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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXXIII

No. 50

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2005

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Famine-Genocide exhibit in Kyiv features U.S. investor's collection

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Among the biggest contributors to the Famine-Genocide exhibit unveiled by President Viktor Yushchenko in Kyiv two weeks ago was Morgan Williams, a prominent Ukrainophile.

Mr. Williams spent the last eight years

Ukrainian society.

Posters became a popular form of Holodomor art between 1988 and 1993 largely because the industry that churned out the massive volumes of Soviet propaganda went bankrupt after the Soviet Union's collapse. With production means still intact and a cultural void to fill, poster artists began creating art about the



Zenon Zawada

Investor Morgan Williams stands next to one of four paintings by Nina Marchenko in his Holodomor artwork collection, which was exhibited in Kyiv's Ukrayinskyi Dim between November 23 and 29.

accumulating and organizing what is now the world's largest known private collection of Holodomor artwork. His collection consists of 300 items, including more than 100 posters and 35 paintings.

Having spent 25 years in international food system development, Mr. Williams said he was deeply affected when he began learning the details about the Holodomor.

His first trip to Ukraine was in 1992 and by 1995 all his professional work involved Ukraine, including investing and consulting.

"There were no photos from the Famine, and no one was allowed to write, publish, or paint anything about this up until 1988," Mr. Williams said. "The suppression of facts that took place is amazing, and everything exposing it was done outside of Ukraine."

Mr. Williams' exhibit was displayed between November 23 and 28 on the second floor of the Ukrayinskyi Dim on European Square in Kyiv. Mr. Yushchenko opened "The Bells of Remembrance" exhibit on its first day.

Among those pieces of artwork from his collection that most impressed the president, Mr. Williams said, was a poster titled, "And We Watched and Kept Silent." It portrays a black crow with red eyes picking at a red thread in Ukrainian embroidery, symbolizing death picking apart the fabric of

Chornobyl disaster and the Holodomor of 1932-1933, Mr. Williams said.

Another poster impressing Mr. Yushchenko featured the slogan, "No One Wanted to Die" against a blue-and-yellow background, with wheat fields and crosses portrayed in the bottom half.

Mr. Williams' collection featured a lot of diaspora poster art, including two postcards printed in 1935 by Ukrainians in Germany. "It was the first visual expression of Ukrainian protesting the famine," he said of the postcards, which he found the postcards in a Ukrainian museum in Connecticut.

Other diaspora items included a program cover from a 1983 commemoration event organized by the Winnipeg branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee (today known as the Ukrainian Canadian Congress), as well as a poster announcing the October 2, 1983 demonstration in Washington. With between 15,000 and 20,000 in attendance, the manifestation became one of the largest gatherings of Ukrainian Americans in history.

Among the most recognizable paintings in Mr. Williams' collection were those of Viktor Zaretskyi, the husband of murdered Soviet dissident Alla Horska; Kyiv artist Nina Marchenko, who painted

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Melnychenko returns to Ukraine, testifies in secret to prosecutor

by Yana Sedova
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — After a five-year exile, Mykola Melnychenko returned to his native Ukraine, where he caused an international scandal by releasing secret recordings of top government officials, which he made as a former security officer of President Leonid Kuchma's.

During his first week in Ukraine, Mr. Melnychenko became a media sensation, drawing a hoard of reporters when his plane touched down at Boryspil Airport on December 1.

In his only other distinguishing act, he arrived at the Procurator General's Office to provide secret testimony.

He returned to Ukraine with fellow U.S. asylum winner Oleksander Yeliashkevych, a former Verkhovna Rada deputy and victim of former President Leonid Kuchma's regime. Mr. Yeliashkevych was severely beaten in Kyiv in 2002.

On the Melnychenko tapes, a voice similar to Mr. Kuchma's proposes giving the maverick politician a beating to Hryhorii Surkis, an owner of the Dynamo Kyiv soccer club.

The main purpose of their return is to ensure that "Kuchma and his criminal group are punished," Mr. Yeliashkevych said.

However, he said he and Mr. Melnychenko did not bring any additional documents that might help in the Heorhii Gongadze investigation and added that the Procurator General's Office (PGO) already has all the materials.

Moreover, at a December 5 press conference, Mr. Melnychenko didn't make any revealing statements and gave obscure answers to all questions.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn became the main target of Mr. Melnychenko's accusations.

"Lytvyn often states that he hadn't a single motive and that Gongadze wasn't dangerous to him," he said. "I stress that Lytvyn had personal motivations to hate Gongadze." Mr. Melnychenko said personal relations with a woman motivated Mr. Lytvyn, however he didn't offer any names.

At the press conference, Mr. Melnychenko also ran into his former colleagues, his fellow colleagues who used to work with him at the Presidential Administration's Security Service.

They were there to attack and discredit him, alleging that Mr. Melnychenko had no possibility to install any recording device in Mr. Kuchma's office.

Moreover, not a single person could have entered the president's office alone in accordance with the Security Service's strict instructions, said Volodymyr Kosariev, the former deputy commander at the Presidential Administration. Therefore, another security official always accompanied Mr. Melnychenko always, he said. If he truly made the recordings, it was as part of a conspiracy, Mr. Kosariev stated.

"When Melnychenko worked here, just imagine how they went in," Mr. Kosariev said. "One person stood in the doorway, and Melnychenko went in once

(Continued on page 4)

UNA leader Tekla Moroz dies

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Tekla Moroz, honorary member of the Ukrainian National Association's General Assembly and longtime UNA leader, died on December 6. She was 78.

The announcement of her death was made by the UNA Executive Committee.

Mrs. Moroz was born on April 22, 1927, in Riacic, Poland. After emigrating to Canada, she resided in Lachine, Quebec.

She was a stalwart UNA activist, serving concurrently as secretary of UNA Branch 465 and chairperson of the Montreal District Committee since 1968 until her death.

She was a UNA supreme advisor from 1974 to 2002, and then was elected an honorary member of the UNA General Assembly in recognition of her contributions to the fraternal organization.

Mrs. Moroz was predeceased by her husband, Joseph. Surviving are her children, Bohdan and Halyna.



Tekla Moroz

ANALYSIS

Russian intransigence overshadows annual meeting of the OSCE

by Roland Eggleston
RFE/RL Newline

A meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) ended on December 6 without a final document, following Russian objections to a passage concerning its troops in Moldova's breakaway Transdnister region. But delegations appeared satisfied that the foreign ministers meeting in Ljubljana had produced results that will go into effect – even without the formal approval of the conference.

In listing the conference's achievements, diplomats gave prominent place to an agreement that should help defuse some Russian criticisms about operations of the OSCE's human rights division.

The two-day conference had opened amid Russian concerns about the organization's election-monitoring activities in former Soviet countries.

But it was another issue altogether that took center stage at the Ljubljana conference, which for the third year in a row ended with a statement by the group's chairman rather than a text formally approved by all 55 member-states.

Diplomats have told RFE/RL that the draft final document failed to win Russian approval largely due to a paragraph referring to the presence of Russian military forces in Moldova's breakaway province of Transdnister. Russia has yet to withdraw its troops from Transdnister, despite having pledged in the summer of 1999 to do so gradually by the end of 2002. The OSCE hailed that pledge in the declaration adopted at its summit in Istanbul in November 1999.

U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns addressed that issue at a news conference on December 6 in Ljubljana. "We regret the continued lack of movement in 2005 on the withdrawal of Russian military forces from Moldova, and we call upon the Russian Federation to use its vast influence in the region to resume and complete that important work," he said. "This would also send an important signal to the separatist regime in Tiraspol that a status quo which they may find convenient will not last forever."

Diplomats said that while Russia had doubts about some of the other 22 paragraphs in the draft Ljubljana document, its veto of that document was sparked by one passage: "The foreign ministers of the OSCE note the lack of movement in 2005 on withdrawal of Russian forces from Moldova. They reaffirmed their shared determination to promote the fulfillment of that commitment as soon as possible."

Earlier that day, Mr. Burns had linked Moldova to U.S. approval of new agreement on conventional weapons. The proposed agreement says individual countries have the right to decide whether they want foreign troops on their territory or not. He said both Moldova and Georgia had made clear that they do not want Russian troops on their territory.

Slovenian Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, the outgoing OSCE chairman in office, concluded that "It is unfortunate that after six years we are still debating the 1999 Istanbul commitments on the withdrawal of Russian forces from Moldova."

However, there were signs of progress

elsewhere.

The OSCE feels it played a role in progress made this year on the withdrawal of Russian military forces in Georgia. One diplomat told journalists, "It's ever so slow, but at least there are hints of movement."

The OSCE also believes it can take some credit for improvement in another slow-moving negotiation – the long-running dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh. The OSCE has long been involved in efforts to negotiate a settlement. Other players have now been brought into the negotiations.

The two-day gathering also appeared to offer an interim solution to Russian concerns about the OSCE's Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), which, among other things, runs election-monitoring operations.

Complaints by Moscow that OSCE election monitoring in places like Belarus, Ukraine and Georgia were biased led Russia to temporarily block the organization's budget this year.

Speaking to reporters on December 5, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov voiced some of Russia's concerns: "As far as the core area [of OSCE activities] is concerned, an area that provokes the most heated discussions, and that is election monitoring, it is absolutely necessary to introduce clear and transparent principles and methods with respect to the composition of observer missions and the appointment of their leaders."

But the next day Mr. Lavrov said Moscow could live with a compromise deal on monitoring.

This month, the ODIHR will conduct an intensive review of what it does and consider whether some of its practices could be improved or changed. At the end of the year, the ODIHR will present its recommendations to the OSCE foreign ministers, who will then decide what changes are needed.

Diplomats in Ljubljana concede that this sets the stage for confrontation next year between pro-ODIHR states and those who oppose its methods. But it did satisfy Russia for the time being.

Most diplomats credit Mr. Rupel for creating a new atmosphere in the organization over the last year. Above all, his frequent trips to Moscow and consultations with the Russians are said to have played a major role in recently lifting the veto on the budget.

Mr. Rupel also satisfied Russian demands for a revision of the contributions made by the 55 member-states to the OSCE budget. The outcome is that Russia will pay less, and the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Italy will pay more into the budget.

In his closing address on December 6, Rupel outlined some of the tasks facing Belgium as it takes over the OSCE chairmanship for the next year. He said the OSCE will have to capitalize on the work done this year in Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Nagorno-Karabakh. He strongly urged the government of Kyrgyzstan to expedite constitutional reform, saying, "this was a promise made to the Kyrgyz people and in many ways is a cornerstone of lasting stability."

Speaking about his own region, he said the role of the OSCE in the western Balkans will remain important. He also called on the OSCE to help Serbia achieve a clear European perspective.

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukraine combats bird-flu outbreak

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on December 3 declared a state of emergency in five villages on the Crimean Peninsula after the Agricultural Ministry had identified the H5 subtype of bird-flu virus that reportedly killed more than 2,500 domestic birds in the area, Ukrainian and international media reported. The government sent Internal Affairs Ministry troops to the area, which has been subject to quarantine. Soldiers wearing clothing and masks culled domestic birds in the affected villages and trucked them away for disposal in specially excavated pits. According to local villagers, a mysterious disease has been killing their birds for more than a month, the Financial Times reported on December 4. The infection outbreak occurred near the Syvash Bay, a marshy lagoon next to the Azov Sea where birds stop over each autumn as they migrate between Russia and Africa. (RFE/RL Newline)

Over 22,000 head of poultry killed

KYIV – In three districts in Crimea, work has continued to remove and destroy poultry in populated places where cases of highly pathogenic bird flu were established. According to the Emergency Ministry press service, as of 7 a.m. on December 6, a total of 22,118 head of poultry were sacrificed in several villages in Sovietskiy, Dzhankoiyskiy and Nyzhnehorskiy districts. So far, no bird flu episodes have been registered in Crimea's other districts and no individuals have been infected. (Ukrinform)

President fires top veterinarian

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on December 5 announced the sacking of Petro Verbytskyi, Ukraine's chief veterinarian, for the latter's inability to react in a timely manner to an outbreak of bird flu in Crimea, Ukrainian news media reported. Mr. Yushchenko was visiting one of the several Crimean villages subject to quarantine last week in connection with the flu outbreak. However, villagers have reportedly complained that their birds had been dying since September with officials taking no action. "Today, the issue is absolutely under control," President Yushchenko said in Crimea. "The birds are being destroyed and by December 12 all residents, first of all children, will be vaccinated." Russia and

Belarus on December 5 banned poultry imports from Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newline)

PM upbeat on gas talks with Russia

KYIV – Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov told journalists on November 29 that there will be progress "soon" in Ukrainian-Russian talks on Russian gas transit across Ukraine and Russian gas supplies to Ukraine in 2006, Reuters reported. Mr. Yekhanurov's words followed Gazprom's accusations on November 28 that Kyiv is sabotaging the talks by insisting on prices far below European market levels. "As far as we are concerned, the talks are proceeding normally. If someone is getting excited, that's his problem. Russia is making proposals, as is Ukraine. The gap in the positions is closing," Mr. Yekhanurov said. Meanwhile, Gazprom deputy head Aleksandr Medvedev told journalists on November 30 that Gazprom has proposed a "compromise" price for Russian gas supplies to Ukraine in 2006: \$160 per 1,000 cubic meters, up from \$50 per 1,000 cubic meters in 2005, Interfax-Ukraine reported. "If we had proposed a European-level price for gas as of January 1, it would have been significantly higher than \$160," Mr. Medvedev said. (RFE/RL Newline)

Ukraine willing to pay more for gas

KYIV – Ukraine has offered to pay a higher price for some of the gas that Russia supplies to the country in 2006, Interfax reported on December 7, quoting Valerii Yazev, chairman of the State Duma's Energy, Transport and Communications Committee. According to Mr. Yazev, Ukraine wants Russia to supply 25 billion cubic meters of gas in 2006, including 17 billion cubic meters for the current barter price of \$50 per 1,000 cubic meters. Mr. Yazev added that Ukraine is offering to buy the remaining 8 billion cubic meters at a price that would gradually rise over the course of the year from the \$80-\$82 currently paid to \$90-\$96 per 1,000 cubic meters. Ukraine now pays \$80 per 1,000 cubic meters of gas supplied by Gazprom outside the existing barter scheme, which involves Russian gas transit to Europe. The Ukrainian president's press service announced on December 6 that Mr.

(Continued on page 4)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

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

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

Postmaster, send address changes to:
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
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The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com; e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, December 11, 2005, No. 50, Vol. LXXIII
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DAY OF MEMORY: Citizens of Ukraine share recollections of famines

Following are accounts of famines in Ukraine as given by witnesses who attended the Holodomor commemoration in Kyiv on November 26, officially designated as the Day of Memory for Victims of Famines and Political Repressions. The accounts are edited excerpts prepared by Zenon Zawada of The Ukrainian Weekly's Kyiv Press Bureau with the assistance of Yana Sedova.

Leonida Vovnenko, born in 1930, from Mohyliv Podilskyi, Vinnytsia Oblast, spoke first of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 and then the famine of 1947:

My mother didn't believe that I remembered this conversation. [My parents told me]: stay home and don't open the door. No matter what they say or offer, don't open the door. And I remember how women and men would stand beneath our windows and say, "Girl, open up! We've brought you a doll."

Why? Because there was cannibalism in the Vinnytsia region. I was twice pulled out of the hands of those who hunted children. Why did I stay at home alone? Because my father worked and my mother stood in a line at night to get "maloyem," a sort of bread, and nobody knew in what shop people would get it. My mother spent days waiting on lines to get this maloyem to feed us.

There were two of us: my brother went to school and I stayed home. My father swelled up [from hunger]. He was a self-taught artist. He worked in a government institution, however, we had neither money nor bread to survive.

One relative died in the morning and his wife died in the afternoon. Relatives would come together to attend a funeral. Mother said whoever she looked at, they all were so frightful – blue and green – and their faces were covered with moss. Our father, compared to them, was white and chubby. What saved us was that father got a job in the military and could work for food. Once a week, they let him go home and what he could save, he brought home.

When I was 12 years old, I heard my parents talk about the Famine. This happened during the war. People came together and dared to talk about the events they survived. They said that in Mohyliv market, women sold meat dishes. Our neighbor said: "I know taste of human meat, and it's very tasty." [He knew this because] he used to buy meat at the market from the same woman. And one day he showed up and she wasn't there. He asked, "Where is Kateryna?" And he was told that police took Kateryna away. He asked, "Why?" [They replied that] somebody ate [what she sold] and found half a human finger in the meat slop.

People would speak more about what difficult years they had, but nobody would speak about this aloud. When the war was over, I worked at school for 40 years, but nobody ever raised this subject. This topic was forbidden above all, and we were afraid to speak about it because we didn't know whether we would lose our jobs.

I also survived another famine in 1947. I remember this because I witnessed it; I was 17 years old. You know, people were so emaciated, so hungry and thin, and their faces had a green-gray color. We survived because we went to the Dnister River and gathered snails. Because of these snails, people survived until the summer.

At that time, we were given bread rations. As a schoolgirl, I received 500 grams of bread. Those who worked also got 500 grams of bread. Those who didn't work got 300 grams of bread. There

was always a lack of bread. There were four of us; three of us brought 500 grams of bread each – almost two kilograms, yet it was gone all at once. We were very hungry.

