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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Constitutional Court: cinemas must show films in Ukrainian

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Constitutional Court ruled on December 24 that all the nation's movie theaters must show foreign films with subtitles, voiceovers or dubbing in the Ukrainian language.

The ruling, supported by 12 of 15 judges, answered a complaint filed by 60 national deputies of Ukraine's Parliament, who alleged many of the nation's movie theaters were in violation of the law – on the books since 1998 – requiring the Ukrainian translation.

Film distributors, many of which are affiliated with Russian companies, will likely choose to subtitle their films instead of providing voiceovers or dubbing because the procedure is less expensive, said Dmytro Kolesnykov, vice-president of the Association of Ukraine's Producers.

"This is quite widely practiced abroad – the film is demonstrated in its original language, and subtitles are in the language of the country where the film is viewed," he said.

Distributors who continue to violate the law will be denied distribution licenses, the ruling stated.

Reviewing the Constitution, Ukraine's laws and international acts ratified by Ukraine, the court ruled the translation requirement doesn't violate the rights of ethnic minorities.

The existing law was contradictory, because it allowed for films to be shown in Ukrainian and the language of ethnic minorities, said Petro Stetsiuk, a Constitutional Court judge. However, the December 24 ruling sets the precedent for interpreting the law, placing priority on the Ukrainian language, he said.

The court reviewed the law as a part of a system of legally regulating social relations in the sphere of applying the state language, Judge Stetsiuk said. The court also determined this matter is about citizens "appropriately realizing their cultural rights," he said.

The law is far more lenient than the January 2006 Cabinet of Ministers resolution that called for 70 percent of foreign films to be dubbed into Ukrainian by July 2007.

Dubbing a single film costs \$50,000, and distributors stand to lose money on low-budget films, said Tetiana Smirnova, executive director of Cinema Forum of Ukraine and the Association for Ukrainian Cinema Promotion. "European feature films might disappear, and only Russian and Hollywood movies would stay in the market," she said.

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Bohatyriova named secretary of National Security and Defense Council

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Raisa Bohatyriova, a leader in the Party of the Regions of Ukraine (PRU), on December 26 accepted an offer by President Viktor Yushchenko to become secretary of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC), a key position of influence.

In offering the post to Ms. Bohatyriova, a close ally of Ukraine's biggest businessman, Rinat Akhmetov, Mr. Yushchenko was seeking to maintain positive relations with the powerful tycoon, as well as stabilize the post-election atmosphere, political insiders said.

"Raisa Bohatyriova is a certain guarantee of dialogue between the president and the Party of the Regions and representatives of Donetsk business," said Vadym Karasiov, a Kyiv political insider and adviser to the Presidential Secretariat. "It's important to depolarize Ukrainian politics and the Party of the Regions. This personnel maneuver enables the integration of the Party of Regions into the political system."

However, the Party of the Regions wasn't particularly supportive as the December 24 presidential decree caught its leadership by surprise and caused the first internal conflict within the political powerhouse to spill over onto the public stage.

That the PRU was caught off guard became apparent when several members, including Mykhailo Chechetov and Hanna Herman, immediately expressed their support for Ms. Bohatyriova by posting statements on the party's official website.

Soon afterwards their affirmations were removed, once their leader and former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich released his own statement saying the party doesn't support Ms. Bohatyriova's acceptance of the position and recommends that she decline it.

"She can make this decision as an individual undoubtedly, but I believe her activity as a politician will cease," Mr. Yanukovich said.

For two days, Ms. Bohatyriova avoided making any public statement, instead attending a presidium meeting of the PRU political council on December 25 and speeding off in a black Mercedes afterwards.

Once it became clear she had accepted the post by appearing at a December 26 Cabinet of Ministers meeting, PRU officials stated that she was fully distancing herself from the party, not representing it in her post and could be dismissed from the PRU.

"Being in the opposition party and simultaneously joining the nation's top five leaders is impossible," said Volodymyr Rybak, a PRU leader and national deputy.

At the December 27 ceremony offi-



UNIAN/Serhii Svetlytskyi

National Security and Defense Council
Chair Raisa Bohatyriova.

cially presenting Ms. Bohatyriova to the Ukrainian public, President Yushchenko himself acknowledged that political stability is among the main challenges facing the nation, adding that he had no motivations for appointing her other than the national interest and country's development.

"As long as the country will be shaken by political collisions, a very difficult dialogue will be found with investors, business circles and all who work for the nation's potential," the president said.

Ms. Bohatyriova is a politician who "doesn't manipulate polarizing posi-

tions," he said. She demonstrates that politicians from different parties can adopt a constructive position in forming national priorities, he said.

Ms. Bohatyriova's appointment is characteristic of Mr. Yushchenko's traditional approach to emerging from lengthy political crises, said Mr. Fesenko, a Kyiv political insider.

The president's attempt at uniting the Parliament's five factions into a National Unity Coalition in August 2006 was done in the same spirit but was ultimately undermined by Mr. Yanukovich and the coalition government's usurpation campaign.

Instead of turning to Mr. Yanukovich, this time around the Presidential Secretariat opted to reach out to those who could be pragmatic within the PRU, Mr. Fesenko said. "This is the president's team drawing closer to the constructive, moderate wing of the PRU led by Akhmetov and Bohatyriova," he said.

Ms. Bohatyriova's appointment signaled an agreement reached between Mr. Akhmetov's right-hand man, Borys Kolesnikov, and Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha, Mr. Fesenko said. In fact, Mr. Kolesnikov was first considered for the post, Mr. Fesenko noted, but the idea lost momentum once his negative reputation and subsequent political damage to the president was considered.

In 2005 Mr. Kolesnikov was arrested and accused of making death threats against a Donetsk businessman to pressure him to sell his shares in a local retail

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Ukraine to open Consulate in Edmonton

EDMONTON, Alberta – Edmonton will soon be home to a Consulate of Ukraine, announced Member of Parliament Peter Goldring (Edmonton East) on December 19.

It will be Ukraine's second Consulate in Canada; the first Consulate is located in Toronto, in the province of Ontario. Winnipeg in Manitoba and Vancouver in British Columbia have honorary consuls. These diplomatic representations are in addition to the Embassy of Ukraine located in the Canadian capital, Ottawa.

"It's wonderful news because we have been trying to get it [the Edmonton Consulate] for the past few years," former University of Alberta chancellor Peter Savaryn told the Edmonton Journal. "Every 10th Albertan is of Ukrainian origin and we now have thousands of Ukrainians working temporarily in Alberta," he was quoted as saying on the newspaper's website on December 19. "We need more workers and we need more immigrants too."

Jeff Holubitsky of edmontonjournal.com reported that Alberta's Ukrainian Canadian community has raised more than \$28,000 towards the first year of operating costs of the new Consulate, which is expected to open by the end of 2008. No consul has yet been named, but the facility is expected to be located in the downtown area. It is expected to have a staff that includes three or four people from Ukraine and a Canadian support staff.

"This is good news for all of Western Canada," said Bill Diachuk, a director of the Alberta Provincial Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. "It will help particularly with tourism, with student exchange programs ... Alberta has so much to offer, and Saskatchewan was supportive of it too," he added.

MP Goldring, who supported the establishment of the Edmonton Consulate, told the Edmonton Journal he received a letter from Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier giving the federal government's support for the office.

ANALYSIS

Tymoshenko's Cabinet gets down to work

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor
December 20

The coalition of President Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) succeeded in electing Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister on December 18. The coalition appointed her Cabinet on the same day.

Ms. Tymoshenko promised to review gas accords with Russia, find "understanding" with Russian President Vladimir Putin and establish normal relations with the opposition.

Viktor Yanukovich, whom Ms. Tymoshenko replaced, predicted that her government would not be effective and may not last longer than in 2005, when she became prime minister for the first time in the wake of the Orange Revolution.

Ms. Tymoshenko was backed by 226 votes from the OU-PSD/YTB coalition in the 450-seat legislature. As on December 11, when she mustered only 225 votes, the opposition caucuses of Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions (PRU), the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc and the Communists did not cast a single vote in her favor.

Ms. Tymoshenko was not sure of her election on December 18 either. The coalition numbers 227 deputies, one of whom did not turn up because of illness, and another one – Yuri Yekhanurov, who succeeded Tymoshenko as prime minister in 2005 – said he would not back Tymoshenko. Only personal intervention from President Yushchenko, who phoned Mr. Yekhanurov and persuaded him to change his point of view, prevented Ms. Tymoshenko from falling short again.

Faults in the "Rada" electronic voting system were blamed for Ms. Tymoshenko's fiasco last week. This time deputies voted on Ms. Tymoshenko by a show of hands, so as to prevent a single vote from being missed.

This cumbersome procedure was used also for the subsequent approval of Ms. Tymoshenko's Cabinet. It was backed by 227 votes, one more than Ms. Tymoshenko received. Former Verkhovna Rada Chairman Ivan Pliusch, a dissenter from OU-PSD who refused to either join the coalition or support Ms. Tymoshenko, changed his mind this time.

As expected, the defense portfolio went to Mr. Yekhanurov; the pro-Western diplomat Volodymyr Ohryzko became foreign affairs minister; Yuri Lutsenko returned to the post of minister of internal affairs, and Ms. Tymoshenko's right-hand man, Oleksander Turchynov, became first vice-prime minister.

Mr. Turchynov said he will supervise the law-enforcement bodies, finance and the economy. The entire economic and energy block in the Cabinet went to YTB people. OU-PSD representatives will tackle mostly humanitarian matters. The health and education portfolios went to the fathers of two young OU-PSD deputies, which may prompt fresh accusations of nepotism, which plagued Ms. Tymoshenko's first Cabinet.

Ms. Tymoshenko left one chair in her Cabinet vacant, apparently for somebody from either the PRU or the Lytvyn Bloc. The new Cabinet has fewer vice-prime ministers than Mr. Yanukovich's, and Ms. Tymoshenko said that the vacant position would be filled "in the future" for the sake of "an expanded democratic coalition."

Hours after her approval by Parliament, Prime Minister Tymoshenko said that her first steps will include a review of the gas trade accords with Russia, a review of the draft state budget for 2008 and the adoption of a law on the opposition.

"My position has not changed: there should be no intermediaries on the gas market," she said, meaning RosUkrEnergo, an intermediary from which Ukraine has been buying a mixture of Russian and Central Asian gas since early 2006. Ms. Tymoshenko said she wants to launch new gas talks with Russia as soon as possible. She added that Ukraine will be a reliable partner for the EU in gas transit. Russian gas supplies to the EU were seriously affected by disagreements over prices between Ukraine and Russia in early 2006.

Ms. Tymoshenko said that she hopes to find "mutual understanding" with Mr. Putin. Asked about the Russian president's choice as his successor, Dmitry Medvedev, Ms. Tymoshenko said that she could not comment, as she does not know Mr. Medvedev well enough.

Mr. Yanukovich declared that his PRU will be in opposition to the

(Continued on page 20)

Bohatyriova is new NSDC secretary

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko signed a decree on December 26 on changes in the staff of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) including the appointment of Raisa Bohatyriova, a member of the Party of the Regions faction in the Verkhovna Rada, as the council's secretary. The political council of the Party of the Regions, however, did not approve the appointment at its sitting on December 26. PRU leader Viktor Yanukovich said Ms. Bohatyriova would have to choose between membership in the party and the post. Meanwhile, Anna Herman, a PRU spokesperson, hailed the appointment, calling it a "sensible and wise decision" that indicates the president seeks to unite Ukraine. Later in the day on December 26 Ms. Bohatyriova accepted the appointment. She replaces Ivan Pliusch, who was elected a national deputy. (Ukrinform)

Ohryzko speaks with U.S. officials

KYIV – Topical issues of Ukrainian-American relations were discussed during a telephone talk on December 22 between newly appointed Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Volodymyr Ohryzko and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Secretary Rice congratulated Mr. Ohryzko on his appointment. Mr. Ohryzko also met with U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William B. Taylor Jr. on December 24. (Ukrinform, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine)

Yulia promises new budget

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on December 19 during the first meeting of the new Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers that the government will prepare and submit within one week to the Verkhovna Rada a new draft of Ukraine's 2008 budget, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. The government of former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich adopted the budget draft in September, but the presidential staff announced later that it had not included all the social initiatives that were submitted by the president. Ms. Tymoshenko also said she wants all Ukrainian min-

istries to conduct "anti-corruption audits or anti-corruption examinations" in order to show "how [the previous government] spent each penny, issued each license, privatized and gave into private ownership each object – whether it was done in a fair or unfair way." (RFE/RL Newline)

PRU deputy: suspend coalition

KYIV – Olena Lukash of the opposition Party of the Regions on December 19 demanded that Verkhovna Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk suspend the operation of the coalition of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. The Verkhovna Rada on December 18 suspended the parliamentary mandates of 14 YTB and OU-PSD lawmakers due to their acceptance of posts in the new Cabinet of Ministers. Under Ukrainian law, the vacated seats will be filled by the individuals who followed the suspended lawmakers on the YTB and OU-PSD electoral lists, but the procedure for registering new lawmakers by the Central Election Commission will take some time. Ms. Lukash, speaking on behalf of the Party of the Regions, proposed officially announcing the collapse of the coalition. Defense Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov described the proposal as "a joke." (RFE/RL Newline)

Zvarych comments on shadow Cabinet

KYIV – The deputy head of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc, Roman Zvarych, has called for granting ministers of the shadow Cabinet the right to participate in ministries' meetings and to consult with the ministers. He announced this in an NTN TV broadcast on December 24. Mr. Zvarych said he believes this would give the shadow Cabinet real leverage on the government. He noted, however, that this is his personal stance, which he hasn't discussed with coalition members. (Ukrinform)

Yulia to fulfill campaign pledges

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on December 20 told

(Continued on page 21)

Mykola Melnychenko questioned in case of Vyacheslav Chornovil

Ukrinform

KYIV – Maj. Mykola Melnychenko of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) was interrogated in the Procurator General's Office in the case of the death of Vyacheslav Chornovil, leader of the People's Movement (Rukh) of Ukraine, it was reported on December 17.

