksandra J. Kocelko, Janel K. Sudiak, Anna Lernatovych and Taras Strutynsky.

Kokus of Ebensburg, Pa.; and Taras Strutynsky of McKees Rocks, Pa.

Following the awards presentation, entertainment was provided by Katie Alexander, who performed a traditional folk "Wreath Dance," and by the bandurist duo of Taras Lazurkevych and Oleh Sozansky.

Refreshments and a social hour followed the program in the courtyard gallery.

To learn more about the UTS, its Scholarship Program and other activities, readers may visit the website at www.utsphg.org. Donations toward the 2009 Scholarship Program are being accepted. Donations are tax-deductible, as provided by law, as the UTS has Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (3) designation. Donations or inquiries may be sent to the UTS at P.O. Box 4277, Pittsburgh, PA 15203; e-mail, uts@utsphg.org.

Holodomor conference and exhibit planned for Chicago

CHICAGO – The Chicago community is being invited to learn more about the Ukrainian genocide – the Holodomor – at an academic conference and exhibition scheduled for September 12 and 13.

Titled "Breaking the Silence on the Unknown Genocide," the two-day event includes an exhibition of documents, period photographs, eyewitness accounts and archival material. An abbreviated version of the first feature-length documentary about the Famine-Genocide, currently being produced in Hollywood, will be shown by director Bobby Leigh and producer Marta Tomkiw.

Three presentations are planned for the conference on Saturday, September 13. Dr. Volodymyr Chumachenko of the University of Illinois will present "Silencing the Greatest Tragedy: How it Was Done in Soviet Ukraine." Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk of the Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, Ontario, will discuss "The Diaspora, Ukraine and the Holodomor";

Nigel Colley will discuss the work of his great uncle, Gareth Jones, the 1930s British journalist who was one of the few journalists to travel to Ukraine and accurately report the Famine to the free world.

Invitations are being sent to a wide spectrum of Chicago political, educational, human rights and ethnic organizations with the goal of raising awareness about this critical and tragic event in Ukrainian history.

The exhibition, open for viewing both days, features 35 posters created by the Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Foundation chaired by Ukraine's First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko a former Chicagoan.

The conference and exhibition are one component of a yearlong education and commemoration campaign organized by the 75th Anniversary Ukrainian Genocide-Holodomor Commemoration Committee of Chicago, an umbrella committee made up of the city's many Ukrainian constituencies. It is part of the global effort by Ukrainians to commemorate a tragedy that claimed up

to 10 million Ukrainian victims.

"With the unsealing of archival material in Moscow and Kyiv, we have so much new material and documentation to support the claim of genocide that it now becomes critical that we make awareness of non-

Ukrainians the cornerstone of this year's commemoration," said Nestor Popowych, chairman of the committee.

For registration and information, readers may visit ukrainiangenocide.com/Chicago_conference or call 847-299-3433.

Cambridge taps...

(Continued from page 5)

Ukrainian to undergraduates, graduate students and faculty.

Mr. Finnin's primary research interest is the interplay of literature and national identity in Ukraine, particularly in the 19th century, but he also studies Soviet Ukrainian and Russian dissident literature, Turkish nationalist literature and human rights theory. His current project is a comparative study of literary allusions to the deportation of the Crimean Tatars in Ukrainian, Russian and Turkish literatures.

Mr. Finnin's work has been published in such academic journals as the *Slavonic and East European Review*, *Comparative Literature Studies* and *Harriman Review*. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ukraine in 1995-1997 and as an observer during the 2004 Ukrainian presidential elections.

A member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Mr. Finnin presented a lecture on Taras Shevchenko's "Kavkaz" at the 24th annual Shevchenko Conference in New York City in 2004. He is also editor of *Visnyk*, the newsletter of the American Association of Ukrainian Studies.



The Ukrainian-American Cultural Society of Central New Jersey
invites you and your friends to the

17th Independence Day Celebration of Ukraine

Sunday, August 24, 2008, starting at 3:00 pm

Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Center, 3 Davidson Ave., Somerset, N.J. 08873

The program will include:

Honored Artist of Ukraine Rostyslaw Wasylenko

"4th Wave" musical ensemble

"Barvinok" dance ensemble

"Akkolada" choir

And others ...

Refreshments during Intermission

Admission \$15.00, children 13 and under free

For information, call 908-788-3025 or 908-534-6683

Ukrainian government...

(Continued from page 1)

ages they suffered – about 2,000 of whom have received the maximum reimbursement of \$1,000, Ms. Tymoshenko said at a press conference. The Cabinet of Ministers plans to divide the affected families into three payment brackets, consisting of \$10,000, \$3,000 and \$1,000 categories, to be paid at a future date. Additionally, flood-hit small business owners will receive about \$1,000 for any material losses they may have incurred during the disaster.

Ms. Tymoshenko noted that 77 dams and 134 miles of roadway had been rebuilt, but she urged emergency workers to pick up the pace of rebuilding the infrastructure. The prime minister added that nearly all the gas, water and electricity supplies to the formerly flooded areas have been restored.

Mr. Yushchenko visited the Ternopil Oblast on August 6 with Minister of Emergency Situations Volodymyr Shandra, Minister of Health Vasyl Kniazevych and Ternopil Oblast Governor Yuriy Chyzhmar. The president where he promised residents that the allotted government subsidies would be enough to fix up their properties.

“We will do everything to restore your farmland and housing,” he said. “You will see your village and region looking even better than they did before the natural disaster.”

In an earlier visit to the Chernivtsi Oblast, Mr. Yushchenko called for the immediate implementation of an anti-flood program, which would include water-level-control facilities to fight imminent floods as well as the placement of a military engineering battalion in the Bukovyna region of western Ukraine, which includes the Chernivtsi Oblast.

The president also set up a commission to investigate logging and forestry procedures in the disaster regions, as unlawful cutting and clearing of wooded areas may have exacerbated the flooding.

A United Nations fact-finding team set out for western Ukraine on August 7 to survey the devastated areas’ humanitari-



Official Website of Ukraine's President

An aerial view of the damage in Ukraine's western regions.

an situation, as well as their short- and long-term recovery needs, reported the UNIAN news service.

Jeremy Hartley, Ukraine's UNICEF representative, as well as a group of experts from the U.N. Development Program, met with local authorities and residents from villages in the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast to assess the damage after Ukraine submitted its list of needs to the United Nations and donor countries on August 1.

To date, nearly \$1 million in donations – made by 334 individual persons, and nearly 500 legal entities – have been transferred to the Labor and Social Policy Ministry's account, according to Minister Pavlo Rozenko.



Web-portal of the Ukrainian Government

A view of the flood-ravaged Ivano-Frankivsk region.



Official Website of Ukraine's President

Houses amidst receding flood waters.

U.S. groups...

(Continued from page 1)

NW, Suite 903, Washington, DC 20006.

The four organizations in the coalition are represented in the management of the Ukraine Disaster Assistance Fund by: Dr. Zenia Chernyk, representative, Ukrainian Federation of America (www.ukrainian-federationofamerica.org); Ihor Gawdiak, president, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Nadia K. McConnell, president, U.S.-Ukraine

Foundation (USUF) (www.usukraine.org); and Morgan Williams, president, U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (www.usubc.org).

Financial reporting for the fund will be managed by John Kun, senior vice-president and chief operating officer of the USUF.

Anyone wishing to donate in Ukraine, make an in-kind donation, needing another way to donate or needing additional information should contact Mr. Kun at jkun@usukraine.org or Mr. Williams at mwilliams@usubc.org.



Official Website of Ukraine's President

President Viktor Yushchenko comforts a woman in the flood zone.

MAY WE HELP YOU?

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Editorial – 3049, 3088 • Production – 3063, 3069 • Administration – 3041
Advertising – 3040 • Subscriptions – 3042

THE FOURTH UKRAINIAN DIASPORA OLYMPIAD

Diaspora Olympiad held over Fourth of July weekend

by Orest Lesiuk

HORSHAM, Pa. – The fourth Ukrainian Diaspora Olympiad's opening ceremonies took place on Friday, July 4, here at the Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, with over 620 athletes participating.

Master of ceremonies Gene Luciw announced the parade of athletes, who represented Ukrainian sports clubs and youth organizations that would be competing over the course of the next three days in soccer, volleyball, swimming, track and field, and chess.

An assembly of young athletes led with the traditional Ukrainian greeting of bread and salt, flowers for special guests and the custom-designed Olympiad flag.

This was the second largest group of athletes to participate in a Diaspora Olympiad – the original Ukrainian Olympiad of 1988 remains the largest competition to date. All four Diaspora Olympiads have been held in the Horsham, Pa., area.

The teams entered the playing field in the following order: Chornomorska Sitch of Whippany, N.J. (over 140 athletes and coaches competing in nearly all events), Yonkers (N.Y.) Krylati of the Ukrainian

American Youth Association (three soccer teams), New York "USC" (two soccer teams), Toronto Ukraina (two volleyball teams and swimmers), Toronto Karpaty (six soccer teams, swimmers, track and field athletes, and chess players), Cleveland Lviv, Chicago "Kryla" (two soccer teams), Chicago ODUM, Hartford UAYA, Lys Volleyball Club of Whippany, Chicago Slava Volleyball Club, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Buffalo (N.Y.) Chess Club.

The host, Philadelphia Tryzub, and its Ukrainian Nationals club, entered seven soccer teams, four volleyball teams, swimmers, track and field athletes, chess players and tennis players. Mr. Luciw announced each team with a greeting and a short history of its organizations.

Olympiad Chairman Ihor Chyzowych warmly welcomed all of the athletes and fans. He thanked them for traveling such long distances to celebrate the Ukrainian sporting spirit. Mr. Chyzowych, who also chaired the previous three Olympiads, noted that the Olympiad Committee had worked very hard to organize the competition and related cultural festivities into a memorable event.

Mr. Chyzowych then honored the memories of four deceased sports activists – Dr. Alexander Chernyk, Walter Chyzowych, Wolodymyr Ihnatowych, and three-time U.S. Olympian Zenon Snylyk – with a moment of silence.

Myron Stebelsky, president of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (known by its Ukrainian-based acronym as USCAK), then presented a special award from the University of Rochester to Mr. Snylyk's widow, Yara.

Alexander Mychalchuk, counsel to Ukraine's Embassy to the United States, also greeted the assembly and read a letter from Ambassador Oleh Shamshur.