I told [my children] about this. However, they were brought up in Soviet times and they perceived this as propaganda. For the history of our people and our nation, the [young generations] must know all its pages, both heroic and tragic. This [experience] formed our independence, the struggle for our state and our nation, because it was an artificial famine to destroy Ukrainians. I stress the word "Ukrainians" because in the town where I grew up, half or even 70 percent [of the population] were Jews and they didn't starve. None of them were begging for bread, none of them were swollen, and none among them in 1947 were so green and gray as Ukrainians. I am not afraid to speak about this. This is a cry from the heart that my parents gave me.

Ivan Fedyk, born 1938, from Pochaiv, Ternopil Oblast, remembered the famine of 1947 and offered his observations on the earlier Holodomor:

We had a family of 12 people. My father was drafted into the army. My mother was alone with us, 10 children. We had to eat something. We ate pigweed; we ate sorrel, nettles. That is how we survived – 10 children. I don't remember 1933, but I remember 1947 well. I was 9 years old, so I remember what I ate.

The Communists forbade everything. There was no literature, we didn't know our history, the real one that is. Now during these last 15 years, we started to learn our real history.

[As regards the Famine-Genocide], there was a harvest in Ukraine that year [1932] and, if you read history, [you know] the harvest was rich. People could have fed themselves with it. But bread was taken away from all people, even beans – everything that they had.

The world doesn't know that a father killed his son, a daughter killed her mother and [people] ate each other. This is what people were reduced to. And the U.N. doesn't want to acknowledge this. It was a real genocide. It was done wittingly so as to destroy the Ukrainian people.

Nadia Lebedieva, born in 1938, from Pidhirtsi, Kyiv Oblast, recalled what she had heard about the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933:

I don't remember the Famine, but I never knew my grandfathers or grandmothers. We had a neighbor, and she had five children and a husband. Only Hrysha survived, and Baba Dunia. My father's brothers all died. And this is only in our family. Mother said there was a rich harvest. If somebody says that people didn't want to sow seeds, that's a lie.

My mother said that grandfather died on Easter Day, 1934. My grandfather lived until spring. There were green plants already, but it looked like he died from appendicitis.

[The Soviet authorities] took grain from a pile in a storage chamber. And in spring they burnt it – they poured kerosene and lit it on fire. People climbed that pile and began grasping at this grain because they were hungry, and they died at this pile.

That's what my mother, Halyna Ostapenko, told me.

When she told us these things, we didn't understand them and couldn't imagine them. And what did our schools offer? Devotion to communism, devotion to the Komsomol, and the [Communist] Party and so on. It was an absolute education devised for people not to remem-

ber their history.

Mother used to tell us this, but we never listened. Later, when people started to talk about it, I remembered. The Ukrainian people have this fear of famine that's reached a genetic level. People to this day say: "Whatever it is, let it never be worse, let it never be a famine."

Hanna Tarasenko, born in 1942, from Stovpiah, Kyiv Oblast, spoke about what she knew of the Holodomor of 1932-1933:

My mother told me that her sister's family died – all five members. She died 15 years ago. When I started to understand everything, she told me. My sister, Hanna Bova, also died. My mother was

authorities] decided it would be better to exterminate them. All knew about this, but were afraid to tell. It was only about 10 or 15 years ago that people started to talk about this openly.

Tetiana Prykhodko, born in 1947, from Davydky, Zhytomyr Oblast, recalled what her mother had told her about the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933:

My mother told me she was very small during the Famine. She spoke of how neighbors took everything from them and how people starved. Their neighbors had many children and they had food, but she had nothing to eat. Once the neighbor came into their house and there was something cooked in the oven. And he ate this food and didn't even give it to his

People to this day say: "Whatever it is, let it never be worse, let it never be a famine."

given a piece of bread and they cooked a soup with one potato. She ate this soup and brought a piece of bread home for her mother to eat because my grandmother's feet swelled from starvation.

[The Communists] walked on the plots with iron pikes and drove them into the ground where the ground was smooth. There were potatoes there and they took them out.

It was genocide perpetrated against the Ukrainian people so as to destroy them. First of all, they didn't want people to live in the villages. There was private property there. People had their own land and they used to farm the land.

In 1932 or 1933, as my mother told me, people were forced to go to collective farms when they didn't want to go there of their own accord. The confrontation with people was so fierce that [the

children because he was so hungry. They didn't die from starvation, but it was very difficult during those times.

My mother and her siblings were orphans. There were three of them; they were in poor health. When they were children, they needed proper nutrition. Mother said they were sick for a long time; maybe that affected them so much that they died at a young age – less than 50 years old.

[People should remember] because if a man doesn't remember what was, he doesn't have a future. We must learn from our mistakes. History was my favorite subject, but there was nothing about famine. Even if it was mentioned, it was one sentence and it was attributed to a bad harvest. As we later found out, there was a harvest. All the history textbooks should be rewritten.

Fire destroys wooden chapel at patriarchal cathedral complex

by Olga Bondaruk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Arson reduced to ashes a wooden chapel at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ under construction on the left bank of the Dnipro River, police said on December 6.

The fire was set inside the 538-square-foot chapel on November 19 between 5 and 6 a.m. A security guard immediately called police and firemen, but the chapel's wood burned quickly, and none of its contents could be saved. Only its concrete and steel foundation remained.

"The guard had apparently fallen asleep," said Volodymyr Polischuk, the head of the Kyiv Department of Information of Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The cathedral, future headquarters of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, was the site of controversy on August 21 when more than 800 Russian Orthodox radicals protested the move of the Church's seat from St. George Cathedral in Lviv to Kyiv.

Prior to the fire, the chapel served as a place of worship where priests conducted divine liturgies.

The chapel's altar, carved icons, vestments, liturgical books and other religious items were burned. Losses were

estimated at more than \$20,000 according to church officials.

In their first search, police found a Bible lying beyond the fence and saw that valuables had been stolen from the chapel, Mr. Polishchuk said.

They also found heavily burned spots on the chapel floor as if fuel had been spilled there, he said. Police have opened a criminal investigation and are searching for the arsonists, Mr. Polishchuk said.

But, since "neither the guard, nor other witnesses can give clear testimonies, the investigation process is facing major obstacles," he said. No one has been apprehended thus far.

When worshippers learned of the fire, they cried, said Brother Andrii, a priest at the chapel.

On August 21, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, leader of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, had celebrated a divine liturgy attended by more than 1,000 faithful to mark the move of the Church's headquarters to Kyiv.

This drew massive protests in which Orthodox radicals heckled, insulted and scuffled with Catholics in a failed attempt to intimidate and prevent the divine liturgy from starting. Among the invectives hurled were "Uniates Back to

(Continued on page 4)

Leader of Ukrainian community in Kazakhstan visits the U.S.

by Serhiy Zhykharev

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – One of the leaders of the Ukrainian community in Kazakhstan, Mykhailo Parypsa, visited Washington on Wednesday, November 9. Mr. Parypsa heads the Association of Ukrainians in Kazakhstan and the Taras Shevchenko Cultural Society, as well as serves as deputy head of the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council for the Eastern Diaspora. He is also a member of the Assembly of Peoples of Kazakhstan, a consultative organ to the president of Kazakhstan.

Mr. Parypsa arrived in the U.S. at the invitation of the Council on Defense and Assistance to Ukrainians of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA). During his visit, Mr. Parypsa visited numerous Ukrainian communities in the United States, where he informed Ukrainian Americans about the life of the Ukrainian community in Kazakhstan and thanked the community for its valuable moral and sizeable financial assistance in constructing Ukrainian churches in Pavlodar and Astana, as well as opening a Saturday Ukrainian school and Ukrainian civic center in Kazakhstan.

During his visit to Washington, Mr. Parypsa met with the deputy chief of mission of the Kazakh Embassy in the United States, Talgat Kaliev. During their conversation, Mr. Parypsa informed Mr. Kaliev about the life of the Ukrainian community in Kazakhstan and inquired about the life of the Kazakh community in the United States.

The meeting participants discussed possibilities for cooperation between the Embassy of Kazakhstan in the U.S. and the Ukrainian community in Kazakhstan. Mr. Parypsa emphasized that the Ukrainian community feels very welcome in Kazakhstan and has great plans for the future. In turn, Mr. Kaliev assured that the active participation of the Kazakh government and President

Nursultan Nazarbaev in the life of ethnic minorities in Kazakhstan will continue.

While visiting the Embassy of Ukraine, Mr. Parypsa met with Natalya Holub, second secretary. Meeting participants discussed cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and Ukrainian communities in the Eastern diaspora.

Mr. Parypsa expressed satisfaction with the recent decision of the government of Ukraine to make the Foreign Affairs Ministry responsible for contacts and cooperation with Ukrainians abroad. The presence of diplomatic missions of Ukraine in the countries of residence of Ukrainian communities will facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Ukrainian government and the Ukrainian diaspora.

Mrs. Holub also expressed confidence that the new department in the Foreign Ministry will make such cooperation much closer and more effective. She also stated that the government of Ukraine understands the importance of cooperation with Ukrainians in the Eastern diaspora, who face financial difficulties and are currently at the stage of forming a structure of organizations that would allow Ukrainians to preserve their heritage and develop strong contacts with Ukraine.

Mr. Parypsa mentioned several possibilities for Ukraine's assistance to the community in Kazakhstan. In particular, he mentioned the creation of a museum dedicated to former political prisoners in the USSR. He reported that the extremely valuable KGB archives that contain information on political prisoners who served their sentences in Kazakhstan, including those from Ukraine, are now stored without supervision and irreplaceable documents may soon be lost forever.

The Voice of America (VOA) also interviewed Mr. Parypsa in its studios in Washington. The interview centered on the role of the Ukrainian community in Kazakhstan and the current political situ-

tion for violation of his universal right to be elected. However, he said he refused to take the compensation.

Despite his rock-star-like arrival, Mr. Melnychenko will hardly play any significant role in the parliamentary election campaign of 2006, said Mykhailo Pohrebynskyi, chair of the Center for Political Research and Conflict Studies, which is funded by Russian banks and private Ukrainian organizations. "He considers himself a gambler on the political stage and overestimates himself," Mr. Pohrebynskyi said.

Discrediting Mr. Lytvyn, who is among those suspected of ordering the Gongadze murder, could be the real reason behind Mr. Melnychenko's return to Ukraine, Mr. Pohrebynskyi said.

Despite the fact that Mr. Melnychenko denied that he sold his tapes to anybody, Mr. Pohrebynskyi alleged he definitely sold his recordings, without mentioning to whom.

Russian billionaire Boris Berezovsky, who is exiled in London, claimed earlier this year that he had bought some of Mr. Melnychenko's recordings. "There were many Ukrainian secrets (on the tapes)," he said. "If we had a democratic state, prison would be the only future for him."

Andrii Shkil, a national deputy and close associate of Yulia Tymoshenko, escorted Mr. Melnychenko and Mr. Yeliashkevych during their flight from Moscow to Kyiv on December 1.

Mr. Shkil explained this as a personal initiative to provide security to Mr. Yeliashkevych, who didn't obtain such security from the Ukrainian government.



Mykhailo Parypsa (second from right) of Kazakhstan at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington with (from left) Volodymyr Samofalov, Michael Sawkiw, Natalya Holub and Peter Paluch.

ation in Ukraine and how the new Ukrainian government is helping Ukrainians outside of Ukraine.

Lastly, in a day filled with constructive meetings, Mr. Parypsa met with Susan Quatrone, a legislative assistant to Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.), whom he informed about the life of the Ukrainian community in Kazakhstan. He also underscored the misrepresentation of President Nazarbaev in the Western media; his image in the media is often negative, which is not true, Mr. Parypsa said.

The Ukrainian community of Kazakhstan, he noted, is taking an active part in preparations for the presidential election in Kazakhstan scheduled for this December. Mr. Parypsa touched also on the topic of the political prisoners museum and asked that Rep. Pascrell spearhead the campaign in support of the museum's creation. Ms. Quatrone expressed confidence that this issue will find moral support in the Congress and promised to pass all details of the discussion on to Rep. Pascrell.

Fire destroys...

(Continued from page 3)

Lviv," "Catholics Back to Rome" and "Fascists" Some of the protesters had even arrived from other cities, such as Donetsk.

Several hundred police officers stood around the construction site to prevent a violent conflict, which would have likely occurred.

Cardinal Husar, who is major archbishop of the UGCC and metropolitan of Kyiv-Halych, has lived in an apartment in Kyiv since the events of August 21.

The fire will not delay the construction of the patriarchal cathedral, which the Church hopes to complete by 2008, Brother Andrii said. Meanwhile, plans are also under way to restore the burned chapel.

Ukrainian Catholics want a place to pray and have already expressed their willingness to work and provide funds to restore the burned chapel, Cardinal Husar

said on November 23.

"We are deeply grateful to those who understand the need to have a place of prayer and to those who are ready to help," Cardinal Husar said in a statement. He said he expects reconstruction will begin in spring 2006.

Worshippers had originally built the chapel in 2003 at their own expense.

Now, priests conduct divine liturgies at the site from a temporary wagon placed on the foundation of the destroyed chapel.

"It's very inconvenient for the worshippers," said Father Oleksa Petriv, a spokesman for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kyiv.

Despite the inconvenience, believers continue to attend the liturgies in the wagon with the hope they will soon replace the chapel.

"My spirit grieves when people do these kinds of things," said Tetiana Tkach, 43, a Ukrainian Catholic attending divine liturgy on December 3.

Melnychenko...

(Continued from page 1)

every three days or even once a week. Tell me, how could he have put a recorder under the couch (by himself)?"

However, Mr. Melnychenko refuted the statement and said he "personally put a recorder under a couch (in Mr. Kuchma's office) and took it from that place."

One conspiracy theory that has resurfaced has it that the recordings must have been ordered by unknown political forces, either in Ukraine or Russia, so as to discredit Mr. Kuchma.

However, Mr. Melnychenko reasserted that nobody ordered him to tape the conversations. "Not a single country, special service or a physical person asked or ordered me to document Kuchma's crimes," he said.

Mr. Melnychenko also stated he has no intention of taking in parliamentary elections to the Verkhovna Rada next year. He said he has no desire to be in the Verkhovna Rada and see the face of Mr. Lytvyn or any of the other national deputies for that matter.

Mr. Melnychenko failed to win a deputy's mandate during the 2002 election campaign because the Central Election Committee denied his registration as a candidate from the Socialist Party of Ukraine.

On October 19, 2004, the European Court of Human Rights ordered the Ukrainian government to give Mr. Melnychenko \$5,000 in moral compensa-

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Yushchenko plans to hold a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Russian gas supplies, but no further official report on the issue has been released. (RFE/RL Newline)

Court suspends PGO appointment

KYIV – The Pecherskyi District Court in Kyiv on December 5 suspended President Viktor Yushchenko's decree appointing Oleksander Medvedko as the country's procurator-general, Ukrainian news media reported. The ruling followed a lawsuit filed by former Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun, who was fired by Mr. Yushchenko in October and won a case for his reinstatement before the Shevchenkivskyi District Court in Kyiv in November. Justice

Minister Serhii Holovaty, acting on behalf of the president, has filed an appeal against the Shevchenkivskyi District Court's ruling. The Procurator General's Office (PGO) said on December 5 that the latest ruling in favor of Mr. Piskun was illegitimate, adding that it was made with "gross and manifest violations" of Ukraine's Code of Administrative Judicial Practice. The PGO also said it will appeal the ruling. (RFE/RL Newline)

Internal passports OK for travel to Russia

KYIV – During 2006 Ukrainian citizens may travel to Russia with their internal passports, Borys Bazylevskyi, director of the Consular Service Department of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, told journalists on November 22. He said an agreement to this effect was reached at Ukrainian-Russian negotiations in October. (Ukrinform)



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA branch secretary elected to New Britain City Council

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. – Adam Platosz, secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 254, was elected to the New Britain City Council on November 8.

He was nominated on September 12 at a special meeting of the New Britain Town Committee to fill a vacancy in Ward 2 for alderman to represent Districts 2, 3 and 6.

Mr. Platosz was very excited to hear that he won election to the City Council. He has been on the Democratic Town Committee since 1986 and has been city alderman from 1989 to 1993. He's also been a justice of the peace since 1985 and is the recipient of a Public Safety Award.

Mr. Platosz's town, New Britain, is home to the Taras Shevchenko Highway (Route 9).

Mr. Platosz is known in the Ukrainian community as a member of St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian Club, and as a former president of the local branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM).



Adam Platosz

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 369

Please be advised that Branch 369 had merged with Branch 137 as of December 1, 2005. All inquires and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Katherine Sargent.

Mrs. Katherine Sargent
2330 Park Ave.
Easton, PA 18045-2811
(610) 252-3289

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 318

Please be advised that Branch 318 had merged with Branch 137 as of December 1, 2005. All inquires and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Katherine Sargent.

Mrs. Katherine Sargent
2330 Park Ave.
Easton, PA 18045-2811
(610) 252-3289

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 47

As of December 1, 2005, the secretary's duties of Branch 47 were assumed by Mrs. Oksana Koziak.

We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

Mrs. Oksana Koziak
1930 Greenleaf St.
Bethlehem, PA 18017
(610) 867-4052

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 438

Please be advised that Branch 438 had merged with Branch 137 as of December 1, 2005. All inquires and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Katherine Sargent.

Mrs. Katherine Sargent
2330 Park Ave.
Easton, PA 18045-2811
(610) 252-3289

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 184

As of December 1, 2005, the secretary's duties of Branch 184 were assumed by Mr. Andrew W. Lastowecky.

