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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

CCRDF gala raises \$67,000 for neonatal equipment at Chernivtsi children's hospital

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – More than \$67,000 was raised by the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF), which held its Fourth Annual International Ambassadors Gala Fund Raiser on June 6 at the luxurious Hyatt Regency hotel in central Kyiv.

The funds will be used to buy a neonatology intensive care unit for the Chernivtsi City Children's Clinical Hospital, which CCRDF estimates will save the lives of nearly 80 infants annually.

"To collect the equipment and funds, to register the cargo, to cross borders, and to undergo all necessary procedures is exceptionally troublesome work, and therefore charity is work and we are very thankful to the fund," said Serhiy Storozhuk, the head doctor at the Chernivtsi children's hospital. "But most important is the moral and spiritual support and assistance that shows we aren't alone in this world, that there are people of Ukrainian descent who haven't forgotten about their homeland and look after

her as an example for many of our fellow citizens."

Specifically, Dr. Storozhuk thanked CCRDF for its previous assistance in providing laparoscopic equipment to make minimally invasive surgery possible, arranging for American doctors to visit teach neonatal surgery techniques, and enabling two surgeons to study contemporary surgery techniques in Germany.

He estimated CCRDF raised \$550,000 in aid for his hospital, including ultrasound and endoscopic equipment.

Among those attending were Volodymyr Yavorivskiy, a national deputy with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc who has worked with CCRDF ever since its inception in 1990, as well as presidential contender Arseniy Yatsenyuk, a native of Chernivtsi, who was accompanied by his wife, Tereza.

Ukrainian rock star Sviatoslav Vakarchuk practiced his budding English skills, while venture capitalist and Chicago native Natalie Jaresko provided for a humorous live auction as its exuberant host.

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Economic crisis hits Ukraine's oligarchs as only four billionaires remain

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Bureau Press

KYIV – The bigger they are, the harder they fall.

The global financial crisis devastated the wealth of Ukraine's oligarchs in just a single year, reducing the value of their assets to pre-Orange Revolution levels, according to the annual survey of the 50 wealthiest Ukrainians published by the Kyiv-based Korrespondent weekly magazine on June 12.

Now only four Ukrainian citizens are billionaires – industrial tycoons Rinat Akhmetov, Victor Pinchuk, Igor Kolomoisky and Gennady Bogolyubov – compared to 24 estimated billionaires last year.

"The global crisis brought Ukrainian multi-millionaires down to earth from the heavens," reported Korrespondent, which is published in the Russian language by New York native Jed Sunden. "The crisis froze bank lending and shut export markets."

Indeed Ukraine's banking industry was devastated by the sharply reduced influx of Western credit. Plunging prices and demand for metal ravaged Ukraine's export-oriented metallurgy and mining industries.

Though the value of Mr. Akhmetov's industrial empire was decimated by 69 percent, or \$21 billion, he remains the wealthiest oligarch in the former Soviet Union with an estimated wealth of \$9.6 billion, accord-



Roman Lunin, founder of the Velyka Kyshenia supermarket chain, lost 92 percent of his wealth following the global financial crisis, reducing his assets to \$93 million from an estimated \$1.1 billion last year.

ing to the survey, conducted with Dragon Capital, Ukraine's leading investment bank.

In fact, Mr. Akhmetov has found room to expand internationally in spite of the crisis, scraping together an estimated \$1 billion to buy the West Virginia-based United Coal

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Canadian government presents inaugural Paul Yuzyk Award

TORONTO – Philanthropist and former Ontario legislator John Yaremko became the first recipient of the Paul Yuzyk Award for Multiculturalism presented by Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Minister Jason Kenney during a special ceremony at Roy Thomson Hall on June 12.

"During his 25 years of dedication to the Ontario legislature, Mr. Yaremko was a strong advocate for education, human rights and multiculturalism," said Minister Kenney. "He is also well-known for his philanthropic activities, which includes the 2002 creation of the John and Mary A. Yaremko Program in Multiculturalism and Human Rights at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law."