Dmytro Luciw, representative of the Hutsul Society, sounded a welcome on an authentic "trembita," and Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus soloist Teodor Bodnar sang moving renditions of the American, Canadian and Ukrainian national anthems. Tryzub's chaplain, the Rev. Yaroslav Kurpel, delivered a soulful invocation and Tryzub star soccer player Stephen Charechko administered the Olympic oath in Ukrainian.

The opening ceremonies continued with two folk songs by the Pavlyshyn sisters to celebrate this gathering of



Whippany Chornomorska Sitch soccer players, swimmers, and track and field athletes.



Chicago Kryla soccer and volleyball players.



USC soccer team from New York.



Yonkers Krylati over-35 soccer team.

(Continued on page 11)

THE FOURTH UKRAINIAN DIASPORA OLYMPIAD

Fifteen teams play in volleyball tourney

HATFIELD, Pa. – Fifteen teams participated in the volleyball tournament at BucksMont Indoor Sports Center, a short drive from the Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub in Horsham, Pa., as part of the fourth Ukrainian Diaspora Olympiad held during Fourth of July weekend.

Competition followed a round-robin format with games rally scoring to 25.

The men's open division had six teams, including Chicago Slava, Hartford Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA), Lys I and II, Toronto Ukraina and Tryzub (an under-19 team). In the play-offs, Toronto Ukraina defeated Chicago Slava 25-22, 25-16 for first place, and Hartford UAYA won bronze.

In the men's over-45 group, three teams competed, which included Lys, Toronto Ukraina and Tryzub. Lys won gold, Toronto Ukraina won silver, and Tryzub won the bronze.

The women's open division included the Organization of Youth of Ukrainian Descent (ODUM) of Chicago, Chicago Kryla and Tryzub. Chicago ODUM defeated Chicago Kryla 25-21, 25-20 to win the gold. Tryzub won the bronze medal.



Nick Iwanik

ODUM women's volleyball team, first place winners at the Ukrainian Olympiad in women's volleyball. Standing (from left): Wasył Mirutenko (coach), Roma Mirutenko, Dania Ciolko, Theresa Kuritza, sitting: Nina Kocko, Tania Mirutenko (captain), Natalka Patzin, Ariana Mankus.

Golf tournament attracts 70 players

by Orest Lesiuk

HORSHAM, Pa. – The 2008 Ukrainian Nationals Tryzub Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, June 7, at the Limekiln Golf Club in Horsham Pa., with 70 golfers participating.

This is the 32nd year that this annual tournament has taken place. Ukrainian golfers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Delaware and Maryland participated.

The 2008 Tryzub Golf Tournament was a part of the fourth Ukrainian Olympiad held on July 4 in Horsham, Pa.

The sponsors for this year's event were the Ukrainian Self-Reliance Federal Credit Union and the Fletcher-Nasevich Funeral Home, both of Philadelphia. Both sponsors have also supported this tournament in previous years. Michael Nasevich and a group of his staff also joined in the competition.

The tournament committee was led by Joe Homick. The committee also included Roman Jarmovych, Andriy Zajac, Orest Lesiuk, Bohdan Anniuk and George Lucyszyn.

The weather was sunny, very hot and humid.

After the tournament everyone traveled to the Ukrainian Sports Center in Horsham, Pa., for the awards banquet, during which door prizes were awarded to almost every player.

This year's competition winners include the following:

- low gross winners: Todd Hannigan (men), Ulana Warren (ladies);
- A flight low net: Michael Andrusko (men), Lesia Hanas (women);
- B flight low net: Pawlo Korzienowski
- first place team: Todd Hannigan, Lenny Rozman and Jim Kwak;
- longest drive Dan Solecki;
- closest to the pin: George Baer.

Next year's event will be played on Saturday, June 13, 2009.



First place winner, low gross, Ulana Warren, receives her award from Bohdan Anniuk.



George Baer (right) receives the closest-to-the-pin award.

Diaspora Olympiad...

(Continued from page 10)

Ukrainian youth in the Philadelphia area on the Fourth of July.

A running team from Tryzub composed of Oles Kozak, Michael Wozniak and Stefan Lesiuk, relayed the Olympic flame. Mr. Lesiuk then lit a caldron designed by Steve Kunderewych. After brief remarks, Mr. Stebelsky exclaimed, "Let the games begin." The athletes then paraded from the field toward their event venues.

The 1993 World Figure Skating Champion and 1994 Olympic Gold Medalist Oksana Baiul made a special guest appearance at the opening ceremonies. She won the first gold medal in history for independent Ukraine. She spoke about her years as a figure skater and thanked the Ukrainian diaspora for supporting her spiritually and even financially during her competitive years. She said she never dreamt that she would one day bring so much happiness into the hearts of her fellow Ukrainians throughout the world.

The players and fans welcomed Ms. Baiul very warmly. Mr. Luciw commented to her that teams such as those gathered at the Olympiad preserve "the spirit of Ukrainian sport" in their hearts and through their play on the field of competition, but that it is "at the exact instant that Ms. Baiul spun into her gold medal that that spirit burst forth into an international flame."

Ms. Baiul's valor in the face of physical pain and adversity "forever placed into the consciousness of the world that Ukraine 'is' and 'will be,'" Mr. Luciw continued. "The power of sport, combined with the strength of Ms. Baiul's commitment, hard work and dedication gave Ukraine something that no politician armed with a missile could ever award: It gave her a place in the sun."

Ms. Baiul then introduced the assembly to Serhiy Verbielo and Anna Zadorozhnik, Ukraine's 2007 national champions in pairs figure skating. The two recently competed in the European championships and are preparing to represent Ukraine in the next Winter Olympic Games.

On behalf of the Olympiad Committee, Mr. Luciw thanked the Philadelphia Ukrainian Self-Reliance Credit Union for its princely gift of \$20,000 to offset the

costs associated with organizing and presenting the Olympiad. Philadelphia Self-Reliance was the presenting sponsor for the Ukrainian Diaspora Olympiad.



All clubs' swimming medalists.

THE FOURTH UKRAINIAN DIASPORA OLYMPIAD

Tennis tournament: from juniors to men over 45

HORSHAM, Pa., – During the fourth Ukrainian Diaspora Olympiad, held at the Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub on July 4-6, tennis events included men's open, men's over-45, two groups of junior girls and two groups of junior boys and singles.

In the men's open group, Mykola Stroinick, the recent champions of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) – East tennis tournament that was held at Soyuzivka on June 28-29, defeated Don Kopach (who retired due to injury) 6-0, 3-4 to win the gold medal. Mr. Kopach won the silver medal and Mykola Nalyvayko Sr. won the bronze medal over Alex Charchalis 2-6, 6-2, 6-4.

In the over-45 group, George Walchuk defeated Jerry Tymkiw 6-3, 6-3 to win the gold and silver medals, respectively, and Ivan Durbak defeated George Hrabec 6-0, 6-1 to win the bronze medal. Another bronze medal was awarded to final feed-in winner Walter Dziwak, who defeated

Orest Wasyluk, 6-3, 7-6 (3).

Olena Olesnycky defeated Marta Cherpak 6-3, 6-3 to win the gold medal in the girls' under-18 division. Miss Cherpak won the silver medal in the under-18 and the gold in the under-14 group. The bronze medal was fought over by two sisters, Anissa and Laryssa Boyko, with Anissa winning 6-0, 2-6, 6-4.

Alexander Charchalis defeated Mykola Nalyvayko Jr. 6-0, 6-0 to win the gold medal in the boys' under-18 group. Greg Olesnycky won the bronze with a defeat over Adrian Charchalis 6-0, 6-1. Mr. Olesnycky was also awarded the gold medal in the under-14 boys' group, the silver medal, in the same division, was awarded to Adrian Charchalis.

The tournament included 28 individual matches with the tournament ending late on Sunday afternoon. The medals were presented by tournament director George Sawchak and George Hrabec, a member of the USCAK tennis committee.



Open men's group: (from left) silver medalist Don Kopach, gold medalist Mykola Stroinick, bronze medalist Mykola Nalyvayko Sr.



Girls' under-18 group: gold medalist Olenka Olesnycky (center) flanked by silver medalist Marta Cherpak (left) and bronze medalist Anissa Boyko.



Greg Olesnycky was awarded a gold medal in the boys' under-14 group and a bronze medal in the boys' under-18 group.

Chess also a part of competition at Olympiad

HORSHAM, Pa. – Eight players took part in the chess tournament, dedicated to the memory of FIDE Master Boris Baczynskyj, held on July 5 at the Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub as part of the Ukrainian Diaspora Olympiad.

The tournament was conducted by Dr. Orest Popovych, president of the Taras Shevchenko Scientific Society, who mentioned the late Mr. Baczynskyj's kindness and his strength as a chess player. The Rev. Marijan Procyk read a letter from the Baczynskyj family, who donated the prize money for the tournament from the Boris Baczynskyj Memorial Fund.

Competitors included Leonid Charczenko, Peter Radomskyj and Stephen Stoyko (Chornomorska Sitch), Mychajlo Danylovych and Bohdan Todoriv (Tryzub), the Rev. Procyk (Stephen Popel Chess Club – Buffalo), Lev Iwaskiw (Ukrainian American Youth Association – Philadelphia) and Ivan Torubka (Karpatsky Sports Club – Toronto).

After five rounds, following the Swiss

system, Mr. Radomskyj was declared the champion with 4.5 points and was awarded the gold medal and \$250. Mr. Radomskyj won over Messrs. Iwaskiw, Charczenko, Torubka and the Rev. Procyk, and drew against Mr. Stoyko.

Earning four points, the Rev. Procyk won second place and was awarded the silver medal and \$100 for his defeats against Messrs. Danylovych, Stoyko, Charczenko and Todoriv. He suffered his lone defeat against Mr. Radomskyj.

In third place, Mr. Stoyko earned 3.5 points and was awarded the bronze medal and \$50. Mr. Stoyko defeated Messrs. Torubka, Iwaskiw and Charczenko, drew against Mr. Radomskyj and suffered a defeat from the Rev. Procyk.

Mr. Danylovych won the \$50 prize for being the top player rated under 2000, with defeats over Messrs. Iwaskiw, Torubka and Todoriv and loses against the Rev. Procyk and Mr. Charczenko.

Messrs. Charczenko and Iwaskiw earned two points and Mr. Torubka earned one point.



Chess tournament winners (from left): silver medalist the Rev. Marijan Procyk, gold medalist Peter Radomskyj and bronze medalist Stephen Stoyko.