We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

Mr. Andrew W. Lastowecky
210 Clinton Ave., Apt. 5C
Brooklyn, NY 11205-3428
(212) 475-1547

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 472

As of December 1, 2005, the secretary's duties of Branch 472 were assumed by Mr. Roman Zajac.

We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

Mr. Roman Zajac
2200 W. Cortez St.
Chicago, IL 60622-3517
(773) 384-7559

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 44

Please be advised that Branch 44 had merged with Branch 147 as of December 1, 2005. All inquires and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Janice Milinichik.

Mrs. Janice Milinichik
1220 Pennsylvania St.
Whitehall, PA 18052-6018
(610) 434-0824

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 293

Please be advised that Branch 293 had merged with Branch 194 as of December 1, 2005. All inquires and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Oksana Lopatynsky.

Mrs. Oksana Lopatynsky
48 E. 7th St., Apt. 6
New York, NY 10003
(212) 982-2503

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Ukraine's HIV/AIDS epidemic

Ukraine got a much-needed boost in the fight against HIV and AIDS when former U.S. President Bill Clinton, in a visit to Kyiv on November 27, pledged his foundation would help the cause.

Mr. Clinton, who landed in Kyiv on the eve of World AIDS Day, commemorated around the world on December 1, met with Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko. He told the Ukrainian president that his aid group, the Clinton Foundation, would provide training for medical professionals and help Ukrainians get access to HIV medications at discounted prices.

Currently, there are 40.3 million people who live with HIV and AIDS throughout the world – 38 million adults, 17.5 million women and 2.3 million children under the age of 15, according to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, also called UNAIDS.

While there has been progress in the fight, health care workers have had to battle against growing complacency. Doctors in the United States and Canada are now able to halt or delay the damage caused by HIV through various tests and treatments using anti-HIV drugs, but the problem nonetheless persists. In fact, in countries where most HIV and AIDS patients do not have access to this kind of medicine, the situation takes on epidemic proportions.

In Ukraine, a country with one of the fastest-growing HIV rates in the world, the epidemic continues to expand. Newly registered HIV infections have been increasing annually since the turn of the century – by 7 percent in 2000, 13 percent in 2001 and 25 percent in 2002, according to UNAIDS. Every 24 hours, 39 Ukrainians contract HIV, Ukraine's First Vice Minister of Health Viktor Veselskyi said, according to the news agency Ukrinform. In Ukraine, there are 360,000 adults and children living with HIV. In 2003 alone, 20,000 Ukrainians died from AIDS, according to UNAIDS.

Approximately 500 of the estimated 45,000 people who need antiretroviral treatment in Ukraine receive it – despite the fact that treatment access for all is guaranteed by Ukrainian law. What's more, tuberculosis has become the leading cause of death among people living with HIV. The deadly combination of HIV and tuberculosis is a serious concern in Ukraine, where 10 to 15 percent of tuberculosis cases are estimated to be multi-drug resistant, according to UNAIDS.

Yet another factor affecting the spread of HIV and AIDS is that few people know they are infected and thus are unaware that they may be passing the disease on to other people. "Over 90 percent of all those who are HIV-positive in the world do not know their status," Richard Holbrooke wrote in *The Washington Post* on November 29. "Yet there has never been a serious and sustained campaign to get people to be tested."

In Ukraine, Mr. Yushchenko's administration has taken a number of steps recently to make the average Ukrainian aware of the problem and to fight the epidemic.

The president signed a decree that would improve state management of the country's fight against HIV, AIDS and tuberculosis. The decree created the National Coordinating Council for Prevention of HIV/AIDS to deal with HIV, AIDS and tuberculosis cases. It provides those people affected with free medical aid and establishes, by July 1, 2006, an all-Ukrainian clinic for treating juvenile HIV/AIDS cases.

Moreover, the National Coordinating Council has been actively working with a European Union project to educate Ukrainians about HIV and AIDS. The project is planning a number of seminars in which some 1,500 interagency partners will participate, and it will create education centers in pilot regions of Ukraine and educate secondary school children about the dangers of HIV and AIDS.

The steps taken recently by the Ukrainian government should go a long way toward educating Ukrainians about HIV and AIDS. While there is much more work to be done in Ukraine on this topic, the first steps are often the most important and we are encouraged to see President Yushchenko's resolve in the fight against the growing HIV and AIDS epidemic in Ukraine.

Dec.
12
2004

Turning the pages back...

Just one year ago at this time, Yaro Bihun filed a story from Washington headlined "U.S. secretary of state defends democracy in Ukraine." He reported that "With Russian leaders repeatedly criticizing the United States and Europe for

'interfering' in the electoral process in Ukraine in order to expand their sphere of influence deeper into former Soviet territory, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell was called on to remind them about the true meaning of the Orange Revolution that has been driving political events there for the past few weeks."

While attending a ministerial meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Sofia, Bulgaria, Mr. Powell said: "The people of Ukraine are playing democracy in the name of freedom." He added, "What I have been seeing on my television screen for the last several weeks are people going out into the streets in Kyiv and other cities in the Ukraine saying, 'We want to have a free, fair, open election.'"

"Spheres of influence," Secretary Powell said, "is a term that really isn't relevant to the circumstances that we are facing today," be it in Ukraine, the Central Asian Republics and the Caucasus. The United States is not asking Ukrainians "to choose between the East and the West," he said. "It is a different world we are living in, where people want freedom, they want democracy, they want to be able to select their own leaders, they want to be able to select their own partners and friends. ... Today I join my colleagues in voicing support for Ukraine's independence, its territorial integrity and its sovereignty."

Source: "U.S. secretary of state defends democracy in Ukraine," by Yaro Bihun, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 12, 2004, Vol. LXXII, No. 50.

NEWS AND VIEWS

When it comes to the Famine-Genocide, Ukraine appears to be both blind and deaf

by Lubomyr Luciuk

Millions perished. How many? No one knows. There is an ongoing scholarly debate over this statistical welter, of as much lasting merit as medieval deliberations over how many angels might be able to stand on the point of a pin. It will never be settled conclusively because the men who gathered data for the 1937 Soviet census, then produced detailed reports demonstrating a significant decrease in the USSR's population since 1927, were murdered, their findings suppressed.

Stalin's regime was not about to admit that famine swept Soviet Ukraine in 1932-1933, transforming a fertile land once known as "the breadbasket of Europe" into a Golgotha, a place of skulls.

Moscow's men, and their minions in the West, insistently denied there was any famine. Proffered relief supplies were refused. The few truthful accounts of what was happening, told by courageous reporters like Malcolm Muggeridge and Gareth Jones, were denounced as anti-Soviet propaganda. And, tellingly, the Soviet government continued to export grain even as people starved.

The scale of this atrocity is perhaps best conveyed by quoting the dean of the famine-deniers, *The New York Times* correspondent Walter Duranty. Speaking privately to British Embassy officials in Moscow, September 26, 1933, Duranty confided that as many as 10 million people had died directly or indirectly of famine conditions in the USSR during the past year.

But was this famine an intentional act, directed against Ukrainians? A recently discovered telegram, marked "Secret" and dated January 23, 1933, originally sent from Moscow to Kharkiv, then capital of Soviet Ukraine, and copied to the administrative centers of Russian-populated territories bordering Ukraine, is revealing. Signed by Stalin on behalf of the Communist Party, and by Molotov, as chairman of the USSR's Council of Commissars, it refers to a "massive departure of peasants" from Ukraine into adjacent Russian lands "in search of bread." It next orders party officials and the OGPU (the political police) to prevent this exodus. As for those who somehow managed to exit Ukraine and Ukrainian-populated areas in the North Caucasus, they were to be arrested, and, after "anti-Soviet elements" were weeded out, the rest were to be returned whence they came. And so starving people were deliberately sent where food could not be found.

Olena Tuz, then a 6-year-old living in the Zhytomyr region, recalled with horror: "People ate people, mothers ate their own children. They didn't realize what they were doing, they just were hungry." Last weekend she attended a Kyiv rally hallowing the memory of the many millions of victims of what Ukrainians call the Holodomor, the Famine-Genocide. Relatives and survivors lit 33,000 candles, symbolically representing the number who died every day in the spring of 1933, at the height of the famine. They heard President Viktor Yushchenko call upon the world to recognize that the Great Famine, which killed one-quarter of the population of Soviet Ukraine, was a

Lubomyr Luciuk, Ph.D., teaches political geography at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, and wrote a foreword to a documentary collection, "The Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine" (Kashtan Press, 2005, compiled by Yuri Shapoval).

Soviet-sponsored genocide.

That is not likely to happen, largely because of what Ukraine has still not done. While this year's official memorial service was reportedly the most moving and well-attended, a proposed Institute of National Memory has not been established. Scholarly work on the crimes of communism in Ukraine remains uncoordinated, unsupported. By and large, contemporary Ukrainian society remains uneducated, perhaps even unwilling, to become better informed about what happened.

Furthermore, presidential statements about the causes of this catastrophe, while accurately focusing responsibility on Stalinism, avoid calling for the prosecution of those who served the "Man of Steel." More than a few of those enablers are still alive, drawing pensions, living cheek by jowl with their former victims in Ukraine and Russia, even in Canada.

Imagine someone saying Hitler was responsible for the Holocaust (true) but then stating that is all we need do about the Nazis (false). Yet, those who orchestrated what was, arguably, the greatest act of genocide to befoul 20th century European history are not being identified, much less brought to justice.

Before age inevitably takes away the last of these murderers, and those who survived them and can still bear witness, Ukraine must establish a Commission of Inquiry into Soviet Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes, as the Ukrainian diaspora has repeatedly called for. Until that is done, the rest of the world will never understand what the Holodomor was, or why it happened, much less accept that it was an act of genocide. No number of candle-lighting ceremonies, requiem masses, or symbolic resolutions in this or that Parliament will ever suffice.

Traditionally, justice is depicted as a woman who carries a scale, to weigh the evidence, and a sword, to punish the guilty. She is blind but she is not deaf. Today's Ukraine is both.

Famine-Genocide...

(Continued from page 1)

four large oil canvas paintings depicting rural scenes of starvation; and the late Holodomor survivor Volodymyr Kutkin, who painted a somber scene of a crow sitting on a man who had died trying to escape from his village to the city.

Aside from Holodomor art, Mr. Williams also displayed 300 works of folk art to demonstrate what life was like in Ukrainian villages before the ruinous genocide perpetrated by Soviet authorities.

Mr. Williams used many of his own funds to compile his collection, a figure he declined to name. But he also received help and financial contributions from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., the Ukrainian Federation of America and the Bahriany Foundation.

Mr. Williams was born November 26, 1939, in Kansas, a state that bears "a lot of similarities to Ukraine," he said. Between 1997 and 1999, he ran an agricultural development finance company. It folded when French banking firm Société Generale decided Ukraine was too risky an investment.

Since then, he has offered business and investment consulting services. He is currently director of government affairs for SigmaBleyzer, a private equity investment management company.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dmytro Pavlychko was no hero

Dear Editor:

"Renowned writer Dmytro Pavlychko visits the UNA and its newspapers" is the headline in The Weekly (November 13) along with photos and a report about the "renowned writer."

Unfortunately, this inspirational writer was among those who wasted their talents back in the 1960s and 1970s specializing in smearing the Ukrainian diaspora in the West, labeling them as "bourgeois nationalists," "traitors to the fatherland," "bloody Banderites," "Nazi collaborators," etc. Doesn't anybody at the UNA recall this besmirching of us as well as their servile attitude toward the Communist authorities?

It is true that times have changed. The purpose of this letter is not to judge those who in effect were collaborators (willing or unwilling) of the Soviet regime. Perhaps they all underwent true conversions ...

But we should be able to draw a clear line of separation between the types of Pavlychko, Oliynyk, Medvedchuk and others of their ilk who served (some were forced into this role) the Russian slave-masters and true heroes of the types of Chornovil, Soroka, Karavanskyj, Moroz, Lukianenko, Stus, Krasivskyj, Shukhevych, OUN-UPA fighters and many other political prisoners (whom we in the West vigorously defended) who underwent persecution, jail terms and even gave up their lives for the freedom of Ukraine.

The poet Yuriy Klen (Oswald Burghardt) perhaps summarizes best this contrast in characters in an excerpt from his 1943 collection "The Accursed Years" (translated by Andrusyshen and Kirkconnell):

Let us then pray for those who have been taken,
Who sail in peril on stormy main;
Likewise for those, the suffering and the shaken,
Who in the darkness seek a path in vain;
Those buried in the snow, who will not waken,
Who n'er will find their homeward path again.
On them, O Lord, from Heaven where You stand,
Extend in mercy your sustaining hand!
And let us pray for all whose lives are naught,
Who cannot see again the light of day;
Those whom I cannot compass with my thought,
And those whose very homes were swept away;
Whom ruthless hands have into dungeons brought
So that their joys are withered in dismay.
Ah, with a touch of hands as light as snow,
Relieve them, Lord, of suffering and woe!
And let us pray for those who for the fray

Can neither energy nor strength invoke;
For all whom bitter misery turns gray
And breaks at last beneath the heavy yoke;
Who drink the cup of sorrow day by day,
Compelled to bless the life on which they choke;
Those singers who, for rationed bread and tea,
Must sing of hell as heaven's facsimile.

Leo Iwaskiw
Philadelphia

Pejorative meaning of "nationalists"

Dear Editor:

Many political terms are perceived differently in different political, historical and cultural settings.

Accordingly, since The Ukrainian Weekly is widely read in North America, it seems it would be more appropriate and accurate in stories like Zenon Zawada's "UPA veterans, leftists clash ..." (October 23) to use the designations "UPA veterans," "freedom fighters" or "insurgents" rather than "nationalists." The latter has largely a pejorative connotation in the West and is often employed in scapegoating Ukrainians. In fact, "nationalists" is too simplistic to characterize those who served in the UPA.

R.B. Worobec
Mount Vernon, Va.

Bahriany article was inaccurate

Dear Editor:

Regarding the October 30 article "Personages in Literature: Ivan Bahriany, 'Tribune of the Republic'" I would like to refer the authors, Eugene Melnitchenko and Helena Lysyj Melnitchenko, to the entry on Bahriany in five volumes of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine published by the University of Toronto Press to check in their inaccuracies.

One I can readily correct myself. My mother, Halyna Pisetska, corresponded with Borys Antonenko Davydovych in the 1970s in Kyiv, where she also met him on a subsequent visit there. Therefore, on that score at least he could not have died in Siberia as stated in the above mentioned article.

Oksana Pisetska Struk
Toronto

ACTION ITEM

Repeal Jackson-Vanik Amendment for Ukraine

The recent Orange Revolution in Ukraine has transformed the political landscape in that country. Calls for a re-examination of U.S.-Ukrainian bilateral relations is necessary, and warranted. One of the more immediate issues is the revocation of the Jackson-Vanik amendment to the 1974 Trade Act, which limits trade with countries that do not allow free emigration of its citizens. Ukraine "inherited" the amendment when it re-established its independence in 1991.

In early April of this year in an address to a joint session of the United States Congress, President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine reiterated the need to repeal the Jackson-Vanik amendment and bring that chapter of Ukraine's history to a close. Recent passage of a bill in the U.S. Senate (S. 632) has prompted efforts in the House of Representatives by Rep. Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.) to graduate Ukraine from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) requests all Ukrainian Americans and friends of Ukraine to contact their U.S. representatives and urge them to support Rep. Gerlach's bill, H.R. 1053.

Below is a sample letter to send to your U.S. representative. Sample letters may be e-mailed directly to your representative at <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Ukrainian National Information Service by phone at (202) 547-0018 or via e-mail at unis@ucca.org:

(Continued on page 23)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



The Ignatieff imbroglio

Canada's Liberal Party has run into a bit of a swamp, eh?

First there was the corruption scandal around Prime Minister Paul Martin's minority government in which certain members of the government were accused of raking in kick-backs and giving some \$85 million in government advertising and other contracts to Liberal-friendly firms for little or no work.

Then, on November 28, a parliamentary no-confidence vote forced Mr. Martin, to call for new national elections.

And now, only days after the surprise retirement of Liberal MP Jean Augustine, we have the sudden candidacy of political neophyte Michael Ignatieff as the Liberal candidate for Parliament in the Etobicoke-Lakeshore (Ontario). Ukrainian Canadian voters are outraged both by the backroom manner by which his unopposed candidacy came to be, and Dr. Ignatieff himself.

Two qualified Ukrainian Canadians were apparently blocked from submitting their nomination documents for the same seat. According to a press release issued by the Etobicoke-Lakeshore Riding Association, Marc Shwec and Ron Chyczij prepared and submitted the required candidate forms – including police and credit checks, as well as required signatures of support – only to discover that the office of Liberal Party Headquarters in Toronto was locked before the 5 p.m. filing deadline. Liberal Party staffers could be seen through the second-story windows but refused to respond to repeated door knocks. "I hammered the door so loud I thought I was going to break either my wrist the door," Mr. Chyczij said.

Ron Chyczij holds an M.B.A. and is the president of the Etobicoke-Lakeshore Riding Association. Marc Shwec, fluent in both English and French, is an engineer with an M.B.A. and has been active in community affairs.

The second reason for outrage among Ukrainian Canadians is Mr. Ignatieff himself. In a "Faces and Places" column on January 29, 1995, I wrote that on March 27, 1994, Mr. Ignatieff, a Canadian born of Russian parents, hosted a PBS program titled "Blood and Belonging." To me, the entire program, devoted to Dr. Ignatieff's visit to Ukraine, was anti-Ukrainian.

