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Human remains in Lviv confirmed to be those of 1947 famine victims

by **Larysa Marchuk***Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

LVIV – The remains of 500 victims of the 1947 famine and Soviet persecution found near the Pidzamche train station in Lviv were confirmed in December 2007 by the All-Ukrainian Organization Memorial.

Excavations reaching between 16 and 23 feet deep near the station unearthed the bones and skeletons of victims who fled the famine from the Bessarabia, Bukovyna, Podillia and Polissia regions.

"At the expense of the Lviv railway administration, 250 coffins have been prepared for the victims, with the same number remaining to be prepared," said Yevhen Hryniv, the assistant chair of Memorial.

The organization uncovered archives and historical documents, and interviewed witnesses who remember the arrival of close to 900,000 people in western Ukraine in the winter of 1946-1947, he said.

Among the witnesses was Mykola Dubas, a writer in Lviv who recalled seeing passenger trains and cargo wagons arriving from Kharkiv with people hanging on all sides, on the roofs and even riding underneath the cars.

Many of them died and "frozen corpses lay along the sides of the railroad," Mr. Dubas said. "There were many especially around the Krasne station near Lviv, because in that area, the bridge was very low and people who rode on the train's roof fell off there and died."

Snow had already begun falling during that particularly frigid winter. The 1947 famine was regional and emerged as a result of extraordinary tempos of collectivization.

As evidence pointing to the Soviet government's role in murdering the 500 victims, Mr. Hryniv referred to a report prepared by a Gen. Voronin, who led the Lviv NKVD (People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs) at the time.

People from Ukraine's oblasts to the east and Bessarabia filled the square of the Lviv passenger train station, the report stated. "Covered with lice and plagued with typhus, they are burning benches and fences," the report said. They were burning wood, presumably to keep warm.

"On the night of March 20, 1947, alone, more than 2,500 people gathered at the train station."

Local nationalists were giving them literature, something the government most feared, Mr. Hryniv said.

A February 1947 document obtained by Memorial described how NKVD forces received the order to "Clean

Train Stations and Surrounding Territories of Socially Declassified Elements."

With every passing day, the number of people grew and they began overwhelming the streets of Lviv, the report said.

Many froze to death, while several hundred were forced by the Soviets onto cargo wagons and sent to Kharkiv. The remainder were allowed onto the Pidzamche train station territory in order to clear the central station.

"I was familiar with people fleeing the famine in the Khmelnytskyi and Vinnytsia oblasts," Mr. Dubas said. "They tried not to remain in Lviv, where the NKVD hunted them, but immediately went to Halychyna villages and found work among proprietors."

It was only those who had enough strength who managed to find work.

"I remember how that winter a 14-year-old girl from the Vinnytsia Oblast pleaded for work," Ms. Dubas said. "I still remember her name, Hania Babych. She lived with us and helped with tending the farm, and we fed her."

Those who were too weak or ill filled the train stations and begged on the city streets, Mr. Hryniv said. The flood of hungry people was so large that officials couldn't handle it.

Death squadrons surrounded the Pidzamche station, forced the people onto the rail station's side facing the Vysoky Zamok (High Castle) hill and promised trains would arrive. Trapped by the NKVD and deprived of help, these people slowly died at the station from disease, cold and hunger, Mr. Hryniv said.

Searches and excavations of the famine victims' remains took two years, he said. The Lviv railway administration actively helped and supported Memorial's efforts.

In the process of identifying the human bones, a local prosecutor led a judicial-medical analysis and Lviv Medical Academy experts helped in determining there were 500 victims, among them 96 adolescents and children.

Bullet holes were present in 29 skulls. Among the items found were crosses, medallions and Soviet kopeks issued in 1945 and 1946.

Memorial has informed the Presidential Secretariat about its discovery and will hold a May requiem service to rebury the victims at Lviv's Lychakiv Cemetery.

Among the survivors was Ms. Babych, who returned home in the summer of 1947. "A year later, her parents visited us and brought a gift – a bag of dried apples," Mr. Dubas recalled.

Ukraine's president addresses the nation at the end of 2007 and beginning of 2008

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko delivered his customary New Year's address to the nation on January 1, speaking at St. Sophia Square, and in the waning days of 2007 held his annual press conference on national priorities.

Speaking on December 27, 2007, the president expressed his confidence that the democratic coalition and government would be able to work successfully. "I think we have a unique opportunity to present new, concerted and effective work of democratic forces during the next two years," he stated.

Mr. Yushchenko also addressed such issues as the appointment of local authorities, which he said must be done without politicizing such appointments; the moratorium on land sales, which he said should be lifted; pre-term local elections, which he said must be held in keeping with the law; and compensation for losses of Soviet-era savings, which he said should be made without harming 2008 budget indices or the economic stability of the country.



Official Website of the President of Ukraine

President Viktor Yushchenko during his press conference on national priorities, which was held on December 27, 2007.

The December 27, 2007, press conference was held at the Ukrainian Home in Kyiv.

On January 1 the president began his New Year's address to the nation by conveying "words of love, gratitude, support and respect to each of you."

He noted that 2007 was a difficult year:

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Congressional Ukrainian Caucus urges President Bush to visit Ukraine

by **Vera M. Andryczyk**

WASHINGTON – Following a meeting in Washington with representatives of the Ukrainian Federation of America, Congressman Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.) agreed to be the lead sponsor on a letter to President George W. Bush urging him to visit Ukraine either before or after the NATO Summit in Bucharest in April. Rep. Gerlach noted that President Bush had previously mentioned a possible visit to Ukraine prior to the last NATO Summit, which was held in Budapest in June 2007.

Congressman Gerlach approached other members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus to join him in signing the letter. Ukraine Caucus Co-Chairs Gerlach, Sander Levin (D-Mich.), Roscoe Bartlett (R-Md.) and Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) were joined by 16 other members of the caucus in urging the president to visit Kyiv as a sign of support for Ukraine's new pro-reform, Western-oriented government and its commitment to democracy, the rule of law and membership for Ukraine in both the European Union and NATO.

Other members of Congress who signed the letter to President Bush dated December 20, 2007, include: Tim Holden (D-Pa.), Maurice D. Hinchey (D-N.Y.), Steven R. Rothman (D-N.J.), Chris Smith (R-N.J.), Alcee L. Hastings (D-Fla.), Michael R. McNulty (D-N.Y.), Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-Fla.), Joe Knollenberg (R-Mich.), Thaddeus McCotter (R-Mich.), Allyson S. Schwartz (D-Pa.), Candice S. Miller (R-Mich.), Darrell Issa (R-Calif.), James R. Langevine (D-R.I.), Charles W. Dent (R-Pa.), Tom Davis (R-Va.) and Danny K. Davis (D-Ill.).

The letter stated in part: "As the NATO summit in April 2008 approaches, we respectfully ask that you consider making a visit to Ukraine as a sign of support for this newly elected, pro-reform, pro-West government and the Ukrainian people. Given that you have cited the Orange Revolution as an expansion of democracy abroad that the United States should support, your visit to Ukraine would underscore and reinforce the pro-democracy efforts in that Central European country and would further solidify the growing relationship between our two nations."

ANALYSIS

Yushchenko's choice of Bohatyriova leads to rumors about split in PRU

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has appointed Raisa Bohatyriova as secretary of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC). This came as a surprise for many, as Ms. Bohatyriova has been one of the leaders of the main opposition force, the Party of Regions (PRU), which is chaired by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

Her appointment has been interpreted as Mr. Yushchenko's first step to somehow integrate the PRU, or at least the pragmatic wing of it, into the government. But this also may be the beginning of a split in the PRU.

Mr. Yushchenko's offer of a job to Ms. Bohatyriova was an unpleasant surprise for Mr. Yanukovich. His intention has apparently been to shun the government formed by President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, positioning his party as a principled opposition force that does not want to share responsibility for a government in which the PRU does not participate.

On December 20-22, 2007, the PRU issued a series of strongly worded statements condemning "political persecution" and the "witch hunt" allegedly conducted by the new Cabinet against former government officials. The PRU condemned especially the recent dismissals of PRU-linked vice-ministers by the new minister of internal affairs, Yuri Lutsenko. On December 21, 2007, the PRU formed a "shadow Cabinet" with Mr. Yanukovich at the helm, consisting mostly of the ministers who served under him when he was prime minister. The declared goal of this team is to control the Tymoshenko Cabinet's activities and "tell society what is going on in the government," said Hanna Herman, one of the PRU's unofficial spokespeople.

On December 24, 2007, news agencies reported that Mr. Yushchenko had offered the position of NSDC secretary to Ms. Bohatyriova. She was No. 2 on the

PRU's list for the 2007 parliamentary election. She chaired the PRU caucus in the Verkhovna Rada before the election, and she has been the PRU's main candidate for the post of Parliament's vice-chair. Observers have also viewed Ms. Bohatyriova as the public face of the PRU's moderate wing, which is open to cooperation with President Yushchenko. It is widely believed that Ukraine's richest businessman, Rinat Akhmetov, commands this wing.

Mr. Yanukovich announced on the same day that Ms. Bohatyriova did not give her consent to the appointment. "We have decided to go into opposition, which rules out our participation in the government," he said. No comment, however, came from Ms. Bohatyriova herself. On December 25, 2007, the PRU's ruling body, the political council, advised Ms. Bohatyriova to reject Mr. Yushchenko's offer. She, however, accepted the offer by the end of the day.

The PRU hurried to deny rumors about an imminent split of the party into a business wing behind Ms. Bohatyriova and Mr. Akhmetov on one side and Mr. Yanukovich's conservatives on the other. *Segodnya*, a newspaper linked to Mr. Akhmetov, however, admitted that the PRU may split. Several prominent members of the PRU, including Borys Kolesnykov, a crony of Mr. Akhmetov, were quoted as saying that Ms. Bohatyriova's was a personal decision and that she should quit the PRU. Mr. Kolesnykov explained that Ms. Bohatyriova, as President Yushchenko's chief security adviser, would have to follow his pro-NATO line, which would be a conflict of interest, as the PRU does not support Ukraine's NATO integration.

Prime Minister Tymoshenko said she did not object to the president's choice of NSDC secretary. Some members of the pro-government camp, however, have been unhappy with it. Borys Tarasyuk, a former foreign affairs minister and cur-

(Continued on page 37)

President's plot versus PM is likely to backfire

by Taras Kuzio

Raisa Bohatyriova, leader of the 2006-2007 Party of the Regions parliamentary faction, was appointed by President Viktor Yushchenko as National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) secretary. The significance of this move is that, in effect, the president has created a grand coalition outside Parliament with the "constructive" wing of the Party of the Regions with the aim of splitting the party and using the NSDC to control the government of Yulia Tymoshenko.

The appointment will continue President Yushchenko's use of the NSDC as an alternative center of governance. In 2005, during the first Tymoshenko government, President Yushchenko appointed NSDC

Secretary Petro Poroshenko whose remit was to counterbalance the government.

The use of the NSDC to attack and counterbalance domestic competitors was begun under former President Leonid Kuchma. Following the first round of the 1999 elections, Mr. Kuchma co-opted opposition leader Yevhen Marchuk as NSDC secretary and used him against Vice Prime Minister Tymoshenko's reforms against energy corruption.

The Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Studies (known as the Razumkov Center) wrote that the NSDC is being used "toward strengthening the president's position in his stand-off with the coalition majority in Parliament and creating something like a 'mini-government' rather than toward more effective provision of foreign policy activity of the head of state."

In December 2007 the Constitutional Court began deliberations over 14 decrees issued by President Yushchenko on the NSDC. The national deputies who brought the complaint before the court argued that

(Continued on page 40)

NEWSBRIEFS

Coal mining industry to be audited

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on January 8 that she will order a comprehensive financial audit of the coal-mining industry's operations over the past five years, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. Ms. Tymoshenko instructed the Control and Audit Department, the Audit Chamber and the Coal Ministry to conduct the audit of operations between 2003 and 2007. The prime minister also pledged the assistance of the Procurator General's Office and the Security Service of Ukraine in conducting the audit. Ms. Tymoshenko said she has information that mining companies sold coal below market prices and bought equipment at inflated prices. "I want all abuses in the coal industry to be made public and to punish those responsible," she stated. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM cites "unprecedented inflation"

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on January 4 that "the former government has left an unprecedented inflation rate of 17 percent," RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. Ms. Tymoshenko instructed the Economy Ministry, the Finance Ministry, the Agriculture Ministry, the Fuel and Energy Ministry, the State Tax Administration and the Customs Service to work out "a precise plan of anti-inflation measures." Ms. Tymoshenko said that "the inflation processes should be immediately curbed" within the framework of requirements of Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Draft bill provides for compensation

KYIV – The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) has submitted to the Verkhovna Rada a draft bill providing for the compensation in the course of 2008-2009 of depreciated deposits at the savings bank of the former Soviet Union, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on January 4. Such compensation was among the YTB's top slogans during the election campaign. The draft proposes to pay Ukrainians up to 1,000 hrv (\$198 U.S.) in cash and to compensate the remaining part of depreciated deposits by various forms of property

(plots of land, shares in joint stock companies where the state's stake does not exceed 50 percent, houses and apartments), or using the deposits to repay housing and utility bills. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yulia: Naftohaz near bankruptcy

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on January 2 that Ukraine's gas-storage facilities are almost empty and the Ukrainian state oil and gas company, Naftohaz, is on the brink of bankruptcy, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported. Ms. Tymoshenko rejected claims that Naftohaz owns some 30 billion cubic meters of natural gas in its storage facilities. "What has been pumped there belongs to doubtful commercial structures," she said. The prime minister also said that a special investigative commission should be created to examine the financial standing of Naftohaz. Oleksii Ivchenko, who headed Naftohaz in 2005-2006, accused the former government of forcing Naftohaz to incur huge debts to Gazprom so that it would have to cede Ukraine's gas-transport system to the Russian monopoly. Mykhailo Chechetov of the Party of the Regions described such accusations as "an attempt to gain cheap political dividends at the beginning of the year." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko congratulates Saakashvili

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on January 7 congratulated Georgian presidential candidate Mikheil Saakashvili on holding a free, democratic and fair presidential election, UNIAN reported. "In Ukraine we are well aware of how important it is for all the responsible politicians to respect the democratic choice of their people," Ms. Tymoshenko told Mr. Saakashvili, who was believed at that point to have won the presidency in the first round. Mr. Saakashvili invited Ms. Tymoshenko to attend the inauguration ceremony, which will take place in Tbilisi on January 20. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Coin honors first government

KYIV – The jubilee coin "90th
(Continued on page 44)

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Kryivka, one of Lviv's newest restaurants, recreates UPA life

by Larysa Marchuk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

LVIV – It's not easy to find Kryivka, one of Lviv's newest restaurants.

Its name is the Ukrainian word for hiding place, or the secret spots where Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) soldiers hid from their enemies.

There's no sign. After crossing a common gate to an old Lviv stone building and proceeding down a barely lit corridor, you lean against the wooden door and knock.

The door window flies open, revealing a soldier in an UPA cap. For the door to open to the secret hall, the password must be uttered.

"Slava Ukraini!" (Glory to Ukraine!)

"Heroyam slava!" (Glory to the Heroes!), the guard responds. "A moskali ye?" (Are there Muscovites?)

"No" is the preferred, but not mandatory, response.

"Please enter," states the guard strapped with an automatic rifle, throwing the door wide open. "Do you have weapons?" he asks.

"No."

"Please help yourself," he offers, offering a thimble-sized metal cup of 30-proof hard liquor bearing the scent of the wormwood herb.

Descending on wooden stairs leads to a true kryivka.

Everything here is made from wood – walls, tables, chairs and benches.

Kryivka's interior is decorated with giant historical pictures of young, handsome UPA soldiers of years long ago, as well as copies of placards and fliers.

Boxes of artillery shells, old cartridges, Schpagin automatic rifles, Mauser pistols and Nagant revolvers adorn the shelves, as in a museum. The authentic weapons may be held and several shots may even be attempted using empty shells.

"We tried to re-create everything that was in the kryivky," said Yurii Nazaruk, the restaurant's creator.

To help, local residents contributed old UPA relics – pencils, pens, notebooks, clothes, weapons and dishes, Mr. Nazaruk said. Music plays in the restaurant, much of it from the Hutsulschyna region.

"That's how we created a living muse-

um of UPA soldiers," he said. "We want to convey to everyone that history needs to be perceived as it was and not be turned into politics or speculated upon. It simply needs to be known."

The wait staff undergoes mandatory training that includes an UPA history course, Halychyna cuisine and Halychyna etiquette.

Guests from the Russian Federation are particularly enthralled with Kryivka, as are foreign tourists, Mr. Nazaruk said.

The wait staff explains everything and suggests dishes, which are served on clay plates and in clay pots, metal pots and miniature chalices.

Forks, spoons and knives are brought in a folding kit like a scout would carry, and the bill is tucked in an old mortar shell.

Trusted clients are asked to complete an application in which they choose a nickname and are given a key, Mr. Nazaruk said, pointing out that the latest key is No. 492. No. 1 belongs to Lviv's mayor, Andrii Sadovyi.

The Ukrainian-language menu includes a considerable number of words and names from the local Halychyna dialect.

Not every visitor understands the names of the dishes, generating a sprightly interest. The wait staff is able to translate certain words and describe the dish's contents.

In cases when the names can't be translated, however, it's better to simply order the dish and taste it.

Selections from the Kryivka menu

Pershe Prychastia Heroia – The Hero's First Communion

Schaslyvyi Sotnyk – The Happy Captain

Polot Tupalieva – Tupaliev's Flight (stewed chicken wings)

Veheria Heroya Dyviziinyka – Division Hero's Dinner (pork)

Zmarnila Vtikha Partyzanky – Partisan's Wasted Delight (blackened kovbasa)

Dymily Karpaty – Smoked Carpathian cheese and beer assortment



Larysa Marchuk

A closer look at the decor of the Kryivka restaurant.



An inside view of Kryivka, a Lviv restaurant dedicated to the UPA.



A guard at the entrance to Kryivka.

2007: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Ukraine: turbulence and elections, again

Observers of the scene in Ukraine expected 2007 to be a turbulent year, and developments quickly fulfilled those expectations. Three political forces – the coalition government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, the Presidential Secretariat of President Viktor Yushchenko and the opposition led by Yulia Tymoshenko – were pulling in three different directions as the year began.

“We face a year of instability in political configurations,” predicted Oles Doniy, chair of the Kyiv-based Center for Political Values Research, who was quoted in *The Ukrainian Weekly* on January 21.

Ukraine was already mired in a political crisis when January rolled around, almost exclusively the result of an aggressive government usurpation campaign led by Mr. Yanukovich and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, according to many political observers. After President Yushchenko had invited both Mr. Yanukovich and Mr. Moroz to the Presidential Secretariat to begin the new year in cooperation, they responded two days later with a political maneuver that further exacerbated the crisis, bringing it to a near boiling point.

On January 12 the Parliament voted overwhelmingly – overriding a presidential veto – to pass the Cabinet of Ministers law that attempted to transfer to the prime minister and his Cabinet much of the president’s remaining authority, which had already been sharply reduced after the January 1, 2006, constitutional change that Mr. Yushchenko had agreed to during the Orange Revolution.

At their meeting, Mr. Yanukovich had agreed to work with the president in drafting the Cabinet of Ministers law. But he turned around and ordered his Party of the Regions (PRU) parliamentary faction to lead a second attempt to override the president’s veto on the law. Requiring 300 votes to do so, his Anti-Crisis Coalition recruited the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc faction to its cause, giving it a total of 366 votes. On January 18 President Yushchenko again vetoed the bill, but Mr. Moroz published the bill on February 2, thus taking the final step of making it official law. It was the first time in Ukraine’s 15-plus years of independence that a law was enacted without the president’s signature.

The temporary union of the Yanukovich and Tymoshenko forces surprised and outraged even some of Ukraine’s Orange electorate, but Ms. Tymoshenko was already two steps ahead of her competitors, maneuvering for the president to call for pre-term parliamentary elections. Her strategy consisted of pushing Mr. Yushchenko deeper into political desperation and to the brink of losing most of his authority, thus leaving him with no option other than to dismiss Parliament, observers said. Eventually, her strategy worked, but only because the coalition continued unrestrained on its path of government usurpation.

The Presidential Secretariat immediately filed complaints with Ukraine’s Constitutional Court, claiming the Cabinet of Ministers law was unconstitutional. By year’s end, the court had yet to make a ruling. If it is upheld, the Cabinet of Ministers law would largely reduce the Ukrainian presidency to a figurehead post. All the president’s decrees would require signatures by the prime minister and minister responsible for its execution. The president would also lose his ability to influence foreign policy by appointing the foreign affairs and defense ministers.

The Anti-Crisis Coalition’s usurpation campaign also targeted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After the Parliament voted to sack Borys Tarasyuk as foreign affairs minister in December, 2006, he refused to leave, citing support from the Presidential Secretariat. First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov decided to play hardball and cut financing to the Foreign Affairs Ministry in January. Then coalition ministers began blocking Mr. Tarasyuk from entering Cabinet meetings.

As a result of such tactics, the ministry’s bills weren’t getting paid, diplomats were missing their salaries and Mr. Tarasyuk was denied financing for overseas trips. He resigned on January 30, stating that he wasn’t capitulating but rather wishing to end a conflict. Mr. Tarasyuk left only after he realized the Presidential Secretariat would no longer support him, political experts said.

Within a week Mr. Yushchenko nominated as Mr. Tarasyuk’s replacement Volodymyr Ohryzko, a career



Verkhovna Rada Chair Oleksander Moroz, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich exchange smiles and handshakes after announcing their compromise agreement on pre-term parliamentary elections early in the morning on May 27.

diplomat serving as vice prime minister for foreign affairs who had foreign policy positions similar to those of Mr. Tarasyuk. Mr. Ohryzko’s candidacy was an attempt by Mr. Yushchenko to maintain his influence in Ukrainian foreign policy. But Mr. Ohryzko’s Ukrainian patriotism and commitment to North Atlantic Treaty Organization integration meant his candidacy was doomed to failure before the Russian-oriented Anti-Crisis Coalition.

The Rada rejected Mr. Ohryzko’s candidacy on February 22, and the president re-nominated him a week later, on February 28. After a deal supporting the Ohryzko candidacy was reportedly reached by the president, the prime minister and the Verkhovna Rada chairman, the Rada for some reason delayed voting on the nomination. The nomination was rejected yet again on March 20, after which Mr. Yushchenko nominated Arseniy Yatsenyuk, an independent politician with close ties to both the coalition government and the opposition, for the post. Mr. Yatsenyuk was overwhelmingly approved by Parliament on March 21.

