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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Woskob family donates \$1 million to Ukrainian studies at Penn State

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Alex and Helen Woskob (Voskobijnyk), businesspeople and owners of the AW & Sons apartment rental company in State College, Pa., have donated \$1 million to the College of Liberal Arts in support of Ukrainian studies at The Pennsylvania State University.

Two of the Woskobs' children, George and Larysa, are graduates of Penn State, and the recent donation continues the Woskob family's generous support for the Ukrainian as well as other artistic and cultural programs at the university.

The Woskobs have previously donated significant funds to establish the Penn State Center for Ukrainian Agriculture and have funded other local cultural projects, such as the Woskob Family Art Gallery at the Penn State Downtown Theater.

The Woskobs' son George with his wife Nina, owners of the GN Associates apartment rental and management firm in State College, have also been extremely active in their financial support of cultural activities at Penn State. George Woskob also serves on the advisory board of the Penn State Center for Ukrainian Agriculture.

The latest gift will significantly expand the Endowment for Ukrainian Studies at Penn State and Mr. and Mrs. Woskob hope that others in the Ukrainian community will contribute in the future to increase the scope of the endowment's activities.

The interest generated by the endowment will primarily support cultural and scholarly activities at Penn State, including the teaching of Ukrainian language and culture; visiting faculty, researchers and scholars; publications and symposia on Ukrainian topics; speakers and performers; student and faculty exchanges; study abroad programs in Ukraine; and other activities that will acquaint the English-speaking world with the best that Ukrainian culture has to offer.

Spearheading the Ukrainian program at Penn State is Prof. Michael Naydan, who has been teaching at the university since 1988. Dean Susan Welch of the College of Liberal Arts at Penn State recently announced that Prof. Naydan has been appointed to the rank of distinguished professor with the title of Woskob Family Professor in Ukrainian Studies for his

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Kean University offers course on Famine-Genocide of '32-'33

by Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — A course titled "The Ukrainian Famine-Genocide, 1932-1933" is being offered in the spring 2007 semester and first summer session in June as part of Kean University's Graduate Program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The three-credit course, the first of its kind in the United States, is taught by Ruth Pianotchka Griffith, the granddaughter of a victim of the Famine and the daughter of a young survivor.

The course will cover the conditions of the Ukrainian population under the regime of Joseph Stalin, the historical background, the struggle of the peasants during collectivization, Ukrainian nationalism under Stalin, the Famine itself, the Western response and its effects, recovery efforts, and the study of evidence — literature, journalistic accounts and memoirs.

The historical background to the Famine-Genocide will be heavily stressed to give students a better understanding of the environment that produced the extermination of over 7 million Ukrainians living under Soviet rule.

In the formation of this discipline, Dr. Bernard Weinstein, head of the

department of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, had the original concept and design for a graduate program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The interdisciplinary program was initially intended to help teachers whose curriculum requires them to teach about the Holocaust and other genocides.

Dr. Weinstein knew of Dr. Griffith's Ukrainian background and asked if she would be interested in designing a course on the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. At that time, Dr. Weinstein was unaware of Dr. Griffith's personal history, which included relatives who survived the Holodomor.

Dr. Griffith's mother's family (Ancherbak) came from the Ukrainian village of Shkarbinka, north of Odesa. During the time of the Holodomor, her grandfather (Horbatyuk) on her mother's side, died while imprisoned and was buried in a mass grave at Troitske. According to her grandmother's account, there were no horses to bring her husband's remains to Shkarbinka for a burial in the local cemetery.

A visit to the village of Shkarbinka in 1993 and the gravesite at Troitske with her parents, Dr. Griffith said, was

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Rada passes bill recognizing the Holodomor as genocide

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — In a historic vote, Ukraine's Parliament followed President Viktor Yushchenko's lead and on November 28 passed a law declaring the Holodomor of 1932-1933 a genocide against the Ukrainian people.

Verkhovna Rada Chair Oleksander Moroz and his Socialist Party of Ukraine broke ranks with the pro-Russian factions that comprise the coalition government and joined the Our Ukraine and Yulia Tymoshenko blocs to cast 233 votes in favor — seven more votes than what was needed for the bill to pass.

The next day, President Yushchenko signed the Holodomor bill into law, declaring it a historic moment in Ukraine's history.

"The vote does not target anyone," Mr. Yushchenko said. "It restores our nation-

al dignity. We will renew our national memory of those 10 million innocent victims killed in 1932-1933."

The Holodomor of 1932-1933 was an artificially created famine launched by Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin with the goal of breaking Ukrainian resistance to forced collectivization and eliminating Ukrainian national consciousness, resulting in the genocide of an estimated 10 million Ukrainians.

Previously, the Verkhovna Rada had just barely passed a resolution on May 15, 2003, declaring the Holodomor an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people.

In the drive to get that designation codified as Ukrainian law, its advocates stressed the moral need for the nation to come to grips with its terrifying, tragic past in order to move forward.

But there were pragmatic reasons as well.

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Thousands mark anniversary of Orange Revolution in Kyiv



Zenon Zawada

Orange Revolution supporters listen to speeches delivered at the second anniversary commemoration on Kyiv's Independence Square.

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — No stage, celebrities or rock music awaited those gathered to commemorate the Orange Revolution's two-year anniversary on Independence Square on November 22.

Neither Viktor nor Yulia were around.

President Viktor Yushchenko nestled himself in the magnificent Mariyinsky Palace to host a fancy gala, while Yulia Tymoshenko traveled to Brussels to rein-

force her ties and image among Europe's leaders.

Whatever the coincidence of events or cosmic forces that led to the historic Orange Revolution, it was clear at this year's anniversary that it was a miraculous flash in history, the magic of which has mostly vanished.

The ascent — largely due to the infighting among the revolution's leaders — of the revolution's anti-hero, Viktor

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ANALYSIS

Blue-Orange rift re-emerges in Ukraine

by Jan Maksymiuk
RFE/RL Newswire

Following a heated debate, the Verkhovna Rada on November 15 opted to postpone a decision on the fates of Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk and Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko.

The two presidential appointees were grilled during the parliamentary session by lawmakers from the ruling coalition, led by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's Party of the Regions. They were accused of poor performance and negligence in office, but were spared the indignity of a vote on their dismissal – at least for two weeks.

In the meantime, observers are left to debate whether Parliament has the right to dismiss ministers nominated to the Cabinet by the president. Foreign Affairs Minister Tarasyuk, for one, believes that it cannot, since the Constitution of Ukraine does not say anything about such a situation.

"The Constitution, which was amended hastily [in 2004], does not stipulate how these ministers [appointed by the president] can be dismissed," he said.

Jan Maksymiuk is the Belarus and Ukraine specialist on the staff of RFE/RL Newswire.

"There is a legal collision here, whether the Verkhovna Rada can dismiss the two ministers without a presidential request. I don't think it can, because there is the notion of analogy in law: if the dismissal procedure is not defined while the appointment procedure is, legal analogy must apply and the same procedure should be used."

The debate on the two presidential ministers was just the latest clash in the short but uneasy cohabitation of Prime Minister Yanukovich and President Viktor Yushchenko – two longtime political rivals who have reinvented their relationship since Mr. Yanukovich became prime minister in early August.

Cracks began to show in September, when Mr. Yanukovich said in Brussels that Ukraine would slow its pace toward NATO membership due to public opposition. President Yushchenko rebuked the prime minister for impinging on the president's constitutional right to shape the country's foreign policy. Simultaneously, Mr. Yushchenko reminded Mr. Yanukovich that just one month earlier both of them signed the so-called Universal of National Unity, in which they pledged to seek NATO membership as one of Ukraine's key foreign-policy priorities.

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Clouds gather over internal affairs minister

by Oleg Varfolomeyev
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The team of Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich has mounted an offensive against Internal Minister Yurii Lutsenko, one of a handful of ministers loyal to President Viktor Yushchenko. Mr. Lutsenko spearheaded the anti-corruption campaign that was launched after Mr. Yushchenko came to power in 2005. Several Donetsk-based Yanukovich cronies were among the targets of that campaign.

Now Mr. Lutsenko is the target of several investigations himself. He and President Yushchenko dismiss them as political persecution.

It is technically easier for Prime Minister Yanukovich to get rid of Mr. Lutsenko than the two other Yushchenko loyalists – Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk and Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko – although Mr. Yanukovich dislikes them as well. Messrs. Tarasyuk and Hrytsenko were appointed to the Yanukovich Cabinet on President Yushchenko's quota, and nobody but he can replace them, but Mr. Lutsenko's appointment was the result of a separate

agreement between Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich. Parliament, in which Mr. Yanukovich controls a majority, can dismiss Mr. Lutsenko any time, according to the Constitution.

Parliament started its attack with a warning shot. On November 2 a parliamentary commission was set up to investigate allegations of corruption against Mr. Lutsenko, which were published in the September 8 issue of the weekly newspaper 2000. The paper claimed that he or his family were involved in car ownership irregularities – an allegation flatly dismissed by Mr. Lutsenko. On the same day Parliament approved a recommendation to Prime Minister Yanukovich to suspend Mr. Lutsenko for the duration of the commission's work.

However, Minister Lutsenko has not been suspended. President Yushchenko came to his rescue the same day. His spokeswoman said that the president did not understand Parliament's move and that the legality of it was doubtful. Mr. Lutsenko told 1+1 TV on November 2 that the Verkhovna Rada has the right to dismiss him, but there is no law allowing the Rada to suspend him. Mr. Lutsenko dismissed the action against him as "revenge of those who have legal problems." He said Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions (PRU) and the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) were behind the controversial motion.

Mr. Lutsenko spoiled relations with the YTB last year when he publicly accused Ms. Tymoshenko's right-hand man, Oleksander Turchynov, of eavesdropping on top officials when Mr. Turchynov headed the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) in February-September 2005. Mr. Turchynov denied the accusation. On November 17 the YTB press service reported that a Kyiv district court had upheld Mr. Turchynov's libel suit against Mr. Lutsenko, obliging Mr.

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NEWSBRIEFS**Rada says Famine was genocide**

KYIV – Following a heated debate, 233 deputies of the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada on November 28 voted to declare the man-made Famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933, or Holodomor, an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people, Ukrainian media reported. A bill submitted by President Viktor Yushchenko and somewhat reworded by Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz was supported by lawmakers of Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party, and two legislators from the ruling Party of the Regions. In order to make passage of the bill possible, Mr. Moroz proposed the removal of a provision that would have made it a crime to deny the Holodomor took place. Mr. Moroz also proposed that the bill's original formulation "genocide of the Ukrainian nation" be replaced with "genocide of the Ukrainian people," thus blunting the implication that the Holodomor singled out ethnic Ukrainians as the principal victims. Lawmakers from the Party of the Regions and the Communist Party opposed the bill during the debate and most of them did not take part in the voting, arguing that the bill would worsen relations between Ukraine and Russia by suggesting that through the Holodomor Moscow intended to wipe out the Ukrainians as a nation. President Yushchenko signed the bill the next day. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Rada accepts Pavlenko's resignation

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada sent Ukrainian Minister for Family, Youth and Sports Yurii Pavlenko packing on November 29. Before the vote the minister, who represented Our Ukraine, said he had signed an application for resignation more than a month ago and that his plans hadn't changed. According to Mr. Pavlenko, he was eager to work in the government only under a coalition of national unity (among Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party). Mr. Pavlenko said that he now insisted on resigning for another reason: that part of the Anti-Crisis Coalition (composed of the Party of the Regions, Socialist

Party and Communist Party) failed to back the Verkhovna Rada's decision to recognize the 1932-1933 Famine as a genocide against the Ukrainian people. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich slams Tarasyuk

KYIV – At a Cabinet of Ministers meeting on November 29 Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich slammed the activity of the Foreign Affairs Ministry and Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk, blaming the ministry for an attempt to cancel the prime minister's visit to the United States on December 3-7. Mr. Yanukovich read out a letter by the Foreign Affairs Ministry to the U.S. Embassy, which proposed postponing the prime minister's U.S. visit. The Foreign Affairs Ministry cannot run the government, Mr. Yanukovich said, referring to Mr. Tarasyuk, and noted that he has already sent a letter to the Verkhovna Rada questioning the legitimacy of Mr. Tarasyuk occupying his post. The Foreign Affairs Ministry explained that the letter was written because the relevant directives regarding the U.S. visit were not yet confirmed. The directives were confirmed only on November 29. According to the deputy chief of the Presidential Secretariat, Arsenii Yatseniuk, the directives will be signed by the president. (Ukrinform)

CIS summit held in Minsk

MIENSK – Eleven presidents participated in a summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in Minsk on November 28, Belarusian and international media reported. Turkmenistan, whose President Saparmurat Niyazov routinely ignores such gatherings, was represented in Minsk by a deputy prime minister. "The main achievement of the organization is that it promotes cooperation," Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka said while opening the meeting. But he also admitted that "actions often lag behind decisions" within the CIS. Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbaev told journalists after the summit that CIS leaders discussed a report on reforming the CIS and ordered their for-

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Postmaster, send address changes to: **Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz**
The Ukrainian Weekly **Editors:**
2200 Route 10 **Zenon Zawada (Kyiv)**
P.O. Box 280 **Matthew Dubas**
Parsippany, NJ 07054

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com; e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

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ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3041 e-mail: ukradmin@att.net
Maria Oscislowski, advertising manager	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040 e-mail: adsukrpubl@att.net
Mariyka Pendzola, subscriptions	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3042 e-mail: ukrsubscr@att.net

Clarification

Regarding the article "Reunion recalls fallen brethren" (November 12), the author, Christina Kotlar, wishes to clarify that the announcement about the disbanded organization refers to the Social Service of Ukrainian War Veterans (Suspilna Sluzhba Kombatantiv v ZSA), a joint effort of several Ukrainian veterans' organizations that included the Former Members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army in the U.S.A. and Canada which is very active, especially in continued fundraising efforts for UPA veterans in Ukraine and the Litopys UPA (Chronicles of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army).

Thousands mark...

(Continued from page 1)

Yanukovich, to what is now Ukraine's most powerful post, that of prime minister, dampened many people's enthusiasm.

Those who turned out to celebrate this year were the stalwart, loyal believers in the Orange Revolution's ideals and values. In their view, no mistake or misdeed from any politician or party could detract from the Orange Revolution's significance for Ukraine.

"The outlook of Ukrainians has changed forever," said Anatolii Levchuk, 40. "People gained faith in themselves, and that's the thing the temporary arrival of Yanukovich won't be able to take away."

For Liubov Kolesnyk, 57, the Orange Revolution was the first time her generation felt freedom. "Older people lived through the Soviet era," she said. "We felt the pressure of the Communist system. And, for the first time, we felt like we could do something and that something depended on us."

The Orangists numbered about 8,000 throughout the day's commemoration, arriving at the maidan at one point or another throughout a slightly chilly day, the bulk gathering for the evening meeting.

It was a drop in the bucket compared to the 100,000 who turned out last year from all oblasts of Ukraine, and the many hundreds of thousands who launched the revolution itself two years ago.

Gone was the rock-solid unity that carried the Orange Revolution.

Throughout the day, chants of "YUSH-CHEN-KO!" were interrupted by chants of "YU-LIA," leading to shouting matches between the battling Orange factions.

Separate chants of "KA-TE-RYN-CHUK" emerged as well, referring to the 38-year-old National Deputy Mykola Katerynychuk who recently quit the Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU) to launch his own political force.

Regardless of the problems and shortcomings, for thousands of Ukrainians like Mykola Leschenko, the Orange Revolution was an unforgettable moment in their lives that changed Ukraine for the positive.

"The country is already different," Mr. Leschenko said. "Before, we talked about NATO and European Union only in whispers between friends. Now we discuss these things openly. That's progress."

Leaders from the Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian National Self-Defense (UNA-UNSO) and Reformatsiya, a political association of Protestant Ukrainians, led the afternoon rally.

Russian journalist Artem Skoropadsky lauded the Ukrainians for setting an example of democracy for the Russian people as a result of the Orange Revolution. Before 2004, Russians believed that revolutions weren't possible, he noted.

"By your two-year example, you have set an example to Russian youth which has started to come out against [Russian President Vladimir] Putin's nasty police state policy," Mr. Skoropadsky said. "Just as you got rid of the loathsome, revolting Kuchma regime two years ago, we also have to get rid of our Putin regime."

After the speeches, dozens of patriots carried an immense Ukrainian flag to the Presidential Secretariat building, where the crowd of more than 200 people was greeted by the same rows of police officers that former President Leonid Kuchma had employed during the Orange Revolution to keep out demonstrators.

No one came out from the Secretariat to greet the patriots, and they moved on toward the Mariyinsky Palace, where Mr. Yushchenko was hosting an anniversary

reception that mostly attracted the Presidential Secretariat senior staff, Our Ukraine deputies and close advisors and allies.

Also attending were Verkhovna Rada Chair Oleksander Moroz, Central Election Commission Chair Yaroslav Davydovych, Reforms and Order Party Chair Viktor Pynzenyk (who recently united his force with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc), Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk, Minister of Defense Anatolii Hrytsenko and Minister of Internal Affairs Yurii Lutsenko, a hero of the Orange Revolution.

President Yushchenko said Freedom Day, the holiday's official name as declared last year, was an event for all Ukrainians, regardless of their political stripe.

The Orange Revolution allowed for freedom of speech, assembly, competition and business to take root in Ukraine. Its greatest achievement was Ukraine's first truly democratic election, he said, which hadn't occurred beforehand.

"I have always thought and think now that our nation needs two things – an effective democratic government and reliable precautions to prevent authoritarianism," the president said.

Mr. Yushchenko extended an invitation to his "brothers from various political forces," including Mr. Yanukovich. However, the Orange Revolution's opponent chose not to attend the gala, though he offered journalists a positive evaluation of the very revolution that prevented him from becoming Ukraine's president.

The people's opinion of the Orange Revolution has changed, Mr. Yanukovich said. "But its principles remain unchanged, for which people stood under flags of various colors," he said. "They hoped for a better life and a better fate. They wanted changes, but also yearned for freedom."

Ever since its success in the 2006 parliamentary elections, the Party of the Regions has employed a public relations strategy of referring to the maidan and the Orange Revolution as if their party supported its essence and motivation, and the ideals and principles that it stood for.

In reality, the Party of the Regions opposed and directly caused the Orange Revolution by falsifying the presidential election results and claiming Mr. Yanukovich as the victor, nearly bringing the nation to civil war.

"The main thing the maidan gave Ukraine was the knowledge of every citizen to consciously and openly express his thoughts about the nation's future, regarding the principles of its existence," said Raisa Bohatyriova, the Party of the Regions parliamentary faction chair.

As part of its campaign to rewrite history, after coming to power the Party of the Regions ordered the erasure of Orange Revolution graffiti sprayed on the main post office's columns that cast Mr. Yanukovich and his party in a negative light.

Earlier, glass panes had been placed over the graffiti-marred columns in order to preserve the scribbles for historical posterity. They are now erased.

In a true show of democracy, numerous leaders of the Our Ukraine People's Union appeared on the far south end of Independence Square at about 7 p.m. to interact with the crowd, despite their shattered popularity.

The more popular leaders, such as National Deputy Viacheslav Kyrylenko and Defense Minister Hrytsenko, drew the people's warmth and admiration.

During his tenure as vice prime minister for humanitarian affairs, Mr. Kyrylenko was a strong advocate for Ukrainian language and culture, leading the drive to have foreign films dubbed into the Ukrainian language instead of Russian.

Others, such as OUPU Acting Political

Council Roman Bezsmertnyi, got a hostile reception from the crowd that showered him with chants of "Shame on Bezsmertnyi." As he meandered through the crowd, many pounced on the chance to criticize Mr. Bezsmertnyi face-to-face.

"You know the old Socialist proverb, 'If you want to screw up a good thing, give it to a Komsomolets?'" a man asked Mr. Bezsmertnyi. "That proverb applies to you. You are that Komsomolets who was given a good thing."

A reporter asked whether he felt responsible for the people's disappointment.

"First of all, I felt responsibility for the fact that we, sitting in our offices, didn't manage to realize the people's will," Mr. Bezsmertnyi responded. "We managed to win the revolution, but weren't able to utilize our power."

"You ruined all that you could," another man shouted.

"It wasn't us who ruined it," Mr. Bezsmertnyi retorted.

"Then who?" the crowd shouted back. "Shame on Bezsmertnyi."

Meanwhile, Mr. Kyrylenko reached such a comfort level with the crowd that he even stood among them and listened to various speeches being delivered from the top of the maidan's steps.

After several minutes, he took to the stage.

"During the last two years, we did a lot of things that are hard to explain to those who continue to believe in democratic ideals and the ideals of the Orange Revolution," Mr. Kyrylenko said.

"We were able to secure one main thing – that each one of us can freely think, express his thoughts and not agree with the government if he doesn't agree. That was the Orange Revolution's gain," he underscored.

Another popular politician who addressed the crowd was Mr. Katerynychuk, who used the opportunity to promote his new political project, "which has as its goal uniting Ukraine with the European Union."

The prior week, Mr. Katerynychuk announced that he was quitting OUPU after the party failed to follow Mr. Yushchenko's directive and change its leadership. "It's not the maidan's party, because there isn't any democracy there," Mr. Katerynychuk said of OUPU, adding further discord to the Orange forces.

For many of those who appeared, the anniversary was an attempt to relive the revolution's miraculous days.

The old, familiar chants of "Razom nas bahato" (Together we are many) and "Bandu het" (Out with the gangsters) were repeated throughout the night.