Dr. Ignatieff interviewed Vladimir, a Russian coal miner, who complained that Ukrainian nationalism is making life difficult because his children "have to learn Ukrainian in schools." Dr. Ignatieff then took his viewers to the Crimea, where he heard more moaning and groaning about the "tyranny" of Ukrainian nationalism upon the recently returned Tatar population. In Lviv, where Ukrainian nationalism is the strongest, Mr. Ignatieff emphasized that while Ukrainians and Russians in eastern Ukraine fought side by side to rid their homeland of the Nazis, western Ukrainians welcomed the Nazis and "some even collaborated with them."

Mr. Ignatieff's PBS appearance came on the heels of his book "Blood and Belonging" in which he wrote: "Isn't nationalism just an exercise in kitsch, in fervent emotional insecurity? Especially so in Ukraine. It has been part of Russia for centuries ... Into this inauthentic void steams nationalist emotionalism striving

to convince them [the Ukrainians] that there always was a Ukrainian nation; that it has been suppressed for centuries, that it has at last found its freedom and so on. The reality is different."

Ukraine, for Dr. Ignatieff, remains a mystery. "I have reasons to take Ukraine seriously indeed," he wrote. "But to be honest, I'm having trouble. Ukrainian independence conjures up images of embroidered peasant shirts, the nasal whine of ethnic instruments, phony Cossacks in cloaks and boots, nasty anti-Semites."

Mr. Ignatieff's antipathy toward Ukrainians appears to be lifelong. "From my childhood in Canada," he wrote, "I remember expatriate Ukrainian nationalists demonstrating in the snow outside ballet performances by the Bolshoi in Toronto. 'Free the captive nations!' they chanted. In 1960, they seemed strange and pathetic, chanting in the snow, haranguing people who just wanted to see ballet and to hell with politics, they seemed fanatical, too, unreasonable. Hadn't they looked at a map? How did they ever think Ukraine could ever be free."

Dr. Ignatieff is definitely an intellectual, a left-wing intellectual, but an intellectual nonetheless. He is often described as "a noted Canadian scholar and novelist." In 2003 Maclean's magazine named Dr. Ignatieff "Canada's Sexiest Cerebral Man." The grandson of Count Paul Ignatieff, the last minister of education to Tsar Nicholas II, he holds a Ph.D. in history from Harvard and has taught at the University of British Columbia. He held a senior research Fellowship at King's College, Cambridge, for six years, and is married to the vivacious Hungarian-born Zsuzsanna Zshohar. Just in time for his parliamentary run, it was announced in August that Dr. Ignatieff was to be the Chancellor Jackman Visiting Professor in Human Rights Policy at the University of Toronto. Small wonder that many in the Liberal Party are salivating about his candidacy and touting him as prime minister material.

Thrilled with his uncontested Liberal Party nomination, Dr. Ignatieff responded to Ukrainian protests with a press statement. "I have a deep, personal affinity with the suffering of the Ukrainian people at the hands of Soviet Russia and a deep respect for the Ukrainian Canadian community," it read. No mention, of course, of tsarist oppression of Ukraine (probably too close to his own "blood and belonging" ties to tsarism) or to those geography-challenged pathetic "weirdos" who marched in the snow chanting something about Captive Nations.

Claiming that his words have been taken out of context and distorted, Dr. Ignatieff labeled Ukrainian Canadian complaints as a "transparent attempt to twist my writings with the objective of sowing strife in Liberal ranks on the eve of a campaign." He offered to meet with Ukrainian Canadian leaders "to share views on the Ukrainian experience and discuss my writing with them." Right.

As an American only vaguely familiar with Canadian politics, it seems to me that Ukrainian Canadians loyal to the ideals of the Liberal Party have been snookered. As Hollywood movie Indians used to say, "pale face speak with forked tongue."

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

An update on losses from Lviv Archives

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – On October 18 a roundtable discussion was held at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) in Kyiv titled “Problems of the Protection of Museums and the Archival Heritage in Contemporary Ukraine in the Context of the Losses from the Lviv Archives.” The purpose of the roundtable was to start a dialogue and unite the efforts of various government organs, organizations, establishments and concerned individuals for the protection of Ukraine’s heritage and its documentary and museum treasures.

The roundtable took place under the auspices of the following: State Service for the Transfer of Cultural Treasures across the State Borders of Ukraine, Hrushevsky Institute of Ukrainian Archeography and the Study of Sources, NASU; Shevchenko Institute of Literature, NASU; and the International Fund Ukraina 3000.

The event was chaired by Yaroslav Yatskiv, academician and head of the International Association of Ukrainianists and attended by almost 300 historians, museum workers, journalists and national deputies. Scholars, representatives of all state archives of Kyiv, students of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, artists, librarians and museum workers heard Vice Minister of Culture Olha Shokalo-Bench and the project

coordinator of the International Fund Ukraina 3000, Oleksii Kopytka, analyze the archival and museum situation in Ukraine.

However, the chairman of the State Committee on Archives, Hennadii Boriak, did not respond to an invitation to take part.

Reporting on the event in its November 5 issue, *Ukraina Moloda* emphasized that the concern expressed was not only about the recent losses incurred at the state archives in Lviv, but – because of the way in which the affair has been dealt with – also about the future security and protection of archives.

In addition, on October 17, Director Pelz fired one of the first persons to demand an investigation into the thefts, Halyna Svarnyk. Then, on December 1, the newspaper *Postup* reported that another whistle-blower at the archives, Ivan Svarnyk, had been fired by Ms. Pelz. (The Svarnyks are siblings.)

The Kyiv meeting put forth an appeal for a debate in the Verkhovna Rada on the archival losses and a demand to the procurator general to take charge and bring the investigation of the thefts to Kyiv.

Ukraina Moloda also posed this question: “Will society be up to the challenge of transforming this signal [the thefts] about the danger into something positive for the whole archival branch?”

Fire destroys children’s library at Poltava; arson is suspected

POLTAVA, Ukraine – The Panas Myrnyi Children’s Library in Poltava fell victim to an apparent act of arson in the early morning hours of October 11, when vandals threw explosive materials into the building. As a result, nearly 10,000 books were burned.

According to the library’s director, Leonid Chobitko, it seems the perpetrator(s) wanted to destroy the library.

Mr. Chobitko noted that the library was supposed to move, as the building had recently been purchased by three private business people. New accommodations for the library had been held up for three years now, as local authorities had stalled on making a decision.

Now, he said, the local deputies may say that there is no sense in trying to preserve the library, and he fears that the library may simply be closed down.

The library director issued an appeal on behalf of Poltava residents to fellow Ukrainians around the world to help save

the children’s library. Book donations are being sought to help the library replace the lost volumes. Of particular importance, Mr. Chobitko noted, are dictionaries, encyclopedias and the latest publications.

In addition, he asked that readers contact the Poltava Oblast Administration at oda@adm-pl.gov.ua to express their outrage at the destruction of the library and its threatened closing.

For further information, interested readers may contact Mr. Chobitko at poltavalibr@yahoo.com or 3805322-74821.

According to Wasyl Kornylko of the Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities Committee in Irondequoit, N.Y., the library was supported by the sister cities committee for the past several years.

Vechirnia Poltava, a local newspaper, reported that the library contained many books donated by Ukrainian Americans, as well as by Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.)



A view of the interior of the Panas Myrnyi Children’s Library in Poltava after a fire on October 11.

Thefts at the Lviv Archives: researchers comment

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – Since the summer of 2004, when news of massive thefts from the Lviv Archives hit the press, the issue has energized an ever-growing circle of concerned scholars, researchers, archivists, intellectuals and politicians in Ukraine. (See *The Weekly*, November 6, 2005.) But the investigation, which began late and has been going on for a year, still has not identified either the perpetrators or the instigators of the crimes.

The chairman of the State Committee on Archives, Hennadii Boriak, and Lviv Archives Director Diana Pelz have been accused of stonewalling and of harassing the two workers of the Lviv Archives – Ivan and Halyna Svarnyk – who were the first to bring the thefts to wide public attention. Scholars and researchers from outside Ukraine, who are familiar with the archives, have also expressed their concern about the situation.

Victor Ostapchuk, associate professor, department of Near and Middle Eastern civilizations, University of Toronto:

The thefts in the Lviv and, for that matter, other archives in Ukraine, are a tragedy with many manifestations. Aside from the losses, most of which are probably irretrievable, for the shorter run (which can mean several years) scholars are barred from using the Lviv Archives, which are indeed one of the greatest archives in the world, since they are closed indefinitely for inventory. This affects not only Ukrainians, such as those pursuing a candidate’s or doctoral degree, who cannot do their research if their topic requires access to the Lviv Archives. They have either to change their topic or delay their program.

Historians from other countries are in a similar situation. The main and indispensable source for the dissertation of one of my Ph.D. students here at the University of Toronto, whose topic concerns trade between the Ottoman Empire, Poland and Ukraine in the 16th century, is a large body of unique records relating to Armenians, which hopefully are still intact in the Lviv Archives. Without access to this material, his dissertation topic will have to be changed.

I suspect the Ukrainian archival authorities initially did not know what they were up against, namely, well-organized international thievery groups intent on reaping healthy profits from a relatively easy and risk-free undertaking. Incidentally, there is a similar but longer standing situation with Ukrainian antiquities – especially those still on archeological sites. Since independence, the sites have been systematically plundered and, thus far, the Ukrainian authorities have not had sufficient will, or perhaps the interest, to act seriously in preventing such activities.

Iroida Wynnyckyj, archivist, Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center, Toronto:

My trip to Lviv this year was marred by the scandalous thefts at the Lviv Archives. Since 1992, I have visited the Lviv Archives every year and have searched for materials related to the 1946-1947 famine, the history of Plast, as well as various personal files. Last year I came upon an interesting letter

written by Atanas Figol to Volodymyr Kubijovyc dealing with Ukrainian Central Committee matters. A copy of it has become a part of the UCRDC’s file on Atanas Figol. This year, I was looking forward to doing more research at the Lviv Archives. What a disappointment when I found them closed.

I was not the only one who was baffled. A group of researchers from the genealogical society of Alberta were frustrated when they faced the closed doors of the archives, with no explanation of why or indication of when they would be reopened.

But, in my opinion, it is the Ukrainian researchers who are the biggest victims. A friend of mine at Lviv University is researching the Prosvita movement in Halychyna for her candidate’s degree. Her work is greatly dependent on the documentation housed at the Lviv Archives. At the present time, she is in a bind. If the archives do not reopen in the near future, her only choice will be to abandon her work and pursue a different topic. My friend is one of many scholars and researchers caught in an archival crisis about which the powers that be seem to care little.

During my stay in Ukraine, the Russian-Ukrainian Conference of Archives Directors took place in Lviv (September 24). A group of concerned citizens demonstrated in front of the conference building, carrying banners: “Archival losses – Boriak’s shame,” “Stop the persecution of Ukrainian scholars,” “Away with the archival mafia.” They demanded a statement from Mr. Boriak as to what the government was doing to solve the archival crisis in Lviv. Mr. Boriak chose to neither respond nor meet the press. Such a lack of regard on the part of officials is very disturbing.

Frank Sysyn, director, Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at CIUS, University of Alberta:

The archival thefts in Lviv are the cause of great concern to scholars throughout the world. In general, the record of independent Ukraine in dealing with its archival treasures has been mixed. On the positive side, there has been increased access. On the negative, there has been drastic underfunding.

The Lviv collections at the State Historical Archive and the Stefanyk Library are the most important in Ukraine. They also have an international dimension in that Poland and Polish institutions have claimed parts of these collections, especially those of the former Ossolineum. Only the dedicated work of Lviv archivists and intellectuals prevented some of these collections from being sent to Poland by the Soviet authorities. The moral right of Lviv and Ukraine to retain these materials is placed in question if they are not protected and preserved properly.

The archival controversy is somewhat reminiscent of the painful break-up of the Orange Revolution coalition. Both sides in the controversy have been known internationally for their positive and effective work in representing Ukraine and its archival and scholarly work. Hennadii Boriak has worked effectively with numerous international organiza-

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Chicago greets rector of Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv

by Iwanna T. Gorchynsky

CHICAGO – On Sunday, November 13, the Ukrainian community of Chicago had the privilege of greeting the Rev. Borys Gudziak, Ph.D., rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv. The Rev. Gudziak was in the middle of his latest American tour: on November 5 he had been honored at a dinner in New York City and on November 20 he was to be honored at a luncheon in the Detroit area.

A festive luncheon was held in the hall of Chicago's Ukrainian Cultural Center, which also houses the offices of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF), which hosted the event and whose objective is to raise money for the work and wide-ranging activity of the UCU.

Honored guests included the local Ukrainian Catholic bishops, namely, Bishop Richard Seminack of the St. Nicholas Eparchy of Chicago and Bishop Emeritus Innocent Lotocky, OSBM; Acting Consul General of Ukraine in Chicago Oleh Shevchenko; Prof. Jeffrey Wills, vice-rector of the UCU; and the honoree himself, the Rev. Dr. Gudziak.

The emcees were Oleh Karawan of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church and Iwanna Gorchynsky of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, both in Chicago.

In a short greeting, the emcees stressed the special significance of the UCU – a “sanctuary of scholarship,” as they called it – and emphasized the importance of its calling, which is work for the spiritual revival of Ukraine. They also noted the great achievements already under the UCU's belt. Bishop Seminack then led the introductory prayer and blessed those in attendance.

The floor was next given to Natalia Klymovska, head of the UCU's Information and External Relations Department, who, together with Petro Didula, a leading religious journalist and photographer in Ukraine, was involved in producing a film about the participation of UCU students in the Orange Revolution and their contribution toward the historic changes that lead to the birth of a new nation, conscious of its calling in the process of building the Ukrainian state.

Mrs. Klymovska and Mr. Didula shed some light on the film, which reflected the moral substance, noble character and patriotism of the young people on whom the fate of Ukraine will depend in the near future. The priority today, as the film made it clear, is to revive the spirituality of the nation, for devastations caused by natural disasters like floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, or even the complete destruction of cities in war, are easier to repair than the devastation of the human spirit and heart, and moral principles and ethical foundations. The film was interesting, well-arranged and professionally shot.

During the viewing of the film, the kitchen staff served a tasty lunch. Afterwards, the guests began to share with each other their thoughts and impressions of what they felt watching interesting moments of the Orange Revolution and the participation of UCU students in it.

A UCU professor, Nick Stankovich, an American who spoke in Ukrainian, which he learned while spending time with UCU students, underscored that he is delighted by the atmosphere of communications between students and professors of the Ukrainian Catholic University.

The Rev. Gudziak gave a short account the visit of 2,000 students from distant universities in eastern Ukraine to Lviv, where they had been invited by the

UCU to celebrate a traditional Ukrainian Christmas. The stay of the students from eastern Ukraine was captured in a brief film, “Christmas Together,” in which the audience saw everyday life on the screen and heard the impressions of the visiting students, who said they will remember their experience in Lviv for the rest of their lives.

The visiting students recounted how for the first time they felt the joyful atmosphere of Christmas, and experienced the customs, rituals and beliefs associated with it. They sang carols and participated in a vertep (Christmas play). In other words, for them this was a new world. Family life in Lviv opened their eyes to the good will and sincerity of the people of Halychyna, of whom they used to have a negative opinion – the result of indoctrination throughout their lives.

The president of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, John Kurey, then thanked all for their assistance in organizing the rector's visit. He also said a few words about the process of raising money for the UCU, informing the audience that approximately three-quarters of the money that the UCEF raises comes from non-Ukrainian corporations, businesses, foundations and benefactors. He expressed gratitude to all and encouraged further cooperation and support.

The program reached its culmination with the speech of the dear guest, the Rev. Gudziak. He was introduced by Mrs. Gorchynsky, who presented a short biography, mentioning the rector's scholarly achievements, scholarly religious education work, merits, awards, etc.

The rector told the audience about the work, aims, objectives and successes of the UCU, as well as its outstanding students, two of whom, for example, were asked by President Viktor Yushchenko to work in his entourage.

In addition to his scholarly achievements, the Rev. Gudziak is mostly known for his deep religiosity, humility, optimism, kindness, patriotism, respect for students, and belief in justice and good. This is seen not only from his words, but also from his deeds; it is reflected in the work of his students, for whom he is a model. The Rev. Gudziak ended his speech with a call to never forget two words: “thanks” and “sorry.” The audience thanked the priest with a standing ovation.

At the end of the program, attendees were informed about the “most generous gifts” and the following persons took the floor to donate: Bishop Lotocky; Julian E. Kulas, Esq., head of the Heritage Foundation; the Rt. Rev. Ivan A. Krotec, pastor of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicago; and Bohdan Watral, president of Selfreliance Federal Credit Union in Chicago.

In addition, it was announced that Dr. Natalia Hryhorczuk had passed on donations made by family and friends in memory of her late husband, Dmytro, who recently passed away.

Prof. Dmytro Shtohryn, chairman of the Ukrainian Research Program (URP) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, greeted the Rev. Gudziak and invited him to participate in the annual Conference on Ukrainian Subjects organized by the URP.

The meeting closed with a prayer of thanksgiving led by Bishop Lotocky.