Meanwhile, Ms. Tymoshenko kept the opposition vibrant and active, leading the Parliament to vote overwhelmingly on February 7 in support of a law to protect Ukraine’s natural gas transit system from the Russian Federation and its businessmen. Selling, renting or bartering management or ownership rights to foreign interests was declared forbidden according to the law, approved amidst concern that the Russian-oriented Anti-Crisis Coalition would allow Russian interests to control or influence Ukraine’s natural gas system, as in Belarus and Moldova. Ms. Tymoshenko’s opponents and critics said such restrictions were already written into Ukrainian law and her legislative initiative was a publicity ploy.

Weeks later, her opposition parliamentary faction wreaked havoc in the Verkhovna Rada, cutting electricity and blocking access to the electrical control unit in order to force First Vice-Chairman Adam Martyniuk to allow a vote on a bill forbidding utility price hikes. Such increases caused a winter wave of protests drawing tens of thousands of demonstrators throughout Ukrainian cities, most notably in Kyiv and Kharkiv.

Among Ms. Tymoshenko’s biggest accomplishments was securing a February 24 agreement with the Our Ukraine bloc to form the Opposition Union. The union served as a vehicle to unite the pro-Western forces and gain momentum in the drive to convince Mr. Yushchenko to call pre-term parliamentary elections within three months. The Opposition Union proved itself a success, and its agreement served as the basis for the Democratic Forces Coalition that emerged after the parliamentary elections of September.

As the spring season approached, the political crisis boiled further. Emboldened by a four-day visit to the U.S., Ms. Tymoshenko led the Opposition Union in abandoning Parliament on March 13, placing 17 demands and calling for a constitutional referendum eliminating the December 1 constitutional reforms that

created a parliamentary-presidential republic. That same evening the president met with more than 200 national deputies at the Presidential Secretariat, urging them not to cave into attempts by the coalition government to buy their votes in order to create a 300-vote constitutional majority in Parliament to override his vetoes.

While Mr. Yatsenyuk’s election had healed divisions within government, the other shift in the political landscape became the last straw for Mr. Yushchenko. Anatolii Kinakh, the president’s Orange Revolution ally and former secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, announced on March 21 that he was abandoning the opposition to become the economy minister in Mr. Yanukovich’s government. Not only was Mr. Kinakh’s move a moral defeat for Mr. Yushchenko, but it accelerated the landslide of national deputies abandoning the opposition to join the coalition government. Joining Mr. Kinakh were seven deputies of his Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs who had belonged to the Our Ukraine faction. Only Mykola Onischuk resisted, eventually being rewarded with the justice minister’s portfolio in the Democratic Forces Coalition.

Mr. Kinakh immediately became the opposition’s lead whipping boy, labeled a Judas for selling out his friends and drawing comparisons to Mr. Moroz. Mr. Yushchenko was particularly disheartened by the move, calling it “a shame of a moral type.”

At around the same time, the Procurator General’s Office led by Oleksander Medvedko decided to raid the personal residence of Yuri Lutsenko, the former internal affairs minister who had been sacked in December 2006 by the Yanukovich government.

Afterwards Mr. Lutsenko launched the People’s Self-Defense movement that held anti-government demonstrations and drew thousands of protesters throughout Ukraine. A planned demonstration in Kyiv anticipated up to 100,000 protesters. On March 19 the Procurator General charged Mr. Lutsenko with illegal distribution of firearms and abuse of power. The next day police raided Mr. Lutsenko’s apartment at 6:25 a.m., launching a morning drama that played itself out on national television. Opposition leaders accused the Yanukovich government of engaging in political persecution and returning Ukraine to authoritarianism. If that was the intention, the coalition government shot itself in the foot because the raid only served to enhance Mr. Lutsenko’s popularity, leading him to help launch the Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense political bloc.

In the midst of all this upheaval, the pro-presidential Our Ukraine People’s Union held its congress on March 30 and elected a new leader, Viacheslav Kyrylenko, in an attempt to refurbish its image. Mr. Yushchenko had led the party since it was formed in 2001, but he withdrew his candidacy for chairman. The nearly 1,500 delegates also declared their support for dismissal of the Rada and for pre-term elections, despite the likelihood that the Our Ukraine bloc would lose a significant number of seats.

On April 2 the president shocked his opponents when

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he signed a presidential decree to dismiss Parliament, arguing the parliamentary coalition was violating the Constitution of Ukraine when it attempted to form a constitutional majority by recruiting deputies to a coalition already established. The president's decree declared that the coalition government's attempt to form a constitutional majority by gradually recruiting individual deputies violated Article 83 of the Constitution. Only factions, not individuals, can form parliamentary coalitions, which must be based on agreed-upon political positions, the decree noted. These factions can emerge only as a direct result of elections, the decree stated, thereby discrediting an attempt by deputies dismissed from their respective factions to form a new faction called Independent Ukraine.

Three days after the president dismissed Parliament, the National Security and Defense Council on April 5 voted for pre-term parliamentary elections to be financed by the budget's reserve fund, which contained more than \$100 million. Leaders of more than a dozen of Ukraine's opposition political forces met with Mr. Yushchenko at the Presidential Secretariat that day to discuss the campaign for elections set for May 27.

The dismissal decree threw the Ukrainian government into chaos and a state of anarchy that lasted for nearly two months. Directly thwarting the president's authority, Mr. Moroz presided over an extraordinary parliamentary session the night of the decree, declaring the decree unconstitutional and a criminal act in violation of democratic norms. The coalition also dismissed the possibility of pre-term parliamentary elections, instead insisting that the Constitutional Court review and rule on the legitimacy of the April 2 decree.

Simultaneously, the Anti-Crisis Coalition began mobilizing hundreds of thousands of its supporters to hold protests at the main government buildings throughout central Kyiv during the next several weeks. Daily stipends for participation ranged between \$10 and \$30 per day (plus a \$30 Easter bonus), and Kyiv residents annoyed with the daily disruptions began derisively referring to the protesters as "maidan-arbeiters" (workers of the maidan). Thousands of them were high school students who received between \$8 and \$20 a day to skip school and attend the demonstrations during weekdays. Artem Herasymenko, an 18-year-old resident of Alchevsk in the Luhansk Oblast, told *The Weekly* that local Party of the Regions officials offered him \$24 to cut class and travel to Kyiv for a day, with transportation expenses covered.

Both the Presidential Secretariat and the Verkhovna Rada submitted appeals to Ukraine's Constitutional Court on April 3 seeking a review of the constitutionality of the April 2 decree, placing unprecedented pressure on its judges.

In its strategy to thwart the presidential decree, the coalition developed a strategy that relied heavily on obtaining a verdict from the Constitutional Court. The coalition was confident the court would rule in its favor, especially because a majority of the judges were known to favor the Party of the Regions. Another strategy was to insist on simultaneous presidential and parliamentary elections.

As the Constitutional Court appeared to draw closer to making a ruling, the protests there grew more intense. A circus-like scene erupted in front of the court on April 18 as opposition deputies sparked massive brawling as they tried to block Judge Suzanna Stanik from entering. Two days earlier, acting Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Chair Valentyn Nalyvaichenko had dropped a political bombshell when he told reporters the agency discovered a close relative of Ms. Stanik accumulated \$12 million in gifts during the past two years. The *Ukrayinska Pravda* news website reported that Ms. Stanik's 74-year-old grandmother received the gifts, which included land and residences in Kyiv and Yalta, a 5,380-square-foot office in central Kyiv and several foreign automobiles.

Procurator General Medvedko announced less than three hours after the SBU press conference that his office had reviewed the SBU's information regarding the multi-million-dollar property transfer and determined it was false. Nevertheless, the SBU's accusation, which wasn't based on any presented evidence, served to discredit the Constitutional Court in the court of public opinion.

Things got even more convoluted in Ukraine on April 26 when President Yushchenko issued a second decree that cancelled his first decree dismissing Parliament. He did so in order to re-dismiss the Parliament and re-set elections for June 24. In canceling the first decree Mr. Yushchenko prevented the Constitutional Court from ruling on its legality; a ruling in his opponents' favor had

been expected.

President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yanukovich agreed on May 4 to hold pre-term elections, but progress was slow on reaching a compromise on the date and necessary preparations. The battleground once again shifted to the Constitutional Court as three judges dismissed by President Yushchenko in early May took control of the court and decided to roll both presidential decrees dismissing Parliament into one case, intending to review it immediately. The court quickly issued a ruling that questioned the president's authority to dismiss top judges.

Mr. Yushchenko reacted by firing Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun (whom he had named a month earlier to replace Mr. Medvedko) on May 24, the day after the nation's top prosecutor upheld the right of the three dismissed judges to sit on the Constitutional Court. Mr. Piskun's dismissal provoked fights at the Procurator General's Office building between law enforcement authorities and government officials – the second incident of violence since the crisis began on April 2 and the first sign that the battling sides were willing to use armed forces at their disposal.

Ultimately, just as Internal Affairs Ministry troops were descending upon Kyiv on the orders of the president, his opponents on May 27 agreed to a compromise that calmed tensions and set parliamentary elections for September 30. The coalition forces led by Prime Minister Yanukovich did succeed in ratifying all laws passed during the previous two months when the Rada had convened in direct violation of the president's dismissal decrees. However, most saw the compromise as a victory for President Yushchenko.

But, controversy continued over whether the Verkhovna Rada was still in session, with the president saying it was dissolved and coalition leaders insisting it was still acting. The Yulia Tymoshenko and Our Ukraine blocs announced that their national deputies were voluntarily surrendering their mandates, thus making the Rada illegitimate, but Mr. Moroz maintained that not enough deputies had resigned to dissolve the Rada. Meanwhile, on June 5 the president signed a third decree on pre-term elections – this time setting the date for September 30.

Finally, Mr. Moroz, having lost the support of the Party of the Regions bloc, announced on June 19 that the current Rada's last session would be on June 27. And the campaign, albeit unofficial at this point, for the new Rada began.

On June 28 it was announced that the Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU) and Mr. Lutsenko's People's Self-Defense (PSD) had united into a single political bloc for the elections. At a signing ceremony for the Declaration of Uniting Democratic Forces, OUPU Chair Kyrilenko and PSD Chair Lutsenko said their forces would merge following the elections into one democratic party. Soon afterwards, on July 10, the leaders of 10 of Ukraine's national democratic parties signed a declaration to unite under the newly created Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc. These parties also said they would join a single democratic party after the parliamentary elections, but political observers immediately questioned the likelihood of that happening.

The parliamentary election campaign officially began on August 2, with all participating political forces churning out advertising and staging campaign events. The



Yulia Tymoshenko watches with concern during the December 11 Verkhovna Rada session at which she failed to be elected as prime minister by one vote.

Party of the Regions and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc held their congresses, respectively, on August 4 and August 5, while the Our Ukraine People's Self-Defense bloc organized a huge rock concert in Kyiv during its August 7 congress.

Then, on September 4, even though it had been disbanded, the Verkhovna Rada convened. Chairman Moroz said he wanted the Parliament to address the issue of stripping national deputies and senior government officials of their immunity from prosecution before the pre-term elections in September. President Yushchenko protested, calling the session illegitimate.

As expected, the Party of the Regions won the September 30 elections, with 34 percent of the vote. However, its share of the vote total was less than projected and not enough to form a coalition government on its own. In fact, the PRU couldn't even form a majority government with its traditional ally, the Communist Party of Ukraine, which received 5.38 percent.

Opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko demonstrated her political force is the fastest growing and most dynamic, securing the support of 31 percent of the electorate and gaining 27 more seats in the Parliament.

Our Ukraine came in a distant third with 14 percent. The only other party to clear the 3 percent threshold of the vote necessary to enter the Verkhovna Rada was the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc with 4 percent. Shut out was Mr. Moroz's Socialist Party.

After the elections, the most likely two coalitions to emerge were a Western-oriented tandem of the Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD), or a pro-business coalition between the Party of the Regions and OU-PSD. Advocates of the latter version included Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha, close presidential ally and former Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov and Ivan Pliusch, also a close advisor to Mr. Yushchenko.

To be sure, there were tensions and tense days before the shape of the new governing coalition was worked out. A draft of the Democratic Forces Coalition pact was presented on October 17, but uncertainty continued as to the coalition's creation and its viability. At the same time, the Party of the Regions employed stalling tactics to delay the new Rada's convocation. A working group preparing for the sixth convocation of the Verkhovna Rada on November 15 elected its leaders, Raisa Bohatyriova, chair, and Roman Zvarych, assistant chair, thus propelling the process.

Ultimately, the vast majority of OU-PSD indicated their strong preference to unite with the Tymoshenko Bloc, and on November 29 deputies of the two blocs provided 227 signatures on an agreement to form a coalition government.

On December 4 the newly formed Democratic Forces Coalition succeeded in electing Mr. Yatsenyuk, a prag-



Yulia Tymoshenko waves to onlookers in victory after the majority coalition in the Verkhovna Rada elected her prime minister on December 18.

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Victor Glasko

Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) veterans hold a rushnyk (ritual cloth) at the UPA's 65th anniversary commemorations in Kyiv on October 14.

matic centrist who previously had been the foreign affairs minister, as the new chairman of the Verkhovna Rada. He received all 227 votes of the coalition's national deputies. At age 33, he is Europe's youngest parliamentary speaker.

The vote for Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister did not go as smoothly. On December 11 she fell one vote short of being returned to the post she had held in 2005. A week later, on December 18, Ms. Tymoshenko was elected by the thinnest of margins – 226 votes out of 450 – as Ukraine's prime minister, placing a final period on the political crisis of 2007 and leading Ukraine into a hopeful new year with a pro-Western Cabinet that included, among others, Mr. Ohryzko as foreign affairs minister, Mr. Lutsenko as internal affairs minister, Viktor Pynzenyk as finance minister, Ivan Vakarchuk as education and science minister, and Mr. Onischuk as justice minister.

At year's end, Ms. Bohatyriova, a leader of the Party of the Regions, on December 26 accepted President Yushchenko's offer to serve as secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, a key position of influence. The nomination of Ms. Bohatyriova, known as a close ally of oligarch Rinat Akhmetov, was not supported, however, by certain others in the PRU – most notably Mr. Yanukovych. In fact, her decision to accept the position caused the first internal conflict within the PRU to spill over onto the public stage.

The year 2007 not only will be remembered for the government crisis in Kyiv, but also for both natural and man-made disasters that resulted in unprecedented death and environmental destruction.

The worst fatal mining accident in Ukrainian history struck the Zasiadko Mines of Donetsk, where 101 miners perished due to a methane gas explosion on November 18. Some 200 miners had died at those very same mines in the last eight years. Ukraine is known to have among the world's worst mine safety standards.

Earlier in the year, outside Lviv, 15 railway tankers transporting yellow phosphorus derailed on July 16. Six of the tankers ignited, expelling plumes that contaminated an area of 35 square miles. Some 800 residents of the Buskyi district just east of Lviv were evacuated; 145 were hospitalized.

In Dnipropetrovsk on October 13 a gas explosion destroyed an apartment house, resulting in the deaths of 23 persons. The cause of the explosion was believed to be defective equipment at the gas distribution station. A local court resolved on October 19 to arrest the director general of DniproGas and two of his deputies.

A fierce November 11 storm in the Kerch strait that links the Black and Azov seas caused at least 10 ships to sink or run aground, resulting in four oil tanker spills off the Crimean coast. There was enormous damage to the environment. The most damage was done by the Russian

tanker Volgoneft, which dumped 2,000 tons of fuel oil into the sea. Another Russian vessel, the Volnogorsk, spilled 2,600 tons of sulfur.

Other top headlines during the year included the following.

- Yevhen Kushnariov, 55, a top leader of the Party of the Regions, died on January 17, one day after he was apparently accidentally shot, several times, by a companion during an illegal hunting trip in Kharkiv Oblast. Mr. Kushnariov, a close associate of former President Leonid Kuchma, was most remembered for his calls for regional secession during the 2004 Orange Revolution.

- Yuriy A. Sergeyev was named Ukraine's new ambassador to the United Nations and presented his credentials to U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on May 15.

- The Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA) met at its 16th session in Kyiv on July 5-9. It was the first time the Parliamentary Assembly had met in Ukraine. The OSCE PA called upon its member-states to sign and immediately ratify the European Convention Against Human Trafficking. It avoided any position on Ukraine's turbulent politics, but it did call upon the Belarusian government to change its elections legislation, allow OSCE monitors into the country more often and adhere to democratic principles. As well, it called on Russia to cease using its energy supplies as levers of political pressure.



UNIAN/Mykola Lazarenko

Raisa Bohatyriova, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council.

- Ukraine marked the 10th anniversary of its Distinctive Partnership with NATO at a special meeting convened on July 9 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Present was Hennadii Udovenko, Ukraine's foreign affairs minister at the time the partnership was established, members of his NATO team, Borys Tarasyuk and Volodymyr Horbulin, as well as current Foreign Affairs Minister Yatsenyuk.

- The 100th anniversary of the birth of Roman Shukhevych, commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), was celebrated in Lviv in late June. Present were UPA veterans, political leaders, former Soviet dissidents and thousands of Lviv residents. President Yushchenko was noticeably absent, obviously avoiding the thorny issue of official recognition of the UPA.

- On September 2 thugs apparently hired by the Russian Orthodox radical group United Fatherland attacked Ukrainian patriots who were protesting against the unveiling in Odesa of a monument to Russian Empress Catherine II. Half of the 50 demonstrators were injured and five were hospitalized.

- The 11th Ukraine-European Union Summit was held in Kyiv on September 14, reaffirming "strong and sustained ties." President Yushchenko said he was pleased with the proceedings, noting that the two parties had successfully implemented their 2005-2008 Action Plan and made much progress in talks to sign a new agreement of enhanced cooperation.

- The State Statistics Committee of Ukraine published updated data about the population of Ukraine as of September 1. According to the data, there are 46,460,251 people residing in Ukraine, which is 265,000 people less than in 2006. Some 31.66 million people live in cities and 14.79 million in rural areas. The most populated areas are the Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk regions, with 4.55 million people and 3.40 million people, respectively. Nearly 2.72 million people live in Kyiv.

- On October 14 the anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army was marked for the first time ever as a national holiday in Ukraine. President Yushchenko, no longer hampered by upcoming elections, issued a decree authorizing local governments to plan events to commemorate the UPA's founding, provide benefits and awards to its veterans, and support educational campaigns about this military force that fought both the Soviets and the Nazis. Major 65th anniversary events were held in Kyiv and the president also took advantage of the anniversary to award the Hero of Ukraine title to UPA Gen. Shukhevych.

- Fourth Wave immigrants from Ukraine gathered in Kyiv on November 30 and December 1 for the first annual Economic Forum of the World's Ukrainians. The event was organized by the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council and Chetverta Khvyliya (Fourth Wave), an international organization of Ukrainian immigrants. "The intellectual potential of Ukrainians, which has colossal strength, is now being used for foreign countries," said Oleksander Shokalo of the forum's experts council. "That's why our forum's slogan – 'Ukrainians for Ukraine' – is aiming to reorient our people toward the interests of our country and society." More than 180 businesspeople and investors representing 22 countries participated in the forum.



Matthew Dubas

Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk, previously Ukraine's minister of foreign affairs.

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The 75th anniversary of the Holodomor

Holodomor – Ukrainian for death by forced starvation – was the word that came into widespread use in 2007 to denote the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

In 2007 Ukrainians around the world began marking the 75th anniversary of the Famine, engineered by the Soviet regime in Moscow to annihilate the peasantry as the backbone of the Ukrainian nation which took the lives of 7 million to 10 million innocent Ukrainians. Major commemorative marches, prayer services and conferences to launch the commemorative year took place in November. (The 75th anniversary commemorations will continue into 2008.)

On March 4 the International Holodomor Committee of the Ukrainian World Congress, or International Coordinating Committee as it is more commonly known, met in Toronto to lay the groundwork for commemorations worldwide. The committee, chaired by Stefan Romaniw, chairman of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations, includes representatives of Ukrainian communities around the globe and the Ukrainian government through Ukraine's Institute of National Memory and the Presidential Secretariat.

The goal of the committee is to ensure that the Holodomor is recognized by national governments and the United Nations as genocide of the Ukrainian people. The committee focuses on four areas of activity: legal issues, supervised by Judge Bohdan Futey of the United States; exhibits, Morgan Williams (U.S.); educational issues, Nadia Luciw (Canada); and public relations, Michael Sawkiw Jr. (U.S.).

In an interview with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America published in *The Ukrainian Weekly* on September 23, Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) President Askold Lozynskyj explained that the International Coordinating Committee's plans to mark the commemorative year include "parliamentary resolutions, including PACE [Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe], a U.N. resolution, a memorial complex in Kyiv, a monument in Washington, educational programs, exhibits, brochures, community activities and consideration of judicial proceedings' viability." He added that to date 11 countries – Australia, Argentina, Canada, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Lithuania, Peru, Poland, Spain and the United States – had passed resolutions on the Holodomor and that the UWC had distributed, through Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations, the documentary film "Harvest of Despair" to some 200 U.N. missions.

Also in March, President Viktor Yushchenko created a Holodomor Council in Ukraine with the goal of organizing events to mark the 75th anniversary. The council's membership includes national deputies, scholars, representatives of the public and members of the



Volodymyr Borodin

A young girl places a candle to form a cross at the November 24 commemoration of the Holodomor at St. Michael's Square in Kyiv.

UWC's International Coordinating Committee.

In an address to the council, the president outlined strategic goals to mark the anniversary: recognition of the Holodomor as genocide of the Ukrainian people by the European Union, the European Parliament and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; creation by the Institute of National Memory of a Nationwide Book of Memory listing the names of those who died of hunger and the towns and villages affected; registration by local governments of all documents related to the Holodomor; creation of a Holodomor Memorial Complex in Kyiv and erection of Holodomor monuments and memorials across the country; and implementation of Holodomor study in schools across Ukraine.

The ultimate goal of the council, Mr. Yushchenko said, is to make "Ukraine remember and the world recognize" the Holodomor.

In the United States, a National Committee to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933 began its work to mark the anniversary, launching the anniversary year with a March of Remembrance in New York City on November 17. The commemorations will culminate with the unveiling of a Genocide Memorial in Washington in the fall of 2008.

Members of the national committee represent com-

munity organizations across the United States, including the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukrainian National Association, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Ukrainian National Credit Union Association, Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Organization of Democratic Ukrainian Youth, Ukrainian Orthodox League, Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics, United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, Ukrainian Genocide Foundation, The Ukrainian Museum, Ukrainian Fraternal Association, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the United States, Ukrainian American Veterans, Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, Ukrainian American Bar Association, Society of Veterans of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), Ukrainian Institute of America, The Washington Group, Shevchenko Scientific Society, Ukrainian Patriarchal Society in the United States, The Trident Foundation, Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund, Brooklyn Ukrainian Group, Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine, Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America and the Ukrainian Human Rights Commission.