The Paul Yuzyk Award for Multiculturalism commemorates the late Sen. Yuzyk's pioneering legacy in the areas of multiculturalism, diversity and pluralism. A member of the Senate of Canada from February 1963 until his death in July 1986, he played a key role in the development and implementation of Canada's multiculturalism policy.

Mr. Yaremko was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his strong advocacy of education, human rights and multiculturalism, as well as his philanthropic activities. The award includes a \$20,000 grant, which will be given to an eligible, registered not-for-profit Canadian organization or association of the recipient's choice.



Honoree John Yaremko (right) and Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney.

"I commend Mr. Yaremko for personifying the ideals of Sen. Yuzyk and contributing to our diverse and vibrant Canadian society," added Minister Kenney.

The Yuzyk Award honors an individual or organization that has demonstrated excellence in promoting multiculturalism.

Sen. Yuzyk was known as the father of Multiculturalism and, in his maiden speech in the Senate in 1964 titled "Canada, A Multicultural Nation," he pointed out that a third of Canadians were neither French nor English nor Aboriginal, but were in fact members of ethnic groups and that this made Canada a multicultural nation. In 1971, a policy of

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UNA advocates visit by President Obama to Ukraine

President Barack Obama will soon set out on his third European trip. Thus far, unfortunately, he has not announced a visit to Ukraine, one of the United States' strategic partners.

Though President Obama has indicated through the State Department that he supports Ukraine's territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty, a presidential visit to Ukraine would be a tangible demonstration of the new administration's support for this key country in Europe. It would also be seen as an acknowledgement of the great progress that Ukraine has made in democratization, and the role it plays in ensuring peace and stability in the Central and East European region.

A presidential visit to Ukraine would

be especially valuable now, at a time of economic and political crises affecting the country. It would serve to bolster Ukraine's path toward Euro-Atlantic integration and to reinforce its leaders' resolve to continue necessary political reforms.

The Ukrainian National Association strongly urges President Obama to visit Ukraine in order to demonstrate his administration's support of Ukraine, notwithstanding any "reset" of relations with Russia. The UNA also encourages Ukrainian Americans to contact the White House in support of a presidential trip to Ukraine.

For the Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association,

Stefan Kaczaraj, president

Canadian government...

(Continued from page 1)

multiculturalism was announced by the government of Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

Mr. Yaremko was the first Ukrainian Canadian elected to the Ontario Legislature, where he served as a distinguished member from 1951 until 1975. He was appointed to the Cabinet in 1958 and was Ontario's first minister of citizenship (1961) and the province's first solicitor general (1972-1974).

He and his late wife, Myroslava, made many philanthropic gifts that reflect their wide range of interests. In 2002 the John and Mary Yaremko Program on Multiculturalism and Human Rights was established at the Faculty of Law of the University of Toronto with an endowment of \$600,000. The program supports an annual forum that brings scholars and teachers to the law school to engage the community in vital discussion about the core concepts underlying Canadians' sense of themselves: pluralism, multiculturalism, and inclusion.

In 2008, Mr. Yaremko pledged \$50,000 to the John Robarts Library at the University of Toronto to preserve and make broadly accessible retrospective library materials relating to Ukrainian history, literature, language and culture through digitization.

John Yaremko (1918-)

John Yaremko was born in Welland, Ontario, in 1918. A graduate of the University of Toronto's Law Program, he was the first Ukrainian Canadian to be elected as a member of the Ontario Legislature.

In his 25 years of public service, Mr. Yaremko was a strong advocate of education, human rights and multiculturalism, drawing the Ontario government's atten-



Sen. Paul Yuzyk in an undated file photo.

tion to the needs of Ontarians of different ethnic backgrounds for community services and long-term care. He served in the Cabinets of Premiers Leslie Frost, John Robarts and Bill Davis.

Throughout his life, Mr. Yaremko has been a devoted and constant supporter of the hopes and aspirations of the various ethno-cultural groups of Canada.