According to his lawyer Pavlo Sychov, Mr. Melnychenko gave his consent to provide records concerning the Chornovil case, but only on the territory of the United States and in the presence of representatives of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Mr. Melnychenko is currently testifying in five criminal cases, including the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze,

in which he has declined to release recordings he made in the office of ex-President Leonid Kuchma.

Mr. Chornovil, the leader of the largest national-democratic movement in Ukraine, died on March 25, 1999, on the eve of the presidential elections in which he was a candidate for office. According to the official version of events released by the Internal Affairs Ministry, Mr. Chornovil died in a road accident when his car crashed into a KamAZ truck turning around on the road.

Colleagues of Mr. Chornovil, however, believe his death was a political murder. Rukh, which was headed by Hennadii Udovenko, has demanded the reopening of the Chornovil case.

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NEWS ANALYSIS: Russia, Ukraine trade harsh words over divergent historical memory

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

On December 14 Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) issued a strongly worded statement complaining of "open nationalist, anti-Russian and Russophobic feelings and developments in Ukraine." Attempts are being made, it claimed, to "use difficult periods in our joint history to receive brief political rewards based on doubtful ideological pretensions."

The number of historical issues dividing Ukraine and Russia continues to grow and aggravate the already strained relations between a reformist Ukraine and a resurgent, autocratic Russia.

In late November both countries exchanged diplomatic notes after the Eurasian Union of Youth (EUY), a Russian nationalist group proscribed in Ukraine, destroyed an exhibition at the Embassy of Ukraine in Moscow marking the 1932-1933 famine.

The Ukrainian side described the vandalism as "provocative and anti-Ukrainian." One month earlier the EUY had destroyed Ukrainian national symbols on Mount Hoverlia in western Ukraine and launched cyberattacks that shut down the presidential website.

Since December 9 the servers supporting the Orange youth NGO (www.maidan.org.ua), the Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group (www.khpg.org) and the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union (www.helsinki.org.ua) have all faced sustained attacks.

Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, chairman of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), called upon his Russian counterparts to "not permit on each other's territories extremist and, God forbid, terrorist actions, which are undertaken by such structures." Officials reportedly foiled a terrorist attack that had been planned to coincide with a "Russian march" in Crimea's capital, Symferopol. The banned group Proryv, with underground branches in the Crimea and ties to extreme left and pan-Slavic groups, was suspected of being behind the planned provocation, which would have been blamed on "Ukrainian nationalists."

Ukraine and Russia have embraced differing interpretations of key historical events and personalities since the late Soviet era. The divergence continued under Presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Leonid Kuchma (1991-2004), with a return to Ukrainian national historiogra-

phy, which had been banned in the 1930s but kept alive in the Ukrainian diaspora.

The process has become more heated with the rise of Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko and Russia's Vladimir Putin. Mr. Yushchenko has actively sought to investigate the "blank pages" of Ukrainian history, while Mr. Putin has returned to a neo-Soviet synthesis of Russian imperial and Soviet ideology in historiography and national symbols.

Some of the most heated debates have occurred around two primary issues: Ukrainian leaders and independence movements, and crimes committed by the Soviet regime in Ukraine.

New Ukrainian symbols, holidays and commemorations have prompted protests from Moscow. For example, the tsarist and Soviet regimes regarded 18th century Kozak Hetman Ivan Mazepa a traitor, and the Russian Orthodox Church excommunicated him. But he is a hero in Ukraine. Mazepa's face appeared on Ukraine's currency in 1996, Kyiv's Sichnevo Povstannia (January Uprising) Street was renamed after him in October, and a new monument is planned. The Ecumenical Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church in Ukraine, a.k.a. the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, denounced the monument plans.

An October 9 decree outlined detailed instructions to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Battle of Poltava, where a combined Swedish-Ukrainian force led by Mazepa lost to Russia. The 1709 battle is seen as a turning point that transformed Russia into an empire. Ukraine lost autonomy and was eventually absorbed into the Russian empire under Empress Catherine II. A monument unveiled to her in Odesa in October sparked violent clashes between Russian and Ukrainian nationalists.

A December 13 decree contained plans for commemorating the 90th anniversary of Ukraine's declaration of independence from the tsarist empire next year. A monument to Symon Petliura, who led the drive for Ukrainian independence after the Russian Revolution, was vandalized in Poltava, his home region.

World War II also remains a divisive issue. A new monument to the leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists Stepan Bandera, assassinated by the KGB in Munich in 1959, was

vandalized after it was recently unveiled in Lviv.

An October 12 presidential decree outlined instructions to local authorities about how to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the formation of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), a nationalist guerrilla force that fought a decade-long war against both Nazi and Soviet forces.

Another presidential decree awarded the "Hero of Ukraine" designation to UPA Commander-in-Chief Roman Shukhevych on the centennial of his birth. The decree noted Shukhevych's "individual contribution to the national-liberation struggle for liberty and Ukrainian independence." The Russian MFA in December released a statement specifically complaining that Pushkin Street in Lviv had been renamed after Shukhevych.

Kyiv's efforts to honor the victims of Soviet crimes have also irritated Moscow. While President Yushchenko supported the opening of a new Museum of Soviet Occupation in Kyiv, the Russian MFA complained that Ukraine was attempting to "nationalize" the suffering experienced by all Soviet peoples in the 1932-1933 Famine. The head of the Ukrainian MFA press service responded by advising his Russian col-

leagues that it was too late to discuss whether the Famine was "genocide," as Ukraine had already taken this step. "I would like to advise my Russian colleague," he offered, that they should "read historical books" and "on this basis reach a conclusion."

Russia's ambassador to Ukraine, Viktor Chernomyrdin, its Foreign Affairs Ministry, and media have all condemned Ukraine's designation of Stalinist crimes and the Famine as acts of genocide. The two sides have opposite views on Stalinism, and Russia – as the legal successor to the USSR – is also concerned about possible future demands for compensation. In late November Ukrainian nationalist parties sent an open letter to the president and Parliament demanding that Ukraine seek compensation from Russia through the European Court of Human Rights.

As the two countries move in separate directions, the individuals branded as traitors in tsarist, Soviet and post-communist Russia are increasingly becoming Ukraine's national heroes.

Sources: Ukrayinska Pravda, May 12, August 29, November 17, 20, 24; Kyiv Post, October 31, Novosti, March 15; president.gov.ua, mfa.gov.ua, mid.ru.

Quotable notes

"... Seventy-five years ago, in 1932-1933, the people of Ukraine – a country whose territory covers 30 percent of the world's most fertile black soils – became the victims of a terrible, inhuman crime: the Holodomor, which was artificially provoked by the totalitarian Communist regime of the then USSR.

"The Holodomor cost the lives of between 7 million and 10 million Ukrainian children, women, men, fathers, mothers, sons and daughters. Nobody is able to explain how so many people could die of hunger in the 20th century in Ukraine, a country where hunger was never registered throughout all of its millennium-long history. Nature itself is against hunger on this soil.

"The existing historical data clearly testify that the Holodomor was precisely directed by the totalitarian Communist regime of the then USSR against the Ukrainian nation. This criminal act was executed in two ways. First, by the confiscation of foodstuffs under the cover of carrying out of the grain procurement plan. Second, by forced police isolation of villages and regions. Such measures were not taken anywhere else in the then USSR. It was then that the notion of 'ghetto' had appeared – long before Hitler, Stalin had introduced the hunger ghettos in Ukraine and in Kuban, the neighboring district of Russia which at that time was inhabited mainly by Ukrainians.

"Simultaneously with the Holodomor, when millions were dying in Ukraine, the Soviet government was engaged in selling abroad large quantities of grain and other agricultural products and foodstuffs – mainly via Ukrainian sea ports. Plentiful proof of this practice is publicly available in the form of trade and other and government statistics. Also at that time, Ukrainian alcohol producing factories were busily using grain to make vodka for export.

"British PM Winston Churchill remembers in his memoirs that in 1942 he once asked Stalin how costly collectivization in the USSR had been. Stalin replied that it cost 10 million human lives and took 10 years, but, in his opinion, had been absolutely necessary. ...

"... the Holodomor was caused neither by drought, nor by 'miscalculations' in the economic policies of the Soviet authorities, nor by the drive for speedy industrialization of the USSR. The Ukrainian holocaust was a carefully designed, systematic Communist-fascist genocide. It was directed first of all at the destruction of the Ukrainian mentality, identity, culture and the Ukrainian ethnic community as a whole. The Holodomor's main motive was the policy of the totalitarian Stalinist regime aimed at the subjugation of the Ukrainian nation, which was striving for its own statehood.

"The truth is evident in the fact that in 1932-1933, of the entire USSR, it was only in Ukraine and in the areas inhabited by Ukrainians in the Kuban region of Russia that the authorities were undertaking police operations: the territories where the Holodomor was being organized were surrounded by military screens; people were not allowed to pass through them to save themselves from death by hunger. Entire regions of Ukraine as well as the border of the Ukrainian SSR itself, were sealed off. Military detachments prevented people from going to other regions of the USSR and from villages and towns – to the big Ukrainian cities. There are plentiful archival accounts of eyewitnesses. Nothing similar happened in the Povolzhie region of Russia, nor in any other region of the USSR. ..."

– Valentyn Adomaytis, ambassador of Ukraine to Australia and New Zealand, speaking in November on the occasion of the commemoration of the tragic events of the Holodomor, an act of genocide against Ukrainians committed in 1932-1933.

Rep. Hastings condemns beating of Belarusian youth activist in Miensk

RFE/RL Newswire

WASHINGTON – U.S. Representative Alcee Hastings (D- Fla.), chairman of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission), has condemned the beating of youth activist Zmitser Fedaruk, who was knocked unconscious during a clash with riot police following a demonstration in Miensk's central square ahead of the December 13-14 visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin, RFE/RL's Belarus Service reported on December 12.

Mr. Fedaruk, 19, was taken to the hospital, where he regained consciousness but was not able to talk or respond to questions. "The merciless beating of Fedaruk is both outrageous and tragic," Rep. Hastings said in a statement.

He noted that the previous week Mr. Fedaruk had addressed the Helsinki

Commission in Washington and talked about the threats opposition activists face in Belarus. Rep. Hastings said he not only supports Mr. Fedaruk's struggle for freedom, but also strongly condemns acts of violence against innocent people.

"Unfortunately, the intimidation and abuse by [Belarusian President Alyaksandr] Lukashenka's regime does not seem to be coming to an end anytime soon," he added.

Nearly 100 opposition activists gathered on December 12 in downtown Miensk to demonstrate against the possible threat to Belarus's independence represented by President Putin's visit. Protesters waved white-red-white flags – the official symbol of independent Belarus before Mr. Lukashenka became president in 1994 and banned the flag the following year – and shouted, "Long live Belarus" and "No to alliances with imperial Russia."

HURI symposium on Holodomor assesses past and future research

by Marika Whaley

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) hosted a symposium, “Breaking the Great Silence on Ukraine’s Terror-Famine: On the 75th Commemoration of the Famine and the 25th Anniversary of the HURI Famine Project,” on Saturday, November 30, and Sunday, December 1.