On April 11 President Yushchenko issued a statement calling on world leaders to recognize the Holodomor as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people: "As president of Ukraine, I am calling on you to support the adoption of a United Nations resolution to condemn Ukraine's Holodomor and [I am calling on] parliamentarians from all over the world to declare the Great Famine of 1932-1933 an act of genocide against the people of Ukraine." In his statement the president underscored that such recognition would play a role in preventing genocides in the future.

On May 30 the Congress of Deputies of Spain issued a statement honoring the memory of the victims of the Holodomor, becoming the 11th country to recognize the Holodomor as genocide. The text of the statement honors the millions of innocent victims of the tragedy; remembers the totalitarian brutality of the Stalin regime, which violated human rights and brought about millions of victims; condemns the disdain for human life and human rights which characterized totalitarian regimes – Stalin's and Hitler's; lends support to efforts on the part of the government of Ukraine for international recognition of the Ukrainian Famine; and stresses that an independent and democratic Ukraine is the best guarantor that a similar atrocity does not befall the Ukrainian people. In its conclusion the statement called on the government of Ukraine to deepen its cooperation with the European Union and neighboring countries, especially Russia.

On September 24 the Ukrainian World Congress sent a letter to the chairman of the German Bundestag requesting that the German Parliament pass a resolution condemning the Holodomor as an act of genocide



Volodymyr Borodin

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko addresses the November 24 commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the 1932-1933 Holodomor at St. Michael's Square in Kyiv.

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against the Ukrainian people and instructing the appropriate ministries to develop an educational program on the subject. The UWC letter was accompanied by a sample text of a resolution in the German language. Copies of the UWC correspondence were forwarded to representatives of all political parties constituting the Bundestag. Similar letters with sample texts were forwarded to France, Greece and Italy.

Ukrainian communities around the world set about gaining recognition for the Holodomor by introducing Holodomor curriculum in schools. In the United States, in Boston, a group of Ukrainians, including Holodomor survivor Anna Raniuk, Prof. Lubomyr Hajda, associate director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, and the Rev. Yaroslav Nalysnyk, gave a presentation on the Holodomor to history teachers attending the Northeast Regional Conference on the Social Studies on March 14. The Northeast Regional Conference includes the states of Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Massachusetts. The teachers were given copies of a section of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine report, a bibliography, and the Curriculum and Resource Guide for Educators prepared by Myron Kuropas and published by the Ukrainian National Association.

In Canada the League of Ukrainian Canadians in partnership with the League of Ukrainian Canadian Women prepared a Teacher Package on Ukrainian Famine Education and posted it on its website, www.lucorg.com. The package includes "The Great Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 as an Instrument of Soviet Nationalities Policy" by Anna Bolubash; "The Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 as Genocide in the Light of the U.N. Convention of 1948," by Roman Serbyn; and analyses, articles, documents and photographs.

Other awareness-raising tools created by Ukrainians worldwide include black Remembrance Wristbands created by the UCCA's New York City Branch; commemorative banners reading "Ukraine Remembers – the World Acknowledges. Holodomor. Ukrainian Famine – Act of Genocide 1932-1933" produced by the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations; a trailer for the documentary feature film "Holodomor: Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933" produced by Tomkiw Entertainment and Moksha Films in Hollywood, Calif.; the publication of "Famine in Ukraine 1932-1933: Genocide by Other Means," a collection of articles and documents edited by Taras Hunczak and Roman Serbyn and published by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York; and the publication of a new Ukrainian edition of "The Harvest of Sorrow" by Robert Conquest funded by Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Fund chaired by First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko.

The Ukrainian Human Rights Committee met with Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) and officials at the State Department in Washington to enlist support for the reprinting of the seminal report of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine. In 1986 the U.S. Congress mandated the formation of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, whose purpose was to conduct a study of the 1932-1933 Great Famine. Hundreds of Holodomor survivors testified before the commission. The full texts of these eyewitness accounts, some in English and some in Ukrainian, were published. The report also included historical scholarship on the Famine, diplomatic dispatches from consular offices, Soviet press sources and America's response. The Ukrainian Human Rights Committee is urging the U.S. government to cover the costs of reprinting the report and distributing it to all institutes of higher learning in Ukraine.

On December 14 the Ukrainian Canadian Congress launched its Holodomor Commemorative Campaign to raise funds to establish a world-class Holodomor exhibit and create a permanent endowment to fund research and raise awareness of the Holodomor at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights.

And, by year's end New Zealand became the first country in the world to have a postal stamp marking the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, due to the efforts of the Ukrainian Association of New Zealand (Northern Regions).

Holodomor scholarship received a substantial boost on August 27 when Acting Chair Valentyn Nalyvaichenko of the Security Service of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SBU) presented a collection of Soviet government documents confirming the planned and genocidal nature of the Holodomor called "Revealed Memory." Ukrainian leaders and

scholars lauded the publication of "Revealed Memory," not only as a landmark event in Holodomor scholarship but also in rebuilding Ukrainian consciousness and spirituality. Mr. Nalyvaichenko said the SBU would translate the collection and distribute it to foreign governments to assist in gaining recognition of the Holodomor as genocide.

On September 29 scholars from Columbia University, the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, City University of New York, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, Krytyka magazine and publishing house, and the Ukrainian Studies Fund met at the Shevchenko Scientific Society to coordinate plans to mark the 75th anniversary.

Numerous conferences on the Holodomor were held throughout the fall. On November 1 the University of Toronto held a conference titled "The Holodomor of 1932-1933: A 75th Anniversary Conference on the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide" sponsored by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine at the University of Toronto and the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center in cooperation with the Buduchnist Credit Union Foundation and the Toronto branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

On November 7 the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research held a conference on "Understanding Political Violence and Repression in Our Times. The Work of Robert Conquest" in Washington. The conference focused on the importance of Dr. Conquest's works on the Soviet and other Communist political systems in the world, including his groundbreaking book on the Famine, and was attended by the scholar himself.

On November 10 in Ukraine 250 Holodomor researchers gathered at the Ukrainian House in Kyiv to mark the 15th anniversary of the Holodomor Researchers Association in Ukraine.

On November 13 the University of Alberta in Edmonton held a seminar on the Holodomor sponsored by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

On November 23 The Taras Shevchenko Chernihiv Pedagogical University hosted an awards ceremony for creative projects on the Holodomor. The competition was held in conjunction with the fourth annual Innovative Projects in Education Competition, initiated by Prof. Orest Tsap of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. Submissions included research papers, records of eyewitness accounts, poetry, stories, one film and artwork.

On November 27 Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations and the Shevchenko Scientific Society held a conference on the Holodomor at the United Nations.

On November 30-December 1 the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute 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." The symposium assessed what had been accomplished so far in studies of the Holodomor, including HURI's first project on the Famine in 1982 which resulted in the publication of "The Harvest of Sorrow" by Dr. Robert Conquest, and to establish new directions of research.

Holodomor recognition gained momentum at the United Nations with an October 3 address delivered by Volodymyr Khandogiy, Ukraine's first vice-minister of foreign affairs, at the 62nd session of the General Assembly. Mr. Khandogiy called on the United Nations to "raise its voice and denounce the horrendous disaster that was purposefully inflicted upon the Ukrainian population in the early 1930s. ... A decision of the General Assembly to establish an International Day of Remembrance of Victims of Genocides could be a worthwhile and timely contribution to the attainment of that goal."

On November 1 the General Conference of UNESCO adopted a resolution on "Remembrance of Victims of the Great Famine (Holodomor) in Ukraine." The resolution expresses sympathy to the victims of the Holodomor in Ukraine and "the victims in Russia, Kazakhstan and in other parts of the former Soviet Union," welcomes Ukraine's efforts to organize commemorations on the occasion of the 75th anniversary, and calls on member-states to promote awareness of the Holodomor.

On November 2 President Yushchenko called for a moment of silence throughout Ukraine on November 24 at 4 p.m. to honor the memory of the victims of the Holodomor.

Then, on November 7, the President signed a bill on criminal responsibility for denying the Holodomor or the Holocaust in Ukraine.

On the eve of the November 24 commemorations to mark the 75th anniversary worldwide, Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement accusing President Yushchenko of speculating on the Holodomor for political gain. "We'd like to state that the theme of the 1930s famine in the Soviet Union, the victims of which were people from many nationalities, including Ukrainians, Russians, Kazakhs and other peoples of the USSR, is becoming yet a bigger subject for speculation on behalf of certain political circles in Ukraine," the November 19 statement read in part. President Yushchenko responded on November 20 by saying that the search for truth about the Holodomor is not directed against any other nation. "This is a matter related exclusively to our depths and values," he said.

On November 17 Ukrainians in the United States launched the commemorative year marking the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor by marching up Third Avenue in New York City from St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church on Seventh Street to St. Patrick's Cathedral on 61st. The march swelled to over 2,500 before reaching St. Patrick's, where an ecumenical prayer service was held to honor the memory of the victims.



Matthew Dubas

Hierarchs and clergy lead the March of Remembrance for the Holodomor of 1932-1933 from St. George Church to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York on November 17.

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On November 23 Ukrainians in England gathered at the statue of St. Volodymyr the Great in London's Holland Park to commemorate the 75th anniversary and call on the British government to acknowledge that the Holodomor was an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people. The group was addressed by Margaret Siroli Colley, whose uncle, the journalist Gareth Jones, publicized the Famine in Western newspapers before mysteriously being murdered in Inner Mongolia in 1935.

On November 24 an estimated 20,000 Ukrainians gathered at St. Michael's Square in Kyiv to light candles for the victims of the Holodomor and to launch the yearlong commemorations of the 75th anniversary. President Yushchenko and his family, Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Dmytro Tabachnyk, Kyiv Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi, Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, Yulia Tymoshenko, Minister of Foreign Affairs Arseniy Yatsenyuk, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor, Canadian Ambassador to Ukraine Abina Dann and U.S. businessman and Holodomor activist Morgan Williams participated in the ceremony. By night's end, over 30,000 candles covered St. Michael's Square.

Commemorative events in Kyiv also included the opening of the largest ever Holodomor exhibition at the Ukrainian Home, which included works by Ukrainian American artists from the personal collection of Mr. Williams.

Across the ocean at the Embassy of Ukraine on November 24, Ukrainians held a smaller candle-lighting ceremony attended by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs David J. Kramer. Speaking "on behalf of my colleagues in the U.S. government and in the U.S. Department of State," Mr. Kramer conveyed their heartfelt sorrow in commemorating the Holodomor and called on all never to forget what happened and its victims. "Let us also pledge to never allow it to happen again," he added.

On November 28 the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Canada Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship group and the Embassy of Ukraine held a commemorative ceremony on Parliament Hill in Ottawa attended by Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

There was much disappointment, however, as Mr. Harper fell short of calling the Holodomor a genocide. He did say, "rarely did dogma and dictatorship combine to more murderous effect than in the regime of the Communist tyrant Joseph Stalin. Tonight we remember and honor those Ukrainians who suffered horribly during his savage reign. The main instrument of Stalin's persecution of Ukrainians was collectivization."

Nor did U.S. President George W. Bush's statement, released in time for the solemn commemorations at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, refer to the Famine as genocide. The president's statement noted: "During 1932 and 1933, millions of Ukrainians died from starvation and persecution by the Soviet government. Denying the people of Ukraine the right to live and work in freedom, Stalin's totalitarian regime seized crops and farms across the country. As Ukrainian Americans and others around the world mark this anniversary, we recognize the strength and resilience shown by the people of Ukraine under such hardship and suffering. By recognizing this tragedy and honoring the victims who perished, we remember to never avert our eyes from the plight of those suffering under tyrannical regimes around the world."

U.S.-Ukraine relations: shadow of uncertainty

Relations between the United States and Ukraine evolved in 2007 in the shadow of the political uncertainty and constitutional crisis in Ukraine preceding the pre-term parliamentary elections there in late September. Bilateral ties were pursued in a few noteworthy visits by Ukrainian political figures and one high-level official visit, that of Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk to Washington in the springtime.

The past year saw the introduction of new U.S. assistance possibilities for Ukraine through the recently created Millennium Challenge Corp. On the other hand, however, it also brought cutbacks in airtime and funding for Ukrainian-language broadcasts of the Voice of America and Radio Liberty, and government funding



Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk converses on May 1 with a group of young professionals and students from Ukraine who came to see him lay flowers at the Shevchenko monument in Washington.

for democratization programs run by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

Indeed, the year 2007 began on such a negative note on January 6, when the Voice of America stopped airing its daily morning half-hour Ukrainian-language broadcast of news and current events. That "Breakfast Show" was reportedly the most popular of VOA's Ukrainian-language broadcasts. Its demise left the Ukrainian VOA radio audience with two 15-minute broadcasts in the early evening and a half-hour program at 11 p.m.

The cutback was a surprise — for both the VOA staff and its Ukrainian audience — since it was not part of planned VOA cuts announced earlier regarding the elimination of Russian, Serbian, Bosnian, Georgian and Albanian radio programs in 2007. Asked for the reasons behind the decision, a VOA spokesman said that it was made "in response to market forces demanding more television product from America's Voice." VOA produces two television programs in Ukrainian — the daily 15-minute "Chas-Time" news show and the Sunday 20-minute feature program "Window on America" — as well as an Internet website.

A month later, on February 5, the Broadcasting Board of Governors, which oversees U.S. international broadcasting operations, including those of VOA and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, announced its planned budget for fiscal year 2008, which called for reductions in Ukrainian broadcasts on RFE/RL as well.

The Washington Post criticized these cutbacks editorially as did The Ukrainian Weekly, which called on Congress to stop this "folly" and "save the Voice and Liberty."

As these cutbacks were being announced, the Millennium Challenge Corp. (MCC), a U.S. government-created entity, was extending to Ukraine a chance to receive U.S. assistance totaling more than \$500 million. Explaining the proposal in Kyiv, MCC's vice-president for operations, John Hewko, said that in order to qualify the Ukrainian government would have to propose a sustainable economic development program to improve its public sector on a national scale, be it in reviving its deteriorating medical system, dilapidated roads or other areas. These MCC funds are designed to reduce poverty through sustained economic growth. Mr. Hewko said Ukraine would have nine months to draft its proposal and present it to the MCC for review.

Ukraine's economic and business development was one of the major topics of discussion during a visit to Washington in early February by Anatolii Kinakh, a member of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada and former prime minister. In his meeting with members of the Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine (CSDU), Mr. Kinakh also discussed Ukraine's transition from a presidential-parliamentary to a parliamentary-presidential system, one of the issues that preoccupied Ukrainian politicians throughout the year. At the time Mr. Kinakh was a member of President Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine political bloc.

The CSDU is a successor organization to the Jackson-

Vanik Graduation Coalition, which was successful in getting Congress to free Ukraine from Soviet-era economic restrictions of the so-called Jackson-Vanik Amendment. The new organization strives to promote the partnership between the U.S. Congress and the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's integration into the Euro-Atlantic community, as well as democratic development, market reform and energy efficiency in Ukraine. During 2007 the CSDU also met with members of the Ukrainian Parliament's Ukraine-U.S. Caucus on April 27 to discuss the political situation and economic development in Ukraine, and the future of relations between the two countries. Present were three national deputies: Oksana Bilozir (Our Ukraine), Oleh Bilorus (Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc) and Leonid Kozhara (Party of the Regions).

Developing a partnership between the two countries' lawmakers has also been high on the agenda of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus (CUC), which marked its 10th anniversary in 2007. Since its founding through the efforts of the Ukrainian National Information Service, the Washington public affairs office of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the caucus has grown to include more than 40 members of Congress who are active in promoting a constructive U.S. policy toward Ukraine and bringing issues of importance to the Ukrainian American community before Congress, such as the repeal of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment and allocating federal land for a monument to the victims of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine in the 1930s.

Several members of the CUC now occupy positions of considerable influence in the House of Representatives: Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), the first woman speaker of the House; Louise McIntosh Slaughter (D-N.Y.), chair of the Rules Committee; Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs; Alcee Hastings (D-Fla.), chair of the Helsinki Commission; and Robert Wexler (D-Fla.), chair of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe.

The first major visit to Washington by a Ukrainian political figure was by Yulia Tymoshenko, the charismatic co-leader of the historic Orange Revolution who, after being ousted from her position as prime minister became the opposition leader calling for new elections and political reforms. Her four-day visit, on February 28-March 3 included meetings with Vice-President Dick Cheney, National Security Advisor Stephen Hadley, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, other senior members of the Bush administration, members of Congress, think-tanks, business representatives and the Ukrainian American community.

Following her meeting with Secretary Rice, a State Department spokesman said the two leaders discussed regional issues and the domestic political situation in Ukraine, its qualification for the Millennium Challenge Corp. grants and energy needs. He sidestepped questions about whether Washington supported Ms. Tymoshenko's call for new elections in Ukraine.

On Capitol Hill Ms. Tymoshenko met with Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) of the Senate Foreign Relations

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Committee and members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. She also addressed a large gathering at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, spoke with reporters at the National Press Club and had a meeting with former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who now heads the National Democratic Institute, an organization that supports democratization programs worldwide.

As expected, she was highly critical of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and his government, accusing him of not defending Ukraine's national interests, working to bring Ukraine back into the Russian-controlled Single Economic Space and buying off opposition national deputies in the Verkhovna Rada, among other things.

While in Washington, Ms. Tymoshenko was honored at the Conservative Political Action Conference, a meeting of the Republican Party's conservative base activists, in recognition "for her commitment to freedom and democracy in Ukraine."

Another notable Ukrainian politician to visit Washington came at the end of March, when National Deputy Ruslana Lyzhychko of President Yushchenko's Our Ukraine faction arrived. A singer by profession who won Eurovision 2004, she is also a UNICEF goodwill ambassador. In her address at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, she focused on the need to integrate Ukraine into the Euro-Atlantic community through memberships in NATO, the World Trade Organization and the European Union. While in Washington, Ms. Lyzhychko also had a meeting with the Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine, discussing with its members the political, economic and social issues confronting her country. During a return visit to the United States in late May and early June, Ms. Lyzhychko spoke at large Ukrainian American gatherings in New York City and Washington.

The only high government representative to make an official visit to Washington during 2007 was Foreign Affairs Minister Yatsenyuk. During his April 30 - May 1 visit, he had talks with Secretary of State Rice and other government officials, members of Congress, businessmen, representatives of Washington's think-tanks and other groups.

Meeting with representatives of the Ukrainian American community at the conclusion of his stay, he summarized Ukraine's internal political problems, including the political duel between President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yanukovich. "We have our internal problems. But every country has domestic problems," he explained. "And what is going on right now is part of a normal political process."

The president took a strong position on holding early parliamentary elections, and now he and the opposition will have to work it out. "That's how a democracy works," said Minister Yatsenyuk. He added that he thanks the United States for not getting involved in these internal Ukrainian affairs. "Ukrainian political problems should be resolved by Ukrainian politicians and not by the U.S. Congress or government."

The foreign affairs minister noted that during his meeting with Secretary Rice he presented her with his government's draft of an action plan for the "formalization" of the U.S.-Ukrainian bilateral relationship.

Asked during his meeting with Ukrainian American representatives about the possibility of opening a Ukrainian cultural center in Washington, Mr. Yatsenyuk said Ukraine was in the process of looking to buy an appropriate building or premise for such a center. He noted that on his first day here he looked at three possible sites. All were "somewhat overpriced," he added, expressing hope that a suitable building would be found and that the Verkhovna Rada would approve funds for the project.

Mr. Yatsenyuk would return to the United States in September for a meeting with Secretary of State Rice in Washington and for the opening of the United Nations General Assembly session. While in New York, he spoke at the Ukrainian Institute of America about the elections that would be held in Ukraine in less than a week, on September 30, and focused on other issues as well. He also used the occasion to present the president's Distinguished Service Awards to Ukrainian Catholic Bishop Basil Losten, Ukrainian Orthodox Archbishop Antony and Morgan Williams, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council. Oksana Lykhovyd, art producer of the Ukrayinska Rodyna singers, and Virlana Tkach, director of the Yara Arts Group, were named Merited Artists of Ukraine.

While no ministerial-level U.S. official came to Ukraine during 2007, there were visits at lower levels, among them: Lt. Gen. Henry Obering, the director of



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House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.), Holodomor survivor Eugenia Dallas, Sen. Benjamin Cardin (D-Md.) and Rep. Mike McIntyre (D-N.C.) visit the Famine-Genocide Memorial at St. Michael Square in Kyiv on July 6. The U.S. legislators were in Kyiv for the 16th annual session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, came to Kyiv in March to discuss with Ukrainian officials Washington's plan to deploy missile defense systems in neighboring Poland and the Czech Republic; and in July a Congressional delegation headed by Rep. Hastings, chairman of the Helsinki Commission, visited Ukraine for a series of meetings.

The Helsinki Commission – its official name is the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe – undertook a number of initiatives in connection with Ukraine's September 30 pre-term parliamentary elections. It deployed staff members as observers of the elections, sponsored a congressional resolution on the subject and held a post-election public briefing on its conduct and implications.

The International Election Observation Mission judged the election was conducted in line with international standards for democratic elections and in an open and competitive environment. Helsinki Commission staff members, who were among the 800 international observers acting under the auspices of the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), observed the balloting in the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast and Kyiv's Podil District. In general, it was determined that, despite some shortcomings in the quality of voter lists and delays in processing vote counts in a few districts, the voting was good or very good in 98 percent of the nearly 3,000 polling stations visited.

On October 5 Helsinki Commission Chairman Hastings and 12 other House members sponsored a resolution congratulating the Ukrainian people for holding free, fair, open and transparent parliamentary elections and expressing strong support for the efforts of the Ukrainian people to build upon the democratic gains of the Orange Revolution.

It should be noted that an earlier resolution introduced on April 17, also sponsored by Rep. Hastings, had expressed concern about the political crisis in Ukraine and urged all sides in Ukraine "to act responsibly and use dialogue to resolve the crisis and ensure a free and transparent democratic system in Ukraine based on the rule of law."

In related news, the U.S. Senate passed Sen. Joseph R. Biden's resolution urging Ukrainians to "preserve and extend" their hard-won democratic gains by holding free and fair parliamentary elections on September 30. The resolution passed two days before the date of the elections.

On October 25 the Helsinki Commission convened a public briefing on the election by Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Oleh Shamsur, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Miller and Stephen Nix of the International Republican Institute. The latter two had been present at the elections as international observers.