Paul Yuzyk (1913-1986)

Born of Ukrainian immigrant parents in 1913 near Estevan, Saskatchewan, Paul Yuzyk began his career as a teacher. After enlisting in the Canadian army, he completed a Ph.D. in history at the University of Minnesota. He subsequently taught Slavic studies and history at the University of Manitoba, where he frequently wrote on the Ukrainian immigrant experience and was active in university and civic life.



At the award ceremony (from left) are: Ted Yuzyk, Eve Duravetz, Vicki Karpiak, Minister Jason Kenney and Vera Yuzyk.

Dr. Yuzyk was appointed to the Senate of Canada by Prime Minister John Diefenbaker on February 4, 1963. In his inaugural speech, Sen. Yuzyk argued that Canada is a multicultural nation that includes peoples from many different cultures, all of whom contribute to Canadian society.

According to Sen. Yuzyk, Canada could succeed in building a strong nation through adherence to the principles of confederation, compromise and "unity in diversity." He challenged the prevailing view that Canada was a bilingual and bicultural nation (in addition to Canada's native peoples). He argued that Canadian society also included Canadians who were of neither British nor French descent. He also predicted that Canada would become a role model for other nations faced with the challenge of integrating peoples of diverse faiths and cultures.

While in the Senate, he played an active role in the development and implementation of the Canadian government's multiculturalism policy. He participated in various parliamentary committees and in delegations to the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

He was closely associated with various cultural and human rights organizations, including as director of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and chairman of the Canadian Folk Arts Council. In addition, he chaired the Human Rights

Commission of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians (today known as the Ukrainian World Congress).

Sen. Yuzyk was known also as the top Canadian executive officer of the Ukrainian National Association. He was elected a UNA vice-president in 1970; the Canadian vice-president's position was later renamed supreme director for Canada. Sen. Yuzyk held the latter position until his death in 1986, having been elected to it at four consecutive UNA conventions.

Individuals from communities across Canada can be nominated in one of two categories for the Paul Yuzyk Award for Multiculturalism. The Lifetime Achievement Award honors an individual who has demonstrated lifelong dedication to the pursuit of promoting a strong multicultural society in Canada. The Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes an individual or group that has made a significant contribution to Canadian multiculturalism within the last five years.

Nominations for the 2010 Paul Yuzyk Award for Multiculturalism are currently being accepted until March 2010.

For details on Sen. Yuzyk, Mr. Yaremko, the nomination process and eligibility requirements, readers may log on to www.cic.gc.ca/pauyuzyk.

University of Illinois announces Conference on Ukrainian Subjects

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN, Ill. – The 26th Conference on Ukrainian Subjects at the University of Illinois will be held in the Illini Union, Room 314 on the Urbana-Champaign campus, on June 24-27.

A keynote address will be delivered by Prof. Mark L. Von Hagen of the department of history at Arizona State University.

The conference is being organized by the Ukrainian Research Programs at the University of Illinois, within the framework of the Summer Research Laboratory on Russia and East European Countries. Its main theme will be "Contemporary Ukraine: Challenges and Perspectives."

The main sessions of the conference will be devoted to the following topics: "Ukraine and Russia," "Ukraine and the Countries of the European Union," "Ukraine and North America," and "Ukrainian Western Diaspora."

The following persons are responsible

for all aspects of the conference: organizer and coordinator – Dmytro Shtohryn, head of the Ukrainian Research Program at the University of Illinois; head of the Organizing Committee – Raisa Bratkiv, head of the Foundation for the Advancement of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Illinois; head of the Program Committee – Leonid Rudnytzky, LaSalle University; members – Assya Humesky, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Volodymyr Chumachenko, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Taras Hunczak, Rutgers University-Newark; Jaroslav Rozumnyj, University of Manitoba; and Christine Sochocky, Toronto.

The conference is free and open to the public. Presentations of papers at the conference will be in English and Ukrainian. All questions about the conference should be directed to Dr. Shtohryn: telephone, 217-356-9195; fax, 217-356-7982; e-mail, shtohryn@illinois.edu.

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