The purpose of the symposium was to assess what has been accomplished so far in studies of the Famine and to establish new directions of research. The symposium also served to recapitulate HURI’s leading role in studying the Famine.

The institute launched its first project on the Famine in 1982, which culminated in the publication of the seminal study by Robert Conquest, “The Harvest of Sorrow,” and in 2003 HURI hosted a conference whose papers were subsequently published in Volume 25, No. 3/4 of *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*.

In his opening remarks, HURI Director and Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology Michael Flier described the goals of the symposium and commented on the etymology of the Ukrainian word for the Famine, “Holodomor.” A compound combining the word for “famine” with a derivation from the verb “extinguish, exterminate,” the word seems to have been coined specifically to describe this particular event in Ukrainian history.

The first session, “Before and After the HURI Project: Putting Ukraine’s Terror-Famine in Its Historical Place,” was chaired by the institute’s associate director, Lubomyr Hajda. The session focused on how the silence on the Famine is finally breaking, and took a retrospective look at the original HURI Famine Project. The fruits of that initiative were considerable, including not only Dr. Conquest’s book, but also other publications, such as the catalogue of a 1984 exhibition organized at Widener Library, “Famine in the Soviet Union, 1932-1933,” compiled by Oksana Procyk, Leonid Heretz and James Mace, that displayed primary sources and photographs from the period. Dr. Mace and Dr. Heretz also undertook a project to gather oral accounts from eyewitnesses to the Famine. Also produced in the wake of the HURI Project was the 1985 book “Execution By Hunger: The Hidden Holocaust,” by Miron Dolot, which was funded by the Ukrainian Studies Fund and was the first memoir published by a survivor of the Holodomor.

The session’s first presenter was Hiroaki Kuromiya of Indiana University, who spoke about the products of the HURI project. Dr. Conquest’s book was the first scholarly work on the Famine and still serves as a vital source for the history of the period. Although there was debate and analysis on the Famine before the appearance of “The Harvest of Sorrow,” Dr. Conquest put the Holodomor firmly on the agenda, even when the absence of source material was hindering researchers.

The book also broke ground by arguing that the Famine was caused by human action, and should be considered an act of genocide by the Soviet government. Dr. Kuromiya noted. This latter position remains controversial even today. Nevertheless, in light of Dr. Conquest’s book, it became impossible for other historians to pass over the subject of the Famine as a part of Soviet history, whether their reaction to the book was positive or negative. Dr. Kuromiya said, “The most important contribution of Conquest ... was that it broke the silence of the academic community on the Great Famine. ... No one after him could ignore the fact that [it] took place.”

Next, Dr. Heretz of Bridgewater State College, Massachusetts, shared his personal

memories of HURI’s Famine Project, in which he was the youngest participant. “Clearly,” he argued, “this Famine Project was one of the greatest successes of the pre-1991 Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.” He also related how Dr. Mace was the key figure in the entire project, having been appointed on the recommendation of then Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History Roman Szporluk. “Some decisions prove to be fateful, and I think Mace’s decision is probably the most dramatic one in my experience of one career choice determining the entire remaining content and course of a person’s life. ... the project is inconceivable without him,” Dr. Heretz underscored.

The second session, “Sources Find Their Voice: Uncovering Documentation on Ukraine’s Terror-Famine,” was chaired by Serhii Plokhii, the current Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard, and examined the different types of resources on the Holodomor and their current state. The lack of source material during the Soviet period was a vexing problem for early researchers, and only after the fall of the Soviet Union have many archives become accessible.

The first speaker, Dr. Kuromiya, discussed the primary role of Soviet archives in facilitating research. Although essential in providing a view of the Famine from the highest level of government, the source documentation remains frustrating: even now there is a large quantity of material held in the archives that is still classified, and in the case of many papers, sensitive information has been whited out and the files photocopied so that the marked-out information is irretrievable.

On the other hand, Dr. Kuromiya continued, researchers can finally view papers from not only Stalin himself, but also his closest associates. Correspondence between Stalin and Lazar Kaganovich is especially valuable, and there are documents showing that they specifically discussed affairs in Ukraine and how to retain power over the region. All this material provides a firsthand look into what was happening while the Famine was taking place, although no specific document has been found that reveals a direct expression of Stalin’s intent to inflict the Famine upon Ukraine. Nevertheless, the speaker concluded, “In the end we may not find smoking guns. ... [But] even at this stage I think we can say something about the mechanism, about the thinking of Stalin that led to the Famine.”

The next speaker was Hennadii Boriak, deputy general director of the State Committee on Archives of Ukraine, who discussed the kinds of materials on the Famine held in Ukraine’s state archival system. Until the end of the 1980s no documents on the Holodomor were published at all. Before that, oral evidence, diplomatic archives, materials from journalists and sporadic photographs served as the only sources on the Famine. Since then, however, many types of documents have been declassified and some have been published, he noted.

Of the documents concerning the Famine in Ukraine, approximately 12 percent are from the highest level of Soviet government. A quarter are from the party or republic level, and provide crucial insight into the immediate causes and mechanisms of the man-made Famine. These were the most recent materials to be declassified in Ukraine, some being released only in 2006, and contain some of the most disturbing material, including Ministry of Internal Affairs investigations of alleged acts of cannibalism, Dr. Boriak related.

Finally, nearly half of all documents in existence were generated at the local level, including local party, city and village records. These provide the smallest level of detail and the most striking depictions of starvation and resistance to Soviet policy,

Dr. Boriak noted. Besides these most major categorizations, journalistic accounts and personal correspondence comprise the smallest part of the total.

Next, Roman Podkur of the Institute of History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, a Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellow at HURI, reported on sources from the archives of the Vinnytsia Oblast. His remarks, originally in Ukrainian, were translated into English and read by Volodymyr Dibrova of Harvard. He described how materials from the secret archives of the local party organs finally became open to scholars in 1991. These include a wide range of reports from local party secretaries to the Ukrainian and all-union party committees describing the current state of agriculture in the region, grain requisition, numerous facts of death from starvation and requests for food for the Famine-stricken population.

Also in the Vinnytsia archives are minutes of the party committees containing reports of meetings and conferences of the oblast government. There is voluminous official correspondence from district party officials to the central oblast authorities that describes the unfolding disaster and its overwhelming scale, including death tolls in specific villages and accounts of atrocities such as cannibalism and murder. All of these documents, Dr. Podkur stated, attest to the criminal policies of the Ukrainian Communist Party and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union that caused millions of deaths throughout Ukraine.

The final speaker, Dr. Heretz, spoke about the eyewitness accounts that are available for study. Until the opening of the archives, these were the only available sources; they comprise personal recollections in a journalistic format, longer, more literary treatments in the form of memoirs or novels, and interviews. Dr. Heretz explained that the HURI Famine Project specifically targeted oral histories of the Famine in light of the lack of other sources. At that time in the mid-1980s, with the Cold War still an indisputable fact of life, there was no expectation that any other source material would ever come to light.

Dr. Heretz pointed out that today the limit has nearly been reached for personal testimony because of the amount of time that has passed. On the other hand, the possibility of oral history still remains, by way of talking to the children and grandchildren of people who lived through the Famine. Thus, we have enough material to provide a vivid picture of the Holodomor, through both first-hand accounts as well as recollections of the consequences, he noted. The goal now is to produce a compilation of these accounts that maximizes their utility and effectiveness.

The final session of the symposium, “The Famine as a Historical Phenomenon: Directions of Future Research,” was a roundtable chaired by George Grabowicz, Dmytro Chyzhevskiy, Professor of Ukrainian Literature at Harvard. Participants included Drs. Boriak, Hajda, Heretz, Kuromiya, Plokhii and Szporluk, who discussed future directions for the study of the Holodomor. Among the most important avenues for future research are the digitization of all records from vital statistics registries in Ukraine; the creation of a new synthesis of information gleaned from the opening of the archives; and placing the Holodomor in the context of Ukrainian history and European history as a whole.

Following brief remarks from the panelists, discussion was opened up to the floor, and many provocative and contentious points were debated.

In sum, the symposium served both as a retrospective on Famine studies up until now, and a platform for future research. The Holodomor was a defining moment in Ukrainian history, and as Dr. Grabowicz argued, “without addressing that, and seeing the ravages of that event, we are not really addressing the Ukrainian experience in the 20th century.”

In addition to this symposium, HURI will host two other events in conjunction with the 75th anniversary of the Famine. In the fall of 2008 there will be an international conference on the Holodomor as a historical event in context, and also a performance of excerpts from an opera on the Holodomor by composer Virko Baley.

Ukrainian Canadian Congress launches commemorative campaign for Holodomor

WINNIPEG – As part of the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, during which millions of Ukrainians perished as a result of targeted policies of the Soviet government, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) has launched its Holodomor Commemorative Campaign to raise significant funds for the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and Holodomor awareness. The announcement of the campaign was made on December 14.

The UCC and the Ukrainian community across Canada, will encourage the government of Canada to establish a world-class Holodomor exhibit and create a permanent endowment to fund research and raise awareness of the Holodomor in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

“I am pleased to announce that Winnipeg-based business leader Leo Ledohowski has agreed to spearhead our national fund-raising campaign to allow the Ukrainian Canadian community to make a significant contribution to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. This will ensure that our community is involved in a significant fashion with this important national institution,” stated Paul Grod, national president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

Planning for the museum began in 2003. The Canadian Museum for Human Rights will be the first national museum outside the national capital region. Also envisioned is a national education program that will fund trips for tens of thousands of students from across Canada, as part of a more comprehensive human rights education program.

“The Ukrainian Canadian community has a story to tell, which we hope will be memorialized in the first museum in Canada to address issues of human and civil rights, as well as crimes against humanity,” said Mr. Ledohowski. “This campaign will embrace the bricks and mortar needs of the new museum, and will at the same time work towards creating a permanent endowment to fund research into Ukrainian human rights issues, especially historic research into the Holodomor.”

“This campaign is one of the significant ways that the Ukrainian Canadian community will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor,” said Sen. Raynell Andreychuk, honorary chair of the UCC’s National Holodomor Commemoration Committee.

The UCC is the national coordinating body for the organized Ukrainian Canadian community and represents the interests of the 1.2 million Canadians of Ukrainian descent.

Constitutional Court...

(Continued from page 1)

Distributors alleged B&H Distribution Co., the largest in Ukraine's distribution film market, is establishing a monopoly through its support of Ukrainian-language dubbing.

After the Cabinet decree, only B&H was able to pay for dubbing the Disney film "Cars" and "Pirates of the Caribbean - Dead Man's Chest."

"B&H Co. earned \$12.5 million last year, and that is why they can afford the dubbing," Ms. Smirnova said. "But small distributors can't. So we could have at least started with providing movies with Ukrainian-language subtitles."

Whereas subtitling requires only a scrolling text at the bottom and voiceovers involve actors and actresses speaking translated scripts above the original dialogue, dubbing demands the original dialogues be removed and replaced entirely with the

Ukrainian translation.

The only dubbing laboratory, at the Dovzhenko National Film Studio, can produce 100 copies at most, while the market needs several tens of thousands of copies a year, distributors said.

As a result, they ignored the January 2006 resolution and the law altogether - only 20 percent of 6,000 film copies in 2006 offered Ukrainian translations, reported Ukrayina Moloda, a daily newspaper published in Kyiv.

"There were several cases in which certain distribution companies dubbed one copy of a Russian-language film in Ukrainian, obtained its license to distribute, and afterwards simply placed it on a shelf and showed the film in theaters in its original language," Judge Stetsiuk said. Ukraine's "dubbing situation is developing along a post-colonial scenario," he added.

Hollywood film producers typically include dubbing costs in their budgets for foreign markets, Constitutional Court Judge Stetsiuk said afterwards. At the same time, governments tax the foreign films, the revenues of which are invested in their own nation's cinematography.

"Russian distributors take films, dub them, show them in Russian theaters and pay taxes to the state budget," he said. "And to make even more money, they release these Russian-language copies in the markets of Ukraine, Kazakhstan and other CIS countries."

Most of Ukraine's film distributors are ethnic Russians who are Ukrainian citizens, said Hanna Chmil, director of the state service for cinematography at the Ministry of Culture. They have been working with Russian film distributors ever since Ukrainian independence and haven't adjusted to Ukraine's changing market, she said.

None have made a public statement that they're willing to foot the \$50,000 cost for dubbing a single film into the Ukrainian language, she said.