Ambassador Shamsur said that Ukraine had once again succeeded in avoiding most of the electoral pitfalls. Aside from minor deficiencies, he said, Ukraine had once again confirmed its democratic credentials.

Ambassador Miller, who observed as a member of the National Democratic Institute's international observation delegation, called the elections "relatively free and fair" and expressed the hope that the two democratic [Orange] coalition partners, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yushchenko, "will fulfill finally the promises they made" during the 2004 Orange Revolution.

Mr. Nix said that while the observers found that the elections "broadly met international standards," he nevertheless urged the Ukrainian Parliament and election officials to address the quality of the voter lists to ensure their accuracy for the next national election.

While the Ukrainian election issue was resolved on a positive note in U.S.-Ukraine relations as 2007 came to a close, another issue came to the fore that, even though it involves only American institutions, still, may affect bilateral ties.

As summer was ending there was troubling news coming out of Washington that the U.S. Agency for International Development had decided to stop funding the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. As pointed out in The Ukrainian Weekly editorial of September 16 reacting to the news, USUF is known here and in Ukraine as "one of the most effective non-governmental organizations helping transform Ukraine from a post-Soviet society into a democratic and transparent state governed by the rule of law."

In the early 1990s USUF was the first U.S. organization to provide hands-on technical assistance to fledgling democrats involved in local government and non-governmental institutions. Some of these democrats of newly independent Ukraine received on-the-job training in Ukraine; others were brought to the United States to learn from counterparts in this country.

The U.S. Senate's Appropriations Committee reported last year that it was aware of the work of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, and commended its work and directed USAID to continue to support the foundation's activities and increase its funding. The Appropriations Committee expressed similar sentiments.

The Weekly editorial urged the Congress to demand that its recommendations with regard to aid programs for Ukraine be followed and demanded that the Bush administration "back up its fine words regarding U.S.-Ukraine relations and democracy-building in general" with the funds required.

The Weekly's words were echoed and buttressed in an October 28 commentary written by Orest Dubno, former member of the board of directors of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (today known as the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund), who reported that the CCRDF, as well as other Ukrainian American organizations similarly had gotten "short shrift by USAID's strange funding practices."

Mr. Dubno wrote: "I can't say that I was entirely surprised to learn that the U.S. Agency for International Development plans to suspend funding for the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. Throughout 16 years of Ukrainian independence, USAID has been remarkably tight-fisted, if not discriminatory in its reluctance to provide funding for qualified Ukrainian community-based organizations. Its preference for the so-called 'Beltway bandits' – colorless and dispassionate behemoths that flaunt large staffs and oversized overhead budgets but show little commitment to the countries where they work – is legendary."

Ukrainians in the U.S.: anniversaries galore

Ukrainians in the United States were focused during 2007 on marking a number of important anniversaries, foremost among them the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, to which a separate section is devoted in the "2007: The Year in Review." Other anniversaries marked included the 60th anniversary of Akcja Wisla, the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and the 30th anniversaries of the Ukrainian National Information Service and the Ukrainian American Bar Association.

The largest anniversary commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Akcja Wisla, the 1947 forced relocation

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of the Ukrainian minority within Poland, occurred on June 29-July 1 at the "Lemkivska Vatra" festival organized by the Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian-based acronym as OOL). The commemoration, held at the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) resort in Ellenville, N.Y., featured a keynote speech by Dmytro Trojanovsky. After outlining the difficult history of Ukrainians in post-World War II Poland, Mr. Trojanovsky noted the joint agreement on April 27 by Presidents Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine and Lech Kaczynski of Poland to remember the victims of Akcja Wisla and to pursue a strategic partnership between their two countries. Since the beginning of 2007, the OOL had hosted a series of public events to commemorate the anniversary.

In addition, Ukrainian Americans in various cities marked the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and the 100th anniversary of the birth of Gen. Roman Shukhevych, the UPA's commander-in-chief. A special photo exhibit prepared for the occasion by the Liberation Movement Research Center in Lviv was on view in various parts of the U.S., including the UAYA resort center. In New York both anniversaries were marked by a scholarly conference on October 7 at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, an exhibit at The Ukrainian Museum that opened on October 14 and a major concert on October 21. In Chicago a concert was held on October 7.

The centennial of the birth of poet, scholar and Ukrainian patriot Oleh Olzhych was observed on July 8 at the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehighton, Pa., which is named in Olzhych's honor. The commemoration, planned by the Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine, included a divine liturgy, a wreath-laying ceremony at a monument to Olzhych located on the estate's grounds, a concert and banquet. A special speaker that day was Olzhych's son, Oleh Kandyba, who resides in Ontario.

As well, 2007 marked the 30th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. Since 1977 UNIS has been facilitating interaction between the Ukrainian community, members of Congress, administration officials, the mass media and think-tanks, while advocating Ukrainian American issues of interest and concern. A successful 30th anniversary fund-raising campaign was conducted throughout the Ukrainian American community, most notably in Chicago (June 14), where the keynote speaker was former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Herbst, and Philadelphia (November 4). Among the institutions that supported the work of UNIS with major donations were Self Reliance (New York) Federal Credit Union, Selfliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union and The Heritage Foundation, both based in Chicago, and the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics, based in Philadelphia.

Another 30th anniversary was that of the Ukrainian American Bar Association. The organization celebrated on September 20-23 in Washington with a convention and gala banquet. A new UABA leadership was elected, headed by President Stephen Grogza. The UABA's outgoing president, Andrew Pidgirsky, presented the UABA Achievement Award to Judge Bohdan Futey, senior judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, and to Danylo Kurdelchuk, president of Ukraine's Ukriniurkolegiia, in recognition of their proven leadership in promoting the ideals of the UABA, as well as their accomplishments in strengthening the relationship between UABA members in the U.S. and Ukraine.

The year 2007 was also the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. On that occasion, the Ukrainian Federation of America Appreciation Awards were presented to founders and chairs of the caucus, former Congressmen Charles F. Dougherty and Jon D. Fox. The awards were presented during the UFA's general membership meeting and awards reception held on March 24 at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Philadelphia.

Another milestone marked during the year was the 30th anniversary of the U.S. launch of Voyagers 1 and 2 in August and September 1977. So, how does that pertain to Ukrainians in the U.S., you ask? Well, among the many other bits of information, the two deep-space probes carried a recording of this greeting: "We are sending greetings from our world, wishing you happiness, good health and many years" in Ukrainian – (Peresyliemo pryvit iz nashoho svitu; bazhaiemo schastia, zdorovia i mnohaia lita). It was one of 55 greetings in the Earth's various languages recorded on a

12-inch gold-plated copper disc attached to the outside of the Voyagers, which also includes a collection of images, photos and natural sounds of life on Earth and a varied selection of its music, as well as a player and instructions on its use. And who recorded the Ukrainian message? Andrew Cehelsky, then a student at Cornell University, where Dr. Carl Sagan tapped him for the role. Dr. Sagan headed the committee charged with preparing the greetings in many of Earth's languages.

Moving from the universe to local matters, in the City of Brotherly Love, the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia marked its 90th anniversary on May 5. The league is chartered as an official social fraternal organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Its mission when it was founded as well as today: facilitating the transition of Ukrainian immigrants into becoming upstanding American citizens.

In the Big Apple, the United Ukrainian American Organizations of New York (the local branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America) was reactivated when an extraordinary annual elections meeting was convened on March 17. The united organizations body had been inactive for several years. New officers were elected – the new board was notable for its infusion of youth – with Ivanka Zajac at the helm as president. She promised, "the UCCA branch will again rise to the challenge of serving the interests of the Ukrainian community."

The UCCA was represented at the unveiling in Washington on June 12 of the Victims of Communism Memorial, a 10-foot-tall bronze replica of the Goddess of Democracy statue built by Chinese students during the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests. The memorial was unveiled by President George W. Bush 20 years to the day when U.S. President Ronald Reagan stood in Berlin and asked then-Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to "tear down this wall." Some 14 years in the making, the memorial was erected thanks to the chairman and honorary chairman, respectively, Lee Edwards and Lev Dobriansky, of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation.

In his speech President Bush noted that, "We will never know the names of all who perished," but "these men and women lived, and they should not be forgotten." Mr. Bush mentioned the need specifically to acknowledge, among other groups, the fate of Ukrainians under the Stalin purges.

Michael Sawkiw Jr., president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), who is also the secretary and treasurer of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, was present at the unveiling. He commented: "This is truly a momentous occasion. We, as a Ukrainian American community, have struggled long and hard for the evils of communism to be recognized on this level. Along with this memorial, we are also proud that our community has achieved similar results, as we are diligently proceeding with plans for a monument in Washington, D.C., to the

victims of the Ukrainian Genocide perpetrated by the Stalinist regime. We are extremely proud of our achievement here and the distinguished role of the long-time UCCA President Ambassador [Lev] Dobriansky in the process of establishing this Victims of Communism Memorial."

The Victims of Communism Memorial stands at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, New Jersey Avenue and G Street, within view of the Capitol building.

The memorial was the site on July 18 of the 49th observance of Captive Nations Week, in which the UCCA played a key part. The presidential proclamation issued on the occasion noted: "Expanding freedom is a moral imperative, and today more people are free than ever before. Freedom is reaching around the world, and America is working side-by-side with new democracies in Liberia, Mauritania, Ukraine, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan. ... We continue to stand firmly behind the citizens of Lebanon, Afghanistan and Iraq as they defend their democratic gains against extremist enemies. Many are making great sacrifices for liberty, and they deserve our steadfast support."

At a luncheon held after the outdoor ceremonies, Michael Ryan, speaking on behalf of Ambassador Dobriansky, the founder and chairman of the National Captive Nations Committee (NCNC) who was unable to attend the event due to ill health, emphasized the importance of the upcoming 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide. "This crime, undoubtedly an act of genocide, needs to be remembered and its victims honored, especially in the context of Darfur and other similar genocides occurring throughout the world," he said. Mr. Ryan called on the NCNC to work toward ending all acts of genocide and protecting human rights around the world, and he urged the NCNC to actively participate in next year's activities that will mark the 75th anniversary of Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933.

Washington was also the site of meetings of Ukrainian Americans with Ukrainian opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko. Two separate meetings, one with the community's leaders and another one with the community at large, were held on March 1. Some 300 community members attended the meeting with Ms. Tymoshenko – who today once again is Ukraine's prime minister – held in one of the larger caucus rooms of the Rayburn Office Building of the House of Representatives. The participants heard the Ukrainian opposition leader give her analysis of political developments in Ukraine and what corrective measures she thought were needed in the future. They also had a chance to express their concerns and ask Ms. Tymoshenko questions during the discussion that followed. Most came away charmed by the charismatic Ms. Tymoshenko. The community meeting with Ms. Tymoshenko was arranged by a committee of four organizations: the Ukrainian American Coordinating



Yulia Tymoshenko describes the political situation in Ukraine and her vision for its future in front of some 300 people attending a March 1 community meeting at the Rayburn House Office Building organized by Washington-based Ukrainian American organizations.

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Council, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and The Washington Group. The opposition leader also met with Bush administration officials and members of Congress during her visit to the U.S. capital.

In other community news, the Ukrainian Rochester Collection Project (URCP) was founded by Wolodymyr "Mirko" Pylyshenko, a stalwart community activist and member of scores of Ukrainian organizations, in an attempt to preserve the achievements of the Ukrainian community in the Rochester area. The collection was decades in the making; it seeks to highlight community members' major contributions to the culture, social life and business activities of the population of Greater Rochester. Since he arrived in the United States in 1950, Prof. Pylyshenko has amassed an archive of materials, which he has annotated, inventoried and safely stored for the preservation and future clarification of posterity. The collection, drawn from individual and organizational sources, includes pages culled from books, magazines, periodicals and newspapers; family histories, personal memoirs, photographs and fliers; and separately archived subcollections of materials from Ukrainian institutions in Rochester such as sports and art groups, churches, clubs, schools and fraternal organizations.

After a six-year struggle, Verkhovyna MountainView Resort in Glen Spey, N.Y., was bought by the Anna Nazarkewycz Trust on July 3, at a foreclosure auction sale. Under new ownership and management, a board of managers and a Ukrainian investor group have already started planning the future of Verkhovyna. The investors



John Jaciw's design was selected by the Ukrainian American Veterans for a monument to be erected in honor of Ukrainians who served in the U.S. armed forces.

included Peter Piddoubny, a lawyer from New York City who spent many summers at Verkhovyna; Philip Schepel, a tax consultant with family ties in Glen Spey; and Yuri and Sonya (née Nazarkewycz) Blanarovich, who were initially involved with the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation (UACF) as vice-presidents and were married at Verkhovyna. The board of managers includes Jerry Kindrachuk and Boris Tatunchak, homeowners in Glen Spey, Mr. and Mrs. Blanarovich, and Mr. Piddoubny. Before the sale of Verkhovyna, the UACF, a non-profit corporation, owned the resort from 2001 to 2007. A new limited liability company, MountainView Resorts, LLC, was formed to take over the operations and management of the resort.

Later in the year, another Ukrainian resort was up for sale. A membership meeting of the Ukrainian American Cooperative Association (UACA) was held on December 1 to discuss the future of the campground commonly known as the "Osela" at Round Lake, Ill. A recommendation was made and voted upon to sell the property due to fiscal constraints. The UACA then decided to approach the Ukrainian community to find a suitable buyer for this lakefront beach property, with the objective being to keep the Osela in Ukrainian hands with new energy and ideas. The UACA has until March

1, 2008, to sell the property. If a suitable Ukrainian buyer is not found by this date, the Osela will be listed with a real estate agent and sold on the open market to the highest bidder.

Ukrainian American Veterans held their 60th national convention on October 12-13 in Yonkers, N.Y. A highlight of the convention banquet was the presentation of the Purple Heart, after 40 years, to Vietnam veteran and UAV Post 301 member Bohdan Mykitschak by recently promoted Brig. Gen. Leonid Kondratiuk, a member of Post 31. Also in 2007 the UAV selected a design for a monument honoring all Ukrainian American men and women who have served in the U.S. armed forces that is to be erected at the Metropolia Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. on a prominent site near St. Andrew Memorial Church. It was reported in July that the design chosen by the UAV is by Ukrainian Canadian artist John Jaciw. The UAV also continued its veterans registration project, which seeks to collect info on all Ukrainian Americans who have served or are on active duty in the U.S. military.

The organization continued to be active on the local level as well. As always, local posts marked Memorial Day and Veterans Day. On Memorial Day 2007, UAV Post 17 sadly added two names to the Ukrainian American Veterans monument at Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Clifton, N.J.: Sgt. Jon Cadavero and Sgt. Yevgeny Ryndych, both of whom had been killed in Iraq within the last year. Post 17 also took the time to remember those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan by sending care packages to Ukrainian American military personnel.

In student news, the Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America (known as SUSTA, based on its Ukrainian acronym) was apparently revived when over 50 students attended the organization's first conference since 2001. (That conference too had been hailed as a revival of SUSTA.) Held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., on April 21, the 2007 conference heard representatives of various Ukrainian community organizations speak about the role of SUSTA and opportunities for students to become involved. There was information on how to organize student clubs and talk of SUSTA cooperating with its Canadian counterpart, SUSK (Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union). Elections of SUSTA officers were postponed to a later, more convenient, date due to the absence of key student leaders. As of April 2007, SUSTA recognized clubs from Rutgers, Villanova, Columbia, Stanford, Cornell, Princeton and Harvard universities, the Ukrainian Seamen of the United States Merchant Marines, New York University, SUNY Stony Brook, the University at Buffalo, the University of Pennsylvania, Michigan State University, University of Illinois and the University of Pittsburgh.

Meanwhile, in Boston, the Ukrainian Society was established at Boston College, with formal elections of officers taking place on April 3. Freshman communications major Deanna Rakowsky of Maplewood, N.J., (she was Miss Soyuzivka 2007) was elected president of the new student club, which signed up 26 members as of April. Adjunct Prof. Peter Woloschuk is the Ukrainian Society's faculty adviser. It is worth noting that the BC's Slavic Club protested the new entity, saying there was a danger it would lose membership and that there was no need for a separate Ukrainian club. The Ukrainian Society has announced an ambitious agenda – look for more on this group in 2008.

On the Ukrainian credit union front, the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association (UNCUA) held its 26th general meeting on June 7-9 in Cleveland. Representatives of the 17 Ukrainian American credit unions in the United States gathered to discuss their achievements and to plan for the future growth of their credit unions and the cooperative movement as a whole. Bohdan Watral was elected chair of the UNCUA executive committee. The general meeting also was an occasion to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Cleveland Selfreliance FCU, which hosted the meeting.

The country's two most powerful Ukrainian credit unions held annual meetings at which their continued growth was highlighted. Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union reported at its March 25 meeting that it had total assets of \$562.2 million and member savings of \$439.3 million. Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, which is based in Chicago, held its annual meeting on April 29; a meeting of its New Jersey membership took place on May 6. It reported assets of \$433,123,277 and 23,138 members.

The Ukrainian Medical Association convened its regular biennial convention on June 21-24 at Soyuzivka, the estate of the Ukrainian National Association. What



Stepan Slutsky
Yuri Shukhevych speaks in New York on October 21 during a program marking the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Roman Shukhevych, commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

made the 2007 convention noteworthy was that it had the largest turnout of participants in recent history for a weekend of science, business and socializing. Also noteworthy was the fact that many UMANA branch presidents participated. Dr. Ariadna Holynskij was elected UMANA president; Dr. Wayne Tymchak president-elect.

During 2007 the UCCA had some rough times regarding its office in Kyiv. The UCCA Kyiv office was evicted on May 23 from a space it shared for five years with the Ukrainian-Polish Forum after the chairman of the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council, which owns the building, decided not to renew the lease. The UCCA Kyiv office's director, Viktoriya Hubska, cried foul and launched a protest action. UCCA President Sawkiw reacted by saying, "I can't say what warranted a protest or not," adding that Ms. Hubska "was in consultation with the other NGOs in the building. It's not just the UCCA." According to the UCCA's executive director in New York, Tamara Gallo Olexy, the organization had been looking at different premises and was to move into a new space. Thus, the UCCA mission to monitor Ukraine's pre-term parliamentary elections in September would not be affected, she said.

Indeed, The UCCA's election monitoring program went on as planned with 156 volunteers being sent to various regions of Ukraine. Seventy-five percent of the volunteers had previously served as election monitors; 95 percent were fluent in Ukrainian.

In addition, the UCCA conducted a series of town hall meetings – this time conducted via radio broadcasts – throughout Ukraine in preparation for the election. The "meetings" provided an opportunity for representatives of political parties to interact with the public via oblast radio stations using a call-in format. The voter-education program was dubbed "Ukraine's Choice 2007" and was funded by a grant from the National Endowment for Democracy.

At year's end, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America executive board met at the organization's New York headquarters to discuss its plans for 2008, including continued promotion of knowledge about the Ukrainian Holodomor of 1932-1933. The executive board adopted an action plan to push for recognition in the U.S. Congress of the Holodomor as genocide of the Ukrainian people, as well as advocacy of the Ukrainian genocide curriculum in high schools throughout the United States.

As well, the UCCA leadership adopted a decision to write a white paper that would be sent to all the major presidential candidates emphasizing the concerns of the Ukrainian American community, including recognition of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as an act of genocide, enhanced bilateral relations with Ukraine through inter-parliamentary and youth exchange programs, and immigration issues. The goal is to eventually request a meeting with each of the presidential candidates to discuss

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the concerns outlined in the white paper.

In New Jersey Ukrainian Americans were working on two issues of national and international significance. Theodore Romankow, prosecutor of Union County in New Jersey, on May 10 addressed a group of police recruits at the Union County Police Academy in Scotch Plains, N.J., on the subject of modern-day human slavery. He also introduced three guests, namely, Olha Lukiw, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) Regional Council of New Jersey, and representatives from Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU), Walter Bodnar and Bozhena Olshaniwsky, who spoke briefly on the importance of seriously addressing the issue of human trafficking. According to the U.S. State Department between 600,000 and 800,000 individuals are trafficked annually across borders. Some 5,000 to 10,000 annually come through Newark Liberty International Airport alone.

On August 6 the governor of New Jersey established a 27-member Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Immigrant Policy that is to develop recommendations for a comprehensive and strategic statewide approach to successfully integrating immigrants in the state. No Ukrainian representative was named to the panel, which our editorial of August 26 called "unacceptable," especially "given the fact that there are many immigrants from Ukraine in the state, not to mention a large Ukrainian American community." In fact, there wasn't a single representative of any Eastern European community on the list of Gov. Jon Corzine's appointees. Our editorial stated: "New Jersey's strong Ukrainian and Polish communities, in particular, are very displeased – and surprised. Immigration, after all, is an issue that affects a variety of ethnic communities. Need we recall the heinous treatment of the Karanoukh family of immigrants from Ukraine who were seized and deported from New Jersey in January of 2006?"

Then, on December 10, Gov. Corzine expanded the panel to 35 members, naming among the additional eight members Camilla Huk, a representative of the Ukrainian American community. Ms. Huk also serves on the Governor's Ethnic Advisory Council in New Jersey. Speaking of her new appointment, Ms. Huk said: "My passion is making sure that our people are not victimized, especially by the immigration process. What happened to the Karanoukhs was a nightmare – and it happens to others who are too ashamed to ask for help and feel hopeless about their situation."

In related news, Michael Koziupa joined Ms. Huk on the 45-member Ethnic Advisory Council, having been appointed by Gov. Corzine on August 22.

John Demjanjuk was once again in the headlines in 2007. The former autoworker whom the U.S. government had accused back in 1977 of complicity in Nazi war crimes, challenged the right of the chief immigration judge of the United States to order his deportation. On November 29 the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments challenging the order for deportation issued in 2005. It was expected to take several months before the court issues a decision. Mr. Demjanjuk's attorney, John Broadley, said the chief immigration judge was not authorized to judge the case because his position on the immigration review board is administrative, not adjudicative. The U.S. Department of Justice argued that the chief immigration judge is just that: a judge. "Why would that be the title if he wasn't to be a judge?" argued Robert Thomson of the Justice Department. For three decades Mr. Demjanjuk, now 87, has maintained that he himself was a prisoner, captured by the Germans during World War II, and that he is a victim of mistaken identity.