Orange Revolution icon Paraskovia Koroliuk, or "Baba Paraska" as she's more commonly known, posed for photographs with admirers, chatted with fellow revolutionaries and even delivered her own speech.

"With a baton, we need to chase out the Cabinet of Ministers and half the Verkhovna Rada," Baba Paraska shouted to cheers.

"My dear relatives, I love all of you, especially eastern Ukraine, because they want to believe that we don't love them, but we love and respect them. But we don't want those gangsters Yanukovich and [Rynat] Akhmetov."

Baba Paraska led cheers in favor of Mr. Yushchenko, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Katerynychuk.

But this very political fissure is what cast a pall over the revolution's second anniversary.

In the view of Ms. Kolesnyk, one of the countless Orange revolutionaries, Mr. Yushchenko betrayed the maidan. She said she heckled the Our Ukraine politicians at the anniversary. "When the president handed power on a plate to the bandits, it was a betrayal," she said in disgust. "I yelled, 'Shame on Our Ukraine.'"

The Tymoshenko Bloc is Ukraine's only hope for a pro-Ukrainian political course, she said.

On the other hand, Oksana Volodymyrivna, 48, said she will forever remain loyal to Mr. Yushchenko. It wasn't Mr. Yushchenko who betrayed the maidan, but his followers who betrayed him by giving Our Ukraine only 13 percent of the vote in the March parliamentary elections.

The Orange Revolution was a noble page in Ukraine's history, she said, during which she emptied her refrigerator and pocketbook to support it, spending every day on the maidan. It was another step in Ukraine's inevitable path towards Europe, which Russian imperialists repeatedly interfered with throughout history, she added.

Despite her optimistic words, Oksana declined to divulge her last name or have her photograph taken.

"The KGB agents have all remained in their places, and they remain quite comfortable in Ukraine," she said.

Yanukovich and Tarasyuk spar over PM's visit to U.S.

RFE/RL Newslime

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich clashed with Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk during a televised meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on November 29 over Mr. Yanukovich's upcoming official visit to Washington, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported.

Mr. Yanukovich read out a letter from the Foreign Affairs Ministry informing him that his trip to Washington, scheduled for December 3-7, had been postponed indefinitely because he failed to seek presidential approval for a directive setting down guidelines for the U.S. talks.

Mr. Yanukovich then demonstratively signed the directive he distributed among Cabinet ministers earlier the same day and ordered that it be sent to the Presidential Secretariat.

Later on November 29, the Presidential Secretariat announced that

President Viktor Yushchenko had approved Mr. Yanukovich's directive and that Yanukovich's U.S. trip will take place as originally planned.

Turning to Mr. Tarasyuk, Prime Minister Yanukovich said: "Regarding you, Borys Ivanovich, we have unfortunately failed to find an understanding how to work together over these three months. Therefore, today I'm going to sign an appropriate letter with my opinion about your further work and send it to Parliament."

"Esteemed Viktor Fedorovich, you have already sent such a letter to the president. And you know the president's answer regarding my person," Mr. Tarasyuk responded.

Earlier in November, Prime Minister Yanukovich said he does not want Mr. Tarasyuk in his Cabinet. Foreign Affairs Minister Tarasyuk, like Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko, was appointed to his Cabinet post directly by President Yushchenko.

OBITUARY: Zinaida Panasenکو, teacher and community activist, 108

by Nestor Wolansky

SAN FRANCISCO – Zinaida Panasenکو, the Bay Area's well-known community activist, educator and teacher who for nearly 60 years touched and inspired three generations of Ukrainian Americans and others, died on Friday, October 13, at the Victorian Convalescent Home in San Francisco. She was 108.

Prof. Panasenکو, whose rich and productive life spanned the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, was born on June 13, 1898, in the small town of Marashchi, in the Kyiv province of Ukraine, during the oppressive era of tsarist Russia. Her father, Yan Stanislavovich Yaskulskiy, had served in the tsarist army for 20 years, as a second lieutenant in the 25th Kazan Regiment Brass Band. Her mother, the beautiful Natalia Chornovil, came from a peasant family in the village of Salikhi, in the Kyiv province.

Soon after his marriage, Zinaida's father retired from military service and obtained a position as a gamekeeper-forester in Bohuslav, near Kaniv.

Both of Zinaida's parents were deeply religious, hard-working and exceptionally generous, known for helping their less fortunate neighbors. On Saturdays, when some of the poor families with children visited the Yaskulskiys, they were always given milk, called "riazhanka." Every year, during the Feast of the Savior, Zinaida's father would give the poorest villagers honey from his apiary, and on Holy Thursday, bees' wax would be donated for church candles. It was generally believed that honey and bees' wax were gifts from God, and it would be sinful to sell them. The children were given clay horse figurines and rooster whistles as gifts. While sitting in the cool shade of their orchard, the old women would talk about the latest gossip in the village or about witches. Zinaida fondly recalled listening to wonderful fairy tales told by the women, which were never found in any printed books.

Prof. Panasenکو's childhood was strongly affected by her idyllic home life and by nature, something that had sustained her throughout her life. The Ukrainian village at the turn of the century resounded with the sounds of nightingales and cuckoos, and the choral singing of the young people, who traditionally gathered in the evenings to sing.

This fairy-tale childhood was inter-



Zinaida Panasenکو



Zinaida Panasenکو in her younger days.

rupted when Zinaida was sent away to a parochial school in the village of Chaika, where the rudiments of the alphabet were taught, frequently enforced with the rod. Continuing her education in Bohuslav, Zinaida would recall with aversion the ruthless policy of Russification implemented by the

school's sadistic director. In 1914 she entered the Women's Teaching Seminary in Mryna, having passed competitive examinations, and graduated in 1918. From 1918 to 1924, she taught in the primary and secondary schools in Kyiv province.

When the Ukrainian government came into power – Ukraine proclaimed its independence in 1918 – the Ukrainian language was immediately introduced in all schools, including the university level. Such new subjects as history, geography and the Ukrainian language were taught. Throughout her life, Prof. Panasenکو has never forgotten the extraordinary enthusiasm of Ukrainian teachers during those brief years, who were undeterred by hunger and unheated school rooms.

In 1924 Zinaida entered Kyiv State University, an educational institution intended for several hundred, where 2,000 students were enrolled, including many women, who were excluded prior to 1917.

In 1928 Zinaida was recommended for the advanced study in language and literature at the Kyiv Academy of Sciences. Ukrainian culture was blossoming in Kyiv, and the Ukrainian language resounded in the streets. Ukrainian plays were produced in theaters, exploring new

artistic directions. Numerous Ukrainian musical ensembles were proliferating. And in the universities, figures such as Mykhailo Hrushevsky and Tymchenko were active.

But the Ukrainian national life came to a standstill as the young Soviet state consolidated its power and imposed absolute control over the people. Through relentless terror, mass arrests and executions, intensive Russification and persecution of Ukrainians resumed, lasting until 1991.

Having married Vasyl Panasenکو by this time, Prof. Panasenکو worked in Kryvyi Rih in 1930 as a senior lecturer in Russian and Ukrainian literature. She lived through the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Kharkiv. Her recollections of that despicable period in history, the result of directives from Moscow, were that cities were better off than the countryside, where everything was taken away. Thousands flocked to the cities with their children hoping to survive. Many didn't.

During World War II, Prof. Panasenکو and her family experienced the extreme conditions of everyday life in Kharkiv, from both the Red Army and the

(Continued on page 17)

Ukraine's Ambassador Shamshur meets with Pennsylvania officials

HARRISBURG, Pa. – Harrisburg, the capital of Pennsylvania, was the setting on October 3 for a meeting between the ambassador of Ukraine to the United States Dr. Oleh Shamshur, and high-level Pennsylvania government officials.

Present at the meeting were Dennis Yablonsky, the secretary for commerce and economic development for the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Joe Hoeffel, deputy secretary for international development. Mr. Hoeffel is a former member of the U.S. Congress.

The purpose of the meeting, as outlined by Ambassador Shamshur, was to discuss the possibility of establishing a state-to-state relationship between an oblast of Ukraine and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The ambassador spoke about the need for business in Ukraine to develop business contacts outside the country that would spur exchange of information and tech-

nology, and the promotion of trade and commerce.

Secretary Yablonsky addressed the economic growth of Pennsylvania. He noted that the economy of Pennsylvania is diverse and that Pennsylvania currently has the 17th strongest economy in the world; Pennsylvania's exports worldwide surpassed \$22 billion. Secretary Yablonsky further informed the group that Pennsylvania exports to Ukraine, stating that exports to Ukraine were valued at over \$531 million, with the largest exports to Ukraine being machinery, followed by wood products.

The meeting ended with the both sides agreeing to further pursue the idea of establishing a state-to-state relationship between Ukraine and Pennsylvania. Also present at the meeting was Team Pennsylvania Ambassador Ulana Mazurkevich and Third Secretary at the Ukrainian Embassy Galyna Pobedonostseva.

More soup kitchens needed in Ukraine, says UUARC

PHILADELPHIA – United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) is appealing for financial assistance to expand its soup kitchen program in Ukraine, which is desperately needed.

For over seven years, the UUARC has funded this program in Lviv, where 50 elderly clients, among them former political dissidents and former members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), have the opportunity to share a warm meal in a warm place and in good company. One former soldier admitted "even though we're slightly ashamed of having to come here, we need to."

The economy in Ukraine at this time indicates that the program must be expanded to other oblasts of Ukraine. The UUARC's director in Kyiv, Vira Prinko, noted: "Unfortunately, the elderly, helpless and solitary people are the least likely to receive assistance.

Since the recent trend towards rising prices for crucial aspects of daily life, and with the onset of winter, there are people who can barely subsist. In the south of Ukraine, Mykolaiv, Kherson and Odesa oblasts, and in the west – Luhansk, Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts, there is a clear need for a program to feed these poor souls. The winter is especially brutal as they suffer from the cold, illnesses, poor nutrition and loneliness."

The UUARC plans to open additional soup kitchens in two cities, which will cost \$1,250 per city, per month. This will add 60 persons to this crucial program.

Donations should be sent to: UUARC – Soup Kitchens, 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111. Online donations via credit card are accepted at www.uuarc.org. All donations are tax-deductible.



Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States, Oleh Shamshur (left), meets with Dennis Yablonsky (second from left), the secretary for commerce and economic development for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Joe Hoeffel (right), deputy secretary for international development, and Ulana Mazurkevich.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA holds secretaries' courses at Soyuzivka and in Hartford



Secretaries' course participants in Hartford...



... and at the Ukrainian National Association estate, Soyuzivka.

by Oksana Trytjak

UNA National Organizer

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – During the 36th UNA Convention, held in May at Soyuzivka, a resolution was passed that emphasized the importance for new secretaries to attend orientation courses and for all secretaries to annually attend a one-day seminar or a refresher course organized by the UNA.

In recognition of the value of all secretaries attending refresher courses, UNA National Secretary Christine Kozak organized secretaries' courses at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y., on October 14, and in Hartford, Conn., on November 11.

The national secretary always encourages secretaries and organizers to bring other interested parties to these seminars, which fully explain UNA insurance products.

At these seminars Ms. Kozak describes and emphasizes the roles of the secretary and the organizer in the UNA organization. Time is also spent explaining the underwriting department, and the various informational and statistical material received by the secretaries. The question-and-answer periods proved to be most educational.

At the Soyuzivka seminar the UNA hosted a special guest speaker, Lydia Prokop, a regional insurance specialist for a major investment firm in New York

City. Her presentation was very informative, and the participants were attentive to her every word. The UNA is very fortunate to have members in their midst who are willing to share their expertise. And we welcome other members who may be willing to participate in our courses and share their specific knowledge with attendees.

Myron Kuzio, secretary of Branch 277, was instrumental in organizing the secretaries' seminar held at the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford. This seminar was attended by branch secretaries from Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The district organized an appetizing luncheon and Maria Kuzio demonstrated her culinary know-how by bringing a variety of tasty cookies and pastries.

Oksana Trytjak, UNA national organizer, reminded each secretary and organizer of their value within the UNA organization, as they are, by far, the most important people within the UNA. They are the face of the organization within the Ukrainian community. It is the secretary and/or organizer that the people in the community recognize and turn to with questions about the UNA, its various insurance and financial products, and fraternal benefits.

From a sales aspect, Ms. Trytjak emphasized the importance of being knowledgeable about all UNA products and knowing the history of the UNA's

exceptional role in the Ukrainian community in the diaspora, as well as in Ukraine.

* * *

These insurance seminars prepared in various districts also help develop closer ties between branch secretaries and the UNA Home Office. In keeping with the UNA's initiative to have most secretaries and organizers pass insurance licensing exams, the seminars encourage attendees to

pursue these license. In addition, the Home Office is always looking for professional insurance agents from within the community who may be interested in working for the UNA on a part- or full-time basis. This can be a lucrative opportunity.

Other seminars are being organized throughout the UNA's territory. When a seminar is announced in your district, please come and join us. We invite everyone who is interested to attend.

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

*Visit the websites
of the UNA's publications:*

www.ukrweekly.com
www.svoboda-news.com

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A moral victory

On November 28 the Verkhovna Rada passed a bill that recognized the Famine of 1932-1933, or Holodomor, as a genocide against the Ukrainian people. The bill was signed into law the very next day by President Viktor Yushchenko. The bill passed by a slim margin, receiving only seven votes more than the minimum 226 needed. Nonetheless, it was a moral victory.

"I would like to emphasize this: The vote is historic. It does not target anyone. It restores our national dignity. We will renew our memory of those 10 million innocent victims killed in 1932-1933," Mr. Yushchenko stated.

Mr. Yushchenko expressed gratitude to those who voted in favor of the bill: "I bow my head to thank political leaders, prominent national leaders and all those who contributed to the bill and its passage." And he singled out Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, whose compromise measure was the one ultimately passed, as well as the leaders and members of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Our Ukraine Bloc and the Socialist Party, and deputies of other factions who "had the courage and felt the obligation to adopt this bill."

Those who chose not to vote on the bill included members of the Communist Party and the vast majority of members of the Party of the Regions. Mr. Yushchenko characterized these deputies, quite correctly, as "the remains of the totalitarian system."

The historic vote was a significant step from the approval on May 15, 2003, of a parliamentary resolution that declared the Holodomor "an act of genocide." At the time of the resolution's passage, National Deputy Hennadii Udovenko, chairman of the Rada's Committee on Human Rights, said he was pleased because, "With this document we noted for the first time that we discussed openly and condemned the politics of genocide." However, Mr. Udovenko also said a law firmly establishing Ukraine's position on the genocide was needed. That has now come to pass.

The Rada's vote on the Famine-Genocide bill showed clearly the division of political forces in Ukraine, as well as fissures in the ruling Anti-Crisis Coalition led by the Party of the Regions. Voting for the measure were Our Ukraine, the Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialists – in other words, the members of the parliamentary coalition originally proposed to lead the country after this year's parliamentary elections.

The vote also showed the unreconstructed nature of some of Ukraine's national deputies, as the Communists disseminated a booklet called "The Myth of the Holodomor" and the Party of the Regions insisted on calling the Holodomor a mere "tragedy." The debate also revealed the position of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who was quoted in the International Herald Tribune as saying that famine "happened on the territory of many countries [former Soviet republics], maybe in Ukraine it had a greater effect as Ukraine is a more agricultural country."

And, so, 73 years after 10 million died during the Holodomor – which at its height claimed 25,000 lives per day – there still are those in Ukraine who are blinded by ideology and refuse to see, or learn, the truth. May they someday be enlightened.

Dec.
8
1991

Turning the pages back...

With the recent adoption by the U.S. State Department and other agencies of the Ukrainian-based transliterated spelling of Kyiv, it is only right that we remember that it was 15 years ago that The Ukrainian Weekly reported that use of the article

"the" was dropped from references to Ukraine.

The Associated Press on December 3, 1991, announced; "As a result of the passage of the independence referendum in Ukraine and moves toward international recognition of Ukraine as an independent country, The Associated Press will henceforth use 'Ukraine' instead of 'USSR' in datelines from Ukraine. The AP will also drop the article 'the' that has preceded the word 'Ukraine.'"

That same day, The New York Times first carried a dateline of "Kiev, Ukraine" in its new stories and used "Ukraine" without the preceding definite article.

In the official White House statement on Ukraine's referendum results read by spokesman Marlin Fitzwater to the press, a brief three-paragraph sidebar headlined "Terminology of Nationalism" noted dropping of the article in references to Ukraine. The item cited Adrian Karmazyn of the Ukrainian National Association's Washington Office who explained: "Ukrainian Americans prefer it (Ukraine) without the 'the.' The article is used for regions like 'the Appalachians' or 'the Crimea,'" Mr. Karmazyn explained to The Times.

In the months leading up to the change, several articles from the Times varied in their usage of "Ukraine" and "the Ukraine." The day prior to the AP's official dropping of the definite article "the," the Times still used the dateline of "Kiev, USSR," and referred to "the Ukraine."

Other publications made the change at different times. The Boston-based Christian Science Monitor used the dateline "Kiev, Ukraine" as early as November 8, 1991. However, references were made to "the Ukraine" and in a front-page news story carried on December 3 of that year.

The New York Daily News published an editorial on November 29, 1991 urging the recognition of Ukraine without the "the."

Additionally, The Wall Street Journal began using Ukraine without "the" as early as November 20, 1991. However, it was full of inconsistencies in its November 29 edition on the usage of Ukraine with and without the "the."

The Washington Post still used "Kiev, USSR" but switched to "Kiev, Ukraine, after December 3. Even after the official switch, The Post still used "the Ukraine."

The Philadelphia Inquirer had telephoned The Ukrainian Weekly in September 1991 for input and advice on usage. On November 20 The Weekly received a letter from editorial writer Russell Cooks who noted: "The Philadelphia Inquirer has joined the short (but growing) list of mainstream U.S. publications to take the 'the' out of Ukraine. Your advice to me a couple of months ago helped me make this possible."

Source: "The 'the' is gone," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 8, 1991.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Ukrainian-American Environmental Association writes to Bush and Yanukovich of "opportunities"

WASHINGTON/RIVNE, Ukraine – In letters delivered this week to Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and U.S. President George W. Bush, the Ukrainian-American Environmental Association (UAEA) outlined "Ten Opportunities for the United States to Assist Ukraine in the Sphere of Improving Energy Efficiency."

Prime Minister Yanukovich is scheduled to visit the United States on December 3-7 and meet with top U.S. government officials to discuss a number of policy issues, including energy.

In its letter, UAEA noted that the prime minister has "commented upon the importance for Ukrainian industry, local government and others to reduce energy waste and to improve energy efficiency for the good of the nation's economy and its national security."

It added: "We believe that your upcoming visit to the United States affords a good opportunity to explore options for U.S.-Ukraine cooperation for pursuing your goals in the area of energy efficiency."

Accordingly, UAEA outlined 10 areas in which the United States could actively work with Ukraine to reduce energy waste and thereby improve its economy and national security. These include expanded scholar and business exchange programs, financial assistance, formal Verhovna Rada-U.S. Congress communications, an additional role for the U.S. Peace Corps, translations of U.S. energy efficiency studies and training materials, replication of successful U.S. energy efficiency programs, and using the new U.S. Embassy in Kyiv as a demonstration of energy-efficient design.

The listing of "10 opportunities," follows. A Ukrainian-language version of the news release and letter appear on-line at <http://ua-ea.org/222/povdlomlennya-dlya-zm>; an English-language version is at <http://ua-ea.org/223/news-release>.

Ten opportunities

1.) U.S. AID: The U.S. Agency for International Development recently approved funding in the amount of \$1 million to facilitate energy efficiency upgrades at industrial facilities in Ukraine. While a good first step, there remain numerous other opportunities for further USAID investment in energy efficiency in Ukraine, such as community-based energy-savings programs, public education and energy-efficiency financing mechanisms. Therefore, working with the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and Ukrainian officials, U.S. AID could give much higher priority to funding additional energy efficiency projects.

2.) Millennium Challenge: The recent decision of the board of directors of the Millennium Challenge Corp. (MCC) to add Ukraine to the list of countries now eligible for development assistance from the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) affords Ukraine a new opportunity to secure funding assistance to address poverty reduction and economic growth through improved energy efficiency. The U.S. government could work with its Ukrainian counterparts, as well as with interested Ukrainian and American NGOs and citizens to design compact proposals that incorporate energy efficiency into program plans and goals.

3.) SABIT Program: The Special American Business Internship Training (SABIT) Program administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce (DoC)

helps to place Ukrainian entrepreneurs with American businesses to acquire training and experience in U.S. business practices. The U.S. Embassy and DoC could prioritize energy efficiency by actively working to identify U.S. firms working in the field of energy-saving technologies (e.g., design, manufacture, installation, financing) as well as help identify Ukrainian business leaders interested in this issue and facilitating placements and training.

4.) BISNIS Program: The U.S. Department of Commerce (DoC), through the Business Information Service for the Newly Independent States (BISNIS), could more aggressively reach out to U.S. companies exploring export and investment opportunities in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and encourage them to invest in Ukraine and/or partner with Ukrainian firms in these fields. At present, there are relatively few Ukrainian companies manufacturing efficiency and renewable energy equipment and even fewer ESCOs (i.e., energy service companies) that can help underwrite such investments. Through its trade fairs and missions, as well as its publications, DoC could promote greater American involvement in these sectors.

5.) Scholar exchanges: The multiple federally sponsored scholar and research exchange programs, including the Freedom Support Act, Muskie and Fulbright programs, could give higher priority to recruiting and placing Ukrainian students, teachers, scholars and researchers interested in energy efficiency and related environmental issues at U.S. educational institutions. Likewise, greater emphasis could be given to assisting American scholars wishing to teach and/or conduct research on how Ukraine could improve the energy efficiency of its economy, as well as address other related energy and environmental issues.

