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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXXX

No. 33

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, 2012

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Top candidates of Ukraine's leading parties

Following is information on the top five candidates on the party lists of the Party of Regions of Ukraine and the Batkivshchyna Party.

Party of the Regions of Ukraine

1. Mykola Azarov – 64, prime minister of Ukraine. Born in Russia, Mr. Azarov was a geologist before his meteoric rise in politics. On the Melnychenko tapes, a voice similar to Mr. Azarov's is recorded as planning election fraud in the 1999 presidential vote with former President Leonid Kuchma. The Azarov government is accused of rampant corruption by independent economists and experts.

2. Tayisiya Povaliy – 46, pop singer. A native of a Kyiv Oblast village, Ms. Povaliy started out singing Ukrainian before becoming an international star in Moscow. The Russian government awarded her the Order of Friendship in December 2011 for popularizing the Russian language and culture in Ukraine.

3. Sergey Tigipko – 51, minister of social policy, estimated 2011 wealth of \$535 million. Mr. Tigipko single-handedly launched the Strong Ukraine party only to fold it into the Party of Regions. He fled Ukraine during the Orange Revolution of 2004, when he served as campaign manager for presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich.

4. Andrii Kliuyev – 46, chair of the National Security and Defense Council, estimated 2011 wealth of \$140 million. Mr. Kliuyev was widely reported to have served as the chief of the shadow campaign for presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich in 2004, which would have made him directly involved in the falsifications. He denied any shadow campaign and will serve as campaign manager of the 2012 parliamentary campaign.

5. Oleksander Yefremov – 57, Party of Regions parliamentary faction chair. Mr. Yefremov became a millionaire by allegedly driving Luhansk factories and mines into bankruptcy and then buying up their assets on the cheap, according to media reports. Numerous criminal charges against him, including abuse of authority and fraud, were eventually dropped by prosecutors during the presidency of Viktor Yushchenko.

(Continued on page 5)

Ukraine's parliamentary election campaign begins

Regions, Batkivshchyna present their candidates

by Zenon Zawada

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Ukraine's parliamentary election campaign kicked off officially on July 30 when the country's two leading political forces, the Party of Regions of Ukraine and the Batkivshchyna party, held their congresses to present their candidates.

The styles of the congress demonstrated their sharply contrasting political situations.

Members of the Party of Regions gathered at the International Exhibition Center across the street from the Resurrection of Christ Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchal Cathedral, overlooking the Dnipro River. The party forbid reporters to enter the hall and hauled in 18 busloads of police and special forces to stand guard.

"A participant had to get through three levels of state security to enter the center where a public event was taking place," reported Opora (Support), Ukraine's leading independent election monitor.

"Security was provided by the State Security Administration, Berkut special forces and unknown persons dressed as civilians. None of the pre-election congresses visited by observers had such unprecedented security measures, though national deputies and key officials were present at them as well," Opora noted.

Meanwhile, Batkivshchyna held its congress on a stage set up on the street outside



Aleksandr Sinitsa/UNIAN

Arseniy Yatsenyuk (left) and Anatoliy Grytsenko led the Batkivshchyna party congress on July 30 as it nominated its candidates for the parliamentary elections.

its party headquarters in the Podil District of Kyiv. National deputies and former ministers mingled with the crowd of a few thousand, being accessible to anyone willing to arrive at 8 a.m., when it began.

They had originally scheduled the congress for 11 a.m., but had to move it up when the parliamentary coalition announced three days earlier that an extra plenary session would begin that day at 10 a.m.

Party of Regions of Ukraine

"Ruin is overcome, stability achieved!" is among the main themes of the Party of Regions during this year's parliamentary campaign. Billboards bearing this slogan sprung up throughout Ukraine in recent

weeks, bearing photographs of high-rise apartment construction, cheering soccer fans and new tram cars.

Stability was the theme when President Viktor Yanukovich addressed the congress, specifically referring to the need to prevent the opposition from using the October 28 election "for the latest destabilization" of the country's social and political situation.

"We won't allow any more political wars and confrontation," he said. "Ukraine needs political stability and socio-economic development. In this, I see the mission of the Party of Regions and all progressive, democratic forces."

(Continued on page 9)

Team Ukraine has 10 medals at Summer Olympics in London

by Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The second week of the Olympic Games in London boosted Ukraine in the medals race, with two firsts for this summer's Olympiad – the first gold-medal win for Ukraine's male athletes, a first silver medal for Ukraine – plus two more bronze-medal wins.

Inna Osypenko-Radomska won Ukraine's first silver medal at the Olympic Games in London on August 9 in the women's kayak single event (K1) 500-meter race. She finished with a time of 1:52.685 seconds, behind Danuta Kozak of Hungary (1:51.456) and ahead of Bridgitte Hartley of South Africa (1:52.923). In the qualifying heat, Osypenko-Radomska's time was 1:52.268 seconds, and in the semifinals she finished in 1:51.515 seconds.

Oleksiy Torokhtiy, the first male athlete

(Continued on page 5)



noc-ukr.org

Oleksiy Torokhtiy, Ukraine's first male gold medalist in London, lifts 185 kg in the snatch.

COMMENTARY

On brave faces and a sorry business

by Mykola Riabchuk

Shortly after the European soccer championship ended in Kyiv on July 1, a leading Ukrainian independent outlet, Ukrayinska Pravda, featured a bitter article by Borys Bakhteyev that qualified the tournament as a great propaganda victory for the local authoritarian regime.

"Our authorities carried out a special operation aimed at a thorough elimination of Poland from the information context of Euro 2012. They imposed upon us the only possible answer to the question 'Who hosted the championship?' – Surely, Viktor Yanukovich, Mykola Azarov, Borys Kolesnikov and no one else! They celebrate now, and are not going to share their triumph with anyone. 'Let Europeans not teach us how to handle our business,' they say. 'Let them rather learn from us a little, from our excellent management of the tournament!' The trouble is not that they carried out this special operation. The trouble is they succeeded," he wrote. (<http://www.pravda.com.ua/articles/2012/07/4/6968065/>).

Two days later, the same newspaper published an article by investigative journalist Mustafa Nayem based on the secret instructions sent by the ruling Party of Regions to its local headquarters on how to carry out the forthcoming election campaign and which arguments to employ in party propaganda. Three concepts are featured in the document: first, the so called "social initiatives" by the president, which basically are no more than populist slogans about various social benefits to be accrued from the empty state coffers; second, the language policy aimed at mobilization of the Russophone and Sovietophile portion of the electorate; and third, the alleged "success story" of the Euro 2012 as proof of the government's efficiency and good international standing. (<http://www.pravda.com.ua/articles/2012/07/6/6968257/>).

The first two may deserve a separate analysis, but the third one seems to confirm Mr. Bakhteyev's gloomy observations. The Party of Regions instructs its activists to extensively praise the country's leadership for "rescuing the tournament, which was practically lost for Ukraine by the 'Orange' predecessors," and for the excellent management of the event despite the coordinated anti-government-cum-anti-Ukrainian campaign of domestic and international enemies.

These slogans speak for themselves: "Chaos is overcome. Stability is achieved!"; "Euro 2012: a goal for Ukraine"; and "Tournaments pass, achievements remain." Now, as these slogans are placed on billboards everywhere in Ukraine, with glamorous pictures of stadiums, airports, high-speed trains and airplanes, one may wonder whether the championship has actually been appropriated by the Party of Regions as a real success story and is boosting its popularity on the eve of the October parliamentary elections.

On the one hand, there is little doubt

Mykola Riabchuk is an author and journalist from Ukraine, and a leading intellectual who is affiliated with the journal Krytyka.

The article above is reprinted from the blog "Current Politics in Ukraine" (<http://ukrainiananalysis.wordpress.com/>) created by the Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine, a program of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta.

that, partial achievements and minor success stories notwithstanding, the Euro-2012 was a wasted opportunity for Ukraine in terms of both substantial modernization and positive image-making. While political instability and rampant corruption discouraged foreign investors — 80 percent of related bills had to be paid by the Ukrainian government (with reported 40 percent kickbacks from government-friendly contractors) — the political scandals, persecution of opposition and reports of racist excesses at Ukrainian stadiums fundamentally undermined any possibility for the country's positive rebranding.

Indeed, as Janek Lasocki and Lukasz Jasina put it, international headlines were "clearly not encouraging investment or political cooperation, nor proving the country's European credentials" (<http://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/janek-lasocki-%C5%82ukasz-jasina/football-politics-legacy-of-euro-2012-in-ukraine>).

The event that back in 2007 was envisaged to "help change Ukraine's image from that of a gray, 'semi-Russian' backwater to a country that shared European values and strove for democracy" (<http://www.tol.org/client/article/23201-ukraines-european-aspirations-meet-the-buzz-saw-of-post-soviet-habits.html>), and to "symbolize common heritage and cooperation across the EU border, and a bright future for an ever-expanding Europe" (<http://blogs.ft.com/beyond-brics/2012/05/18/guest-post-ukraines-boycott-blues>), turned out to be a "public relations disaster for the Yanukovich regime," the "farce of the century" and one the most expensive entries in the "Regionnaires' remarkable chronicle of failures" (<http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/blog/alexander-j-motyl/looming-soccer-disaster-ukraine>).

Although all this is true, one cannot deny that, on the other hand, the Ukrainian government tries to capitalize, at least domestically, on the relatively smooth running of the championship, and that its propagandistic efforts are not entirely in vain. First, the propaganda campaign is facilitated by firm control over the domestic mass media, primarily television. (The only independent Ukrainian channel, TVi, lost its airwaves to the government's loyalists shortly after Viktor Yanukovich became president in 2010, and now has encountered even stronger pressure after the tax police raided its office on July 12, seized financial documents and opened a criminal case against its director Mykola Kniazhytsky based on scurrilous accusations.)

Secondly, the Western mass media had managed to create a favorable context for the Ukrainian regime to dismiss their criticism and to mobilize part of the population to support the government on presumably patriotic grounds: against indiscriminate accusations against Ukrainian society at large of indulging in endemic racism and xenophobia. (See Uilleam Blacker's article on this site at <http://ukrainiananalysis.wordpress.com/2012/06/05/eastern-european-xenophobia-under-western-eyes-euro-2012-in-poland-ukraine>.)

The campaign launched by the reputable BBC and supported by a number of British tabloids presented Poland and, especially, Ukraine as dangerous places where crypto-fascist violence and intolerance reigns supreme and where visitors with a non-white skin are very likely to "come back in coffins" (<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/>

(Continued on page 3)

NEWSBRIEFS

President signs language law...

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich on August 8 signed Law No. 5029-VI on the principles of state language policy. He also instructed the Cabinet of Ministers to form a working group involving the public, prominent educators, scientists and art workers, as well as leading experts on language issues, in order to draw up and present systemic proposals to improve legislation regarding the use of languages in Ukraine, the presidential press service reported on August 8. According to the directive, the working group should ensure the comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language in all spheres of social life throughout the country; guarantee the free development, use and protection of all native languages of Ukrainian citizens; fulfill the commitments undertaken by Ukraine as part of its international treaties on these issues; and ensure the further introduction of European standards in this area. Prime Minister Mykola Azarov was instructed to set up the working group by August 13 and ensure the prompt drafting and approval of a state program for the comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language by August 27. On July 3, the Verkhovna Rada passed the law on state language policy, which was drawn up by Party of Regions National Deputies Vadym Kolesnichenko and Serhiy Kivalov. On July 31, Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn signed the bill, permitting it to go the president for his action. (Ukrinform)

...and proposes amendments to it

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich has proposed creating a working group under the Cabinet of Ministers that will deal with the drafting of amendments to the law on the principles of the state language policy, and these amendments will be submitted for consideration by the Verkhovna Rada in September. The head of state announced this at a meeting on August 7 with representatives of the scholarly and creative intelligentsia who will also join the work-

ing group. "I will work with this group, and the Cabinet of Ministers will work so that in September we can have the opportunity to approve amendments to this law," the presidential press service quoted Mr. Yanukovich as saying. The president also proposed that the working group include the co-authors of the language law, Party of Regions National Deputies Vadym Kolesnichenko and Serhiy Kivalov, and that the group form a supervisory board regarding the legislative framework for the use of languages in Ukraine, as well as the comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language in all spheres of public life. Mr. Yanukovich added that some amendments had already been worked out: "I spent a lot of time working on this law, and the amendments have currently been worked out. I'm practically offering a mechanism for the introduction of these amendments to the law." He added, "I think that we need to create such a working group that will draw up, along with the Cabinet of Ministers, a program for the development of the Ukrainian language." (Ukrinform)

CEC won't register Tymoshenko, Lutsenko

KYIV – The Central Election Commission (CEC) has refused to register former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko as candidates for national deputies from the Batkivshchyna All-Ukrainian Union, CEC member Zhanna Usenko-Chorna announced at a commission meeting on August 8. "In accordance with Article 58 of the Constitution of Ukraine, the CEC has no legal grounds to register persons whose convictions were not canceled by the procedure established by law," Ms. Usenko-Chorna said. Overall, the CEC registered 210 out of the 225 candidates included in the Batkivshchyna list. Thirteen candidates were not registered because they failed to submit on time statements about their consent to run for national deputies from this political party. (Ukrinform)

(Continued on page 13)

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: \$65; for UNA members — \$55.

Periodicals postage paid at Caldwell, NJ 07006 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

e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, August 12, 2012, No. 33, Vol. LXXX

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ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3041
e-mail: admin@ukrweekly.com

Walter Honcharyk, advertising manager

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040
fax: (973) 644-9510
e-mail: adukr@optonline.net

Mariyka Pendzola, subscriptions

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3042
e-mail: subscription@ukrweekly.com

On brave faces...

(Continued from page 2)

news/article-2150542/Nazi-mob-lies-wait-England-fans-Riot-police-march-battle-thugs-Euro-2012-terraces-turn-blind-eye-racist-chants-violence.html).

The accusations, however substantiated (at least in the BBC Panorama film "Stadiums of Hatred"), missed the point in two important respects. First, racism is certainly not the main problem that hounds Ukraine; secondly, Ukraine is certainly not a European leader in terms of racism, fascism and football hooliganism – it lags far behind Russia, where Asian immigrants are beaten and killed on a regular basis.

Regretfully, the moderate voices that tried to present a more balanced view and tame the "anti-Ukraine overdrive" (as Brendan O'Neill defined it), remained largely unheard. "Like every other country in the world, Ukraine no doubt has some nasty racists – but British hacks have continually depicted the entire nation as a cesspit of xenophobic attitudes... What we're really witnessing in the hysteria about Ukrainian attitudes is the expression of a prejudice against strange Easterners disguised as an enlightened anti-racist sentiment. If it is stupid for small numbers of Ukrainian football followers to sneer at blacks and Asians, it is also stupid for the British media to sneer at the whole of Ukraine," he wrote. (<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/brendanoneill2/100160992/the-fear-of-racist-ukraine-is-itself-xenophobic/>).

The main problem, as Rory Finnin has correctly suggested, "was less media sensationalism than public knowledge about Ukraine. Reports of racism in the country were essentially made in a vacuum, with precious little beyond stories of made-man famines, environmental catastrophes and feuding politicians to help frame them constructively. Ukraine is the largest country within the European continent... Yet after 20 years of independence, Ukraine remains badly known and poorly understood. It is Europe's perennial terra malecognita" (http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dorothy-finnin/ukraine-europes-terra-malecognita_b_1653469.html).

As if such hyperbole was not enough, the Western mass media broadly discussed the idea to boycott not only the Ukrainian leadership marred with corruption scandals and persecution of their political opponents, but Ukraine in general by removing the final stage of the tournament either fully to Poland or to some other country.

This irresponsible appeal (which came too late to accomplish anyway) was effectively manipulated by the Ukrainian authorities in a similar way, as the whole-sale accusations of Ukraine as racist: first, it was used to distract popular attention from the real (political) reasons for the international boycott of the Ukrainian leadership and to switch it to the alleged anti-Ukrainian bias of Westerners; and secondly, it helped to channel popular resentment against the opposition, which had arguably conspired with ugly Westerners and who sacrificed the national interests (Euro 2012) for the sake of some particularistic gains (liberation of Yulia Tymoshenko).

Angela Merkel's notorious comparison of Ukraine with Belarus played directly into the hands of President Yanukovich and his acolytes since the bias was obvious here to all, including the fiercest of Mr. Yanukovich's opponents. The bias was even more pronounced given Ms. Merkel's (and that of other European bigwigs) exchange of amiable hugs and smiles with much more authoritarian bosses in Moscow.