The most tragic story of 2007 for the Ukrainian community in the United States was the murder of 12-year-old Zina Linnik, The daughter of immigrants from Ukraine, Zina went missing on July 4 and was found dead on July 12 in Eatonville, Wash., approximately 25 miles from her home in Tacoma, Wash. The Linnik family came to the United States 10 years ago from Kuznetsovsk, Ukraine. Zina was one of eight children. Authorities apprehended Terapon Adhahn, a 42-year-old immigrant from Thailand, who was convicted in 1990 for the rape of a 16-year-old relative. Thousands gathered for the funeral service held for Zina on Sunday, July 15, at the Slavic Christian Church in Tacoma. Known surviving family members were her father, Mikhail, brothers Stan, 18, and Pavel, 14, sister Nina, 16 (the only immediate family members whose names were released to the media). The family refused to publicly comment on the tragedy. The Tacoma Police Department opened an account for the Linnik family at Tapco Credit Union.

During 2007 the readers of The Ukrainian Weekly

learned that State Sen. Andy Harris had set his sights on, in his words, "becoming the first Ukrainian American in the United States Congress." (In fact, there have been other members of Congress with Ukrainian roots, but perhaps none whose connection is as close to Ukraine.) Dr. Harris, a physician whose mother is from Ukraine, is running in the February 12, 2008, Republican primary in Maryland's 1st Congressional District. He was endorsed on December 12 by The Washington Times in his race against nine-term incumbent Wayne Gilchrest. Dr. Harris has been a Maryland state senator since 1998.

In Canada: Ukrainians, Ukraine in the news

Canadian national politics during 2007 were marked by interaction between Ukrainian Canadians and the Canadian government on a variety of issues – some of which have been on the national stage for years, even decades, but still have not achieved a satisfactory resolution. Redress for the internment of Ukrainians in 1914-1920 is one of them.

On February 16 representatives of the Ukrainian Canadian community – including Paul Grod of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Andrew Hladyshesky of the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko and Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association – met with Jason Kenney, secretary of state for multiculturalism and Canadian identity, to discuss the status of redress for the internment.

Almost two years earlier, on August 24, 2005, after two decades of lobbying by Ukrainian Canadian groups, the Canadian government, then led by the Liberal Party, signed an agreement in principle that provided an initial payment of \$2.5 million to Canada's Ukrainian community for acknowledgement, commemoration and education regarding the 1914-1920 national internment of Ukrainians. The \$2.5 million in funds was to go to the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko, which was to coordinate commemorative projects. At the time, it was reported that an additional \$10 million would be made available to Ukrainian Canadian groups. However, in spite of the fact that in November 2005 the Persons of Ukrainian Origin Recognition Act received Royal Assent and became law, the Conservative government elected in January 2006 has ignored the agreement in principle and proposed an alternative funding formula called for in the act: the Community Historical Recognition Program (CHRP) which includes a three- to four-year general fund of \$25 million earmarked for approximately a dozen ethnic groups, including Ukrainians. The groups were told they could apply for project funding.

The Ukrainian delegation that met with Minister Kenney told him that they would refuse to apply to the CHRP fund for money they were already promised in 2005. The exact figures promised to the Ukrainian group had already touched off a squabble in Parliament between Member of Parliament (MP) Borys Wrzesnewskyj and Minister Kenney.

The CHRP received Treasury Board approval on June 14. Ukrainian Canadians rejected the Canadian government's proposed \$25 million historical recognition program and claimed they had been promised an endowment fund of \$12.5 million to be administered by the Shevchenko Foundation. Dr. Luciuk stressed that Ukrainians have repeatedly requested an endowment within the community, preventing them from having to go "cap in hand" for each project. More importantly, the Ukrainian community feel it is better able to determine project priorities and to deliver services more effectively to the community. Dr. Luciuk cited the precedent set by the way in which the government had dealt with Japanese Canadians for their World War II internment.

With the redress issue still unresolved, the last known survivor of the internment operations of 1914-1920, Mary Manko Haskett, died on July 14 at a seniors' residence in Mississauga, Ontario. She was 98. Born Mary Manko in Montreal, she was just 6 years old when the Mankos – parents, one son and three daughters – were sent with other "enemy aliens" from Montreal to Spirit Lake in northern Quebec, to a camp where the prisoners were forced to do hard labor. The youngest Manko sister, Nellie, died at Spirit Lake.

For years, Mrs. Haskett had served as the honorary chairwoman of the National Redress Council of the

Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA). In recent years Mrs. Haskett had become hopeful that the Canadian government would finally recognize and provide redress for the unjust internment and disenfranchisement of some 5,000 Ukrainian. Mrs. Haskett's daughter, Fran Haskett, has agreed to take on her mother's role as honorary chair of the National Redress Council.

However, after CBC Radio on November 26 aired a major segment on the Ukrainian Canadian community's ongoing campaign for redress, Jerry Bayrak of Edmonton contacted the CBC and the chairman of the UCCLA, Dr. Luciuk, and revealed that his mother, Mary Hancharuk, was born at the Spirit Lake internment camp on December 16, 1915, and would soon be celebrating her 92nd birthday. It was confirmed that Mary's father, Nikolaj, was arrested and that he and his family were subsequently held at the Spirit Lake camp. Thus there is still hope that an actual survivor will be present for the signing of a Ukrainian Canadian redress and reconciliation settlement.

Canada's 18th prime minister, Brian Mulroney, who was regarded as a friend of Ukraine and Ukrainians during his tenure, was honored with the highest award bestowed by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Shevchenko Medal, and the highest honor Ukraine extends to a foreign citizen, the prestigious Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise.

Under Mr. Mulroney's leadership of the government in



The former prime minister of Canada, Brian Mulroney, receives the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise from Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash on April 1.

the years 1984 to 1993, Canada became the second country to recognize independent Ukraine in December 1991; the first Ukrainian Canadian, John Sopinka, was appointed to the Supreme Court; the first Ukrainian Canadian, Ramon Hnatyshyn, became governor general; and two Ukrainian Canadians – David Tkachuk and Raynell Andreychuk from Saskatchewan – were appointed to the Senate.

The Shevchenko Medal was presented to Mr. Mulroney on April 1 by UCC President Orysia Sushko at a banquet in Ottawa in front of over 400 guests, which included the current prime minister, Stephen Harper, and 14 of his Cabinet colleagues, numerous parliamentarians and Ukraine's ambassador to Canada, Ihor Ostash. Ambassador Ostash presented Mr. Mulroney with the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise on behalf of the President of Ukraine. Sen. Andreychuk and Northland Power President James Temerty served as masters of ceremonies for the event.

After a decade of unfounded allegations, which began with a letter from Ottawa on September 24, 1997, notifying Wasyl Odynsky that he had failed to divulge to officials his collaboration with German authorities in the period 1943-1944 and that the minister of citizenship and immigration would seek revocation of his Canadian citizenship, Mr. Odynsky was informed on May 17 by the Canadian government that he would not be denaturalized or deported.

Although he was brought to court and charged with failing to divulge that he had been a concentration camp guard, and the press repeatedly wrote about him as a war criminal, in 2001 a federal court judge ruled that Mr.

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Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk (right) meets with Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa on May 7.

Odynsky had never been a Nazi and that there was no evidence of any criminal wrongdoing on his part during the German occupation of Ukraine or since.

But the minister of justice decided to pursue Mr. Odynsky under the denaturalization and deportation process where proof was accepted "on the balance of probabilities" rather than "beyond reasonable doubt." It was alleged that he must have misled immigration screening officials when he resettled in Canada after the war, concealing his role as a sentry at the Trawniki labor camp. Mr. Odynsky repeatedly swore that he was never asked about his wartime service, had been press-ganged into an auxiliary guard unit and was never involved in a war crime. It bears noting that all relevant screening documents were long ago destroyed, so there is no actual proof of what Mr. Odynsky was asked or answered. Now, although the threat of denaturalization and deportation (called D&D) has been lifted from Mr. Odynsky, the D&D proceedings remain as part of the Citizenship Act.

Marco Levytsky, editor of the Edmonton-based Ukrainian News, explained that the government decision not to revoke Mr. Odynsky's Canadian citizenship did not mean that it "cleared" him. Their action is equivalent to a suspended sentence in a criminal court. The right thing to do, Mr. Levytsky wrote, would be to change the outdated Citizenship Act – enacted in 1947 before the Charter of Rights and Freedoms was adopted – and to try people accused of war crimes in criminal court only on the evidence of individual crimes.

The Ukrainian worldwide campaign to get the Holodomor acknowledged as genocide by the world's legislatures, came to Canada when, on June 5, Liberal Member of Parliament Borys Wrzesnewskyj introduced Private Member's Bill C-450 – the Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Remembrance Day Act – calling for a national day of remembrance of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide. The purpose of the bill was to establish the fourth Saturday in November as a day of remembrance for the estimated 7 million to 10 million Ukrainians who died from starvation in 1932-1933 during the artificially created Famine carried out by the Soviet regime under Stalin.

A week later, on June 13, Conservative Member of Parliament James Bezan of Manitoba became the second Ukrainian Canadian lawmaker to introduce a bill calling for the recognition of the 1932-1933 Great Famine in Ukraine as genocide and the establishment of a commemorative day to mark the Holodomor. His proposed Private Member's Bill C-459 would be an Act of the Canadian Parliament to establish a Ukrainian Famine and Genocide Memorial Day and to recognize the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 as an act of genocide.

Although Ms. Sushko, president of the Ukrainian

Canadian Congress, said the UCC was pleased that MPs from all sides of the House of Commons understood the need for positive legislation and that both sides would be able to come together to enact a bill recognizing the Holodomor as a genocide, Mr. Wrzesnewskyj was not positively inclined toward Mr. Bezan's bill. The Liberal MP had approached all parties in an effort to elicit broad support for his Bill C-450. However, Conservative House Leader Jay Hill had explained that under no condition would Conservative MPs support the passage of Bill C-450. Mr. Wrzesnewskyj said he was stunned later that day by MP Bezan's move in introducing the almost identical Bill C-459. Therefore, on June 14 Mr. Wrzesnewskyj introduced a motion seeking unanimous consent for the passage of his Bill C-450, but the Conservative House Leader and MP Bezan both voted down this motion. Mr. Wrzesnewskyj called this "shameful and politically cynical conduct around the issue of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide."

Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk arrived in the Canadian capital on an official visit. While in Ottawa on May 7 he met with Prime Minister Harper, Speaker of the House of Commons Peter Milliken and his Canadian counterpart, Minister of Foreign Affairs Peter MacKay, as well as other Canadian government officials, including Minister of International Cooperation Josée Verner, Minister of International Trade David Emerson, Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and Canadian Identity Kenney, Minister of National Defense Gordon O'Connor and Leader of the Opposition Stéphane Dion. The recently named Ukrainian foreign affairs minister also held a meeting with the leadership of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group.

In the course of his talks with Canadian officials, Mr. Yatsenyuk encouraged Canada to send observers to monitor the upcoming pre-term parliamentary elections in Ukraine. Other topics of his talks with Canadian leaders included economic relations between the two countries, the importance of bilateral visits between Canada and Ukraine at the level of heads of state and heads of government, technical assistance programs, liberalization of visa policies, European and regional security issues, and military cooperation. Mr. Yatsenyuk presented the speaker of the House of Commons with a letter from President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine that asked for support of Ukraine's campaign to have the Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, known as the Holodomor, recognized internationally as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian nation.

The end of December brought some welcome news for Western Canada. Member of Parliament Peter Goldring (Edmonton East) announced on December 19 that Edmonton will soon be home to a Consulate of Ukraine.

Currently, diplomatic representation of Ukraine is handled by the Embassy in Ottawa and a Consulate General in Toronto, while Winnipeg and Vancouver have honorary consuls.

Alberta has a high percentage of Ukrainian population and, with its current labor shortage, has thousands of Ukrainians working there temporarily. Alberta's Ukrainian Canadian community has raised more than \$28,000 toward the first year of operating costs of the new Consulate, which is expected to open by the end of 2008. MP Goldring has received a letter from Foreign Affairs Minister Maxine Bernier giving the federal government's support for the office.

Ukrainian Canadian institutions and activities were extremely active during 2007.

The Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center (UCRDC) in Toronto announced plans to prepare a documentary on the Galicia Division and set up a separate fund, "Fond Divizyynykiv," to move the project forward. The fund was begun with donations in memory of Roman Cholkan, a Toronto businessman and former member of the Galicia Division.

During the making of the film "From Hitler and Stalin – Ukraine in World War II," the UCRDC collected much material on the division – documents, photographs, film clips and about 43 audio and video interviews with former division members – that was not used in the film.

Of all the issues concerning Ukraine during the second world war II, the history and role of the Galicia Division is least known and, hence, most often distorted. The directors of the UCRDC say they feel an obligation to the persons who shared their recollections and materials about World War II. They believe that the resources and the means exist in Canada and the United States to make a documentary film about the division that will present its true story and role, and will be interesting to viewers both in the West and in Ukraine.

On September 16 an open house honoring veterans of the Ukrainian Division was held at the UCRDC. The program included an exhibit of photographs, memorabilia and a reproduction of a division uniform, and a showing of the film "In the Framework of Destiny – History of the 1st Ukrainian Division of the Ukrainian National Army 1943-1945." The program was organized and led by Ari Silecky and funded by a grant from the Ministry of Culture and Immigration.

Made in Ukraine in 2005, the 45-minute film by Taras Khymych presents a chronological story of the Galicia Division, from its formation in 1943 by the Germans as a fighting force against the Red Army, its defeat at the Battle of Brody, dispersal to Slovakia and Austria, and surrender to the British in 1945, to its disbanding after two years in a POW camp in Italy. "In the Framework of Destiny" features many interviews with veterans and witnesses, film clips from the war period, and photos from Ukraine, Austria and Slovakia. Mr. Khymych explained in an interview that "The film is made in the Discovery Channel format, where criticism, opinions and judgment are usually avoided. What is important is the presentation of a concrete event – this film is a video history. Making this film, I discovered history, and I would like others to do the same for themselves."

The open house at the UCRDC also included a photo exhibit and division memorabilia – badges, medals and posters. The photos were provided by Bohdan Maciw of Montreal, a Division veteran, and were organized around several themes: recruitment, training, the Battle of Brody, the transformation of the Galicia Division into the 1st Ukrainian Division of the Ukrainian National Army. The event attracted a large number of young people, reflecting the current interest among the young in 20th century Ukrainian history.

Across Canada, summer is the time for Ukrainian festivals, and it was the 42nd year for the granddaddy of them all, the National Ukrainian Festival in Dauphin, Manitoba. Held on August 3-5, it celebrated Ukrainian dance, music, food, song and heritage, and, as usual, it opened with the National Riding and Dancing Kozaks. Dancers, both traditional and the modern, danced; musicians; such as the currently popular TYTITAM band and former Canadian Idol runner-up Theresa Sokyrka, made music. The festival attracts visitors from across Canada, as well as from the United States.

The more junior Ukrainian festival in Toronto, only in its 11th year, changed its name and its venue. Formerly the Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival, held on the streets in the Ukrainian section of Toronto, this year it became the Toronto Ukrainian Festival and was held at Harbourfront Centre on Lake Ontario during the Labor Day weekend. At its annual meeting on March 21, the board of directors officially adopted the new name and

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Al Kachkowski

Twirling dancers from the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble at Canada's National Ukrainian festival held on August 3-5 in Dauphin, Manitoba.

increased the board's membership by adding four new young professionals. After 10 years, Olya Grod and Raya Shadursky stepped down from the board, while Jurij Klufas remained as chair of the festival.

The four-day festival program was presented under the theme of a Ukrainian wedding celebration and featured a traditional wedding organized by Oleh Skrypka and the Hurtopravtsi Ensemble from Ukraine. There was an exhibit of wedding ritual cloths, costumes and headdresses, and a film program of current films about and from Ukraine. The music program showcased Ukrainian traditional music and instruments, rock music and lots in between, such as jazz. There was traditional dance by the ensembles Yavir and Desna, and modern dance by Ancestral Voices, a new production from New York. A new feature this year was the dinner and music boat cruise on the lake. For the first time, one of the media sponsors of the event was the Ukrainian National Association, with its two publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) held its eighth annual conclave in Montreal on September 29-30. A trilingual memorial plaque was unveiled in Montreal's Stanley Street YMCA building to recall the educational and humanitarian aid provided by the YMCA to Ukrainians and other Europeans, victims of the internment operations of 1914-1920.

UCCLA members voiced their dismay over the lack of any significant progress on securing a redress settlement despite the government's legal obligation to negotiate. Letters were posted to Prime Minister Harper and Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and Canadian Identity Kenney expressing the Ukrainian Canadian community's disappointment over this situation. Delegates were also informed about the resignation of John B. Gregorovich, one of the initiators of the Ukrainian Canadian redress campaign, from the post of UCCLA chairman. Dr. Luciuk was elected the new chairman. Among other issues, the UCCLA discussed the launching of a campaign aimed at securing information about the presence of alleged Soviet war criminals in North America and planning for the installation of additional internee plaques across Canada. Working with the British Ukrainian community, the UCCLA intends to initiate several projects in the United Kingdom to honor the Ukrainian Canadian men and women who served overseas with the Allied forces during World War II.

The national coordinating body for Ukrainian Canadians – the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) – held its 22nd triennial congress in Winnipeg on October 19-22 under the slogan "Connecting Our Community" and elected Toronto lawyer and businessman Paul Grod as its national president.

Mr. Grod outlined a program of increasing the reach of the UCC to make it more active in Canadian society and pledged that the UCC will have a government and public affairs presence in Ottawa by October 2008. He thanked outgoing UCC President Sushko and acknowledged the numerous successes that characterized her tenure.

For the first time in many years, the national convention of the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) was held in conjunction with the UCC congress, and the

UCC committed itself to assist SUSK in reinvigorating its network across Canada.

Changes to the UCC Constitution were adopted which will allow for more direct participation of UCC branches in the UCC's central decision-making organs and will see the election of all executive officers directly by the triennial congress.

During the convention, Taras Shevchenko Medals, the UCC's highest form of recognition, were awarded to Mr. Temerty, Radoslav Zuk, Yosyp Hoshuliak, Robert Klymasz and Halyna Kvitka Kondracki (in the field of culture and the arts); and Eugene Czolij, Orest Pawliw, Lesia Szwaluk and Michael A. Zaleschuk (community development). Drs. Peter and Doris Kule were honored for their contributions to education, and two students, Alexandra Kindrat and Artem Luhovy, received the Ukrainian Canadian Youth Leadership Award.

On November 30 the newly elected president of the UCC, Mr. Grod, led a delegation to discuss the community's key policy priorities with Prime Minister Harper. Speaking about the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, Mr. Grod said that the prime minister demonstrated his understanding of the enormity of the crime. The delegation asked that the Canadian government, through a unanimous act of Parliament, recognize the Holodomor as a genocide against the Ukrainian people. The UCC delegation also discussed the ongoing negotiations with the government of Canada concerning Canada's internment operations in 1914-1920 and pointed out the need to memorialize these events through a community-based endowment. The prime minister reaffirmed Canada's commitment to supporting Ukraine's democratic development. Members of the delegation included Bohdan Onyschuk, chair of the Canada Ukraine Foundation; Mr. Czolij, a past president of the UCC; and National Vice-Presidents Daria Luciuk and Alexandra Chyczij.

The issue of identity – framed by the provocative question, "Are you really Ukrainian?" – was the theme of a presentation and public discussion at Winnipeg's Oseredok on October 28. Bohdana Bashuk, executive assistant at Oseredok and former broadcaster, put forward a series of questions to Dr. Klymasz, curator emeritus of the Museum of Civilization. Dr. Klymasz outlined identity markers of the early Ukrainian immigrants: a common tradition and language. As the language faded, non-verbal identity markers began to flourish: Ukrainian dance, the culinary arts, folk music, folk art and crafts, and holiday traditions such as Christmas and Malanka.

The question posed to the audience was: What are the real Ukrainian identity markers today? Some of the answers were: self-identification ("I'm Ukrainian, because I say so"), real connection to the heritage, blood relations, awareness of one's Ukrainian heritage, involvement in the community, Ukrainian institutions, having a sense of community, an ability to share community and culture, language, an intrinsically Ukrainian inner spiritual world.

For others, the issue was not "Who are we?" but rather "What must be done to raise our level of awareness of Ukrainian culture?" They saw the presence, accomplishments and contributions of Ukrainian Canadian artists in

the Canadian mainstream as a positive model for self-awareness and self-expression. To sum up, Dr. Klymasz said that his life experience told him that it is important to know where your life comes from and that knowing the past is a key to your identity marker.

Stefan Kuzmyn of Kingston, Ontario – a Ukrainian nationalist, political prisoner and survivor of several Nazi concentration camps – was commended by Prime Minister Harper for his five decades of dedicated volunteer service on behalf of the people of Ukraine and Canada. Arriving in Canada in the early 1950s, Mr. Kuzmyn became the president of the Kingston branch of the Canadian League for Ukraine's Liberation (now called the League of Ukrainian Canadians) and of the Ukrainian Canadian Club of Kingston. Mr. Kuzmyn retired in June to a seniors' residence in Toronto.

On July 18, during his official three-day visit to Ukraine, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs MacKay visited the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Center at the National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine in Kyiv. He was welcomed by the acting director general of the library, Zoya Savina, and representatives of the Canadian Friends of Ukraine (CFU) Margareta Shpir and Lisa Shymko. Mr. MacKay was accompanied by Canada's ambassador to Ukraine, Ms. Dann, and Ukraine's ambassador to Canada, Mr. Ostash.

The center was established by the CFU to provide legislative and information support services for parliamentarians. Minister MacKay congratulated CFU on its outstanding contribution to democracy-building in Ukraine, as well as its ongoing efforts to strengthen Canada-Ukraine relations. CFU is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1989 to strengthen Canada-Ukraine relations and promote democracy and reform in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress Observer Mission for the pre-term parliamentary elections in Ukraine on September 30 fielded a total of 125 observers who traveled to different parts of the country to observe the vote on election day. A dozen medium-term observers monitored the campaign in the final weeks. Although it was not possible or practical to send observer teams into every oblast of Ukraine, all regions of the country were covered by the mission to ensure a representative overview of balloting procedures in every major region of the country. The mission was headed by UCC President Sushko, while Ron Chyczij of Toronto was the chief observer.

Although the situation is improving, the problem of human trafficking remains a serious one in Ukraine. Trafficking was the topic at St. Paul's University in Ottawa as panelists from three non-governmental organizations participated in a January 23 roundtable titled "Building Bridges and Strengthening Ties." The panel was chaired by Toronto's Halyna Zalucky of Help Us



Roman Cholkan (left) and his relative Ivan Witushynskyi in autumn 1943, when both were members of the Galicia Division. Mr. Cholkan died in Canada in 2006; Mr. Witushynskyi was wounded at the battle of Brody, captured and sent to the gulag, where he died in 1947. Their photo was part of an exhibit held on September 16 at the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center.