Bohatyriova...

(Continued from page 1)

center, but was released without a trial within months.

"This is insurance against possible raids by (Yulia) Tymoshenko's government on Akhmetov's business," said Mr. Fesenko, board chairman of the Kyiv-based Penta Center for Applied Political Research.

It was Ms. Tymoshenko who led the drive in 2005 to re-privatize the colossal Kryvorizhstal steel mill out of the hands of Mr. Akhmetov, widely believed to have used his government connections to purchase it, along with Viktor Pinchuk, at a sharp discount from its market price.

In her political bloc's 2007 election campaign, Ms. Tymoshenko said she would review the industrial tycoon's August acquisition of a controlling stake in Dniiproenergo, Ukraine's largest electricity producer, which also occurred under suspicious conditions.

After her appointment, Mr. Kolesnikov expressed support for Ms. Bohatyriova, stating that her position won't have any relation to the opposition's activity in the Verkhovna Rada. "It's important to work where opportunities aren't dependent on politics," he told the Dielo daily newspaper.

The backroom agreement struck between him and Mr. Baloha brought to the surface the tension between the pragmatic faction of the PRU led by Mr. Akhmetov and Ms. Bohatyriova, and the ideological, Russian-oriented wing led by Mr. Yanukovich and

close associate Mykola Azarov, observers said.

The internal conflict had been the source of speculation and rumor among the Kyiv press corps and political observers for several years, but was never confirmed until this week.

"For the first time, their conflicts became exposed," Mr. Fesenko said. "Their politicians were taking back their statements in support of Bohatyriova, which shows there wasn't a systemic decision passed by the Party of the Regions. It was an unpleasant surprise for Yanukovich."

Serhii Leschenko, a reporter for the Ukrayinska Pravda website, wrote that Ms. Bohatyriova was discontented with her role within the PRU for several years.

Born in the Russian Federation and educated as a gynecologist in Kharkiv, Ms. Bohatyriova is a veteran of eastern Ukrainian politics, serving in the Verkhovna Rada in its first convocation in 1990. Her highest post until the NSDC appointment was that of health minister in 1999.


Although she led the PRU's parliamentary faction in the sixth convocation of the Verkhovna Rada, she was never tapped for a position within the Yanukovich government or as a Rada vice-chair.

"Bohatyriova's appointment as NSDC secretary practically makes her an alternative to Yanukovich for the entire opposition environment," Mr. Leschenko wrote on December 24. "And now it depends on Bohatyriova to what extent she's able to take advantage of the resource given to her by Yushchenko."

Kushnariov inquiry completed in Kharkiv

KYIV - The chief prosecutor of the Kharkiv region, Vasyl Synchuk, announced that the investigation into the death of Yevhen Kushnariov, chief ideologist of the Party of the Regions, has been completed. "All inquiry actions necessary to establish the truth have been done," he said. The investigation is ready to file suit against Dmytro Zavalnyi, one of participants in the hunting trip, during which Mr. Kushnariov was shot. According to Mr. Synchuk, Mr. Zavalnyi will be face charges of reckless homicide and illegally wearing and storing firearms. Mr. Kushnariov died on January 17 in a hospital in Iziium of a gunshot wound sustained during the hunting trip. (Ukrinform)

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Yulia at the helm

Yulia Tymoshenko returned to the post of the prime minister last week with a package of promises similar to the one she brought with President Viktor Yushchenko following the Orange Revolution. Corruption will be fought, evil-doers will be punished, and reforms are under way, she pledged.

Ms. Tymoshenko's image, both domestically and internationally, will hinge upon whether she's able to fulfill even a fraction of what she's proposed in her "Ukrainian Breakthrough" program and her bloc's parliamentary campaign. Reforms will have to be significant, affecting areas where Ukraine is especially hemorrhaging.

Ukraine's biggest problem, arguably, is its non-functioning court system. To this day, investors avoid Ukraine for fear a corrupt judge will not respect the law and basic property rights. In her "Ukrainian Breakthrough" program, Ms. Tymoshenko said building a judicial system will have to start from zero, "considering today it doesn't exist as it is." She proposes direct election of judges and dismissing those who are politically and financially dependent on the executive government. Judges' salaries must be raised, and free legal counsel must be available to the poor, the program recommends.

Another critical problem is low wages. It's to Ukraine's embarrassment that only Albania and Moldova offer lower wages in Europe. If Prime Minister Tymoshenko and Minister of the Economy Bohdan Danylyshyn, a lifelong academic, can raise real wages without causing inflation, they will accomplish a monumental task worthy of international recognition. The Tymoshenko team's 2008 budget, unveiled on December 26, calls for an \$11 a month increase in certain categories of minimum wages. Perhaps they can do better than that.

Higher social payments are good, but introducing judicial and financial reforms to enable Ukrainians to start their own businesses and engage in commerce legitimately would go much further toward improving people's lives. Among the Tymoshenko budget proposals' most hopeful items is the cancellation of perks, such as apartments and pensions, for national deputies. That's an excellent start.

Skeptics believe Ms. Tymoshenko is an empty shell. The theory is she got rich off her ties to Pavlo Lazarenko, a former prime minister and her erstwhile business partner, and used her pilfered wealth to catapult her political career. Her subsequent success, skeptics allege, is due to her mesmerizing, charismatic political rhetoric and dynamic television presence.

Supporters credit Ms. Tymoshenko with the sweeping reform of 2000 when she as vice-prime minister replaced Ukraine's primitive electricity barter system with cash payments, generating a windfall of government revenue that then Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko used to cover unpaid wages and pensions, skyrocketing his popularity. Ever since then, much of Mr. Yushchenko's political success was achieved at her expense, her supporters allege. (He's fired her twice now.)

To prove her skeptics wrong, Ms. Tymoshenko will have to offer tangible success. (President Yushchenko has already demonstrated he is either not interested, or utterly incapable, of reforming Ukraine's political, judicial and economic spheres.)

Approaching the 2010 presidential elections, Ukraine's pro-Western forces will need to present a candidate who has demonstrated the ability to integrate Ukraine into the West. If progress is made in 2008, Ms. Tymoshenko will deservedly get the credit. In the event that no progress is made, she not only gets the blame but could also lose her chance for the presidency.

Dec
31
2004

Turning the pages back...

Three years ago, on December 31, 2004, Viktor Yanukovich, who lost the re-run of the presidential election in Ukraine after substantiated claims of gross falsification, which resulted in the Orange Revolution, announced his resignation from his post as prime minister, but claimed that he would continue his legal fight

for the president's seat with the Central Election Commission (CEC) and the Supreme Court.

"There is no sense in my holding the post of prime minister. I have made a decision and I am formally submitting my resignation. In the current conditions I find it impossible to occupy any post in a government headed by these authorities," Mr. Yanukovich said in an address televised throughout the country on New Year's Eve.

Mr. Yanukovich was replaced by Mykola Azarov, who served as first vice-prime minister and finance minister under Mr. Yanukovich.

On December 1, 2004, the Parliament approved a resolution that expressed no confidence in Mr. Yanukovich and his Cabinet of Ministers. But Mr. Yanukovich refused to recognize the resolution by the Verkhovna Rada and said he would resign out of principle.

Vowing not to be chased from politics, Mr. Yanukovich said during his televised address, "I will remain in politics as an independent politician and a winner in the legitimate elections of November 21 [2004]. My team and I will act using only legal methods both on the political level and on the level of direct civil action."

"The election was honest and transparent, and we haven't received complaints about serious violations," CEC Chairman Yaroslav Davydovych said after the Supreme Court decision.

In earlier appeals to the Supreme Court, Mr. Yanukovich claimed that the CEC had permitted violations of the law, particularly of the rules on conducting pre-election propaganda, and on financing and holding mass public rallies ahead of the elections as well as on the day of voting. Mr. Yanukovich also claimed that the CEC had not performed actions required by law.

"The CEC did everything to look into Mr. Yanukovich's complaints according to the law," said Maryna Stavnychyk, the deputy chief of the 15-member CEC. The additional appeals to the CEC appear to be tactics used to buy Mr. Yanukovich time, she said.

Source: "Yanukovich resigns as PM, continues to appeal election," by Andrew Nynka, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, January 9, 2005.

CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER

Glory to God Who reigns!

A spiritual message to the beloved clergy and faithful entrusted to our spiritual care throughout the world, and to our brothers and sisters in the faith throughout Ukraine as we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Dearly beloved Brothers and Sisters:

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Once again the never-ending passage of time carries our thoughts back to the Holy Night of the Nativity of the Son of God – our Merciful Redeemer and Savior – Jesus Christ.

All the Earth and all mankind relive the holiest of this Nativity night. The thoughts of all follow the Bethlehem shepherds and the Wise Men from the East to Bethlehem and to the cave of Christ's Nativity. On this night the Bethlehem cave became the holiest place on earth. Holy thoughts, elevated feelings, prayers and hymns surround this cave – the birthplace of the Savior of the world. And the first hymn of the holy angels resounds over Bethlehem on the holy night of the Nativity of our Savior: "Glory to God in the highest, peace on Earth and good will among men" (Luke 2:14) is new and real – not old and dead. Our devout Ukrainian nation celebrates on this great feast singing its native carols, which have profound meaning and proclaim the Holy Truth.

The Lord born to us – the Messiah for all mankind – has brought this Divine Truth. As the Prince of Peace, He has given mankind the Law of Love. He gave birth to a great hope, a hope that the time will come when war will be abolished, offensiveness and hatred among men will disappear and mankind will follow the path of God to divine approval and eternal peace.

Observing the ever-changing world around us, we are awed by the fact that empires have come and gone, rulers and governments change with every passing day, dictators, despots and conquerors – each having his day – have passed on through the pages of history. In our

cities and villages, in our communities and in our families, we also see certain changes. Most certainly, we will continue to see changes and with them other problems. Where will we go to find peace and tranquility? To whom will we turn for peace, a sense of balance and for strength? It is to our Lord Jesus Christ that we must turn – the real Advisor. He waits for us to make room for Him in our hearts, to provide us with peace, joy, a sense of balance and abundance of life – all from His grace and mercy.

Of all that has come and gone, amongst the rapid daily changes, only one kingdom remains unchanged – this is the Kingdom which was initiated in the little land of Palestine, in the tiny city of Bethlehem. The King, Who was born in the cave, Who was laid in a manger, Who was rejected by mankind but became a sacrifice for them on the cross – He reigns. He reigns in Heaven at the right hand of the Father amongst His holy angels. He reigns in every heart, which opens itself to receive Him. He reigns in His Holy Church, which follows His Holy Gospel and casts aside all other authorities.

Our Heavenly Father has said of Him: "He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Most High...and of His Kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:32-33).

Our Savior, whose Nativity we celebrate, He is the "Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father" (Isaiah 9:6). Let us, therefore, come to Him, let us offer Him our meaningless lives and He will give us peace, direction and a goal for our life. Let us offer Him our weakness and He will give us strength. To overcome our sorrow, He will give us joy. Let us come to Him in our sinfulness, He will give us forgiveness and lead us to perfection. Glory to God Who reigns! God is with us!

Dearly beloved in Christ! We greet you on the occasion of the Great Nativity Feast. May it lift our souls to heavenly heights. May the New Year – 2008 – bring us all good health, prosperity, inner peace and joy in Jesus Christ.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

+ **Constantine**
Metropolitan, Ukrainian Orthodox
Church of the U.S.A. and in Diaspora

+ **John**
Metropolitan, Ukrainian Orthodox
Church of Canada

+ **Antony**
Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox
Church of the U.S.A.

+ **Vsevolod**
Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox
Church of the U.S.A.

+ **Ioan**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in
Diaspora – Australia and New Zealand
Eparchy

+ **Yurij**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of
Canada

+ **Jeremiah**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the
U.S.A. – Eparchy of South America

+ **Andrij**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in
Diaspora – Western Europe Eparchy



"Angel of Christmas" by Olha Fedoruk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

British Ukrainians and Holodomor

Dear Editor:

I am writing about a peaceful campaign which has been launched by British Ukrainians in order to persuade the United Kingdom to recognize the Holodomor as a genocide.

We realize that this episode is difficult for the United Kingdom to acknowledge because it does not want to antagonize the Russian government. However, we must stress that we have no grievance against the present Russian administration or the Russian nation.

Indeed, we acknowledge that Russians suffered under the Stalin regime.

However, our aim is to open a dialogue with the government of the United Kingdom based on a full and complete consideration of the facts that are currently available.