There is a sad truth in the words of an unnamed German journalist quoted in Open Democracy by a Ukrainian colleague: "It's quite easy for Merkel to attack Ukraine and demand respect for human rights. Unlike Russia, you have no oil or gas, and you're not as strong and influential as China. It's convenient to criticize Ukraine and it does great things for [her] popularity rating" (<http://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/valery-kalnysh/are-european-calls-for-euro-2012-boycott-meaningless>). This truism may not significantly strengthen the position of Mr. Yanukovich but it definitely weakens those of his pro-Western opponents.

Mr. Yanukovich, as Michael Willard sarcastically remarks, "doesn't seem to be losing much sleep due to the downward spiral of his country's reputation in the eyes of the West or, apparently, even Russia." The Western boycott of authoritarian rulers resembles hitting them with the proverbial wet noodle: "One feels it, but it doesn't sting" (<http://www.kyivpost.com/opinion/op-ed/back-story-ukraine-proved-naysayers-wrong-in-euro.html>).

"Statements such as those made by Angela Merkel or Hillary Clinton are political, but they are only words, unless they are backed up by force, pressure, breaking contracts, isolation, refusal of entry visas and freezing officials' bank accounts... The Ukrainian president does not understand hints. The language of diplomacy is completely alien to him... The EU and U.S.A. appeals will remain just that, appeals, heard only by those making them" (<http://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/valery-kalnysh/are-european-calls-for-euro-2012-boycott-meaningless>).

"The EU has more power than it thinks, and boycott is not the only weapon. A travel ban on officials linked to Tymoshenko's jailing could rein in a few of Ukraine's corrupt kleptocrats" (<http://blogs.ft.com/beyond-brics/2012/05/18/guest-post-ukraines-boycott-blues>).

"Rather than staying way from Ukraine to no point (except to mollify their own domestic critics), Merkel, Barroso and the rest should use the very real powers they have to hit Kyiv where it really hurts" (<http://eastofcenter.tol.org/2012/05/yellow-bellied-european-pols-deserve-yellow-cards/>).

It may take some time before experts' opinion gains sufficient credibility and influence to prompt policymakers to apply tougher sanctions against the rogue government. The rigged parliamentary elections in October may catalyze the process. Yet, in the meantime, the president and his team can boast of their great victory, both against the sinister West and treacherous opposition. "A goal for Ukraine," they claim, and might well be right, unless they mean "Ukraine c'est moi."

OSCE commissioner urges dialogue on divisive language law in Ukraine

OSCE

KYIV – High Commissioner on National Minorities Knut Vollebaek of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) described the situation surrounding a new language law in Ukraine as "deeply divisive" at the conclusion of his visit to the country on July 26. He urged the authorities to engage in "substantive dialogue."

Mr. Vollebaek visited the country on July 24-26 to update himself on this and several other issues, including Ukraine's chairmanship of the OSCE next year.

The language law recently adopted by the Ukrainian Parliament has proved controversial and has provoked strong reactions, he noted. Earlier this year the high commissioner provided the authorities with an assessment of the law and advised against adopting it in its current form.

"The disproportionate favoring of the Russian language, while also removing most incentives for learning or using Ukrainian in large parts of the country, could potentially undermine Ukraine's very cohesion," Mr. Vollebaek said. He warned that the law is likely to lead to further polarization of society.

In meetings with national deputies of the Verkhovna Rada, the high commissioner also expressed concern at the manner in which the law was adopted. He particularly referred to the parliamentary majority's refusal to consider any of the more than

2,000 amendments put forward.

"In the present pre-election climate, tensions surrounding the language law could easily escalate," said Mr. Vollebaek. "I therefore call on all parties to engage in a substantive dialogue on the issues raised by the law with a view to finding a suitable compromise."

While in Ukraine, Mr. Vollebaek also discussed the inter-ethnic situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. In this context, he welcomed the recent adoption, in its first reading, of long-stalled legislation to restore the rights of formerly deported people. He urged the authorities to continue working towards full adoption and implementation of this law. The high commissioner also visited Crimea.

Mr. Vollebaek discussed the language law and other issues with Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, First Vice-Minister of Social Policy Vasyl Nadruga, First Vice-Minister of Culture Yurii Bohutskyi, leader of the united opposition Arseniy Yatsenyuk, national deputies from the ruling coalition and the opposition, and representatives of national minorities, civil society and the diplomatic corps.

The successive high commissioners of the OSCE have been engaged in Ukraine since the early 1990s, with a particular focus on legislation regulating minority rights and language use, the inter-ethnic situation in Crimea and the education of national minorities.

Lviv museum opens exhibition on rescue of Jews by UGCC clergy

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

LVIV – The history of Lviv is the history of a mini-state which for centuries was home to different peoples with their own histories and cultures, customs and religions. The exhibition "Those Who Saved the World" on 36 Staroyevreyska St. is a story about the people of the Jewish quarter.

The exhibition, which opened on June 27, was created by the Lviv Museum of the History of Religion and is dedicated to the actions of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) in saving Jews during World War II, the head of the information department of the Lviv Museum of the History of Religion, Iryna Tsebenko, explained.

The direct organizers of the actions to save the Jews were the Sheptytsky brothers, Metropolitan Andrey and Archimandrite Klement. Hundreds of Jews, including many children, hid in male and female monasteries of the UGCC. Monks, priests and the faithful of the Church risked their own lives to save Jews, revealing their attitudes toward them on the basis of the

Christian principle of love and on the ideology of universal unity.

The focus of the exhibit is on the Holocaust and the Righteous. A few parts of the exhibit show different aspects of Jewish life in pre-war Lviv. One section is dedicated to European politicians and philosophers who contributed to the emergence of the anti-Semitic element in the ideology of the Nazis.

The exhibit includes documentary materials, photographs of priests, nuns and monks, and rescued Jews – direct participants in these events; certificates and medals of people declared by Yad Vashem to be Righteous Among the Nations and their personal belongings.

Parts of the exhibit are also devoted to Blessed Omelyan Kovch and to Lviv residents who saved Jews.

As of January 1, a total of 2,363 citizens of Ukraine have the title Righteous Among the Nations. Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial, awarded them diplomas and medals with the engraved text: "Whoever saves a life is considered as if he has saved an entire world."

Quotable notes

"...The [Obama] administration also seems to have misjudged how steadfastly Mr. [Russian President Vladimir] Putin would stand behind the Syrian regime. There were vague hopes that, sooner or later, the Kremlin would give up on Mr. [Syrian President Bashar al-] Assad. But Mr. Putin refused to budge. For years, he has been disdainful and fearful of the 'color' revolutions – Orange in Ukraine, Rose in Georgia – that swept autocrats from power. In recent months, he has heard the footsteps of protest outside his own Kremlin walls. He was not about to applaud the drumbeat of another revolution seeking to topple a dictator in Syria. It's not comforting to see Mr. Putin express an outmoded, Cold War mindset that sees Russia's interest in opposing the United States at every step – but it is something that should not have surprised the White House. ..."

– Editorial, "The lessons of failure in Syria," in *The Washington Post*, August 3.

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OBITUARIES

Iryna Stasiv-Kalynets, human rights activist, 71

Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group

KHARKIV, Ukraine – Iryna Stasiv-Kalynets, poet, artist and former political prisoner died on July 31 at the age of 71. Active in the Ukrainian national liberation and human rights movements, she was a person of strong convictions and steadfast commitment.

Iryna Stasiv was born on December 6, 1940, into a family of believers of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. Many of her relatives were connected with the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. Seeing mass deportations of Ukrainians to Siberia after World War II, she became and remained passionately committed to Ukraine's independence.

She studied at the Language and Literature Faculty of Lviv University, and then worked in schools and youth clubs, but was forced to leave after telling the students about the history of the national liberation movement. From then on she was able to get only temporary jobs or manual labor.

She and her husband, Ihor Kalynets, were actively involved in the Shystydesyatnyky (Sixties) movement.

In July 1970 she was one of nine people

from Lviv who signed a letter of protest against the arrest of Valentyn Moroz, and was active in other efforts on his behalf. In December 1971 she signed the statement announcing the creation of the Public Committee in defense of Nina Strokata.

Both she and her husband were arrested in 1972. Ms. Stasiv-Kalynets was sentenced in early August under Article 62 – “anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda” – to six years of labor camp and three years of exile. Six months later her husband received the same sentence. Their young daughter was separated from her parents for nine years.

Ms. Stasiv-Kalynets served her sentence in the Mordovian political labor camps together with Stefania Shabatura, Nadia Svitlychna and Dr. Strokata.

She took part in all collective protest actions held in the women's political prisoners' camp. She signed a letter to the Procurator's Office accusing the camp authorities of preventing prisoners from celebrating Easter; a letter to the Secretary General of the United Nations asking that he take measures to ensure fair trials in the presence of representatives of the U.N.; a collective letter in support of Andrei

Sakharov, an appeal to the camp administration for permission to send delegates to the Congress of the International Women's Democratic Association.

She took part in a hunger strike demanding that the imprisoned rights activists be given political prisoner status, refused to do hard physical labor in connection with International Women's Year, wrote a letter to the U.N. Human Rights Commission Committee protesting camp conditions and asking for a representative to be sent to the camp, and held hunger strikes in protest against refusals to allow visits from relatives and friends. For such actions, she was frequently subjected to vicious repressive measures by the camp authorities.

She spent her term of exile together with her husband in the Chytynsk region, working at milking cows and painting houses.

Beginning in 1987, Ms. Stasiv-Kalynets took an ever more active role in the revival of free cultural and civic life in Lviv. In November 1987 she and her husband became founding members of the Ukrainian Association for the independent creative intelligentsia. She was also active in creating and working with the group “Yevshan-



Iryna Stasiv-Kalynets

zillya” in publishing an independent cultural journal, as well as in the creation of the Association of the Ukrainian Language, “Memorial” and the Popular Movement of Ukraine (Rukh). Stasiv-Kalynets was also involved in the movement for the revival of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

She believed that the rights of the nation are given priority over the rights of the individual.

She published several books of poetry, prose, as well as works on literary and historical subjects.

Vasyl Lisovy, former Soviet political prisoner, 75

Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group

KHARKIV, Ukraine – Vasyl Lisovy, philosopher and former Soviet-era dissident and political prisoner died on July 20. He was 75.

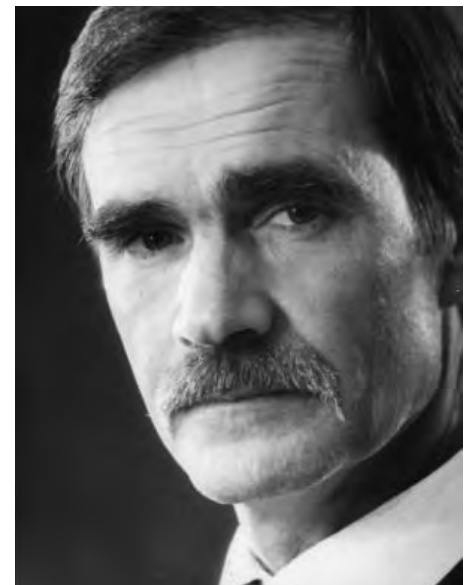
Mr. Lisovy was born on May 17, 1937, in a village in the Kyiv region. He studied and later lectured in philosophy. He began distributing samvydav literature in 1961, and from 1966 actively prepared and circulated clandestine material among students.

It was the second wave of arrests of members of the intelligentsia in 1972 that

prompted Mr. Lisovy to openly protest. He and Yevhen Pronyuk released issued No. 6 of the journal *Ukrainsky Visnyk* (Ukrainian Herald), which they revived in order to provide society with information about those arrested and to undermine the charge against those arrested of having published the previous issues.

He also wrote an Open Letter to the Members of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and to the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party. The letter ended with the following: “Taking into consideration the conditions

under which this letter is being submitted, it would be difficult for me to hope for a constructive reaction to it. Although I am not appearing here in the role of respondent, nor witness, nor even in any role as somebody involved in this case which is now called ‘the Dobosh case,’ after passing on this letter I will without any doubt become one of the ‘enemies.’ Perhaps this is correct since Dobosh has been released and the ‘Dobosh case’ is simply a case directed against the living Ukrainian people and living Ukrainian culture. Such a ‘case’ does indeed unite all those arrested.



Vasyl Lisovy

However, I consider myself to also be implicated in this case, which is why I ask that I also be arrested and tried.”

(Yaroslav Dobosh, a Belgian national, had had been arrested by the KGB, and after “admitting guilt” on television and in the press, had been deported to Belgium, where he immediately withdrew his statements.)

Both Mr. Pronyuk and Mr. Lisovy were arrested in July 1972. Mr. Lisovy was sentenced in December 1973 to seven years of hard labor and to three years of exile. The charge was under Article 62 of the Criminal Code, “anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.”

As a result of his protest against Soviet troops occupying Afghanistan, on July 17, 1980, Mr. Lisovy was sentenced for “parasitism” to one year at a harsh-regimen labor camp. He spent the remainder of his exile period in Ilka in the same area. He worked as a lathe operator in a car repair factory. Mr. Lisovy was joined in exile by his wife, Vera, and children, Myroslava and Oksen.

He was released in July 1983. Once he returned to Kyiv he was unable for a long time to find work, and it was only after he made a request to the KGB that he was taken on as a research assistant in the Kyiv History Museum.

In 1989 he was rehabilitated and his Ph.D. was officially reinstated, as well as his position in the Institute of Philosophy of the Academy of Sciences.



2012 Labor Day Weekend Events

Friday 6-8 PM: Odesa Seafood Night, clams, shrimp, ribs family-style followed by Surf & Turf dinner
(make reservations early, call by 8/30 to pre-order lobsters)

8-10 PM: guest bartenders from Veselka Bowery

Beach Party Volleyball under the lights

10 PM: Music by Svitnok on the Tiki Deck

Saturday USCAK Swim Races and Tennis Tournament

Noon-5 PM: BBQ at the Gazebo

2 PM: EMCK on the Tiki Deck

5-6 PM: Hot Tub Happy Hour

6-8 PM: Chef Snake's Special in the Main House Dining Room

7:30 PM: Concert featuring Syzokryli

10 PM: Zabava with Hrim

Sunday 8:30 AM and 10 AM: Catholic Liturgy at Holy Trinity Church

10 AM: Orthodox Service at Soyuzivka Chapel

Noon-5 PM: BBQ at the Gazebo, Spartanky Volleyball Tournament

2 PM: Labor Day weekend tradition continues with Matthew Dubas on accordion on the Tiki Deck

4 PM: Super Speedo Sake Bomb Sunday Happy Hour on the Tiki Deck

6-8 PM: Nestor's Special Meal in the Main House Dining Room

10 PM: Zabava with Klopit from Chicago

Team Ukraine...

(Continued from page 1)

to win a gold in London for Ukraine, secured the win in the men's weightlifting event in the 105 kg division, with a snatch lift of 185 kg, and a clean-and-jerk lift of 227 kg, for a total of 412 kg in the final on August 6. Navab Nasireshehal of Iran won second place with a 411 kg total, and Bartolomej Wojciech Bonk of Poland won bronze with 410 kg. Sergiy Tagirov of Ukraine finished in 10th place with 374 kg total.

Olha Saladuha won bronze in the women's triple jump on August 5, with a distance of 14.79 meters. Olga Rypakova won gold for Kazakhstan with a distance of 14.98 meters, and Caterine Ibarguen won silver for Columbia with a jump of 14.8 meters. Hanna Knyazheva of Ukraine finished in fourth place, with a jump of 14.56 meters.

Gymnast Ihor Radivilov won the bronze medal in the men's vault, with a total score of 16.316 points on August 6. Hak Seon Yang of South Korea won gold (16.533 points), and Russia's Denis Ablyazin won the silver medal (16.399 points).

Vitalii Nakonechnyi finished in sixth place in men's gymnastics on the pommel horse apparatus on August 5, with a score of 14.766. He scored 6.3 on difficulty and 8.466 on execution, with no penalty deductions. Krisztian Berki of Hungary won first place with a score of 16.066 points.

Heptathletes Lyudmyla Yosypenko and Hanna Melnychenko finished in fourth and 10th place, respectively, in the women's final on August 4. Yosypenko earned 6,618 points, her personal best, and Melnychenko earned 6,392 points. The heptathlon includes the 100-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, 200-meter races, long jump, javelin throw and 800-meter races.

Olha Maslivets finished in fourth place in the women's RS-X division of the sailing competition on August 7 that included 10 heats and a medal race. Maslivets scored 62 total points and netted 48 points. After the 10 races, the worst race score is discarded and the remaining points are added together; the lowest 10 racers advance to the medal race, where points are doubled.