6.) Replication of model U.S. programs: The U.S. federal government has developed some very effective energy efficiency programs. These include the Energy Star program (which returns \$75 in energy savings for every dollar invested), the Federal Energy Management Program (which has a 9:1 savings-to-cost ratio), the federal Weatherization Program, the government energy efficiency procurement program, the federal energy efficiency research and development program, and the federal appliance efficiency standards program. Similarly, many model energy efficiency programs have been implemented by U.S. states, counties and cities. Most of these programs could be fairly easily replicated in Ukraine at relatively low cost but with the potential for high energy savings. Therefore, under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State and/or the U.S. Department of Commerce, federal (as well as state and local) officials who administer these programs could go to Ukraine to provide information and/or training for Ukrainian officials (or, alternatively, Ukrainian officials could come to the U.S. to meet with their American counterparts).

7.) Congress-Rada exchanges: As of the time of the recent U.S. congressional elections, there were 219 members of the U.S. House of Representatives who are members of the House Renewable Energy + Energy Efficiency (RE/EE) Caucus. Similarly, 34 members of the U.S. Senate are members of the Senate RE/EE Caucus. Many of these members have

(Continued on page 19)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Karatnycky responds to Kuzio's charges

Dear Editor:

On October 15 The Weekly printed my letter correcting an error-laden paragraph that Taras Kuzio wrote in September. Instead of a direct response, Dr. Kuzio now charges me and The Orange Circle with new alleged improprieties.

His primary accusation is that The Orange Circle is on Rynat Akhmetov's payroll – an allegation that is false. As I already indicated, the net amount we received from an Akhmetov energy company was \$ 3,000 and was used to cover expenses for organizing an energy conference in Houston earlier this year.

Dr. Kuzio further claims that The Orange Circle receives no support from "Our Ukraine businesses." If by this he means Ukrainian companies that include President Viktor Yushchenko's sympathizers, his claims are not accurate: at least two of some two dozen corporate donors to The Orange Circle are companies headed by associates of the president. They, along with nine other donors, participated in our energy conference.

Our energy policy forum was addressed by two members of Our Ukraine's national board; the deputy head of the National Security and Defense Council, a presidential body; and a Pora leader. Dr. Kuzio can confirm with parliamentarian Hryhorii Nemyria our earnest efforts to secure a speaker from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

Support for the Houston energy conference was solicited openly. We approached dozens of energy companies. In the interests of transparency, we listed all donors on our website. We believe that engaging Ukraine's key economic and political players in discussions on energy diversification is in the interest of Ukraine's sovereignty and economic growth.

But Dr. Kuzio goes further. He claims that I sought to "ingratiate" myself with Mr. Akhmetov by publishing a "flattering article" in the Wall Street Journal, implying that The Orange Circle was rewarded for this article with the businessman's support.

What Dr. Kuzio doesn't point out is that the interview was conducted nine months before The Orange Circle was launched and while I was with Freedom House.

My article was factual and reportorial. In it I wrote: "Ukraine's Orange Revolution ... gained momentum due to public anger at crony capitalism and high-level corruption ... Many of Mr. Yushchenko's supporters are convinced that many of Ukraine's economic magnates acquired their wealth illegitimately – if not criminally – and want the new government to vigorously prosecute illegal financial transactions." In proper journalistic protocol, I asked Mr. Akhmetov to respond to this charge.

The Wall Street Journal has an editorial board that safeguards quality and doesn't publish "flattering" articles.

I am saddened that Dr. Kuzio is lowering the level of discourse by resorting to "kompromat," guilt by association and innuendo. I don't want to further waste your readers' time in responding to the groundless insinuations made by Dr. Kuzio, who in recent years has publicly heaped scorn on Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian leaders and institutions, as well as on Viktor Yushchenko, whom he likes to call the "kamikaze president." I am honored now to be in their company.

Adrian Karatnycky
New York

The letter-writer is president of The Orange Circle.

Parliamentary immunity and democratic standards

Dear Editor:

I have previously sent registered letters to President Viktor Yushchenko, Yulia Tymoshenko and Viktor Yanukovich about revisiting the issue of parliamentary immunity, but have not received any reply.

A democratic country's parliamentary immunity is granted only for slander or libel within the Parliament. Outside of the Parliament, there is no immunity for parliamentarians.

However, Ukraine's 450 national deputies have immunity inside Parliament and also outside of Parliament, where they may have illegal activities in finance and customs and nefarious dealings in the economy and business, take bribes and engage in money laundering, and participate in illegal activities. And yet they cannot be prosecuted under the present laws of Ukraine.

To be truly democratic, Ukraine must cancel these immunity guarantees for its 450 national deputies and adopt the standards of Europe, Canada, England and the United States where parliamentarians are prosecuted for any and all activities outside of the Parliament.

If Ukraine does not comply with the democratic standards of parliamentary immunity, the future for Ukraine in democracy, its economic development and human rights will be stagnant for many years – and probably for future generations.

I. I. Mayba, M.D.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

The Weekly impacts readers near and far

Dear Editor:

We have been experiencing amazing feedback on the article featuring the Glaucoma Center of San Francisco and the Hnizdovsky collection. Most of the inquiries have been from people concerned about their eyes, and we have been happy to help point them in the right direction for appropriate care.

It is great to see that The Ukrainian Weekly does impact a wide range of Ukrainians both near and far.

Andrew Iwach, M.D.
Marta Klufas, O.D.
San Francisco

The letter-writers are executive director and research director, respectively, of the Glaucoma Center.

We welcome your opinion

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Letters should be typed and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at staff@ukrweekly.com. The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.

Please note: THE LENGTH OF LETTERS CANNOT EXCEED 500 WORDS.

COMMENTARY

Looking ahead to 2009 as Ukraine marks second Orange anniversary

by **Taras Kuzio**

A year ago, there was still a great deal of optimism in Washington and other Western capitals that, in the aftermath of the Orange Revolution, Ukraine would be able to consolidate its democratic gains. On the second anniversary of the Orange Revolution, this optimism has now been replaced by a greater degree of realism and, in some quarters, pessimism.

Was it our optimism that was misplaced, or did Ukraine's Orange leaders fail their voters and the one in five Ukrainians who participated in the Orange Revolution? Indeed, has Viktor Yushchenko "betrayed" the Orange Revolution, as some of his own supporters now claim?

Revolutions are notorious in leading to unfulfilled expectations. And Ukraine is no exception here. Orange politicians and revolutionaries never had a unified view of what policies they wished to see implemented after Mr. Yushchenko came to power.

The Orange coalition has been bitterly divided over its attitudes to work dealing with the past. The Yulia Tymoshenko bloc and youth NGOs, such as Pora (It's Time), strongly backed calls to implement the Orange Revolution campaign promise "bandits to prison."

President Yushchenko and his party, Our Ukraine, have not moved on steps to criminally charge senior officials from the Kuchma regime for election fraud, abuse of office and corruption. Investigations into the two most notorious cases, the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze and the poisoning of Mr. Yushchenko, have stalled or led only to low-level arrests. Opinion polls show that Ukrainians again feel that the rule of law does not apply to their ruling elites.

Besides a fractured policy agenda, the Orange coalition was notoriously broad-ranging, from Socialists, to free market capitalists, to nationalists. This enabled a large coalition to be formed that could protest election fraud. But, once the Orange Revolution was over, that coalition proved unable to remain united and disintegrated after only nine months in office.

Mr. Yushchenko's election was a victory for democratic forces but never became a knock-out blow to the ancien regime, unlike in Georgia where Mikheil Saakashvili was elected president with 96 percent of the vote. The split in the Orange camp became permanent following this summer's crisis that saw the surprise return of Viktor Yanukovich to head the government. Mr. Yanukovich and the Party of the Regions obtained 44 and 32 percent of the vote in 2004 and 2006 respectively, showing that this political force had a large popular base.

On the second anniversary of the Orange Revolution, Ukraine is at a crossroads and faces two strategic questions.

First, will the Party of the Regions transform itself into a democratic, post-oligarch party? The answers to this question are either pessimistic (as best represented by the Tymoshenko bloc), agnos-

Dr. Taras Kuzio is a senior fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States, and adjunct professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University.

tic ("let's wait and see") or optimistic ("they are already evolving"). Precedents do exist in Eastern Europe for the transition from oligarchs to law-abiding businessmen, but those countries had an external stimulant: the offer of membership in the European Union.

Second, is the Orange Revolution reversible, following the return of Mr. Yanukovich to head the government? Here responses are more optimistic. The Party of the Regions (PRU), while controlling the largest parliamentary faction and government, is not in a position of exercising monopoly power to be able to return Ukraine to the authoritarian era of Leonid Kuchma.

Ukraine's regionalism mitigates against the dominance of one ruling party and the imposition of an autocratic regime, making Ukraine different from Russia. The PRU's 32 percent victory in the 2006 elections will not permit the party to monopolize power or reverse the Orange Revolution.

Ukraine's post-Soviet transition was marked by frequently changing governments which lasted on average only 12 months. The last government to be dismissed in such a manner was the Tymoshenko government in 2005.

Following constitutional reforms in 2006, the president no longer has the right to dismiss the government, which is now responsible to the parliamentary coalition. The Yanukovich government, therefore, is likely to remain in place until the October 2009 elections.

The 2009 presidential elections will be fought by three well-known candidates, Mr. Yanukovich, Ms. Tymoshenko and incumbent Mr. Yushchenko. Current polls point to the second-round contest being fought by Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich, Ukraine's two most popular politicians.

In 2009 Ukraine may face a repeat of the 2004 elections between the Orange and Blue forces with Mr. Yanukovich again launching his candidacy from the position of prime minister. But, on this occasion, Mr. Yanukovich will have a stronger launching pad as the position of prime minister has been enhanced following constitutional reforms.

The 2009 elections are likely to again be a contest between Blue and Orange forces. As prime minister for three years and having a popular base of support, Mr. Yanukovich will be guaranteed to enter the second round.

The former Orange Revolution coalition will enter the 2009 elections divided between Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko, one of whom will go through to the second round. Mr. Yanukovich could well do in 2009 what he never attempted to undertake in 2004, namely, win a free election.

Only two years into his presidency, Mr. Yushchenko increasingly resembles a lame duck president. He never listens to advice, allows personal conflicts to unduly influence his views, has adopted a disastrous personnel policy and not shown leadership or a devised strategy.

Mr. Yushchenko's greatest weaknesses have been his lack of charisma and concomitant inability to stay in touch with core Orange voters, coupled with an inability to exercise power. Ongoing discussions over revising constitutional reforms ignore the fact that Mr. Yushchenko has neither exercised power

(Continued on page 17)

SPORTSLINE

Boxing

- Ukrainian boxer Volodymyr Klitschko defeated previously undefeated Calvin Brock on November 11 at Madison Square Garden in the seventh round to retain the IBF World Heavyweight Title. Klitschko improved his record to 47-3 with 42 knockouts, while Brock fell to 29-1. After the match, Klitschko said he looks forward to his next fight against a belt holder. Nicolay Valuev holds the WBA title, while Oleg

goal in the 48th minute. The only goal for Belarus came in the 78th minute on a penalty shot by Vitali Rushnitski. On its way to the top, Ukraine defeated San Marino 6-0 and Kazakhstan 2-0.

- After suffering a 2-0 loss to Italy in its previous match in the Group B Euro 2008 qualifiers, the Ukrainian team defeated Scotland 2-0, on October 11. Olexandr Kucher was first to put Ukraine on the scoreboard, off a pass from Andriy Shevchenko, with a shot in the 60th minute in the second half. Shevchenko

ing one for Shakhtar's Romanian coach Mircea Lucescu, marred the clash. Portuguese referee Paulo Gomes sent off Shakhtar's defender Dmitro Chigrinsky for an ugly tackle on Dynamo's Brazilian striker Kleber late in the first half before giving Lucescu his marching orders for protesting about the decision. Gomes evened the sides by ejecting Dynamo's Artem Milevsky after the striker picked up his second yellow card midway through the second half. The referee then red-carded Shakhtar's Darijo Srna for unsportsmanlike conduct after the final whistle. Maxim Shatskikh scored the winner from close range in the 73rd minute to give Dynamo 35 points from 13 matches. Last season's champions Shakhtar remain 29, six points ahead of third-placed Metalist Kharkiv.

Lucescu blamed the referee for his team's defeat. "The referee just ruined the game," the temperamental Romanian, who was fined \$5,000 by the league for using bad language in a match against Vorskla Poltava earlier this season, told a news conference. "He was calling everything one way, and of course, when you have this it's very difficult to get a result."

- Shakhtar Donetsk stayed alive in the UEFA Champions League match on November 22 with a 1-0 win at home against Italy's AC Roma. Romanian striker Ciprian Marica netted the only goal for Shakhtar. The match left Roma in second place, while Shakhtar takes third in Group D. Shakhtar takes on Greece's Olympiakos in its final match of the group stage.

Running

- Ukrainian runner Mykola Rudyk, 32, from Ukraine, sprinted to win the United Technologies Greater Hartford Marathon with a 2-second margin of victory over Kenyan runner Jonathan Ndambuki to win the marathon in 2 hours, 18 minutes and 40 seconds.

- The Associated Press reported on November 5 that Tatiana Hladyr of Ukraine took second place to defending champion Jelena Prokopcuka of Latvia in the New York City Marathon. The two separated from the pack early on the Verrazano Bridge into Brooklyn and built their lead to 40 seconds upon returning to Manhattan. The pair extended their lead to 90 seconds – more than a quarter mile – as they headed in the Bronx and back to Manhattan, where Prokopcuka moved away from Hladyr in the final stretch of the race toward the finish line in Central Park. Hladyr finished with a time of 2 hours, 26 minutes and five seconds, exactly one minute behind Prokopcuka. This was Prokopcuka's second straight victory in the New York City Marathon, the first in over 10 years since Tegla Loroupe of Kenya in 1994-1995.

Gymnastics

Ukrainian gymnast Iryna Krasnianska won the gold medal in the balance beam event at the World Gymnastics Championship on October 21. With a score of 15.575, the 18-year-old Krasnianska edged Romanian Sandra Raluca Izbasa by .075 points, and Canadian Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs by .1. This was the Ukrainian team's first gold medal in 11 years at the World Gymnastics Championships.

Martial Arts

In a display of full-contact disciplines of the Bajiquan style, a Chinese martial art that features explosive, short range power and is famous for its elbow strikes, Ukrainians Ihor Aristov won silver and Valeriy Olifir won gold in the event and

bronze overall at the World Wushu Championship in China on October 30. Wushu features multiple martial arts events that the International Olympic Committee has allowed China to organize during the 2008 Olympic Games, separate from the official Olympic sports, in what will be called the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games Wushu Tournament. Elimination matches for the 2008 tournament are scheduled for next year's championship.

Skiing

The 20,000-square-meter Bukovel Ski Resort, located 920 meters above sea level in the Ivano-Frankivsk region, will become a center to host preparations for the Olympic Games, Family, Youth and Sports Minister Yuri Pavlenko told a press conference. Mr. Pavlenko stated his hope is that not a lot of water will flow under the bridge so that Bukovel will host the European Winter Sports Championships.

Chess

- The world's youngest chess Grandmaster, Serhiy Karyakin, 14, returned to Symferopol from a trip to Western Europe and Central America with three victories. The Ukrainian chess player won the tournament of the third World Chess Festival, which was under way in Mexico City in October. He took second place at the International Tournament of quick chess in France and won first place as a member of the Linex-Magic team at the National Club Tournament in Spain. "I took part in the most mass seance of simultaneous game for the whole chess history. It was at the chess festival in Mexico City. As many as 15,000 chess players were playing at the same time at the Sokalo Square in Mexican capital," said Karyakin. Additionally, he said that fellow Ukrainian Ruslan Ponomariov was playing at the national Spanish tournament for the Linex-Magic club, which is representing the Extremadura province.

- Ukrainian chess Grandmaster Oleg Romanishin defeated Filipino International Master-Elect John Paul Gomez in the fifth round of the third Calvia Chess Festival on October 24 in Mallorca, Spain. Romanishin improved his total to 4.5 points and moved into a tie for first with GM Aleksa Strkovic and GM Branko Damljanovic of Serbia and Montenegro, and GM Stuart Conquest of England.

- Ukrainian chess Grandmaster Vassiliy Ivanchuk remained the leader with 3.5 points in the Capablanca Memorial International Chess Competition in Havana, Cuba, on November 19-30.

Olympics

Serhiy Bubka, 42, Olympic champion, six-time world champion and 35-time world record-breaker in pole vaulting, was elected president of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine on November 23. He is a member of the executive committee of the International Olympic Committee and since 2005 has chaired the Ukrainian NOC.

Handball

Ukraine reached the semifinals of the women's GF World Cup in Aarhus, Denmark, by defeating Brazil 39-31. Joining them in the final four are Romania, Denmark and Russia. This World Cup tournament is preparation for the European Championships to be held in Gothenburg, Sweden, on December 7.

– compiled by Matthew Dubas



The view in Madison Square Garden as Volodymyr Klitschko was introduced.

Maskaev holds the WBC title.

For his victories in the ring, President Viktor Yushchenko awarded Volodymyr Klitschko the order "For courage," first degree, on November 22.

- The Ukrainian boxing team of Georgi Chigaev, 48 kg, Vitali Volkov, 51 kg, Maxim Tretyak, 54 kg, Dmytro Bulenkov, 57 kg, Olexandr Klyuchko, 60 kg, Mykola Semenyaga, 64 kg, Olexandr Stretskiy, 69 kg, Oleksandr Usyk, 81 kg, Denis Poyatska, 91 kg, and Vyacheslav Glazkov, +91 kg, won the bronze medal at the World Cup of Boxing on October 21 in Baku, Azerbaijan, defeating their Chinese opponents 10-1.

- Ukrainian boxer Sergiy Dzinziruk, a southpaw, retained his WBO Super Welterweight (154 lbs) title in a unanimous decision against Russian boxer Alisultan Nadirbegov (15-2) on October 21 at Germany's Brandenburg Arena to maintain his unbeaten record of 33-0.

- On November 22, former WBC Champion Vitalii Klitschko and current deputy of the Kyiv City Council said he has no intention of returning to the sport of boxing. This came after rumors emerged from the German mass media that claimed that the German television network RTL contracted Klitschko for four fights at 12.8 million euros.

Soccer

- On October 1 Ukraine's under-17 team defeated Belarus 4-1 to take the top standing of Group 1 with 9 points of the UEFA Championship. Leading scorers from Ukraine were Illya Mykhalov in the 29th minute, followed by Maxym Bilyy in the 32nd minute. Mykhalov would put in another goal for Ukraine in the 41st minute, followed up by Artur Karnoza's

scored another one for the Ukrainian team with a penalty kick in the 90th minute, to secure 3 points in Ukraine's second Group B victory. Ukraine, with 6 points, trails Scotland and France, who are tied with 9 points, and Italy with 7 points. The next match for Ukraine in the Euro 2008 will be on March 24, 2007, against the Faroe Islands.

- Ukrainian amateur team Ivan Odesa AMA won the UEFA Group 5 mini-tournament on October 25 in a scoreless match against Liechtenstein AMA, 1-0 against Belgium's Center AMA (October 18), and 1-0 against Slovenia's Ptuj & Celje AMA (October 20), to reach the final stage of the UEFA Regions' Cup. In the biennial cup tournament, the Ukrainians will face amateur teams from all over Europe. The final is scheduled for June 30, 2007.

- In the UEFA Champion's League play, Ukrainian club Shakhtar Donetsk tied with Valencia 2-2 in the Group D match on October 31. Shakhtar took the lead early with a curving free kick by Jadson Rodriguez – his first goal of the competition – over the wall in the 2nd minute of play. Fernando Morlentes answered back in the 18th minute for Valencia to tie the game. Ten minutes later, Fernando Luiz Roza ("Fernandinho") put another one in from 30 meters for Shakhtar to take the lead in the 28th minute. Roberto Ayala evened out the score for Valencia with a header in the 68th minute. Shakhtar is tied with Olympiakos with 2 points in Group D.

- On November 6 Dynamo Kyiv beat archrivals Shakhtar Donetsk 1-0 in an ill-tempered match on Monday to go six points clear at the top of the Ukrainian Premier League. Four red cards, includ-

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Klitschko fans from Jersey on hand for title bout at Madison Square Garden

by Markian Hadzewycz

NEW YORK – Volodymyr Klitschko succeeded in defending his International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight title on November 11, when he defeated the previously unbeaten Calvin Brock in a bout at Madison Square Garden.

Klitschko won in the seventh round after landing a combination left hook, straight right. The fight was stopped by the referee as Brock had difficulty rising when he fell to the canvas after taking a hard blow to his jaw.

Among those cheering Klitschko's victory was a group of approximately 50 Ukrainian Americans who traveled to the Garden from New Jersey to join the countless other fans in the stands. Three years earlier a similar group had come together to see Vitalii Klitschko beat Kirk Johnson. Both times they rendezvoused at Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Clifton, where they dined on Ukrainian staples – kovbasa, rye bread and cheese – as they awaited their chartered bus.

Each of this group's ticket holders received a yellow "Team Klitschko" T-shirt and blue-and-yellow scarf to help cheer on their champion. The group tickets, as well as the fan garb, were organized by Andrew Tatarenko.