The recently revealed correspondence between Joseph Stalin and Lazar Kaganovich shows that a series of actions were planned in order to inflict famine conditions on culturally Ukrainian areas of the Russian Federation and Ukraine. This would appear to bring the Holodomor within the terms of the 1948 Convention which states that genocide is "any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such [including] deliberately inflicting

on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part."

We are asking the United Kingdom to consider the material available and – unless U.K. leaders have any substantial reason to question the validity of the Stalin-Kaganovich correspondence and other documents recently revealed by the Security Service of Ukraine – to declare the Holodomor a genocide. The use of Internal Affairs Ministry forces to seal Ukraine's borders and the instructions to remove seed stocks from some areas in Ukraine make it difficult for us to comprehend how the British government cannot acknowledge the apparent nature of this event.

We would like to ask Ukrainian Americans to help by peacefully lobbying the British government in order to change this cynical stance on the Holodomor.

A democratic and civilized state should not be afraid of dialogue, debate and acknowledging genocide. A powerful country like the United Kingdom should have the courage to resist a hostile reaction from Russia in the interests of both international justice and a true account of European history.

Please visit www.holodomor.org.uk for further information.

Steve Komarnyckyj
London

The letter-writer is editor of www.holodomor.org.uk.

People of Ukraine have their voice

Dear Editor:

As a longtime observer of Ukrainian politics, I have learned not to take the pronouncements of Ukrainian politicians seriously. The latest case in point is that of former Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov. He is a close associate of President Viktor Yushchenko and the point man of the oligarchic cabal within Our Ukraine. Only a few weeks ago he was claiming in all the media outlets and swearing on the Bible that he would never, ever serve in Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's Cabinet of Ministers.

Now, reading the roster of the Tymoshenko Cabinet, I find his name prominently displayed there. He is the minister of defense, courtesy of President Yushchenko, being appointed on the presidential quota. A sworn enemy of Ms. Tymoshenko and without any background in military affairs, his only possible function in a new government is to sabotage its work. Such is the macabre state of Ukrainian politics.

Add to this the threat to the new government from the oligarchic cabals in

Ukraine (both in the east and the west) and Russian President Vladimir Putin's ruthless aggression against independence in the post-Soviet space and one sees that the road ahead for Prime Minister Tymoshenko will not be an easy one.

Yet, it is indeed time to pop the corks on champagne bottles and raise a toast to Yulia. She is the prime minister of Ukraine. After 16 years of criminal oligarchic rule in Ukraine, the people finally have a political leader at the helm of government of whom they can be proud.

Ms. Tymoshenko has a heavy crown to wear. And yet, I am optimistic about the future of Ukraine. The era of Communist apparatchiks who have metamorphosed into obscenely rich oligarchs during 16 years of their rule is coming to an end. And neither Leonid Kravchuk, Leonid Kuchma, Mr. Yekhanurov, Viktor Yanukovich nor Oleksander Moroz, to name a few members of the former Communist nomenklatura, nor Mr. Putin with his petro-dollars and reconstructed KGB will be able to change the course of history in Ukraine.

The people of Ukraine have found their voice in Ms. Tymoshenko and they alone will build their future.

Ihor Lysyj
Austin, Texas

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.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Overhaul of educational system in the former Soviet Union

by Christine Demkowych

Institutions of higher learning – one of the most conservative in preserving established traditions – are undergoing dramatic changes in Europe and the former Soviet Union. The transformation is part of an effort to create greater mobility for scholars and to develop a common ground with the international educational community.

But if teachers and administrators in the former USSR who are opposed to the changes have their way, corrupt enrollment and examination practices will continue, pedantic teaching methods will persist and research approaches will remain limited.

These educational reforms are linked to the Bologna declaration of 1999, when more than 45 countries in Europe and the former USSR agreed to revamp their higher educational systems in order to create convergence by 2010.

In the former Soviet Union, for example, ministries of education are introducing four-year baccalaureate degrees, while leaving their traditional fifth year academic certification program as an option for students. Some are taking steps to introduce one or two-year master's programs that are in alignment with higher education degrees in the United States, Canada and a growing number of countries in Western Europe. Many are also beginning to alter the number of credit hours required to complete course work during a given semester.

Instead of focusing on the traditional one-way transference of information through lectures, as had been part of accepted practice in the former Soviet Union, teachers are being encouraged to adopt multiple interactive methods of instruction and multiple assessment grading models into their curriculums. The idea is to have students spend more time on homework assignments and projects in an effort to enhance their overall learning experience through individual research.

If the remnants of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the giant of research institutions in the former USSR, are disbanded, all of academicians who received state support to conduct research will most likely be forced to take on positions at universities throughout the region where they will do both teaching and grant-generated research.

Unfortunately, these revisions are being met with great resistance. Teachers don't want to deal with the initial hassle and work involved with changing their syllabi. They don't want to grade more papers, essays, quizzes and exams, as they are currently underpaid and overworked. They believe that changing a system that, in their opinion, was working just fine is totally unnecessary and is simply a ploy for former CIS countries to gain acceptance into the European Union. Others say that having a student attend university for five years provides him with a more in-depth education. Who needs a capitalist-type education, many argue, when students from the for-

mer USSR leave school with more knowledge than their American counterparts?

While all change is difficult, these reforms have more long-term benefits than the initial burden of implementing them. From a teaching standpoint, introducing a more innovative approach into the classroom makes learning more fun and allows students to test their book knowledge through application rather than just regurgitating facts on an exam. While the traditional lecture-hall approach gives teachers more control over content and it allows administrators to make more money by packing in more than 100 students into one auditorium, as is still often the case in the United States, it does not encourage self-discovery for the student. This form of instruction imposes knowledge and frequently turns students off.

As John Dewey, the father of the constructivist teaching approach in the United States, put it, knowledge does not exist unless the learner interactively constructs it through experience. Even Lev Vygotsky, the Belarusian psychologist whose theories from the 1920s and 1930s continue to influence educators throughout the world, believed in the importance of placing the student at the center of learning.

If universities in the former USSR succeed in implementing the proposed reduction of the typical 60- to 65-contact-hour schedule teachers now have in the classroom and replace it with 45 hours during the typical 15-week semester, teachers will have more time to consider each student's abilities and create innovative assignments that help them excel in their learning. They will have more time to review the additional work that students produce.

Replacing the student assessment model that was based exclusively on one end-of-semester oral exam with multiple written evaluations will create greater accountability for the teacher and the student. If a student disagrees with a grade she can go back and review the test or exam with the professor since there is written proof of the material being contested. It will also help teachers prevent cheating or plagiarism on exams or papers.

On the research front, scholars working for state-run universities will have more freedom and the opportunity to obtain the best possible results for their academic research if they apply for grants and don't wait for government handouts. By obtaining grants from outside institutions they will not be at the mercy of political forces to produce research that aligns with old ideological philosophies that serve the goals of the state.

By introducing new research approaches into academic curricula, the next generation of teachers and researchers will have the knowledge and skills to utilize research approaches from both the West and the East, thus making their studies comprehensive.

And by exposing scholars to new approaches in pedagogy, teachers will be able to instill in their students new critical thinking skills. Ultimately all these changes will provide students and scholars with greater acceptance and access to the international academic community.

Christine Demkowych is U.S. project director of an Open Society Institute Higher Education Support Program that is training junior faculty from the CIS and Europe in media literacy, curriculum development and research as a tool for innovation in teaching. The program was held in Lviv this year.

BOOK REVIEW: Paskievich's images of Winnipeg's North End

"The North End: Photographs by John Paskievich," with an introduction by Stephen Osborne. Winnipeg: University of Manitoba Press, 2007. 160 pp.

by Fran Ponomarenko

Most Ukrainians who arrived in North America during the post-World War II years settled in the working class districts of large metropolitan cities. These were the only places where we could afford to live; often these areas were also relatively close to the factories that our parents worked in.

Certainly, I grew up in such an area of Montreal. I grew up around live chicken vendors, clothing factories and myriad small family-run shops that stretched along the length of St. Laurent Boulevard – shops that sold herrings, sour cabbage, sprats, rye bread with kimmel and cheap garments that were often factory seconds. I can call up images from that life in a flash.

John Paskievich, a well-known documentary filmmaker and photographer, has just published a collection of 160 black-and-white photographs of a section of Winnipeg called the North End, an area similar to the one that I knew in Montreal and one populated by immigrants and the working poor. Although I have only been to the North End once in my life, and that was in the depth of a Winnipeg winter, I can surely recognize the cast of figures that Mr. Paskievich has chosen to photograph.

Here we see a picture on the cover of a middle-aged woman smelling the milk she is about to buy to see if it is going sour – after all, money is scarce and she has to be cautious how she spends it. There are two photos of elderly women bending over to work the soil. Heads protected in the customary scarves, long loose skirts covering their legs, these spiritually strong old women remind me of the Ukrainian nation's love and respect for nature. These pictures are particular favorites of mine. There is one especially beautiful photograph of a tiny city garden lush with flowering plants and vegetables imposing grace and order in the midst of poverty.

Fran Ponomarenko teaches in the English department of Vanier College in Montreal.



John Paskievich

Natural Bakery at Logan Avenue and Arlington Street.

There is nothing romantic or nostalgic in these realistic photographs. There is nothing sentimental either. In most of the photos, the photographer seems to be quite a distance from the men and women in their various poses as they move about their daily activities, in their struggle to cope with economic challenges. Most of the pictures are outdoor shots.

The photos often convey a sense of the loneliness and solitariness of the condition these folks find themselves in as they try to make a life for themselves in the new world. Their dress habits are harbingers of another life that they had to leave behind due to the tragic circumstance of the war. In some faces there are looks of worry and consternation. Often, however, the people in Mr. Paskievich's photos accept their lot with humor and stoicism. Small joys are real, such as enjoying a cigarette, having a good chat, embracing a child, or clutching a fresh loaf of bread.

I wish that Mr. Paskievich and the

publisher had included more of these kinds of photographs – which I am sure he must have in his unpublished collection – for in and around the Main where I lived I too regularly saw modest grace and spectacular beauty.

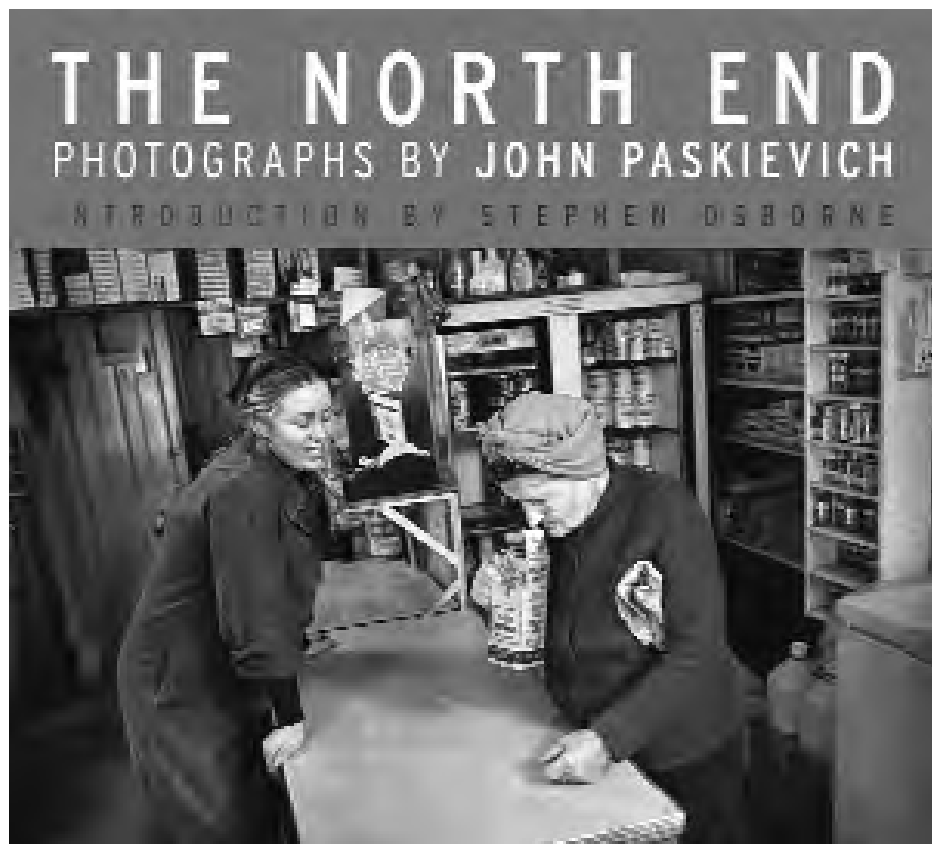
I saw that despite the strained circumstances the Ukrainian immigrants outdid themselves building large community halls, establishing Saturday schools,

organizing dance troupes, staging concerts, throwing weddings the likes of which I have not seen of late in Canada, and improving their dwellings as much as they were able to by sheer dint of labor – all this in the minuscule bits of free time they had after working long hours in menial jobs. These were heroic feats.