Inna Osypenko-Radomska (foreground) takes the lead in the 500-meter single kayak race, winning the first silver medal in London for Ukraine.

The lowest number of points is the winner.

Synchronized swimmers Daria Iushko and Kseniya Sydorenko finished the free routine of their program in sixth place with 92.670 points.

Irina Merleni made it to the semifinal match in the women's 48-kg division free-style wrestling event. Merleni lost to Mariya Stadnyk of Azerbaijan 0-3 based on the judges' decision. Stadnyk won the silver medal in the final match against Hitomi Obara of Japan, who defeated Stadnyk 3-1. Carol Huynh of Canada and Clarissa Kyoko Mei Ling Chun of the U.S.A. tied for bronze. Merleni lost to Chun in the bronze medal match 0-3.

At press time, Ukraine had won 10 medals and was in 16th place in the medals count, with three gold, one silver and six bronze. Ukraine was ahead of Brazil (17th place) and behind New Zealand (15th place); Ukraine is in 19th place in the gold medal count, behind New Zealand (18th place) and ahead of South Africa (20th place).

The Summer Olympic Games in London conclude with the closing ceremonies on August 12. A listing of the accomplishments of Ukraine's athletes will appear next week, along with preliminary coverage of the Paralympic Games in London to be held on August 29 through September 9.

Medal-winning performances at the Olympics

by Ihor N. Stelmach

Ukraine wins gold in women's quadruple sculls

Ukraine easily and dominantly captured a gold medal in rowing, blowing away the competition in the final of the women's quadruple sculls on August 1. Shortly after Great Britain won its first gold medal at the Olympics, the hometown London crowd was prepared to explode again for another British medal. Instead the British quartet struggled, finishing far behind the field in sixth place.

Kateryna Tarasenko, Nataliya Dovhodko, Anastasiia Kozhenkova and Yana Dementieva won by more than two seconds in a time of six minutes, 35.93 seconds. Germany took silver, the United States bronze, Australia was fourth and 2008 champions China finished fifth.

The Ukrainian team took a very comfortable lead in the opening 500 meters of the race and had no problem hanging on to its huge lead until the very end. Ukraine had clear water at the 1,500-meter stage and its smooth technique propelled it to a 2.16 second win over the Germans.

It was Ukraine's first-ever Olympic rowing gold medal.

Torokhtiy wins weightlifting gold

Oleksiy Torokhtiy was a surprise gold medal winner for Ukraine on August 6 after the top contenders in the 105-kg category were eliminated or dropped out. Torokhtiy lifted 185 kg in the snatch and 227 kg in the clean and jerk, for a total of 412 kg. His total was 1 kg more than Iran's silver medalist, Navab Nasirshelal.

Poland's Bartolomej Bonk won bronze with 410 kg. All three medalists were within two kilograms of each other in total weight lifted. Poland's three-time world champion, Marcin Dolega, was eliminated from the competition after he failed 3 successive attempts in the snatch.

Over all, the category's results were underwhelming as weightlifting has seen world or Olympic records falling on a daily basis. Torokhtiy's total was three kilograms lower than Kazakhstan's Ilya Ilyin's 94-kg division champion.

Clearly, the Ukrainian took advantage of not having to compete against the top contenders in the 105-kg weight class. Andrei Aramnau of Belarus, the 2008 Olympic champion, opted out of the Olympic Games in London because of a leg injury. Beijing Olympic silver medalist Dmitry Klokov of Russia and teammate Khadzhimurat Akkaev (2011 world champion), both withdrew at the last moment due to injuries.

Torokhtiy acknowledged the results would have been different if the Russians had been in the competition. He said future competitions will resolve who is the strongest in this weight classification.

There were rumors the late withdrawals by the Russians were because of doping suspicions. Akkaev announced he had emergency back surgery in London on August 2 for a herniated disk. He removed a brace and showed a bandage on his lower back under his shirt at a news conference called on August 2.

Klokov's situation was even more unclear, as official documents claimed he could not enter the competition due to a bad back. Russian head coach David Rigert said Klokov had issues with his right knee. The two waited until the last minute to bow out of the Games.



Triple-jumper Olha Saladuha celebrates her bronze medal jump of 14.79 meters.

Top candidates...

(Continued from page 1)

Batkivshchyna Party

1. Yulia Tymoshenko – 51, former prime minister of Ukraine. Ms. Tymoshenko was sentenced to seven years in August 2011 for abuse of authority. Western and Russian leaders condemned the prison sentence as political persecution. In June, Kharkiv prosecutors filed tax evasion charges against Ms. Tymoshenko, alleging she deprived the state of \$3.75 million while serving as chair of Unified

Energy Systems of Ukraine in the 1990s.

2. Arseniy Yatsenyuk – 38, former parliamentary chair of Ukraine. Mr. Yatsenyuk has diverse ties in Ukrainian politics, working in 2003-2004 alongside Sergey Tigipko, who was then chair of the National Bank of Ukraine. He enjoys close ties with mega-millionaire Fedir Shpyg, founder of Aval Bank. Yulia Tymoshenko accused Mr. Yatsenyuk of accepting financing for his 2010 presidential campaign from billionaire Dmytro Firtash.

3. Anatoliy Grytsenko – 54, former defense minister of Ukraine. Mr. Grytsenko enjoys the reputation of being among the

few honest politicians to have served in the Cabinet of Ministers. He served as chair of the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Research for five years before joining the campaign for presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko in 2004.

4. Oleksander Turchynov – 48, former chair of the Security Service of Ukraine. Mr. Turchynov has been the right-hand man to Yulia Tymoshenko during her 16-year political career. However, Mr. Turchynov has been accused by national deputies, such as Oleksander Bondar, of abandoning Ms. Tymoshenko since her imprisonment and allying with Mr. Yatsenyuk. That he hasn't

been imprisoned with Ms. Tymoshenko seems suspicious to many as well.

5. Yurii Lutsenko – 47, former internal affairs minister. Mr. Lutsenko was sentenced to four years' imprisonment in February for usurping state property and abuse of authority. In June, the European Court for Human Rights ruled that Mr. Lutsenko was illegally convicted and his rights were violated. Prosecutors have filed new charges against Mr. Lutsenko, accusing him of "official negligence" for illegally authorizing the surveillance of a suspect in the alleged poisoning of Viktor Yushchenko.

– compiled by Zenon Zawada

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Yanukovich signs

Only in Viktor Yanukovich's and the Regionnaires' Ukraine...

...would Parliament pass a law that clearly violates the country's Constitution; would a law be passed with the votes of MPs not present; would the chairman of Parliament, who threatened to resign over the law's passage, sign a law that he himself said was deficient and passed with numerous procedural violations; would the president sign that deficient law and yet state that it should be amended by the Parliament.

That, in a nutshell, is exactly what happened in Ukraine between July 3, when the law on state language policy was passed by the Verkhovna Rada, and August 8, when the bill was signed by President Yanukovich.

Last month the high commissioner on national minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Knut Vollebaek, described the situation surrounding the new language law in Ukraine as "deeply divisive." Moreover, earlier this year the high commissioner had provided Ukraine's authorities with an assessment of the law and advised against adopting the bill in its current form. Similarly, the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe had said the legislation does not provide a proper balance between development and use of a state language as a unifying factor in society and the development and protection of minority languages.

And still, Mr. Yanukovich signed the bill. He did so while the Verkhovna Rada was on recess and while he himself was vacationing in Crimea (probably thinking it was safer to do this during the August lull).

The opposition may have been taken by surprise by the president's move, but the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) clearly was prepared. Public demonstrations in support of the president's action were held in PRU strongholds such as Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv, Odesa and Symferopol. (We are supposed to believe these public gatherings arose spontaneously.) The Regionnaires' website carried a story, in Russian and Ukrainian, headlined: "Party of Regions keeps its word! We have defended the inalienable human right to [one's] native language." The laws' supporters carried placards such as "We want to speak our native language," claiming that they were forbidden from doing so – an outright lie.

At the conclusion of his fact-finding visit to Ukraine on July 26, Mr. Vollebaek had urged Ukraine's authorities to engage in "substantive dialogue" about the language law. Now President Yanukovich will claim this is exactly what he's doing, first by meeting with "representatives of scholarly and creative intellectuals" in Crimea on August 7 (those intellectuals, by the way, urged the president to veto the law), and then by directing on August 8 that a special working group – comprising experts, scholars, cultural activists and representatives of the public – be established to discuss language policy in Ukraine and to propose amendments that the Verkhovna Rada should review when it returns in September.

In view of the latest developments regarding the law on language policy, two key questions arise. 1. Why would the Rada now consider amendments when it previously declined to even look at any of the over 2,000 amendments proposed before the law was passed? 2. Why didn't President Yanukovich veto the law on language policy if he felt it needed to be amended?

On August 8, Mr. Yanukovich noted, "I spent a lot of time working on this law, and the amendments have currently been worked out. I'm practically offering a mechanism for the introduction of these amendments to the law." He said that the working group "will draw up, along with the Cabinet of Ministers, a program for the development of the Ukrainian language."

Thus, the president of Ukraine and guarantor of the Constitution of Ukraine has spoken. Whom is he kidding?

Aug.
18
1992

Turning the pages back...

Twenty years ago, on August 18, 1992, The Ukrainian Weekly asked Dr. Roman Szporluk, the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard University, to comment on the momentous turn of events that culminated in the historic proclamation of August 24, 1991, and the decisive referendum victory of December 1, 1991.

The way in which Ukraine achieved independence was surprising to observers, and "in political terms, they resembled the change in humanity's thinking following the Copernican revolution," Dr. Szporluk wrote. The real meaning and practical consequences of Ukraine's accomplishment were very difficult to absorb for most people.

Ukraine, Dr. Szporluk noted, would have to deal with its economic problems in a two-prong approach, with privatization and marketization, and the other prong of macroeconomic structural reforms. Additionally, Ukraine would need to address political reform, democratization, freedom of the press and the rule of law.

But to ensure that these reforms are effective, Dr. Szporluk suggested that "the task of creating a sense of common citizenship in Ukraine – a bond more fundamental than any ethnic, linguistic, religious or regional ties within the Ukrainian state."

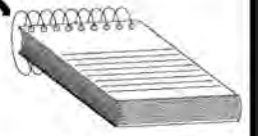
Dr. Szporluk noted that the December 1991 independence referendum and the August 1991 declaration of independence were linked together and created a "social contract" between the government and the people that gave new meaning to the term Ukrainian nation. The fact that an overwhelming majority of Russophones voted for Ukraine's independence was the fundamental premise for building Ukraine's future.

Even then, the leaders of Ukraine, both President Leonid Kravchuk and the leadership of Rukh, told those who voted "yes" that their linguistic, ethnic and cultural character would be respected in an independent Ukraine. "Russian-speaking inhabitants of Ukraine were promised that they would be able to continue being what they are, and that the Ukrainian state would not force them to become something else."

(Continued on page 13)

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA



Libertarians who support authoritarians

It was uplifting to see Myron Kuropas stand up for Ukrainian Americans in his July 22 column and criticize the politics of the community's former friend and defender, Patrick Buchanan.

He remains fondly remembered by many of us as one of the few who was bold enough to defend John Demjanjuk at a time when it was unpopular and politically incorrect to do so.

However, Mr. Buchanan has now abandoned the Ukrainian cause to embrace the Russians. Nowadays, at least two or three times a year, Mr. Buchanan pens a column criticizing NATO expansion into the former Soviet states, arguing that the U.S. has no right to interfere in the Russian Federation's backyard.

Defending authoritarian Russia – which Prof. Alexander Motyl of Rutgers University has appropriately described as a "quasi-fascist state" – has become among Mr. Buchanan's top priorities.

Mr. Buchanan's Russophilia of the last decade can be explained by the splintering of the conservative movement into several factions following the Soviet Union's collapse.

The neo-conservatives, led by President George W. Bush and ideologues such as Francis Fukuyama, have pursued an aggressive foreign policy of expanding Western values and institutions.

Paleo-conservatives, like Mr. Buchanan, resented being pushed to the fringes of the Bush administration and began advocating a non-interventionist foreign policy approach.

Another splinter, the libertarian movement, is very tightly aligned with the paleo-conservatives on foreign policy and also supports a significant reduction in America's foreign intervention, particularly on the military front.

Besides opposing the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, paleo-conservatives and libertarians have argued that NATO had outlived its purpose once the Soviet Union collapsed. In their view, the newly emerged Russian Federation no longer poses a threat to the U.S. and, accordingly, the U.S. has no obligation to help its neighbors develop political institutions that secure their independence from Russia.

While the neo-conservatives seek to aid in installing rule of law and democratic institutions and support their proper functioning, their opponents don't view safeguarding democracy and rule of law as an American foreign policy priority. Instead, they believe the U.S. should allow these new states to figure things out on their own in the context of existing political traditions and customs.

Yet, it's one thing to argue that Russia should be left alone and that the U.S. has greater priorities around the world. It's another thing to defend Russia's politics and ignore its repressions, both domestically and abroad, and neo-imperialist policies regarding its neighbors.

By Mr. Buchanan's logic, Georgia and Ukraine ought to be left alone by the U.S. to resolve their internal problems. But reality tells us that they can't because the Russian influence in their domestic affairs is too powerful.

Progressive Ukrainians – who favor rule

of law and individual rights – have only God to thank (or the random fortune of history, in atheists' view) that the U.S. exists to counterbalance Russian political culture, which rejects rule of law and individual rights.

Repeatedly throughout the last decade, Mr. Buchanan hasn't portrayed Russia objectively and misled his readers. In a February 2005 column, he asserted that "Russia has an elected legislature with opposition parties." In the same column, Mr. Buchanan makes the even more audacious claim that, "The Russian people have freedom of religion."

As a devout Roman Catholic and a keen observer of world affairs, Mr. Buchanan is well aware that the Russian Federation is among the world's most hostile nations towards Catholics and Protestants, both of whom are smeared by the Russian Orthodox Church as "sektanty" (cultists).

Believing that Catholics and Protestants won't receive God's salvation, the Russian Orthodox Church, in close partnership with the government, has fiercely repressed the emergence of Catholic and Protestant Churches on its territory. Only four Roman Catholic dioceses exist there. Forget about allowing Greek-Catholic churches to emerge.

A similar trend has emerged in Ukraine, where Church leaders and politicians in Russified territories such as Poltava and Odesa have forbid Ukrainian Catholics to acquire land to build their own churches. In essence, Mr. Buchanan has turned his back on his own Catholic faithful to shill for the authoritarian, ethnocidal Russian government.

Is Russia the biggest foreign threat to the U.S., as alleged this year by Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney? I'd have to agree with Mr. Buchanan and say no. Is it in the interest of the U.S. government, given its multi-billion-dollar foreign policy budget, to employ its non-military resources to ensure that rule of law and democratic institutions emerge and remain intact in Ukraine and Georgia? I'd have to disagree with Mr. Buchanan and say yes.

Given that Mr. Buchanan is likely aware of ethnic and religious nuances, it's reasonable to believe that he's made a strategic decision in his career to work with Russian foreign policy agents.

It's unclear whether there's any money involved, yet there's ample evidence that pro-Russian forces have been recruiting American apologists for a decade now. The best example is the American Institute in Ukraine, which has been promoting Viktor Yanukovich and the Party of Regions ever since its launch in 2009.

Although the institute won't disclose its financing sources, the evidence of long-standing relations between its founders and the Party of Regions leadership offers a good hint of where its cash comes from. The Institute's Deputy Executive Director James George Jatras was hired by Yanukovich advisors as early as 2003 to handle his public relations in the U.S.

Mr. Jatras is active in the libertarian movement, consistently writing for The Independent Institute, a libertarian think

(Continued on page 9)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remembering Akcja Wisla

Dear Editor:

Thank you for printing the statement issued by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America regarding the 65th anniversary of Akcja Wisla in the April 22 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly. It is more important than ever, given these current times of Russification in Ukraine, that we remember past events such as Akcja Wisla.

This discrimination is something that all Ukrainians should be aware of, as everyone should know about the Holodomor. It is critical that we know our history so that we may teach others.

Perhaps in a future article this year, interviews with people who lived through this mass deportation could be incorporated. This would make for an interesting article and would further help put a face to this tragedy.

Orysia Duplak Buchan
Liverpool, N.Y.

Proposed changes to Regents exams

Dear Editor:

I attended a New York state Board of Regents meeting held on May 21 at Monroe Community College, where the discussion with members of the Board of Regents centered on the proposed changes to the Regents graduation requirements. The proposed framework, called "The New Pathways to Graduation," is a significant departure from existing policy and practice on high school graduation. Specifically, the proposal for Global History and Geography, a 10th grade social studies course, will allow students to opt out of it in favor of a course in science, mathematics or career education.