The next big Ukrainian chess tournament will be in Toronto on September 26-28; it will be organized by the "Ukraina" Sports Club of Toronto as part

of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the United States and Canada (USCAK). For more information visit <http://uscak.blogspot.com>

THE FOURTH UKRAINIAN DIASPORA OLYMPIAD

Results of the Olympiad

Soccer Competition

24 Teams with 420 players

Men's Open

Gold – Tryzub Philadelphia
Silver – Krylati Yonkers
Bronze – Sitch New Jersey

Men's Over 35

Gold – USC New York
Silver – Krylati Yonkers (tie)
Silver – Tryzub Philadelphia (tie)

U-19 Boys

Gold – Kryla Chicago
Silver – Tryzub Philadelphia
Bronze – Karpaty Toronto

U-12 Boys

Gold – Karpaty Toronto
Silver – Tryzub Dynamo Philadelphia
Bronze – Tryzub Obolon Philadelphia

U-10 Boys

Gold – Karpaty A Toronto
Silver – Tryzub Philadelphia
Bronze – Karpaty B Toronto

Men's Over-45 Legends Match

Tryzub Philadelphia 1 -
Sitch New Jersey 1

Volleyball Competition

12 Teams with 120 players

Men's Open

Gold – Toronto Ukraina
Silver – Chicago Slava
Bronze – Hartford UAYA

Men's Over 45

Gold – Lys Whippany
Silver – Toronto Ukraina
Silver – Tryzub Philadelphia

Women's Open

Gold – Chicago ODUM
Silver – Chicago Kryla
Bronze – Tryzub Philadelphia

U-19 Boys

Gold – Tryzub Philadelphia

U-19 Girls

Gold – Chicago Kryla

Tennis Competition

Men's Division

Gold – Mykola Stroinick
Silver – Don Kopach
Bronze – Mykola Nalyvayko Sr.

Men's Senior Division

Gold – George Walchuk
Silver – Jerry Tymkiw
Bronze – Ivan Durbak, Walter Dziwak (tie)

Junior Boys Under 18

Gold – Alexander Charchalis
Silver – Mykola Nalyvayko Jr.
Bronze – Greg Olesnycky

Junior Boys Under 14

Gold – Greg Olesnycky
Silver – Adrian Charchalis

Junior Girls Under 18

Gold – Olenka Olesnycky
Silver – Marta Cherpak
Bronze – Anissa Boyko

Junior Girls Under 14

Gold – Marta Cherpak

Swimming Competition

100-yard individual medley

Boys (13-14)

Gold – Daniel Slysh (Sitch)
Silver – Mark Hansen (Sitch)
Bronze – Adrian Wowk (Plast)

Girls (13-14)

Gold – Lesia Olesnyckyj (Sitch)
Silver – Marta Cherpak (Sitch)
Bronze – Kate Waskiw (Tryzub)

Boys (15 and Over)

Gold – Michael Charysh (Plast)
Silver – Gregory Fat (Tryzub)
Bronze – Paul Tershakovec (Tryzub)

Girls (15 and Over)

Gold – Adriana Lesiuk (Tryzub)
Silver – Kristina Lesiuk (Tryzub)

25-yard freestyle

Boys (8 and Under)

Gold – Leo Hotsko (Plast)

Girls (8 and Under)

Gold – Sofia Polishchuk (Sitch)
Silver – Adrianna Hirniak (Sitch)
Bronze- Kristina Olchowecky (Tryzub)

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Nicholas Mosuriak (Sitch)
Silver – Stephen Waskiw (Tryzub)

Girls (9-10)

Gold – Julianna Hirniak (Sitch)

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Pavlo Kozak (Sitch)
Silver – Stefan Olesnyckyj (Sitch)
Bronze – Maksym Bondarenko (Sitch)

50-yard freestyle

Boys (13-14)

Gold – Andrew Bytz (UAYA)
Silver – Andrew Slysh (Sitch)
Bronze – Andre Wowk (Plast)

Girls (13-14)

Gold – Anna Benko (Karpaty Toronto)
Silver – Vlada Kagan (Sitch)
Bronze – Lesia Olesnyckyj (Sitch)

Boys (15 and Over)

Gold – William Makar (Sitch)
Silver – Marko Makar (Sitch)
Bronze – Mark Slysh (Sitch)

Girls (15 and Over)

Gold – Adriana Lesiuk (Tryzub)
Silver – Nadia Korsun (Tryzub)

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Oles Polishchuk (Sitch)
Silver – Stephen Waskiw (Tryzub)

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Mark Hansen (Sitch)
Silver – Adrian Wowk (Plast)
Bronze – Maksym Bondarenko (Sitch)

Girls (11-12)

Gold – Katerina Nozhenko (Sitch)

50-yard backstroke

Boys (13-14)

Gold – Daniel Slysh (Sitch)
Silver – Michael Tershakovec (Tryzub)
Bronze – Andre Wowk (Plast)

Girls (13-14)

Gold – Marta Cherpak (Sitch)
Silver – Kate Waskiw (Tryzub)

Boys (15 and Over)

Gold – Gregory Fat (Tryzub)
Silver – William Makar (Sitch)
Bronze – Anthony Tokarchuk (Tryzub)

Girls (15 and Over)

Gold – Kristina Lesiuk (Tryzub)

25-yard backstroke

Boys (8 and Under)

Gold – Leo Hotsko (Plast)

Girls (8 and Under)

Gold – Kristina Olchowecky (Tryzub)

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Nicholas Mosuriak (Sitch)
Silver – Stephen Waskiw (Tryzub)

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Igor Polujanski (Sitch)
Silver – Maksym Bondarenko (Sitch)
Bronze – Nick Macelko (Tryzub)

50-yard breaststroke

Boys (13-14)

Gold – Daniel Slysh (Sitch)
Silver – Andrew Bytz (UAYA)
Bronze – Andrew Slysh (Sitch)

Boys (15 and Over)

Gold – Michael Charysh (Plast)
Silver – Mark Slysh (Sitch)
Bronze – Paul Tershakovec (Tryzub)

25-yard breaststroke

Boys (8 and Under)

Gold – Leo Hotsko (Plast)

Girls (8 and Under)

Gold – Sofia Polishchuk (Sitch)
Silver – Kristina Olchowecky (Tryzub)

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Oles Polishchuk (Sitch)
Silver – Nicholas Mosuriak (Sitch)

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Pavlo Kozak (Sitch)
Silver – Stefan Olesnyckyj (Sitch)
Bronze – Nick Macelko (Tryzub)

Girls (11-12)

Gold – Katerina Nozhenko (Sitch)

100-yard freestyle

Boys (13-14)

Gold – Andrew Bytz (UAYA)
Silver – Andrew Slysh (Sitch)

Girls (13-14)

Gold – Anna Benko (Karpaty Toronto)
Silver – Vlada Kagan (Sitch)
Bronze – Lesia Olesnyckyj (Sitch)

Boys (15 and Over)

Gold – Michael Charysh (Plast)
Silver – Marko Makar (Sitch)
Bronze – Anthony Tokarchuk (Tryzub)

Girls (15 and Over)

Gold – Adriana Lesiuk (Tryzub)

25-yard butterfly

Girls (8 and Under)

Gold – Sofia Polishchuk (Sitch)

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Oles Polishchuk (Sitch)

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Adrian Wowk (Plast)
Silver – Igor Polujanski (Sitch)
Bronze – Stefan Olesnyckyj (Sitch)

Girls (11-12)

Gold – Katerina Nozhenko (Sitch)

50-yard butterfly

Boys (13-14)

Gold – Mark Hansen (Sitch)
Silver – Michael Tershakovec (Tryzub)

Girls (13-14)

Gold – Anna Benko (Karpaty Toronto)
Silver – Vlada Kagan (Sitch)

Boys (15 and Over)

Gold – William Makar (Sitch)
Silver – Gregory Fat (Tryzub)
Bronze – Anthony Tokarchuk (Tryzub)

Girls (15 and Over)

Gold – Kristina Lesiuk (Tryzub)

4x25-yard freestyle relay

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Sitch

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Sitch

Girls (11-12)

Gold – Sitch

4x50-yard medley relay

Boys (15 and Over)

Gold – Sitch
Silver – Plast / UAYA Combined

Girls (15 and Over)

Gold – Tryzub

Track and Field Competition

100-meter run

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Matvyj Gorlov (Sitch)
Silver – Marko Andrian (Sitch)
Bronze – Nicholas Mosuriak (Sitch)

Girls (9-10)

Gold – Adrianna Terletsky (Sitch)
Silver – Julianna Hirniak (Sitch)
Bronze – Diana Zawadiwsky (Sitch)

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Roman Stashysyn (Sitch)
Silver – Alexander Hirniak (Sitch)
Bronze – Michael Paslawskyj (Sitch)

Boys (13-14)

Gold – Adam Adrian (Sitch)
Silver – Andrew Wowk (Plast-Washington)
Bronze – Adam Wowk (Plast-Washington)

200-meter run

Boys (9-10)

Gold – Marko Andrian (Sitch)
Silver – Oles Polishchuk (Sitch)
Bronze – Leo Hotsko (Plast)

Boys (11-12)

Gold – Roman Stashysyn (Sitch)
Silver – Michael Paslawskyj (Sitch)
Bronze – Paul Kozak (Sitch)

Girls (9-10)

Gold – Adrianna Terletsky (Sitch)
Silver – Lauren Terletsky (Sitch)
Bronze – Diana Zawadiwsky (Sitch)

Chess Competition

Gold – Peter Radomskyj (Sitch)
Silver – the Rev. Marijan Procyk
Bronze – Stephen Stoyko (Sitch)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Dragon Capital company for foreign investors. Top managers of agricultural companies confirmed that the flood might seriously damage the sugar beet crop, a third of which is grown in the flood-hit Vinnytsia and Ternopil regions. If the situation does not improve in the coming few weeks, Ukraine may lose about 30 percent of its sugar beet harvest. As reported, on July 29, Deputy Minister of Agricultural Policy Serhii Melnyk said that according to the ministry's early reports, damage from the loss of crops in Ukraine's western regions might exceed 400 million hrv (about \$82.6 million U.S.). (Ukrinform)

Singer donates 100,000 hrv

KYIV – The popular singer Sofia Rotaru has donated 100,000 hrv (about U.S.) to her native village, Marshyntsi, in the Chernivtsi region, which was hit by flooding in late July. The funds will be used for the restoration of houses. Ms. Rotaru said this was just the first portion of the charitable aid she was going to provide. Her brother Anatolii received the sum and will distribute the money among the village residents who need it most. Floods destroyed over 30 houses in Marshyntsi alone. According to Svitlana Skrykuliak, deputy chair of the local state administration, her district sustained losses of 540,710 hrv in accordance with reports as of August 5. Over 5,500 houses were damaged. (Ukrinform)