(Continued on page 9)



A street fair on Selkirk Avenue.



Ted Baryluk's Grocery at Euclid Avenue and Austin Street is seen on the cover of "The North End: Photographs by John Paskievich."

Paskievich's...

(Continued from page 8)

The Ukrainians of North End Winnipeg are largely gone – their highly educated children have now settled in the more opulent areas of Winnipeg. Now the area has become an aboriginal neighborhood. Mr. Paskievich has included some interesting photographs of this community too. There is one picture of a family, 10 members, all outside on the veranda of their very small house. The photo begs the viewer to imagine how they all live in such small quarters.

Although the spectrum of living conditions that is documented here is not complete, Mr. Paskievich has preserved some of the moments of this very specific time in the life of Ukrainians living in Winnipeg. In this sense these photographs are celebratory. I understand that he has thousands of negatives of this area. I do hope that he puts out yet another album.

These are highly professional photographs. The photographer uses a Leica camera exclusively – no digital camera. There is a very modern feel to these photos. "I don't have a political agenda with these pictures," says Mr. Paskievich, "I just want to bear witness to a time and a condition."



The Manitoba Museum at Main Street and Rupert Avenue.



Spring planting on Manitoba Avenue.



St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Disraeli Street at Euclid Avenue.

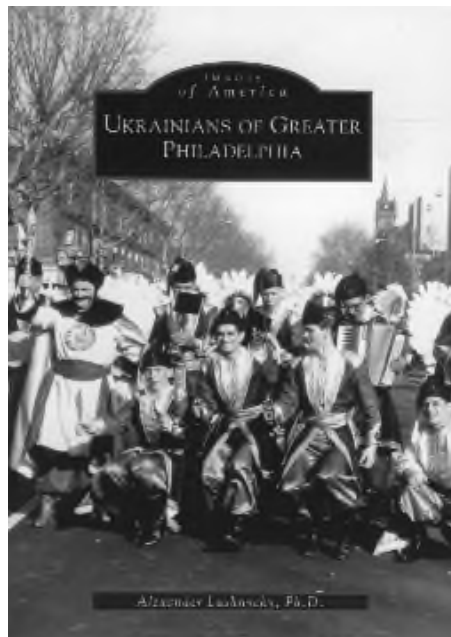
BOOK NOTES: Tracing the history of Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia

"Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia," by Alexander Lushnycky, Ph.D.: Arcadia Publishing, 2007. 128 pp, \$19.99, ISBN: 073855040X.

This book traces the history of various aspects of Ukrainian community life in the Geater Philadelphia area from the 1880s to 2005 through photographs. With the arrival of Ukrainian immigrants, the development of churches and parish life served as the link for many to their homeland, Ukraine.

The arrival of the Rev. John Wolansky and Bishop Soter Ortynsky, OSBM, would lay the foundation for all Ukrainian Catholics in the United States. Philadelphia is the historic metropolitan see for Ukrainian Catholics, and for a time, also for Ukrainian Orthodox under Archbishop Metropolitan Ioan Theodorovych.

Other organizations that aided the newly arrived Ukrainians immigrants included the Ukrainian National Association, Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics, Prosvita, Ukrainian American Citizens Association and the Ukrainian



League of Philadelphia. Later, women's auxiliaries, choirs,

dramatic groups, music and dance ensembles, and sports clubs began to emerge, as evidenced by the photographs in this handsome book.

Particularly interesting is the account of post-World War II immigrants, displaced persons (DPs), settling in with older immigrants in Philadelphia and the parallel Ukrainian communities that co-

existed during the 1950s.

Readers may obtain copies at bookstores nationwide, or by contacting the publisher by phone, 843-853-2070 or by e-mail, sales@arcadiapublishing.com. Due to regional publishing houses, readers are advised to contact the publisher to find a mailing address for a location that serves their area.

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The Ukrainian Family ensemble marks its 10th anniversary

by Sofia Mikhailenko
and Iryna Prokopiv

NEW YORK – Ten years have passed since the ensemble The Ukrainian Family was formed by a group of music lovers in 1997. Today this group, whose director during all these years has been Oksana Lykhovyd, a member of the Union of Composers of Ukraine, is well-known to the Ukrainian community of the metropolitan New York area.

Performances of this group of enthusiasts were held at many venues, among them in Astoria and Yonkers, N.Y., at the Soyuzivka and Verkhovyna estates, in Stamford, Conn., in Somerset, N.J., and in Philadelphia, at Ukrainian festivals, the Ukrainian Institute of America, the Consulate General of Ukraine, holiday celebrations of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America and even in front of New York City's Cooper Union, when the Ukrainian community stood up to protect the little street near St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church named after Taras Shevchenko.

For the working immigrants of the new wave that arrived in this area and their families, the establishment of this ensemble was a way of keeping in touch with Ukrainian song and preserving their national identity. It was akin to a club, the meetings of which warmed the hearts and souls of those living abroad and helped to educate their children in a new land while remembering their homeland.

The group was dubbed The Ukrainian Family, because entire families used to sing with it. For example, the founders and first members Lesya and Mikhaïlo Pradyvus with their children Halya and Andriy; Slava and Stepan Girnyak, Yaroslava and Igor Hrabatyn, and the Pavlishin family – mother Vira, father Igor and two little daughters, Natalochka and Nadiyka. A singer from Kyiv, Klavdia Kaninska with her daughter, the well-known vocalist Veronika, used to sing in the group, as did Nadiya Toderika with her daughter Yuliya. Three generations of one family participated in the group: Volodymyr and Maria Lykhach, together with their daughter Svitlana and granddaughter Khrystina. From the very formation of the ensemble, Stefania Lopukh was among its singers.

Some of The Ukrainian Family's amateur singers later joined the more professional choir Dumka. Talented children who grew up with The Ukrainian Famil, now perform as soloists but never forget their "alma mater."

There were many memorable events in the history of the group. Among them was a tourist trip to Niagara Falls, where the members of the group donned Ukrainian national costumes and sang to the accompaniment of a keyboard. Many songs were



A cake with sunflowers prepared on the occasion of The Ukrainian Family's 10th birthday, a gift from the Ukrainian Restaurant.

sung with the falls as a backdrop so that tourists from around the world would know that there is such a country as Ukraine, where hard-working and musical people are born.

Members of the group remember how they prepared a special program as a benefit for flood victims in the Zakarpattia region. The New York community still fondly recalls Christmas theatrical performances with "Malanka" and "The Goat." Also unforgettable are the spring holidays with the students of St. George Ukrainian School with the collaboration of Daria Genza, yearly patriotic concerts dedicated to the celebration of the independence of Ukraine, and warm, lyrical concerts for Mother's Day.

Not all the group's songs are sung by the entire group – there are also soloists and duos, and recently a nice trio, Troyanda, was formed. The repertoire is created collectively at times, as participants suggest the songs of their native regions. This explains the variety of The Ukrainian Family's songs; the ensemble now represents different areas of Ukraine – Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Mukachiv – and even Venezuela, where a veteran of the ensemble, Maria Polny, comes from.

The indefatigable Ms. Lykhovyd has been a "mother-in-art" to the group during all these years, performing the functions of impresario and director, preparing vocal arrangements, providing accompaniment, leading weekly rehearsals, developing voices, creating the plots of musical and literary programs, making decorations and writing new songs about the immigrants' fate – difficult but full of hope, love and inexhaustible optimism.



The finale of the concert, "Mnohaya Lita" to the Ukrainian community.



The Ukrainian Family's director, Oksana Lykhovyd, Honored Art Promoter of Ukraine.

The November 3 celebration of the group's 10th anniversary was like a reunion of old friends, united by song and nostalgic for the native land. A tremendous amount of preparatory work was done by 10 women, working daily to make this a real celebration for the community. Nadiya Khomenko and Nadiya Semtchuk decorated the scene with embroidery, sunflowers and poppies; Slava Herlyovska, Lyuba Tkatchuk, Iryna Prokopiv and Larisa Goulovich prepared treats and decorated the hall. Embroidery by Ms. Polny and

The Ukrainian Restaurant created a gorgeous and delicious birthday cake, decorated with sunflowers and the number 10.

During the two-part program the ensemble performed 16 songs. Together with the songs from its well-known repertoire, there were also new songs, including the beloved American song "God Bless America" in Ukrainian translation by Ms. Lykhovyd and "Byi, Baraban," a country-style American song, also in Ukrainian translation. As always, the Troyanda trio of Mmes. Goulovich, Melnik and Tkatchuk, as well



A touching meeting with old friends who reminisced about the group.

Anna Tkatchuk, and handmade goods by Ms. Lykhovyd were on exhibit. There was also a souvenir shop, where people could obtain a mug or a magnetic frame with the photos of the singers of The Ukrainian Family group, a T-shirt or a bag with the group's logo.

Honored guests who attended the anniversary celebration congratulated The Ukrainian Family on its first decade. Nadia Sawchuk read a greeting from the New York Regional Council of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America and from Iryna Kurowyckyj, the president of the UNWLA. Consul Natalya Kostenko of the Consulate General of the Ukraine also greeted the group. Lavrentia Turkevich, a well-known bandurist, singer and ethnographer, delivered a greeting from the UNWLA Branch 64 and Svitlana Makhno, who is a member of The Ukrainian Family, spoke on behalf of UNWLA Branch 127.

A soloist of the folk group Dyvotsvit, Ms. Kaninska of Kyiv, treated everybody to several songs, and Dr. Vasyl Lopukh of the Shevchenko Scientific Society shared his reminiscences. The whole Pavlishin family attended the celebration, and Nadiyka and Natalka beautifully performed two songs from their new recording. Khrystina Makhno demonstrated her advancement in the performing arts by singing two songs.

as the duo of Mmes. Goulovich and Melnik showcased their skills.

The guests also had a chance to enjoy the talent of Ms. Khomenko, who entertained the public with simple, but wise humorous stories by Paul Glazovsky. Igor Bahriy and Ms. Pradyvus emotionally recalled highlights of The Ukrainian Family's history and its members' biographies.

A representative of the Self-Reliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, Ms. Pradyvus, acting on the request of President Bohdan Kurchak, announced a generous donation of \$1,000 to help pay for the group's costumes.

Finally, all former and present members of The Ukrainian Family – nearly 60 people have gone through the ranks of the ensemble during the past 10 years – got together to sing. With great enthusiasm and high spirits they sang the Kozak march "Hey Tam na Hori Sich Ide."

At the conclusion of the program all the participants and guests received mementos from The Ukrainian Family, and members of the ensemble read the special certificate of honor issued to their leader, Ms. Lykhovyd, who recently was honored by the president of Ukraine with the title of Honored Art Promoter of Ukraine.

NOTES ON PEOPLE

Receives promotion in Public Health Service

CHICAGO – On October 20 Dr. Ulana Bodnar accepted a promotion to captain in the Public Health Service. The promotion ceremony was conducted by Rear Adm. Boris D. Lushniak, the assistant surgeon general, and attended by 50 family members and friends. It took place at the Ukrainian Cultural Center of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicago. Adm. Lushniak and Dr. Bodnar's father, Lev Bodnar, formally presented her with her new rank.

Dr. Bodnar obtained her medical degree from the University College, Galway Medical School, in Ireland in 1990. She then completed her residency in internal medicine at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill., in 1994. Afterwards she completed a fellowship

in infectious diseases at Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago. In 1996 she joined the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., in the Epidemic Intelligence Services.

She was commissioned as an officer in the Public Health Service and was promoted ahead of her peers for superior service and outstanding contributions in the field of infectious diseases. She manages the national HIV drug resistance surveillance program and works with five assigned state surveillance programs on HIV incidence. Most recently, Dr. Bodnar served as a medical officer in infectious diseases on a U.S. Navy hospital ship, the U.S.S. Comfort.

On the home front, Dr. Bodnar organized a local Ukrainian Congress Committee of America branch in Atlanta and joined the Ukrainian American Veterans 1st Lt. Ivan Shandor Post 35 in Palatine, Ill. She is a member of the local branch of the Ukrainian National Association in Park Ridge, Ill.