By eliminating the final Regents examination in Global History and Geography, the Board of Regents will dismantle the academic standards it previously set and, thus, make the New York state program of study less comprehensive.

In defense of Global History and Geography, I want to say that it is a course of study that enriches the lives of high school students. It helps young people to understand their roots. It focuses their thinking on multiculturalism, supports their analytical and problem-solving skills, builds their confidence through cultural identification, and constitutes their reality through historical examples. It highlights human achievements and teaches about crimes against humanity as in the Holodomor, the Holocaust, the Khmer Rouge Killing Fields, the Tutsi Massacre and other genocides. It profiles men and women of courage such as Yulia Tymoshenko, Nelson Mandela, Mohandas Gandhi. It strengthens the hand of diplomacy and negotiation with a study of treaties, charters and multinational organizations. It recognizes the struggle for self-determination of Muslim, Asian, African, Indian and European peoples. It creates an accessible world through the introduction of commercial, political and religious centers worldwide.

Most importantly, it places a high value on human dignity, as in the study of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In totality, global history captures the essence of human existence as the history of civilizations.

In order to prepare our youth to live in a globally connected world, we must teach all of them about global history. This knowledge will enable them to deal more successfully with global issues in governance, finance, nation-building, terrorism and the arts. The present proposal to drop the Global History and Geography component as a requirement for graduation is counter-

productive to this purpose.

The changes happening in the New York state curriculum may be on the horizon in other states as well. Concerned parents should contact their school district personnel for clarification on the proposed changes and on the options available for their children to continue to receive the highest quality education.

A final decision on the "New Pathways to Graduation" has not yet been made. Interested parties may join the conversation.

Christine Hoshowsky, Ph.D.
Rochester, N.Y.

The letter-writer is president of The Rochester Ukrainian Group Inc.

The Demjanjuk case and propaganda war

Dear Editor:

Kudos to Andriy Semotiuk for bringing to our attention Myron Kuropas' latest contribution to an understanding of the saga of John Demjanjuk, "The Demjanjuk Debacle: The Trials of a 'Nazi' Who Wasn't" (May 20.) But the greater value of both the book and the review is in that they remind us that this is not just the story of an individual Ukrainian unjustly persecuted for 30 years, but of the newest attack in a propaganda war being waged against Ukrainians. That war began in Paris during the trial of Symon Petliura's assassin Sholom Schwartzbad, which was used, so unjustly, to libel the symbol of Ukraine's fight for independence as an "anti-Semite" and "pogromshchik." Other attacks in this war come to mind: the "Holocaust" television miniseries, in which Ukrainians were labeled as being "worse than the Germans" ("They're Ukrainians. They like to watch" [Jews being executed by the Nazis]); "Escape From Sobibor," whose intent was to leave the impression that every Ukrainian was a Nazi death camp guard and every guard was Ukrainian; and, for the past 30 years, the Demjanjuk travesty.

For sure there were other attacks in this war, but the only time Ukrainians even appeared on the field of battle was after CBS's libelous "The Ugly Face of Freedom" on "60 Minutes" in 1994 about "rampant anti-Semitism" in Ukraine after independence. The clear message there was: See what happens when Ukrainians get independence! That one was too much even for the passive Ukrainian mentality, and a relatively effective, counterattack followed.

But it is clear that this is an ongoing war; new attacks are just a matter of time. Will the passivity of Ukrainians continue, or will they decide, finally, enough?

We know Ukraine is not going to take up this challenge. Evidence of that – if any additional evidence were needed – is the Ukrainian government's non-response to the Demjanjuk trial in Germany. ("Why was Ukraine so passive while its image was being racked through the coals?" asks Mr. Semotiuk.)

And so it is up to the organized Ukrainian diaspora – with the masses demanding of its leadership effective action. Mr. Semotiuk makes a useful suggestion as to the next immediate step: uncover the reasons why Germany undertook the last Demjanjuk trial (besides, as suggested by Dr. Kuropas, "to spread some of the war guilt to other nations and to appease the Jews").

Dr. Kuropas and Mr. Semotiuk have pointed out the general direction. Now it is up to the rest of us to decide to do whatever it takes to convince those who would so actively promote Ukrainophobia that this war against Ukrainians must stop.

George Sajewych
Silver Spring, Md.



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

Aaah, it reminds me of...

All it takes is that first slice into the skin of a just-picked cucumber. The fresh aroma takes me back to Ocean Avenue in Jersey City, N.J., when I was 5 years old. It's true what they say about a smell evoking a particular recollection. This concept even has a name – olfactory memory. Every time I cut into a cucumber, I remember Ocean Avenue. It helps if the "ohirok" is a garden-fresh one, not wrapped in plastic and from thousands of miles away.

My parents and I arrived in Jersey City as refugees, displaced persons, from the DP camp in Berchtesgaden, Bavaria, in early September of 1949. I turned 4 a few days after. I remember many things from about the time I was 2½-3 in the camp, and about our early days in Jersey City. (I can't remember something from yesterday, but that's another story... once I remember it...)

Upon arrival, we stayed with a most hospitable Ukrainian American family, who took care of us for a week or so. From what I remember, we then moved to an enclosed porch at the back of a house owned by a Ukrainian Baptist family. This was temporary, until my parents could find an apartment. The host family was very nice, but after my mother and I were invited to their prayer service in the living room, and the small congregation started singing and waving their arms as they knelt, my Mama decided the time to move was now. She got scared of something that was strange to her.

My parents found a store-front apartment in a five- or six-story apartment building on Ocean Avenue. They would be the janitors for the building, while keeping their day and night jobs. The people living in the building were Irish, Italian, German and a mix of others. At the back of the building was a yard that Mama quickly transformed into a garden. That's where the cucumbers, tomatoes, onions and dill came from that first summer.

I remember that our apartment or floor (it had been a store, so there were few walls) was very sunny from the windows facing the garden. The front of the apartment had store windows, which were blocked by a wall. I do remember once sitting in the window, "modelling" the outfit Mama sewed for me. A vague memory is eating different dishes foreign to us, because the neighbors shared their special foods. But I still remember tasting spaghetti and meat balls with raisins! I found out much later that I did not make this up, and it is a traditional Calabrian dish.

We lived in many different apartments in Jersey City before moving to Newark and then Irvington. The place on Halladay Street is where I smelled marigolds (chornobryvtsi) and tomato plant leaves for the first time – both having a pungent, unusual smell. From about the same time, I

remember first smelling "lypa" (linden or basswood blossoms), which Mama and Tato dried for tea. It was especially good for respiratory problems. As I write this, the lypa is blooming in Winnipeg.

My love for mushrooms and mushroom sauce, and the aroma of boletus-borovyk mushrooms comes from this time, too, from "Sviat Vechir" (Christmas Eve). It would not be the same without the hryby, so aromatically synonymous with Ukrainian Christmas. My parents would buy the strings of dried mushrooms from Surma or Arka in New York. I still remember the article by Svoboda humorist Ivan Kernitsky (Iker) during the hippy era – he wrote about hippies on the Lower East Side (before it became the East Village) in New York wearing very expensive and aromatic "necklaces" of dried hryby.

Then, for any Ukrainian of any age, there is something so down-home about frying onions. The promise of varenyky or other comfort food is sure to follow.

I have no idea why, but every so often when I catch a whiff of a particular exhaust from a larger vehicle, I remember the all-red Montgomery Street buses. Back then, in the early 1950s, only that Jersey City bus line had red buses, and only their exhaust smelled a particular way. (Not that I went around smelling departing buses.)

One memory of an emanation from Jersey City is just that, because I have not smelled it since and do not wish it upon anyone. On Sundays, we took the bus to St. Peter and Paul Church on Morris Street, just a block away from the Hudson River, with Manhattan on the other side. It was a few blocks from the bus stop to the church, with the Colgate-Palmolive factories in between. On a nice sunny day, it was a regular walk. But if the weather turned a certain way, and it was muggy with no air movement of any kind, the foul stench of soap and detergent by-products surrounded you. You didn't need to say penance, because you had just walked it off.

I started working at Soyuzivka when I was in high school, and have many wonderful memories of the estate. A scent that still reminds me of the place and especially the Kyiv building is "konvaliya" (lily-of-the-valley), which surrounded the grounds in late spring. The lovely sweet smell was so wonderful that these flowers comprised my wedding bouquet. I still regret not buying Jacques Hnizdovsky's woodcut of a konvaliya bouquet before the piece was sold out.

Then there is the pungent, spicy, unusual scent of "polyn" – or – "yevshan zillia", and the story of the power of memory. But that's a tale for another time.

Orysia Tracz may be contacted at orysia.tracz@gmail.com.

Opinions in The Ukrainian Weekly

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REFLECTIONS

Plus one

by Victor Rud

CONCLUSION

A deformed nation

Never in one sitting, but during the course of many decades, my father would ponder the questions: What happens when for more than half a century you're required to march in parades joyfully worshipping the murderers of your family, when you are required to believe that your family deserved to be killed, or that they weren't really killed but simply somehow disappeared, when you cannot grieve because you shouldn't grieve because there's nothing to grieve for, when you fear to whisper a word to your children and grandchildren, when you're instead required to mouth a miasma of lies and to convince your children and grandchildren of the truth in the executioner's denials? What happens when there is no acknowledgement, no apology, no contrition, no punishment? Of anyone?

You are deformed to represent the quintessential Stockholm Syndrome, the victim identifying with his tormentor. You become a nation that condemns those who condemn its own executioners, you deny your own tragedy as a victim, you castigate those who seek to identify your family's gravesites, and instead you grieve, as being unjustly accused, for those who disemboweled your own being.

Would in Israel today anyone even conceive of a statue of Hitler, a hospital named after Mengele, a children's playground named after Eichmann, Goebbels or Goering? You get the idea. And the monumental difference between the Holodomor and the Holocaust.

My father would slowly rock his head in disbelief, as almost to pity the Holodomor deniers. He would summarize one of their versions: "It was simply the unfortunate but nevertheless unintended consequence of overly zealous true believers in an exuberant frolic toward a brave new world." The Holodomor was fundamentally a question of intent. In any court, in any country, by any standard, at any time, the issue of "intent" in the organization and implementation of the Holodomor is beyond any question, beyond any doubt. Hardly a scholar himself, my father would recite events that would put any sputtering academic on his heels. What are the proofs?

Proof of intent

First: Lenin famously said, "without Ukraine we [Russia] will lose our head." With Russian rule of Ukraine perceived by Moscow as still dangerously tenuous, on the eve of the Holodomor, August 11, 1932, Stalin wrote to his satrap in Ukraine, Lazar Moiseyovich Kaganovich. (This was only four days after his decree, described below, concerning the "theft" of socialist property.) Raising the alarm over Ukrainian resistance to Russia's rule, Stalin wrote, "Things in Ukraine are terrible. ... If we don't make an effort now to improve the situation in Ukraine, we may lose Ukraine. ..." He ordered Kaganovich to "transform Ukraine into truly a fortress of the USSR. ... Without these and similar measures ... I repeat - we

can lose Ukraine."

Already in 1930, Stalin's deputy Stanislav Kossior addressed a meeting of Communist Party activists in Ukraine: "We will show him [the Ukrainian villager] what famine is." Petro Grigorenko, a young Ukrainian Communist Party activist at the time, eventually became a world-renowned human rights activist in the Soviet Union and emigrated to the U.S. He was one of the plenipotentiaries of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and was in the audience addressed by Kossior in 1930. In his memoirs, Grigorenko wrote: "I saw the awful danger that hovered over our people," reciting Kossior's threat.

My father recounted the ad nauseum denunciations in the press of "Petliurites," "nationalists," "bourgeois nationalists," "nationalist deviationists." Three years after threatening famine, and with the Holodomor raging, Kossior wrote to Stalin on March 15, 1933, "that famine still hasn't taught reason." Later, however, with the countryside totally prostrated, Kossior prided himself: "Acknowledging the great amount of work put ... into the fight against Ukrainian nationalist and other counter-revolutionary elements, work which has not ceased and which shall not cease, we must say that, of course, we gave the nationalists a beating, a good one, and as the saying goes, we had a smashing success. ..." Another Stalin sycophant, Pavel Postyshev, said in 1934: "We have annihilated the nationalist counter-revolution during the past year, we have exposed and destroyed nationalist deviationism. ..." Chervonyi Shliakh (The Red Path) in Kharkiv wrote: "1933 was the year of the overthrow of the Ukrainian nationalist counter-revolution" and in that year the party had conducted the "Herculean labor of liquidating nationalist elements in Ukraine." The second secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine [not the "Ukrainian Communist Party"], Mendel Khataevich wrote, "It took a famine to show them who is master here. ... We have won the war."

The degree of Stalin's micromanagement of the homicide campaign was illustrated by a December 14, 1932, decree of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the USSR Council of People's Commissars, individually signed by Stalin and Viacheslav Molotov, where officials at the local, county (raion) level were singled out by name for arrest for "harboring anti-Soviet Ukrainian nationalist conspiracies" and the term of their sentences fixed.

Second: Against the above background, the glaring anomaly snaps into focus. One of the richest food source countries in the world abruptly loses millions of its farmers (of all people) to starvation, with no reason attributable to weather, pestilence or other natural calamity. Ukraine, after all, was not some barren, rocky atoll in the Pacific. Without an outside cause, millions of a nation's food growers, being at nutrition's very point of origin, do not simply starve to death overnight. Valentin Berezhkov was Stalin's personal interpreter at his talks with Churchill and Roosevelt, and previous to that personal interpreter for Molotov, the "people's commissar for foreign affairs" during the negotiation with Hitler leading to the infamous Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact in 1939.

Berezhkov spent many years in Ukraine, and wrote about his experience during the Holodomor in his memoirs: "In the past, the word combination that is the title of this chapter ["Famine in the Ukraine"] would

have been taken as a contradiction in terms. A fabulously rich country with fertile lands, vast natural resources, and a hard-working people ... and suddenly - famine! In time of peace, too!" The only thing Berezhkov got wrong was that it was a time of war, not peace.

Third: My father made the obvious point that you'd sooner expect the cities to starve, not the countryside that produced that very food. Though there was starvation in the cities, with its predominantly Russian and Jewish populations, it was the countryside that was overwhelmingly Ukrainian and that's where the massive exterminations were directed. Food was not removed from the cities. It was removed from the countryside. Ukrainian villagers were barred from the cities, and any food aid for them was also outlawed.

Fourth: Many Holodomor deniers often no longer deny a famine, but prefer to simply homogenize the Holodomor. They like to point to hunger and malnourishment in other parts of the Soviet Union at the time. But no one was rushing into Ukraine to escape privation elsewhere in the Soviet Union. Ukrainians were fleeing Ukraine, or trying to, but were prohibited from doing so. The border was sealed. Foodstuffs carried by persons travelling into Ukraine were confiscated before crossing. Tellingly, it was a blockade also of the historic and heavily Ukrainian Kuban and North Caucasus regions of present-day Russia. We have Stalin's express order on that one. Nowhere else was there a blockade. Not surprisingly, the line of demarcation was stark. Ukrainian villages starved. A few kilometers across the border, Russian villages did not.

Kazakhstan is sometimes raised as another Soviet republic that suffered famine, in a specious parallel to Ukraine. But neither Kazakhstan nor any other republic or region, least of all Russia itself, was blockaded. One-half million Kazakhs freely left for other parts of Soviet Central Asia, and another 1.5 million managed to make it to China.

Furthermore, there is a world of difference between hunger and starvation, and between starving and being starved to death. If, for sake of argument, elsewhere in the Soviet Union other nations had in fact been actively and intentionally "starved to death," if any of the measures undertaken against Ukrainians had in fact been undertaken against other specific nations, then it would make the genocide, if we wish to call it that, all that more horrific. Simply put, it would be ridiculous to argue that Nazi extermination of millions of Ukrainians, Poles and other peoples changes the fact of Nazi extermination of Jews.

Moscow's "virtual reality"

Since Potemkin's day, Moscow has labored furiously, offering its own "virtual reality" for the uninitiated. On January 17, 2007, V.P. Kozlov and V.V. Kondrashyn of the Federal Archival Agency (RossArkhiv) at the Russian Ministry of Culture and Mass Communications issued the marching orders to Russian academics.

Firstly, the conceptual framework was cast as conveniently generic, all-union "enforced collectivization and industrialization." Secondly, academics were ordered to conform documents to the framework, with the purpose of suppressing anything that would demonstrate the unique situation in Ukraine. Had I mentioned this to my father, he would have simply nodded his head, as if to say, "So what else is new?"