Further information about the UCU in English and Ukrainian is available on the university's website at www.ucu.edu.ua. Readers may also contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; phone, (773) 235-8462; e-mail, ucef@ucef.org; website, www.ucef.org. The phone number of the UCEF in Canada is (416) 239-2495.



Petro Didula

Bishop Innocent Lotocky (left) and the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak in conversation with Natalja Klymovska of the Ukrainian Catholic University and Nick Stankovich of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation.



Seen during the luncheon (from right) are: Bishop Richard Seminack, Ukraine's Acting Consul General Oleh Shevchenko and his wife, and Father Ivan Krotec (at the podium).

Iowa State University welcomes Rotary Club members from Cherkasy

by Mykola Sarazhynskyy

AMES, Iowa – In late October the Des Moines Rotary Club hosted 10 members from their sister club in Cherkasy. They had a long list of places to visit. Atop this list was a trip to the Iowa State University (ISU) campus in Ames, located about 40 miles north of Des Moines. Rotary Club officials contacted the President's Office at ISU to assist in

organizing this trip.

Visitors had a broad spectrum of interests, namely dairy industry, college level administration, journalism, forestry, food science and human nutrition. On a request from the President's Office, the colleges of agriculture, business and engineering organized meetings with faculty to match these fields. Faculty

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Visitors from Cherkasy during their visit to Iowa State University in Ames.

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MUSIC REVIEW: "Fragmenty" CD continues Paris to Kyiv's musical journey

by Robert B. Klymasz

The disc "Fragmenty" continues the remarkable musical journey initiated some years ago by Winnipeg's Alexis Kochan and continued by the "Paris to Kyiv Ensemble" which she leads as its principal vocalist.

As in the past, the goal here is to capture the soul of Ukrainian folk song, interpret its essence and give it new life. These musicians aren't copy-cats, and listeners unused to experimental or innovative music will need to cast aside their preconceptions before listening to this disc. Enthusiasts of current trends in "world music" will have no trouble warming up to this recording; and ditto for lovers of Ukrainian folk songs.

From start to finish, "Fragmenty" is a musical experience like no other, and total immersion is the only real way to savor this disc.

In essence – although perhaps not intentionally – this recording constitutes a powerful, beautifully crafted tribute to the Ukrainian lyrical folk song tradition and its overriding female dimensions: a rich sampling that underlines the plight of the woman in village society in a most eloquent way. These are haunting, poignant and often gut-wrenching songs nipped out of their Old Country setting and universalized. This is accomplished in many ways.

Especially stunning, for example, is

Robert B. Klymasz, Ph.D., is curator emeritus with the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec.



the ensemble's interweaving of lyrics in three languages (Ukrainian, English and Spanish), as shown in its interpretation of such chestnuts as "Oi z-za Hory Kamianoyi" and "Oi u Lisi." Another oldie, "Oi u Poli Mohyla," gets special treatment and is performed three times as three separate pieces in three different ways.

Equally effective are the supporting accompaniment and interludes provided in various combinations by bandura, percussion, viola, violin, guitar and overtone vocals. (Culture vultures will recognize the input of Julian Kytasty, our bandurist extraordinaire.)

"Fragmenty" includes 17 musical items performed by the Paris to Kyiv Ensemble. Released by Olesia Records (P.O. Box 2877, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 4B4), the single compact disc comes with a 12-page booklet mostly in English, including introductory remarks

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CONCERT NOTES: Taras Kulish performs Wesolowsky selections

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

It was a jewel of an evening – a sold-out select crowd, brilliant accompanists, an elegant setting and a singer with a voice you could listen to forever. Bass-baritone Taras Kulish of Montreal finished up his working visit to Winnipeg with a recital at Oseredok, the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, on Sunday, November 6.

His recital was called "Namaliuy Meni Nich" or "Paint the Night," and played to a sold-out audience in the art gallery of Oseredok.

Mr. Kulish had just completed singing Colline in the successful Manitoba Opera run of "La Boheme," and before departing for Montreal generously presented this musical evening to the community. In the first part of the program, he sang arias from Ukrainian, French and English operas and musicals. He explained that he sang them in the order in which he learned his first languages in his native Montreal. He was accompanied on the piano by Shannon Hiebert.

After intermission – and here is where the name of the recital comes in, from one of the well-known waltzes – Mr. Kulish sang 12 songs by Bohdan Wesolowsky, also of Montreal. He was accompanied by Ms. Hiebert, and also by Ian Hodges on guitar. The bass-baritone was powerful in the arias, and lyrically romantic and gentle in the Wesolowsky songs.

Introducing Mr. Kulish, Bohdana Bashuk, the executive administrator of Oseredok, reminisced about how she and so many Ukrainians grew up to the tangos, waltzes, foxtrots and rumbas of

Wesolowsky.

This writer remembers dancing to these beautiful and catching melodies at dances in Newark, N.J., and at the Ukrainian American Youth Association's (SUM) resort in Ellenville, and her father collecting the 78s of all these songs. The melodies and lyrics have never been forgotten.

To the delight of the audience, Mr. Kulish said he was in the process of recording an album of Wesolowsky songs, which "will take all of 2006 to get done, so it will probably be available in the fall of 2006 or the beginning of 2007 at the very latest."

As an aside and connection to the past, He noted that some of the original recordings had Mr. Kulish's aunt, Myrosia Verbytska, singing some Wesolowsky songs.

Mr. Kulish dedicated the second half to Lorne and Kathleen Campbell, the parents of his close friend, Duncan Campbell, who was a stage manager at the Opéra de Montréal, "who passed away much too soon." Mr. Kulish added that "since his death I have become very close to his parents. They have been big supporters of mine." The Campbells were celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary.

Understandably, but regrettably, there was no encore. During the reception, sponsored by Carpathia Credit Union, Mr. Kulish explained that after the strenuous run of "La Boheme," this recital was enjoyable but as much as he could do. From Winnipeg, he returned to Montreal to prepare for "The Messiah" with the Orchestre Symphonique de Trois Rivieres, as bass soloist, and to the Montreal Symphony Orchestra as soloist in Nielsen's third Symphony.

"A kindergartner with a sword" ready to conquer New York

by Halyna Klid

EDMONTON – Seventeen-year old Elizabeth (Eta) Archer is in New York these days. For the next 10 months she will be living in the Big Apple, where she'll be studying at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts (AADA) – alma mater of many well-known and much-loved names in the American entertainment industry.

Despite her tender years, the native of Edmonton, Alberta, holds an impressive portfolio of achievements as a student, musician and singer, community leader, volunteer and active member of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

She is also the compiler of a beautiful book of Ukrainian Christmas and New Year greetings in verse published under the title "Persha Zirka."

Below, Miss Archer talks about her new life in New York, where she sometimes feels like "a kindergartner with a sword" ready to conquer the city.

What are your overall impressions of the Big Apple? The most and the least pleasant; people, places, mood, life on the streets, culture, etc.?

New York is exactly how you'd think it would be ... loud, brash, abrupt, bustling, stressful, magical and chaotic. One is as much a New Yorker after 10 minutes of being here as after 10 years of being here, I think. You walk down the street and can hear 20 different languages, see famous landmarks and your senses are just attacked by everything. It's hard to take it all in. Every neighborhood has a different mood and a different feel to it. Each little division is a country of its own.

What are your plans for this big city? How are you going to conquer it?

Halyna Klid is a graphic designer, writer and translator. She works at the Ukrainian Language Education Center, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, where she develops and prepares print and digital publications of Ukrainian language resources for bilingual education programs.



Elizabeth (Eta) Archer

My plans for New York City were initially just to survive here. However, survival is different than really truly living, and so if I can actually live in this big city, I will have been able to conquer it by my standards. I don't know if I could or would want to live here for the rest of my life. The grand life plan I created for myself when I was 7 has taken a few detours, so who knows where I'll end up?

What was the biggest surprise of all?

The pigeons. They are wickedly fearless – almost to the point of being terrifying. Being around these vicious birds has awakened my dormant pigeon-hatred gene (which likely happened when one intrepid bird latched onto my pant legs and I had to literally shake it off my leg). I have become weary of their audacious antics now.

Do you feel yourself a little girl in the big city or a strong individual ready to take it on? If the latter, then, what keeps you strong?

Sometimes I am a little girl, kind of lost and wandering around this giant playground, wondering why I ever came here. Other times I feel like I can take on

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BOOK NOTE: "Persha Zirka," a collection of holiday verses

"*Persha Zirka: Zbirnyk Vinshuvan,*" (*First Star: A Collection of Verses*), compiled by Eta Archer. Edmonton: Ukrainian Language Education Center, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 2004 (second edition). Softcover, spiral bound, 60 pp. \$14.95 (Canadian).

EDMONTON – "Persha Zirka" (First Star) is a collection of folk verse representing elements of the winter cycle. Compiled by Elizabeth (Eta) Archer, it includes verses of greetings and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

The materials were collected primarily from informants in Canada, underscoring the continuing importance of folk practices such as caroling and "vinshuvannia" (greetings for Christmas and the New Year) for new generations of Ukrainian Canadians.

The compiler, Miss Archer, is now 17. The first edition of her book was released in a self-published edition in the fall of 2002; it was later picked up by the Ukrainian Language Education Center at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies based at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. The second edition is beautifully illustrated by Iryna Karpenko, an Edmonton artist.

Miss Archer dedicates the book to her parents and her friends in Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. Her book actually began as a Plast project. She sent letters all over Ukraine, Canada and the United States, asking that recipients send her any vinshuvannia they knew. She received over 100 replies and was overwhelmed by this unexpected response.

The verses collected were both old and new, historic and modern. Miss Archer and her mother formatted the collected verses into a book that was sold at the youth Christmas bazaar, with proceeds earmarked to help orphans in Ukraine.

Now, three years later, the author's proceeds from the second edition also benefit Ukraine's orphans.

The spiral-bound book of 60 pages of



Persha Zirka
ЗБІРНИК
ВІНШУВАНЬ
Українська
Українська
Українська

Ukrainian-language vinshuvannia has been found to be a handy resource for "koliadnyky," or carolers, as they go house to house in keeping with Ukrainian tradition, and offer best wishes and blessings to their hosts.

The book contains a bilingual (Ukrainian-English) foreword and preface that briefly explain the significance of Ukrainian folk verses and traditions, as well as such collections of folklore.

Miss Archer says of the book: "In my opinion, 'Persha Zirka' is a resource that strengthens ties to our heritage and allows us to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of our culture."

The book may be purchased for \$14.95 (Canadian), or \$12.95 (U.S.), plus shipping and applicable taxes, from: Ukrainian Language Resource Center, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 450 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E8, Canada.

Inquiries can be made by fax, (780) 492-4967, or e-mail, ulec@ualberta.ca.

NEW RELEASE: An instructional DVD on Ukrainian cooking

ARLINGTON, Va. – Ukraivin Productions has released an instructional cooking DVD, "Ukrainian Christmas Eve," which provides detailed, yet simplified, instructions on how to make the most popular, traditional recipes. The two-hour English-language DVD shows the "must have" Christmas Eve recipes, which have been modified, wherever possible, for busy, modern cooks using today's modern kitchens.

Chef and host Pavlo Czerwoniak takes the viewer step-by-step through each recipe, using time- and labor-saving techniques. Along with the printable recipe files provided on the DVD, the viewer will learn how to overcome the oftentimes monumental task of putting together a traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve meal.

Some dishes are prepared in the traditional way, such as kutia (honey-sweetened wheat dish) and uzvar (dried fruit compote), while others are prepared in time-saving ways, like the dough for varenyky (potato- and cabbage-filled dumplings), meatless borshch (beet soup), ushka (mushroom-filled dumplings), fish in aspic, holubtssi

(stuffed cabbage rolls), and strutslia (braided Christmas bread).

"As with many cultures, much of the Ukrainian culture is preserved through the observance of holiday food, ritual and custom. Because cooking and baking can be rather complicated, following recipes in a cookbook alone is often not enough – visual depiction always helps," said Tatiana Terleckyj, director and executive producer of the DVD.

Ms. Terleckyj, along with co-creators, Katerina Sloniewsky-Ntep and Marijka Lischak (secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 15) grew up in Ukrainian households and learned traditional Ukrainian cooking from their mothers and grandmothers.

Ms. Terleckyj, who has over 20 years' experience in television production, goes on to explain, "A year or so ago, Marijka, Katerina and I helped organize a Ukrainian paska-and babka-making class for our local branch of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America. There was great interest in this particular class, and we realized there was a lot of overall interest in Ukrainian cooking and keeping our traditions alive. And we felt

there was a void that needed to be filled."

Ms. Terleckyj further noted, "A lot of the wonderful recipes prepared by our mothers and grandmothers are being lost and need to be preserved and passed down to our generation. We hope to fill this void with this instructional cooking DVD. Realizing there is no one way to prepare the Ukrainian Christmas Eve meal, we strive to present the traditional recipes using time-saving methods. In putting together this DVD, we take into consideration the fact that in today's households, with both parents working, it's difficult enough to juggle day-to-day living, let alone prepare a 12-course meal."

The 17-chapter DVD also has informative chapters explaining Ukrainian traditions and customs. In addition to the printable recipe files that may be printed using a PC or Mac, the user-friendly DVD allows the viewer to navigate the menu, using a television or computer screen, to view either the entire DVD or select individual recipes.

The DVD also features traditional Ukrainian Christmas carols performed on bandura by multi-faceted performer and

accomplished artist Olya Chodoba-Fryz (www.olyfryz.com) who has been entertaining audiences for over 20 years.

For more information, or to order the DVD online, readers are advised to visit www.ukraivin.com.



joining a K.k. Schutzen Regiment No. 36 (Imperial Austrian Defense Regiment No. 36) shortly after the outbreak of the war in late July 1914. According to Austrian war records, this unit was Ukrainian-Polish. However, the regiment's recruitment base was Kolomyia, the very center of the Ukrainian Hutsul region, where the Polish population was minuscule. In all likelihood, since the Poles controlled most of the positions of power in the Galician province of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, they influenced the records to reflect favorably upon themselves. It is quite probable, however, that this regiment was in fact almost completely Ukrainian, with just a few non-Ukrainian higher ranking officers.

In August of 1914 the regiment consisted of three battalions of 1,200 men each (3,600 men in total). By the beginning of May 1915, the battalion strength was down to just one and a half battalions. Half of its men had been killed, wounded or taken prisoner during the Russian offensive early in the war that overran Bukovyna and large swaths of Halychyna.

With German aid, the Austrian army was able to push back the Russians in the spring of 1915. By September of that year, the regiment's strength had been rebuilt to two and a half battalions (about 3,000 men). The soldiers of these battalions served in various fronts of the conflict wherever they were most needed. The regiment survived until the end of the war; the latest mention in the military archival records is October 15, 1918.

A special insignia

Caps, instead of helmets, were the ordinary head gear of many of the regular soldiers in the Austrian army. It was common for the men to emblazon these caps with badges of their various military formations. Regiment No. 36 is known for creating the one and only badge of the Austro-Hungarian army that had a Ukrainian inscription. Figure 1 shows this badge in regular size and enlarged. (Today, many

collectors – Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian – eagerly search for these badges, as well as buttons, tokens, ribbons, medals, etc. from the first world war.)

The badge is meant to symbolize the defense of the Hutsul region. Across the top, under the outstretched wings of the imperial Austrian double-headed eagle, is the unit's name: K.k. Schutzen Regiment No. 36. Depicted in the center of the image is a Hutsul leather bag (dzobenka) and crossed Hutsul axes (topirts; singular: topirets). On the left, a Ukrainian soldier defends the Hutsul region against the Italian panther (puma) in a tree, while on the right, the Ukrainian defender battles a rearing Russian bear. Across the bottom is the slogan: "Vytrymaty khloptsi!" This can be translated as: Hold out (endure) to the very end, lads!

Hutsuls on postcards

We would like to supplement our description of this important piece of Hutsul memorabilia with a presentation of Hutsul life and customs as seen on postcards of the early 20th century.

The Hutsuls are widely renowned for their colorful and elaborately decorated clothing and handicrafts. Figure 2 shows a typical Hutsul couple in their distinctive costumes; Figure 3 displays a variety of carved, inlaid and embroidered Hutsul handiwork; and Figure 4 shows Hutsuls blowing on their mountain horns (trembity; singular: trembita). A Hutsul gent smoking his beloved pipe (liulka) was a prevalent topic on postcards (Figures 5 to 7).

Hutsul customs, particularly those related to weddings, were another popular postcard subject. Figure 8 shows a betrothed couple, three days before their wedding, as they make their rounds inviting guests to the nuptials. Figure 9 shows a bridal procession, and Figure 10 the arrival of a bridegroom's party. Figure 11 is of a young newly married couple with their attendants.

Finally, for your pleasure, a photo of the senior author "transformed" into a Hutsul, with relatives on a visit to Ukraine (Figure 12).

Further information about Ukrainian philately and collecting may be found on the website of the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society: www.upns.org. Dr. Ingert Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150 or via e-mail at: ingert@starpowernet.net.



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12

UMANA plans a major expansion of its web presence

by George Hrycelak

CHICAGO – Representatives of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) and the Ukrainian Knowledge Internet Portal Consortium Association (UKiP) met in Chicago recently to solidify plans for a major expansion of UMANA's Internet activity for the immediate future.

UMANA's president Andrew Iwach, M.D., said he believes that "communication via the worldwide web is the key to expanding medical knowledge and resources to Ukrainians globally, at a fast pace and reasonable cost." UMANA's current website has served admirably until now.