Ulana Bodnar is promoted to captain of the Public Health Service by Rear Adm. Boris Lushniak, who is assisted by her father, Lev Bodnar.

Gets Fulbright grant for work in Italy

AMHERST, Mass. – Anna Nagurney, a professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, has received a Fulbright grant to serve as a senior specialist in business administration at the University of Catania in Italy in March 2008.

Dr. Nagurney is the John F. Smith Memorial Professor of operations management at the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst and director of the Virtual Center for Supernetworks.

During her two weeks at the University of Catania, she will give graduate and undergraduate lectures, conduct a workshop and will also evaluate curricular and educational materials, including datasets. The theme of her project is "Complex Networks and Vulnerability Analysis: From Innovations in Theory to Education and Practice."

Prof. Nagurney will address a variety of applications, including congested urban and other transportation networks, electric power generation and distribution networks, supply chains, financial networks and the Internet.

Her expertise on the subject has been highlighted in publications, including articles and co-authored papers with her doctoral student, Patrick Qiang, in such journals as Europhysics Letters, the Journal of Global Optimization and Optimization Letters. Their joint research on the identification of the most important nodes and links in networks, subject to deteriorations or outright failures due to natural disasters, terrorist attacks, critical failures, etc., has been featured in such publications as WebWeek magazine, Science Daily, Network World and Computerworld.

The network efficiency measure developed by Prof. Nagurney and Mr. Qiang has been used to determine the importance and rankings of nodes and links in transportation networks, electric power supply chains, financial networks and the Internet. It has been shown to outperform earlier proposed measures in applications to the German highway system, as well as the well-known Braess paradox network. The research has implications for national security, as well as for the study of climate change effects on infrastructure network efficiency.

Prof. Nagurney's host at the University of Catania will be Prof. Patrizia Daniele,



Prof. Anna Nagurney

who is a center associate of the Virtual Center for Supernetworks at UMass Amherst.

Re-elected alderman in New Britain, Conn.

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Adam Platosz, secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 254, retained his seat as alderman for District 2 of New Britain, Conn., with 26 percent of the vote. Mr. Platosz, a Democrat, was appointed to the Mayor's Common Council consolidated subcommittee and serves as liaison to the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Platosz's biggest issue is trying to cut energy costs. The city and Board of Education spent \$3.8 million on energy in fiscal 2007, he told the New Britain

Herald, and he sees a possible savings of \$608,939 in this fiscal year.

"The council passed it, but the mayor never signed it," said Mr. Platosz, who previously served as alderman from 1989 to 1993.

A retired data processing technician and computer operator, Mr. Platosz was born in Ukraine but came to New Britain in 1965. "I am right off the boat. But half of New Britain is related to me," he said.

Mr. Platosz is also a member of New Britain Elks Lodge 957 and the 8th Ward political club on East Street and helps organize the Ukrainian Harvest Festival held at St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

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



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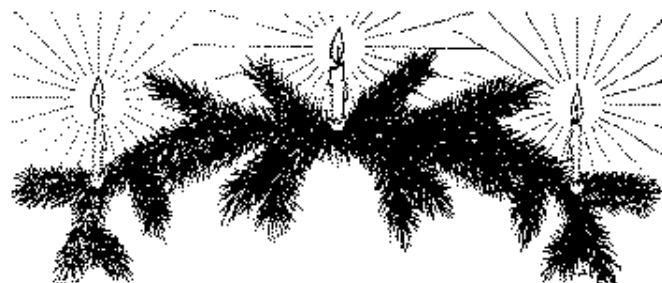
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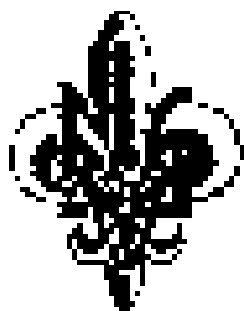
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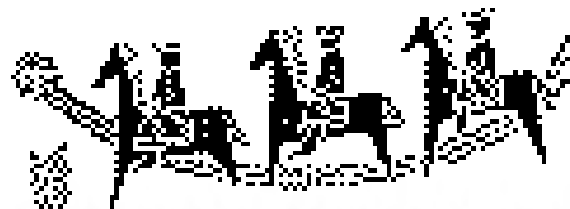
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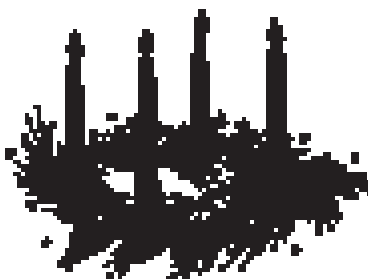
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Tymoshenko's Cabinet...

(Continued from page 2)

Tymoshenko Cabinet and promised to set up a shadow Cabinet to "watch the government." He predicted that the numerical weakness of the OU-PSD/YTB coalition would not allow it to exist for long.

Mr. Yanukovych also said that Ms. Tymoshenko's election promises were too unrealistic to be fulfilled. He probably meant the promises to reimburse Ukrainians for the multi-billion dollars in savings lost in the Soviet Savings Bank within two years and to cancel military conscription from 2008. Many people in OU-PSD, including Messrs. Yekhanurov, Lutsenko and Yushchenko, also doubt this is possible.

Subsequent votes of the coalition may not be as unanimous as for Ms. Tymoshenko and her Cabinet. One of the OU-PSD leaders, former Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk, warned that OU-PSD might split. He complained of interference in the coalition's matters by the head of the Presidential Secretariat, Viktor Baloha. He said that a group of OU-PSD deputies were unhappy with the choice of Agricultural Policy Minister Yurii Melnyk, the only member of the Yanukovych Cabinet who will continue to serve under Ms. Tymoshenko. Mr. Tarasyuk hinted that the Melnyk candidacy was imposed by Mr. Baloha.

Sources: *Ukrayinska Pravda, Channel 5, Rada TV, UNIAN, December 18; Segodnya, December 19.*

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NEWSBRIEFS ...

(Continued from page 2)

Inter Channel TV that her government will fulfill all election pledges. "We do not surrender any of our pledges. We are fully responsible for each word, each election pledge," Ms. Tymoshenko said. She explained that the first government meeting on December 19 focused on the compensation within two years of depreciated deposits at the savings bank of the former Soviet Union – one of the leading slogans of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc during the election campaign. "We will find a solution," Ms. Tymoshenko said, adding that "every further day will be dedicated to the fulfillment of our obligations." The new prime minister also said she will not allow anyone "to ruin the unity of Ukraine's president, government and the democratic coalition in the Verkhovna Rada." (RFE/RL Newsline)

PRU sees 'purges' of civil servants

KYIV – The opposition Party of the Regions on December 20 issued a statement protesting what it described as "purges" among civil servants, UNIAN reported. "Hardly had the ink dried on the appointments of new ministers when the authorities began staff purges," the statement reads. The Party of the Regions believes that "professionals who conscientiously work in favor of Ukraine" are being sacked for political reasons. In particular, Viktor Yanukovich, leader of the Party of the Regions, accused the Internal Affairs Ministry of politically motivated sackings. Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko, who earlier promised not to introduce radical changes, said he will not tolerate 12 deputy ministers, adding that during his previous terms in office there were only six deputies. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko on visit to Georgia

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko, while on a working visit to Georgia, met with acting President Nino Burdzhadze of Georgia to discuss further development of Ukrainian-Georgian relations in the political and economic sectors, and the internal political situations in the two countries. The two leaders also discussed the snap presidential election that will take place in Georgia on January 5, 2008. Mr. Yushchenko also stressed that presidential candidate Mikheail Saakashvili is a decent candidate to proceed with the reforms he had launched. In turn, Ms. Burdzhadze said the elections will prove that Georgia is a democratic state. The acting president of Georgia also thanked President Yushchenko for his visit at this important moment. "The Georgian leadership senses the huge support of Viktor Yushchenko and the Ukrainian nation," she noted. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko meets with Saakashvili

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko met with Mikheail Saakashvili, former president and now candidate for the Georgian presidency, during his stay in Georgia. The two men discussed the development of bipartite relations and cooperation with NATO and the European Union, as well as the snap presidential election in Georgia. In this context, Mr. Yushchenko noted that the election should be free and democratic and expressed his belief that Georgia would confirm its reputation as a young and successful state. (Ukrinform)

Columbia recognizes Famine-Genocide

KYIV – The Embassy of Ukraine in Peru received a copy of the Resolution of the Chamber of Representatives of the Congress of the Republic of Colombia

recognizing the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people. The lower chamber of the Colombian Parliament condemned the genocide, as well as manifestations of totalitarianism and any other crimes against humanity in all forms. The resolution says that the 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine resulted from the policy of terror implemented by the totalitarian state. Colombia is the fourth Latin American country after Peru, Paraguay and Ecuador to recognize the Holodomor in Ukraine as genocide. (Ukrinform)

Chornobyl's liquidators remembered

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko took part in the December 14 ceremony of laying flowers before the monument to Chornobyl liquidators and the memorial hill honoring the heroes of Chornobyl, and observed a minute of silence in their memory. "Today Ukraine is paying tribute to the memory of the heroic rescuers who stood in the way of Chornobyl's nuclear calamity," the presidential press service quoted Mr. Yushchenko as saying. Ukraine proclaimed December 14, the day of completion of a shelter over the Chornobyl nuclear power plant's destroyed reactor No. 4, a day to honor Chornobyl liquidators. (Ukrinform)

Court rules in Rada's favor

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada can dismiss the prime minister, and the ministers of foreign affairs and defense, without the president's involvement, said a resolution of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine issued on December 14. The proceedings were initiated by the petition of 46 national deputies who sought an official interpretation of the provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine on the dismissal of government members. According to the Constitution, the foreign affairs and defense ministers are proposed by the president; however, the Constitution fails to set the procedure for their dismissal. In view of the conflict last year when the Parliament dismissed the foreign affairs minister without the president's consent, national deputies sought a ruling by the Constitutional Court. (Ukrinform)

Putin blasts U.S. in Time interview

NOVO-OGARYOVO, Russia – President Vladimir Putin told reporters from the U.S. newsweekly Time on December 12 in Novo-Ogaryovo that he considers U.S. President George W. Bush "a very reliable partner, a man of honor" with whom he has a "really good personal relationship," kremlin.ru reported on December 19. Mr. Putin stressed that he will leave office soon and has "no reason to give any compliments" he does not consider deserved. He declined to comment on the upcoming U.S. presidential race. He gave the interview in conjunction with the magazine's decision to name him "Person of the Year" for 2007. Most of the Russian president's remarks about the United States were critical and made in response to reporters' questions about alleged Russian shortcomings. Mr. Putin responded to criticisms of the development of Russian democracy during his administration by pointing to the confusion surrounding the 2000 U.S. presidential election and the Electoral College, which elects presidents in the United States. His tone with the reporters was often combative. Mr. Putin charged the United States is condescending toward those who want to be its friends because Washington wants only "vassals to command." Mr. Putin said of Russia: "We don't want to give orders to anybody. We don't want to be a superpower that dominates and imposes its decisions. But we want to have enough strength to defend our interests and to build good relations with our neighbors and main partners so

these partners are interested to see Russia develop and grow stronger." Mr. Putin charged that Washington seeks to belittle Moscow in order to intimidate it and influence its foreign and domestic policies. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Putin's tough words on NATO

NOVO-OGARYOVO, Russia – In speaking to Time reporters outside Moscow on December 12, Russian President Vladimir Putin was particularly tough in discussing NATO, kremlin.ru reported on December 19. The alliance has come in for heavy criticism by Mr. Putin and his subordinates, particularly since his landmark anti-U.S. speech in Munich on February 10. Mr. Putin asked Time reporters on December 12: "How can NATO combat terrorism effectively? Did NATO prevent the terrorists from carrying out their attack on September 11 [2001] and killing hundreds and thousands of Americans? Where was your NATO to thwart that threat and to protect America? Where was it? It wasn't there, it isn't there, and it can't be there, because such threats can be addressed only by improving trust between each other, by working daily with partners that are capa-

ble of thwarting such threats. And Russia is one such partner." Asked to explain his famous statement that the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 was "the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the century," President Putin replied: "I meant not the political aspect of the Soviet Union's break-up, but the humanitarian one," which left "25 million" ethnic Russians as foreigners in states ruled by others. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Peace Corps volunteers sworn in

KYIV – U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William B. Taylor Jr. swore in 76 volunteers of the Peace Corps, who will stay in Ukraine for two years to teach English in schools. The volunteers promised to strengthen friendship and respect among different nationalities. This is the 33rd group of Peace Corps volunteers since 1992, when Presidents Leonid Kravchuk and George Bush signed an agreement on sending the Peace Corps to Ukraine. The U.S. Peace Corps implements 70 programs around the globe. Over 2,000 volunteers have worked in Ukraine, teaching in 1,000 Ukrainian cities and towns. (Ukrinform)



It is with heartfelt and deep sorrow we share with our family, relatives, friends and community that on Sunday the 2nd of December, 2007, with The Lord's Will, predeceased by her husband ZENON, passed into eternity our dearest and beloved MOTHER and GRANDMOTHER

ISABEL OMECINSKYJ

born on the 16th of June, 1922, in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

Divine Liturgy and funeral services were held on Thursday the 6th of December, 2007, at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Epiphany, with interment at the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Rochester, New York.