On the bus ride the group sang all the "classics," from the Ukrainian national anthem to Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline." Around 9 p.m. the bus pulled up outside the Garden, where the group created quite a spectacle with its matching T-shirts. (Three years ago his brother Peter was the organizer of a similar event.)

It seemed that half of the crowd at the Garden was composed of not only Klitschko fans, but Eastern Europeans. Ukrainians, Russians and other Slavs came together to cheer on their hero.



Ukrainian American fans of Volodymyr Klitschko gathered in Clifton, N.J., before his bout against Calvin Brock.

Many wore all sorts of Klitschko hats, shirts and jackets, while others draped themselves in Ukrainians flags to get the crowd going. The gang from Clifton stood out the best, as it took up most of a seating section as one big mass of yellow.

Before the main event, there were some lesser bouts, the most notable being Laila Ali defeating Shelly Burton in four rounds. In the audience was Muhammad Ali, who was greeted with cheers and a standing ovation as he entered the Garden to see his daughter successfully defend her WBC women's super middleweight championship title.

Finally, the main fight. Brock entered first in a white robe with yellow trim, followed shortly by a light-show extrava-

ganza for Klitschko, wearing a red robe with yellow trim. Around 11 p.m. the world-renowned announcer Michael Buffer introduced both fighters.

Brock, age 31, 6-foot-1 1/2 and 224 pounds, stood undefeated, 29-0 with 22 KOs (knockouts). Known as the "Boxing Banker," Brock holds a degree in finance, manages his own portfolio, and once worked for Bank of America. While Brock certainly had an impressive record, many observers pointed out that this member of the 2000 U.S. Olympic team had not yet faced any top boxers or challenged anyone for a heavyweight title.

In the other corner, defending his IBF heavyweight champion's title, was Dr. Klitschko (Ph.D., physiology, University

of Kyiv), nicknamed "Dr. Steelhammer." The 30-year-old Klitschko went into the fight with a record of 46-3, including 41 knockouts; he stood 6-foot-6 and weighed in at 241 pounds.

Considering the academic backgrounds of both fighters, this could be considered one of the best-educated bouts in boxing history.

At the end of the introductions, Buffer let out his trademarked: "Let's get ready to rrrrrumble!"

Based on the scorecards, the first four rounds went two apiece, as Klitschko and Brock probed for weaknesses and fought conservatively. In the fifth, the rate of

(Continued on page 25)



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Woskob family...

(Continued from page 1)

"sustained record of scholarly achievement at the highest level."

Prof. Naydan is the author-translator of 13 books and nearly 100 other publications in scholarly and literary journals. His most recent books include annotated translations of Yuri Andrukhovych's novel "Perverzion" (Northwestern University Press, 2004) and Viktor Neborak's "The Flying Head and Other Poems" (Sribne Slovo Publishers, 2005). The former won the American Association of Ukrainian Studies translation of the year award (2005) and the latter the poetry book of the year award in Ukraine (2006).

In 1989 Prof. Naydan established Penn State's first Ukrainian culture course, which has been taught uninterruptedly twice each academic year either by Prof. Naydan, by visiting scholars such as Oksana Zabuzhko, Mykola Riabchuk, Maria Zubrytska and Olha Luchuk, or by graduate students from Ukraine, including Oleksandra Shchur, Oksana Tatsyak and Roman Ivashkiv, all three of whom

have continued their graduate studies in Ph.D. programs at the University of Toronto and at the University of Illinois.

The current course is taught by Olha Tytarenko from Lviv. The culture course began with an enrollment of 15 students when it was first taught and has climbed to as many as 60 students. Most recently, it has been offered to ever increasing numbers of students via the Internet during the spring semester.

The university has also offered a three-semester sequence of Ukrainian language on several occasions – a sequence that was generously funded by the Woskob family during the previous academic year. With the increase in the endowment, plans are to offer Ukrainian language courses on a yearly basis.

Prof. Naydan said he foresees the focus of the endowment to be cultural and contemporary issues that will not duplicate the already good efforts in history and politics in place at other universities. He sees the Woskob family's generous donation as a solid beginning and welcomes other donors to establish graduate student teaching assistantships for students from Ukraine, publication and

conference funds, and scholarships for students to assist them in attending study abroad programs in Ukraine.

An additional faculty member at Penn State, Dr. Catherine Wanner, has been particularly active in Ukrainian studies and will be working closely with Prof. Naydan toward establishing a Center for the Study of Modern Ukraine at Penn State.

Prof. Wanner is an assistant professor in the department of history at The Pennsylvania State University and received her doctorate in cultural anthropology from Columbia University. Her first book, "Burden of Dreams: History and Identity in Post-Soviet Ukraine" (1998), was an ethnographic study of how the nationalist paradigm influenced historiography and cultural politics in Ukraine after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

She is also the author of "Communities of the Converted: Ukrainians, Evangelicalism and the Search for Salvation" (2007), an analysis of how Soviet-era evangelical religious practices and communities in Ukraine have changed since the collapse of socialism and the introduction of global Christianity. She is also the co-editor of "Reclaiming the

Sacred: Community, Morality and Religion after Communism" (2007), a collection of essays addressing religion and cultural change in the former Soviet Union.

Her current research project analyzes the transformation of religious life in the western Ukrainian city of Chernivtsi after World War II and the incorporation of this region into Soviet Ukraine. Her research has been supported by awards from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Social Science Research Council and the National Council for Eastern European and Eurasian Research.

For further information on the Ukrainian studies program at Penn State contact: Prof. Michael M. Naydan, Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures, 303 Burrowes Building, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802; telephone, 814-865-1675; e-mail, mmn3@psu.edu.

Kean University...

(Continued from page 1)

one of the most moving experiences of her life. In contrast to her mother's family's experience, her father's family, which came from Halychyna in western Ukraine, saw little of the devastating effects of the Famine.

In getting the course off the ground, Dr. Griffith received a lot of encouragement and support from both Dr. Weinstein and the university curriculum committee. In preparation for the course, during the summer of 2005 Dr. Griffith immersed herself in the literature of the Holodomor and designed the course that was approved in the fall of 2005. The course was first offered in the spring semester of 2006. Kean University is also creating a human rights center that will be unveiled in 2007 or 2008, she added.

As part of the course, Dr. Griffith is locating survivors of the Holodomor and their children. She is looking for children/grandchildren of survivors or victims to interview in person or by phone. (She can be contacted by e-mail at rgriffit@kean.edu or by phone at 908-737-0387.) Students taking the course will be encouraged to interview these survivors and/or their children in order to collect primary and anecdotal accounts.

Dr. Griffith is also in the process of building a Holodomor library collection at Kean University. Readers can send tax-deductible contributions earmarked for the "Ukrainian Holodomor Library Collection" to: University Foundation, Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union, NJ 07083.

The class is limited to 15 students, but is open to both matriculated and non-matriculated students. The spring course is scheduled to meet once a week on Monday evenings from 7:50 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and runs from January 16 to May 7. The summer session will offer a six-week course that meets at 5 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from May 21 to June 28.

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Museum in New York to exhibit rescued sculptures and icons

by **Marta Baczynsky**

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Museum is honored to present the exhibition “Ukrainian Sculpture and Icons: A History of Their Rescue” that opens on December 13. This show has a unique distinguishing feature: it includes many objects from the private collection of the president of Ukraine, Victor Yushchenko.

Presented in the exhibit are 57 works from the president’s collection, as well as from the private collections of Petro Honchar, Ihor Hryniv, Volodymyr Koziuk, Vasyl Vovkun and Lidia Lykhach.

Since the opening of its new modern and elegant building in 2005, The Ukrainian Museum has been enjoying one success after another. Its inaugural exhibition, “Alexander Archipenko: Vision and Continuity,” brought new audiences to its galleries and the attention of New York’s highly competitive arts community. The current exhibition, “Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine 1910-1930,” opened to critical acclaim (The New York Times, November 4) and is drawing visitors from near and far.

Coming on the heels of such major achievements, the new exhibition, “Ukrainian Sculpture and Icons: A History of Their Rescue,” is a wonderful complement to the ongoing success story of the museum. The exhibit is a cooperative endeavor between The Ukrainian Museum in New York City and the Ivan Honchar Museum, Rodovid Gallery and V-Art in Ukraine, further solidifying The Ukrainian Museum’s objective to work in concert with the museum and arts community in Ukraine.

“The museum considers it a privilege to welcome the exhibition ‘Ukrainian Sculpture and Icons: A History of Their Rescue,’” said Olha Hnateyko, president of the museum’s board of trustees. “The museum is honored that President Yushchenko accepted our invitation to share the treasures from his collection with our museum, and we thank the other esteemed collectors for enriching the exhibition with priceless objects from their collections as well.”

These objects – icons and religious wood sculptures – have been rescued from obscurity and destruction and have found a new life in the care of private

collectors. The exhibit will run through February 28, 2007.

The objects on exhibit date from the end of the 17th to the beginning of the 20th centuries and, for the most part, were created by folk artists. Among the objects are sculptures on religious themes such as depictions of the Crucified Christ, angels and saints. The three-pronged, elaborately decorated candelabra known as “triitsii” are part of this exhibition as well. Also featured are icons that display the varied styles produced during this 200-year period.

In the exhibition catalogue President Yushchenko speaks about the essence of these objects: “The works of iconography and sculpture presented in this exhibition ... are not just elements of sacral



St. Nicholas. 19th century, sculpture from western Ukraine collection of President Viktor Yushchenko.



St. Barbara and St. George the Dragonslayer. pair of late 19th century icons (collection of Vasyl Vovkun).

ritual: they are fundamental components of their historical context, of the social and economic changes occurring at that time, as well as the spiritual expression of the interplay of various cultures.”

The 160-page bilingual, illustrated catalogue is a very important component of the exhibit in which art historians Oleh Sydor and Mykola Mozdyr discuss Ukrainian iconography and religious sculpture. Also contained in the catalogue is a revealing historical survey by Serhii Bilokin, Ph. D., whose expertise is in the field of historical sciences, describing the devastating systematic destruction of Ukraine’s cultural heritage by the Soviet regime during the better part of the 20th century.

Since Ukraine proclaimed its independence in 1991 there has been a revival of interest among the population in its cultural heritage. Restorations of historical landmarks and public monuments are on the rise, as are the renovation of old churches and the building of new ones. Museums are reclaiming their prominence and cultural patronage is finding acceptance once again.

Several of the icons on exhibit were created in monastery- or church-supported icon workshops and were used in church applications. Other icons included in the exhibit were painted by non-pro-

fessional village painters and were executed on wooden boards or homespun cloth. These types of icons were an integral part of the village home life and had religious functions that were performed in the home and the community, thus playing a significant role in the lives of the villagers. For example, a newborn would receive an icon as a gift, newlyweds were blessed with icons, and icons were placed in coffins of the deceased. The people prayed before icons prior to a long journey or during a difficult life situation.

The art of iconography is more than a thousand years old in Ukraine and the art of religious and Christian painting during that time span formed unique characteristics that reflected a national cultural identity. This is evident in the massive number of icons that survived through the centuries, withstanding the turbulence of geopolitical changes on Ukrainian territory, which due to its location, was subject to the influences of various cultures and the world’s major religions. Most ancient icons were preserved in churches and villages farthest from the main trade routes and large cities. Although it was the custom to periodically refurbish, renew or even replace icons and, in fact, entire iconostasis, many such art works

(Continued on page 20)

Artist Myroslav Radysh is focus of exhibit in New York

by **Alexander J. Motyl**

NEW YORK – One of the post-war Ukrainian emigration’s most talented artists, Myroslav Radysh, died 50 years ago in 1956 at the age of 46. Forty-two of his paintings, a folder of his sketches and studies, and a collection of programs, photographs and other memorabilia associated with his life and work in Ukraine, Germany and the United States are currently on display at the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences (UVAN) in New York. The exhibit was organized by his widow, Oksana Radysh.

Radysh was a handsome man, with intense eyes and a shock of flowing dark hair combed back in the style favored by inter-war Halychyna’s young men. The photographs of him on his passport and identification cards suggest that, like so many of his generation, he was a hungry young man, a man in a hurry, a man with big ideas and big plans – for himself, for art and, of course, for Ukraine.

Alexander J. Motyl is a professor at Rutgers University-Newark and a painter.

It is a testimony to the remarkably robust nature of Ukrainian civil society in inter-war Poland that Radysh could make the move from the village of Ilyntsi to the Poznan School of Art. Like his contemporaries, he was obviously quite capable of functioning in Polish society and retaining his Ukrainian identity.

Who knows what would have become of him – and of so many of his generation – had not Hitler and Stalin colluded to destroy Poland in 1939? In 1940 Radysh became the chief set designer at the Lviv Opera, a position he occupied until his flight westward in 1944. The photographs at the UVAN exhibit show that Radysh had a flare for the monumental and dramatic – qualities that must have served him well at the theater.

After finding refuge in Germany’s displaced persons’ camps, Radysh plunged headlong into the cultural life of “taborova Ukraina.” Those were turbulent and exceptionally creative times for the thousands of young Ukrainians thrown together under conditions of what must have seemed like a surreal combination of hardship and freedom. (Several of Jacques Hnizdovsky’s paintings depict

the humorous side of those times.)

Some studied at gymnasiums or at the Ukrainian Free University; many took to the political intrigues involving the nationalist followers of Stepan Bandera, Andrii Melnyk and Mykola Lebed; all had a good time. Radysh, like other artists in the camps, painted, sketched and exhibited his work. He also designed sets for the Ensemble of Ukrainian Actors in Augsburg. By the late 1940s many of the camps’ residents had moved on to the United States and Canada. Radysh, by then already married, settled in New York in 1950.

Radysh has been called a neo-impressionist, and many of his paintings do indeed exhibit the painterly qualities that typified that movement. We see dabs of paint, applied roughly, almost serendipitously. It looks like impressionism, except that, unlike the impressionists of the 19th century, Radysh, unless painting flowers, was rather less concerned with light – with capturing light – than with forms.

Radysh’s superb city and landscapes – especially those painted toward the latter years of his life – are tightly structured

compositions consisting of bright slabs of thickly applied and mostly unmixed paint. Radysh obviously favored the painting knife as much as the brush. The forms – whether trees or rocks or fields or bridges or machines – adorn the surface of the canvas, less as objects representing things and more as fields of color. Those fields, their texture and tactileness, and the relations between them, all very modernist in spirit, define Radysh’s best work.

The exhibit includes several photographs of set designs Radysh made for a theatrical performance at the Ukrainian National Home in New York. Executed with seemingly effortless and bold strokes on oversized pieces of wrapping paper, they show an artist who was experimenting, moving beyond the artistic traditions of inter-war Ukraine and Poland, and finding his own voice. Those designs were destroyed. Thanks to Mrs. Radysh and UVAN, we can at least get some sense of the fascinating man who made them.

The exhibit will be on display at the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences until the end of December.

Plast sorority marks 80th anniversary with program at Soyuzivka

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization celebrated the 80th anniversary of its founding at a specially convened biennial meeting and jubilee dinner/bonfire held here at Soyuzivka over the weekend of October 14-15.

The weekend brought more than 80 members and guests from the United States, Canada and Ukraine to the Ukrainian National Association's estate here in the Shawangunk Mountains of upstate New York.

As reported at the biennial meeting by outgoing President Marta Kuzmowycz, the sorority has 108 members around the globe, in the United States, Canada, Ukraine, Australia and France.

Elected to chair the biennial meeting was Dora Horbachevsky; Chrystyna Ferencevych and Marichka Artysch recorded the minutes.

The "Hrebli," as they are popularly known, heard a presentation on their sorority's traditions, which are based on

Ukrainian folk culture and the drama "Lisova Pisnia" by Lesia Ukrainka. In addition, members discussed the sorority's work around the world and adopted a plan of activity for the next two years, which includes work related to the International Plast Jamboree slated for the summer of 2007.

The 80th anniversary commemorations were coordinated by Halyna Kutko, who was elected two years prior to head the jubilee committee. The anniversary program included an exhibit encompassing photos, documents and other artifacts from the sorority's eight decades of activity – dating back to 1926 in Lviv, Ukraine – a slide show and dinner.

A highlight of the celebratory evening held in Soyuzivka's Main House was a program presented by the sorority's Bystrytsia branch, based in New Jersey. The troupe of 10 women performed an extended skit, written by Lesia Lebed, on the theme of 80 years of activity of the Ti, Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority from Ukraine to the diaspora.



Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority members in front of Soyuzivka's monument to Lesia Ukrainka, who happens to be their patron.

The skit, performed as befits a Plast bonfire, encompassed reminiscences, favorite Plast songs, "gymnastics," Plast uniforms through the decades (with a tongue-in-cheek look at the Plast uniform of the future), a song containing the first names of all Hrebli members (sung to the tune of Billy Joel's "We Didn't Start the Fire"), and a game show that tested guests' knowledge of Hrebli lore. The presentation ended with a moving tribute to the sorority's pioneering members.

The tables for the banquet were decorated by members of the Bystrytsia branch using centerpieces adorned with flags of the countries where Hrebli are active, plus specially prepared mugs featuring the sorority's emblem.

Among the distinguished guests present at the 80th anniversary celebration was Chief Scout (Nachalnyi Plastun) Lubomyr Romankiw, who spoke during the dinner, as did the outgoing president (kurinna) of the Hrebli, Ms. Kuzmowycz.

The Hrebli were welcomed to Soyuzivka by Ukrainian National

Association National Secretary Christine Kozak. Anniversary greetings were also presented or received in writing from many other Plast sororities and fraternities (including the Lisovi Mavky, Verkhovynky, Pershi Stezhi, Chornomorski Khvyli, Kniahyni, Chervona Kalyna, Siromantsi, Chornomorts, Vovkulaky and Chota Kryltykh), as well as Plast leaders on the international and national levels.

The next day, after Sunday morning liturgy, the Hrebli elected a new leadership composed of the following: Daria Darewych, president; Roma Hadzewycz (U.S.), Daria Kowalyk (Canada) and Natalka Litkovets (Ukraine), vice-presidents; Marta Kuzmowycz, secretary; Olena Yurchuk, editor; Halyna Kutko, chronicler; Mary Kolodij, treasurer; Marta Borowyk (United States), Sophia Kachor (Canada) and Marichka Artysch (Ukraine), councilors.

For information about the Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority interested readers may e-mail kurinna@hrebli.org.



The sorority's Bystrytsia branch during the anniversary program.

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A Canadian studying in Ternopil discovers Ukraine

by Adrian Dzioba

For as long as I can remember, I learned about my Ukrainian background through family, friends and the Ukrainian community in Ottawa. I knew how the culture evolved over time, beginning in Eastern Europe and then spreading to the far corners of the Earth to wherever Ukrainians emigrated. Yet, even with this understanding, I felt that I needed to visit the country itself.

My chance came recently when I was accepted to an eight-week study program in Ternopil, Ukraine (May-June), through St. Thomas More College at the University of Saskatchewan. Not only would I see the country of my grandparents but I would receive university credits towards my bachelor's degree in history from Carleton University.

I was excited to travel alone and not with the group of 11 students who travelled from Saskatoon with Prof. Natalia Shostak, St. Thomas More College. This would be my first trip to Europe alone. Arriving in Ukraine was intimidating for a 20-year-old, but I reminded myself of two important advantages: I spoke Ukrainian and I had family in Lviv who met me at

tongue was tired from speaking so much in every class, and I had written enough dialogues to put on a small play, but my speech and fluency improved noticeably.

The weekends were filled with excursions outside Ternopil, led by Prof. Ihor Ditchuk and Ihor Papusha from TNPU. We saw the countryside, visited many churches, castles and villages, as well as Kyiv and Lviv. Those in the anthropology courses even traveled to the Carpathian Mountains where they climbed Hoverla, the highest peak in Ukraine, and conducted oral history interviews with local villagers as a part of their course work.

There were 12 Canadian students (including me) who participated in this program. One person came from MacEwan College (Edmonton), four participants joined us from InterCordia Canada, but the majority attended the University of Saskatchewan. Most had Ukrainian ties but were not fluent in the language.

We stayed with host families, who provided accommodations, food and a perfect environment to interact with a typical Ukrainian family. Evenings were free to enjoy Ternopil and the cultural scene, such as the Ukrainian musical comic drama



Adrian Dzioba (right) with Prof. Natalia Shostak (left) and two assistants.



Canadian students on a break from classes at the university.

the airport. But I knew I needed to adapt to all situations in my adventure.

The program offered at the Ternopil National Pedagogical University (TNPU) was divided into two sessions – first the Ukrainian Language Program followed by the Culture Program, given in English. Three language classes, at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels, were taught four hours daily over a period of five weeks. The Culture Program, conceived as an anthropology field school, consisted of two courses combining lectures and excursions: “Anthropological Perspectives on Ukraine” (English), and “Oral History and Storytelling” (English/Ukrainian) taught by Prof. Shostak.

I was one of two students in the advanced Ukrainian language class, taught by Prof. Olena Huzar, chair of Ukrainian philology at TNPU, which focused on grammar, dialogue and oral readings. We were taught proper pronunciation with correct syllabic stresses and conversational styles. Local students, with knowledge of both Ukrainian and English, were assigned to each participant. I must admit that my

“Shakira,” as long as everyone came back home safely. But, if truth be known, occasionally we did see our professors strolling in the evening keeping an eye out for us.

My host family of five, the Volyshyns (father, mother and three boys, 18-year-old twins and a 15-year-old), live in a single house in a developing district of Ternopil. I was treated very well as a member of their family and spoke Ukrainian with them. One idiosyncrasy in my host's house caught my attention – all the rooms had doors, which were kept closed. I found this peculiar because most doors in my home in Canada are left open to let in the sunlight. The Volyshyns explained that this practice became common during the Soviet era. You maintained a public image and kept your private life to yourself.