Dr. Iwach explained that "UMANA is striving to become the first major Ukrainian American professional group to fully incorporate the Ukrainian language into its website, thereby opening its resources to all." He added that "Collaborating with our Canadian colleagues will lead to an efficient partnership."

While in Edmonton this summer for the UMANA Scientific Conference, board members made contact with representatives of UKiP, a consortium of organizations dedicated to the development and delivery of resources for learning and appreciating the Ukrainian language and culture. Headquartered in Edmonton, UKiP coordinates, develops and provides bilingual (English-Ukrainian) online learning resources to a

variety of schools, post-secondary institutions and a worldwide audience.

Members of UKiP include the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta, Canada Ukraine Foundation, Ukrainian Resource and Development Center at Grant MacEwan College and others.

UMANA board members began preliminary deliberations in Edmonton to evaluate the possibility that UMANA's website could be enhanced and raised to

bilingual status through cooperation with UKiP.

UKiP members Dr. Roman Petryshyn (via teleconference), Anna Biscoe, Dr. Bohdan Klid and Kim Robinson visited UMANA headquarters over the weekend of October 15-17, meeting formally with the board of directors to present their proposal for developing the UMANA website. Board members discussed the various options and potential expansions with enthusiasm, realizing that a success-

ful web expansion will significantly increase the association's reach, and include a large segment of Ukrainian-speaking health care professionals for whom up to now this has been a difficult task.

One major change will have the basic website exist in both languages, English and Ukrainian. A visitor could pick between versions with a simple click of a button. Posted material would be translated and updated with new editions, such as the currently posted issues of UMANA News and Likarskyi Visnyk (Journal of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, JUMANA). Options will be built in to allow links to major medical resource sites and permit viewing of select articles of interest to the medical community.

Another goal is to encourage UMANA members to begin to incorporate the Internet as a basic learning resource as well as communication center for association activities and knowledge database. "If we can serve as a template for other Ukrainian American professional organizations in the diaspora, so much the better," reasoned Dr. Iwach.

At the UMANA board meeting on October 17, members voted to proceed with the project to expand and amend the www.umana.org website. Input on proposed changes will be sought from the UMANA members, with enhancements expected to be tested and completed by early 2006.



UMANA-UKiP conference participants: (front, from left) Dr. Bohdan Klid, Anna Biscoe and Kim Robinson of the Ukrainian Knowledge Internet Portal Consortium Association with (rear) Dr. George Hrycelak and Dr. Andrew Iwach of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America.

Shevchenko Society hosts young scholar's talk on educational practices in Ukraine

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – The headquarters of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) on October 29 hosted a talk by Anna Fournier titled "Educational Practice and the Making of Citizens in Ukraine Before and After the Orange Revolution."

Ms. Fournier, a Ph.D. candidate in the department of anthropology at Johns Hopkins University, based her lecture on a year of ethnographic fieldwork she had carried out in the Kyiv region in 2004-2005, during which she also witnessed the Orange Revolution, as well as similar research trips in 1998 and 2003. Her last trip to Kyiv was financed in part by a \$3,000 grant from NTSh.

In his welcoming remarks, NTSh Vice-President Dr. Orest Popovych introduced Ms. Fournier as an example of a success story for NTSh's program of scholarships and grants for deserving students in the field of Ukrainian studies. He explained that NTSh grant money comes from the long-term named funds established at the society by patriotic members of the Ukrainian community who decided to support Ukrainian studies with their generosity.

Dr. Popovych urged those in the audience who can afford it to immortalize their own names by creating at NTSh their named funds with tax-deductible contributions, thereby supporting Ukrainian scholarship and education.

A more substantive introduction of the guest speaker was given by Prof. Vasyl Makhno, who chaired the program.

After thanking NTSh for the financial support, Ms. Fournier began by raising the question of whether Ukrainian schools were succeeding in creating patriotic, nationally conscious citizenry, and whether the Orange Revolution has had any effect on the educational process.

Her research covered several schools – public, private, village – in the Kyiv

region, focusing primarily on high school students in Grades 9-11, with the objective of analyzing their views on the relationship between the nation and citizenship. By way of background, Ms. Fournier examined the citizenship education curricula, including textbooks and other teaching materials, in the courses on civics, history, geography, folklore, Ukrainian language, Ukrainian literature, and the patriotic education component of the military preparedness course.

A major challenge inherent in the content of citizenship education in Ukraine, said Ms. Fournier, arises from the way nationalism is contrasted with national culture and patriotism. Nationalism is seen as an ideology that is inherently negative, a synonym for chauvinism, representing a threat to peace, order and stability of the state. Also, in the last few years, much of Ukraine's population became disillusioned with the national idea by associating it with the lack of economic prosperity, continued Ms. Fournier.

Therefore, citizenship in Ukraine is not grounded in nationalism. Instead, Ukraine's state authorities as well as schools promote the idea of a national culture that is marked, in Ms. Fournier's words, by excessive folkloricization, paternalism and infantilization. National culture defined in this manner is benign and depoliticized. Therefore, it offers little resistance to the aggressive process of present-day Russification, according to Ms. Fournier.

As a result, citizenship education in Ukraine today promotes a tame version of patriotism that is supposed to originate from one's soul, while in practice it is associated with the concept of order, obedience and spectatorship, as opposed to initiative, social responsibility and active participation, continued Ms. Fournier.

These presumably desirable qualities of a good patriot-citizen coincide with

those expected of a good student in Ukraine's schools. The key element of national pedagogy in Ukraine is repetition without questioning, as well as compliance with the teacher's rules and demands, said the speaker. The teacher is always right and there is virtually no discussion allowed in class. Moreover, students as advanced as Grade 11 are still called "children" and are told that they "are too little to have an opinion."

With this type of pedagogic philosophy, the heavily stereotyped folkloric version of Ukrainian culture presented in class cannot be a source of pride to students, leading them to reject it. Students oppose their teachers by feigning compliance and by defiantly using Russian in class. According to Ms. Fournier, Ukrainian culture as it is taught is devoid of Ukrainian self-assertiveness and is viewed by students as "marginal," compared to the Russian language and culture, which they consider "global." Nevertheless, the students' preference for

things Russian does not extend to a desire for economic or political union with Russia.

The Orange Revolution brought profound changes in the way students view their Ukrainian national identity, as well as their relationship to the state, continued Ms. Fournier. No longer associated with a village culture, Ukraine has become a modern political nation, the focus of the world's attention. For the first time, said the students, Ukrainian symbols became meaningful to them, while the experience of the "maidan" (Independence Square in Kyiv) awakened in them feelings of patriotism without any connotation of compliance or obedience. The idea of a Ukrainian nation not only came forward, but became the basis for a peaceful political action against the state.

Furthermore, the Orange Revolution made the students more aware of their

(Continued on page 16)



At the Shevchenko Scientific Society (from left): Prof. Vasyl Makhno, Dr. Roman Voronka, Anna Fournier and Dr. Orest Popovych.

Theater in a Basket represents Ukraine at I-Fest of solo performances

by Irene Antonovych

CHICAGO – The Theater in a Basket under the direction of Iryna Volytska-Zubko, Ph.D., with leading actress Lidia Danylchuk, arrived in Chicago on October 18 to prepare for their first appearance in the United States to represent Ukraine in I-Fest. It was the first



Lidia Danylchuk of Theater in a Basket.

annual festival of international solo performances. The chosen plays emphasized the mysterious uniqueness of the individual independent of group associations.

The festival ran from October 22 through October 30 at the Chopin Theater, a private establishment celebrating its 15th anniversary. Guests have included Pulitzer Prize winners Gwendolyn Brooks, Yusef Komunyakaa and Studs Terkel; writers Stuart Dybek, Sara Paretsky and Zadie Smith; poets Nikki Giovanni and Luis Rodriguez; actors John Cusack and Jeremy Piven; musicians Grazyna Auguscik, Peter Brozman, Chuck D., Kurt Elling and Von Freeman.

The Chopin Theater has produced over 110 of its own productions, mostly from Poland and Eastern Europe, and has hosted performers from probably every state in the United States and from over 40 countries.

The countries represented in this first I-Fest were: France (Marie Sophie Ferdane in "Music Hall"), Germany (Claudia Wiedemer in "Grete"), Lithuania (Birute Mar in "The Lover"), Poland (Janusz Stolarski in "Behold the Man"), Switzerland (Jurg Kienberger in "I Am so Alone"), and Ukraine (Ms. Danylchuk in "White Butterflies, Plaited Chains").

Ms. Danylchuk graduated from Karpenko-Karyi National Theater Institute in Kyiv. She has had a successful stage career in the top theaters of Odesa and Lviv. In 1997, together with Dr. Volytska-Zubko, she co-founded an independent art studio, Theater in a Basket, in which she is the leading actress. She has received acclaim and many awards for her acting, including the Ivan Kotliarevsky National Theatrical Award.

The director, Dr. Volytska-Zubko, is a specialist in drama studies, a critic, stage director and winner of the Les Kurbas National Theater Award. She graduated from the St. Petersburg Institute of Theater, Music and Cinematography. She puts theory into practice as the stage and art director of Theater in a Basket, which as of 2004 became an affiliate of the Les Kurbas National Center for Dramatic Art in Kyiv.

Dr. Volytska-Zubko is the author of several monographs and many articles on the history of Ukrainian theater. As stage director of Theater in a Basket, she has produced six critically acclaimed modern interpretations of Ukrainian classics.

"White Butterflies, Plaited Chains" draws its text from the novel and letters of Vasyl Stefanyk. The work is a meditation on the themes of love and suffering, sin and redemption, hopelessness and hopefulness. The play does not have a specific plot; rather, it consists of 13 episodes depicting women characters confronting the various problems of human existence.

Ms. Danylchuk gives life and magic to this performance through her use of voice, plasticity, rhythm, instruments, such as the bird-whistle and Jewish harp ("drymba"), and ritual songs of the Carpathian region. She delivers this physically demanding role effortlessly and with precision, conveying psychological states that completely absorb the viewer. Ms. Danylchuk uses her body as an instrument, at times beating the ground with her knees, elbows and hands to create the hypnotic sounds of life's heartbeat, which is simultaneously an inevitable death march.

(Continued on page 16)



A scene from "White Butterflies, Plaited Chains."

"Teatr u Koshyku" performs in New York City

by Diana Howansky

NEW YORK – The independent arts group "Teatr u Koshyku" (Theater in a Basket) from Ukraine gave a special performance at Columbia University in New York City on Friday, November 11, illustrating the Columbia Ukrainian Studies Program's recent increase in support for Ukrainian cultural events.

Teatr u Koshyku, made up of artists who live in Lviv, but most often perform their theater productions in the capital of Kyiv, came to the United States in November as participants of the "Best of European Solo Acts" festival in Chicago. At a time when most Ukrainian artists are invited to the United States by the diaspora, this festival invitation testifies to Teatr u Koshyku's appeal to broad audiences.

In Chicago, Teatr u Koshyku performed the theatrical production which the group staged on its very first opening night, on June 15, 1997, and which has continued to draw crowds for almost 10 years – a production titled "White Butterflies, Plaited Chains," based on letters and novellas by Ukrainian writer Vasyl Stefanyk (1871-1936).

At Columbia University, actress Lidia Danylchuk, one of Teatr u Koshyku's co-founders, gave a solo theater performance based on "The Dream," the famous work written in 1844 by Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko. Ms. Danylchuk, who graduated from the renowned Karpenko-Karyi National Theater Institute in Kyiv, is a winner of the Ivan Kotliarevsky National Theatrical Award.

Unlike other presentations of "The Dream" offering a straightforward reading of this poem, Teatr u Koshyku presented a dramatic interpretation that highlighted the work's political satire, sarcasm and parody. For an hour and a half, the solo actress held the audience's attention with her wide-ranging talent, beginning as the main character who flies above the Earth having apocalyptic visions, and then transforming herself into crows that symbolize the evil powers of the Ukrainian, Russian and Polish nations, as well as into the despotic figures of the tsar and tsarina in St. Petersburg.

The Teatr u Koshyku performance, which portrayed the tragedy of Ukrainian history, not only incorporated

portions of other Shevchenko works, such as the poem "Caucasus," but also weaved in contemporary modern Ukrainian music.

"We appeal to history, as well as to today. This is a performance – parting with the totalitarian system in any of its forms, with post-imperial syndromes and complexes of national inferiority," said Iryna Volytska-Zubko, the director and co-founder of Teatr u Koshyku, who graduated from the St. Petersburg Institute of Theater, Music and Cinematography and recently won the Les Kurbas National Theatrical Award.

While designed for an educated, sophisticated viewer, according to Ms. Volytska-Zubko, Teatr u Koshyku's works utilize minimalist set designs. Even the group's name developed because everything that is used on the set of "White Butterflies, Plaited Chains" can fit into a basket, which exists in reality and was weaved by Ms. Danylchuk years ago for carrying her baby son. In "The Dream," the only prop used by Ms. Danylchuk is a broom.

"I found the actual performance to be amazing. I was totally captivated for an entire hour by a single actress using nothing but a broom for a prop," said one audience member, attorney and writer Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky.

"I was grateful to be able to hear Shevchenko performed on stage. We all revere him, but are but superficially acquainted with his works."

Teatr u Koshyku's other performances include contemporary interpretations of Ukrainian classics by Ivan Franko, Lesia Ukrainka and others. Currently, the group is working on a number of new projects, including a performance to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Ivan Franko's birth.

For more information about Columbia Ukrainian Studies Program events, please contact ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu or (212) 854-4697.

Teatr u Koshyku, featuring Ms. Danylchuk in a solo performance, also appeared at the Shevchenko Scientific Society on November 13, with the production "White Butterflies, Plaited Chains," based on narrative vignettes by Stefanyk, master of the short story genre.

Background: Stefanyk's novellas

The Stefanyk novella, which is "characterized by a succinct and highly dramatic form used to capture single crucial moments in the life of a hero," lends itself particularly well to staging.

The heroes of Stefanyk's stories are for the most part peasants from his native Pokuttia. Against the general background of poverty or war Stefanyk showed his heroes in a universal dilemma, confronting the pain at the heart of existence. Stefanyk concentrated on capturing the turbulence of the soul, the inner agony, which revealed the psychological complexity of the hero.

His characterizations were achieved through the speech of the characters. Words spoken became important not only for their meaning but also for the elements of "skaz," which throw direct light on the character's emotional state, personality, social position and degree of literacy. The special blend of literary Ukrainian and the Pokuttia dialect created a flavor not easily duplicated or translated.

Stefanyk's novellas have been successfully staged by Volodymyr Blavatsky and adapted for film ("Kaminnyi Khrest," screenplay by Ivan Drach).

Excerpted from the entry on Vasyl Stefanyk written by Danylo H. Struk in the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, (University of Toronto, 1993).

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Thefts...

(Continued from page 8)

tions and assisted many scholars in carrying on research. Iaroslav Dashkevych, a leading scholar and former dissident, and his colleagues Ivan and Halyna Svarnyk, have worked with great dedication to preserve and catalogue Ukraine's archival legacy (e.g., the materials in the Polish National Library) and are known for their professionalism and expertise.

The allegations that each side raises against the other are profoundly troubling to all who know them. Many of us are reading the various statements and observing the authorities' actions carefully.

Since 1989 Evhen Misilo, director of the Ukrainian Archives in Warsaw, has been researching and cataloguing archives of the Ukrainian Shevchenko Scientific Society found in Warsaw that were removed in 1944 by the retreating Nazis from Lviv to Silesia and later brought to Warsaw. Assisting Mr. Misilo, on a part-time basis, has been Halyna Svarnyk of the Lviv Archives. Mr. Misilo emphasized that Ms. Svarnyk was a dedicated and professional archivist whose work on the collection of documents in Warsaw was invaluable. As a result of her work, a 350-page catalogue,

"Archives and Manuscripts of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the Holdings of the National Library of Warsaw," was recently published (Warsaw-Lviv-New York 2005). This catalogue will provide a unique documentary source for the political, social and cultural history of Ukraine in the first half of the 20th century.

Mr. Misilo, who was in Toronto recently, said that, despite his numerous appeals, Ukrainian government officials continuously refused to get involved in helping him retrieve the portion of the plundered Lviv archives that have remained in Silesia.

He also mentioned that, in the period of time that he has worked on the Lviv archives in Warsaw, Mr. Boriak had not shown any interest in them or come to Warsaw to look at them. Recently, however, Mr. Boriak appeared in Warsaw with Lviv Director Pelz trying to find some compromising evidence on Ms. Svarnyk, asking around whether there had been any complaints by anyone against Ms. Svarnyk.

Correction

In Oksana Zakydalsky's previous article about the Lviv Archives (November 6) the author incorrectly spelled the surname of Ivan and Halyna Svarnyk.

Shevchenko Society...

(Continued from page 14)

rights and demonstrated to them that power can be acquired by the people in a peaceful way, provided there is a collective will. Subsequently, some students have tried to apply elements of the revolution to their school situations, as in opposing the perceived injustices from their teachers and principals. Unfortunately, the lessons of the maidan have yet to be integrated into Ukraine's school curriculum, concluded Ms.

Fournier. Recommendations and pedagogic strategies on how to accomplish this will be offered in Ms. Fournier's doctoral dissertation titled "Education and Citizenship in the Era of Ukraine's Orange Revolution." To facilitate the writing of this dissertation, NTSh has awarded Ms. Fournier a grant totaling \$8,000 for the next two semesters. A letter from NTSh informing her of this award was presented to Ms. Fournier by Dr. Roman Voronka, chairman of the NTSh Committee on Scholarships and Grants, at the conclusion of her lecture.