In true goosetep fashion, Viktor Yanukovich, the president of Ukraine [!], dutifully intoned to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, "We consider it incorrect and unjust to consider the Holodomor a fact of genocide of a certain people," calling it "a common tragedy" of everyone in the Soviet Union. (I'm reminded of Marquis de Custine's observa-

tions after his visit, in 1839, to the "Empire of the Czar" [the title also of his book]. Among the observations: "Russian despotism not only pays little respect to ideas and sentiments, it will also deny facts; it will struggle against evidence, and triumph in the struggle!")

And finally, in the early 1950s, Harvard University conducted in Munich and New York the first significant study of Soviet refugees. So repetitive and consistent (and hair-raising) were the accounts of the Ukrainian remnants of the Holodomor that the interviewer would periodically turn off the recorder due to, simply, redundancy.

What other nationality paralleled those accounts? None. Certainly the Russians have never pointed to anything remotely similar to the Holodomor in their experience in 1932-1933. Nor have other nationalities of the Soviet Union commemorated such a tragedy in their communities, worldwide, during the many decades since those events.

Given the detail and consistency of the accounts, Moscow may yet argue, with the most somber affectation of intellectual rigor, that the refugees had developed a uniquely Ukrainian precursor to Facebook.

Fifth: Holodomor deniers often spin the story, contending that excessive grain procurements, though perhaps "unfortunate," were necessary to finance industrialization. (a) On that logic, Hitler would be excused for his extermination of the Jews if he could make an economic connection to construction of the autobahn. (b) Industrialization for whose benefit? (c) Non-grain producing regions of Ukraine, e.g. Vinnytsia, were cleansed of Ukrainians as thoroughly as grain-producing regions. (c) My father and others who lived through the Holodomor hardly ever mentioned "excessive grain procurements," but spoke in stark detail of the focused, frenetic campaign by "party activists" to deprive the Ukrainian villages of anything even remotely edible.

Party activists and GPU personnel were issued steel pikes with which to probe the ground and rip open floor boards, searching for a rotting cabbage leaf or a crust of bread. Farm buildings were demolished in the search. Human excrement was minutely examined to determine a possible food source until even that stopped; there wasn't enough for the human body to process. Those not obviously starving were immediately suspect, and interrogated mercilessly. My father recounted one party activist, a monster of a man, gleefully picking up an emaciated child by the ankle and holding it upside down, shaking it like a rag doll until the child spat out a mouthful of watery "soup" made from crushed worms and weeds.

In another scene, my father was, unbeknownst to him, the subject of Stalin's January 1, 1933, order to Kossior, then a member of the Politburo and secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine. The order established a macabre protocol for denying Ukrainian villagers access to forage grain intended for horses (those that still survived) to be used in the spring sowing in 1933. The feeding was to be done in the presence of three witnesses, including at least one party functionary, all to be written down and signed. "Merciless persecution" was prescribed for the triumvirate that would allow humans access to the grain. My father was one of the famished, chased away at gunpoint. Where did the animal forage come from if there wasn't anything for humans to eat?

Sixth: Farming implements were confiscated. Harnesses, millstones, plows, shovels, rakes. Cooking utensils, bowls, pots, spoons and forks, were confiscated as well. Why not simply broken? Because they could be repaired. Stoves, which also served as the only heat source for village

(Continued on page 12)

Victor Rud, a lawyer, has been researching the Holodomor for over 35 years. He is a founder of the Ukrainian American Bar Association, and past chairman of its board of governors. Mr. Rud is a graduate of Harvard College and Duke Law School.

Ukraine's parliamentary...

(Continued from page 1)

The Party of Regions' idea of stability, which includes jailing opposition leaders and restricting individual rights, hasn't impressed the "progressive, democratic" forces of Europe or Ukraine's intellectual circles.

"If before Tymoshenko's imprisonment people could have comforted themselves with the false hope that this is all for the sake of stability, just as the participants of the constitutional upheaval had convinced them, then after that it's become clear that there won't be any stability. There'll be a collapse," wrote Vitaly Portnikov, one of Ukraine's leading social critics.

The key election technology employed by the Party of Regions is the fielding of seemingly independent candidates – who are actually party loyalists – to compete in the single-winner, single-mandate districts, observers said.

Half of the seats in the October 28 parliamentary election will be decided by closed party lists, and the other half will be determined by single-winner, single-mandate districts.

The biggest decoy project is the Ukraine-Forward party launched by Natalia Korolevska, a Luhansk Oblast oligarch, who promised at a June 1 press conference that her party will not form a coalition with the Party of Regions should it surpass the 5 percent barrier in closed party list voting.

Such a statement might not mean much, since the parliamentary coalition could be formed by individual politicians from single-winner, single-mandate districts.

The Ukraine-Forward campaign has enjoyed magnificent financing that has enabled it to buy thousands of billboards and frequent television ads that emerged weeks before the official July 30 start.

Although Ms. Korolevska is a mega-millionaire, whose wealth was estimated at \$243 million in 2008 by Focus magazine, veteran political observers such as Volodymyr Fesenko confirmed she has financing from other oligarchs, particularly those in the Party of Regions.

In particular, Party of Regions Parliamentary Faction Chair Oleksander Yefremov, a fellow Luhansk oligarch, is among the financiers of Ukraine-Forward, said Oleksii Kliashchyni, a member of the coordinating council of Chesno (Honestly), a non-government organization committed to ridding Ukraine's Parliament of unworthy national deputies.

Sonia Koshkina, the editor of the influential Lb.ua political news site, said her sources in the Party of Regions identified billionaire Rinat Akhmetov as a financier of Ukraine-Forward.

Besides political parties, the Party of Regions is fielding independent candidates for single-winner, single-mandate

districts who will compete in the election with its own official party candidates, alleged Mykola Tomenko, the parliamentary vice-chair and a member of the Batkivshchyna party.

"These individuals gained access to administrative offices, the educational and health systems, and took on the obligation of joining the 'correct' faction," he said on August.

A strong example is Volodymyr Klymenko, a Donbas oligarch who will be competing for the single-winner, single-mandate district representing Kremenets district of the Ternopil Oblast, where he has renovated roads and buildings at his own expense.

He's competing as an independent candidate, but has immense support from the Pochayiv Monastery that is controlled by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate and will likely join a Party of Regions-led parliamentary coalition in the event that he's elected.

Batkivshchyna Party

If stability is the incumbents' theme, then persecution and rights violations are the themes for the leading opposition party, Batkivshchyna (Fatherland).

The first candidate on its closed list ballot is former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who has been jailed for a year and was sentenced in October 2011 to a seven-year prison sentence.

As a result, the law won't allow her to run for office. Yet that hasn't stopped the opposition from scoring political dividends off her misery, nor that of former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko, who is serving a four-year prison sentence. He is fifth on Batkivshchyna's closed party list.

The party's billboards posted nationally bear the photograph of Ms. Tymoshenko, and the video montage presented at its July 30 congress focused on her accomplishments as prime minister. She's become a symbol for the opposition, observers said, despite not being able to communicate from prison.

The Central Election Commission announced on August 8 that it won't accept Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Lutsenko as closed list candidates. The party's acting leader, Arseniy Yatsenyuk, said the next day that Batkivshchyna would appeal this ruling because the Constitution states that a convict can't be elected to office, but it makes no mention of a candidate's ability to be registered to compete in an election.

Depicted alongside Ms. Tymoshenko on the billboards is Mr. Yatsenyuk, the former parliamentary chair who agreed to merge his party, the Front for Change, with Batkivshchyna. Mr. Yatsenyuk is second on the closed party list.

Ukraine's pro-Western electorate expressed dissatisfaction with the closed list that Batkivshchyna presented to the public. Mr. Yatsenyuk secured up to a dozen spots for

his political allies in the upper ranks of the list, which means they are ensured a seat in Parliament.

Meanwhile, longtime stalwarts of Ms. Tymoshenko, such as nationalist activist Andrii Shkil of Lviv and labor activist Mykhailo Volynets of Donbas (No. 87 and No. 85, respectively), got booted to the list's lower ranks, casting doubt on whether they'd get parliamentary seats despite their decade of loyalty.

Oleksander Turchynov – Ms. Tymoshenko's right-hand man who hasn't been prosecuted despite his intimate knowledge of her affairs – is adapting to the new political reality and is searching for new allies, in the view of Volodymyr Fesenko, board chairman of the Penta Center for Applied Political Research in Kyiv.

As a result, he made significant concessions to Mr. Yatsenyuk, who is among the top contenders for the Ukrainian presidency in 2015, he said. Mr. Turchynov may have gotten so comfortable with Mr. Yatsenyuk that he didn't clear the final closed list with Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Fesenko said.

A similar view was voiced by National Deputy Oleksander Bondar, who was disappointed that he didn't make the Batkivshchyna closed party list at all. Given that he has a close relationship with Ms. Tymoshenko personally, as do the other loyalists who were excluded, Mr. Bondar told the Ukrayinska Pravda news site that he suspects Mr. Turchynov may have misled Ms. Tymoshenko about certain candidates to give political favor to Mr. Yatsenyuk.

Another source of public disappointment with the opposition's election strategy is the widely held view that they've decided to surrender half of the election to the Party of Regions, referring to the single-winner, single-mandate districts (known in Ukraine as majoritarian voting).

In such districts, large financial resources are required to compete with the Party of Regions oligarchs, who also have the advantage of "adminresurs," or the illegal use of government resources, with examples such as state-paid campaign trips and state television advertisements.

Yet those Batkivshchyna candidates most capable of competing in single-winner, single-mandate districts – with access to finances and strong public support – gained high-ranking positions in the closed party list seats that guarantee them election to Parliament.

Such candidates include Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chair Tomenko (No. 10 in the closed list), mega-millionaire natural gas trader Mykola Martynenko (No. 17) and former television anchor Andriy Shevchenko (No. 33).

"No one wants to spend extra money and effort," Mr. Bondar said in an interview published on August 7. "The Party of Regions will win everywhere. What's most regrettable is it will win many districts in the west as well. And the opposition has surrendered the east altogether."

Libertarian...

(Continued from page 6)

tank. Incredibly enough, the libertarians are even more misleading on Russia than paleo-conservatives like Mr. Buchanan.

The American Institute in 2009 hosted Doug Bandow of the Cato Institute to criticize the Bush administration's foreign policy towards Ukraine, including NATO enlargement.

Mr. Bandow asserted that the U.S. should not have taken sides during the Orange Revolution of 2004. By his logic, the world's leading republican democracy should not intervene if hundreds of thousands of people, on Europe's doorstep, revolt against authoritarianism and election falsification with the hope of implementing rule of law and democratic institutions. That's none of our business and it's not worth it for us to intervene, in his view.

Another libertarian, Justin Raimondo, the editor of antiwar.com, has asserted that the Autonomous Republic of Crimea is historically Russian territory and that the previous Ukrainian government had no right to pursue plans to evict the Russian Black Sea Fleet upon the expiration of its lease in 2017.

With such claims, he has cast doubt on the statehood of Ukraine, which would rank him among the pro-Russian extremists of Ukraine and make him subject to

criminal prosecution within Ukraine's borders. (Maybe that's why libertarians like him support governments that don't do anything for rule of law.)

Among the most outrageous statements I've read was made by Philip Girdi, a columnist for antiwar.com, who wrote in July 2011 that Belarus' centralized economy and state industries "are both productive and well-run."

Mind you, this is two months after that country's currency collapsed by 50 percent. And you'd have to be a Communist Party propagandist to claim that the industries inherited from the Soviet Union are "well-run." Yet the advocate of free markets gets even more absurd.

"The Belarusian people have universal decent medical care and free education through university level, which is more than one can say about the United States. Its economy is one of the strongest among the former Soviet states and the people generally support the status quo, including [Alyaksandr] Lukashenka, but if the American Congress is to have its way, all of that must be changed."

I don't know where Mr. Girdi spends most of his time, but it's certainly not Belarus. Indeed, I don't think anyone making such audacious claims could have ever lived in a post-Soviet country. I'd expect such statements from a naive Columbia University graduate student who never

actually saw what the inside of a post-Soviet hospital or a rural school looks like.

Yet Mr. Girdi and his flock claim to be libertarians, an ideology that champions free markets and private property, which barely exist in the post-Soviet world!

It's a mystery to me just how these libertarians find anything worth defending in Russia, which ranks 144th out of 179 nations on the Index of Economic Freedom (Belarus ranks 153rd and Ukraine 163rd).

They should also explain how they expect libertarian ideology to spread in places like Russia, Belarus and Ukraine if freedom of speech and freedom of assembly are suppressed. How can they support authoritarianism and dictatorship and then advocate free markets and individual rights?

Perhaps the answer lies in the \$100,000 fee that Mr. Jatrass earned to handle Mr. Yanukovich's public relations in 2003. The American Institute, meanwhile, pays \$3,000 for a single speaking appearance, all expenses paid. It seems that the libertarians are better capitalists in practice than in theory.

In making their heinous allies, these libertarians have made a farce of their foreign

policy. They seem to think that individual rights and free trade will spread to repressed populations with the aid of books and Internet podcasts. People will spend their free time debating different political ideas on the weekends and forming political parties based on those ideas.

It doesn't work that way. Authoritarians don't particularly care for the free exchange of ideas. Nor are they interested in free elections and an equal playing field for political parties.

Western powers such as the U.S. have the moral obligation to aid those countries in which a significant part of the citizenry makes clear, through elections, that it wants to establish Western political institutions such as a balance of powers and independent courts, Western political values such as rule of law and equality before the law, and Western economic institutions such as free markets and private property rights.

It is in the interest of the U.S. to foster those allies that share our values. There might not be enough of those people in Belarus and Russia, but there certainly are in Ukraine. Mr. Buchanan is well aware of that, but for some reason he's chosen to forget.

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Soyuzivka Heritage Center hosts annual Tennis Camp



Katya Bis

2012 Soyuzivka Tennis Camp participants.

by Petrusia Sawchak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – What is so wonderful about Soyuzivka, nestled in the beautiful Shawangunk mountains, is the children's summer camps that attract youngsters from around the country in various programs. The sounds and faces of children from these camps invigorate the grounds, making the rustic charms of Soyuzivka come alive.

The first camp of the season, held from June 24 to July 5, was the popular Soyuzivka Tennis Camp, celebrating 46 years of teaching children the art of playing tennis well and enjoying it too. Organizers of the camp attribute the success of the program to a winning formula: years of organizing and building confidence in youngsters, experience and knowledge of the sport, a great enthusiastic staff, and fun on- and off-court activities.

Campers this year ranged in age from 10 to 16, with some beginners to advanced levels. They came from 10 different states – Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania – and one girl visiting from Ukraine. Some had parents who attended this camp years ago, and half were repeaters. This year there were also some younger campers whose siblings were attending the Tabir Ptashat (a Plast camp for pre-schoolers) in session at the same time. Despite the sweltering heat on some days, the campers were enthusiastic and focused on learning new skills while having fun.

The director of the Tennis Camp was George Sawchak, who has been a United States Tennis Association (USTA) instructor, player, organizer of tennis tournaments

(both for American and Ukrainian events) and senior director of Middle States. He was assisted this year by Tania Sawchak, United States Professional Tennis Registry (USPTR) and PTR tennis teaching professional in Pennsylvania, and Don Kopach, an accomplished tennis player and past tennis champion at Soyuzivka. The counselors, all college students and former campers, were Danylo Tylawsky, Larysa Boyko, Victoria Kuritza and Danylo Hankewych.

For 12 years, Olya Czerkas has been a tennis dorm supervisor at Camp Lviv, making the campers feel at home and welcome. Completing the staff was this writer, Petrusia Sawchak, who acted as coordinator and administrator. Parents were confident that their children were in good hands knowing that both "Pani Olya" and "Pani Petrusia" are school teachers as well.

As in prior years, the camp nurse, Natalia Swyrydenko Girardi, took care of the children's nicks and bruises. Soyuzivka's Assistant Manager Stefko Drabyk and Office Manager Sonia Semanyshyn provided courteous and prompt attention to the needs of the camp – and always with a smile.

The campers' daily regimen always began with calisthenics and warm-up activities, followed by systematic instruction on developing proper forehand and backhand strokes, overhead smashes, serving techniques, correct form and game strategies.

Instruction was also given on proper equipment and etiquette on the court. The instructors rotated with all the individual groups, which were divided according to ability on a specific skill. Five groups were ready to play matches the second week. The only group not ready for playing a match was the sibling group from the Tabir

Ptashat. They continued practicing their strokes and made great improvement since their first day at Tennis camp.