Our four-day excursion to Kyiv, by overnight train, was particularly memorable. The sleeping carriages accommodated four persons and were clean and comfortable.

After various sightseeing tours and museum stops during the day, we explored the city center, visited the restaurants, beer tents and street vendors in the evening. City officials closed the main streets to vehicular traffic, thus turning them into giant walkways for pedestrians. Massive floodlights kept the main square, the maidan, lit brightly. One evening we attended the opera “Carmen,” sung in French at the beautiful Kyiv Opera House before heading for a club.

Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, is home to 4 million people and is the political center of the country. This cosmopolitan city is busy

24 hours a day with crowded sidewalks, noisy vehicles clogging the roadways and new buildings under construction. It reminded me of an Eastern European version of Toronto. North American businesses and products were everywhere, from Gap clothing to McDonald's.

Many Soviet landmarks remain among the Ukrainian monuments in Kyiv whereas none can be found in Ternopil. While Kyiv inhabitants speak both Ukrainian and Russian, I heard mostly Russian.

Our three-day visit to Lviv started with a three-hour train ride from Ternopil covering 127 km. We purchased general tickets and chatted with the other passengers, exchanging stories to pass the time. We attended lectures at the Ukrainian Catholic University about the city's history, women's issues in Ukraine and the political views of eastern and western Ukrainians. Western Ukrainians are more nationalistic and promote Ukrainian identity. Eastern Ukrainians do likewise, but also promote political and social tolerance or accommodation with Russia. Of course, the excursion would not have been complete without a trip downtown to visit the vendors and cafés.

My stay in Ukraine was quite pleasant because I was able to polish my language skills and explore a new part of the world. I can recall several occasions when I translated for classmates and tourists, but I soon discovered that my vocabulary contained many words that had been forgotten by Ukrainians, sometimes due to Russian influences. So, at times, I also had communication problems.

I think that Ukrainians in Ukraine are more conservative than my community in Canada. This can be traced to the country's history of constant occupation by a foreign power determined to put an end to

the Ukrainian culture. Even today people feel that they must promote the language, traditions and history to survive as a distinct and independent nation, in addition to developing a strong economy.

Although Ukrainians are conservative in general, they do know how to have a good time. World Cup Soccer proved that to me. Ukraine was competing for the World Cup for the first time. I witnessed boisterous demonstrations of Ukrainian pride in the streets of Ternopil on three occasions. People swarmed the city center waving Ukrainian flags, honking horns and shouting “Ukraina!” – acting as if another Orange Revolution was happening. These street celebrations would last for about 40 minutes before everyone headed to the bars to continue celebrating until morning. Everyone spoke about soccer.

Overall, my exchange to Ukraine through St. Thomas More College and the University of Saskatchewan was worth every dollar. I received a \$500 bursary from the Winnipeg-based Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko which supports Canadian students taking educational programs in Ukraine.

I recommend this study program to students without hesitation. Whether you know Ukrainian or not, it is your willingness to learn that will ensure your stay is memorable. The academic staff organizing the program to Ternopil, notably Prof. Shostak, will ensure that students are looked after well and will learn much.

Plans are under way for the next study abroad program in Ukraine offered by St. Thomas More College. Refer to their website, <http://www.stmcollege.ca/ukraine.html>, for updates. Registration usually occurs in February. Studying in Ukraine is an experience not to be missed!



A view of Ternopil National Pedagogical University.

Adrian Dzioba, 20, is a third-year student majoring in history at Carleton University in Ottawa. He was a member of Plast and completed a Grade 12 Ukrainian language credit course offered by the Department of Education in Saskatchewan through distance learning, as well as Ukrainian studies courses. From 1999 to 2004 he participated in the Cadet Program under the Department of National Defense.

Human rights activist Nadia Svitlychna remembered in Kyiv

by Olena Labunka

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – First Lady of Ukraine Kateryna Yushchenko remembers becoming acquainted with Nadia Svitlychna at Ukrainian American community events during the 1980s.

While Ms. Yushchenko had heard descriptions of Ukraine from those who lived there in the 1920s, '30s and '40s, Ms. Svitlychna opened a new window into their ancestral land, she said.

"This modest, yet brave woman spoke of the aspirations of the next generation, about artists, writers, literary figures and journalists who hoped for this independent Ukraine," Ms. Yushchenko said. "Nadia gave us great hope, and we are very thankful to her for that."

Fellow Soviet dissidents, political prisoners, "Shestydesiatnyky," acquaintances and admirers alike gathered at the Teacher's Building in Kyiv on November 8 to honor Ms. Svitlychna, a human rights activist during her life in Ukraine, and a spokesperson for repressed Ukrainians during her life abroad.

Ms. Svitlychna died on August 8 and now rests in Kyiv's prestigious Baikove Cemetery in the Ukrainian land that she felt so much pain for, dreamed of and fought for.

What a difficult challenge it was for Ms. Svitlychna to make the choice to fight for Ukraine, its freedom and her own personal dignity, Ms. Yushchenko said.

Most of those honoring Ms. Svitlychna recalled the awe they had felt in her presence.

"In her name were the words 'hope' and 'light,' and from within, she truly brightened everything around her," said Mykhailyna Kotsiubynska, Ms. Svitlychna's close friend and fellow member of the "Shestydesiatnyky" – a circle of writers, artists and right activists who rebelled in the 1960s against Soviet strictures in all spheres of life.

"She led many to the Ukrainian world

and to Ukrainian life. She was constantly working, and she was an optimist. Her morality was her dominant value," Ms. Kotsiubynska noted.

Ms. Svitlychna's life is an example of how the human intellect can be an important factor in a nation's cultural life, said Bohdan Horyn, a fellow dissident during the Soviet era.

Ukrainians weren't merely an ethnic group, like some believed in the West, Mr. Horyn remembered Ms. Svitlychna firmly saying. Rather, Ukraine is a nation with a great culture and tradition.

Her creative legacy – editorials, commentaries and analytical articles – remains largely unknown and deserves wider notoriety, he added.

"The name Nadia Svitlychna wasn't just a nice name," he said. "She was the living spirit of our times. She was the embodiment of good, conscientiousness, honesty and humanness. She loved people more than herself, gave the wealth of her heart and the generosity of her soul."

Former Soviet political prisoner Mykola Horbal said Ms. Svitlychna was in Ukraine during the last presidential elections. Even though she lived in the United States for 28 years, she never took American citizenship. She was stripped of her Soviet citizenship eight years after she emigrated to the United States – even though she had renounced that citizenship in 1976 in protest against Soviet persecution.

Ms. Svitlychna obtained a Ukrainian passport and arrived in Ukraine to vote, but authorities denied her for technical reasons. "After spending two days in the courts, she obtained her right," Mr. Horbal recalled. "What's one vote more, or one vote less? But that was Nadia. This is her voice, this is her essence."

Philadelphia native Sofia Hewryk spoke of Ms. Svitlychna's arrival in America as the Soviet Union's first female dissident to be released after she endured five years of imprisonment for her active involvement with the human rights movement.

Ms. Svitlychna arrived in 1978 with



Mykhailo Markiv

First Lady of Ukraine Kateryna Yushchenko speaks at the Night of Remembrance for Nadia Svitlychna held in Kyiv's Teacher's Building on November 8.

two children and at first lived with Ms. Hewryk and her family. She immediately rolled up her sleeves, deciphering illegally transferred manuscripts from Soviet camps for political prisoners, organizing the archives of Ukrainian samvydav writers, and preparing the manuscripts of brother Ivan Svitlychny, Vasyl Stus and Mr. Horbal for publication.

She also represented the Ukrainian Helsinki Group abroad. Up until 1985 she regularly published the Herald of Repression in Ukraine and worked for Radio Liberty in New York between 1983 and 1994.

"Every person is the world, and Nadia is simply the universe to me," said Myroslav Marynovych, a former Soviet dissident and political prisoner who was active in the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, as was Mr. Horbal.

"With joy, I remember how she testified in court for me, not as a defense witness, but as a witness accusing a system. It was amazing how bravely she testified. I don't feel that she died. I feel that she lives and she is still with us," he added.

A Shestydesiatnyk museum should become reality if we honor history, Mr. Marynovych said. In response, Ukraine's first lady pledged to work toward building such a museum.

Nevertheless, "Ukraine still hasn't matured enough for such a museum," said Mr. Marynovych, who today is senior vice-rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. "Ukraine has to go through its period of cynical pragmatism and its constant manipulations to understand that it can't live this way, and that there needs to be a rebirth of an epicenter of the greater, an epicenter of the spiritual."

Verkhovynky Plast sorority honors Nadia Svitlychna

by Laryssa Czebiniak

NEW YORK – The Verkhovynky Plast sorority honored their deceased member Nadia Svitlychna with a program held on Sunday, November 12, at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York. November 8 would have been Ms. Svitlychna's 70th birthday.

The program began with a dramatic recitation by Sofia Zielyk of the poem "Woman" by Hanna Tchubach. Listening to it, one could imagine that it was written about Ms. Svitlychna. The poem set the tone for a moving photomontage slideshow prepared by Ireneus Yurchuk (member of the Lisovi Chorty Plast fraternity), which presented Ms. Svitlychna's life – her childhood,

youth, participation in the dissident movement and other events at various stages of her life.

Tamara Skrypka, a philologist, former professor of literature in Ukraine and author, spoke very eloquently about Ms. Svitlychna as her close friend and witness of the events in the 1960s during the dissident movement. Her speech, titled "Life Without Fear," captured the audience's attention.

Kharytyna Kolessa, a professor, head of the string department at the Lviv Music Academy and well-known performer in Ukraine and other countries, played three cello solos by Bach, Saint-Saens and Mykola Lysenko, who is the patron of the Verkhovynky sorority.

Ms. Zielyk who is well-known for her many leading roles as a member of the Lidia Krushelnytska Drama Studio, also read several poems by Lina Kostenko, Vasyl Symonenko and Vasyl Stus with great understanding and emotion.

The program ended with a video montage, also created by Mr. Yurchuk, that poignantly and beautifully portrayed Ms. Svitlychna's return to Ukraine and her funeral in Kyiv. The funeral was attended by a large number of relatives, friends, fellow dissidents and many dignitaries, including President Viktor Yushchenko, who placed a bouquet of red roses on Ms. Svitlychna's coffin.

Many in the audience expressed their appreciation and thanks to the organizers for a solemn, dignified program that honored a distinguished dissident, human rights activist and Plast member who devoted her life to her people and Ukraine. Ms. Svitlychna's husband, Pavlo Stokotelnyi, and her two sons, Ivan and Yarema, were also present.

Both branches of Verkhovynky organized and sponsored this event. Ms. Svitlychna joined Plast and this sorority in 1979, shortly after coming to the United States. The sorority has also published a Ukrainian-language booklet called "Nadia Svitlychna's Life (1936-2006)," which features many photographs and articles written about and by this courageous rights activist.



Nadia Svitlychna's family (center), friends and members of the Verkhovynky sorority at a program in her honor.

Nadia Svitlychna commemorated at sixth annual Grigorenko Readings

by **Adrianna Melnyk**

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

NEW YORK – Her name in Ukrainian, “Nadia,” meant hope. And, according to all who knew her, hope was something she lived by her whole life.

On October 10 the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University and the Gen. Petro Grigorenko Foundation celebrated the life of Nadia Svitlychna, one of Ukraine’s most prominent dissidents, with a daylong session dedicated to the renowned human rights activist and former political prisoner.

The Sixth Annual Grigorenko Readings: “A Commemoration of the Life of Nadia Svitlychna, Heroine of the Soviet, Ukrainian and Russian Human Rights Movements” focused on human rights in both their historical and contemporary contexts. The first part of the day was a celebration and remembrance of Svitlychna’s life, and included a panel discussion on “The Life and Work of Nadia Svitlychna,” as well as a photo-essay and slideshow. The afternoon session’s panel discussion, “The Contemporary Human Rights Situation in Ukraine and the Post-Soviet Sphere,” focused on the current state of human rights in the former Soviet Union.

Ms. Svitlychna, who died after a long illness on August 8, 2006, was one of the founders of the Grigorenko Readings, which were initiated in remembrance of Gen. Petro Grigorenko after his death. According to Andrew Grigorenko, Gen. Grigorenko’s son and president of the Gen. Petro Grigorenko Foundation (<http://www.grigorenko.org>), “The readings have grown, from the initial memorial evenings we started with Nadia at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, into a broader forum for the discussion of history and current events in Ukraine and other post-Communist countries.”

In his opening remarks, Prof. Mark Von Hagen of Columbia University dedicated the day’s afternoon session to the life and memory of Anna Politkovskaya, an independent Russian journalist and outspoken critic of President Vladimir Putin, who had been brutally murdered days before in her Moscow apartment building. Her tragic death made this year’s Grigorenko Readings all the more poignant, and served as a reminder that, despite the strides that have been made in the field of human rights, media and other basic freedoms are still under attack in the post-Soviet world.

The morning began with a biographical portrait of Ms. Svitlychna’s life, given by Dr. Yuri Shevchuk of Columbia University. Ms. Svitlychna’s life was portrayed by Dr. Shevchuk as one of hope in the face of a dangerous struggle for human rights, and one of endless commitment to her ideals. Among her many other achievements, Ms. Svitlychna is best remembered for her role as a human rights activist and former political prisoner, as an active member of the External Representation of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, and as editor and compiler of the “*Visnyk Represii v Ukraini*” (Bulletin of Repression in Ukraine).

Her long and tireless career of responding to her conscience began with a simple outrage: while working as a teacher in the Donbas in the late 1950s, she came to question why any student in Ukraine could refuse to study Ukrainian, and why even a dvoika, or failing grade, in Ukrainian language was sufficient to move a student up to the next class. After she settled in Kyiv in 1964, she began to visit the “Klub Tvorschoyi Molodi” (Club of Creative Young People) with her brother, the eminent poet, literary critic, human rights activist and political prisoner Ivan Svitlychny. It was there that she became acquainted with the *Shestydesiatnyky* and with many future dissidents.

As the activities of the dissidents grew, the struggle for human rights in 1960s Ukraine quickly led to arrests and imprisonments. After her brother Ivan was arrested in 1965, Ms. Svitlychna sent a telegram in his defense to the Presidium of the 23rd Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. She also sent a statement to the judicial body of the Shevchenkivskyi District in Kyiv, rejecting the services of a lawyer appointed to defend her brother, since it was known that the lawyer was forced to fulfill the role of the prosecutor’s assistant.

In the years that followed, Ms. Svitlychna, along with her brother Ivan, Lina Kostenko, Ivan Dzyuba and others, worked to defend the rights of their colleagues who were being arrested and killed. When, in 1970, she found the body of her murdered friend, the artist Alla Horska, Ms. Svitlychna organized the funeral and arranged for a monument to be put on her grave.

Her defense and support of the dissidents, including, first and foremost, her brother, led to her questioning by the KGB on an almost daily basis, and to her own eventual arrest on May 18, 1972. But by that time, she had already come to embrace what she saw as an unquestionable solidarity with those closest to her. During her interrogation, she responded to the provocative questions of the investigator by saying, “I am simply a person whom life gave the good fortune of meeting with a wide range of creative people. Persecution against them, I perceive as persecution against me.”

Her son, Yarema, then 2, was taken from her. “Thus, I became a political prisoner,” she later wrote, “although I had considered the main concern of my life to be the upbringing of my son. In fact, I was deprived not only of freedom, but of motherhood as well.”



Nadia Svitlychna in a photo from 1979.

Ms. Svitlychna spent a year in the KGB isolation cell on Volodymyrska Street in Kyiv and in May of 1973 was sentenced to four years in a Mordovian political labor camp. The charge: having held and distributed *samvydav* (*samizdat*) literature. While in prison, she actively participated in protests and hunger strikes. Upon her return to Kyiv in 1976, she was not able to get a job and was constantly threatened with more arrests.

That same year, in protest against the harsh punishment of Petro Grigorenko, Levko Lukianenko, Vyacheslav Chornovil, Vasyl Stus, Stefania Shabatura and others, she rejected her citizenship, and sent a declaration to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine, in which she stated “It would be below my dignity to remain a citizen of the world’s biggest, most powerful and most developed concentration camp.”

On October 12, 1978, Ms. Svitlychna left Ukraine for Rome, where she was given an audience by Pope Paul VI; in November she arrived in the United States. Eight years later she was stripped of her citizenship. She continued her work in exile in the United States, where she became actively involved in the External Representation of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, and for whom she processed all information related to repression in Ukraine. She published the *Visnyk Represii v Ukraini* and worked for the Ukrainian division of Radio Liberty. She also published brochures and books out of materials smuggled from labor camps in Ukraine.

Following Prof. Shevchuk’s biographical portrait, Ireneus Yurchuk of Ipkit Associates and a close friend of Ms. Svitlychna’s showed a stirring photo-essay “*Shliakh Nadiyi*” (Journey of Hope) which he had compiled in her memory. The slideshow depicted Ms. Svitlychna’s life and times, from her childhood to her years as a dissident, to her life and work in the United States, to her beaming face on the *maidan* in Kyiv during the Orange Revolution. Mr. Yurchuk’s photographs captured Ms. Svitlychna’s generous spirit, boundless energy and loving nature, and showed the human and personal side of the woman whom Andrew Grigorenko called “a magnet who attracted people in need” and who “was always ready to lend a helping hand.”

The remainder of the morning session included two talks, one by Prof. Anna Procyk of the City University of New York, the other by Pavel Litvinov of the Gen. Petro Grigorenko Foundation. Prof. Procyk’s paper “Nadia Svitlychna through the Prism of Amnesty International” (published in *The Ukrainian Weekly*’s November 5 issue) analyzed the significance of Ms. Svitlychna’s life and work in the broader context of human rights groups, including

Amnesty International. Following her talk, Prof. Procyk made a plea to Columbia University’s Ukrainian Studies Program to undertake the project of archiving and publishing Ms. Svitlychna’s letters and many other works. She underscored Ms. Svitlychna’s and other dissidents’ historical importance, saying, “What started with letter writing and care packages in the dark ages of the Soviet era, ended with nominations of prisoners for [Nobel] prizes and ultimately with the fall of the Berlin Wall. It is an effort which if pursued with persistence and responsibility produces results that are capable of being carried only on the shoulders of giants.”

Prof. Procyk also warned of the continued marginalization of dissidents, which she says is rooted in two phenomena: first, the intentional smear campaign against dissidents, for example, President Leonid Kravchuk’s branding of Chornovil and others as “ultranationalists,” and second, the dramatic nature of events surrounding the fall of communism and the resulting tendency to overlook individuals who had created the pre-conditions and planted the roots for a civil society.

In his talk “Nadia and Ivan Svitlychny and Russian Dissidents,” Mr. Litvinov, the Russian physicist, writer, human rights activist and former Soviet-era dissident, described his personal experiences and friendship with Ms. Svitlychna, saying she “never complained about herself, was always hopeful and positive, and was the glue that kept people together and gave everyone hope and encouragement.”

She “embodied the ideals which are integral to any human rights movement: compassion and strength to fight against the totalitarian state,” Mr. Litvinov underscored.

The afternoon session of the Grigorenko Readings centered on a panel discussion “The Contemporary Human Rights Situation in Ukraine and the Post-Soviet Sphere,” whose speakers included Nina Ognianova of the Committee to Protect Journalists, Myroslava Gongadze of the Gongadze Foundation, and Stephen Sestanovich of Columbia University. Each speaker assessed the human rights situation in the post-Soviet space in its contemporary context and with a particular focus on press freedom.

The first speaker, Ms. Ognianova, spoke on “The State of Press Freedom in Ukraine and Ukraine’s Position among Post-Soviet Democracies” and said that “there has been a lot of positive movement if we put Ukraine in the context of other post-Soviet countries,” but that “problems persist.” Her organization, CPJ, recommends that in order to prevent regional attacks on journalists in Ukraine, regional associations should be formed and strengthened, because “Kyiv-based NGOs cannot adequately monitor and address all incidents that take place in the regions.”

Ms. Gongadze also offered practical solutions to the problems that persist with media freedoms in the region, saying that, particularly after the murder of Anna Politkovskaya, “an international mechanism needs to be created to investigate and prosecute crimes [against journalists].”

The final speaker, Prof. Sestanovich, spoke of the changing vocabulary in the discourse about human rights and about the contrast between democracy and human rights as a focus of policy-makers.

In his paper “U.S. Policy and Human Rights in Post-Soviet States,” Prof. Sestanovich argued that the U.S. policy-making establishment finds it “easier to comment on human rights than on democracy” and that one of the main factors in this is the current ideological backslide on human rights in Russia. His paper covered contemporary topics related to the human rights and democracy discourse between nations: forms of leverage, including economic and institutional, that can be used by policy-makers; the importance of personal ties between leaders; legal mechanisms; and the meaning of free and fair elections.

The sixth annual Grigorenko Readings were a fitting tribute to the life of Ms. Svitlychna: they brought together people who dedicate some part of their lives or career to the continuing struggle for human rights. And they brought together the people who knew her best, who could say about her that it was in her nature to fight for human rights, that she did not, in the words of Vaclav Havel, “become a ‘dissident’ just because [she] decide[d] one day to take up this most unusual career,” that it “began as an attempt to do [her] work well, and end[ed] with being branded an enemy of society.” And in the end, the very system that made an enemy of Ms. Svitlychna crumbled largely because she and others like her existed, and had the courage to fight against it.