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Help the Children (HUHTC), and co-sponsored by six local businesses and groups.

Especially worrisome is the degree to which young orphans – which number some 120,000 in Ukraine – have become the primary target group for traffickers. Others vulnerable to trafficking are Ukraine's poor, residents looking for employment or better opportunities to support their families or themselves. Ninety-five percent are female and around 83 percent of the women come from villages. Although the victims are naive, most know they will be used for sex. However, the women don't foresee the degree to which many become virtual labor or sex slaves beholden to their traffickers in foreign countries.

After Ukrainian Canadian journalist Victor Malarek's much-publicized 2003 wake-up call – the book "The Natashas" – the trafficking problem made it onto Ukraine's political agenda and, combined with a regime change in Kyiv and the ongoing perseverance of non-governmental groups, the situation in Ukraine has begun to improve slowly, the panelists agreed. A new law, Ukraine's Article 149, passed a year ago, increased the offenses and raised the severity of punishment for those convicted of involvement in the sex trade. Whereas, previously a convicted offender simply paid a fine, those convicted since the law's passage now face five years in a Ukrainian penitentiary.

The panel also discussed several initiatives to publicize the dangers of trafficking: a film on the dangers of the sex trade which has been declared mandatory viewing in every school in Ukraine; another film aimed at orphans to showcase the lives of orphans who have found success as adults; and the provision of university scholarships to orphans.

Ukrainian diaspora: Australia to Poland

Diaspora news this year, was highlighted by two significant anniversaries: Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization held jamborees in Australia and Canada in honor of its 95 years of existence, and the Ukrainian World Congress marked its 40th anniversary of working toward the freedom, well-being and unity for Ukrainians around the globe.

It was the Ukrainian Australian community that kicked off the 95th anniversary celebration of Plast with a nine-day jamboree in Adelaide, South Australia, on December 26, 2006-January 3. Over 250 participants and 140 guests from six Australian cities gathered to mark this important milestone in Ukrainian scouting. Four separate camps housed all age groups as they camped side-by-side, experiencing – for the first or for the 50th time – the beauty of camping with friends. The fairly small Australian scouting community showed itself as a vibrant and dedicated part of the international



A view of the official opening ceremonies of the International Plast Jamboree held on August 4-19 in Canada.

Plast movement. Eager to span the many miles between Australia and the rest of the diaspora, a contingent of 13 Australian scouts and leaders traveled overseas six months later to represent their country at the international Plast Jamboree in Canada.

Seven hundred and thirty-seven Plast scouts from all over the world gathered on August 4-19 for the August jamboree celebration in Canada to further celebrate the 95 years that have passed since Plast was founded in Lviv in 1911-1912. For the first 10 days participants took part in various themed camps and age- and skill-appropriate expeditions scattered all over Ontario and neighboring provinces. Next they converged in the capital city of Ottawa for two days to learn about Canada's unique culture, history and government. Ultimately, all of the scouts congregated at the Plastova Sich campground in Grafton, Ontario, for the final four days of festivities. There, the total number of participants swelled to 1,811, and every country where Plast exists today had a delegation of its scouts present.

In order to mark its anniversary, Plast scouts traditionally did what they have done for 95 years: took part in friendly competition, sang around campfires, showcased their talents and chatted with old friends. A highlight of this event was an exhibit of projects by 30 different scout units on the theme "The Ukrainian Community in the City Where We Live" that was on view in Grafton.

Each group researched the historical roots of the Ukrainian community in its hometown and, as part of the overall exhibit, a huge map was displayed on which each jamboree participant was asked to put a pin to indicate where his or her family has its roots. In the end, every oblast in Ukraine had at least one pin.

At the closing ceremonies of this two-week event, the eternal flame was extinguished and its embers distributed among the leaders of Plast's national organizations. These embers will travel to Ukraine in five years, where Plast will be celebrating its 100th anniversary.

In order to mark its 40th year of work for Ukrainian causes, the leaders of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) put forth a statement, bowing their heads in respect to the visionaries who four decades ago resolved to give Ukrainian unity a chance and to those who have worked for that noble effort ever since. It was on November 12-19, 1967, that representatives of Ukrainian communities from North and South America, Europe and Australia came together in New York City to form the World Congress of Free Ukrainians (now the UWC) and to join in a Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden in order to show unity and solidarity with their brethren in Ukraine, then living under Soviet domination.

The UWC held a commemorative gathering on November 18 in New York, at which a panel of speakers discussed the significance of the WCFU/UWC. To this day, the UWC has remained a united voice for the Ukrainian community outside of Ukraine, with membership representing Ukrainian communities in over 40 countries.

As part of its activity in 2007 the Ukrainian World Congress delivered a statement against human trafficking to the 51st Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, which was held in New York at the U.N. headquarters in late February to early March. The UWC stated that the illegal trafficking of women is "among the most acute of global issues confronting Ukrainians."

According to reports from the International Organization for Migration, a staggering number of 500,000 Ukrainian women are being trafficked to the West. However, most statistics are mere estimates, and actual numbers are probably much higher. The exact number is hard to determine since most women are silenced by their traffickers and their cases are not reported. According to information cited by the UWC, "Ukrainian women are the largest group trafficked in Turkey; Ukrainian women are the second largest group outside U.S. military bases in Korea; women from CIS countries comprise 70 percent of trafficking in Israel; Ukrainian women constitute the largest foreign group trafficked in the Netherlands; 70 percent of Ukrainian women residing in Poland were trafficked; and women from Central and Eastern Europe and CIS countries constitute 80 percent of trafficking in Germany."

The UWC statement was strongly supportive of the U.S. government's Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, which requires an interim assessment of countries placed on the Special Watch List and



Official Website of the President of Ukraine

Presidents Mikheil Saakashvili of Georgia and Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine on March 2 before the newly unveiled monument to Taras Shevchenko in Tbilisi.

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encourages more vigilant awareness and cooperation by those countries. This year the UWC established a Task Force on the Trafficking of Children, Women and Men, which coordinates the activities of member-organizations of the UWC worldwide and aims to collaborate closely with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, NGOs and government agencies.

The UWC underscored that trafficking is "a modern-day form of slavery and a grave violation of human rights." It called on the United Nations system and member-states to: "undertake prevention and awareness campaigns; promulgate national legislation to punish traffickers and their facilitators; prioritize law enforcement efforts to arrest and convict traffickers; provide humanitarian services to victims; ratify and implement the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime; address and interrupt the international financial underpinning of this trade; develop international, regional and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin transit and destination countries; and accord special focus on the new front from traffickers in Eastern and Central Europe."

Among other anniversaries, 2007 also marked 60 years since Akcja Wisla, or Operation Vistula, a military operation that in 1947 forcibly resettled nearly 150,000 Ukrainians living in Poland in an effort to disperse the Ukrainians among the Polish population and to conduct ethnic cleansing of Ukrainian territories in eastern and southeastern Poland.

Both the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) and the League of Ukrainian Canadians (LUC) issued statements on Akcja Wisla on April 24. The UCC stressed that this "unlawful and inhuman wide-scale military operation was an offense to the dignity of the Ukrainian population, while the forceful and humiliating imprisonment of over 4,000 Ukrainians at the Jaworzno concentration camp was an abuse of human rights." The LUC joined the UCC in appealing to the Polish Sejm and the government of Poland to condemn Akcja Wisla and to redress the injustices caused by compensating the victims.

On April 27 Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko commemorated Akcja Wisla's anniversary during a visit to Polish President Lech Kaczynski in Warsaw. The two presidents prayed together at a service in the Presidential Palace's chapel. They also signed a joint statement to develop bilateral cooperation as part of an extended reconciliation process between Polish and Ukrainian people and met with Ukrainian diaspora leaders. Later President Yushchenko declared that the two nations had created a "culture of strategic partnership" between Ukraine and Poland. In accordance with his presidential decree on April 5, the president stated that a monument will be built in Lviv to honor all Ukrainian victims of forced deportations and resettlements. The monument will be financed by Ukrainian benefactors from the West.

Earlier in the year, on March 2, President Yushchenko attended a ceremony to unveil a monument to Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko in Tbilisi, Georgia. The president thanked the Georgian government for erecting the monument in its capital and described the event, as further "proof of friendly ties between Ukraine and Georgia." According to Mr. Yushchenko, it is not only the past, but also the future that unites the two countries. He praised the Georgian government's efforts to reform its country and expressed hope that Ukraine and Georgia would soon become full members of the European Union and would join NATO.

Later in the year President Yushchenko gathered with President Laszlo Solyom of Hungary to unveil another statue of Taras Shevchenko, this one designed by Prof. Ivan Mykytiuk of Lviv. In his speech on July 11 in Budapest, Mr. Yushchenko thanked the government of Hungary for helping to erect the monument and stated that Hungary's respect for Shevchenko is a compliment to the Ukrainian people and serves as a token of the friendship and neighborly relationship between the two nations.

Both Georgia and Hungary are home to Ukrainian diaspora communities, whose members had opportunities to meet with Mr. Yushchenko.

Yet another example of ties between Ukraine and the diaspora was the release on February 9 by Ukraine of a stamp featuring St. Michael Orthodox Church in Adelaide, Australia. The church is affiliated with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyiv Patriarchate. The postage stamp, valued at 3.35 hrv depicts a contemporary view of the church from a photograph taken by well-known Adelaide philatelist and Ukraine expert, George Fedyk. The stamp was also issued with an attached label that depicts the church's stained glass window of its patron, the Archangel Michael, created by Adelaide artist Cedar Prest. This postage stamp was the second in the

series "Ukrainian Churches Abroad" that is being released by Ukrposhta. (The first stamp of this series was issued on December 9, 2005, and highlighted St. Barbara Ukrainian Catholic Church in Vienna, Austria). The 150,000 copies of the new postage stamp were issued in sheetlets of 12 stamps and 12 labels. A first day of issue ceremony was conducted at the central Kyiv Post Office with a specially prepared first day envelope and first day of issue commemorative postmark.

In other news in Australia, it was reported in early 2007 that on November 25, 2006, Matthew Guy, an Australian of Ukrainian background was elected to the 56th Victorian Parliament as the Upper House member for the Northern Metropolitan Region. He has been active in the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO), and acknowledged his Ukrainian heritage in his maiden speech in the Victorian Parliament on December 19, 2006. Stefan Romaniw, chairman of the AFUO, stated that Mr. Guy used his contacts during the Orange Revolution to further the cause of democracy and said he is a good role model for young people in Australia.

Our Churches: news from around the globe

Church news of 2007 led off with the January 25 announcement that Bishop David Motiuk, 45, was named as the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, succeeding Metropolitan-Archbishop Lawrence Huculak, 56, who was appointed to head the Archeparchy of Winnipeg the previous year. Bishop Motiuk was enthroned on March 24 at St. Basil the Great Ukrainian Catholic Church in Edmonton. Previously he had served as auxiliary bishop of the Archeparchy of Winnipeg.

Next came news from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. (UOC-U.S.A.), whose 20-member Metropolitan Council, which includes three hierarchs, seven clergy and seven laity, convened on February 1-3 in South Bound Brook, N.J., to discuss the state of the Church and developments within its various charitable projects, including the construction of the All Saints Camp Chapel and the Historical Educational Complex at the Metropolia Center, as well as its work with orphanages in Znamianka and Zaluchia, Ukraine.

Following are the other major developments in Ukrainian Church life, given in chronological order.

On February 28 the Synod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP), reported that it was ready to cooperate with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. in dealing with matters related to the United States and the diaspora. This came after the UOC-KP appointed a new bishop to oversee the Church's activities in the United States, which the UOC-U.S.A. felt was an encroachment on its jurisdiction.

Over five inches of rain fell during a Nor'easter storm on April 15-16, which resulted in the nearby Raritan River flooding the Metropolia Center of the UOC-U.S.A. in South Bound Brook, N.J. Damage was sustained to the Hendrick Fischer House, a historic landmark from the Revolutionary War, and area homes used by clergy and their families. The second Sunday of Pascha, St. Thomas Sunday (Providna Nedilia), is known for the weekend pilgrimage that attracts faithful from across the country to the cemetery grounds.

Pope Benedict XVI announced on June 1, that the Rev. Kenneth Nowakowski, 49, rector of the Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Seminary in Ottawa, was named bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster in British Columbia. The eparchy comprises approximately 8,000 faithful. The announcement came after the pontiff's acceptance of 77-year-old Bishop Severin S. Yakymyshyn's resignation upon reaching the mandatory age of 75 for retirement.

On June 20 Pope Benedict XVI blessed the decision of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church to appoint the Rev. Daniel Kozelinski Netto as auxiliary bishop and eparch of Sao Joao Batista in Curitiba, Brazil, which includes 161,500 Ukrainian Catholics, 81 priests, two deacons and 553 religious.

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. broke ground for the new Historical Educational Complex in New Jersey on August 6. The United Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhoods of the U.S.A. raised \$250,000 for the building, and Victor Rusynsky, on behalf of the Ukrainian Information Bureau Inc., donated \$58,000 in memory of Patriarch Mstyslav I, while the St. Andrew Parish Orthodox Sisterhood pledged it would donate \$100,000 to the project before the next Sobor.

In conjunction with the centennial celebration of the arrival of the first Ukrainian Catholic bishop to America, 39 bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church met at a historic Synod – the first Synod held in the United States – on September 26 through October 6 in Philadelphia and Washington. (Previous Synods were held in Rome before Ukraine's independence in 1991; since then, Synods have been held in Ukraine.)

Thirty-nine prelates participated in the synod. They came from all of the geographic areas where the Ukrainian Catholic Church is established: Ukraine, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Oceania, Brazil, Argentina, England, France, the Benelux countries, Switzerland, Germany, Scandinavia, Poland and Croatia. Topics of discussion included evangelization in the post-Communist world, enlarging the pool of candidates for the priesthood and the role of youth in the Church.

On September 30 EWTN, the Catholic cable network, broadcast the centennial divine liturgy celebrated by Cardinal and Patriarch Lubomyr Husar at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. The liturgy marked the 1907 arrival in the United States of Bishop Stephen Soter Ortynsky, OSBM. Another public event related to the Ukrainian Catholic Synod was a visit on October 2, by the hierarchs to



Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Ukrainian Catholic bishops in Philadelphia during their worldwide Synod held on September 26-October 6.

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Roman Karpishka

A view of the interior of St. Nicholas Church in Watervliet, N.Y., with participating hierarchs, clergy and religious, as well as altar servers and parish children, gathered for a commemorative photograph on October 7 on the occasion of the parish's centennial.

Manor College in Jenkintown, Pa.

The UOC-U.S.A. held its 18th Regular Sobor on October 3-7, at which time the Rev. Daniel (Zielinsky) was elevated to the rank of archimandrite and was named bishop-elect. The Church's hierarchs, including Metropolitan Constantine, Archbishop Antony and Archbishop Vsevolod, were honored for their pastoral services during a grand banquet, where contributions to the Historical and Educational Complex (HEC) were announced. Some of the prominent donations included \$25,000 by St. Volodymyr Cathedral, Philadelphia; \$30,000 from Mary Kramarenko, and a large portion of \$800,000 from the estate of Sviatoslav (Gerard) Kybaluck, which he left to the Church. Nadia Mirchuk, president of the United Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhoods, announced that \$300,000 would be submitted to the Consistory for the HEC.

Finally, the church news of the year ended on a sad note, with the announcement of the repose of Archbishop Vsevolod (Kolomijcew-Majdanski) of the Western Eparchy of the UOC of the U.S.A. on December 16, a few days after his 80th birthday. (A detailed biography of the eparch can be found in the January 6, 2008, issue of *The Ukrainian Weekly*.)

There were quite a few parishes celebrating centennials in 2007.

Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Cohoes, N.Y. celebrated its 100th anniversary with a pontifical divine liturgy on June 24, celebrated by Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, eparch of Stamford.

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Detroit completed its yearlong centennial celebrations on June 24. Events commemorating the anniversary included banquets, receptions, a hierarchical divine liturgy, and a reunion of St. John's Grade School at St. Josephat Banquet Center in Warren, Mich.

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Chicago capped off its centennial events with a campaign that raised over \$1 million for renovations to the church's edifice to accommodate the growing elderly membership in attending services. The Centennial Committee, with the guidance of Bishop Richard Seminack, approved a new accessibility ramp, the installation of an interior lift, a snow-melting system under the exterior stairs and walkways, new landscaping, new accessible toilets and improvements to the lighting and security of the grounds.

On October 7 St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Watervliet, N.Y., celebrated its centennial with a pontifical divine liturgy celebrated by Bishop Chomnycky of Stamford. In leading up to the celebration, the parish spent over \$1 million in renovations, including the replacement of the copper roof and all the interior iconography.

The last centennial celebration of the year for Ukrainian churches was that of St. John the Baptist

Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., on November 4. The pontifical divine liturgy was led by Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka (Philadelphia), Bishop Michael Wiwchar (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan), Bishop John Bura (Philadelphia), Bishop Basil Losten (Stamford, Conn.) and Bishop-emeritus Michael Kuchmiak. The celebratory banquet sold out the 600 available seats and attendees received two hard-cover books on the parish's history and the history of St. John's School.

Academia: scholars and institutions move

Movement was the most salient characteristic of developments in the world of academia and scholarship during 2007.

At Harvard University, Dr. Serhii Plokhii was appointed the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of History effective July 1. The appointment came after a two-year international search. Dr. Plokhii, 49, came to Harvard from the University of Alberta, where he was a professor of history and acting director of the Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies (CIUS). For 10 years he was associate director of the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at CIUS, working on the Hrushevsky Translation Project, co-editing three of the four volumes of the *History of Ukraine-Rus'* published to date. He also taught at Harvard as a visiting professor in the spring of 2003 and the fall of 2005. In the spring of 2002 Dr. Plokhii was the Petro Jacyk Distinguished Fellow in Ukrainian Studies at HURI.

"Serhii Plokhii is a superb choice to follow in the formidable footsteps of Omeljan Pritsak and Roman Szporluk as the third Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard," said Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology and HURI Director Michael S. Flier. "Grounded in Ukrainian history but with a broad outlook, Prof. Plokhii is not narrowly committed to a single period but teaches, conducts research and publishes over the entire spectrum of Ukrainian history, from the days of Rus' to the Orange Revolution. He connects Ukrainian history with broader Ukrainian culture (religion, art, nationality) and with other histories and cultures, including those of Poland, Lithuania, the Czech lands, Belarus, Russia, and the Ottoman and Habsburg Empires, as well as transnational groups, including the Jews, the Roma (Gypsies) and the Tatars. He is a prolific writer and one of the most active participants in the scholarly life of our field."

Meanwhile, at Columbia University, Dr. Mark von Hagen, described in the Harriman Institute's newsletter as "the guiding spirit behind the growth of the institute's Ukrainian Studies Program," left to take up the position

of chair of the history department at Arizona State University starting July 1. At Columbia Dr. von Hagen was the Boris Bakhmeteff Professor of Russian and East-European Studies and chair of the history department, specializing in Russia, Ukraine and the dynamic interplay of empire and nation in the region's modern history. He also directed the Harriman Institute, the oldest and largest teaching and research center devoted to the successor states of the Soviet empire and chaired the Master of International Affairs Program at the university's School of International and Public Affairs.

The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia, which exists under the aegis of the Harriman Institute, now includes courses taught by Dr. Yuri Shevchuk (language), Dr. Mark Andryczyk (literature) and Ambassador Valery Kuchinsky (Ukraine and the United Nations). Dr. Frank Sysyn, a Peter Jacyk visiting scholar, is to teach a history course during the spring 2008 semester. It must be noted that Dr. Andryczyk is the winner of a Shevchenko Scientific Society Post-Doctoral Fellowship for 2007-2008. The purpose of the society's program is to assist aspiring young scholars in the U.S. and Canada working in the fields of Ukrainian philology and linguistics or Ukrainian literature. The fellowship requires recipients to teach in the area of Ukrainian studies at an accredited North American university.

The other recipient of the Shevchenko Society's two post-doctoral fellowships for 2007-2008 was Dr. Maria Rewakowicz, who was to teach in the Slavic languages and literatures department of the University of Washington in Seattle, which is seeking to expand its scholarly activities and course offerings in Ukrainian language and culture. Dr. Rewakowicz also was to conduct research on Ukrainian diaspora literature, Ukrainian post-Soviet literature and the impact of disasters, such as Chornobyl, on the cultural and political fabric of the affected societies. The NTS fellowships were awarded in the amount of \$35,000 each.

There were moves in academia in Ukraine also. At the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetsky stepped down as president on August 31. "After 17 years the time has come for change, and the university now needs a younger president with new ideas for the university's future development and top management skills. But I have no intention of leaving Kyiv Mohyla Academy, where I can still play an important role of significant responsibility," Dr. Briukhovetsky said. However, he did not leave the university's campus. "My new role at the Mohyla Academy," Dr. Briukhovetsky said, "will be directing the International Charitable Renaissance Fund of NUKMA, which is committed to establishing the financial conditions that will sustain the university in the future and guarantee its independence." The title of honorary president of NUKMA was bestowed on Dr. Briukhovetsky.

He was replaced as the university's president by Dr. Serhii Kvit, NUKMA's dean of social sciences and social technologies, who had recently returned from six months at Ohio University, where he had been conducting research on the influence of the media market on



Dr. Serhii Plokhii, the newly appointed Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard University.

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Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University, who organized a major fund-raiser on March 25: (top row, from left) Taras Lewycky, Oksana Woroch, Thomas Kurey III, Roman Fedorak, Ulana Mazurkevich, Prof. Antoine Arjakovski, Orysia Hewka, Dan Szymanski Jr., Prof. Jeffrey Wills, (bottom row) Chrystia Senyk, Vera Andryczyk, Ihor Shust, Nell Andrzejewski, Ihor Chyzowych and Tessa Kocan.

media education in the United States thanks to a Fulbright scholarship. Dr. Kvit was inaugurated as NUKMA president on September 1.

In Ottawa, the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies welcomed its new director, Father Stephen Wojcichowsky, on February 1, as he began his three-year term. MASI, an academic unit of the Faculty of Theology at St. Paul University, offers graduate and undergraduate degrees in Eastern Christian studies, as well as certificate and summer intensive programs both in Canada and in Ukraine. It is supported by the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute Foundation.

Not only scholars, but also institutions themselves were on the move during 2007. The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute moved in February from its longtime headquarters at 1583 Massachusetts Ave. in Cambridge, Mass., to 34 Kirkland St., into the historic Ames House (whose two parts were built in 1775 and 1839) that used to house Harvard faculty. HURI's new home is close to the university's center, Harvard Yard, and contiguous to the university's Center for Government and International Studies, and the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies. An open house at the new facility was held on September 24, at which time the institute's new research library was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Pritsak, co-founder of HURI and the first Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History.