The focus of the camp was always on tennis, but the campers also enjoyed swimming in Soyuzivka's pool during the hot afternoons and some nights, playing soccer after tennis practice, as well as movies and a bonfire, at which campers toasted marshmallows, sang and acted out skits they had prepared. At the end of each day the campers formed a circle and sang "Nich Vzhe Ide" ("Night Has Fallen"), reinforcing the new friends they made at camp before going to sleep.

Soyuzivka's General Manager Nestor Paslawsky graciously invited the campers to Hutsul Night, during which some of the children dressed in their Ukrainian embroidered shirts and ate Ukrainian-style foods on the lawn of the Vorokhta building. The camp was also invited to attend a dance held in the main hall with music provided by the Oberehy Band on Saturday night. Since the campers had been given some lessons in the polka by Ms. Czerkas, they were ready to show off their new skills that evening. The girls wore their pretty party dresses, and the boys donned long trousers instead of their usual shorts.

A gala banquet was held at the end of camp complete with hors d'oeuvres, Shirley Temples and Darth Vaders during the "cocktail" hour held in the Gazebo, followed by a delicious dinner in the main dining hall. Chef Andriy Sonevytsky is to be congratulated for all his efforts to make the camp a satisfying culinary experience.

Certificates of attendance were distributed by Mr. Sawchak, and awards were presented. The tournament results were announced, and trophies were awarded to

winner and finalists.

In the Girls' I Group Anastasiaya (Nastia) Dudaryk won first place; Molly Bis, second; and Ariadna (Ari) Louer, third. In Girls' II Group, Iryna Malatsidze won first place; Alexandra Bula, second; and Mary Hankewych, third.

In the Boys' I Group, Chris Bula won first place, Alex Dale took second, and Dennis Cherchenko placed third. In the Boys' II Group, Michael Moroch won first place, Stephen Kurras took second, and Will Radan placed third.

In Group V, comprising boys and girls, Ksenia Lewyckij won first place, Juliette (Yulia) Louer took second, and Markian Nychka took third.

The coveted Best Campers Awards, selected by the entire staff and based on behavior on and off the courts, were awarded to Victoria (Via) Voronovich from Michigan, Anastasiaya (Nastia) Dudaryk from Florida, Dennis Cherchenko from Massachusetts and Mykola Stone from Pennsylvania. Adding some levity to the occasion, the counselors presented their own "funny awards" to the campers.

After the presentations, the campers continued their festivities with a dance at the Trembita Lounge. They also got a chance to view a very entertaining CD with photo slides set to music about their tennis experience especially prepared by Ms. Kuritza.

The next day the campers met on the tennis courts for some more farewells and were given an address booklet and a CD, which contained photos taken at the camp. After some tearful goodbyes, everyone promised to return next year. Mr. Sawchak said, "Enjoy tennis – it is a sport for a lifetime."



Katya Bis

Soyuzivka Tennis Camp staff (from left): Olya Czerkas, Victoria Kuritza, Larysa Boyko, Danylo Tylawsky, Danylo Hankewych, George Sawchak, Tania Sawchak and Petrusia Sawchak.



Areta Kuritza

Best Campers with tennis staff.

Stroynick wins again at USCAK-East Tennis Tournament

by George Sawchak

KERHONKSON, NY. – The 56th annual Eastern Tennis Tournament of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (known by its Ukrainian acronym as USCAK) was held at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center during the weekend of June 30-July 1.

The oppressive, almost record-breaking heat made playing on the hard courts extremely difficult. Nevertheless, 35 diehard participants, who competed in 11 different categories, played out 44 individual matches. Some of the players were also members and staff of the Soyuzivka Tennis Camp, which was in session at that time.

They finished the USCAK-East Tennis Tournament late Sunday afternoon. At the awards ceremony, presenting the trophies to winners and finalists were the host club Carpathian Ski Club (known by its Ukrainian-based acronym as KLC) and members of the tournament committee, Ivan Durbak, George Hrabec and George Sawchak (tournament director), as well as USCAK President Irene Isajiw, who spoke briefly to the participants, congratulating the winners and urging all to support Ukrainian sports.

The next Ukrainian tennis tournament will be the USCAK singles championships held at Soyuzivka during Labor Day weekend.



Trophy winners, participants and presenters during the awards ceremony following the USCAK-East Tennis Tournament. Petrusia Sawchak

Tournament trophy winners

Men	Boys' 16	Men's 45	Men's Doubles	Mixed Doubles
Mykola Stroynick, winner Mykola Nalywayko, finalist	Marko Gural, winner Alexander Dale, finalist Dmytro Mysak, feed-in winner	Mykola Nalywayko, winner George Walchuk, finalist	Mykola Nalywayko – Nalywayko, Jr, winner Isadore Stroynick – Mykola Stroynick, finalist	Larysa Boyko/ Danylo Tylawsky, winners Victoria Kuritza/ George Hrabec, finalists
Women	Girls	Men's 65	Senior Doubles	Girl's Doubles
Christine Toth, winner Marta Cherpak, finalist	Anastasija Dudaryk, winner Molly Bis, finalist Irena Malatsidze, feed-in winner	Ivan Durbak, winner George Hrabec, finalist George Petrykevych, feed-in winner	Steve Sosiak – George Walchuk, winner Ivan Durbak – George Hrabec, finalist	Molly Bis/Anastasiya Dudaryk, winners Tusia Kopach/Ariadna Louer, finalists
Boys' 12				
Marko Gural, winner Danylo Sosiak, finalist				

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Plus one

(Continued from page 8)

homes in minus 30 degree weather, were too massive to be removed, so they were systematically destroyed, the bricks pulverized to prevent rebuilding.

Seventh: My father recited the methodical removal under GPU guard and at night of seed grain from his and neighboring villages. It was shipped to the cities and towns, and stored under guard in massive silos built for that purpose. Why was the seed grain removed? For fear that soon the very farmers who grew the grain would devour it, eliminating the possibility of next year's crop. But why would those who are pre-eminent in agriculture commit collective suicide devouring grain destined for future seeding? Furthermore, if avoiding certain death now by eating the seed grain was preferable to future death months later, why would people risk certain death now in the face of Stalin's August 7, 1932, decree declaring all foodstuffs and other property as belonging to the state? The death penalty was the sanction, with children shot as readily as adults. Because soon there would be nothing else to eat. And how would anyone know that? You get the point.

Eighth: My father spoke of vast fields of grain, never harvested, and guarded day and night, smoldering until it rotted into the ground. Warning shots were rare. Endlessly squirming but always predictably relentless, Holodomor deniers argue that lack of machinery and an antiquated transportation system prevented timely harvesting and removal. They are not fazed that

this argument is irreconcilable with their simultaneous and opposite argument of excessive grain procurements for export. Windows on trains passing through the Ukrainian countryside were sealed to prevent passengers from throwing out food scraps to starving villagers who lined the tracks as the trains sped by, starving villagers having earlier been barred from approaching the train stations. There's no response to that by the deniers.

As to the "numbers game," my father would say it's driven by the same imbecility, or worse, that argues that Stalin perhaps didn't know about what was going on and it all sort of "just happened." (He would repeat, more than once, that Stalin knew what was in your own mind even before you did.)

During the Nazi occupation, my father was imprisoned by the German SS in Kharkiv, but escaped and made his way back to Poltava, barefoot (the Germans had removed his shoes in prison). In the course of meandering the 100 or so miles, he saw the Holodomor's devastation of the countryside 10 years earlier. Between the two cities was the richest stretch of agricultural bounty in one of the richest lands in the world, summarily depopulated of easily a third of its native population during the Holodomor. The entire population of every fifth village had been exterminated. That's 20 percent of the rural population. In the remaining four villages, rarely more than a half of its inhabitants somehow survived, many with no more than 10 or 20 percent remaining.

During his trek, my father made the calculus simply by meeting the occupants.

Now there were no longer Ukrainians, but virtually all Russians in the previously wholly decimated villages. And a pro-rata number in the other villages. To be sure, all of Ukraine had been overrun by the Nazis, and cities and countryside alike were destroyed and depopulated. Nonetheless, the outlines of a massive Russian repopulation of deserted Ukrainian villages were stark and screamingly obvious. It was the ultimate "ethnic cleansing."

If that is not to be believed, then we have the diplomatic dispatches of the Italian vice-consul in Kharkiv at the time. Sergio Gradenigo wrote in his report, No. 74/106 of May 31, 1933, titled "The Famine and the Ukrainian Question," that the famine was instituted with the intention of "teaching the [Ukrainian] peasants a lesson." Quoting a top officer of the GPU, it was for the purpose of "changing the ethnographic materials" of Ukraine. (Hitler's notion of *Untermenschen* (subhumans) was the synonym of "ethnographic materials.")

In other words, the Italian consul wrote, the government's "goal was to liquidate the Ukrainian problem in the course of several months by sacrificing 10 or 15 million souls. ... [T]he current disaster will accomplish the colonization of Ukraine, mostly Russian. And that [colonization] will change Ukraine's ethnographic character. Perhaps, in the very near future, it will not be possible to speak about Ukraine, or about the Ukrainian nation, and particularly about a Ukrainian question, because Ukraine will become, in fact, a Russian colony." Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky would have considered their job descriptions fulfilled.

My father did not know that a December 29, 1933, report by the All-Union Resettlement Committee of the Soviet of Peoples Commissars of the USSR to the head of the gulag, Matvei Berman, detailed the resettlement of Russians to the "sparsely populated" areas of Ukraine. Most were retired Red Army officers, functionaries of the secret police and others whose loyalty was thus rewarded, and whose progeny are a fifth column in Ukraine today. The "resettlement" plans were put into place before the induced starvation in Ukraine. As with the removal of the seed grain, in advance, how did anyone know, in advance, that there were going to be "sparsely populated" areas in Ukraine? In fact, all of Ukraine was "sparsely populated".

My father took a direct, no-nonsense approach to the numbers. Taking into account the only Soviet-based statistic that he would consider to be even reasonably close to reality – the 1937 census whose statisticians were shot for "intentionally undercounting the population" – and given the overwhelming preponderance of Ukrainians in the rural areas of Ukraine, my father viewed the 7 million as an absolute minimum. He damned the deniers who seamlessly became minimalists, "experts" who a day before had sniffed contemptuously about the very existence of any "Holodomor." For him, numbers made a difference. Isn't the killer of 100 children worse than the killer of one?

We know from British diplomatic dispatches that, starkly contradicting his denials in The New York Times, Walter Duranty had privately spoken of 10 million killed. Gradenigo wrote of 10 million to 15 million. And the late James Mace, the pioneer in bringing the Holodomor to the attention of the English-speaking world, wrote that the frequency and levels at which the 10 million figure circulated among the Communist Party elite is reason enough to believe that it was as accurate a death list as we will ever have.

* * *

My father, Wasyl Sydorovych Rud, died on May 2. Neither a mutilated life, nor a savaged soul, nor a broken heart is a bureaucratically recognized cause of death on his

death certificate. I know that he was never a Holodomor survivor. There never were any. He never escaped Russia's barbarity in Ukraine or its most fearsome tool, the Holodomor. It had been methodically, diabolically, digesting "survivors" since 1933. It stalked him to his last day.

What do we do?

The question can be posed yet again, as it should have been raised following the passing of each of the tens of millions of souls murdered by Moscow over the centuries: "What, now?" "What do we do?"

Ukrainians know, too well, the mournful "Vichnaya Pamiat" sung at our funerals and panakhydy. My father would say that "Eternal Memory" is not enough. It is an absolute pre-condition to everything else, a necessary first step. But standing alone, sterilized of action or behavior, now or later, mere memory is almost irrelevant.

My father's experiences were not only not unique, but rather measured by comparison with so many of his countrymen. He, and they, would all say that each Ukrainian, in his own, personal way, must overcome a virtual genetic predisposition toward passivity, that damning Ukrainian trait, "Nekhai bude spokii" ("Let us simply have peace, quietude"). Why, my father once asked me (or himself, perhaps), do we so diplomatically speak of millions of Ukrainians as having been killed, as having died, perished? They weren't. They were murdered. They were exterminated. They were massacred. "Zbahny!" ("Get it straight!"), he would say.

He summed it up: The French had a revolution. The Americans fought a bitter war. The Russians murdered several score million people. The Rumanians used a bullet to the head. The Ukrainians? They sang songs.

He would say that each of us must ponder the question: How could Israel's president lecture Ukrainians to forget history? How well-known, and how utterly distorted must be that specific twist – "nekhai bude spokii" – in the Ukrainian DNA for such a pronouncement to be made?

My father would demand that we all be assertive of our history, of our truth. How can it be that a mass murderer is more aggressive, more energetic, more committed to hijacking your home and murdering your family than you, as the rightful homeowner, are in defending yourself and your family? It's perverse. Don't just mumble the truth. Scream it. Demand it. Categorical, unsparing intolerance is not just necessary. It's obligatory. Intolerance of injustice, intolerance of evil, intolerance of falsehood – it's that very kind of intolerance that is necessary to help counter the growing defeatism, in the diaspora and in Ukraine, over the slingshot into the past and to which Putin's minions have seemingly condemned Ukraine. Make the accusation. Again and again. And never, never give up.

How, practically speaking, these observations are to be implemented – or not – is a matter of the priorities, large and small, that each of us establishes and continuously reorders in our daily life. What and how do we instill in our children so that they don't simply "know," but so they also have within them the necessary inner catalyst to pass on to their own children and succeeding generations not just that same knowledge and memory but also that very same catalyst, from generation to generation?

At its core, my father would quietly say that it is a matter of one's own conscience, and overcoming the trifling, ridiculous inconveniences that a real-world commitment would introduce into our personal lives. A heinous history came close to obliterating a nation of singers and poets. It has churned through generation after generation. But it also created a legacy of human opposition to the demonic that is noble and pristine. It created titans. Copy, print or delete. It's our call.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Yulia supporters mark first anniversary

KYIV – Supporters of Yulia Tymoshenko, Ukraine's former prime minister turned opposition leader, on August 5 marked the first anniversary of her imprisonment on August 5 with protests calling for her release. A 20-meter long banner with the words "Yulia – Freedom" was unfurled from a bridge across the Dnipro River in Kyiv. Protests are also expected to take place in Kharkiv, the northeastern city where the reportedly ailing Ms. Tymoshenko is being held. Ms. Tymoshenko, who served as prime minister from January to September 2005 and again in 2007-2010, was taken into custody on August 5, 2011, convicted on charges of abuse of office, and sentenced in October 2011 to a seven-year jail term. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by DPA and Interfax)

UOC-MP proclaims patron of military

KYIV – Within the framework of celebrations of the Day of Baptism of Rus'-Ukraine, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) proclaimed Prince Volodymyr the Great as the patron saint of the armed forces of Ukraine. According to the website of UOC-MP, the Church was asked to proclaim the patron saint of the armed forces by military men who are believers and personally by the chief of staff of the armed forces of Ukraine. Metropolitan Volodymyr consecrated a large icon of Prince Volodymyr. The events were attended by First Vice-Minister of Defense Oleksander Oliynyk and other ministry officials, representatives of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and members of the military. In September-December of this year, with the consent of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense, the UOC-MP plans to conduct a nationwide military Christian procession with the icon and relics of St. Volodymyr to military garrisons and units of Ukraine. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Public meeting condemns Syrian regime

SYMFEROPOL, Ukraine – On August 5, in front of the Crimean Republican Center for Children's and Youth Creative Activities in Symferopol, a meeting "in support of the people of Syria" was held, reported religion.in.ua with reference to islamsng.com. The event was organized by the public associations Human Rights Movement of Crimea and Davet, closely connected with the organization Hizb ut-Tahrir al-Islami, which has been active in the Crimea for over 10 years. The purpose of the meeting was to condemn the "regime of Bashar Assad." According to eyewitnesses, the meeting was attended by over 400 persons. The picket participants held banners condemning the Syrian regime. They read out passages from Quran. The participants of the action included Crimean Tatars, newly converted Muslims and Syrians living in Ukraine. According to the head of Davet, Ruslan Ramazanov, "the participants of the meeting passed an appeal to all the Muslims of the world, calling them to support the Syrian people." The meeting was surrounded by police, but they did not interfere with the gathering. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Yulia to be charged in murder

KYIV – Ukraine's deputy procurator-general has been quoted as saying prosecutors plan to indict jailed former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on charges of complicity in the murder of a Parliament member 16 years ago. Renat Kuzmin told the newspaper Segodnya in an interview published on August 9 that the charges would be formalized once the ailing opposition leader was deemed healthy enough to appear in court. In June, President Viktor Yanukovich suggested that Ms. Tymoshenko had a hand in the 1996 murder of businessman and politician Yevhen Shcherban and his wife. Mr. Kuzmin said Ms. Tymoshenko, who is already serving a seven-year sentence for a separate abuse of power case, would be indicted on more charges, including "causing bodily injuries to a detention facility officer in the line of duty." A second trial against the opposition leader for alleged tax evasion was scheduled to resume on August 14. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by DPA and Interfax)



On Saturday, July 28, 2012, at the age of 92,

DR. EUGENE GILL

peacefully entered into eternal rest.

