



Bills wrap up training camp on high notes
Oliver, McKenzie and offensive boss Dorsey drawing high praise | PAGE C1

THE BUFFALO NEWS

BUFFALONEWS.COM

Serving Western New York since 1880

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

Copyright 2022

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2022

ELECTION * 2022

Some GOP leaders blast Langworthy for splitting duties



State GOP chairman Nick Langworthy is seeking to represent the 23rd Congressional District.

State party chief is also a candidate

By ROBERT J. MCCARTHY
NEWS POLITICAL REPORTER

A pair of ambitious tasks tops Nick Langworthy's to-do list for 2022.

As chairman of the New York State Republican Party, the Wheatfield resident is leading the charge for gubernatorial candidate Lee Zeldin and the rest of the GOP state ticket. Despite gloomy poll predictions, Langworthy remains upbeat about Republican prospects for electing a governor for the first time since 2002.

But Langworthy faces another daunting objective — winning a tough GOP primary against Carl Paladino in the new 23rd Congressional District on Aug. 23, and then the general election against Democrat Max Della Pia on Nov. 8.

Langworthy claims no difficulties in juggling his assignments. But others say his hold on both jobs presents an inher-

ent conflict that short shrifts them both — especially his statewide responsibilities as chairman. Paladino is leading the charge, claiming Langworthy's "vanity project" candidacy only divides his own party. "Every dollar he raises from himself, is a dollar that is not going towards Lee Zeldin's race," Paladino said in a statement. "Every moment he campaigns for himself is a moment not spent campaigning for other NY Republicans."

Langworthy remains atop his party organization without a major revolt against him. And not a peep of criticism stems from the Zeldin camp. Indeed, Langworthy on Thursday hosted a video town hall for Zeldin as part of the campaign for governor.

But some county chairs are raising questions, arguing that Langworthy cannot juggle two campaigns at once and that he should devote his full energies to one or the other.

Rockland County Republican Chairman Lawrence Garvey said the state committee backed Langworthy for chairman in 2019 by agreeing that former Chairman Edward F. Cox was not moving the party forward. Three years later, he says, the party may be squandering its best opportunity in a generation to elect a Repub-

See **Langworthy** on Page A5



YOUTHS GETTING ON-JOB TRAINING

Model City Builders teaches teens the basics of building, construction, architecture and design by having them work with their hands. *Story on Page B1*

ANALYSIS

Poisoned ties between Trump and the keepers of U.S. secrets

By MARK MAZZETTI
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON— After four years of President Donald Trump's raging against his intelligence services, posting classified information to Twitter and announcing that he took the word of President Vladimir Putin of Russia over that of his own spies, perhaps the least surprising thing he did during his final days in office was ship boxes of sensitive material from the White House to his oceanside palace in Florida.

The FBI search of Mar-

Lago on Monday was a dramatic coda to years of tumult between Trump and U.S. intelligence and law enforcement agencies. From Trump's frequent rants against a "deep state" bent on undermining his presidency to his cavalier attitude toward highly classified information that he viewed as his personal property and would occasionally use to advance his political agenda, the relationship between the keepers of American secrets and the erratic president they served was the most poisoned in

See **Trump** on Page A8

"We very wish my husband was here with us. It is very confusing alone with three children. It is very hard. I wish our family was complete." — Maryana Polyak

Ukrainian family arrives to a warm welcome in Buffalo



Mitch Cramer/ Buffalo News

The Polyak family of Ukraine — Maryana and daughters Katrusia, 13, Annychka, 11, and son Myron, 5 — on Monday in front of the Williamsville home of Yuri Hreshchshyn, a relative who is sponsoring the Polyaks' stay in the U.S.

Relative here says it's 'an honor' to be a sponsor

By LEAH CLARK
NEWS STAFF REPORTER

Maryana Polyak, 42, was terrified as she chugged to her three sleeping children while on a 10-hour flight from Munich, Germany, to Chicago.

The flight in late July was the family's second of that day, which began in Warsaw, Poland. Poland had been the family's home for five months after Russia invaded Ukraine in late February, displacing 10 million citizens.

Polyak's family were among the 5

million Ukrainians who fled to Poland. But her husband, Dmytro, had to stay behind because men ages 18 to 60 are banned from leaving the country in case they are called to fight.

So as Polyak sat in the dark plane cabin, she prayed to the Virgin Mary for the safety of her children, her husband and her country.

After yet one more flight, Polyak and her children landed at Buffalo Niagara International Airport and were greeted by their cousin Kusia Hreshchshyn, a Buffalo native who resides in Berkeley, Calif.

Hreshchshyn's late father, Dr. Myroslaw Hreshchshyn, a medical scientist and professor of gynecologic oncology and obstetrics at the University at Buffalo Medical School, was the cousin of Polyak's grandmother.