Theater...

(Continued from page 15)

Ms. Danylchuk comes from the same region as Stefanyk, who was born in Rusiv, Sniatin county, Halychyna, and easily recreates the special blend of literary Ukrainian and the Pokutia dialect that he used. One imagines that she alone is able to convey the power and beauty of Stefanyk's language through her abstract and provocative performance made possible by the superior directing talents of Dr. Volytska-Zubko.

The theater literally works out of a basket. The minimalist set for "White Butterflies" consists of an embroidered

robe, bells, "kalatalo" and flute, which are suspended and illuminated in the black space, with a small rocking horse standing on the black ground. The stark lighting emphasizes the elemental forces of life and death, referring to the images of black and white butterflies that serve as key metaphors of the play.

Following each of the two performances, the owner of the Chopin Theater, Zygmunt Dyrkacz, and his wife and collaborator, Lela Headd, hosted a lively reception. Among the honored guests were the acting consul general of Ukraine in Chicago, Dr. Oleh Shevchenko, and his wife, Iryna, as well as Washington-based journalist Myroslava Gongadze.

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"A kindergartner..."

(Continued from page 11)

this city with no problem. Mostly I am just Eta, a kindergartner with a sword, but the thing that keeps me strong is my family and friends.

Sometimes it's hard to get up in the mornings, knowing that they're so far away, but knowing that I have these amazing people in my life, having their love and support in my heart, I can keep going. I guess that's pretty cliché and trite, but it's the bald and sincere truth.

Has being of Ukrainian heritage played any part in your life now, as a student in the Big Apple?

My Ukrainian heritage has played a huge role in my life, and living in New York is no exception. I've been to Little Ukraine a few times so far, and I find I feel really at home talking to people in stores or restaurants in Ukrainian. I was overly excited when I spotted Taras Shevchenko Place. I am eager to attend some Ukrainian plays and concerts here and have been delighted to see people walking around casually in "vyshyvani sorochky" [embroidered shirts] or using red dancing boots as everyday accessories. It's that link that ties me back to Edmonton and to my roots, which, in a new city, is rather nice.

I also find myself so much more patriotic, and so much more grateful that I can and will always call Canada home. I listen to CBC radio on the Internet and I watch CTV news on an online newscast, which gives me a little taste of home. I never thought Lloyd Robertson would make me so happy!

Your book, "Persha Zirka," has been published. Is this project over for you since you became a student at the ADA?

"Persha Zirka" has been in my life for almost four years now, and I am so proud of what the book has become. The initial project is done. The book was compiled, edited and published. Now the next step has begun – a step that rests on the Ukrainian community – wherein people

have to care about learning about and preserving their culture. If that is lost, then this undertaking will be finished. Here's to a never-ending project!

What will we miss by not getting this book in our hands or on our coffee tables?

These "vinshuvannia" have been around for generations, their words have been said by many, and, with this book, you can hear the echoes of the voices of our past and pass them on to the voices of the future.

Simply put, the book is a celebration of tradition; it allows us to look back and see how people lived before us and, embracing that, we can, in turn, use it to create our own traditions and foster a pride in who we are and where we have come from.

You are only 17. If you had to make a definite choice now, what would you like to be?

Obviously being an actor would be a dream; being able to do something I love for the rest of my life would be fantastic. I have begun to realize, though, that sometimes where you're going is not where you end up and, with that in mind, the thing I would like to be is happy.

I would like to be happy in whatever I do, wherever I am and with where my life leads me. If I can achieve that, I have done something right.

"Fragmenty"...

(Continued from page 10)

by Marcia Ostashevski, song texts (in Ukrainian), interpretive notes and art-design by Ron Sawchuk.

This is perhaps the most stylish Ukrainian compact disc ever produced, and kudos are deserved by all members of the team that worked to realize this project. According to one of the annotations printed in the booklet, "Time passes, the theme evolves, final sleep becomes a new consciousness and the journey continues" – a super metaphor for this latest CD from the Paris to Kyiv Ensemble.

The CD is available at olesia.com.

For those who wish to join us, albeit from afar, in a 2005 memoria for our dearly beloved family members.

The 5 p.m Mass on Saturday, December 17, 2005, at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, N.J.,

will be held in memory of:

Ivan and Stefania, Mychailo and Maria,

Volodymyr, Roman, and Olenka

Eternal Memory!

dedicated by the surviving members of the
Wirszczuk Family

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

to be published in The Ukrainian Weekly – in the Ukrainian or English language – are accepted by mail, courier, fax, phone or e-mail.

Deadline: Tuesday noon before the newspaper's date of issue.
(The Weekly goes to press early Friday mornings.)

Rate: \$7.50 per column-inch.

Information should be addressed to the attention of the Advertising Department and sent to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280 (NB: please do not include post office box if sending via courier), Parsippany, N.J. 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510; telephone, (973) 292-9800, ext. 3040; e-mail, adsukrpubl@att.net.

Please include the daytime phone number of a contact person.

With deep sorrow we inform family and friends that on Friday, December 2, 2005, at the age of 90, passed away our beloved husband, father, grandfather and uncle



бл. п.

WOLODYMYR VELYCHENKO WOROCH

born March 9, 1915, in the town of Kryvenke, Ternopil obl.

Parastas was held on Thursday, December 8, 2005, at 7:30 p.m. at the Peter Jarema Funeral Home in New York City.

Funeral services were held on Friday, December 9, 2005 at 9:45 a.m. at St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York City, followed by interment at St. Andrew's Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

In deep sorrow:

wife:	Maria
daughter:	Zwenyslawa-Anizia
son:	Lubomyr
grandchildren:	Chrysanna Anizia Lubomyr with wife Linda and family Luboslav Andrea Tatianna
nephews:	Bohdar with wife Martha and family Sviatoslav with wife Luba and family Roman with wife Oksana and family Leonid Huta with wife Luba and family
nieces:	Rosanna Nadia Bodnar with family Anizia Verokina with family Marucia Olynyk with family
cousins:	Ira Luboshchuk-Velychenko Eugenia Sai
in-laws:	Oksana Josephine Kachaluba with son Boris and daughter Martha and family

extended family in the U.S., Canada and Ukraine

Eternal memory.



With deep sorrow we announce that after a long illness

TATIANA LELITKA ULIANA JAWNY OTTO

beloved wife, mother, daughter and sister passed away on December 5, 2005.

The family will receive friends at the Moriarty Funeral Home, Montclair, N.J., on Friday, December 9, from 7-9 p.m. Funeral services will be held at St. Cassian Church, Montclair, N.J., on Sunday, December 10, at 10 a.m., followed by interment at Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Montclair, N.J.

She will be deeply missed by her:

husband:	Keith Otto
sons:	Kyle, Jack and Max
parents:	Dr. Lubomir and Dzwynyslawa Jawny
sisters:	Dr. Olha Sokhan with husband Dr. Oleh and son Nestor Lada Jawny Gawdiak with husband Yuri and sons Lev and Zakhar
brother:	Roman Jawny

along with the Krawciw and Diachuk families, as well as distant relatives in the U.S.A., Canada and Ukraine.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society or the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center would be appreciated.

Vichnaya Pamyat.



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Carpathian Ski Club holds annual social and elections at Soyuzivka

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The Carpathian Ski Club (known by its Ukrainian-based acronym as KLK) of Canada and the United States held its annual elections at the Soyuzivka estate owned by the Ukrainian National Association on October 1-2.

During the course of the weekend, a friendly tennis tournament was held on Saturday morning, followed by an informal awards luncheon outside the Vorokhta villa.

The festivities later moved to the Tiki bar for a formal cocktail hour, followed by dinner and dancing to the music of Vidlunnia in the beautifully decorated lobby of the Main House.

The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz was honored during the dinner with a plaque and flowers in recognition of her continuous help in supporting and publicizing KLK activities in America and Ukraine. Longtime KLK activist Vira Popel was greeted with flowers on the occasion of her birthday.

Sunday's events began with breakfast and concluded with elections of the KLK leadership. The elections were held after the presentation of reports by the outgoing KLK officers.

The proposed slate of the KLK board was unanimously accepted with Erko Palydowycz as president, Ms. Popel as vice-president, Adia Fedash as treasurer and Christine Klufas as secretary.

Ski event coordinators are Orest Fedash and Zenon Stakhiv, tennis coordinators are George Popel and Ivan Durbak, and the golf coordinator is Andriy Kachala. George Popel is the KLK's delegate to USCAK.

The next KLK event is the annual ski races at Windham in upstate New York scheduled for March 4.



Carpathian Ski Club members at the conclusion of their annual gathering at Soyuzivka.

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“Verkhovynky” Plast sorority celebrates two years since rebirth

by Laryssa Czebiniak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – On October 29, the young adult (“starshi plastunky”) members of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization’s “Verkhovynky” sorority gathered at Soyuzivka for the second straight year for their annual meeting, or “rada.” They were commemorating the second anniversary of the sisterhood’s rebirth.

It was a jam-packed schedule. The meeting’s morning program included performances by the newest candidates. Later the group hiked up to the waterfalls that were finally flowing with water. Eating lunch with a breath-stopping view of distant snow-capped autumn mountains was fitting for this sisterhood, whose symbol depicts mountains.

An intriguing element of the day was a field trip to the local place of worship called Oriana, where adherents practice a Ukrainian native national faith called “RUNVira.” An afternoon game about the sisterhood’s patron, composer Mykola Lysenko, followed, and later two candidates taught the group Ukrainian songs that none of them had sung before.

The main meeting elicited a flurry of discussion and ideas, and a new executive board was chosen. The session ended with the Verkhovynky joining the rest of Soyuzivka’s costumed guests at the annual Halloween dance.

The Verkhovynky sorority has New York roots beginning in 1950 and

enjoyed a renaissance in 1970. When members moved up to the very active senior branch, young adult membership ceased. Then in 2003, three starshi plastunky – Larissa Babij, Lesya Hentisz and Laryssa Czebiniak – decided to take up the challenge of restarting the sisterhood. Since that time, the Verkhovynky have attracted an enthusiastic group of 11 multi-talented women: dancers, singers, musicians, painters and actors.

The sorority’s main differentiating quality is its focus on the performing arts. Another mission is to encourage Plast members to be in touch with today’s Ukraine, so that they can direct their efforts to satisfy Ukraine’s current needs. Other Verkhovynky interests include exploring the mythological beliefs of their ancestors and being in contact with other Plast members around the world.

Verkhovynky have built sets for and organized the annual masquerade play (“Kostiumivka”) for Plast youths in New York for two years, and plan to continue the tradition this spring. Members live in the United States, Canada and Ukraine. Verkhovynky are very active in their local Plast chapters during the year, and both the young adult and senior branches meet regularly.

For much more information, photos and membership requirements, readers may visit the website www.plastscouting.org/verkhovynky.



The “Verkhovynky” sorority of Plast at Soyuzivka.

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UKRAINIAN AIRLINES

Winter and Christmas rituals to be showcased at The Ukrainian Museum

NEW YORK – “Still the River Flows: A Glimpse into Winter Solstice and Christmas Rituals in a Carpathian Village” is a “frozen performance” that echoes the theme of The Ukrainian Museum’s exhibition “The Tree of Life, the Sun, the Goddess: Symbolic Motifs in Ukrainian Folk Art.”

Conceived by Virlana Tkacz and Watoku Ueno of the Yara Arts Group, the installation creates a glimpse into the Koliada – traditional winter solstice and Christmas rituals in a village in the Hutsul region of the Carpathian Mountains of Ukraine. The installation opened to the public on December 11, and will be on view through January 29, 2006. A vocal workshop and a concert will accompany the project.

Ms. Tkacz, director, Mr. Ueno, set designer, filmmaker Andrea Odezynska, photographer Alexander Khantaev and poet-translator Wanda Phipps have created a collaborative work presenting elements of the Koliada, an ancient winter solstice ritual, rich in symbolism, that has become part of the Christmas tradition.

For the past three years, Yara artists have been documenting the Koliada as it exists in the village of Kryvorivnia in the Carpathian Mountains of southwestern Ukraine, learning about the traditional rituals and listening to stories told by villagers.

The Koliada is considered to be the most important event of the year in the area, since people believe that spring and the harvest will not come to the village unless these songs are sung in every household. A separate song (koliada) – chosen specifically for each person by the leader of the singers – is sung to every member of the household, both living and recently deceased. The words are of ancient origin and exhibit traces of worship of the sun,

ancestors, and nature. The songs are incantations that assume the magical power of words: what is said will be so.

The Christmas Eve ritual includes a dinner of 12 dishes and a number of other customs. Last winter, Yara’s new theater piece at La MaMa, “Koliada: Twelve Dishes,” was based on this ritual and included traditional singers from the village of Kryvorivnia. In January 2003, Ms. Tkacz was accompanied to the Carpathians by Mr. Khantaev. The photographs he took were on exhibit last January at La MaMa Galleria and are part of this exhibition as well. Also included are videos of winter rituals in Kryvorivnia created by Ms. Odezynska.

The Yara Arts Group, a resident company of La MaMa Experimental Theater, creates original theater pieces, art exhibits, and music and poetry events rooted in the cultures of the East. The group’s founders are Ms. Tkacz, Mr. Ueno and Ms. Phipps, who have been working for years with Ms. Odezynska and Mr. Khantaev.

Recently, Ms. Tkacz received an NEA Poetry Translation Fellowship to translate the poetry of Serhiy Zhadan, and Mr. Ueno received an NEA/TCG Design Fellowship. Ms. Odezynska has completed a new film, “The Whisperer,” and has several films to her credit. Since its founding in 1990, the Yara Arts Group has collaborated on 16 original theater productions with artists from Ukraine, Siberia and China.

Yara’s first show, “In the Light,” was about Les Kurbas; it was performed in Kyiv during the week that Ukraine declared its independence in 1991. The workshop for “Koliada,” Yara’s most recent show, took place in Kyiv last winter during the Orange Revolution. Yara has created nine theater

pieces with Ukrainian material, including “Explosions” (based on poetry and documentation about Chernobyl), “Blind Sight” (inspired by the work and travels to Japan of blind poet Vasyl Yeroshenko), “Yara’s Forest Song” (based on Lesia Ukrainka’s verse play), “Waterfall/Reflections” (with Nina Matvienko), “Song Tree and Kupalo” (with Mariana Sadovska), and “Swan” (based on Oleh Lysheha’s poetry).

Since 1996, Yara has also worked on theater pieces with Buryat artists from Siberia. In addition, Yara presents art, stages music and poetry events, and conducts master classes and workshops.

During this Christmas season, the museum’s exhibition “The Tree of Life, the Sun, the Goddess: Symbolic Motifs in Ukrainian Folk Art” and Yara’s installa-

tion “Still the River Flows” will be accompanied by a series of educational programs and events, the aim of which is to broaden the public’s perception and heighten its appreciation of Ukrainian folk art, its customs, rituals, and traditions. The following programs are planned:

On December 17, at 7:30 p.m., a concert titled “From Epic Christmas Songs (Koliady) to Modern Mosaics” by Bandura Downtown, with Julian Kytasty, Mike Andrets, Natalia Honcharenko and Ruslana and Boyan Makarenko, will take place at the museum.

For information readers may contact: The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003; phone, (212) 228-0110; e-mail, info@ukrainianmuseum.org; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

ACTION ITEM

(Continued from page 7)

SAMPLE LETTER

The Honorable (Name)
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative (Name):

As a Ukrainian American residing in your district, I urge you to support H.R. 1053, a bill introduced by Rep. Jim Gerlach to graduate Ukraine from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment of the 1974 Trade Act. This amendment is a relic of Cold War-era politics. Each administration since 1992 has certified that Ukraine has met all requirements stipulated in the law. Furthermore, on November 18,

2005, the United States Senate passed by unanimous consent S. 632 to repeal the Jackson-Vanik Amendment for Ukraine.

In the last few months the world has seen Ukraine make a firm commitment to a democratic future and integration into the Euro-Atlantic community. It is essential that the U.S. Congress support the goodwill of the Ukrainian people and enhance bilateral relations. Repealing the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, as was accomplished in the Senate, is a critical step that will demonstrate to the Ukrainian government that the United States welcomes the changes implemented and believes in the future of Ukraine. I urge you to support H.R. 1053 and thus facilitate the democratic and economic development of Ukraine.

Sincerely,
(your name)

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Iowa State...

(Continued from page 9)

responded with great interest and were able to fit meetings into their busy schedules. Organizers contacted Ukrainian Club members to assist with interpretation and hosting of the delegation.

On the day of the visit, the delegation arrived to the president's conference room. President Gregory Geoffroy stepped from his office to personally greet the visitors and welcome them to ISU. After a brief introduction, the visitors met their hosts and went to their respective departments. Each had an in-

depth conversation with a leading specialist in their field.