Funeral services took place on August 2, 2012, at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Melrose Park, PA followed by burial at Lawnview Cemetery, Rockledge, PA.

Eugene leaves behind his beloved, grieving family:

- wife of 67 years, Anisja (née Pawluk);
- daughter, Christina Tershakovec with husband Andrew Tershakovec
- grandsons, Paul and Michael Tershakovec
- nephew, Ihor Gill
- sister-in-law, Anita Pawluk with daughter Monica Hottenstein and family
- as well as extended family Geleta, Maciurak and Drahanchuk

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in memory of Eugene Gill be made to:

United Ukrainian American Relief Committee
1206 Cottman Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19111
(funds to be used for assistance to orphans in Lviv, Ukraine)

Ukrainian Diabetes Project
2615 Rain Dance Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Annunciation of the BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church
1206 Valley Road
Melrose Park, PA 19027



LTC (Retired) US Army Milas W. Lebedovych, MD of Savannah, GA died unexpectedly and peacefully at his beloved summer home in Accord, NY on July 19, 2012.

He was born on August 14, 1936 in Ukraine. He was predeceased by his parents Ksenia Janowicz Lebedovych, MD and Omelan Lebedovych, MD.

The family immigrated to the United States in 1949. In 1954, he graduated as salutatorian from Lapeer High School in Lapeer, Michigan. In 1958, he graduated from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor where he earned a BS degree. In 1962, Dr. Lebedovych earned his MD degree from the Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, Michigan.

In 1972 he completed his psychiatric residency at Lafayette Clinic in Detroit, Michigan.

Dr. Lebedovych began his medical career as an emergency room physician later focusing on psychiatry. He was a board certified psychiatrist who during the course of his medical career, practiced as a psychiatrist in various correctional facilities, psychiatric centers, maximum security prisons and the military.

Dr. Lebedovych served in the US Army. During the Vietnam War, CPT Lebedovych was in the Medical Corps, serving with the 19th Engineering Battalion, 18th Engineering Brigade. From May 1966 to June 1967 CPT Lebedovych was the battalion surgeon at Cam Ranh Bay. For his service in Vietnam CPT Lebedovych was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. In 1983 he returned to the military. In 1989 he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his medical service at Ft Benning, GA. His military accomplishments also include earning his Airborne Wings and an Expert Field Medical Badge. LTC Lebedovych also served with distinction in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm (1991). LTC Lebedovych retired from the US Army in 1996.

Dr. Lebedovych was an avid chess player and was a member of many chess clubs. He was also an accomplished long distance runner. He was an active member in PLAST, a Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Milas W. Lebedovych leaves in sorrow his wife of 44 years, Zwenyslawa Salak of NYC. Also in deep mourning are his son Orest of NY; daughter Andrea, with her husband Ivan W. Bilaniuk of Vienna, VA and grandsons Andrew and Peter Bilaniuk. He is survived by his two sisters Lydia Kazewych and Switlana Korduba as well as his two brothers Victor Lebedovych, MD and Alex Lebedovych, MD and their families.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday July 24th, 2012 at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson, NY. Burial followed at Pine Bush Cemetery in Kerhonkson, NY. LTC (Retired) US Army Milas Lebedovych was laid to rest with military honors.

Turning...

(Continued from page 6)

"... In addition, the argument that Russian should not be used in Ukraine's official documents or in Parliament because it is 'the language of a foreign country' implies that Russian speakers within Ukraine are foreigners. If you tell them they are foreigners, then you are telling them to do one of two things: either they should go to Russia, or they have no choice but ask that Russia should come to them," Dr. Szporluk explained.

He cited the example of Finland, with 90 percent Finns and 10 percent Swedes, which has bilingual signs in Finnish and Swedish.

"The future of Ukraine," he wrote, "and the success of political and economic reforms will be crucially influenced, if not determined, by the extent to which this sense of common citizenship is retained and strengthened. It is very difficult for many in Ukraine and many of us in the diaspora to grasp the profound novelty and importance of this fact."

Meanwhile, "the external enemies of Ukrainian independence, particularly those in Moscow, would like nothing better than to have Ukrainians retain the old linguistic and ethnographic Ukrainian identity," Dr. Szporluk wrote. "In this way, the 'ethnographic' Ukrainian nationalists and patriots would themselves help Moscow break up

the unity of Ukraine. Ukraine's enemies abroad want to atomize the country, ethnify its people, and then break it up according to the Yugoslav model into warring ethnic groups."

Regarding confrontation with Russia's leaders who believe that Moscow is entitled to protect all Russians and all other Russian-speaking people, regardless of the country in which they live and whose country's citizenship they hold, Dr. Szporluk said, Kyiv's response must be: Russian speakers are not foreigners in Ukraine. Ukraine is their country. They need nobody's protection.

"By antagonizing the citizens of Ukraine who are Russian-speaking, but who voted for Ukrainian independence, [proponents of nationwide Ukrainianization] potentially create enclaves of allies of the country's external enemies... If an internal split were to emerge in Ukraine that transformed a significant part of its citizens into unwitting allies of a foreign power, this face would endanger Ukraine's integrity and, conceivably, its very existence as an independent state. ... In keeping with the promises made during the referendum campaign, each individual must be given reason to hope that his/her life will be better, and assurances the Ukrainian state's rule will be based on law."

Source: "Ukraine's independence and the new social covenant," by Dr. Roman Szporluk, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, August 23, 1992.

Red Hot Chili Peppers concert draws 30,000 to Kyiv's Olympic Stadium

by Igor Tverdomed

KYIV – The Red Hot Chili Peppers' popularity in Ukraine was on display when they arrived for their July 25 concert at the freshly renovated Olympic Stadium in Kyiv. That steamy evening, thousands of fans bearing the band's eight-pointed star logo buzzed through the capital's central streets like bees to a hive.

Some sported Mohawk haircuts in tribute to the Chili Peppers of the early 2000s. Few performers could draw such excitement from the Ukrainian public, which offered up 30,000 admirers to dance, jam and sing lyrics alongside the Peppers' lead vocalist, Anthony Kiedis.

By the concert's end, bassist Flea told the Ukrainian fans they were "the best in the world," though that's likely not the first time he flattered a crowd.

Indeed, Flea was the spiciest of the Chili Peppers, rocking his body violently in uni-

son with his bass lines and occasionally yelling bizarre, psychedelically inspired phrases.

The four band members, which also include guitarist Josh Klinghoffer and drummer Chad Smith, arrived at Olympic Stadium at about 9 p.m. in a black minibus and immediately took to the stage to perform. Flea surprised no one with his blue head, changing his hair color as frequently as he changes clothes.

Hundreds of multi-colored lights surrounded the stage from all sides, while a 540-square-foot screen at the stage's center broadcast video images to complement the songs with a stimulating visual experience.

A girl driving a convertible appeared during "Californication," while images of Superman accompanied another song. A particularly striking montage featured faces depicting different emotions, among them the Chili Peppers themselves.

Fans filled the two zones on the stadium



RHCP official site

Red Hot Chili Peppers' bassist Flea (left) and guitarist Josh Klinghoffer (right) perform at Olympic Stadium in Kyiv.



More than 30,000 rock fans filled the field of the recently renovated Olympic Stadium on July 25 to watch the Red Hot Chili Peppers perform.

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field, where they danced wildly, or the first tier of seats, from where many fled unnoticed to join the real party on the field. The first fan zone was a 50-meter radius around the stage, cordoned off by a meter-high metal fence.

The second zone was the rest of the stadium field, where just a few weeks ago the Spanish national team won its second straight European soccer championship.

The Chili Peppers kicked off the show with "Monarchy of Roses," off its latest album. From the start, Klinghoffer resembled his predecessor, John Frusciante, in his movements, yet the general consensus was he lacks the same charisma as the Chili Peppers legend, who is recognized among rock's greatest guitarists.

The Chili Peppers indulged their fans with their diverse discography, including "Higher Ground" from their formative years in the 1980s, their 1992 hit "Under the Bridge," as well as tracks from their new album, "I'm With You." The reverberations of Flea's bass and Smith's drumming could be felt within a 60-meter radius.

"Californication" drew the biggest response from the Ukrainian fans, who wildly cheered all the songs. Kiedis and Flea, each wearing a single knee-high soccer sock, pranced about the stage throughout the show, both belying their 50 years of age.

"I liked that their live sound is as good as their sound on recordings – their voices were identical," said Illia Oleniov, 18, who saw the Chili Peppers perform also in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

"They had the same energy and drive that they showed at other concerts. What I didn't like was that Kiedis sometimes acted haughty and didn't move about like he used to." Indeed Kiedis was wearing a cap that screamed in bold, black letters "OFF!" to the audience.

Flea performed his familiar stunt of walking on his hands across the stage to the vibrant beat served up by drummer Smith, who wore his standard blue jump suit. He wore a backwards cap that effectively con-

cealed his receding hairline.

Brazilian percussionist Mauro Refosco was barely noticeable during the concert in accompanying Smith in his drum work, evidence that he smoothly blended into the band's overall sound.

"Meet Me at the Corner" and "Under the Bridge" prompted the audience to show solidarity with the singer's personal struggles, as described in the songs.

They lit the concert floor with thousands of brightened mobile phone screens and flames from cigarette lighters, creating an unforgettable atmosphere.

The Chili Peppers satisfied exuberant demands for an encore, delighting the crowd further by throwing on Dynamo Kyiv football jerseys.

After playing three jams, Flea concluded by offering sincere thanks, as always, and called on Ukrainians to embrace music in all of its forms. Smith tossed his drumsticks and red armbands into the crowd as souvenirs.

"My emotions simply overwhelmed me," said Yevhenia Lisovenko, 22. "Everything was cool – the atmosphere, the energy, the performance, the repertoire, from the sound to the lights, the video accompaniment and freestyle solos."

The show kicked off at 6:40 p.m. with a performance by British rock upstarts The Vaccines, a band whose music resembles a toned-down, pop version of The Ramones with polished British accents. Lead singer Justin Young snapped a digital photo of the audience at the end of his performance.

The other warm-up band, Kasabian, has built itself a bigger following among Ukrainian music fans, who were impressed by the skeleton costumes they wore. Only singer Tom Meagan distinguished himself, dressing in red pants, a jeans jacket, and a white samurai band wrapped across his forehead.

Exuding exceptional charisma was guitarist Sergio Pizzorno, whose long, feminine haircut and tall, lanky frame created a haunting combination with the skeleton costume. They played their hits "Underdog" and "Fire," to which Ukrainian fans sang along.

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Dr. Severin Palydowycz with patients and doctors in Lviv.

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

LVIV – Upon learning of the volunteer work of Severin B. Palydowycz, a renowned ophthalmologist of Ukrainian descent who volunteered his services to perform free eye surgeries for the needy in Haiti, the chairman of the UCCA's Council on Aid to Ukrainians (CAU), Ivan Burtyk, met with Dr. Palydowycz to discuss the possibility of conducting similar surgeries for those in need in Ukraine.

Dr. Palydowycz, who is recognized for his outstanding medical work within the United States, gladly agreed, but due to personal time constraints, requested that the CAU assist in finding a hospital where he could perform the surgeries.

Thus, at the request of CAU's chairman, President Tamara Olexy, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), turned to Dr. Dzvinika Chaikivsky from the Sheptytsky Hospital in Lviv, for guidance. Since the Sheptytsky Hospital does not have an optical department, Dr. Chaikivsky recommended contacting Dr.

Ihor Novytsky at the Lviv City Hospital for his assistance. Therefore, at the invitation of Drs. Novytsky and Chaikivsky, Dr. Palydowycz traveled to Ukraine in June to provide free cataract eye surgery at the Lviv City Hospital.

Together with local Lviv doctors, Dr. Palydowycz performed over 40 surgeries, mostly for the elderly. He also donated over \$100,000 worth of equipment to the Lviv City Hospital.

Although exhausted from the numerous surgeries performed, Dr. Palydowycz expressed his extreme satisfaction at having the opportunity to help so many people and said that he would be pleased to return to Ukraine in the future to assist more individuals.

The CAU continues to receive e-mail and telephone requests for Dr. Palydowycz's assistance. The UCCA Council on Aid to Ukrainians sincerely thanked Dr. Severin Palydowycz for his generosity and kindness in helping those less fortunate in Ukraine to once again be able to see.

by John Fedynsky

CLEVELAND – On May 17 the University of Notre Dame announced that Michael Fedynsky is one of 14 graduating seniors in the class of 2012 to win a national fellowship. Mr. Fedynsky was awarded a Fulbright Research and Study Grant to Ukraine to pursue the topic "The Ukrainian Helsinki Group and its Effect as a Political and Social Movement."

In his proposal, he cited the critical role the Ukrainian Helsinki Group played in challenging the repressive Soviet police state and noted how little research has been conducted on this topic. Mr. Fedynsky's project will include research into the documents of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, a review of relevant archives and interviews with surviving members of the group, as well as with those who worked with them and with those who opposed them.

Mr. Fedynsky majored in political science and French, with a minor in European studies. He spent his junior year at the Catholic University of the West in Angers, France, funded in part by a John J. and Patricia L. FitzGerald Scholarship.

Mr. Fedynsky is the recipient of several other scholarships, including those from the Ukrainian National Association and the Charles C. Price Memorial Fund for Eastern-Central European Studies awarded by the Nanovic Institute on European Studies at Notre Dame. He applied the latter scholarship for six weeks of study at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv during the summer of 2009.

"Mykhas" Fedynsky is a graduate of the



Michael Fedynsky

Ukrainian Heritage School in Cleveland, and worked as a summer intern at the Ukrainian Museum-Archives. He is now a candidate member of the Ukrainian Plast fraternity Vovkulaky and was head counselor (komandant) at the Pysany Kamin campground in Middlefield, Ohio, in July. In August, he will participate in the 100th Jubilee International Plast Jamboree in Ukraine and will stay on for his Fulbright project. He plans to travel throughout Ukraine but his base will be at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy in Ukraine's capital.

Mr. Fedynsky is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 472.

Educational program for youths to be held in Canada's capital

TORONTO – The Paul Yuzyk Institute for Youth Leadership on July 25 announced a new educational program – "Canada's Parliament Education Forum" – to be held in Ottawa on October 3-7.

Established in 2009, the Paul Yuzyk Institute for Youth Leadership has successfully operated youth educational programs such as Kalyna Country (Edmonton and environs in Alberta) and Pier 21 (Halifax and environs in Nova Scotia).

The Ukrainian National Federation's The UNF Ottawa-Gatineau branch is coordinating this new project. Branch President Paul Migus said, "In offering this new educational experience in the nation's capital, the Paul Yuzyk Institute (PYI) is seeking to deepen young leaders experience and competencies in how government touches the lives of Ukrainian Canadians, how Canadians of Ukrainian heritage have helped build the Canadian nation and develop Canada's multicultural policy, legislation and society."

The Canada's Parliament Program

provides learning opportunities about how government functions in Canada's capital, including site visits in and around Parliament Hill, the House of Commons and Senate, Parliamentary Library, War Museum, National Museum of Canadian Civilization, Parliamentary Precinct, Supreme Court, National Archives and Library. As well, visits to Ukrainian Canadian institutions and monuments/memorials will be included.

High school and university students (age 13-22) can apply at unfcanada.ca before August 30 for participation in this unique young leader's experience. The educational forum is limited to 12 candidates who meet the selection criteria.

The cost of this leadership program is \$950 (and does not include travel to and from Ottawa). Bursaries have been made available through a grant from the Shevchenko Foundation.

For more information readers may visit www.unfcanada.ca, call UNF Executive Director Olya Grod, 416-925-2770, or e-mail info@unfcanada.com or pmigus@gmail.com.

WW II veteran awarded Bronze Star

GALENA, Md. – Nick Swyka was recently awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism during World War II.

A member of the 395th Infantry Regiment, he was serving in Belgium in December of 1944 when the Germans attacked the American troops in the Ardennes Forest. Although he was injured by shell fragments in his hands, face and legs, Mr. Swyka understood that the other soldiers needed as much help as possible and, instead of being sent for treatment, he asked the medic to temporarily treat his wounds so he could continue fighting.