Grief stricken survivors:

Sons	WOLODYMYR with wife MARIA and son MICHAEL ROMAN
Brother-in-law	OLEH with wife ULYANA and family
Nephew	WOLODYMYR with wife MARTA
Niece	IRENA ONUFRYK and family

as well other family members and relatives in the United States, Poland and Ukraine

Prayers and Eternal Memory!

Memorials respectfully directed to Children of Chornobyl or Harvard University – Department of Ukrainian Studies



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що в середу, 24-го жовтня 2007 р. відійшла у Вічність на 91-му році життя наша найдорожча

МАМА І БАБЦЯ

СВ. П.

ЗЕНОВІЯ БІЛАС

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися 29-го жовтня 2007 р. в українській католицькій церкві свв. ап. Петра і Павла в Коговс, Н. Й., а відтак на церковному цвинтарі в Вотерфорд, Н. Й. біля свого мужа Ярослава і внука Ігоря Пікаса.

Залишилися у смутку:

доньки	– РОКСОЛЯНА з чоловіком ГРИГОРИЄМ ПІКАСОМ
	– ІРИНА (ЛЮСЯ) з чоловіком КАРЛОМ ДЖАНСТОНОМ
внук	– РОМАН ПІКАС
	та ближча і дальша родина в Америці, Канаді, та Україні.

Вічна їй пам'ять!

Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF)
in conjunction with the
Ukrainian-American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ)

Present a benefit hockey event

New Jersey Devils Alumni

The Ukrainian Kozaks



vs.



Featuring
 Olympic and World Figure Skating Champion
Viktor Petrenko

Date: Saturday, January 19, 2008
Time: 2:00 pm
Place: Richard J. Codey Arena
 560 Northfield Avenue
 West Orange, NJ 07052

Highlights

- Meet and Greet Players and Viktor Petrenko
- Silent Auction - including Autographed Memorabilia
- NJ Devils Mascot Appearance

Proceeds to benefit CCRDF and UACCNJ

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 c/o CCRDF/UACCNJ
 60-C North Jefferson Road
 Whippany, NJ 07981

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 City: _____ State: _____
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SEATING SELECTION	QUANTITY	COST (EACH)	TOTAL
Gold Ticket* (Center ice assigned seats include meet & greet)		\$50.00	
Silver Ticket* (Assigned Seats)		\$25.00	
Bronze Ticket (General Admission)	Adult	\$20.00	
	Child (12 and under)	\$10.00	
GRAND TOTAL			

*Seating limited, please call (973) 590-8026 for availability.

Make checks payable to: UACCNJ

Reservations with payment must be received by January 7, 2008

All tickets nonrefundable

Columbia announces Ukrainian courses for spring

by Mark Andryczyk

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University will offer courses in Ukrainian history, language and political science during the Spring 2008 semester, as well as a new semester-long series on contemporary literature in Ukraine.

Two history courses will be taught by Prof. Frank Sysyn, the program's acting director and a visiting professor at Columbia.

An undergraduate course, "The History of Modern Ukraine," will concentrate on the evolution of Ukrainian identity, culture and political aspirations within the context of the states that ruled Ukrainian lands. It will include an overview of the diverse populations and non-Ukrainian cultures and political movements on these territories. This undergraduate course will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m.

A second course, "The Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Ukraine and Muscovy-Russia in the Early Modern Period," will examine the politics, societies and cultures of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the Kozak Hetmanate, and Muscovy-Imperial Russia in the 16th to 18th centuries. The course is primarily for graduate students. It will meet Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

Prof. Sysyn is the director of the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, and author of several studies of early modern and contemporary Ukraine.

"Ukrainian Foreign Policy: Russia, Europe and the U.S.," a new political science course, will be offered at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs. The course will provide historical perspec-

tives on Ukraine's foreign relations, examine the trajectory of its foreign policy since independence and focus on Ukraine's relations with its major partners. The curriculum is suitable for graduate and advanced undergraduate students. It will meet on Tuesdays at 11 a.m., and will be taught by a career diplomat, Ambassador Valery Kuchinsky, former permanent representative of Ukraine to the United Nations.

Three levels of Ukrainian language instruction will continue to be taught on Mondays and Wednesdays by Dr. Yuri Shevchuk, lecturer of Ukrainian language and culture at Columbia. These include: elementary (12:40 p.m.), intermediate (10:35 a.m.), and advanced (9:10 a.m.).

To bring contemporary Ukrainian culture to the university setting, as well as the general public, the spring 2008 semester will also feature a special series of lectures by leading literary figures in Ukraine, beginning with an evening with Kyiv writer Andrey Kurkov, renowned author of "Death and the Penguin" and "The President's Last Love." This event will take place at Columbia on January 22, 2008.

Author Larysa Denysenko and singer-songwriter-poet Taras Chubai will be featured later in the semester.

This new forum is co-sponsored by Columbia University's Harriman Institute and the Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C.

The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia is generously supported by donors to the Ukrainian Studies Fund. For more information about courses and events contact the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University at ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu or 212-854-4697.

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OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| January 11
New York | Ukrainian Christmas and New Year's Concert, featuring music by Cheres and Friends, The Wave Community Cultural Initiative, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | January 19
Leighton, PA | Ukrainian Christmas Eve Dinner, Ukrainian Homestead, 215-235-3709 |
| January 11
Scranton | Malanka dinner and dance, music by Fata Morgana, St. Vladimir Parish Center, 570-759-8697 or 570-563-2275 | January 19
Carteret, NJ | Malanka, St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Demetrius Community Center, 732-541-5452 |
| January 12
Mississauga, ON | Malanka, music by Vorony and Zahrava, Ukrainian Youth Association, Mississauga Convention Center, www.cym.org/ca/malanka/2008/index.asp | January 19
Jenkintown, PA | Malanka, featuring music by Hrim, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-870-3408 or 215-990-8146 |
| January 12
Hartford, CT | Malanka, featuring music by Halychany, Ukrainian National Home of Hartford Inc., 860-563-4072 | <p><i>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 mdubas@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.</i></p> | |
| January 19
Washington | Malanka, with music by Zolota Bulava, Ukrainian Association of Washington Metropolitan Area, Georgetown University, 301-854-2062 | | |
| January 19
West Orange, NJ | New Jersey Devils Alumni vs the Ukrainian Kozaks hockey fund-raiser, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey and the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund, Richard J. Codey Arena, 973-590-8026 | | |
| January 19
Chicago | Debutante Banquet and Ball, Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Ritz Carlton Hotel, 312-282-7017 or umanadeb2008@aol.com | | |

**Want to see
your name in print?**

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The Ukrainian Weekly in your community?**

We welcome submissions from all our Ukrainian communities, no matter where they are located. Let the rest of us know what you're up to in your corner of the Ukrainian diaspora!

Any questions? Call The Weekly, 973-292-9800, ext. 3049.



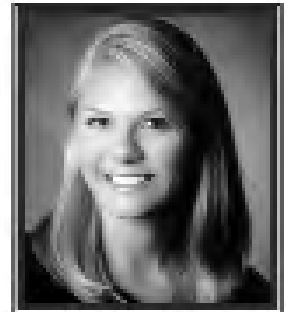
Alexandra Stepanchuk
Kansas City, Missouri



Maria Shandor Demchenko
Lake Forest, Illinois



Andriia Kazanowskyj
Orland Park, Illinois



Tamara Kopyckyj
Chicago, Illinois

*The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Inc. - Illinois Branch
Cordially invites you to attend the traditional*

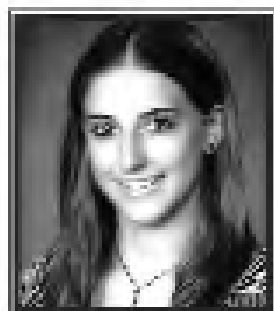
Banquet and Ball with the presentation of the 2008 Debutantes

*Saturday, January 19th, 2008 at the
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*Participation limited to
guests age 17 and older.*

*Only guests with a prepaid ticket
may view the Presentation of Debutantes.*

*For event and hotel
accommodation details please contact
Katia Hrynewycz at 312/282-7017
or email at UMANADeb2008@aol.com.*



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday-Monday, January 6-7, 2008

PARMA, Ohio: St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 5913 State Road, on the occasion of Christmas according to the Julian calendar, will sponsor its 20th annual Christmas radio program for its sick and shut-in parishioners. The entire divine liturgy will be broadcast live at 9-11 a.m. on Monday, January 7, on radio station WERE 1490 AM. The liturgy will be celebrated by the cathedral's clergy; responses will be sung by the Ukrainian and English choirs of the cathedral. Also, on Sunday, January 6, Christmas Eve, the Great Compline and Matins will be celebrated at 7 p.m. For those unable to prepare a Christmas Eve holy supper, the Ukrainian Orthodox League will hold a Sviata Vecheria at 5:30 p.m. in the parish cultural center. For information call the rectory, 440-885-1509.

Friday, January 11, 2008

NEW YORK: The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, Ukrainian Wave and The Ukrainian Museum present "A Ukrainian Christmas and New Year's Concert, with Cheres and Friends," at 7 p.m. at the museum, 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues). The acoustic folk group Cheres, led by Andriy Milavsky, joins the Holubka Dancers, New York's Promin Vocal Ensemble and New York Bandura Ensemble musicians performing Christmas songs (koliadky) and New Year carols (schedrivky), mountain tunes and the traditional "koza" or goat dance symbolizing winter's passage into spring. Tickets \$15 (discounts available). For reservations/information call 212-228-0110.

Saturday, January 12, 2008

HARTFORD Conn.: Please join us in a 55-year tradition: the Hartford Malanka - Ukrainian New Year's Eve dance at the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford, 961 Wethersfield Ave., starting at 9 p.m. The 2008 Malanka will feature the Halychany Band. Donation: adults, \$25; students (to age 22), \$15. Advance tickets and table reservations are available by calling the Cooperative SUMA Ukrainian Gift Shop at 860-296-6955.

Saturday, January 19, 2008

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Illinois Chapter, requests the honor of your company at the traditional banquet and ball with presentation of the 2008 debutantes in the Grand Ballroom at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Cocktails are at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Evening attire is required. Participation is limited to guests age 17 and over. Only guests with a prepaid ticket may view the presentation of debutantes. Tickets to the banquet and ball are \$150 per person; ball only, \$40 per person. All proceeds from this year's ball will be donated to the Foundation of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America. A special room rate of \$175 has been arranged for those interested in staying at the Ritz-Carlton during the UMANA debutante ball. In order to obtain the discounted rate, reservations must be made before January 1, 2008. Please refer to the "Ukrainian Medical Association" when making your reservations; telephone, 312-266-1000. For information call Katia Hrynewycz, 312-282-7017, or e-mail UMANADEB2008@aol.com.

CARTERET, N.J.: St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church are co-sponsoring a Malanka, which will be held at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681 Roosevelt Ave. Music will be by Fata Morgana. Tickets are \$50, which includes admission, choice of sirloin beef or stuffed capon dinner, open bar, midnight hors d'oeuvres and a champagne toast. (Outside liquor is prohibited.) The St. Demetrius Center is located just blocks from Exit 12 of the New Jersey Turnpike. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7 p.m.; music begins at 8:30 p.m. For tickets and table reservations call Peter Prociuk, 732-541-5452. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Deadline for tickets is January 14.

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association sincerely invites everyone to attend a fun-filled Malanka, a traditional Ukrainian dance welcoming the New Year, which will feature the popular "zabava" band Hrim from New England. The Malanka takes place at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, beginning at 9 p.m. Admission: adults, \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door; students and seniors, \$25. Admission includes delicious hot buffet. Champagne will be provided at midnight. For information and advance tickets call Ulana, 215-990-8146; Roman, 215-870-3408; or Stefko, 215-720-4629. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and have a good time.

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