Bonuses for medals in Beijing

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has increased the size of bonuses for winning golden medals at the Olympic Games in Beijing from 500,000 hrv to 700,000 hrv (4.84 hrv = \$1 U.S.). Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said at a press conference on August 4. The government also increased the amount of bonuses for silver and bronze medals from 350,000 hrv to 500,000 hrv and from 250,000 hrv to 350,000 hrv, respectively. A total of 254 Ukrainian athletes will participate in the Summer Olympic Games in Beijing. This is the highest number of athletes from Ukraine to participate in the Olympic Games since the country has been competing as an independent state. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine decreases state debt

KYIV – According to the Finance Ministry, the state debt and state guaranteed debt of Ukraine fell by 2.832 billion hrv (more than 585 million U.S.) or 3.19 percent in January-June of this year. The ratio of the state debt to the gross domestic product (GDP) also decreased as a result of the country's economic growth and a careful debt policy. As of June 30 the ratio of the state debt and the state guaranteed debt to the predicted GDP in 2008 is 9 percent, which is acceptable in view of the country's financial security. As of June 30, Ukraine had direct foreign debt of \$10.873 billion (U.S.). (Ukrinform)

Shadow economy experiences drop

KYIV – Analyzing data of the Economics Ministry, the Delo newspaper reported on August 4 that the shadow economy was reduced in 2007 by 2 percent. Thus, in 2007 contraband in the amount of 421 million hrv (about \$87 million U.S.) was barred, an increase of 143 million hrv from the previous year. Tax inspection authorities identified 4,139 fictitious firms used for money laundering. Institute of Economic Studies Director Ihor Burakovskiy agreed that customs authorities played a key role in the process of the shadow economy's legalization. Enterprises earned 183 billion hrv, and the state treasury received 36 billion hrv in taxes, which is 78 percent more than in 2006. The popu-

lation's high consumer demand also drew a part of incomes from the shadow economy. Thus, in 2007 Ukrainians spent 225.1 billion hrv more in cash than in 2006. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko signs law on budget

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on August 1 signed a law on the introduction of amendments to the national budget for 2008 and on the introduction of amendments to some Ukrainian laws concerning the elimination of the consequences of flooding in the country's western regions. The Parliament passed these amendments during an extraordinary session on July 31. In order to eliminate the consequences of the natural disaster in western Ukraine, the expenditure side of the budget was increased by 5.802 billion hrv. The expenditures of the reserve fund grew by 1.7 billion hrv and the special road fund by 775.4 million hrv. The budget law also foresees that the agrarian fund's budget will grow by 1 billion hrv and that 400 million hrv will be allocated to cover interest rates on loans to agricultural producers. (Ukrinform)

HIV/AIDS programs to get funds

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on August 1 directed the government to complete the National Program on HIV Infection Prevention, Assistance and Treatment of HIV-Positive People and AIDS-Affected People for 2009-2013, increasing financing to 6.5 billion hrv. The Presidential Secretariat's Deputy Chair Maryna Stavniychuk told a press briefing that if the figure is only 3.5 billion hrv, Ukraine runs the risks of taking first place in Europe in terms of the spread of HIV-infections and this is "a serious warning for Ukraine and the government on the issue." The president considers the fight against HIV/AIDS to be a priority in health care. "Today the issue of HIV-infections in Ukraine is not a question of health of individual people. Today this issue is socially dangerous for the whole of Ukrainian society," Ms. Stavniychuk stressed. (Ukrinform)

Ministry cites decrease in divorces

KYIV – According to the Justice Ministry, 80,700 couples divorced in the first half of 2008, which is 6 percent less when compared to the same period in 2007. At the same time, the number of marriages continues to exceed the number of divorces by 15 to 20 percent. In particular, 112.5 marriages taken place in the first half of the year in Ukraine, which exceeds the number of divorces by 39.3 percent. Statistics show that the strongest families are started in Zakarpattia; the most weddings, and the most divorces, have occurred in the Donetsk region. (Ukrinform)

Painting by Caravaggio is stolen

KYIV – A canvas by 16th-17th century Italian painter Michelangelo da Caravaggio titled "The Taking of Christ (or The Kiss of Judas)" was stolen on July 31 from the Odesa Museum of Western and Oriental Art. Criminals broke a window on the second floor of the building where the canvas was housed and broke into the museum at night, the press secretary of the domestic affairs department, Tetiana Khmelnytska. The painting was a pearl of the museum's collection. According to private collectors' estimates, its value is between several hundred thousand and several million euros. (Ukrinform)

Illegal migrants detained at border

KYIV – Over a period of 24 hours, 11 illegal migrants were detained, the State Border Guard Service press service reported on July 31. Among them were Moldovans, Georgians, Iraqis and one Tunisian. Over 1,850 illegal foreign

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

migrants have been detained since the beginning of 2008. (Ukrinform)

China Radio launches Ukrainian website

KYIV – China Radio International (CRI) officially launched an information website in Ukrainian in Beijing, it was reported on July 30. According to CRI director Wang Gengnian, the new CRI-Online website appeared just as bilateral relations between the two countries are being enhanced. “We believe that the CRI website in Ukrainian will become a bridge of friendship and mutual understanding between China and Ukraine,” he noted. Launching the Ukrainian website will promote development of relations between the people of both countries, Ukraine’s Ambassador to China Serhii Kamyshev noted. (Ukrinform)

Inflation grounds for dismissal

KYIV – The inflation index in August will be the main indicator according to which the work of heads of oblast state administrations will be evaluated, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko stated on July 6, while opening the Cabinet’s meeting. “If separate regions have inflation against the backdrop of the general deflation index, I will have grounds for making a presentation to dismiss the head of such a region,” she stated. Ms. Tymoshenko underscored that, according to the government’s calculations, deflation should be registered in August. Speaking about indices for July, Ms. Tymoshenko said that, in her opinion, the worst regions were Khmelnytskyi (0.5 percent inflation), Chernihiv (0.3 percent) and Zhytomyr (inflation 0.3 percent). “There are no reasons for inflation, except for the unprofessional work of leaders. I

think that leaders simply neglected matters to prevent inflation,” the prime minister commented. According to government forecasts, there should be deflation of 0.4 percent in July and 0.2 percent in August. (Ukrinform)

Bicyclists recall alliance with Sweden

KYIV – A 61-year-old Ukrainian bicyclist from Poltava, Mykola Kamuz, and his 15-year-old son started a 1,500-kilometer bike ride on the territory of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus on the eve of the 300th anniversary of the Poltava Battle. This is the route the Swedish Army took in 1708 to Poltava, where the famous battle took place. According to Mr. Kamuz, he and his son plan to complete the trek in 22 days. “We are calling our trip ‘Swedes’ Way to Poltava,’ hoping to be carried away to that epoch and to gain proper impressions. For this reason we worked primarily with many historical sources, charted the route carefully and prepared ourselves for the trip emotionally. I think we will come back to Poltava with interesting impressions,” the bicyclist said. (Ukrinform)

EBRD grants to help Kyiv

KYIV – The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) intends to allocate a grant of 1.12 million euros for the development of an automated system of traffic control and parking in Kyiv, the Kyiv State Administration press service reported on July 23. The KyivDorService will get 1 million euros for development of the traffic control system and 120,000 euros for the parking system. In addition, the EBRD intends to allocate a grant to Kyiv in the amount of 200,000 euros for a feasibility study on the construction of a tunnel via the Dnipro from the underground station Livoberezhna to Victory Square. (Ukrinform)

Children’s choir wins silver medal

KYIV – Members of the Elehiya children’s choir, which represented Ukraine at the World Choir Games returned to Kirovohrad from Austria with silver medals. The Kirovohrad choir participated in this prestigious choir contest for the first time. About 450 children from 100 countries showcased their talents at the contest. (Ukrinform)

From Lenin to church bells

KYIV – A monument to Lenin will be melted down for church bells in the Volyn region, in accordance with a decision by the deputies of the Novovolynsk City Council, the council’s press-service reported on July 25. Remains of the bronze monument will be scrapped and the proceeds will be spent on making bells for two local churches. Appeals to local authorities about the matter were made by the parishes of Holy Spirit Cathedral and Holy Ascension Church. The monument was removed in Novovolynsk 17 years ago. (Ukrinform)

Paralympic team set for Beijing

KYIV – Family, Youth and Sports Minister Yurii Pavlenko signed an order “On Participation of the National Team of Ukraine and the Official Delegation in the XIII Summer Paralympic Games,” according to which membership of the national

team and the official delegation have been approved. A total of 126 athletes will represent Ukraine in 11 sports at the Summer Paralympic Games in Beijing. The athletes will be accompanied by 55 coaches, doctors and therapists. The official delegation will include 17 persons, headed by the president of the National Committee on Sports for Disabled Persons, Valerii Sushkevych. On August 5, on the territory of the National Historical and Architectural Monument – Museum Kyiv Fortress, a send-off ceremony for the National Paralympic Team to Games was held. The XIII Summer Paralympic Games will be held in Beijing on September 6-17. (Ukrinform)

Incomes, expenses of Ukrainians grow

KYIV – The incomes of Ukrainian citizens grew by 44 percent in the first half of 2008 as compared to the same period in 2007, while their expenditures grew by 41 percent. According to the State Statistics Committee, the nominal incomes of Ukrainians rose by 44.8 percent in January-June. The income that can be used for the purchase of goods and services grew by 44.9 percent in six months, while real income, taking into account the price factor, grew by 14.7 percent. Per capita income was 1,123 hrv (about \$232 U.S.) in June compared with 1,071 hrv in May. The growth in citizens’ savings amounted to 20.208 million hrv. (Ukrinform)



Zenon J. Cybyk

Zenon J. Cybyk, 64, of Toms River, N.J., passed away Wednesday, July 30, 2008, at the University of PA Medical Center.

Mr. Cybyk was a computer software consultant for Purchasing-Net, Inc., of Red Bank, N.J. since 1992. He was a communicant of St. Stephens’ Ukrainian Catholic Church in Toms River. Mr. Cybyk was a proud and devoted father and a tremendous supporter of his children’s work and their accomplishments. Born in Poland, he was raised in Newark. He lived in Akron, Ohio from 1976 until moving to Toms River in 1992.