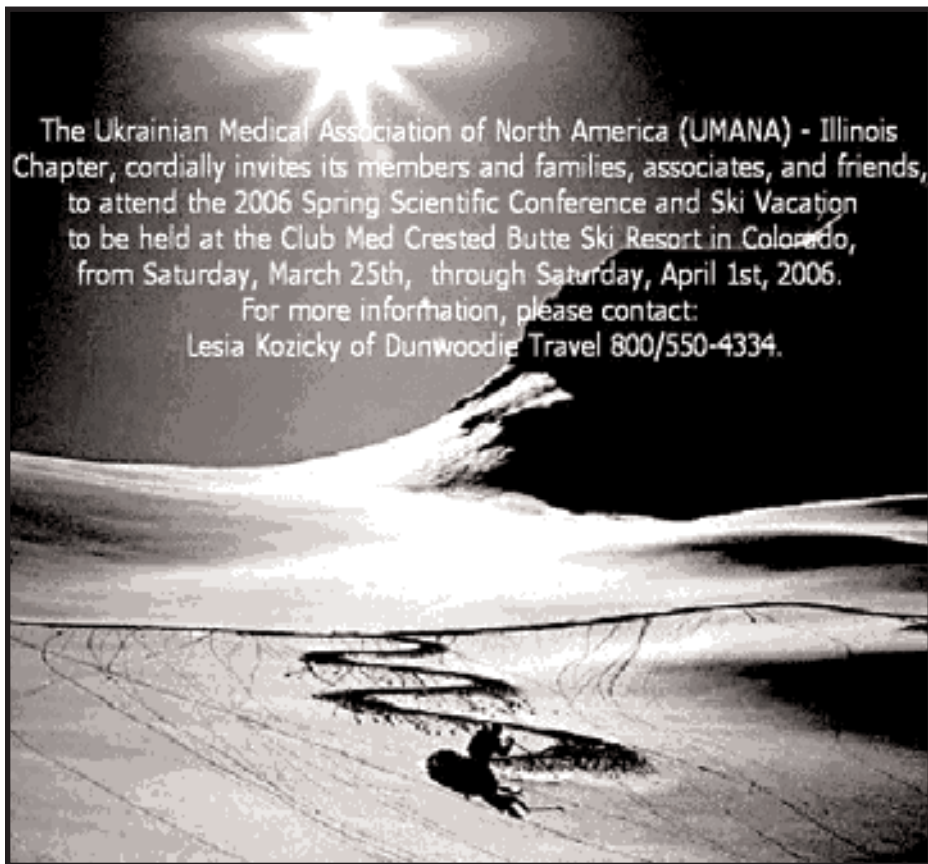
Many of the faculty had visited Ukraine a number of times for various projects in recent years. They compared U.S. and Ukrainian experience, and achievements. These conversations are expected to continue via e-mail contacts and during visits in Ukraine or in the U.S.

The College of Agriculture hosted the visitors at lunch during which David Acker, an associate dean of the college, presented an overview of agriculture in Iowa and the history of ISU. He responded to numerous questions. After lunch, the

visitors from Ukraine returned to various departments and had more meetings. At the end of their day at ISU they walked around the beautiful campus and toured Reiman Gardens, the university's treasure.

The visitors from Cherkasy left Ames

inspired by information gained from interaction with professors and fellow Ukrainians. Among the myriad impressions of their U.S. trip will be the warmth and openness of the Iowa State community.



The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) - Illinois Chapter, cordially invites its members and families, associates, and friends, to attend the 2006 Spring Scientific Conference and Ski Vacation to be held at the Club Med Crested Butte Ski Resort in Colorado, from Saturday, March 25th, through Saturday, April 1st, 2006.
For more information, please contact:
Lesia Kozicky of Dunwoodie Travel 800/550-4334.

Shevchenko Society announces winners of Orange Revolution essay contest

NEW YORK – In the spring of 2005, the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) announced a competition open to all undergraduates at U.S. and European colleges and universities for essays that honor the Orange Revolution in Ukraine. The essays had to be at least 1,500 and no more than 4,000 words long.

The submitted manuscripts were evaluated by a jury composed of Profs. Taras Hunczak, Alexander Motyl and Martha B. Trofimenko – all members of the NTSh Governing Board.

First place and a prize of \$500 were won by Nicole Shantz of the John Cabot University in Rome, Italy, for her essay titled "The Orange Revolution and Democratic Change in Ukraine."

Second place was won by Andrew Rago of the Catholic University of America for his essay "Ukraine 2004 Elections Hold Key to Economic Growth." The essay was awarded \$400 each.

There was a threeway tie for third place among Drew Bliss (Purdue University), Matthew J. Kramer (Purdue University) and Roxolana Wynar (University of Denver). They received \$300 each.



Nicole Shantz, the winner of the NTSh essay competition on the Orange Revolution.

By way of exception, a special honorable mention prize of \$150 was awarded to Pavlo Levkiv, a 10th grader from the Newark Academy in New Jersey.

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Speaking at University of Pittsburgh, Motyl expresses optimism about Ukraine

by Ryan Melnyk

PITTSBURGH – Alexander J. Motyl, professor of political science at Rutgers University, delivered a lecture on November 2 at the University of Pittsburgh to an audience of some 30 students, faculty, local Ukrainian community members and other interested individuals.

Dr. Motyl's topic was "One Year After Ukraine's Orange Revolution: A Balance Sheet."

The recent events concerning the removal of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and the brokering of a political deal between President Viktor Yushchenko and his former adversary Viktor Yanukovich have led many to believe the spirit of the Orange Revolution is flickering. The future of this administration and Ukraine's political system itself seem shady to some observers.

However, Prof. Motyl, a specialist on Ukrainian politics, said he feels these fears are ungrounded. He cited the permanence of institutions as a key stabilizing factor and said he considers the current issues mere individual political issues, non-essential to the country's structure.

Prof. Motyl acknowledged the evolutionary change of Ukrainian government and downplayed the actual role of the Orange Revolution. He said that the Orange Revolution demonstrated a tangible sense of a civil society and popular opinion in Ukraine, and noted that he regards the event as a barometer in the increasing democratization of Ukraine.

According to Prof. Motyl, democracies and markets are created incrementally by the establishment and legitimiza-

tion of institutions, not by "democrats waving flags" and "capitalists waving dollars." He referred to the correct functioning of institutions such as the Verkhovna Rada and the Supreme Court during the Orange Revolution as proof of the development of a true democracy.

President Yushchenko's much-ballyhooed deal with Mr. Yanukovich could also denote an "Orangification" of Mr. Yanukovich, not necessarily a betrayal of Orange ideals by Mr. Yushchenko, Prof. Motyl said. Because of the two-way nature of deals, it could indicate Mr. Yanukovich's acceptance of Mr. Yushchenko's legitimization. In addition, Prof. Motyl also predicted a further democratization and capitalization of Ukraine, but he acknowledged that this hinges on many variables, including the Russian Federation.

The lecture was organized by the Ukrainian Students Organization at the University of Pittsburgh and the university's department of Slavic languages and literatures.

Correction

In the story by Bohdan Porytko headlined "Morris County Volleyball Club hosts first annual tournament" (December 4), the caption accompanying the photo of the trophy presentation to the MCVC team did not identify the credit union representative presenting the trophy and misidentified the sponsoring credit union. The trophy was presented by Orest Ciapka of the Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union.



In conjunction with the exhibition
The Tree of Life, the Sun, the Goddess
Symbolic Motifs in Ukrainian Folk Art

The Ukrainian Museum presents

An art installation by Yara Arts Group

STILL THE RIVER FLOWS

A Glimpse into Winter Solstice and Christmas Rituals in a Carpathian Village

December 11, 2005 – January 29, 2006

Opening – Sunday

December 11, 2005, 2:00 p.m.

with a scene from Yara's

"Koliada: Twelve Dishes"

and songs performed by

Mariana Sadovska

Concert – Saturday

December 17, 2005, 7:30 p.m.

"Koliada: From Medieval

Epics to Modern Mosaics"

by Bandura Downtown



The Ukrainian Museum

222 East 6th Street, New York, NY 10003 (212) 228-0110

www.ukrainianmuseum.org • www.brama.com/yara

An open invitation to local community activists

Would you like fellow Ukrainians to know about events in your community?
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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Children of all ages enjoy Halloween at Soyuzivka

by Bohdanka Puzyk

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Halloween weekend has become one of the most popular family events at Soyuzivka, the estate owned by the Ukrainian National Association here in upstate New York.

As in the past few years Soyuzivka's resident ghost (oh yes, there is one), Ursula, lent a helping hand in decorating the resort. She took over Lviv, where many a summer camper has stayed, and redesigned the building to welcome all and any who are brave of heart. The entrance to Main House was eerily lit so that all of the guests registering would know that the spirits ("dukhy" in Ukrainian) were about. Guests could see Ursula's hand also at various locations around the estate.

Though Saturday, October 29, was a cold day, that did not deter anyone from participating in pumpkin painting and all the other activities coordinated by the staff of Soyuzivka. Children from the ages of 2 1/2 to 59 painted over 25 pumpkins. The pumpkins that were not taken home were later used as table centerpieces at that evening's dance (or "zabava"). There were also crafts for the children and scary movies.

Promptly at 4 p.m. a lion appeared to organize the children for the Halloween Parade. As the parade participants lined up, one could see princesses, superheroes, rabbits, butterflies, aliens, cats, cowboys, witches, tigers, ladybugs and many, many more characters. The parade wound its way around Soyuzivka's fountain and over to the Veselka patio, where all of the characters got on stage. The parents then had their photo op, and each costumed participant received a goody bag.

As the witching hour neared, the hayrides to the Haunted House began. Ursula, with her devilish band of tricky helpers, waited to greet all who came. The squeals and shrieks could be heard all the way from the Lviv villa to the Main House.

Later that night after dinner, Soyuzivka took on an entirely different appearance. As the evening grew longer and the night got darker, strange characters started to

appear and make their way to the Veselka Hall. There the sounds of Hrim (the band – not thunder, which is what "hrim" means in Ukrainian) could be heard.

Inside the hall, enjoying themselves were various television characters, mermaids, witches, vampires, milkmaids, Kleenex boxes, tigers, cats, clowns, Victorian ladies and other characters. Prizes were awarded to the most creative participants in costume, and this year winners were: best group costume – the Teniuch family as the Addams Family; best female costume, Nina Kobryn as a box of tissues; most original costume, Chrystia Kukuruzza as road kill; best home-made costume, Lesia Kozicky as Aunt Jemima; and best male costume, Yurko Kobryn as a homeless Ukrainian. (Soyuzivka General Manager Nestor Paslawsky kept trying to throw the interloper out – until he recognized who it was.)

The zabava lasted well past the witching hour, with everyone having a fantastic time. The next morn-



Two youngsters get ready to paint pumpkins.

ing all of the guests enjoyed a delicious breakfast and spent a leisurely morning discussing the events and costumes of the previous night.

Pictures of this year's weekend

celebration of Halloween can be seen on Soyuzivka's website, www.soyuzivka.com. Perhaps young readers of this page will be among our guests in costume next year!



Children and their parents line up in front of Soyuzivka's Main House for the start of the Halloween Parade.

Mishanyna

To solve this month's Mishanyna, find the words capitalized in the following text hidden within the Mishanyna grid.

For Ukrainians, Christmas, or RIZDVO, is marked by special traditions. The most interesting part of the celebrations is SVIAT VECHIR, as Christmas Eve is known, when the entire family sits down to a dinner, known as Sviata Vecheria, or HOLY SUPPER, of 12 MEATLESS and milkless dishes.

Connecticut youths celebrate Harvest Day

BETHANY, Conn. – The youths of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church of Ansonia, Conn., and Three Saints Orthodox Church in Bethany, Conn., performed recently at the parishes' fifth traditional "Harvest Day." Seen below (from left) are some of the members of the Ukrainian American Folk Dancing and Singing Group: Michael Antos, Myroslaw Klapyk, Taras Rybachuk, Darya Dabychyna, Sara German and Mary Gulash. The group, directed by Frank F. Stuban, presented a "Harvest Parade," welcomed the audience with the traditional Ukrainian greetings of bread and salt, and performed several dance numbers. The August 21 event was attended by nearly 250 people.



Among these TWELVE DISHES are: BORSCH, fish, VARENYKY, HOLUBTSI, UZVAR and KUTIA. The dishes themselves and the order in which they are eaten on Christmas Eve varies from region to region.

The deceased of the FAMILY are represented by a sheaf of wheat known as the DIDUKH, which occupies a special place of honor in the home – usually under the family's ICONS. In addition, a setting is placed on the table for those who have passed away, symbolically allowing them to be part of this special gathering.

Ukrainians sing KOLIADY, or carols, for the Christmas holidays and often this is accompanied by a VERTEP, a type of puppet theater or play put on by groups of carolers. The carolers also express best wishes and blessings for Christmas and the New Year in the form of verses known as VINSHUVANNIA. (See the story on page 11 for information on a book compiled by a Ukrainian Canadian teenager that contains such verses.)

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

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
|---|--|
| December 23, 2005
Jeremiah Flaherty Law Office
Christmas Party | January 27-29, 2006
Church of Annunciation Family
Weekend, Flushing, N.Y. |
| December 24, 2005
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve
Supper, 6 p.m., \$25 per person,
overnight packages available | January 28, 2006
2006 Ukrainian Engineers' Malanka |
| December 24-27, 2005
Skoczylas Christmas Family Reunion | February 10-12, 2006
Valentine's Day Weekend |
| December 31-January 1, 2006
New Year's Eve Extravaganza Package | February 17-20, 2006
Family Winter Weekend |
| January 1, 2006
New Year's Day Brunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.,
\$14 per person | February 25, 2006
Wedding |
| January 6, 2006
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve
Supper, 6 p.m., \$25 per person,
overnight packages available | March 3-5, 2006
Plast Kurin "Khmelnynchenky"
Annual Winter Rada |



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The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America,
& The Ukrainian Institute of America

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 11

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum invites the public to an opening of an art installation by Yara Arts Group titled "Still the River Flows: A Glimpse into Winter Solstice and Christmas Rituals in a Carpathian Village." The opening program, beginning at 2 p.m., will include a scene from Yara's "Koliada: Twelve Dishes" and songs by Mariana Sadovska. The installation, which will be on view through January, is presented in conjunction with the current exhibition – "The Tree of Life, the Sun, the Goddess: Symbolic Motifs in Ukrainian Folk Art." For further information call the museum, (212) 228-0110.

Thursday, December 15

NEW YORK: Please join us for the first event of the "Race for the Rada" discussion series at 7:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America National Office, 203 Second Ave., second floor. The topic: "The influence of musicians, celebrities and music on the Orange Revolution and leading up to the Parliamentary elections in Ukraine." The event is hosted by the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Shevchenko Scientific Society and Columbia University Ukrainian Studies Program. For information call the UCCA, (212) 228-6840.

Friday, December 16

NORTH PORT, Fla.: St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church will hold its annual Pre-Christmas Bazaar at the church's parish hall, 1078 N. Biscayne Drive at 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Lydia Marusyn and her enthusiastic group of kitchen volunteers are preparing delicious home-made food, such as borsch, varenyky (dumplings), stuffed cabbage and other Ukrainian specialties. Food will be served all day, and takeouts will be available. A selection of home-baked pastries will also be on sale. Also, there will booths with Christmas gift items on sale for purchase for one's friends, relatives, children and grandchildren. The \$1 raffle table will be filled with many wonderful donated items, including Christmas ornaments and household items. For more information call one of the co-chairs: Lidia Bilous, (941) 918-9594, or Slava Maluk, (941) 947-3548; or, on the day of the bazaar, St. Mary Parish Hall, (941) 423-2427.

Saturday, December 17

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites the public to a Literary Bazaar featuring poetry readings by Bohdan Rubchak, Oleksander Irvanets and Vasyl Makhno. The program will take

place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum invites the public to a concert titled "Koliada – Christmas Carols: From Medieval Epics to Modern Mosaics" by Bandura Downtown with Julian Kytasty, Mike Andrec, Natalia Honcharenko, Ruslana and Boyan Makarenko. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. For further information call the museum, (212) 228-0110.

NEW YORK: Sviaty Mykolai (St. Nicholas) will be visiting with children at Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, New York City branch, 144 Second Ave., at 2:15 p.m. The Heavenly Office will be open in Room 9 at 10 a.m. For additional information call (212) 982-4530. All children are welcome.

BETHESDA, Md.: The Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies of Washington, invites the community to celebrate "Sviaty Mykolai: Virsh, Pisia, Ikona" (St. Nicholas: Poem, Song, Icon) to be held at Westland Middle School, 5511 Massachusetts Ave. The "Nebesna Kantselaria" (Heavenly Office) opens at 9 a.m. A Christmas bazaar, which will open at 9:30 a.m., will offer a selection of baked goods, varenyky (dumplings) and Christmas items. A Christmas performance, slated to begin at noon, will feature the students of the lower and upper grades in a program of recitation of poems as well as songs about Sviaty Mykolai, with the seventh grade offering a presentation titled "Icon." For additional information contact Theodore Caryk, (301) 840-1713, or Roman Ponos, (703) 867-6847.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, December 31

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA) and the Ukrainian Professionals at the Institute present "New Year's Eve at the Institute," to be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Welcome 2006 at this elegant evening, with dancing to the music of Luna, and a silent auction benefiting the Ukrainian Children's Aid and Relief Effort and the UIA. Tickets include a buffet, open bar and midnight champagne toast. Dress is black tie. Capacity is limited, and guests are encouraged to buy their tickets early. Ticket prices are: members, \$125; non-members, \$150; students, \$100. After December 7, ticket prices increase \$25. For tickets and information call the UIA, (212) 288-8660.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

Listings of **no more than 100 words** (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent a week prior to desired date of publication to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510.

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