Hreshchshyn said that although her parents fled Ukraine in World War II, they have always maintained a relationship with their relatives there. So when Russian troops began approaching Ukraine, Hreshchshyn started checking in on Polyak and her family.

"All throughout that winter, I'd been watching the news and watching those troops. I mean, it wasn't hidden," Hreshchshyn said. "I think Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora knew that

See **Ukraine** on Page A3

Visit by high-profile Trump-aligned tour at Batavia church today spurs protests

By STEPHEN T. WATSON
AND HAAJRAH GILANI
NEWS STAFF REPORTERS

A high-profile event featuring pro-Trump, anti-vaccine speakers that kicks off today at a church in Genesee County is running into the same fierce opposition that drove the tour out of its scheduled stop in Rochester.

The ReAwaken America Tour features speakers who traffic in debunked beliefs and falsehoods about the 2020 election and Covid-19, including former Trump National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, MyPillow CEO Mike Lindell, presidential progeny Eric Trump and Republican operative Roger Stone.



Associated Press

Supporters of former President Donald Trump will gather at the ReAwaken America Tour today.

The national tour was set to stop in Rochester today and Saturday, but word of the visit spurred pushback earlier this summer and drove the host venue to pull the plug on the appearance.

Organizers then moved the tour stop to the Cornerstone Church in the Town of Batavia. This generated similar objections from church leaders and progressive groups there and prompted the state attorney general to send a letter to tour organizers raising her own concerns about the event.

Opponents have held several protests in Batavia and more are planned during the two-

See **Rally** on Page A5

INDEX

City & Region B1
Classified C6
Comics B8, B9
Crossword C7, C8
Dear Abby B9
Horoscope C8
Letters A7
Lotteries B2
Obituaries B4, B5
Opinion A6
Picture Page B7
Sports C1



WEATHER

Sunny, pleasant. High 77, low 54.
Details on Page B10



\$2.50

To subscribe,
call (716) 842-1111



Business news for the new Buffalo



Sign up for our FREE newsletter
BuffaloNews.com/newsletters

CONTINUED FROM THE COVER

Family is excited to be here, but worried about home

UKRAINE • from A1

There was going to be an invasion.

When Poland stopped providing housing assistance to Ukrainian refugees after three months, Polyak says she took Hreshchyslyn up on her offer to bring Polyak's family to the United States.

"It's really an honor to be able to help as a sponsor," Hreshchyslyn said. "It's a very small contribution, and sort of the least I can do in response to the unbelievable horror that's been unleashed on Ukraine."

The Hreshchyslyn family sponsored the Polyak family through the Biden administration's Uniting for Ukraine program.

Uniting for Ukraine allows 100,000 Ukrainian citizens entry into the United States for a temporary two-year stay under a humanitarian parole status. On July 20, Polyak received approval to enter the United States, and arrived in Buffalo on July 21 with her two daughters and son.

The Polyak family is living in Hreshchyslyn's mother's home in Williamsville. Polyak says she is excited to begin taking English language classes, since she already knows Ukrainian, Polish and German. For now, her daughters translate for Polyak as they know the same three languages, along with English and some Latin.

According to Polyak, her daughters Katrusia, 13, and Anychka, 11, are excited to enter the eighth and sixth grade. The two have already been enrolled into school, along with Polyak's 5-year-old son, Myron, who is entering the first grade.

However, while the family is filled with excitement, they continue to worry about Ukraine.

Their hometown, Lviv, is the largest city in western Ukraine. Before the war, Polyak and her husband worked at a parquet flooring company. She also would help coordinate exhibitions for local artists who were her friends.

Katrusia and Anychka, like most children their ages, did not particularly enjoy school in Ukraine, but had friends there, according to Polyak. Outside of school, Katrusia competed in equestrian competitions, and Anychka



New York Times file photo

Smoke rises from Russian missile strikes in Lviv, Ukraine, hometown of Maryana Polyak, who arrived in Buffalo on July 21 with her two daughters, Katrusia, 13, and Anychka, 11, and son, Myron, 5. Maryana's husband, Dnytro, had to stay behind because men ages 18 to 60 are banned from leaving.

participated in the Ukrainian equivalent of the Girl Scouts.

Those everyday activities ended as Russian-Ukrainian tensions begin rising in February. Polyak and her husband were fearful for their family's safety because their home was adjacent to a military base.

Katrusia says she remembers how one day her parents kept her home from school because of their fears of a war. "When I came down, my parents say, 'You don't go to school because we don't know what will be with Ukraine, what will be with Russia,'" Katrusia said. "I was first worried because I had a test of biology and algebra at school, and I am not good at those, so I was happy."

On Feb. 24, Polyak drove

43 miles through a war zone to the Ukrainian-Polish border with her three children, a nephew and a goddaughter. They waited 16 hours at the border before entering Poland.

As the children finished their school year in Poland, Polyak cared for them alone while she was employed coordinating classes for Ukrainian children at a Polish school.