Nadia Svitlychna: Your memory will always be honored. “You were,” as Leonid Plyusch once said about you, “and will be the best in Ukraine – her honor and goodness, selfless service to people, freedom and Ukrainian independence without bravado.”

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CLASSIFIEDS section.

Clouds gather...

(Continued from page 2)

Lutsenko to issue a denial. The YTB has
the second-largest faction in Parliament,
and if it backs the PRU on Mr.
Lutsenko's dismissal, nothing can save
him.

Interviewed on national TV on
November 13, Mr. Yanukovich said Mr.
Lutsenko must choose between his work
in the Cabinet and pursuing a party
career. The prime minister was probably
reacting to Mr. Lutsenko's fiery speech at
the November 11 congress of Mr.
Yushchenko's Our Ukraine People's
Union party, when he did not rule out
becoming the leader of a new political
force in spring 2007.

On November 14 Segodnya, a daily
sympathetic to the PRU, quoted sources
in Parliament as saying that Mr. Lutsenko
would be dismissed shortly. On the same
day, Deputy Procurator-General Renat
Kuzmin, a PRU loyalist, told a press con-
ference that Mr. Lutsenko was suspected
of "very serious corruption." He said that
Mr. Lutsenko had given firearms to peo-
ple who were not authorized to carry
arms, and that he had granted officer
ranks illegally. Mr. Lutsenko did not deny
the instances mentioned by Mr. Kuzmin,
but said that those were his mistakes,
rather than deliberate legal violations.

On November 20 the Pecherskyi
District Court in Kyiv – the same juris-
diction that had ruled in favor of Mr.
Turchynov – ruled that Mr. Lutsenko was
guilty of corruption and fined him the
equivalent of \$65. The size of the punish-
ment clearly demonstrated that Mr.
Lutsenko's "corruption" was probably
not very "serious." Mr. Lutsenko prom-
ised to appeal anyway.

The headlines about "the internal min-
ister's corruption," however, have been
conspicuous in newspapers, and the psy-
chological pressure on Mr. Lutsenko is
mounting. The parliamentary investiga-
tive commission that was set up on
November 2 to grill Mr. Lutsenko is
scheduled to report on its findings in
early December.

President Yushchenko is prepared to
strike back. The chief of his administra-
tion, Viktor Baloha, has accused Mr.
Kuzmin of deliberately discrediting Mr.
Lutsenko. Speaking in an interview with
Zerkalo Nedeli, Mr. Baloha also accused
Kuzmin's boss, Procurator General
Oleksander Medvedko, of "destabilizing
society," and suggested that he should
resign. The daily Delo quoted its sources
as saying that Mr. Medvedko's dismissal
was only a question of time.

President Yushchenko has been unhap-
py not only with the treatment of Mr.
Lutsenko by the top prosecutors, but also
with their recent decisions not to arrest a
well-connected Crimean deputy who had
been suspected of serious crime, and to
release controversial former Sumy Oblast
Administration Chairman Volodymyr
Scherban, who has returned from self-
imposed exile in the United States.

Source: UNIAN, November 2; 1+1 TV
November 2, 3, 14; Silski Visti, November
10; UTI, November 13; Delo, November
15; Zerkalo Nedeli, November 18;
Ukraina Moloda, November 21.

The article above is reprinted from
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Appeals Court overturns ruling

KYIV – The Kyiv Court of Appeals
on November 28 overturned a November
20 ruling by the Kyiv Pechersk District
Court, which had found Internal Affairs
Minister Yurii Lutsenko guilty of corrup-
tion, reported Ukrinform.

Zinaida Panasenکو...

(Continued from page 4)

Germans, who forcibly transferred many Ukrainian scientists and scholars to Germany, where the Panasenkos, along with thousands of other Ukrainians ended up at the end of the war, living in displaced person camps.

In Meningent and Magdenburg the family lived under the threat of forced repatriation back to the Soviet Union, courtesy of the infamous Yalta agreement and the stupidity of Western powers governing in post-war Germany.

Prof. Panasenکو's scientist husband, Vasyل, was teaching at the Institute of Mycology and Pathology, while she was involved with raising their two sons,

enrolled in the Ukrainian Gymnasium.

In 1949 the Panasenkos were very fortunate to obtain a visa to emigrate to America, and in October of that year they settled in San Francisco. Unable to find employment in their professions – a fate common to many Ukrainian immigrants of that period – due to language and age barriers, the Panasenkos worked in various non-professional occupations in order to support themselves. Vasyل set up a small laboratory in his home, where he continued his scientific research, publishing articles in various journals. He died in 1980. Zinaida was involved both in the Catholic and Orthodox churches, actively participating in cultural activities of the Ukrainian community, teaching Ukrainian, lecturing on various topics of Ukrainian inter-

Looking ahead...

(Continued from page 7)

last year under the Constitution that gave more power to the president, or this year, under the revised Constitution that enhances parliamentary authority.

But, it is Mr. Yushchenکو's over-arching perception of being weak that has drained support away from him to Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovych, making it look impossible for him to win a second term. Mr. Yushchenکو's Our Ukraine ignores the demands of its honorary chairman, oligarchs no longer fear him, and former "bandits" return home no longer afraid of the Orange Revolution slogan "bandits to prison!" that led them to flee Ukraine last year.

One enduring legacy of the Orange Revolution could well be that Ukraine holds free and fair presidential elections in 2009, as it did in March to Parliament. The Party of the Regions won this year's elections and Mr. Yanukovych could well go on to win the presidency. This prize may force Mr. Yanukovych to modify his image to reach out beyond his Donetsk home base, even if only in a Potemkin manner.

Only Ms. Tymoshenko, the head of the opposition, has the ability to block Mr. Yanukovych's drive to replace President Yushchenکو by undertaking what he failed to achieve in 2004. However, she will have the formidable task of combining the positions of aggressive opposition leader with centrist presidential candidate that will enable her to reach out beyond her core

Orange voters in western-central Ukraine. One reason Mr. Yushchenکو won in 2004 was that one section of the ruling elites were more afraid of Mr. Yanukovych than of him. Ukraine's elites would seem to uniformly fear Ms. Tymoshenko, even though this fear maybe misplaced.

The 2006 elections showed the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc as the only political force that possessed nationwide support. Mr. Yanukovych, on the other hand, will find it difficult to compete with Tymoshenko in central Ukraine, while finding it impossible to penetrate western Ukraine.

The narrowing of Ukraine's political future to the Party of the Regions and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc also seems to be taking place inside the Verkhovna Rada. Three of the five political forces are in deep crises, although only the democratic force (Our Ukraine) admits to this. The Socialists and Communists are unlikely to enter the next Parliament. Our Ukraine could be eclipsed by a new center-right political force.

On Ukraine's second Orange anniversary, Ukraine's political situation and hope for reforms and Euro-Atlantic integration could be negatively influenced by stagnation or the preservation of the status quo. The presidency is in crisis in its second year – a feature normally associated only with the latter stages of a president's second term in office (not the first stages of his first term). In Parliament's first year in power, of the five political forces in Parliament three are in crisis and have little support outside.

est, inspiring the young generation, tirelessly informing people about Ukraine, its culture and history.

Her many contributions to the Bay Area community were widely recognized. In 1976, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America honored Prof. Panasenکو for her 25 years of community service. In 1980, she was presented with a distinguished Award of Merit by the City and County of San Francisco for outstanding public service by the then mayor, Diane Feinstein. Also in 1980, she was recognized by the International Institute of East Bay for exemplary service, congratulated by Congressman Pete Stark and saluted by Sen. Alan Cranston as one of 44 immigrants honored for service to community that year.

And in 1998, on her 100th birthday, Prof. Panasenکو was feted by the entire Ukrainian community of San Francisco at St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church. San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco sent his warm greetings, commending Prof. Panasenکو for her "achievements and incredible spirit," and

for surviving both world wars and the Great Famine in Ukraine, where millions of people died. California Gov. Pete Wilson also sent his congratulations and best wishes. The Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, sent its greetings, thanking Prof. Panasenکو for her many contributions to the Ukrainian community.

Many saddened Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike came on October 23 to pay their final respects at the funeral, attended by some 100-125 people, saying good-bye to the beloved and revered community icon.

The Rev. Alexander Limonczenko, the former pastor of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in San Francisco, gave a very moving speech. Touching eulogies were delivered by a number of the Bay Area's Ukrainian American activists, including Prof. Panasenکو's oldest son, Alexander Panasenکو, Olga Vermont and Maria Tscherepenکو.

Information for the article above was provided by Maria Tscherepenکو, and biographical notes were translated by Nadia Derkach.



З глибоким болем і смутком повідомляємо, що в понеділок, 27 листопада 2006 р. по тяжкій недужі відійшов у вічність наш найдорожчий СИН, МУЖ, БАТЬКО, ШВАґЕР, ЗЯТЬ І ТЕСТЬ

СВ. П.

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теща	– МАРІЯ КУЗИШИН
шваґер	– БОГДАН КУЗИШИН з дружиною ОКСАНОЮ
шваґер	– ВАСИЛЬ КУЗИШИН з дружиною ПЕНІ
тітка	– ЛЮБОСЛАВА ШАНДРА з мужем д-ром ОСИПОМ
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Blue-Orange...

(Continued from page 2)

Mr. Yanukovich, however, continued to assert his constitutionally reinforced position by claiming more executive prerogatives. In particular, he refused to implement several presidential decrees, arguing that he did not co-sign them. Mr. Yanukovich also questioned in the Constitutional Court the president's right to appoint oblast administration chairs (popularly known as governors) without consulting the government.

In October the pro-presidential Our Ukraine party switched to the opposition, constraining its four ministers in the Yanukovich Cabinet to tender their resignations. Then, at a congress last week, the pro-presidential Our Ukraine party

adopted a resolution obliging its lawmakers to contest the validity of the 2004 constitutional reform. The decision to question the reform before the Constitutional Court has the potential to spark a serious constitutional crisis.

Ukrainian political analyst Oles Doniy, the head of the Kyiv-based Center for Studies of Political Values, said he believes Our Ukraine's move was dictated by the party's intention to save itself from political demise following its withdrawal from the government.

"I think this is a graphic example of how Our Ukraine is putting its narrow party interests above those of national and state ones," Mr. Doniy said. "It considers a change of Ukraine's political system depending on whether it is in power or not, thus threatening Ukraine's future in general."

According to Mr. Doniy, the potential reversal of the constitutional reform could have a disastrous impact on the stability of the political system as a whole. Since the constitutional reform was adopted as a political compromise to end a presidential-election standoff between Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich, Mr. Doniy argued that questioning the constitutional reform is tantamount to questioning Mr. Yushchenko's legitimacy as president.

"If we question the amendments to the Constitution made in that period, we will analogically have to question all the other things that took place at that time," Mr. Doniy said. "No Ukrainian law provides for the third round of a presidential election, but it did take place."

But Ihor Zhdanov, deputy head of Our Ukraine's executive committee, said his party does not see any link between the constitutional reform and Mr. Yushchenko's election. "The vote for the political reform and the presidential vote in December 2004 were in no way interconnected, since [the third presidential-election round] was legitimized by a ruling of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, which passed it proceeding from the evidence of a mass election fraud in the second round," he said.

Mr. Zhdanov argued that in adopting the constitutional reform, the Verkhovna Rada grossly violated the procedure for constitutional amendments by approving a version of the reform bill that was essentially different from the one reviewed and endorsed by the Constitutional Court.

So, if the Constitutional Court now heeds Our Ukraine's arguments and rules that the constitutional reform was adopted unlawfully, would this signal that President Yushchenko will enjoy the same extensive powers as his predeces-

sor, Leonid Kuchma?

Mr. Doniy said that might not necessarily be the case. "There is a collision here. Even if the authorities managed to pressure the Constitutional Court into canceling the political reform, the Constitutional Court's ruling would not automatically mean a change of the Constitution," he noted. "It would be necessary to vote on constitutional amendments again. At least, this is the opinion of those lawyers who are not prone to official pressure."

But it also seems that apart from a headache for lawyers, the controversy over the constitutional reform, if continued, might provoke a major and protracted political upheaval in Ukraine.

Mr. Yanukovich said earlier last week that a reversal of the reform would be illegal. National Deputy Raisa Bohatyryova of the ruling Party of Regions warned Our Ukraine against pursuing its intention of reversing the reform, saying, "Do not stir bees in the hive if you don't know how to gather honey."

It is telling that Mr. Yushchenko, who in 2005 repeatedly vowed to seek a referendum to reverse the constitutional reform, has recently refrained from asking for more powers and now talks about "improving" the constitutional reform rather than annulling it.

Perhaps Mr. Yushchenko has realized that revoking the reform, which in theory made Ukraine's political system more balanced and similar to European-type democracies, would eliminate the only long-term achievement of the Orange Revolution, on which millions of Ukrainians pinned so many hopes and with which they became disillusioned so soon afterward.

RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service contributed to this report.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 28)

Venue: Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 East 79th St. (at Fifth Avenue), 212-288-8660 For further details log on to www.brama.com/yara.

Friday-Thursday, December 15-21

NEW YORK: "Resilience," a feature film by Paul Bojack (a.k.a. Roman Paul Boychuk) will be screened at the Anthology Film Theater in the East Village for a one-week run. Mr. Bojack's previous work includes "Glass Necktie," which was praised in the La Weekly, the Los Angeles Times and Film Threat and is available on DVD throughout the United States and Canada. The Anthology Film Theater is located at 32 Second Ave. (corner of Second Street); shows are nightly at 8 p.m. The film is rated R. Tickets are available at the box office for \$8 (\$5 for seniors and students). For more information e-mail info@filmslb.com, visit www.filmslb.com or call 212-505-5181.

Saturday, December 16

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group will present a vocal workshop in "Koliada: Winter Songs from the Carpathians" with Alexis Kochan, Julian Kytasty and the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia. Discover the folk voice in you. Enjoy traditional singing, learn the ancient winter songs from the people who have preserved this ancient tradition and experience such instruments as the "trembita" (12-foot mountain horn) and "volynka" (bagpipes made of goat skin). You do not have to be able to read Ukrainian or music to participate. You must pre-register. Time: 1-4 p.m. For details call Yara, 212-475-6474 or e-mail yara@prodigy.net.

Sunday, December 17-Friday, January 5, 2007

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y.: Spring Street Gallery and the Yara Arts Group present "Koliada: Winter Solstice Rituals in the Carpathian Mountains" an exhibit of photographs by Alexander Khantaev who traveled with Yara to the Hutsul village of Kryvorivnia and documented the Koliada ritual. Exhibit opens Sunday, December 17 at 4 p.m. with a concert by Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia. The exhibit continues Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., or by appointment through January 5, 2007 at Spring Street Gallery, 110 Spring St.; telephone, 518-587-6433. For details log on to www.brama.com/yara.

Sunday, December 31

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, located at County Line and Lower State Roads, invites all to a New Year's Eve 2007 Extravaganza: "Romance the Gypsy in Your Heart." The New Year's Eve festivities will commence at 7:30 p.m. with a two-hour open specialty wine, beer and martini bar and dinner. Feast on a delectable array of hors d'oeuvres, carving stations, seafood, a taste of Tuscany, Viennese sweets, flambé table, coffee and tea; and enjoy a champagne toast at midnight. Welcome "Stesha," the mysterious Gypsy fortuneteller and dance the night away to the music of the Fata Morgana orchestra. Price: \$120 per person. For reservations, due by December 19, call: Mika Chajkowsky, 215-860-8384; Natalia Luciw, 215-362-5331; or Kristine Rizanow, 610-272-0678. Advance ticket sales only.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES:

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

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510; e-mail, preview@ukrweekly.com.



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Ukrainian-American Environmental...

(Continued from page 6)

expressed strong interest in Ukraine (in fact, the large majority of the members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus are also members of the House RE/EE Caucus). Special efforts could be made to facilitate meetings of members of the RE/EE Caucuses, who also have an interest in Ukraine, with their counterparts in the Verhovna Rada. The specific focus of the ensuing dialogue would be strategies for developing and implementing effective legislation in the areas of energy efficiency and renewable energy based on the best of American experience.


8.) U.S. Peace Corps: Ukraine has the world's largest contingent (at present, 300+) of Peace Corps volunteers (PCVs). Given the placement of PCVs in schools as well as with NGOs and government agencies in cities, towns and villages throughout the country, Peace Corps volunteers would be in a particularly good position to develop education programs about energy efficiency and related energy issues for students, NGOs, local government offices, and community residents. However, this is presently not a designated program of PC-Ukraine and would require a formal agreement between U.S. Peace Corps and the Ukrainian government to facilitate an expansion into this area.

9.) U.S. Embassy facilities as a model: The U.S. Embassy could announce a series of energy efficiency initiatives at its own facilities to serve as a model for Ukrainian government officials – and then provide tours, seminars, and training for Ukrainian nationals so that the U.S. experience could be replicated. A particularly good opportunity is presented by the soon-to-begin design phase of the new U.S. Embassy compound in Kyiv.

The best in energy efficiency and green building designs could be incorporated so that the end result is a state-of-the-art facility that showcases the latest in energy-saving, environmentally safe and renewable energy technologies. To the extent that security considerations permit, Ukrainian architects, designers, builders, government officials, and students could be invited to presentations and training sessions related to the design and building of the new facility.

10.) Translation of U.S. publications: Over the past 30 years, the U.S. government has developed vast amounts of educational and technical materials on energy efficiency for use in the United States by businesses, industrial facilities, hospitals, schools, government buildings (and officials), farmers, motorists, and homeowners. It would be useful to have the best of these resources translated into Ukrainian and/or Russian so they could be reproduced and used in Ukraine. (Since these are U.S. government publications, they generally are not copyrighted or otherwise restricted and therefore there should not be any problems with replicating "intellectual property.")

The Ukrainian-American Environmental Association is a private, non-governmental organization founded in 2004 and chartered in both the United States and Ukraine. It is a network of nearly 800 Ukrainian and American NGOs, academic researchers, businesses and government officials to facilitate the exchange of information on a broad array of environmental issues including, but not limited to, energy policy, climate change, air and water pollution, toxic wastes, soil conservation, sustainable agriculture, and wildlife and wilderness protection.



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Museum...

(Continued from page 11)

remained intact by being stored in church attics or bell towers.

In Ukrainian folk culture religious wood sculpture was most prevalent in the Halychyna and Podillia regions of the country. This art form stems from two sources. One source consisted of folk craftsmen trained in cities or villages. For the most part, these craftsmen imitated the professionals, adhering to their compositions and styles. The second source were the untrained folk craftsmen, whose work displays features of primitivism. It is unfortunate that very little of the primitive sculpture remains today, and one of the most important reasons for this is that primitive art was not considered an accepted art form for a very long time, and thus its preservation received very little attention, if any, until modern times.

The themes and functions of the folk wood sculptures were used for religious applications, were ritualistic in nature and carried with them the power of protection. An identifying characteristic of these sculptures is the personification of saints with features of simple people. Thus, an earthly quality was projected in these works. The artist's execution of a work was dictated more by the local understanding of religion, and by the prevailing customs and traditions. Although some folk sculptures were displayed in churches, for the most part they were found in chapels and cemeteries, and at roadsides.

The physical personification of saints was always a reflection of how the people envisioned them. This is very clearly seen in another popular sculpture figure – that of an angel. Because there was no developed iconographic blueprint for angels, nor were angels a developed image in the folk culture, artists por-

trayed them as boys or girls, with wings or without, and dressed in various attires. Their faces, however, presented a unified vision – they were soft and round, with clear eyes and luxuriant hair.

Museums in Ukraine and the practice of collecting art works can both trace their origins to churches, monasteries and royal treasuries, which had accumulated remarkable wealth during the first three centuries of Christianity in Ukraine (10th to 13th centuries). In later centuries the collections of the Kozak elite and those of the affluent merchant class served as stellar examples of collecting. In the 19th century the first museums were established in Ukraine, motivated by interests in antiquities and archeology and based on very extensive private collections. In the 20th century the Soviet policy of annihilation of the Ukrainian cultural heritage created a foundation of destruction, upon which newly independent Ukraine is attempting to reverse and rebuild.

The exhibition "Ukrainian Sculpture and Icons: A History of Their Rescue" is a very telling example of the vital resurgence of Ukraine's national cultural identity. It is also a testament to the importance of private collectors in the preservation of cultural treasures and in the building of museum collections. The Ukrainian Museum has greatly respected and valued the private collectors, since its own collections have been built, for the most part, with gifts from private collections.

The Ukrainian Museum was founded in 1976 and is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. The museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. For information call 212-228-0110, e-mail info@ukrainianmuseum.org, or log on to www.ukrainianmuseum.org

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Yara Arts Group presents Ukrainian carolers of Kryvorivnia

NEW YORK – In December Yara Arts Group will be presenting a series of events inspired by the Hutsul “koliada” (winter song ritual) with the participation of traditional “koliadnyky” (winter song singers) from the village of Kryvorivnia in the Carpathian Mountains.

Koliada songs are part of a winter ritual that now coincides with Christmas, but is much older in origin and symbolism. It is considered to be the most important event of the year, since people believe that spring and the harvest will not come to the village unless these songs are sung in every household. A separate winter song is sung to the household, both living and deceased. The songs are incantations that assume the magical power of words: “what is said, will be so.” (For more details on the koliada ritual and the events, please visit Yara’s website www.brama.com/yara/poetry.html).

Each event Yara will present with the Koliadnyky will be unique, highlighting different aspects of the ritual and featuring different local artists.