Surviving are sons, Myron Cybyk and his wife Natalie of Ohio, Andrij Cybyk of New York, and Stephan Cybyk of New York; their mother, Maria Cybyk; sister, Martha Cybyk of Toms River; two grandchildren, Larissa and Dorian; nieces, Roma and Christine; and nephew, Adrian.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Monday, August 4, at St. Stephen’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, Toms River, followed by Interment at St. Joseph’s Cemetery, Toms River. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested in his memory to St. Stephen’s Catholic Church, or to Tamburitzan Endowed Scholarship Funds of the Duquesne University Tamburitzans, 1801 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-5915.

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Сердечно Дякуємо!

За недогляд перепрошує
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It is with great sorrow that we inform our friends and the Ukrainian community that on July 30, 2008 our beloved mother, sister, grandmother, aunt, cousin and mother-in-law,

Ahafia Pochoday (née Kohut)

gave her spirit into the hands of the Lord in the presence of her family at home, after a decade-long battle with Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s Diseases.

Born in the Village of L’yashky, Yaroslavskyj Povit, former Ukraine, to Maria and Mykola Kohut, one of four children. The Kohut family was forcibly deported to Northeastern Poland during “Akcja Wisla” in 1947. They were resettled in the village of Pozezdrze, woj. Suwalki, Poland, where Ahafia married Ivan Pochoday and had three children. The Pochoday family resettled in New York City in 1965.

A Funeral Mass took place on August 4, 2008, at St. George’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, New York City, followed by Interment at the Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Hamptonburgh, N.Y.

Ahafia is survived by:

- Daughter Maria Paska (née Pochoday), New York City, and her three children, Adriana Paska, Anthony Paska and Andrij Paska
- Daughter Bohdanna (Donna) Pochoday-Stelmach, New Jersey, with her husband, Roman C. Stelmach, and their son, Andriychyk Stelmach
- Sister Catherine Terlecky (née Kohut), New York City
- Nephew Bohdan Terlecky, New Jersey, with his wife, Stefania Terlecky, and their two sons, Taras and Alex Terlecky

Families Kohut, Kachmar, Terletsky, Tuchapsky, Sirij and Pochoday in the U.S. and Ukraine.

Ahafia is predeceased by her husband, Ivan Pochoday (3/2/2006); son, Antonii Pochoday (4/1954); brother, Ivan Kohut (11/6/1986); and nephew, Roman S. Terletsky (8/4/2007).

In lieu of flowers, the family proposes donations to the “Orphans’ Aid Society in Ukraine, Inc.” or “St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church” (NY).

Vichnaya Pamyat!

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San Diego's Ukrainian Festival to feature Winnipeg dance troupe

SAN DIEGO – House of Ukraine Inc., located in Balboa Park, will sponsor its 33rd annual Ukrainian Festival during Labor Day weekend, Friday through Sunday, August 29-31.

The House of Ukraine is one of 32 nationalities that make up the House of Pacific Relations in Balboa Park. The "khatka" has been the focus of the San Diego Ukrainian community since its inception in 1961; the cottage is open to visitors and tourists every Sunday afternoon and serves as an information center about Ukraine and Ukrainians.

The annual festival has brought together Ukrainians and their friends from across the U.S. and western Canada for the past 33 years.

Festivities start on Friday with a poolside welcome get-together with the festival's guest performers from Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The Saturday night concert features the professionally trained dancers of the Rozmai Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Winnipeg. The concert will start at 7 p.m. at the Kroc Performing Arts Center, 6845 University Ave.

Rozmai returns on Sunday to the House of Pacific Relations International Cottages Lawn Stage, located in front of the House of Ukraine in Balboa Park, for a short program of Ukrainian entertainment at 2-3 p.m.

Festivities conclude on Sunday night with a dinner and dance at 6 p.m. at the Town and Country Resort in Hotel Circle, with the Mriya Ukrainian Musical Ensemble from Chicago.

For information on the House of Ukraine's Festival call 619-460-5733, e-mail housandiego@aol.com or visit www.houseofukraine.com.



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Former Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 2)

to be curbed. Mr. Zhvania said the tests that showed the presence of dioxin in Mr. Yushchenko's body were fake (BBC, June 3). An international group of doctors who treated Mr. Yushchenko after 2004 denied this allegation. They said that 90 percent of the dioxin has been removed from his body since then (Channel 5, June 11).

Mr. Zhvania also denied the widespread belief that Mr. Yushchenko was poisoned at a dinner with the then head of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), Ihor Smeshko, and his deputy, Volodymyr Satsiuk, on September 5, 2004. "It was a beautiful myth for a post-Soviet country. Look how it sounds: former KGB people wanted to kill a democratic president," Mr. Zhvania told the Ukrainian edition of a popular Russian daily (Komsomolskaya Pravda Ukraina, *ibid*).

Mr. Zhvania did not deny that he organized that dinner as the then deputy head of Mr. Yushchenko's election headquarters. He said that Mr. Yushchenko's security as a presidential candidate was discussed there (Ukrayinska Pravda, July 7-8).

Speaking in an interview with an Austrian daily, Mr. Yushchenko insisted that he was poisoned at the dinner. He said that three individuals were involved who later fled to Russia and obtained Russian citizenship (Der Standard, July 10). The PGO indirectly confirmed that Mr. Satsiuk was one of the three, reporting shortly after Mr. Yushchenko's interview that Russia had refused to extradite him. However, officially Ukraine wants Mr. Satsiuk extradited on charges unrelated to the poisoning (Kommersant Ukraine, July 17).

Mr. Zhvania was for the first time openly accused of involvement in Mr. Yushchenko's poisoning on July 23, when Mr. Yushchenko's legal advisor Ihor Pukshyn claimed that "Zhvania, directly or

indirectly, 'helped' Yushchenko eat poison" (Ukrayinska Pravda, July 23). At a press conference the following day, when asked whether Mr. Zhvania had been involved in his poisoning, Mr. Yushchenko said, "I think yes" and added, "to put it mildly" (Channel 5, July 24).

Mr. Yushchenko later explained why he suspected Mr. Zhvania, saying that Mr. Zhvania insisted on the meeting with the SBU heads in September 2004, which Mr. Yushchenko had not planned to attend, and that Mr. Zhvania was the only member of his staff who was against flying him to Austria for treatment (Ukrayinska Pravda, July 24).

Mr. Yushchenko was flown to a private clinic in Austria several days after the dinner, when his condition worsened.

Mr. Zhvania threatened to sue both Mr. Pukshyn and President Yushchenko for the accusations against him. He also threatened Mr. Yushchenko with impeachment (Interfax-Ukraine, July 24). Mr. Zhvania may find supporters for an impeachment motion outside his PSD.

Mr. Pukshyn accused Prime Minister Tymoshenko of supporting Mr. Zhvania and using his allegations in her rivalry with Mr. Yushchenko. "As she has never concealed her presidential ambitions, it is very convenient for her to cast a shadow over Yushchenko," he said (Ukrayinska Pravda, July 23).

Viktor Baloha, the chief of the Presidential Secretariat, also issued a statement accusing Ms. Tymoshenko of supporting Mr. Zhvania. He claimed that she was conspiring against the president in order to split OU-PSD and forge a new coalition in Parliament with his rivals (www.president.gov.ua, July 28).

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Ukraine appoints...

(Continued from page 5)

Ukraine is an emerging market of 48 million people, with a strong, young, upwardly mobile demographic. In terms of filmmaking, co-productions with major U.S. companies could greatly lower costs while retaining a Western look and feel. As an emerging free market democracy, Ukraine enjoys free press and media far more than Russia, thus providing a more welcoming environment for Western film producers and distributors."

The new advisor also noted that "Unfortunately, many people in the business still erroneously view Ukraine as part of an overall post-Soviet film market and industry to be addressed through Moscow. This is decidedly wrong and the Ukrainian government is now fully committed to establishing Ukraine as a market and industry genuinely independent of Russia and Russian intermediaries."

"Ukraine's objective is to establish direct relationships between the Ukrainian and Western film industries and my task is to facilitate this as much as possible," he added.

He continued: "We want the Ukrainian industry to emerge in its own right. We feel that decisions on what films Ukrainians see should be made by Ukrainians and not foreigners. I believe Ukrainian distributors are

more likely to show more Western films in Ukraine as they will not be under pressure from the Kremlin to show Russian films. I expect Hollywood's profits from the Ukrainian market will increase accordingly. It's not anti-Russian; it's simply Ukrainians looking after their own interests."

Mr. Borisow explained that foreign (that is, non-Ukrainian) language films must now be dubbed into Ukrainian or released in their original language with Ukrainian subtitles. Studios can no longer simply ship the same prints to Ukraine that they use for the Russian market; it's now illegal. "Some Russian-based (or -owned) distributors are trying to retaliate by limiting the number of releases of U.S.A. productions by alleging difficulties with dubbing into Ukrainian for distribution in the Ukrainian market," he said.

"I view this as something of a specious lock-out," Mr. Borisow commented. "I believe these distributors are thus hurting the very studios they should be serving. In that case, they should be replaced by local Ukrainian distributors who will increase the number of Hollywood films going into distribution in Ukraine and thus studio revenues from the Ukrainian market, as well as provide more reliable means to verify actual ticket sales and film revenues."

Mr. Borisow can be contacted at 310-552-5354 or apb.uk@earthlink.net.

Viktor Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 2)

Agrarians and the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs. An alliance with these five marginal parties would not boost United Center's popularity (Ukrayinska Pravda, April 24).

These five allies are former pro-Kuchma centrist parties, and four supported Viktor Yanukovich in the 2004 elections. The Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs supported Mr. Yushchenko in the second round of the 2004 elections, but the defection of its members from Our Ukraine to the Anti-Crisis Coalition in March 2007 spurred the president's April 2 decree to disband Parliament.

Kyiv Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi – who was backed by Mr. Yushchenko in the May 26 pre-term Kyiv elections – is to join United Center. The Chernovetskyi Bloc came in first in the Kyiv elections with 30 percent, while OU-PSD failed to reach the 3 percent threshold. Kyiv City Council Secretary Oles Dovhyi remains the link between Mr. Chernovetskyi and United Center and could become the head of its Kyiv branch (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 18).

There is growing antagonism inside OU-PSD at United Center for poaching its regional members, so pre-term elections would unravel the bloc. United Center could have potentially gained some support if it had successfully attracted the business wing of OU-PSD, which has always been inclined toward a grand coalition and lukewarm toward Yulia Tymoshenko. United Center placed high hopes on attracting Verkhovna Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatseniuk, a young and respected business leader loyal to Mr. Yushchenko, as its leader but he has repeatedly declined the offer.