In Lviv, the Ukrainian Catholic University kicked off the next stage of its development with the blessing on May 22 of a cross for the university's new "student town," which will include dormitories, a library, a museum, classroom buildings, a chapel and a conference center. The site of the cross on Stryiska Street had been blessed by Pope John Paul II during his visit to Ukraine in June 2001. "We are standing in an extraordinary place, where the new cross was just blessed," said Archbishop Ihor Vozniak of Lviv in his greeting after the blessing ceremony. "In some time, buildings of the university town will stand here, where the youth of Ukraine will acquire knowledge and appropriate Christian spiritual formation."

At the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) that took place on November 16-18 in New Orleans, for the first time in the history of this forum a special panel was organized to focus specifically on Ukrainian film studies. The panel "Cinema and the Emergence of Modern Ukrainian Identity," sponsored by the Ukrainian Studies Program and Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University, featured a discipline that in the American academic curriculum and agenda has yet to attain the prominence and weight that is rightfully its own, comparable to film studies for other Central and East European areas.

Among other Ukrainian topics discussed at panels: "Post-World War II Ukrainian Diaspora Literature," "The Ukrainian Question in the Russian Empire in the 19th and the Beginning of the 20th Century," "Contemporary Agrarian Reform in Russia and

Ukraine," "Ukrainian Society and Culture of the 1920s and 1930s," "Influence of Western and Central European Languages on the Contemporary Ukrainian Language" (sponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific Society), "The Cyril-Methodius Brotherhood, Its Legacy and Roots" (sponsored by the American Association for Ukrainian Studies), "Ukraine's Polish Option: Towards the 350th Anniversary of the Hadiach Union (1658)," "The Orange Revolution in Retrospect," "The Changing Profile of Womanhood in Ukraine: Truth or Fiction," "Defining Ukraine and Its People," "Ottomans, Russia and Ukraine," as well as papers on the city of Odesa, ballads, samvydav publications, folklore, archeology, neopaganism in Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora, the Holodomor, cartography, and more.

In Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, at the annual conference of the Canadian Association of Slavists (CAS) held on May 26-28, the number of panels regarding Ukrainian ethnology had doubled from the previous year and quadrupled from 2005. Seven panel discussions addressed topics in Ukrainian folklore and ethnology. There was a large contingent of speakers from the University of Alberta's Peter and Doris Kule Center for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore, as well as speakers from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village (Alberta). Several participants from Ukraine also attended the CAS conference. The annual general meeting of the Canadian Association of Ukrainian Ethnology (CAUE) was held during the conference.

In the realm of film studies, the Ukrainian Film Club at Columbia University announced in September that it had received the complete cinematic work of Oleksander Dovzhenko (1894-1956) – a valuable addition to what is already the largest collection of classical and contemporary sub-titled Ukrainian films in North America. Universally considered to be one of the world's most important filmmakers, Dovzhenko is primarily remembered as the author of such masterpieces as "Zvenyhora" (1927), "Arsenal" (1929) and "Earth" (1930). The unique DVD collection, titled "Oleksander Dovzhenko: The Cinematographic Legacy," makes all his extant work available to the world. Created at the initiative of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Ukraine, this 10-DVD set is composed of the films Dovzhenko made himself, including the unique footage of his unfinished feature narrative, "Good-Bye, America!" as well as films written by him and directed, after his death, by others, most notably by his wife, Yulia Solntseva.

Diaspora scholars united in protest in March to express their indignation about "the renewed attempts by certain political forces in Ukraine to declare Russian as the second state language" in Ukraine. Their March 31 open letter was published in The Ukrainian Weekly on April 8. It stated, in part: "Nothing threatens the Russian language in Ukraine; it is the native language that is in real jeopardy, as evidenced by recent appeals to students to bar Ukrainian-speaking teachers from

school auditoriums. Such anti-Ukrainian elements, by pushing for the official introduction of Russian as a second state language, intend to bring Ukrainian to the level of 'non-obligatory' and 'impractical' to learn and use. They know perfectly well that without language there is no nation and that making Russian the second state language would threaten the existence of Ukraine as an independent country."

Signatories included scholars from the United States, Canada and Europe, among them the leaders of such scholarly societies as the Ukrainian-American Association of University Professors, Ukrainian Historical Association, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences (U.S., Canada) Shevchenko Scientific Society (U.S., Europe, Canada, Poland, Slovakia), Association of Ukrainists (Poland, Slovakia), Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center, as well as the World Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress.

In Ukraine, Fulbright alumni commemorated the 10th anniversary of the Ukrainian Fulbright Association at their annual conference held on October 19-20 in Kyiv. "This is one of the important ways of supporting our alumni association as part of the Fulbright scholars network," said Ukrainian American Myron Stachiw, the director of the Ukraine Fulbright Program. "Scholars from different disciplines have come together for friendly interchange." The conference also marked the 15th year the Ukraine Fulbright Exchange Program has been independent of Moscow. During the Soviet era, only 12 U.S. scholars studied in Ukraine during the program's 20 years, Mr. Stachiw said, and only a handful of Ukrainians studied in the U.S. Now 20 American scholars study in Ukraine annually, and 50 Ukrainians study in the U.S.

Perhaps the conference's biggest event was the presentation of the Ukrainian Fulbright Association's first-ever Code of Ethics, fulfilling a resolution to draft guidelines approved at the 2006 meeting. The ethics code is significant because few professional or academic organizations in Ukraine have made similar efforts, Mr. Stachiw said. It's a critical step in combating the corruption that engulfs Ukraine's academic and educational institutions. Among the many issues it addresses are plagiarism, access to information, openness in scholarship and intellectual property rights.

In related news during 2007, the former director of the Fulbright Program in Ukraine, Dr. Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak, spoke at the Kennan Institute's Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars in Washington on February 12. In her presentation titled "Institutionalizing Change: Faculty Organization in Ukraine," Dr. Bohachevsky-Chomiak noted that reforming higher education in Ukraine has been a slow and difficult process, as old habits and old standards die hard. The speaker headed the Kyiv office of the U.S.-funded Fulbright academic exchange program for six years.

The academic calendar was filled with other lectures and panels on diverse topics presented by various schol-



A fund for the computerization of archives at the Symon Petliura Ukrainian Library in Paris was established in 2007.

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arly societies, ranging from the founding of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences (Vladimir Mackiw Lecture delivered by Prof. Elizabeth V. Haigh at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Toronto, February 22) to the constitutional crisis in Ukraine (Judge Bohdan Futey at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, New York, September 8). And, there were numerous seminars as well, including one at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute on October 18 on the results of Ukraine's pre-term parliamentary elections presented by Tammy Lynch, senior fellow at Boston University's Institute for the Study of Conflict, Ideology and Policy, who had spent seven weeks in Ukraine observing and studying the political scene.

Among the most significant lectures of 2007 was the Taras Shevchenko Lecture delivered on March 30. The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton invited Dr. Peter J. Potichnyj, a leading authority on the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) to deliver the prestigious Shevchenko Lecture on the topic "The Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA): What Have We Learned 65 Years After Its Founding?"

Dr. Potichnyj addressed some of the key controversies surrounding the UPA, including the conflating of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), especially of the organization led by Stepan Bandera (OUN-B) with the UPA, by commonly referring to the two entities in academic and popular literature as OUN-UPA. Prof. Potichnyj pointed out that the first to use the hyphenated designation for the two bodies were Soviet security organs and other Soviet entities and individuals from the Soviet Union. As the OUN, whose ideology was integral nationalist, had dealings with the Germans, getting people to believe that the two entities were virtually identical would serve to discredit the UPA. The hyphenated term has also been used by some émigré circles affiliated with the OUN-B, and it has become fashionable again since Ukraine's independence, which Dr. Potichnyj attributed in part to the political ambitions of some politicians in contemporary Ukraine. While acknowledging the important role played by OUN members in the UPA, Dr. Potichnyj stressed that the UPA was subordinated to the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council (Ukrainska Holovna Vyzvolna Rada, or UHVR) – an underground governing body more broadly based than the OUN-B – and that the UHVR was itself created upon the insistence of the UPA.

Another controversy dealt with the organization of the UPA. Soviet propaganda aimed to portray the UPA as undisciplined bands of gangsters. Prof. Potichnyj outlined the organizational structure of the UPA to show its similarities to that of a regular army. He then noted the Soviet efforts made to create armed groups that looked like and imitated the UPA units, who were engaged in atrocities with the intent of discrediting the UPA. He noted that already in 1945 there were 156 such mirror-image groups in existence.

The year was marked also by major fund-raising tours conducted for the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) and the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (NUKMA).

In Philadelphia alone, a March 25 benefit luncheon at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center raised \$100,000 for Lviv's UCU. Similar fund-raising events, organized by the Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, took place during the fall in New York, Chicago, Yonkers, N.Y., Whippany, N.J., and Warren, Mich., as well as in Edmonton, Montreal and Toronto in Canada. Keynote speakers at those events were either the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, UCU rector, or Myroslav Marynovych, UCU vice-rector.

Fund-raisers for NUKMA were held in the early part of 2007 in Silver Spring, Md., Whippany, N.J., Chicago, Warren, Mich., and Philadelphia. The 2007 fund-raising drive organized by the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America was launched on February 11 with a dinner reception at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Silver Spring. Speakers in Maryland included NUKMA President Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William G. Miller, who is the foundation's co-chairman, and Marta Farion, the foundation's president. A total of \$350,000 was raised during the three-week period when NUKMA benefits were held in the U.S.

On May 24, thanks to the generosity of donors in the United States, Canada and Ukraine, NUKMA celebrated the opening of its new baccalaureate library. The renovated 19th century building was named in honor of its principal benefactors, Tetiana and Omelian Antonovych



Zenon Zawada

Dr. Mark von Hagen, formerly the guiding spirit of Ukrainian studies at Columbia University, moved to Arizona State University.

of the U.S., who donated \$1 million toward the project – one-half of the total raised. Among those present at the opening ceremonies were Canadian Ambassador Abina M. Dann, Polish Ambassador Jacek Kluczowski and former Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

In a separate ceremony, Mr. Chrétien was awarded an honorary doctorate in recognition of his special role in the development of Canada-Ukraine relations. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Chrétien said, "I am pleased to become part of your Kyiv Mohyla family. I have great faith in the wisdom of the Ukrainian people and in the country's future." Based on his dedicated 45 years of public service to Canada, he called upon Kyiv Mohyla Academy to encourage its graduates to choose careers in government and to participate in building a stable and prosperous country for its people.

Under the auspices of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Chapter, the Symon Petliura Memorial Fund was established to support the computerization of the archives of the Symon Petliura Ukrainian Library in Paris. The library is the main source of information and archives detailing the rise of the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR). It was founded shortly after Petliura's assassination in 1926 and soon became a focal point of émigré politics and Ukrainian culture. It opened to the public in 1929. The memorial fund is being administered by Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union in Chicago (account No. 107572).

Drs. Peter and Doris Kule, already known as huge supporters of Ukrainian studies in Canada, in July donated \$900,000 toward the establishment of an endowment dedicated to the study of Ukrainians in Canada. Combined with the \$100,000 they previously donated to the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) to support research on Ukrainian communities around the world, their donation represents an outstanding investment in academic research on the Ukrainian experience outside of Ukraine. The \$1 million donation will eventually be doubled through the government of Alberta matching gifts program. In combination with CIUS's annual budgetary allocation to the Ukrainian Canadian Program, the endowment will in time triple the amount of money available for the continued development of Ukrainian Canadian Studies. Earlier the Kules had given more than \$1.1 million to post-secondary institutions in Edmonton and Ottawa. In announcing the news of the latest donation, Jars Balan, the administrative coordinator of the Ukrainian Canadian Program at CIUS, described the Kules' gesture as "unprecedented and humbling."

At year's end, there was a noteworthy development at Boston College: the establishment of the Metropolitan Stephen S. Sulyk Ukrainian Scholarship Fund. On December 8 more than 200 students, parents, faculty, administrators and members of the local Ukrainian community filled St. Mary's Chapel at Boston College to celebrate the feast day and the end of the semester and to mark the establishment of the new scholarship fund, which was endowed by Lidia Boyduy Shandor Devonshire of Chicago, the hierarch's cousin and an alumna of Boston College Law School.

Archbishop Sulyk: "This scholarship makes it possible for young men and women, Catholic, Orthodox as well as non-Christians, from Ukraine to come here to Boston College and receive higher education. They have suffered for long decades under atheistic communism and were deprived of any religious education. Now they have an opportunity, having started their education at the Ukrainian Catholic University in the city of Lviv, to come here to this school and enjoy the high caliber of Western education."

Culture and the arts: much ado in all fields

Culturally and artistically speaking, 2007 was just full of events in fields ranging from fine and folk art to film and photography. Following is a review of the year's highlights, given by category and chronologically.

ART

The Lviv Art Gallery celebrated its 100th anniversary by unveiling its European collection, which is on permanent display at the Potocki Palace, on February 14. The collection includes antiques, and Ukrainian, German, Finnish, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Austrian, and Central and Eastern European works. The French Renaissance-style palace was the residence of Polish Count Alfred Potocki II, the viceroy of Halychyna for the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The Center for Contemporary Art (CCA) at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy showcased young contemporary artists from Ukraine, Germany and Austria on February 23. The group Radical Experimental Spaces (REP), which includes Zhanna Kadyrova, Lesia Khomenko, Mykyta Kadan, Lada Nakonechna, Volodymyr Kuzentsov and Kseniya Gnylytska, set up the exhibit as a chance for artists to push one another toward new ideas and for the art community to show its support for each other.

The "Mystetskyi Arsenal," an art gallery located in an apartment building near the 18th century military fortifications in Kyiv across from the Kyivan Caves Monastery, in late March opened its inaugural exhibit featuring works by Jurij Solovij of the U.S. Some of the paintings were donated by the artist to the museum, while others were available for purchase. Just weeks after the Ukrainian-born artist sent his works to his homeland, he passed away on April 23. The exhibit featured works from the 1960s and 1970s, including 30 painted and collaged works.

Twenty-seven artists from the United States, Canada and Europe exhibited ancient and contemporary styles in the showcase titled, "In Search of Ukrainian Symbolism and Motifs" highlighting paintings, sculptures, textile art, photography, woodcuts and pysanky at the Scarab Club in Detroit on April 4 to May 12. Featured artists included Christina Pereyma O'Neal, Anizia Karmazyn, Irma Osadsa and Daniel Grashuck. Dzvinika Hayda curated the show.

The 50th anniversary of the Ukrainian Association of Visual Arts of Canada included a traveling exhibit of 40 pieces in various media and styles that was featured at the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago. The exhibit was on display during April.

Bohdan Soroka, a distinguished graphic artist and painter-monumentalist from Ukraine, was featured on April 20-22 at the Ukrainian National Women's League of America gallery in New York. The exhibit was dedicated to the memory of Nina Samokish, president of UNWLA Branch 64 and leader of the Plast sorority Verkhovynky.

The Ukrainian Museum hosted works from the estate of Vasyl Hryhorovych Krychevsky in an exhibit that ran from April 22 to June 3. The collection featured oil paintings and watercolors by the artist – on loan from the Zorya Fine Art Gallery in Greenwich, Conn. Krychevsky was an architect, artist, scholar and educator, and was one of the organizers of the Ukrainian State Academy of Arts in 1917 (later known as the Kyiv Art Institute). Krychevsky's Impressionism has been described by his biographer Vadym Pavlovsky as Ukrainian landscape scenes of longing, with the artist "capturing nature and recreating it with his brush."

The Ukrainian Museum opened "A Collection Revealed: The Ukrainian Museum at 30 – Paintings and Sculpture from the Fine Arts Collection," which ran

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from May 13 to September 30. The exhibit featured works by Ukrainian artists, co-curated by Prof. Jaroslav Leshko and Maria Shust, director of the museum. Some of the featured artists included Alexander Archipenko, Edward Kozak, Mykhailo Chereshnovsky, Mykola Butovych, Halyna Mazepa, Mykhailo Moroz and Hryhory Kruk.

The Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center in Winnipeg, Manitoba, held a presentation on May 31 by Prof. Myroslav Shkandrij, titled "David Burliuk: Was He a Ukrainian Artist? Arguments For and Against," that explored Burliuk, who was born in Ukraine, but was adopted by the Russians as their "father of Russian Futurism." Although Burliuk wrote his notes and poetry in Russian, according to the testimony of his son, Burliuk identified himself as a Ukrainian and was proud of his Kozak lineage, as evidenced by his many imitations of Kozak paintings such as "Kozak Mamai." In conclusion, Prof. Shkandrij said that there is no question that Burliuk was Ukrainian. He also spoke of the renewed interest in Ukraine in reclaiming émigré artists and those adopted by other cultures.

Ukraine was represented in Venice, Italy, at the 52nd Biennale di Venezia – the world's most prestigious contemporary art exhibition – from June 7 through November 21. "Poem on the Internal Sea," the name of the Ukrainian exhibition, was made possible with major funding from businessman Victor Pinchuk. This was the fourth time Ukraine exhibited at the art show. Controversy surrounded the exhibit when Mr. Pinchuk selected his artists instead of holding a national contest, as was tradition. Of the seven artists selected to represent Ukraine, only two live in Ukraine. Although \$200,000 was allocated by the Ukrainian government for the exhibit, PinchukArtCenter Director Dmytro Lohvyn revealed that between five and six times that amount was projected as the true cost.

An exhibit of works by folk artist Sophia Lada, "Found Threads," was on display on September 5-16 at the * new * gallery in Toronto's Gallery District, which also featured the works of the artist's mother, Marusia Lada-Uhorczak, who died earlier in 2007 at the age of 98. The exhibit's centerpiece was a six-foot embroidered burial shroud depicting Ms. Lada-Uhorczak's face, hands, figure and feet, surrounded by symbolism related to her life.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Early in the year, the Ukrainian Institute of America, based in New York, unveiled its annual calendar of events, including the 18th season of its Music at the Institute concert series, Literary Café evenings and art exhibits.

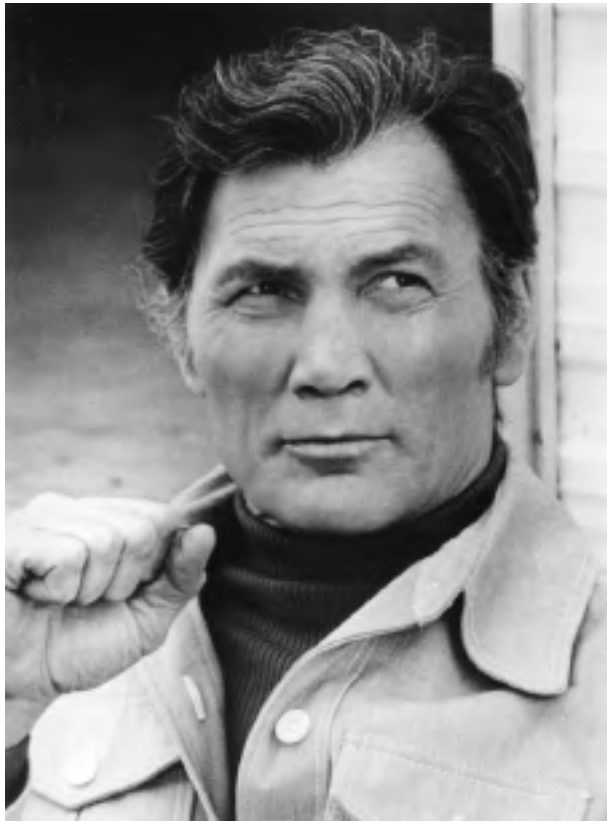
Musicologist Ihor Sonevsky, who passed away in 2006, was remembered with a memorial concert at the Ukrainian Institute of America held on June 9. Pieces by Sonevsky that were performed included his "Ave Maria," "Alleluia," "Berceuse," "Triptych," "Intermezzo" and Piano Concerto in G major.

The Ukrainian Music Institute of America celebrated three anniversaries on April 29 at the Ukrainian National Home in Irvington, N.J.: the 55th anniversary of UMI, the 100th anniversary of the birth of Roman Sawycky, one of the original founders of UMI, and the 80th birthday of Taissa Bohdanska, president emerita and a music teacher who has served UMI's students for 55 years. Current and former students of Ms. Bohdanska performed a concert to mark the occasion.

The Ukrainian Museum in New York held its 30th annual meeting at its gallery on June 10. Special thanks were given to the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, which founded the museum, and for the many donations that the museum received during the year.

The Ukrainian Institute of America remembered the life and career of Jack Palance (Volodymyr Palahniuk) with a two-day tribute on November 10-11. The commemoration, which comprised an exhibit, reception, awards ceremony and film showing, was co-sponsored by the Hollywood Trident Foundation and featured memorabilia from Palance's film career.

The Oseredok of Winnipeg announced in its annual report that it assembled an exhibition of 70 works of art by artists from across Canada, promoted folk arts through workshops, provided research and reference services through its library and archives. The report noted the financial achievements made during the six-year term of the outgoing Oseredok president, Ken Romaniuk. Succeeding Mr. Romaniuk was Prof. Oleh Gerus, who brings experience from being on the board



The late Jack Palance was honored on November 10-11 at the Ukrainian Institute of America.

at the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Shevchenko Foundation, St. Andrew's College and the Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba, among others.

DANCE

MN2 Productions presented "Ancestral Voices," an original dance-theater piece that draws text from the translated works of Ukrainian poets Oleksander Oles, Lesia Ukrainka, Taras Shevchenko and Mykhailo Drai-Khmara, and Ukrainian folk songs. Nadia Tarnawsky, artistic director of MN2 Productions, and Mark Tomasic, choreographer, debuted this performance in Cleveland in 2000. The 2007 version included new musical arrangements performed by Alexander Fedoriuk, Andrei Pidkivka, Liesl Hook-Langmack and Don Safranek, with additional vocals by the folk trio Divchata v Kukhni (The Girls in the Kitchen). Excerpts from the piece were performed at the Resonance World Music Festival in Cleveland on June 2, and the full work was performed at the Gordon Square Theater in Cleveland on June 29-June 1.

The Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Chicago kicked off its 2007 European tour on June 22. Artistic Director Roxana Dykyj-Pylypczak took 51 of her dancers to perform in Paris and Strasbourg, France; Munich, Germany; and Rome, Florence, Venice and Tuscany in Italy. Also accompanying the troupe were 34

relatives, friends and supporters, as well as virtuoso violinist Vasyl Popadiuk.