On Sunday, December 3, at 3 p.m. Yara will present “Koliadnyky in Concert” at The Ukrainian Museum in New York. The afternoon concert will be introduced by a scene from Yara’s play “Koliada: Twelve Dishes,” performed by Olga Shuhan. The koliadnyky will then sing several traditional koliady.

Ivan Zelenchuk is lead singer and leader of the koliadnyky. His father’s handwritten notebook of winter songs helped preserve this tradition in the village despite intense persecution under 50 years of Soviet rule in this area. Now in his 50s Mr. Zelenchuk considers his involvement in the koliada his personal mission.

Singing with him will be his brother Peter Zelenchuk and his son Mykola Zelenchuk, who plays the “trembita,” a traditional 12-foot-long mountain horn. They will be accompanied by Dmytro Tafiychuk, a virtuoso traditional fiddler as well as a master player of the “volynka,” bag pipes made of goat skin.

The koliadnyky will be joined by Yara artists Vira Slywotzky and Allison Hiroto, who will sing several traditional Hutsul koliady. Violinist Valerie Zhmud will join the koliadnyky for several instrumental pieces. For tickets and information call the museum, 212-228-0110.

On Friday, December 8, through Sunday, December 10, Yara Arts Group and the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia will present “Still the River Flows: A Glimpse at Winter Rituals from the Carpathian Mountains,” a multi-layered event featuring an art installation created by Yara artists based on the winter rituals they witnessed in the village of Kryvorivnia. Director Virlana Tkacz, set designer Watoku Ueno, filmmaker Andrea Odezynska, photographer Alexander Khantaev and poet-translator Wanda Phipps have created a collaborative installation presenting elements of the koliada.

The audience will walk through the room-size installation before entering the hall where the performances will take place. These will include an excerpt from Yara’s theater piece that introduces the ritual and winter songs by Svitanye of Philadelphia. The highlight of the event will be the performance by the koliadnyky.

“Still the River Flows” will take place at the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 800 N. 23rd St. at Brown Street, on Friday, December 8, at 8 p.m., Saturday, December 9, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, December 10, at noon. Traditional food will be served. For information and tickets call 215-684-2180.

On Friday, December 15, at 8 p.m. Yara and the Ukrainian Institute of America will

present “Koliada on Fifth Avenue,” which will include the traditional Ukrainian koliada, vocal interpretation of the ancient koliada singer by Alexis Kochan and bandurist Julian Kytasty, an exhibit of visual interpretations by 15 contemporary artists, and a modern culinary interpretation of the ritual foods by Olesia Lew.

Traditionally, the ritual starts outdoors, and so it will be on 79th Street and Fifth Avenue, when the koliadnyky blow their mountain horns and wait to be invited inside by the master of the house. Then they will sing the koliady to the master and mistress of the house.

Afterwards other koliady will be interpreted by Ms. Kochan. Drawing on the deep musical traditions of Eastern Europe, she and Mr. Kytasty weave a universal sonic tapestry, working in strands of jazz and new music, medieval Slavonic chant, dance tunes inspired by Carpathian Mountain fiddlers and blind bandura players, and ancient ritual songs with roots in the Neolithic period.

Yara has also invited contemporary artists to create works of visual art, videos and installations inspired by the ancient winter songs. The works will be exhibited throughout the three floors of the institute, the former Fletcher Mansion. The art exhibit is curated by Ms. Tkacz and Olga Maryschuk. Participating artists include: Larissa Babij, Anya Farion, Annette Friedman, Roman Hrab, Mr. Khantaev, Ms. Maryschuk, Svitlana Matviyenko, Margaret Morton, Ms. Odezynska, Joel Schlemowitz, Christina Saj, Marko Shuhan, Marybeth Ward, Hilary Zarycky and Sofia Zielyk. The works will be on view through Saturday, December 16. Tickets are \$30. For information call the Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660.

A workshop in traditional winter songs will be conducted by Ms. Kochan, Mr. Kytasty and the koliadnyky in the afternoon of Saturday, December 16. For more information about the workshop or to register call 212-475-6474 or e-mail yara@prodigy.net.

On Sunday, December 17, at 4 p.m. the Spring Street Gallery of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., will open “Koliada: Winter Solstice Rituals from the Carpathian Mountains,” an exhibit of photographs by Mr. Khantaev. The opening celebrations will feature several winter songs performed by the koliadnyky. The photography exhibit continues to January 5, 2007; hours are Monday-



Ivan Zelenchuk, who leads the “koliadnyky” of Kryvorivnia.

Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 518-587-6433, or 518-581-1387. The Spring Street Gallery is located at 110 Spring St.

Yara Arts Group is a resident company at the internationally acclaimed La MaMa Experimental Theater in New

York. The group has created eighteen original theater pieces that celebrate the cultures of the East since 1990.

For more information on all these events call Yara, 212-475-6474, or visit the website www.brama.com/yara.

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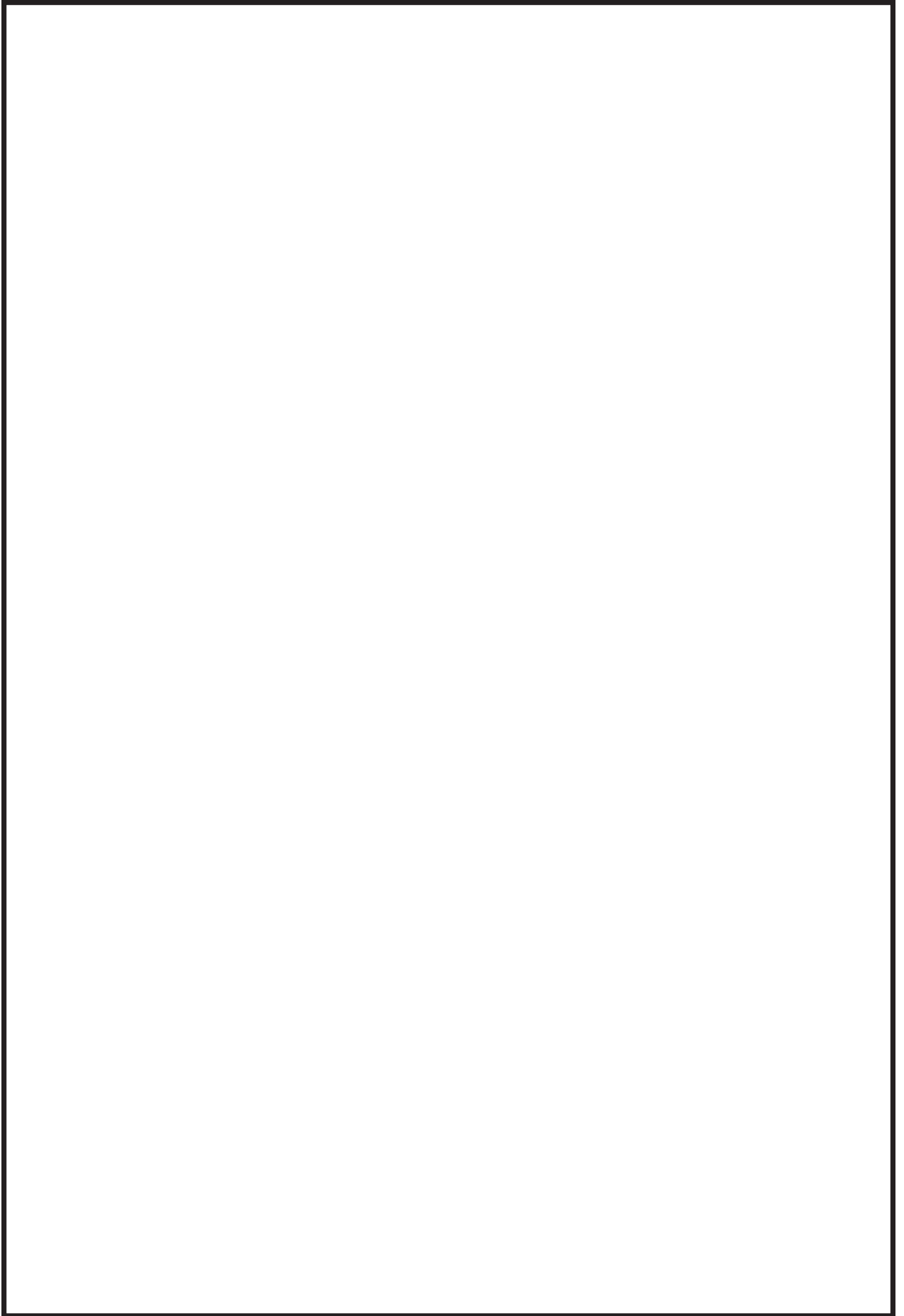
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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE: Parishes celebrate sixth annual Harvest Festival

ANSONIA, Conn. – The leaders of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Three Saints Orthodox Church organized the sixth annual traditional Harvest Day for their parishioners at Three Saints Parish Park in Bethany, Conn., on August 20.

After divine liturgy, more than 180 parishioners and many of their children arrived at the park pavilion for lunch and enjoyed barbecued chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, liver with onions, salads, beverages and a variety of home-made pastries.

The entertainment, provided by young artists of both parishes, included folk dancing and singing under the direction of choreographers Frank F. Stuban,

Miroslaw Klapyk, Michael Klapyk and Sara German.

The announcer, Susan Monks, warmly welcomed the audience and introduced the traditions of the harvest play and each dance. The dancers began with the "Harvest Parade" and greeted the audience with bread and salt and with a decorated "didukh," or sheaf of wheat.

The dancers then displayed baskets with fruit and vegetables from their parents' gardens and were blessed while saying the prayer "Otche Nash" ("Our Father").

The dancers performed several folk dances: "Zhnyva" (Harvest), "Kosari" (Scythemen), "Zhentsi" (Harvesters), "Zhuravli" (Cranes), "Kateryns" (Catherine), "Zaporozets" (Kozak), "Vesillia" (Wedding), "Vesna" (Spring) and the most beloved Ukrainian dance, the "Hopak."

There were many sport activities for seniors and the younger generations at the 28-acre park.

In conclusion, Mr. Stuban extended thanks to the picnic committee of both parishes and to the dancers and their parents for their hard work and for making the picnic and concert a wonderful event.



"Harvesters" (from left) Kellie German, Sara German, Lydia Monks and Darya Dabychyna.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

eight ministers to submit specific reform proposals by June 1, 2007. CIS Executive Secretary Vladimir Rushailo said at the same news conference that a "lack of consensus" prevented CIS leaders from issuing a declaration to precede an accord on the definitive demarcation of borders between CIS member-states. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Presidents agree on energy cooperation

MIENSK – President Alyaksandr Lukashenka discussed cooperation in the energy sphere with his Ukrainian and Azerbaijani counterparts, Viktor Yushchenko and Ilham Aliyev, respectively, on the sidelines of the CIS summit in Minsk on November 28, Belapan and Interfax reported. President Yushchenko reportedly said that oil-rich Azerbaijan could use Ukraine's pipelines to supply Belarusian oil refineries with crude oil, whereas Belarus and Ukraine could agree on rates for the transit of Russian gas through their territories. President Aliyev noted that Azerbaijan and Belarus have a big potential in energy cooperation, adding that the two countries should continue talks about Belarus' possible participation in oil extraction in Azerbaijan. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Bush: NATO still open to Ukraine

RIGA – U.S. President George W. Bush said on November 28 that NATO remains receptive to the idea of Georgia and Ukraine eventually joining the alliance. Mr. Bush said "we will continue to support Georgia's desire to become a NATO member" and also said membership "will be open to the Ukrainian people if they choose it." He was speaking before the

start of a two-day NATO summit in the Latvian capital, Riga. (Associated Press, Agence France-Presse, RFE/RL)

Gongadze memorial plaque in Rada

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz on November 28 unveiled a plaque to commemorate journalist Heorhii Gongadze, which was installed on the Parliament's wall near the entrance to the press section. Gongadze fought against those in power, even though he knew that at that time his fight could not be successful, Mr. Moroz said during the ceremony. According to Mr. Moroz, it was precisely the death of the prominent parliamentary journalist that became the symbol of massive protests against the authorities of the time. Gongadze's murder triggered such widespread actions of protest as "Ukraine Against Kuchma," "Arise, Ukraine" and the 2004 maidan revolution. Mr. Moroz noted that there has been no progress in investigating the Gongadze case, and he said the Rada should invite the procurator general to make a report about this subject. Mr. Moroz called upon national deputies to demand that the case's investigation be completed. (Ukrinform)

Procurator seeks more info on corpse

KYIV – Procurator General Oleksander Medvedko told journalists on November 28 that his office has asked Slovak prosecutors to provide more information on the 2001 discovery of a body that resembled that of Heorhii Gongadze, the Ukrainian journalist kidnapped and killed in September 2000, UNIAN reported. Mr. Medvedko explained that earlier in November his office received documents from Ukraine's Interpol branch – which were sent to Ukraine at an unspecified time

from Slovakia's Interpol branch – stating that on April 17, 2001, a body resembling Gongadze's was found in Slovakia. Mr. Medvedko said that Ukrainian authorities continue to work from the assumption that "Gongadze's body is in Kyiv." Meanwhile, Lesia Gongadze, the slain journalist's mother, refuses to bury the headless body that is officially believed to be her son's. She said the authorities have yet to provide sufficient proof of the authenticity of that body, which is stored in a Kyiv morgue. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Lukashenka for unified policy on gas...

KYIV – President Alyaksandr Lukashenka suggested to a group of Ukrainian journalists in Minsk on November 23 that Belarus and Ukraine could work out a joint stance on "oil and gas issues," including a coordinated policy on tariffs for Russian natural gas transited to Europe, RFE/RL's Belarus Service and Belapan reported. "What if we pursued a single policy in talks with Russia on this matter?" Mr. Lukashenka said. "Would it be worse? It would be better. So let's do it." President Lukashenka complained earlier in that interview about Moscow's declared intention to increase the price it charges Belarus for natural-gas exports in 2007 from the current rate of \$47 per 1,000 cubic meters to possibly as much as \$200. Mr. Lukashenka also suggested the possibility of raising tariffs for cargos in transit from and to Russia in order to make up for an anticipated Russian gas-price hike. "For instance, 100 million tons of cargos is annually transported from Western Europe to Russia and back via Belarus. We can earn a billion if we charge \$10 per ton. And there will be no questions regarding the price of gas then," he said. (RFE/RL Newswire)

... suggests union state with Ukraine

MIENSK – President Alyaksandr Lukashenka said in an interview with Ukrainian journalists in Minsk on November 23 that he would welcome the idea of a union state with Ukraine as a more feasible political formation than the declared union with Russia because of the "comparable" sizes of Belarus and Ukraine, RFE/RL's Belarus Service and Belapan reported. "Pray God it happens some time. Believe me, everybody would have to take this [Belarusian-Ukrainian] state into consideration. We would bargain a great deal from the world for our peoples," Mr. Lukashenka said. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Putin to visit Kyiv on December 22

KYIV – National Security and Defense Council Secretary Vitalii Haiduk said at a November 23 press conference in Kyiv, which he held with his Russian counterpart, Igor Ivanov, that the Yushchenko-Putin Commission will convene in Kyiv on December 22. According to Mr. Haiduk, by December 12 the entire parcel of documents will be readied for the commission's consid-

eration. The parcel will be a comprehensive one, including the 2007-2008 action plans and several strategic documents. Mr. Ivanov said that the parties at the November 23 meeting had drafted the session's agenda and had adjusted some issues, which are supposed to be incorporated in the session's documents. Russia attaches great importance to the Yushchenko-Putin Commission's session, he noted, adding that, within the framework of the commission, various committees and subcommittees work on the spectrum of Russian-Ukrainian relations. (Ukrinform)

Churches say Famine was genocide

KYIV – On November 16 the heads of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP), Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) and the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine (RCC) released an appeal to Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz and Ukraine's national deputies in which they emphasized the importance of recognizing the Holodomor, or man-made Famine of 1932-1933, as genocide against the Ukrainian people. In the document, the Church leaders stress that, because of ideological motives, the representatives of the Soviet regime planned in 1932-1933 to carry out the biggest "cleansing" of innocent people in world history. The text of the appeal says, in particular: "On the territory of the former Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and in the areas where a Ukrainian population dominated, following the orders of the government of the USSR, the local authorities took away food and, above all, grain. As a result, approximately 7 million to 10 million Ukrainians died from an artificial famine." The hierarchs asked that the deputies support a bill to recognize one of the biggest tragedies in Ukrainian and world history as genocide. The document was signed by Patriarch Filaret (Denysenko), head of the UOC-KP, Patriarch Lubomyr Husar, head of the UGCC, and Cardinal Marian Jaworski, primate of the RCC in Ukraine. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

President wants to amend Constitution

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said in an interview with three nationwide television channels on November 21 that he wants political leaders to discuss possible amendments to the Ukrainian Constitution in roundtable talks. "There is something wrong in what has been happening in the country over the past months. The country systematically suffers relapses, which may cost very dearly with years. The authorities often lack will, and the president lacks leverage to resolve topical issues," Mr. Yushchenko said. "Maybe we should gather at a roundtable, maybe we should initiate changes to the Constitution and, by consensus, remove these problems," he added. According to Mr. Yushchenko, the Constitution currently in force does

(Continued on page 25)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 24)

not ensure "a balance of stability" between the president and the government and, therefore, "needs improvement." (RFE/RL Newswire)

Russian media on Bush-Putin meeting

MOSCOW – In describing the Bush-Putin talks in Moscow on November 15, the daily *Novye Izvestia* wrote that "two lame ducks are meeting in Moscow." The paper suggested that George W. Bush wanted not only to discuss the WTO, but also to brief President Vladimir Putin on his plans for Iraq in the wake of the recent U.S. midterm congressional elections. The daily *Kommersant* argued on November 16 that the time has come for Mr. Putin to try to bring U.S.-Russian relations out of a tailspin, but added that this is easier said than done. The paper stressed that "Russia, like the USSR, is accustomed to dealing almost entirely with the White House administration and the State Department. These days, that's not enough at all. Effective contacts with lawmakers are necessary." *Kommersant* wrote that it believes Russia should also greatly expand its cultural outreach programs in the United States. It also noted that Russia must make itself "attractive" if it wants to extend its influence in the other former Soviet republics. (RFE/RL Newswire)

2007: Year of the Ukrainian Book

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on November 9 that he intends to proclaim 2007 the Year of the Ukrainian Book. Speaking at the Vernadsky National Library, the president said that in 2007 more funds should be directed toward publishing books in the Ukrainian language. He pointed out that in the last two years the Ukrainian language has become more frequently used in Ukraine and that in 2006 funding for book publishing was increased. He said: "We should have a clear roadmap in the language sphere in the 207 budget. I am convinced that this will be done; I take this under my control." The president also noted that the issue of language is often used to incite conflicts between people. "Very often language becomes the subject of conflicts and speculation, especially during elections. This is unacceptable and this makes language policy a conflict-generating factor in Ukraine." He underscored that "language policy in Ukraine should nurture the Ukrainian language ... and provide for the development of minority languages in keeping with European approaches." (Ukrinform)

Hrushevsky museum opened in Kyiv

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko participated on November 9 in the opening of the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Historical-Memorial Museum in Kyiv. Also participating were Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Dmytro Tabachnyk and Kyiv Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi. The president noted in his speech that this year marks the 140th anniversary of the birth of the renowned historian and national leader. He called Hrushevsky "one of the notable Ukrainian statesmen of the 20th century, a person who built the foundations of Ukrainian statehood," as well as "the father and chronicler of Ukrainian history." To honor this great man, the president said, his archives should be organized. Mayor Chernovetskyi noted that the Hrushevsky Museum is unique because it is housed in a building that in July 1908 became the property of the Hrushevsky family and because it contains period furnishings that were owned

by the family. A sum of 9 million hrv was allocated from the Kyiv city budget for the museum. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainian-Russian rocket delivers satellite

KYIV – The Ukrainian-Russian carrier rocket Zenit 3SL was successfully launched on October 31 from the Odyssey Launch Platform in the Pacific Ocean. The rocket was launched under the Sea Launch Program to deliver the American satellite XM-4 of the XM Satellite Radio company to orbit. A ground station has already acquired the spacecraft's first signals. The launch was implemented by the Sea Launch Co., which is a leading company in the provision of such services and is the only company capable of launching rockets from the sea. The Sea Launch Program was established in 1995 among the Ukrainian Pivdenne State Design Office and the production enterprise PivdenMash, the American company Boeing, the British-Norwegian Kvaerner Group and the Russian Energiya Corp. (Ukrinform)

Balts comment on Russian policy

HAMBURG, Germany – In a round-up of comments on November 20, the dpa (Deutsche Presse Agentur) news service quoted Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus as admitting that good relations with Russia remain elusive. Mr. Adamkus argued that, "if we exchange principles for oil and gas, and the Russians [are able to] live by their old rules, using [energy] as an instrument to impose their different ideology ... then both sides [are] in trouble." President Adamkus and Lithuanian legislators have repeatedly warned that Russia uses its energy resources to pressure and "blackmail" its neighbors. Nils Muiznieks, who is an expert on Latvian-Russian relations, noted that "Russia has been unrelenting in stomping on the Baltics' minority policies in international organizations – the OSCE, U.N., even NATO." Estonian President Toomas Hendrik Ilves argued that "a common energy policy will develop simply because there's a need for it. As countries realize that no single country can go it alone on energy policy, they'll begin to see the advantages of a common energy policy." Andres Kasekamp, head of the Estonian Foreign Policy Institute, noted that Russia continues to pressure the Baltic states despite their membership in NATO and the European Union. He added that "it's all about identity. The Baltic states are trying to reassert their independence, [while] Russia is obviously interested in keeping its influence, especially economically." (RFE/RL Newswire)

Cabinet funds repairs at Pecherska Lavra

KYIV – Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers gave the Ministry of Construction, Architecture and Communal Property 1.1 million hrv (approximately \$220,000 U.S.) to repair a collapsed section in the Upper Caves of the Kyivan Monastery of the Caves, following an October 25 decree. Earlier in 2006, the Kyiv City Administration decided to take preventive measures at the Upper Caves of the Kyivan Monastery of the Caves Historical and Cultural Reserve. In May 2005 in the Upper Caves, approximately six meters below ground, there was a collapse of 10 to 15 cubic meters. The Kyivan Monastery of the Caves belongs to the world cultural heritage of UNESCO. There are 122 monuments on its territory. The monastery is divided into two territories: the Upper Lavra (major monastery) and the Lower Lavra. The Upper Lavra is a national historical and cultural monument administered by

Ukraine's Ministry of Culture. A men's monastery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate is located in the Lower Lavra. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Moldova may block Russia's WTO entry

CHISINAU – Moldova on November 20 threatened to block Russia's entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO) until Moscow grants Chisinau trade concessions, the dpa news service reported the same day. "Before Russia can join the WTO, we must resolve a whole series of problems on violations of WTO rules," Moldovan Prime Minister Vasile Tarlev said. "Moldova supports the entrance of Russia into the WTO on the condition that these disagreements in our bilateral economic relations are resolved." Mr. Tarlev said Moscow must remove the customs and excise barriers currently applied to most Moldovan agricultural exports to Russia, stop overcharging value-added tax for natural-gas exports to Moldova, and end an import ban on Moldovan wines that has been in place since March. "We must find solutions to these problems," Mr. Tarlev said. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ukrainians, Poles pray at Lychakiv

LVIV – Representatives of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU)

joined Poles and Ukrainians praying at the Lychakiv Cemetery in Lviv on November 1 in the fifth annual common prayer before the graves of Ukrainian and Polish soldiers who died in the Ukrainian-Polish war of 1918-1920. Cardinal Marian Jaworski, primate of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine, and clergy of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) led the memorial service. UGCC Archbishop Ihor Vozniak of the Lviv Archeparchy arrived later and also prayed before Polish and Ukrainian graves. The Rev. Dr. Mykhaylo Dymyd, director of UCU's Institute of Canon Law, said that such common prayer is an answer to Christ's call to behave wisely. "Only the perspective of Christ, underlined for us by the Gospels and inspired by the Holy Spirit, allows us to reconcile that which politically is not always possible." Myroslav Marynovych, senior vice-rector of UCU and director of UCU's Institute of Religion and Society, said "... there were and are people who understand the meaning of Christian reconciliation, the importance of creating an atmosphere of cooperation. There are many such activists in the dialogue, on the Polish and the Ukrainian sides. I believe that this will be continued further. Once love for the homeland caused soldiers of both armies to fight one another. Today this love of homeland causes to seek mutual understanding and to improve cooperation with one another." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Klitschko...