Other businessmen in OU-PSD told Eurasia Daily Monitor (EDM) that while they remained loyal to Mr. Yushchenko, they did not want to participate in a political project promoted by Mr. Baloha, who has poor relations with both the majority pro-Tymoshenko and minority pro-Yushchenko wings of OU-PSD. PSD is financed by Davyd Zhvania, subject of an investigation to have his Ukrainian citizenship annulled. The investigation is being orchestrated – according to PSD leader and Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko – by the Presidential Secretariat (EDM, June 2; Ukrayinska Pravda, July 9).

It is unlikely that Ukraine will have a successful party of power for four reasons.

- First, Ukraine's regional diversity makes it impossible to have a single party that is pan-national.

- Second, a party of power requires an over-arching nationalism, as in Russia under Vladimir Putin. United Center's amorphous ideology of "patriotism, truth and pragmatism" has already failed in Kuchma-era centrist parties (Ukrayinska Pravda, June 9).

- Third, successful parties of power require a popular president who can lead them, as is the case in Russia.

- Fourth, parties of power succeed in autocratic – not democratic – systems where elites and businessmen can be cajoled into joining them.

Ukraine has attempted to build two parties of power under President Leonid Kuchma and two under President Yushchenko; all four have failed, or probably will.

The People's Democratic Party was Mr. Kuchma's new party of power headed by Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko in the 1998 elections when, despite administrative resources, it received only 5 percent of the vote. Following the replacement of Mr. Pustovoitenko by Mr. Yushchenko as prime minister in 1999, the party faction began to disintegrate. Ms. Suprun opposed "administrative methods" to establish new parties "because we have experienced this already and learned our lessons" (Zerkalo Nedeli, June 28).

For a United Ukraine, consisting of five pro-Kuchma centrist parties, was established for the 2002 elections, but it obtained only 11 percent despite administrative resources. For a United Ukraine disintegrated a month after the elections into constantly fluctuating factions.

In 2005 the Our Ukraine People's Union was established as Mr. Yushchenko's first party of power, but it failed to fulfill its main objective of merging disparate national democratic parties within Our Ukraine. Three years later, United Center is the second attempt.

United Center will likely become Ukraine's fourth failed party of power, and thus it will be unable to win President Yushchenko a second term.

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British government...

(Continued from page 6)

other facts which show the intent of the Holodomor – this is all ignored.

After a meeting between British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on May 15 the prime minister promised that Britain would work with Ukraine to promote the Holodomor. How can the United Kingdom honor this pledge when it denies that the Holodomor was a man-made famine targeting Ukrainians? If Britain simply repeats the arguments of its researchers that the Famine was part of a Soviet-wide campaign, then they will simply be lying about genocide.

The evasion and cynicism displayed by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in dealing with the Holodomor does Britain no credit and, I'm afraid, can only damage the U.K. by generating an image of weakness and cowardice, creating the impression that there is a fat streak of yellow in the union flag. Such an approach is a real threat to Britain's relations with Ukraine

and for developing an assertive approach toward political stability on the European Union's Eastern border.

It is also a lie in the face of the millions who died and should be challenged by everyone who upholds human rights. The Holodomor is a crime against all of humanity that it is not acknowledged or condemned. Meanwhile, we see crops burning in Darfur and must recognize that starvation remains an acceptable weapon in the armory of mass murderers. I would like people who read this article to contact me and discuss how we can work together to change the United Kingdom's approach to the Holodomor.

We cannot bring the dead back. But we can erect a memorial to them via international condemnation of the Holodomor and the use of enforced starvation and disease against people whose culture, heritage and politics are a barrier to despotic regimes controlling resources or acquiring power. This would be a fitting tribute to the victims of the Famine-Genocide and may offer a measure of comfort to the few survivors.

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U.S.-Ukraine Foundation sponsors multi-media project about Crimean Tatars

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation is sponsoring the multi-media documentary, project, “No Other Home: The Crimean Tatars,” co-directed by Maria Sonevytsky, an ethnomusicology Ph.D. candidate at Columbia University.

Ms. Sonevytsky is currently in Crimea conducting dissertation fieldwork among Crimean Tatars. Her co-director is Alison Cartwright, an award-winning New York-based photographer.

Ms. Sonevytsky and Ms. Cartwright are assisted by a small team of student research assistants from Crimea. Since May the team has been seeking out diverse places that Crimean Tatars call home in contemporary Crimea – urban and rural, affluent and impoverished, established and temporary – and documenting their life through recorded interviews, photographs and video footage.

The entire population of Crimean Tatars – estimated at about 200,000 – was ordered onto cattle cars and shipped to Central Asia and the Urals by Soviet leader Joseph Stalin on May 18, 1944.

Accused by the Soviet regime of being traitors for allegedly conspiring with Nazi forces during the occupation of Crimea, the Crimean Tatars were deported and banned from returning to their homeland. In their absence, the Soviet regime aspired to cleanse all traces of Crimean Tatar culture in Crimea. Homes were transferred to ethnic Russians and Ukrainians, place names were changed, mosques were converted into museums of atheism, libraries were burned.

In exile – or “siirgun” – Crimean Tatars were encouraged to assimilate with their Central Asian Turkic-speaking host country's culture and forget their ethnic identity.

Amidst the erratic directives of Soviet nationalities policy, the group known as “Crimean Tatar” was purged from the history books. After decades of protest, Crimean Tatars were given the legal right to return to Crimea, and have since embarked on the long and often arduous

process of re-staking a claim in their ancestral homeland.

This multi-media project hinges on the construction of the idea of “home” among repatriated Crimean Tatars in the weeks leading up to the annual commemorations of the Day of Deportation. The project will combine photography, ethnographic field recordings, video and the written word to display the multitude of ways that Crimean Tatars imagine and defend their idea of “home.”

The contested and often misunderstood status of the Crimean Tatar community in contemporary and historical Crimea, Ukraine and Russia lies at the very heart of this project: by emphasizing the complex ways in which this ethnic group's tragic history and continuing struggles have impacted the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in independent Ukraine, the project's directors aim to give voice to a variety of perspectives on Crimean Tatar repatriation.

The broader goal of the project is to contribute to the global discourse on the rights of minority or indigenous populations in disputed territories such as Crimea.

The project assesses how the Crimean Tatar political community's support for the growth of a democratic and stable civil society in Ukraine has been a vital force in neutralizing the secessionist movement on the Russian-dominated territory of post-Soviet Crimea while also stoking some of the inter-ethnic hostilities that are fodder for conflict and misunderstanding today.

Plans call for the exhibit to be shown in Symferopol, Lviv and Kyiv, as well as in New York and Washington. In the future, the exhibit will continue to travel, especially to other cities in eastern and southern Ukraine and Germany.

For more information readers may contact the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1701 K Street NW – Suite 903, Washington, DC 20006; telephone, 202-223-2228; e-mail, info@usukraine.org.



Maria Sonevytsky, co-director of the project “No Other Home: The Crimean Tatars,” with John Kun, vice-president and chief operating officer of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

A letter...

(Continued from page 7)

unprecedented drought contributed to the calamity and that all nationalities suffered equally. The former KGB files in the Russian Federation continue to be out of reach of the public. Clearly, it fears the implication that Russia, as a successor to the former USSR, might be seen liable

for the Holodomor.

Given Russia's adamant resistance to Ukraine's position, taking a stand on Holodomor is tantamount to taking sides between Russia and Ukraine.

Will her majesty's government be afraid to offend the more powerful Russia and not take a stand on the basis of what in fact transpired? Or will it have the courage to call a spade a spade?

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FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

“Bezmezhne Zhyttia” – an unforgettable Plast experience

by Nick Salek

EAST CHATHAM, N.Y. – I recently attended the best Plast camp of my life – “Bezmezhne Zhyttia” or Life Without Limits. This camp for older teens – better known as U2 – is the one that completes one’s time as a “yunak” or “yunachka” at the Vovcha Tropa campground. It also gives us camp-

Nick Salek, 16, lives in Morris Plains, N.J. He is a member of the Newark, N.J., branch of Plast and is a junior at Seton Hall Prep.

ers insight into becoming adult Plast members and more importantly, for committing to the Plast way of life.

What makes this U2 so special is that everyone is respected for having gone through eight or nine years of regular camps for cubs scouts and scouts, and now is given a little more independence. That independence translates to higher expectations – to see what we have learned over the years.

First stop was “pionirka” – or construction of a main gate to our

camp and flagpole, of which we are all very proud. Our brama consisted of a front gate, a fence with fire pits on its side, a lookout tower, two sturdy catwalks, and a set of Venetian blinds in the middle. Everyone contributed as expected, but many dedicated scouts gladly sacrificed their free time to make it perfect.

Among our many activities was a memorable visit to the town of Chatham, N.Y., where we achieved the merit badge of tourism. To make it interesting, our counselors organized a scavenger hunt, enabling us to learn many historical facts about the town. Key landmarks included the freight depot, the town clock tower and Ralph’s Pretty Good Café, which serves a pretty good quesadilla. It was great to become acquainted with the area, which neighbors our beloved Vovcha Tropa.



Campers go through locks during their canoe trip.



The U2 camp “brama” (main gate).

Our final hike as “yunatstvo” (scouts age 11-17) at Vovcha Tropa was better than any other I’ve ever been on. It began at Kampgrounds of America, or KOA, near Lake Placid, N.Y. We were able to relax, and we enjoyed square dancing with the locals, movie night and seeing the nearby Winter Olympic facilities.

Then the real adventure started. We enjoyed a picturesque three-day canoe trip on Lake Saranac, which also included mountain climbing and rappelling the grade 5 Adirondacks, as well as cliff-diving. The views were beyond amazing, and the activities were “first time” milestones for many of the campers.

On the final day of camp the “bulava” (camp leadership) had a surprise for us – a paintball shootout. Little did we know that the counselors had exclusive rights to shooting and we were the targets! Many of us endured heavy battle scars, but we learned who was willing to take shots for their friends while running for his or her life and, remarkably, having fun.

U2 is perhaps the greatest experience of my life so far, and I am pretty sure the other 44 campers would agree.

Thanks to Vovcha Tropa’s the
(Continued on page 22)

Cleveland Plast hosts Memorial Day camporee

by Victoria Masny

MIDDLEFIELD, Ohio – Plast Cleveland was honored to host the annual Memorial Day Weekend celebration “Sviato Vesny” or “Sviato Yuriya,” at our beautiful campground, Pysanyi Kamin – or PK as we like to call it – in Middlefield, Ohio.