After the battle, Mr. Swyka was recommended for a Bronze Star for his heroic actions, however, he never actually received it.

After talking to Mr. Swyka, his son-in-law, Command Sgt. Maj. Guy Gravino began looking into why he never received a Purple Heart. The medic who treated his

injuries wrote a statement to the U.S. Army verifying what happened, however, the Army claimed that there was insufficient evidence to prove that Mr. Swyka deserved a Purple Heart but that he did deserve a Bronze Star, a Combat Infantryman's Badge and other medals.

This year – 58 years after the Battle of the Bulge – Mr. Swyka's family decided that the best time to tell him of the award was to surprise him at an annual birthday dinner for him and his wife, Mildred.

The dinner began with the national anthem sung by his daughter-in-law Marie, as members of the Delaware National Guard arrived to present Mr. Swyka with the Bronze Star for valor.

Mr. Swyka is a parishioner of St. Basil Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chesapeake City, Md.

"Notes on People" is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian community and the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person's UNA branch number (if applicable). Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt.

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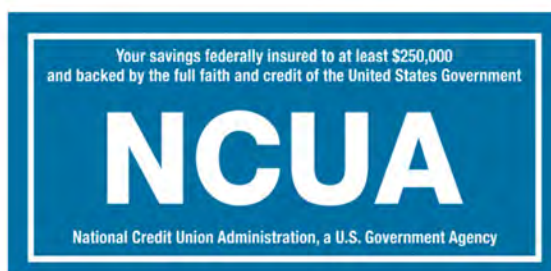
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Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble celebrates 25 years of song and dance

SUGARLOAF, Pa. – Twenty five years ago, four young friends with a love of all things Ukrainian banded together to form the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble. Incorporated in Schuylkill County in 1987, Kazka – which means folktale in Ukrainian – is dedicated to the preservation and performance of the songs and folk dances brought to the anthracite coal regions by the Ukrainian immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th century.

The founding members include the vocal quartet of Joseph Zucofski, Michael Duda, Sandra Minarchik Duda and Paula Duda Holoiviak.

Kazka's vocal and instrumental repertoire encompasses traditional folk songs and works by modern Ukrainian composers, as well as folk carols and liturgical selections. Kazka has produced three recordings including "Kazka," "Timeless Traditions" and "God Sees All," featuring Ukrainian Christmas music.

The ensemble also currently has over 20 young dancers who perform choreography from the Hutsul, Zakarpattia, Lemko,



The Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble performs at Ukrainian Seminary Day 2012 in Minersville, Pa.

Boyko, and Poltava regions of Ukraine. Numerous talented individuals have contributed choreography to the group, including Mykola Bojczuk and Helena Kozak (Philadelphia), Ken Rylance (Canada) and

David Woznak (Cleveland). The ensemble's current choreographer is Andrij Dobriansky of New York City. Mr. Dobriansky has studied with the renowned Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky and has been named a Master Traditional Artist by the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts.

Kazka has received numerous accolades and awards and has traveled the globe. The ensemble has received grants from the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts, the Schuylkill County Council for the Arts and the Institute for Cultural Partnerships. Currently, Kazka is on the roster for the Commonwealth Speakers program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

Kazka has performed throughout Pennsylvania, New York and Maryland, as well as at Disney World in Florida. In 1992 Kazka performed in three Ukrainian cities as part of the commemorations of the

100th anniversary of Ukrainian emigration to the United States.

Kazka will mark its 25th anniversary with a performance at the Ukrainian Festival at the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehighton, Pa., on Saturday, August 18, and Sunday, August 19. The group will perform at the festival shows and will host a zabava (dance) open to the public at 8 p.m. on Saturday evening with music by Walter Syzonenko.

All members past and present are invited to attend, to reminisce and to view pictures from the past 25 years. For more information on the festival reunion, visit www.kazkaensemble.org or www.ukrhomestead.com.

Kazka looks forward to many more years of song and dance. Dance rehearsals are held throughout the summer months on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Homestead. New dancers are always welcome.



Members of the Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble (from left): Michael Duda, Sandra Duda, Paula Holoiviak and Joseph Zucofski.

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OUT & ABOUT

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| August 16-19
Rochester, NY | 40th annual St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Festival, www.RochesterUkrainianFestival.com or 585-467-6457 | August 25
Parma, OH | Ukrainian Village Parade and Independence Day celebration, Ukrainian Village Committee, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, ukrainianvillage@yahoo.com |
| August 16-18
Saskatoon, SK | Saskatoon Folkfest, Ukraine Karpaty Pavilion, Exhibition Grounds, 306-931-0100 or www.saskatoonfolkfest.ca | August 25
Etobicoke, ON | "Flavors of Ukraine," Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Toronto Branch, Centennial Park, 416-323-4772 or www.ucctoronto.ca |
| August 17-19
Kerhonkson, NY | Art exhibit, featuring works by Edward, Yuriy and Yarema Kozak, Soyuzivka - Main House Library, 586-360-7364 | August 25
Saskatoon, SK | Ukraine Day in the Park, Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatoon Provincial Council, 306-653-1733 or uccspc@ucc.sk.ca |
| August 18
Jewett, NY | Piano recital by Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Grazhda Music and Art Center, www.grazhdamusicandart.org | August 25
Jewett, NY | Concert with cellists Natalia Khoma and Marta Bagratuni, with pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Grazhda Music and Art Center, www.grazhdamusicandart.org |
| August 18-19
Lehighton, PA | Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, with stage shows, dance and hierarchical divine liturgy, Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621 or www.ukrhomestead.com | August 25
Raleigh, NC | Ukrainian Independence Day picnic, Ukrainian Association of North Carolina, Lake Montague, www.ncua.inform-decisions.com or 919-923-1316 |
| August 19
Kerhonkson, NY | Church picnic, Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, 845-647-6911 or www.holytrinity.org | August 25-26
Chicago | Ukrainian Festival, Illinois Division of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Smith Park, 773-772-4500 |
| August 19
Apopka, FL | Blessing of fruit, St. Mary Protectress Ukrainian Catholic Church, 321-217-7787 or ukrainianchurchcentralflorida@gmail.com | August 26
Horsham, PA | Ukrainian Folk Festival, with stage show and dance, Ukrainian American Sports Club - Tryzub, www.tryzub.org or 267-664-3857 |
| August 24
Wildwood Crest, NJ | All-ages dance, with music by DJ Matej Liteplo, Wildwood Crest Pier Recreation Center, www.xml.org or Adrian@telligys.com | August 26
Apopka, FL | Blessing of flowers, St. Mary Protectress Ukrainian Catholic Church, 321-217-7787 or ukrainianchurchcentralflorida@gmail.com |
| August 24
Wildwood, NJ | Volleyball tournament, hosted by Lys Sports Academy, Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, beach in front of Pan Am Hotel, wsozo63@optonline.net or www.socceragency.net/lys | August 26
San Francisco | Ukrainian Day, Golden Gate Park, Music Concourse Bandshell, www.stmichaeuocsf.org or 415-330-0905 |
| August 24
Somerset, NJ | Ukrainian Independence Day concert, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 732-356-0090 | | |
| August 24-26
Chicago | "Uketoberfest," St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Church, 773-625-4805 or stjosephuucc@gmail.com | | |
| August 25
Regina, MB | Ukrainian Fall Festival, Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Regina branch, Victoria Park, 306-757-8835 or www.uccruff.ca | | |

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. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.



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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Kupalo tradition continues in Hartford

by Christina Jancew Iwanik

GLASTONBURY, Conn. – Members and parents of the Ukrainian American Youth Association’s Hartford branch gathered together on June 12 for the traditional celebration of “Sviato Ivana Kupala” and their end-of-year closing ceremony here at J. B. Williams Park.

For over 10 years, UAYA Hartford has been keeping alive the Kupalo tradition – an ancient celebration of the end of the summer solstice and the beginning of the harvest – with the making of wreaths and the “Marena,” the sending of the wreaths downstream

for the boys to catch them, as well as the story of the “tsvit paporoti,” the legendary fern flower that blooms only on midsummer’s eve.

Also that evening, select members received promotions, acknowledgments and badges for attending the most recent Zlet (Memorial Day weekend gathering) held at the UAYA campground in Ellenville, N.Y. A truly memorable evening was had by all.

The UAYA members are now attending camps and will return to their branch on September 11 to share their summertime experiences.



Christina Jancew Iwanik

Members of the Hartford, Conn., branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association gathered for their annual celebration of Kupalo traditions.

Toronto Plast members plant 100 trees to mark centennial



Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – To mark the centennial of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, members of the organization’s Toronto branch recently planted 100 trees in a local city park, Eglinton Flats. This good deed for the entire Toronto area community was performed by Plast members of all ages on May 6, the feast day of St. George, the patron saint of Plast. It attracted the participation of local politicians and Member of Parliament Ted Opatz. Seen above are Plast members ready for the planting, shovels in hand.

Mishanyna

In keeping with the Olympic theme begun in the previous Mishanyna (July 1-8), this month we challenge readers to find the names of some of the Olympic sports in which athletes from Ukraine are competing. (An extra challenge as you solve Mishanyna: Can you name the sports in which sports Team Ukraine has won medals thus far?)

- | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------------|
| ARCHERY | HEPTATHLON | TENNIS |
| BOXING | JUDO | TABLE TENNIS |
| DIVING | ROWING | TRACK and FIELD |
| FENCING | SAILING | WEIGHTLIFTING |
| GYMNASTICS | SHOOTING | WRESTLING |
| | SWIMMING | |

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

New York UAYA wraps up season

by Victor Kurylyk

NEW YORK – The New York branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) wrapped up its 2011-2012 educational year on June 3. The head of the branch Dania Lawro, congratulated “vykhovnyky” (teachers), “vporiadnyky” (counselors) and “yunatstvo” (youth) on the successful year and expressed appreciation for the outstanding individual achievements of New Yorkers at various Zlet 2012 competitions.

Almost every New York participant

contributed extra points by earning a medal or winning a competition either in knowledge, poetry, group or sports events, including running, jumping, discus, shot put, volleyball and soccer. Over all, 12 New Yorkers (out of 25 on the team) rose to the podium to pick up 20 medals in individual events. With victories in relays, team sports (soccer and volleyball) and group competitions, that number was even higher.

New York took seventh place out of 17 teams in the overall ranking – a significant improvement from its 11th place last year.



Natalia Kaczurak

The year-end ceremony of the New York branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association.

Saturday-Sunday, August 18-19

LEHIGHTON, Pa.: Celebrate Ukraine's independence at the Ukrainian Homestead's 21st Festival. Enjoy Ukrainian dance, song and music, with two stage shows on Saturday and a "zabava" (dance) on Saturday evening. On Sunday, liturgy will be celebrated by Metropolitan Stefan Soroka at St. Andrew's Chapel, and there will be two stage shows during the day. Meet old friends, make new friends, shop at the many vendors, enjoy delicious traditional Ukrainian food and enjoy fresh air. For more information call the Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621, or visit www.ukrhomestead.com.

Thursday, August 23

WILDWOOD CREST, N.J.: The board of trustees of The Ukrainian Museum (New York) invites all in Wildwood to come to the penthouse at the Pan American Hotel. Enjoy the wonderful view of the ocean from the penthouse and find out more about The Ukrainian Museum, while sipping wine, chitchatting and having a good time at 7-9 p.m. The Pan Am Hotel is located at 5901 Ocean Ave., Wildwood Crest, NJ 08260; telephone, 609-522-6936. Space at the penthouse is limited, so RSVP by Wednesday to Christine Melnyk, 203-887-1789, or Oksana Trytjak, 908-377-7889. Cost: \$25 per person, with proceeds to benefit The Ukrainian Museum.

Saturday, August 25

JEWETT, N.Y.: The Music and Art Center of

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Greene County presents a Mostly Cello Recital featuring cellists Natalia Khoma and Marta Bagratuni with Volodymyr Vynnytsky at the piano. Works by George Frideric Handel, Franz Joseph Haydn, Jean-Baptiste Barriere, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Robert Schuman, Frederic Chopin, Giacomo Puccini and Giuseppe Verdi will be performed. The concert begins at 8 p.m. and takes place in the Grazhda Music Hall located on the grounds of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church. More information is available on the website www.GrazhdaMusicandArt.org or by calling 518-989-6479.

RALEIGH, N.C.: The Ukrainian Association of North Carolina will host the 21st annual Ukrainian Independence Day picnic at Lake Montague, 10305 Penny Road in Raleigh, starting at 2 p.m. Barbecued meat and soft drinks will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share, as well as your favorite refreshments. Admission is by donations and/or an item for a raffle. For further information please check the association's website, <http://ncua.inform-decisions.com/>, or call 919-923-1316.

Sunday, August 26

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub will host the 21st annual

Ukrainian Independence Folk Festival at Tryzubivka, County Line and Lower State roads, Horsham, PA 19044. Doors will open at noon. The festival stage show concert will begin at 1:30 p.m. with headliners: the Zorian Ukrainian Dance, Music and Song Ensemble (Kirovohrad, Ukraine); Desna Ukrainian Dance Company (Toronto); violinist Innesa Tymochko Dekajlo (Lviv); and the Vox Ethnika Band (New York City). A "zabava" – social dance – to the music of the Vox Ethnika orchestra will follow the concert, at 4:30 p.m. Delicious 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; students, \$10; children under 15, free. Parking is free. For further information call 267-664-3857 or log on to www.tryzub.org. The sponsor is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt nonprofit charitable organization; proceeds benefit youth sports, and cultural and community programs.

Wednesday, September 5

NEWARK, N.J.: St. John's Ukrainian Preschool will re-open with Ukrainian-language Montessori sessions each weekday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Extended hours from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. are available to serve working parents. Minimum age is 2 years 6

months in September. We emphasize respect for the child, individualized learning and promotion of the child's independence. For more information, call Olenka Makarushka-Kolodiy, 973-763-1797 or visit the website at <http://coe.kean.edu/zaxoronka/>.

Sunday, September 9:

STAMFORD, Conn.: The 45th Connecticut Ukrainian Day Festival, sponsored by the Connecticut State Ukrainian Day Committee will take place on the grounds of St. Basil's Seminary. Beginning at 9 a.m., there be over 20 Ukrainian vendors, and coffee and donuts will be available. Confessions will be heard before liturgy, which will be celebrated at 11 a.m. by Bishop Paul Chomnycky. Ukrainian and picnic foods will be available after liturgy. At 2:30 p.m. enjoy a lively program at the outdoor pavilion featuring the Zoloty Promin Dance Ensemble, Sisters Pavlyshyn duo, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Maksym Lozynskyj (singer-guitarist), Sisters Korenovsky, Kalynonka Dance Ensemble of Stamford, Valeriy Valwell (violin), and Nataliya, Danyil, Igor Blyshchak (musical ensemble and singer) and Stamford Ballroom Dance. Dance music will be provided by Halychany at 5-8 p.m. Children's activities also are scheduled. Admission for those age 12 and over: \$5 per person when purchased in advance, \$10 at the gate; free parking. For tickets call 203-324-4578; for more information or to volunteer call 203-269-5909.



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August 17

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August 18

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Zabava with Tempo

August 19 August 25

Josephs School of Dance

August 24

Josephs School of Dance
Camp Recital (evening)

August 31 September 3**Labor Day weekend**

to be announced

September 10 September 13

Gymnasium Reunions:
Bayreuth, Berchtesgaden,
Karlsfeld, Landshut,
Regensburg

September 17 September 19

Gymnasium Reunions:
Mittenwald & Salzburg

September 22 September 23

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(New York City, NY)



Traditional Ukrainian foods, folk art and Exhibitions & Demonstrations:

*** Pysanky (Ukrainian Easter eggs) *
Embroidery * Gerdany (beadweaving)**

**Children's games * Swimming
* Gift & craft vendors ***

Experience Ukrainian Dance, Song & Music!

Programs**Saturday, August 18th**

2:00 – 3:30 pm Stage Show
4:30 – 6:30 pm Stage Show
8:00 – 12:00 m Zabava (Dance)

Sunday, August 19th

11:00 am Divine Liturgy at St. Andrew's Chapel
Celebrant: Metropolitan Stefan Soroka
2:00 – 3:30 pm Stage Show
4:30 – 6:00 pm Stage Show

Festival Admission

\$5/person – one day
\$7/person – both days
FREE – Age 14 & under

*Cultural Exhibit:
The Sacral World of
Trypillia*



FREE PARKING!

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!