(Continued from page 9)

punches began steadily increasing, as Klitschko exploited his superior reach (26 inches vs. 23.5 inches). Several times Brock stumbled, leading many to believe the fight would be over very soon, only leading to more cheering and shouting.

In the sixth, the tension picked up, when both men tumbled onto the floor and began donating blood: Klitschko got a nasty cut above his left eye from an accidental head-butt from Brock. (Some recalled the Vitalii Klitschko vs. Lennox Lewis fight of June 2003, which was ended early after Klitschko got an almost identical cut. In that fight, Vitalii was winning on all counts, but was forced to lose by the decision of the judges.)

Luckily for Volodymyr Klitschko, his cut did not bleed anywhere as much as his older brother's, and the fight went on. The seventh saw an even heavier onslaught of jabs. The tempo of chants for Klitschko increased as it appeared more likely that he was gaining the advantage.

Finally, with slightly over a minute left in the seventh round, Klitschko let loose with a final left jab, followed by a strong right coup de grace, and Brock hit the floor.

He got up during the count, but referee Wayne Kelly took a look at Brock, waved his hands and ended the fight. The house went wild as Klitschko was declared the winner and still champion.

After the bout, Klitschko stunned the reporters. "I don't consider myself a real champion," he said, explaining that a true champion must win the belts of all four of the major boxing organizations.

WBO heavyweight title-holder Shannon Briggs actually leapt up from his ringside seat at those remarks and began heckling Klitschko, egging him on for the next fight.

However, Klitschko had his sights set on, quite literally, an even bigger opponent: the 7-foot-tall, nearly 330-pound Russian Nikolai Valuev, the current WBA titleholder, whose record stand at 45 wins with 33 knockouts, no losses, and one "no contest."

"[He] is something really special because of his size in the history of boxing. If it's going to be possible, I would love to take him as the next," Klitschko noted.

Wherever Volodymyr Klitschko goes next, he is sure to attract his loyal fans. However, our group of Ukrainians from New Jersey would love to see him return to the Garden, already considered a location where he has "home-field" advantage.

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Verkhovna Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

Efforts to gain further international acknowledgement and status for the Holodomor will progress significantly, particularly with regard to United Nations recognition, supporters of the bill argued.

In his proposed bill, Mr. Yushchenko wanted to make it illegal to deny the Holodomor in Ukraine, subject to criminal punishment and a petty fine.

However, Mr. Moroz's compromise eliminated such a provision.

The main conflict over the bill during the November 28 session was the use of the term "genocide" in referring to the Holodomor.

Most fiercely opposing the bill was the Communist Party of Ukraine, which blames the Famine of 1932-1933 on crop failure and refers to the Holodomor as an American-sown myth.

Just two weeks earlier, the Communists distributed in Parliament a recently published booklet, "The Myth of the Holodomor." The booklet's author, Dr. Gennadii Tkachenko, estimates that no more than 2 million or 3 million Ukrainians died during the Famine.

"The myth of the Holodomor is a diversive-ideological cuisine prepared by Harvard University," according to the booklet. "Its main creator was Zbigniew Brzezinski and its assistants were Ukrainian (Halychyna) nationalists – former servants of Hitler and, today, Uncle Sam."

Joining the Communists not voting for the bill was the pro-Russian Party of the Regions, with the exception of two deputies, Taras Chornovil and Hanna Herman.

The Party of the Regions position on the Holodomor did acknowledge the

Famine as a disaster intentionally created by the Stalin government.

"We believe that the Stalin regime created this crime, the essence of which depended upon destroying existing structures of agriculture by means of carrying out a mass dekulakization of villagers, violent implementation of collectivization and placing upon village homes of Ukraine's regions exorbitantly high wheat quotas," said Vladyslav Zabarskyi, a Party of the Regions national deputy.

However in its version of the bill, the Party of the Regions referred to the Holodomor only as a tragedy, not genocide, and blamed Stalin's regime and not the Communist government.

When asked why the party opposed referring to it as genocide, Mr. Zabarskyi said the Holodomor applied to all those living on Ukrainian territory, regardless of their ethnicity.

"In the understanding of genocide according to international law and national legislation, we can't say this was genocide considering that it hasn't been defined to this day that these actions were taken exclusively against Ukrainians," he said.

He added that the very same year famines occurred in many parts of the Soviet Union, including the central and lower Volga regions, the Ural Mountain region, the northern Caucasus and Kazakhstan, among others.

Party of the Regions deputies accused their opponents on the subject of the Holodomor of exploiting the tragic deaths of millions for political gain and re-igniting ethnic tensions within Ukraine.

As their attempt at a compromise, the Party of the Regions offered the following definition of genocide in its version of a bill: "Criminal acts of the Stalinist totalitarian-repressive regime aimed at

mass destruction of parts of the Ukrainian and other peoples of the former USSR, resulting in the Holodomor of 1932-1933."

Our Ukraine and Tymoshenko Bloc deputies flatly rejected that proposal.

In rebuttal to the Party of the Regions' claim that it was not genocide, Our Ukraine National Deputy Viacheslav Kyrylenko pointed out that while the Soviet Union's population rose 20 percent between 1926 and 1937, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic's population declined 16 percent during that span.

As further evidence, he noted that in January 1933 Soviet authorities banned all travel from Ukraine and the Kuban region, where 80 percent of inhabitants were ethnic Ukrainians, all peasantry. "Such bans on travel weren't on any other territories where famine occurred," Mr. Kyrylenko said.

Once again, Mr. Moroz played the role of kingmaker.

Votes on both the president's and the Party of the Regions' bills failed, leading the Rada chairman to offer his compromise.

A top-ranking Communist until Ukrainian independence, and a supporter of Marxist and Communist principles afterwards, Mr. Moroz's decision to support the genocide designation may lie in his own personal history.

Though he was born in 1944, Mr. Moroz told reporters during a November 21 visit to Lviv that he was well aware that his native village of Buda in the Kyiv Oblast suffered greatly from the 1933 Famine.

"Regarding the Holodomor, more than half the people in my village died," Mr. Moroz said. "People ate other people. That's why for me personally it was a genocide."

Two days later, Mr. Moroz publicly suggested that any Holodomor law consist of the phrase "genocide against the Ukrainian people" ("narod" in Ukrainian), instead of "genocide against the Ukrainian nation" ("natsiya" in Ukrainian).

In his address on the day of the vote, Mr. Moroz explained that the United Nations Genocide Convention of 1948 defines genocide as the destruction of a "national, ethnic, racial or religious group."

Therefore, referring to the "Ukrainian people" instead of the "Ukrainian nation" would be enough to gain U.N. recognition for the Holodomor.

As to why the Socialist Party insisted on the Ukrainian word "narod" as opposed to "natsiya," as preferred by the president, its deputies explained to reporters that the term "narod" can refer to various ethnicities victimized by the Holodomor that inhabited Ukraine at the time.

Using the word "natsiya" would have only referred to ethnic Ukrainians.

To some deputies, the difference was largely meaningless.

However, Our Ukraine National Deputy Yaroslav Kendzior pointed out that Ukrainian villages targeted by the

Holodomor were 95 percent ethnic Ukrainian, at minimum.

National Deputy Yevhen Hirnyk of the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists said there's a significant difference between the words, but, as long as the word "narod" is qualified by the word "genocide," he said he's comfortable with the compromise.

Another compromise on Mr. Moroz's behalf involved laying blame for the genocide on the "totalitarian, repressive Stalinist regime," instead of the Communist Party, to the dismay of patriotic deputies.

"Communist, totalitarian regime should be underlined, the cessionaries of which are sitting in that wing of the Verkhovna Rada," Mr. Kendzior said, pointing to the section occupied by the 21 Communist deputies.

The president's clause for criminal punishment for Holodomor deniers was removed.

"The presidential version called for a \$36 fine against someone denying the Holodomor," said Volodymyr Yavorivskyi, a Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputy. "I thought about that and told my deputy colleagues, 'You know, if that edition of the law passes, I'd much rather take the paper it's written on into my hand and smack such a person across their mug instead of having them pay \$36.'"

The day after the vote, the Communists expressed their disappointment with the Socialists, and Communist National Deputy Oleksander Holub hinted that it could threaten the coalition government's stability.

On the other hand, President Yushchenko specifically thanked Mr. Moroz for his valuable role in passing the law and said he still intends to introduce legislation to punish Holodomor deniers.

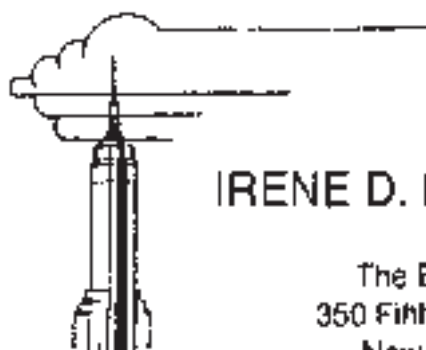
Ironically, the western Ukrainians who most fervently fought for the Holodomor bill are from a region largely unscathed by the genocide. Meanwhile, eastern and southern Ukrainians, who live in regions where the Holodomor was most acute, opposed the legislation.

One hint as to the reason for the discrepancy is revealed in the Party of the Regions' leadership.

Assistant Faction Chair Yevhen Kushnariov was born and raised in Kharkiv, but both his parents are from the Russian Federation, as is the case with many residents of eastern Ukraine. He said he considers himself a Ukrainian, but simultaneously acknowledges his nationality is Russian.

In fact, many residents of industrial towns, particularly Donetsk, settled in eastern Ukraine after the Holodomor, aren't ethnic Ukrainians themselves and therefore feel uneasy about talk of ethnic genocide, national deputies said.

Since the Ukrainian Holodomor didn't directly affect their families, and because they have personal affinities for Russia and its culture, they lack an ability to empathize with or comprehend the Holodomor's meaning for ethnic Ukrainians, deputies said.



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OUT AND ABOUT

December 8-10 Philadelphia	Concert, "Still the River Flows: A Glimpse into Winter Rituals from the Carpathian Mountains," featuring Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-684-2180	December 12 New York	Film screening, "The Orange Chronicles" by Damian Kolodiy and Peter Zielyk, Anthology Film Archives, orangedoc@gmail.com
December 8-10 New York	New York Christmas Revels, featuring the Syzokryli dancers, Symphony Space, info@nyrevels.org	December 12 Washington	Book signing and reception with Andrew Evans and Askold Krushelnycky, The Washington Group Cultural Fund, Embassy of Ukraine, 202-349-2937
December 8-31 Chicago	Art exhibit, "Women Iconographers," co-sponsored by "Pershi Stezhi" Sorority of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Ukrainian National Museum, 312-421-8020	December 14-16 Chicago	"Made in Ukraine" business and trade show, Sheraton Chicago Hotel, 877-242-2558 or 407-617-3040
December 9 Baltimore, MD	Holiday cocktail party and auction, Branch 59, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-828-6922	December 15 New York	Concert, "Koliada on Fifth Avenue," featuring the Koliadnyky of Krivorivnia, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660
December 9 Washington	Presentation by Dr. Ludmilla Kolokolova, "Search for the Origin of the Solar System - Missions to Comets and Pluto," Embassy of Ukraine, 301-286-8431 or 703-960-0043	December 15-21 New York	Film screening, "Resilience" by Paul Bojack, Anthology of Film Theater, 212-505-5181
December 9 Parma, OH	Christmas party and koliada, sponsored by North Coast Catering and Cleveland Friends of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, ubcpresident@bandura.org	December 16 New York	Annual "Yalynka," Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America New York Branch, Ukrainian Institute of America, nyc@uesanet
December 10 Hillside, NJ	St. Nicholas program, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 908-289-0127	December 16 Calgary, AB	15th anniversary of Volya Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, performing "The Legend Unfolds," Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium, 403-777-0000 or Ticketmaster outlets
December 10 Yonkers, NY	Art exhibit and bazaar, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 914-762-6514	December 17 Silver Spring, MD	Christmas Bazaar, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 301-593-5316 or 301-584-9192
December 11 Cambridge, MA	Seminar, "O Tempora, O Opera! Christmas in Ukraine on the World Music Stage" by Lubomyr Hajda and Yakiv Gubanov, huri@fas.harvard.edu		
December 11 New York	Dance from the Heart AIDS Benefit, featuring Irina Dvorenko and Maxim Beloserkovsky, Cedar Lake, 212-840-0770		

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



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Soyuzivka's Datebook

December 10, 2006 KOZAK Hockey Team Christmas Party	December 31, 2006 New Year's Eve Extravaganza
December 11, 2006 Kerhonkson-Accord Senior Citizen Association Christmas Party	January 27, 2007 Soyuzivka's 2nd Annual Malanka sponsored by The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America
December 15, 2006 UNWLA Branch 95 Christmas Party	March 3-4, 2007 Plast Fraternity "Khmelnynchenky" Annual Winter Rada
December 21, 2006 Jeremiah Flaherty Esq. Christmas Party	March 23-25, 2007 Plast Sorority "Chornomorski Khvyli" Rada
December 24, 2006 Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve Supper	

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VOLODYMYR VYNNYTSKY, pianist

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 9

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Business and Professional Group of Chicago invites members and the community to a presentation by Jaroslawa Z. Johnson on "Maidan Revisited: The Economic and Political Landscape in Ukraine Today." Ms. Johnson is the managing partner of the Kyiv office of the international law firm Chadbourne and Parke LLP. A specialist in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, project finance, energy, corporate governance and finance, secured transactions and government relations, she has advised clients on doing business in Ukraine and the CIS for more than 14 years. Ms. Johnson has been ranked by Chambers and Partners Global Guide 2006 for her corporate and commercial work in Ukraine and is a frequent speaker at international symposia and before U.S. government commissions determining financial assistance to Ukraine. The presentation will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 7 p.m., followed by a festive holiday reception. Admission is \$10 for UBPG members and \$20 for guests.

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) invites all to a lecture by Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev (University of Toronto) on the subject "Archeological Discoveries in Baturyn in the Year 2006." For the last three years NTSh has been financing the archeological explorations in Baturyn that were initiated by Dr. Mezentsev. The lecture will be presented 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 "Music at the Institute" chamber music series invites the public to its opening concert of the season, a recital by cellist Natalia Khoma and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky performing as a critically acclaimed duo. The program, which also marks the presentation of their new CD, "Dances," will feature Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata in A Minor, D. 821, Franck's Sonata in A Major for Cello and Piano, Chopin's Polonaise Brillante in C Major, Op. 3, Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances, Brahms's Hungarian Dance No. 2, and Volodymyr Vynnytsky's own composition, "Lost Tango." The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m. Donation: \$30; UIA members and senior citizens, \$25; students, \$20. For additional information and reservations call 212-288-8660 or visit www.ukrainianinstitute.org.

Sunday December 10

NEW YORK: The Chornomortsii fraternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization will celebrate the blessing of its new flag at 2 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue). Plast members are encouraged to wear their uniforms and to bring the flags of their respective fraternities and sororities. Donations welcome at the door. For more information call 301-646-0890.

NEW YORK: As this year marks the centennial of the creation of the concert bandura, the St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Church, the Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and the New York Bandura Ensemble invite the public to a lecture-concert titled "History of the Ancient State of Ukraine in Songs." The featured performer is kobzar-lirnyk Vasyl Nechepa from Chernihiv, a 2006 laureate of the Taras Shevchenko Prize, who was nominated Best Teacher of the Year of Ukraine (2006) by the Ministry of Education and Scholarship of Ukraine. Suggested donation: \$10. The concert will be held after liturgy at the St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 160 W. 82nd St. For information call 212-260-4490, visit the website <http://www.geocities.com/ukrartlitclub/> or e-mail nybandura@aol.com.

NYBE performances are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Chorus Dumka will give a Christmas concert at St. Patrick's Cathedral (Fifth Avenue and 53rd Street) at 2 p.m. The performance will include traditional Ukrainian Christmas carols, an instrumental arrangement, plus well-known favorites, Handel's "Hallelujah" and "O Holy Night" with organ accompaniment. The concert will be conducted by Vasyl Hrechynsky. Admission is free. For more information call 718-896-7624.

Tuesday, December 12

WASHINGTON: The Washington Group Cultural Fund under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine invites you to do some early Christmas shopping and meet the authors: Askold Krushelnysky, British journalist, author of "An Orange Revolution: A Personal Journey Through Ukrainian History" and Andrew Evans, travel writer, author of "Ukraine: The Bradt Travel Guide." The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW. Seating is limited; please RSVP to ibezverkha@ukremb.com or 202-349-2937. Suggested donation: \$10; free for students. A reception and book signing will follow the presentations.

NEW YORK: The Orange Circle is pleased to sponsor a special New York screening of the documentary film "The Orange Chronicles" at the Anthology Film Archives, 32 Second Ave. at Second Street, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets go on sale at 7 p.m. and cost \$10. The film was featured as a work-in-progress on the opening night of the Helsinki Human Rights Watch Festival in Kyiv and was a participant at the International Documentary Festival in Amsterdam at the end of November. Visit the newly updated website www.orangechronicles.com for more information. This screening will be followed by a panel discussion on the meaning and impact of the Orange Revolution with the director and several Ukraine analysts participating. It will be moderated by Adrianna Melnyk of The Orange Circle.

Friday, December 15

NORTH PORT, Fla.: St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church will hold its annual Pre-Christmas Bazaar at 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Parish Hall, 1078 N. Biscayne Drive. Lydia Marusyn and her enthusiastic group of kitchen volunteers are preparing delicious home-made food, such as borsch, varenyky, holubtsi and other Ukrainian specialties. Food will be served all day: at 9 a.m.-noon, coffee and pastries; noon-6 p.m., dinners, at a cost of \$8. For take-out orders, especially large ones, it is advisable to call ahead. Special Christmas bread (kolach) and pastries such as poppy-seed cake and nutcake, always in high demand, will also be available. There will be many booths with Christmas gift items on sale for your friends, relatives, children and grandchildren. The \$1 raffle table will be filled with many wonderful things, including Christmas ornaments and household items. There will also be a 50-50 lottery. For more information call Tania Silecky, 941-426-2182; Lydia Marusyn, 941-426-9057; or the Parish Hall, 941-423-2427, on the day of the bazaar.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America and Yara Arts Group present "Koliada on Fifth Avenue" featuring traditional Ukrainian koliada, or winter song ritual performed by Hutsuls on a special visit from the Carpathian Mountains, vocal interpretation of the ancient koliada by Alexis Kochan and Julian Kytasty, performances by Yara artists, an exhibit of visual interpretations (including paintings, sculpture, film, photography and videos) by 15 contemporary artists and a modern culinary interpretation of ritual foods by Olesia Lew. Time: 8 p.m. Tickets: \$30.

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