We were blessed with uncharacteristically great weather – warmth and sunshine all weekend. The annual camporee is a celebration of the patron saint of Plast – St. George. For “plastuny,” St. George symbolizes selflessness, courage, valor and ser-

Victoria Masny of North Royalton, Ohio, is a “yunachka” who is a member of the Plast branch in Cleveland.

vice.

Sviato Vesny is also a celebration of spring. It marks the beginning of the camping season for Plast scouts all over the world.

In the United States, Sviato Vesny usually takes place separately on the East Coast and in the Midwest. Last year for example, the Midwest chapters celebrated in Indiana.

This year, the U.S. National Plast Command decided to combine the celebration, Plast groups arrived at Pysanyi Kamin from Boston, New York, Buffalo and Rochester, N.Y., Newark, N.J., Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Washington and Hartford, Conn.

All told, campers, chaper-
(Continued on page 22)



Victoria Masny (right) and a fellow plastunka from the Cleveland branch at “Sviato Vesny” in Ohio.

Plast cub scouts enjoy “A Trip Around the World”

by Paul Hadzewycz

LONG VALLEY, N.J. – On June 1, the Plast branches of Newark and Passaic, N.J., sent their “novaky” and “novachky” (cub scouts) to the annual “Sviato Vesny,” or celebration of spring. This year the event was held in Schooley’s Mountain County Park in Long Valley, N.J. The theme for the day was “Podorozh po Sviti” – A Trip Around the World – to mark the upcoming Summer Olympic Games in China.

Several volunteers prepared posterboards and presentations about six different countries: Ukraine, Germany, China, Argentina, Egypt and India. Each novak and novachka was given a “passport,” which was stamped at each station to show the countries they “visited” that day. About 60 boys and girls participated and were taught about the countries’ languages, cultures and people.

The Ukrainian station featured art and music, along with Ukrainian dancing. The boys and girls were taught basic traditional steps and did a brief performance. Pieces of

Paul Hadzewycz, 16, a resident of Morristown, N.J., is a senior at Oratory Preparatory School in Summit, N.J. He is a “bratchyk” (counselor of novaky) in the Newark branch of Plast.

“kabanos” sausage donated by the Lazirko family (who own the Olympic Market), were given out as treats.

The German station included German chocolate wafers, as well as a quick run-through of German culture and geography, such as the country’s famous mountain ranges. The cub scouts were taught about what to pack for hiking trips and how to make the most out of the limited space in a backpack.

At the Chinese station the children were taught origami and made basic figures such as sailboats and lanterns. They also received fortune cookies as snacks.

During their visit to the Argentina’s station, the children saw some authentic South American art. There were dolls and decorated bags, along with embroidered shirts. Empanadas were served as a basic South American food.

While on their Egyptian visit, the novaky and novachky learned about the pyramids and why they were built. Additionally, they were taught how to use a compass, a necessary skill for Plast scouts.

About midway through the day, the boys and girls were separated and each group played kickball. This was followed by lunch, which the children had brought from home.

When all the stations were com-



Cub scouts from the Newark and Passaic, N.J., branches of Plast enjoy “Sviato Vesny” at Schooley’s Mountain County Park.

pleted, a story was told by Zezya Zawadiwsky and acted out, with great style and humor, by parents and counselors.

By providing their own entertainment and having the children bring their own lunches (instead of bringing in a professional performer and catering lunch), the two Plast branches saved about \$1,500, making the 2008 Sviato Vesny a wallet-friendly event for all.

The day was planned by a small committee comprising Christine

Stasiuk, Chrystia Hladky (the “komendantka,” or leader of the event), the Pencak family, Ivanka Iwaskiw, Anya Tomko and Ms. Zawadiwsky; assistance was provided by Motria Mychajluk and Renia Handzy (who served as “pysar,” or scribe).

All in all, it was a great day for the cub scouts and parents alike. Thanks to the volunteers and planners, the novaky and novachky were able to truly enjoy a “Podorozh po Sviti” without ever leaving New Jersey.

Young inventor recognized at New York state finals

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. – The Schenectady Museum and Suits-Bueche Planetarium in Schenectady, N.Y., hosted the 2008 Invention Convention May 1-29. Among the contestants was Nina Dytiuk, a seventh-grader at Brown School in Schenectady. Her invention – the Ski Lift Heater/ Dryer – won her the title of New York state finalist and allowed her to participate in the state finals in Buffalo, N.Y.

Nina, who is also a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, addressed the discomfort of many skiers by solving the problem of wet ski lifts. Her invention involves the installation of a large blow dryer over the bench of the chairlift, resulting in a chairlift that “dries as it rotates,” according to the 13-year-old.

The contest is sponsored by General Electric and is open to students from kindergarten through eighth grade. The New York Capital Regional Competition received over 1,100 entries, of which only 100 regional finalists were exhibited in Schenectady. Of those, 25 were sent



Young inventor Nina Dytiuk.

to Buffalo to compete among the 100 students from four different regions in the state finals. Over 5,000 students entered the competition statewide.

In addition to her involvement in Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization in Cohoes, N.Y., Nina is a student at the School of Ukrainian Studies, also in Cohoes. She enjoys skiing and horseback riding.

Mishanyna

This week’s Mishanyna focuses on what many of you may be reading. Yes, we’re referring to your summer reading. How many of the authors whose last names are hidden in the Mishanyna grid appear on your summer reading list?

Maya ANGELOU	Ernest HEMINGWAY	George ORWELL
Charlotte BRONTE	Victor HUGO	William SHAKESPEARE
Pearl S. BUCK	James JOYCE	Upton SINCLAIR
Joseph CONRAD	John KNOWLES	Henry David THOREAU
Charles DICKENS	Jack LONDON	Mark TWAIN
William FAULKNER	Herman MELVILLE	Edith WHARTON

S	H	A	K	E	S	P	E	A	R	E	A	K	A	D
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R	N	H	U	M	I	N	G	W	O	U	N	O	M	S
A	N	G	E	L	O	U	I	S	B	N	O	W	A	F
L	O	M	A	M	A	S	O	R	W	E	L	L	T	A
K	A	M	I	L	I	N	O	T	R	E	A	E	Y	U
S	O	O	N	O	D	N	O	L	C	A	N	S	A	L
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N	O	E	O	E	L	K	O	W	H	A	R	T	O	N
C	M	L	K	D	E	J	A	Y	A	R	D	W	L	E
L	A	V	O	C	A	S	I	D	A	Y	E	A	D	R
A	R	I	Z	A	I	R	E	P	A	I	S	I	D	C
I	A	L	I	N	O	D	N	O	L	O	O	N	Y	H
R	M	L	L	A	M	A	O	O	U	S	T	E	R	A
C	A	E	L	M	A	T	R	A	C	H	A	R	O	T

American artists commissioned to create portraits of notable Ukrainians

NEW YORK – An exhibition titled “Ukrainians of the World,” featuring portraits of world renowned historical and contemporary persons of Ukrainian ancestry, opened in Kyiv on July 26.

The exhibit is an element of Ukraine’s celebration of 1,020 years since the adoption of Christianity by Kyivan Rus’, the

direct predecessor state of present-day Ukraine. The exhibit is presented at the Ukrainian House, a cultural and art center on Kyiv’s main street, the Khreschatyk. The portrait exhibition will be on view until the end of September.

In addition to the museum gallery exhibition, the Ukrainian government is issu-

ing commemorative currency and postal cancellations related to the anniversary.

Among notable Ukrainians from the United States depicted in portraiture are Alexander Archipenko, world-famous artist and sculptor; Retired Rear Adm. John Bepko III, former commander of the U.S. Navy’s Military Sealift Command;

Retired Col. Karol J. Bobko, (U.S. Air Force), a former NASA astronaut; Retired Cmdr. Bruce Melnick (U.S. Coast Guard), a former NASA astronaut; Sgt. Michael Strank (U.S. Marine Corps.), leader of the soldiers who raised the U.S. flag atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima during World War II, who was later killed in action; and Brig. Gen. John Basil Turchin (Turchaninov), a Union army officer in the American Civil War.

Artist Andrei Kushnir, who is of Ukrainian ancestry, was commissioned to create the portraits of Archipenko, Bepko and Turchin. Artist Michele Martin Taylor, who has painted portraits of many notable Americans during her career, was commissioned to create the portraits of Bobko, Melnick and Strank. The artists used photographs and other reference materials in creating the portraits, and included vignettes or pictorial elaborations in the backgrounds. Each portrait is oil on canvas and measures 90 by 70 centimeters (approx. 37.5 by 25.5 inches).

Mr. Kushnir has spent his career creating his paintings in every geographical area of the United States. His work is grounded in the tradition of the American Landscape School. Public collections owning his work include the U.S. Coast Guard, the District of Columbia Commission on Arts and Humanities, University Club, Washington, the Virginia Historical Society and the Museum of Florida’s Art and Culture.

Ms. Taylor has been a recognized and collected painter her entire life, and has exhibited around the world. Her work is in the collections of the emperor and empress of Japan, Former Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Jordan Jr., Sen. and Mrs. Mark O. Hatfield, and numerous public and private institutions, including the Portland Art Museum, the University of Oregon Art Museum, the Mayo Clinic, Rainier Bank and Trust Co., U.S. Bankcorp, District of Columbia Commission on Arts and Humanities, and the Norick Art Museum, University of Oklahoma.



Portraits of (top row, from left) Alexander Archipenko, Rear Admiral John Bepko III, Col. Karol J. Bobko (U.S. Air Force), (bottom row) Commander Bruce Melnick (U.S. Coast Guard), Sgt Michael Strank (U.S. Marine Corps) and Brig. Gen. John Basil Turchin (Turchaninov).

Cleveland...

(Continued from page 20)

ones and guests, there were over 400 people at PK. We were all very happy to see our fellow scouts, whom we have met at previous camps, counselor training courses and international jamborees.

This year’s organizing group for the camporee was the Lisovi Mavky sorority. Our komendantka was Katria Kuzmowycz, a former “podruha” (counselor) of mine at Plast camp. The ecology theme focused on conservation – “going green.”

Most Plast members arrived early on Saturday. The festivities began after we put up our tents and had an opening ceremony. We had a “terenova hra,” which is a field game in the woods. In the evening we enjoyed ourselves at a dance, or “vechirka.”

On Sunday, Father Ihor Kasiyan, pastor of St. Andrew’s Parish, said liturgy for all campers and guests. Afterwards a special memorial was held for Father Pavlo Hayda, who tragically passed away on September 4, 2007.