"With five kids, it was so hard to have money (for them) to go to the school," Polyak said. "My husband and relatives (in Ukraine) said they could not get us money because, at this time, they can't work. All work had stopped."

Now, in the United States, Polyak's family has support from their relatives sponsoring

them. These relatives will have to help Polyak file for documents such as work authorization, a Social Security card and a driver's license.

According to Hreshchyslyn, who is an attorney with a nonprofit for LGBTQIA+ immigrants called Oasis Legal Services, private sponsors can often feel burdened with a heavy load of responsibilities. But they can connect with refugee resettlement agencies for help supporting Ukrainians like Polyak's family.

Polyak says that she already has scheduled an appointment with Jewish Family Services of Western New York, one of the five refugee agencies in Buffalo.

Polyak's family also has found a welcoming Ukrai-

nian community in Buffalo and compare it to a "Little Ukraine." They regularly attend events at Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center on Genesee Street, and are looking forward to its Celebration of Ukrainian American Day on Aug. 28. At St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church on Fillmore Avenue, the family participates in traditional Ukrainian Masses.

It helps that their cousin Yuri Hreshchyslyn is the president of the Buffalo chapter of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, according to Polyak.

Looking at the next two years, Polyak says she is unsure of what may happen. The U.S. government has not announced what will happen to Ukrainian citizens after their

two-year stay under humanitarian parole status.

Polyak says that she worries for her husband, who is still in Ukraine as "terrorists" kill Ukrainians and their children.

Her husband is helping citizens escape from eastern Ukraine — where most of the fighting has taken place — to the west. Her husband has shared that some of his nights are spent crouching in a basement as air raid sirens blare for several hours.

"We very wish my husband was here with us. It is very confusing alone with three children. It is very hard. I wish our family was complete," she said. Until then, Polyak remains hopeful to return to Ukraine and have her family unite once again.

Heavy losses leave Russia short of its goal, U.S. officials say

BY HELENE COOPER
NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The staggeringly high rate of Russian casualties in Ukraine means that President Vladimir Putin may not be able to achieve one of his key war objectives: seizing the entire eastern region of the country this year, officials in the Biden administration and military experts say.

With 500 Russian troops killed or wounded every day,

according to the latest estimate by U.S. intelligence and military officials, Russia's war effort has decelerated to a grinding slog, the officials said.

Russia's glacial pace in the east has been further stymied by the arrival of American multiple-launch rocket systems, which have allowed Ukrainian troops to take back some territory and made it more difficult for Russian soldiers to reach other areas.

Earlier this summer, Rus-

sian forces captured the Luhansk region of Ukraine, the easternmost part of the country. But in neighboring Donetsk, their progress has stalled, in no small part because of heavy casualties, U.S. military officials said.

"I think it's safe to suggest that the Russians have probably taken 70,000 or 80,000 casualties in less than six months," Colin Kahl, the undersecretary of defense for policy, told reporters at the Pen-

tagon on Monday, referring to deaths and injuries.

"They have made some incremental gains in the east, although not very much in the last couple of weeks, but that has come at extraordinary cost to the Russian military because of how well the Ukrainian military has performed and all the assistance the Ukrainian military has gotten."

Two U.S. officials said that estimate of Russia's losses included about 20,000 deaths.

Of that number, 5,000 are believed to be mercenaries from the Wagner Group, a private force with ties to Putin, and foreign fighters, one of the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because she was not authorized to discuss sensitive military assessments.

U.S. officials say their casualty estimates are based on satellite imagery, communication intercepts, social media and on-the-ground media reports.

NP NORTH PARK
MEMBERSHIP

BASED ON THE NOVEL OF
INHALE DE RAJ ZAR
1st & 2nd FLOOR
11:00AM-7:00PM 1st floor
11:00AM-10:00PM 2nd floor

WINE & SPIRITS
LIVING WINE
Daily 4:00 to 8:00
Mon-Sat 9-5

MILOH
Daily 7:00-10:00
Mon-Sat 9-5

BACK TO THE DRIVE-IN
11:00AM-11:00PM
THE MIGHTY DUCKS
(FREE SCREENING)

WINE & SPIRITS
DRAGON BALL SUPPER
SUPER HERO (DIN)
11:00AM-11:00PM

1428 Hertel Ave. Buffalo, NY 14216
716-836-7411
www.northparkbuffalo.org



GUTTER SOLUTIONS
OF LAKE ERIE

166 Lake St. Hamburg, NY 14075

SUMMER SALE!
GET READY & PROTECTED NOW!

50% OFF INSTALL
LABOR

For a Limited Time Only...



Featuring Klean Gutter with Surgical Stainless Steel Micromesh Technology.
Lifetime No-Clog Guarantee.

Standard, Heated & Half-Round Gutters...
Soffit & Fascia too!

Call Now
716-815-7543

Good on new estimates only \$1000 jobs or more. Not valid with any other offers. Valid through 8/31/22.