Father Hayda had served liturgy for us during our many summer camps at PK. I will especially remember his sermons, which he called “discussions with God.” We all miss him very much. Cleveland Plast members dedicated a special engraved plaque of Father Hayda’s bust which will be displayed in our chapel. Wristbands that read “What would Father Hayda do?” were given out to the campers.

In the evening, all enjoyed the traditional campfire, or “vatra.” Each group prepared skits on the “go green” theme.

Early Monday morning we took down our tents and packed quickly to be ready for the closing ceremonies at 11 a.m. After the closing ceremony, all said their good-byes and promised to meet up again at camp and, of course, Sviato Vesny 2009. Our fellow plastuny departed by bus, van, car and airplane.

Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization makes it possible for us to have friends from all over the country and even the world, which is why it is such a wonderfully unique organization.

“Bezmezhne...”

(Continued from page 20)

camp’s operating committee for letting all our lifelong Plast friends experience this incredible camp together. Thanks also to the awesome leaders

and counselors of U2 2008.

Stefko Stawnychy, our “komendant,” showed us the way to “Bezmezhne Zhyttia.” On behalf of all my friends, thank you for an experience of a lifetime and for inspiring us to become lifelong plastuny!



U2 campers pose for a group shot, as they get ready for a hike.

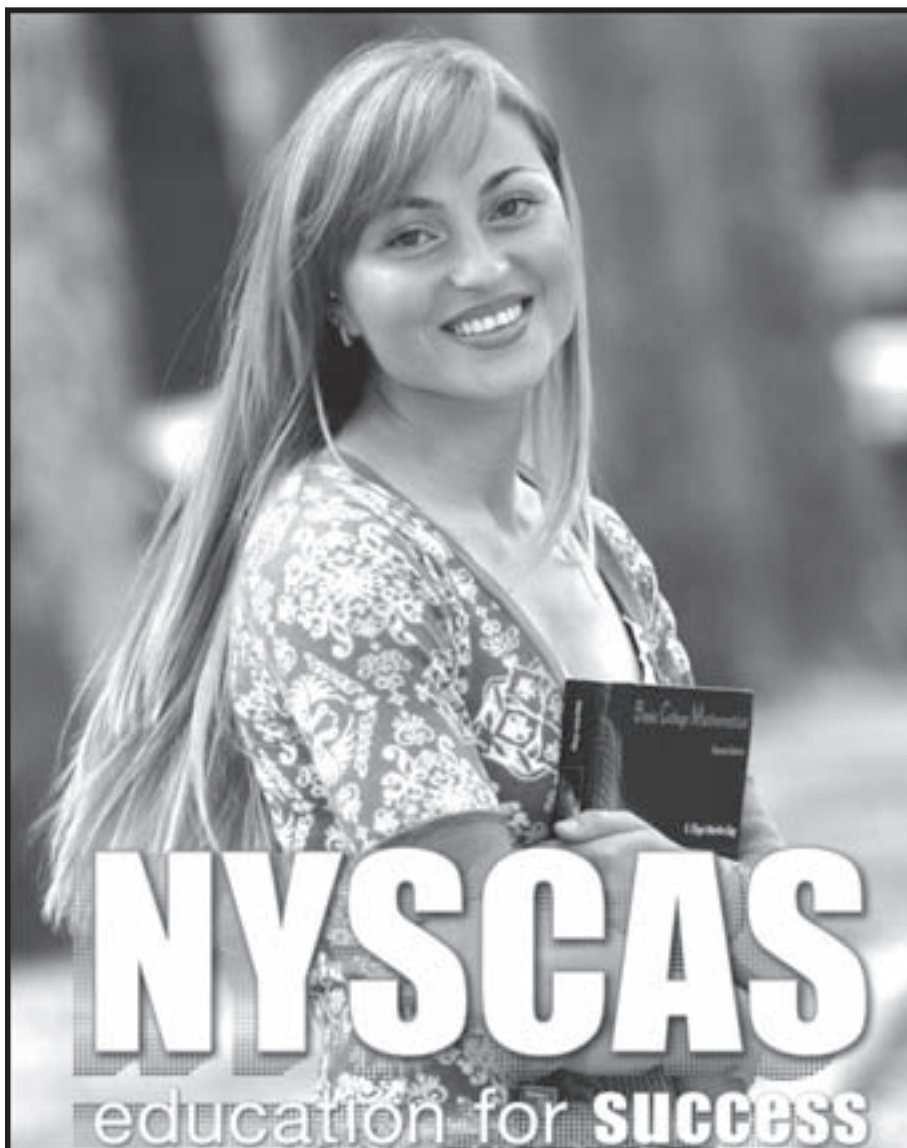
OUT AND ABOUT

- August 16
Ellenville, NY Softball tournament, pub night featuring Matthew Dubas, Ukrainian American Youth Association Resort - Oselia, 845-647-7230 or Ellenville@cym.org
- August 16
Jewett, NY Recital by bass-baritone Taras Kulish, accompanied by Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479
- August 17
Jewett, NY Concert and exhibit, "Beauty and the Bees," Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479
- August 17
Union, NJ Ukrainian Independence Day flag-raising and proclamation ceremony, Union Township Municipal Hall, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, 973-723-4387
- August 17
Silver Spring, MD "Dante's Inferno" in Ukrainian translation, Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, 301-230-2149
- August 18
East Meadow, NY Ukrainian American Night, Eisenhower Park, 516-503-1569
- August 19
Toronto Ukrainian Independence Day golf tournament, Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce, Royal Woodbine Golf and Country Club, 416-868-1079 ext. 223
- August 22
Perry Hall, MD Crab feast, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, St. Joseph Parish Fullerton, 410-591-7566
- August 23
Toms River, NJ Ukrainian Festival, St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church, 732-505-6053 or aphinagor@htomail.com
- August 23
Davis, CA Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California, Veterans Center Theater and Hall, 916-482-4706
- August 23
Ottawa the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 613-728-4923 or 613-728-0856
- August 23-24
Chicago Ukrainian Festival, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America - Illinois Branch, Smith Park, 773-772-4500
- August 24
San Francisco Ukrainian Day, Golden Gate Park, 650-363-1476
- August 24
Horsham, PA Ukrainian Independence Day, Ukrainian American Sports Club Tryzub, 215-343-5412
- August 30
Jewett, NY Piano recital by Valentyna Lisitsa, Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479
- August 30
Kerhonkson, NY Swim meet, Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, 908-845-1617
- August 31
San Diego, CA Ukrainian Festival, House of Ukraine at Balboa Park, 619-460-5733

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in *The Ukrainian Weekly*. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows; photos will be considered. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

- August 3 - 16** – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Camp session 2
- August 9** – Zabava with Fata Morgana
- August 9 -16** – Club Suzie-Q Week – 25th Anniversary
- August 17 - 23** – Joseph's School of Dance (Ballroom Dance Camp)
- August 15** – Pete & Vlody at the Tiki Bar
- August 23** – Ballroom Dance recital
- August 16** – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Camp 2 recital – 2 p.m.
- August 25 - September 1** – Labor Day Week



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 Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, August 16

JEWETT, NY: Music at Grazhda presents Taras Kulish, well-known bass-baritone and artistic director of the Green Mountain Opera Festival in Vermont, who will perform works by Faure, Finzi, Mozart, Lysenko and Vesolovsky. Accompaniment will be by pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky. Mr. Kulish's singing has been described as "spellbinding both in stage presence and in variety of tonal colors." The concert is at 8 p.m. at the Grazhda, Route 23A. General admission \$15; seniors and members, \$12. For information call 518-989-6479 or log on to www.GrazhdaMusicandArt.org.

Sunday, August 17

UNION, N.J.: The UCCA Committee Celebrating Ukraine's Independence in Union, N.J., will once again be sponsoring this annual event. Union is the only U.S. city that has Ukrainian flags and a giant banner proclaiming Ukrainian independence on the two main cross streets of the downtown area. The program begins at the town hall, 2369 Morris Ave., at noon, followed by the flag-raising ceremony. All Ukrainians and their organizations are invited to attend with their organizational flags. For more information contact Michael Koziupa, 973-723-4387.

Saturday, August 23

TOMS RIVER, N.J.: St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church at 1344 White Oak Bottom Road, Toms River, NJ 08755 will hold its first Ukrainian Festival between noon and 7 p.m. There will be Ukrainian food and beverages, live music, dancing, exhibits, vendors, a 50/50 drawing and lots of family fun. There is no admission charge; warm hearts will welcome all. For more information call 732-505-6053.

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: A gala concert celebrating the 17th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine will be held at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046, beginning at 5 p.m. The program will feature: keynote speaker Dr. Orest Popovych, the Prometheus Ukrainian Male Chorus, the Youth Chorus of the Ukrainian Baptist Church, the Akkolada Chamber Chorus and

the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble. Prior to the concert, at 4 p.m., there will be a screening of a film about the 16th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, shown in Kyiv in August 2007. Admission to the concert is \$10; free for children and students. For more information call 215-663-1165.

Saturday-Sunday, August 23-24

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Division, presents the Ukrainian Festival 2008 at Chicago's Smith Park, 2500 W. Grand Ave. (corner of North Campbell Street) from noon to 10 p.m. both days. This is the largest Ukrainian festival in the Midwest. Attractions include Ukrainian foods, crafts, music, dancing and much more. Pony rides and children's attractions add to the entertainment for the whole family. Performers from Ukraine and local talent will be featured. Dancing groups will perform Sunday afternoon. Celebration of Ukraine's Declaration of Independence will begin on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. For more information contact Pavlo T. Bandriwsky at 773-772-4500.

Sunday, August 24

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub will host the 17th annual Ukrainian Independence Day Folk Festival at Tryzubivka, County Line and Lower State roads. Doors open at noon. The festival show beings at 1:30 p.m. Headliners are: Syzokryli Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble (New York City), Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Philadelphia), Luna Band (New Jersey) and Svitanya Eastern European Women's Vocal Ensemble (Philadelphia). A dance (zabava) to the music of Luna will follow the stage show at 4:30 p.m. Ukrainian foods and baked goods, picnic fare and cool refreshments will be plentiful. Vendors are welcome. An arts and crafts bazaar and a children's fun area will be open all day. Admission: \$15; children under age 13, free; free parking. Proceeds benefit youth soccer and cultural and community programs. For further information call 215-343-5412 or log on to www.tryzub.org. (Note to readers: This item contains a corrected date and web address.)

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.

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