FILM

At the beginning of 2007 it was reported that cinematographer Andrij Parekh, 35, who is of Ukrainian descent, had his film "Half Nelson" nominated for an Academy Award in the best actor category. The psychological drama was filmed almost entirely with handheld cameras, which Mr. Parekh feels gives a more true, almost documentary feel to the film.

Irene Zabytko, author of "The Sky Unwashed," traveled to Ukraine in February with filmmaker Peter Mychalcewycz to the Chernobyl exclusion zone to visit the people living in an abandoned village as she began work on "Life in the Dead Zone: A Writer's Visits Chernobyl." Stops included the Chernobyl Museum in Kyiv and the village of Opachychi, near Chernobyl.

Ukrainian film festivals have begun popping up across the country, and Philadelphia joined the list of cities hosting such a showcase on March 10-11. The event was co-sponsored by the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, to mark the league's 90th anniversary, and the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University. The film festival not only provided an opportunity for independent filmmakers to show their work, but also fostered a dialogue for bringing Ukrainian cinema to the forefront in Ukraine. Organizers and speakers of the festival included Natasha Mykhalchuk, Sofeeka Hasiuk, Christina Kotlar, Yuri Shevchuk, Lesya Kalynska, Andrea Odezynska and Andrew Koltiar.

The Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University on April 18 hosted the U.S. premiere of "La Zona" (The Unnamed Zone), by filmmaker Carlos Rodriguez from San Sebastian, Spain, who made the documentary feature film about three children, Lida, Nastia and Andrii, and their families who were affected by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. A shorter version of "La Zona" was screened on April 20 as part of the "Legacy of Chernobyl" session at the 16th International Conference on Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions held at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

Filmmaker Steve York's 106-minute documentary "Orange Revolution" focuses on the role of the millions of ordinary people who went out into the streets to protest the theft of their vote and to protect their democratic rights. Screened at the Hot Docs Canadian International Film Festival in Toronto on April 20 and 23, the powerful imagery in the film tells more of the story than the interviews, wrote reviewer Orest Zakydalsky. Freelance writer Nadia Derkach interviewed the filmmaker in San Francisco for The Weekly's November 18 issue.

Roxolana Toporowych, 26, a free-lance filmmaker, completed her 90-minute feature-length film "Folk!" – a documentary about Ukrainian folk dancing – after almost three years of work. A native of Parma, Ohio, who currently resides in Brooklyn, Ms. Toporowych held the first film screening in the Cantor Theater, locat-



The Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble in front of St. Peter's Basilica in June.

Olya Soroka

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A poster for the film "Folk!" by Roxolana Toporowych.

ed in New York's Greenwich Village, in May.

During the 2007 Cannes Film Festival in France, First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko appeared at the Marche du Film (film market) and, according to the Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Fund website (Mrs. Yushchenko's charity), during the second day of the festival, on May 17, there was a presentation of the International Molodist Film Festival, which has been in existence since 1961. It was reported on Mrs. Yushchenko's website that the first lady met with the film market's management about opening a Ukrainian pavilion for the 2008 Marche du Film.

The first Eastern European Montreal Film Festival was held on May 25-June 2 at Cinema du Parc in Montreal and featured three award-winning Ukrainian films: "Famine '33" by Oles Yanchuk, about the Holodomor in Ukraine; "Freedom Had A Price" by Yuriy Luhovy, about the internment of Ukrainians by the Canadian government in 1914-1920; and "Harvest of Despair" by Slawko Nowytski and Yuriy Luhovy, about the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide in Ukraine.

Also in Montreal, the premiere of "Bereza Kartuzka"

by Yuriy Luhovy was held on June 6, at the Ukrainian Youth Center. Bereza Kartuzka was the Polish concentration camp where thousands of Ukrainian patriots were jailed between 1934 and 1939. The audience recognized Adolf Hladylovych, one of the survivors of Bereza Kartuzka, with a standing ovation. He expressed his gratitude for the film and its documentation of the injustices suffered by his compatriots.

The first Polish-Ukrainian Film Festival was held in Chicago on August 24-26, at the Chopin Theater. "Acts of Imagination" by Carolyn Combs and Michael Springate, about two contrasting Ukrainian immigrant experiences in Canada and the challenges of dealing with the past while fitting in with the present, was screened. Other films shown at the festival included "The Unnamed Zone" by Carlos Rodriguez, "Liza" by Taras Tomenko, "A Man Thing" by Slawomir Fabicki, "There Was A Woman Who Lived in a Shoe" by Olena Fetisova and "Retrieval" by Slawomir Fabicki. The film festival fostered a dialogue on the Ukrainian and Polish post-revolution experiences and how the countries have embraced democratic reforms.

FOLK ART AND FOLK MUSIC

The Ukrainian Museum in New York exhibited "Pysanka: Vessel of Life" from March 3 to July 1. The museum's Folk Art Collection, curated by Lubow Wolynetz, features the works of Tania Osadca, Sofia Zielyk, the Pelahiiia Bartosh Lytvynova Collection (1876) and the Myron Korduba Study (1899). In addition to the exhibit, the museum hosted pysanky workshops and demonstrations. The last time an exhibit like this appeared at the museum was in 2000.

A delegation of scholars, four from Ukraine and two from the United States, presented papers on Ukrainian ethnomusicology at the 39th World Conference of the International Council for Traditional Music, held on July 4-11 at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Austria. It was the first time in the council's 60-year history that such a panel, "Broadening the Dialogue between Regional Ethnomusicologies in Ukraine," had been organized. The presentation focused on the roots of Ukrainian folk music and traced how Ukrainian folk music has progressed since the advancement of wax cylinder recordings to the digital realm, and how to preserve the folk music.

The Kazka Ukrainian Folk Ensemble celebrated its 20th anniversary with a reunion concert at the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehigh, Pa., on September 22. The troupe was recently selected for the Pennsylvania Humanities Council Commonwealth Speakers program for 2008-2009 and will present a lecture/history of the Ukrainian immigrant experience in



Maria Shevchuk

Drag queen Verka Serduchka represented Ukraine at the Eurovision 2007 Song Contest in Helsinki, Finland, on May 12.

the coal mining regions with the performance of folk songs.

The Ukrainian Museum in New York opened the exhibit "Thread to the Past: Ukrainian Folk Art From the 1933 Chicago World's Fair" on October 12; it is on display until March 30, 2008. In the exhibit are folk art objects that were presented in the Ukrainian pavilion at the World's Fair of 1933, which made up the museum's core of artifacts when it was founded in 1976 by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America. The exhibit, which included full costumes, parts of costumes, embroidered and woven textiles, kylyms, embroidered home decorative items, woodcarvings and pysanky, was curated by Mrs. Wolynetz. Also on display were archival photographs of the original exhibit and cultural program from 1933.

MUSIC

The Luba Zuk Piano Festival was kicked off at McGill University in Montreal on February 3. The concert honored three music teachers, including Prof. Zuk, the late Kathleen Anderson (voice) and the late Mhairi



Director Gregory Hallick, guest soloists Vasyl Nechepa and Stephan Szkafarowsky, the Kobzar Choir and the Los Angeles Doctors Symphony Orchestra on stage at the Alex Theater on November 4.

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Teresa Stolarskyj

Okean Elzy's Svyatoslav Vakarchuk in concert in Vancouver, British Columbia, on November 6.



Edward Burtynsky's photo of the shipyard at Quli Port, Zhejiang Province, China.



Victor Glasko

Tetiana Nechai of the League of Tour Guides of Ukraine discusses the destruction of historic landmarks on November 30 at an emergency meeting at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

Thompson-Tessier (cello). Prof. Zuk was honored with floral tributes from her former students, colleagues and friends, and by piano music for four hands performed by Duo Romantika's Viktoriya Kasuto and Alexandre Solopov. Prof. Zuk teaches at the McGill Conservatory, which prepares music students for entry into the music program at the university's Schulich School of Music.

Oleh Mahlay, artistic director and conductor of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus of Detroit, announced its 2007 concert series "Bandura – The Soul of Ukraine." The concert series, which began on March 25, marked the centennial of the birth of the UBC's long-standing conductor Hryhory Kytasty. Maestro Kytasty (1907-1984) is considered a legend in his own time for his composing, conducting, performance and promotion of Ukrainian choral and bandura art in North America. The UBC performed at the Great Hall at Cooper Union in New York City on May 6. Other stops along the tour included Whippany, N.J., Hartford, Conn., Cleveland, Philadelphia, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Washington.

The Washington Group Cultural Fund sponsored a music series that brought Igor Leschishin, the principal oboist of the Kennedy Center Opera House and the National Opera orchestras, with five of his friends to the Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria, Va., just outside of Washington, on April 29. On May 2 pianist Thomas Hrynkiw was the featured soloist at the National Gallery of Art. On May 3 Ukrainian pianist Serhii Morozov, accompanied by cellist Vassily Popov and pianist Ralitza Patcheva, performed works by Rachmaninoff in Washington's downtown library. On June 13 pianist Mykola Suk was joined by violinist Hartmut Rohde in a performance of works by Bloch, Hindemith and other German composers.

The Ukrainian Institute of America closed its Music at the Institute concert series on April 14 with a performance by violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv and pianist Angelina Gadeliya. The duo's performance included works by Mozart, Ravel, Liatoshynsky and Schumann. Cellist Michael Haas also performed in a trio work.

Verka Serduchka, also known as Andrii Danylko, 34, was named Ukraine's representative at the annual Eurovision song contest for 2007, held in Helsinki, Finland, on May 12. The flamboyant act consists of her using surzhyk (a mix of Russian and Ukrainian), dressing in drag and playing the center of attention. It wasn't exactly what nationalist Ukrainians wanted representing them on the international stage, but the controversial pop star has taught Ukrainians how to laugh at themselves, while selling millions of albums across the former Soviet Union. Despite her critics, Serduchka won second place in the Eurovision contest.

Oleh Chmyr was feted on October 14, at the Dorothy Young Center for the Arts at Drew University in Madison, N.J., for his 25-year career as a professional opera and chamber singer, as well as educator.

Three prize winners from the Vladimir Horowitz Young Pianists International Competition in Kyiv including 8-year-old Anastasia Rizikov of Canada, Artem Kanke, 24, of Ukraine and Chinese pianist Wong Wai Yin, 14, performed at the Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria, Va., on October 21. The recital was sponsored by The Washington Group Cultural Fund in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine.

The roster of Ukrainian artists at the Metropolitan Opera was perhaps the largest in Met history, with nine singers scheduled to perform in seven different productions. These included bass Vitalij Kowaljow, soprano Maria Guleghina, baritone Vassily Gerello, mezzo-soprano Larissa Shevchenko, bass Mikhail Kit, bass Stefan Szkafarowsky, baritone Vitaly Bilyy, tenor Volodymyr Grishko and bass Paul Plishka.

An evening of wonderful music held on November 4 at the Alex Theater in Glendale, Calif., served also as a fund-raising concert for the training of physicians for the Children's Hospital of the Future in Kyiv. The concert, dubbed "Song of Ukraine," was co-sponsored by the California Association to Aid Ukraine and the Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Fund. The concert included a performance by the 70-member Ukrainian National Choir Kobzar and the 65-member Los Angeles Doctors Symphony Orchestra of works by Mykola Lysenko, Stanislav Liudkevych and Nikolai-Rimsky Korsakov, among others. Guest soloists included bass Stefan Szkafarowsky, tenor and Ukrainian bandurist Vasyl Nechepa and tsymbalist Orest Sushko.

Top Ukrainian rock band Okean Elzy brought its brand of music to the Plaza Club in Vancouver, British Columbia, on November 6, as part of its "I'm Going Home" tour. The crowd, made up largely of several

hundred Ukrainian and Russian émigrés could see firsthand why this band is one of the hottest in all of the former Soviet Union. The band's lead singer, Svyatoslav Vakarchuk, was named an official Ambassador of Ukrainian Culture, a United Nations Ambassador of Goodwill and one of Ukraine's most influential people by Korespondent magazine.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographer Edward Burtynsky raised environmental awareness about industrial wastelands with his film "Manufactured Landscapes," which focuses mainly on the industrialization of China. Included in the sites depicted in the film were an 18-square-kilometer coal distribution facility, massive factories, garbage dumps and shipyards. Mr. Burtynsky was the first Westerner to photograph the Three Gorges Dam with anything more than a point-and-shoot 35mm camera to show the effects of the dam's construction on the millions of Chinese villagers forced out of their homes as a result of the evacuation of the countryside. A story about his work appeared in *The Weekly* on March 18.

The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art held the photographic exhibit "Tania D'Avignon: Images from a Roma Tabor" on June 3-July 22. The Roma, an ethnic group found all over the world, are often referred to as Gypsies. The exhibit focused on the Roma in camps located in the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine. Ms. D'Avignon has freelanced for *National Geographic Magazine*, among others.

MISCELLANEOUS

Radoslav Zuk, professor emeritus at McGill University in Montreal, gave a lecture at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art on April 14 titled "Style and Cultural Identity in Ukrainian Architecture." Prof. Zuk has designed nine churches in North America and one in Ukraine. He served on juries of architectural competitions, received the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Centennial Medal and was a co-recipient of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada Governor General's Medal for Architecture.

Best-selling writer from the United Kingdom Mariana Lewycka, author of "A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian," participated in this year's International Festival of Authors held in Toronto on October 17-27. Ms. Lewycka read from her new novel, "Strawberry Fields," on October 19. Her first book, which has been translated into 29 languages, was nominated for the Man Booker Prize and the Orange Prize.

During the mid-October fires that swept across southern California, Andriy and Ingrid Kytasty lost their two-story home to the blaze. Additionally lost in fires was the irreplaceable Kytasty archive, which housed the work of the late Hryhory Kytasty, renowned bandurist and composer, who was the longtime conductor and director of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus. Included in the archive were manuscripts, photos, recordings, letters, banduras and the computer server that had everything from the Kytasty Foundation site.

Over 600 representatives of Ukraine's intellectual and cultural elite gathered at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy on November 30. Many argued that the construction projects in Kyiv and city planning in general are plagued by corruption and that new projects that are destroying the city's historic legacy in Ukraine's quest toward modernity. An example of this was the government shutdown of the Institute for Architectural and Planning Theory and the plans to evict the Institute of Philosophy of Ukraine because space is needed for the Euro-2012 soccer championship. The gathering called for the cultural, scientific and educational communities, and the public at large, to prepare protests to defend the cultural values and interests of Ukraine's citizens. The concerned activists labelled Ukraine a "zone of cultural misery."

In an interview conducted by Prof. Alexander Motyl on Ukraine's current state of cultural affairs, Prof. George G. Grabowicz said that Ukraine is a victim of its Soviet past and, as such, needs to overcome the systematic policy of Russification. Some things have changed, according to Prof. Grabowicz – for example, oligarchs such as Victor Pinchuk are supporting cultural projects – but there is no institutional support. Those who were in control in Soviet times, he said, became "patriotic" overnight. The cultural stagnation in Ukraine is being perpetuated by the unchanging Soviet-style institutions of higher learning. For things to really change, Dr. Grabowicz underscored, the political will must exist to restore what was lost and rebuild that which is in disrepair.

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The world of sports: archery to wrestling

Vitali Klitschko stunned the world when he announced his return to the boxing ring on January 25. That, no doubt, was the top sports news of 2007. According to Klitschko, he wants to realize his dream of becoming heavyweight champion of the world alongside his brother Wladimir. Vitali was the World Boxing Council (WBC) champion from April 2004 to November 2005, when injuries he sustained to his right knee forced him to retire. After rehabilitation and surgery, Vitali concluded that he was ready to box again. His next match-up was to be against Oleg Maskaev, an ethnic Russian who was born in Kazakhstan and currently is an American citizen, but who represents Russia since the Russian Federation granted him citizenship in 2006.

John "The Chief" Bucyk, 71, a Ukrainian NHL legend who played for the Boston Bruins from 1957 to 1978, was feted at TD Banknorth Garden on February 13 for his 50 years of service to the Black and Gold. The ceremony, dubbed "Hail to the Chief," due to his presumed Native American appearance, was his third in a hat-trick series of events that have recognized Bucyk's career accomplishments. For the last 10 years Bucyk has served as a traveling public relations secretary, in addition to assisting current players and alumni in every aspect. Bruins fans will recall that Bucyk, Vic Stasiuk and Bronco Horvath made up the "Uke Line" in 1957-1961.

Speedskater Sophia (Sonia) Milan, 20, of North Royalton, Ohio, finished ninth at the U.S. National Short-Track Speedskating Championships, held in Cleveland on February 25. Milan resides at a dorm at Northern Michigan University – where she is majoring in international studies with a minor in economics and French – with the rest of the speedskating team and athletes of the United States Olympic Education Center (USOEC). While representing the United States, Milan placed 12th in the 1,500-meter race at the Saguenay World Cup 3, held in Saguenay, Quebec. In her preparations for the World Cup team and University Games team, Milan competed in the American Cup where she placed sixth in the 500 meters, fourth in the 1,000 meters, eighth in the 1,500 meters and third in the 300 meters.

On April 18 Michael Platini, president of the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) tournament organizing, announced in Cardiff, Wales, that Ukraine and Poland would host the quadrennial Euro Cup 2012. It has been 31 years since any country once located behind the Iron Curtain hosted an international soccer showpiece – the last one being Euro-1976 in the former Yugoslavia. The tournament provides the host country with an opportunity to build new stadiums and infrastructure, and to boost tourism. President Viktor Yushchenko said that the tournament could be worth as much as \$3 billion.

The Ukraine Junior League team from Kirovohrad pulled a ninth-inning win over England 3-2 in the EMEA Junior League Regional Championships played in Kunto, Poland, on July 11-19, to win the title of champion for Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). The team represented the EMEA region at the Junior League Baseball World Series in Taylor, Mich., on August 12-18. With help from Basil Tarasko, district administrator for Little League baseball in Ukraine, visas were granted for the players to participate in the World Series. After visiting the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Mich., the team was given financial gifts from the Ukrainian Future Credit Union and the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union for the purchase of baseball equipment. Team members were taken to Comerica Park to see their first professional baseball game – the Detroit Tigers vs. the Oakland A's. The Ukrainian team finished up the World Series by defeating the team from the United States 10-4.

Wladimir Klitschko defeated Lamon Brewster to retain his IBF and IBO titles on July 7 in Cologne, Germany. Brewster's corner man called the fight in the sixth round, and Klitschko won the bout despite fracturing his middle finger on his left hand during the bout.

More than 300 Ukrainians from Europe and North America came to Glasgow, Scotland, to see Ukraine play Scotland on October 13 in the UEFA Euro 2008 qualifier match, which Ukraine lost 1-3. Despite the loss, the Ukrainian fans made their mark with the Scots and the Ukrainians who arrived from Kyiv. The diaspo-



Wladimir Klitschko celebrates victory on July 7.

ra Ukrainians, dressed in everything from Ukrainian-inspired kilts to traditional dress, surprised the native Ukrainians with their enthusiastic dress and passionate singing. Ukraine's quest for the Euro Cup 2008 ended with the team earning 17 points in Group B.

Hockey

Last year's hockey report began with Ihor Stelmach's profile about Keith Tkachuk of the St. Louis Blues, who was traded from the Atlanta Thrashers, and the adaptation of his play to the new rules of the National Hockey Association. He followed that up with a report about the return of 49-year-old Mike Bossy to the New York Islanders as the team's new executive director of corporate relations. Bossy had retired from hockey in 1987.

Mr. Stelmach also wrote about NHL'ers Dave Andreychuk (Tampa Bay Lightning), Wally Tatomir (Carolina Hurricanes), Ruslan Fedotenko (New York Islanders), Keith Gretzky (Phoenix Coyotes), Ryan Potluny (Philadelphia Flyers), Travis Zajac and Vitaly Vishnevski (N.J. Devils), Todd Fedoruk (Minnesota Wildcats), Alexei Zhitnik (Atlanta Thrashers) and Daryl Sydor (Pittsburgh Penguins).

Later Mr. Stelmach profiled Darren Hayar, who plays for the AHL's Milwaukee Admirals, which is affiliated with the NHL's Nashville Predators. Haydar was the AHL's leading goal scorer.

Soccer

In soccer news, Ukraine was ranked 13th out of the 207 FIFA members, behind Brazil, Italy, Argentina, France, Germany, England, the Netherlands, Portugal, Nigeria, the Czech Republic, Cameroon and Spain, as announced on January 7.

It is believed by many that by hosting the Euro-2012, Ukraine will not only benefit economically, but politically as well. This was reported in Zenon Zawada's article about the potentially unifying results of the necessary preparations for the soccer spectacle.

Andriy Voronin was signed to a four-year contract with English Premier League club Liverpool on February 26 after playing the majority of his career outside of Ukraine with German club Bayer Leverkusen.

The Ukrainian club Shakhtar Donetsk made it to UEFA Champions League group of 16 play, but lost their captain, Anatoliy Tymoschuk, to a four-year contract with Russian club Zenit St. Petersburg. However, Shakhtar signed on 19-year-old Brazilian Luiz Adriano from SC Internacional de Porto Alegre to a five-year deal. Shakhtar advanced to the third qualifying round in the UEFA Champions League with a win over FC Pyunik 2-0 on July 31. FC Dynamo Kyiv also advanced to the third leg of the UEFA qualifying round with a 1-0 defeat over Sarajevo on August 15. Both Ukrainian clubs advanced to the group stage of the UEFA Champions League.

Andriy Pavelko, chief of the Dnipropetrovsk Regional Football Federation said on May 11 that the

Association of Football Fans was to be established in Ukraine to unite all fans and aim at securing proper behavior at matches – this in preparation for the Euro-2012 tournament.

Fencing

Fencer Volodymyr Lukashenko won the silver medal at the World Cup of Fencing in Tehran, Iran, on January 15, with the Ukrainian team advancing to the quarter-finals, and finishing in sixth place.

Boxing

Wladimir Klitschko defended his IBF super-heavyweight world championship title against Ray Austin on March 10 with a second-round KO.

Welterweight Yuriy Nuzhnenko remained undefeated and retained his WBA title on February 27 against Farkhad "Masa" Baikirov of Uzbekistan, despite a cut over his forehead and significant facial swelling.

Bantamweight Wladimir Sidorenko retained his WBA title against Ricardo Cordoba in Hamburg Germany on March 11.

Rovshan Rzayev (60 kg), Serhiy Derevynchanko (75 kg) and Dmytro Kucher (91 kg) won bronze medals at the Stradja Cup Bulgarian International Boxing Tournament on January 19.

Sergiy Dzinziruk, WBO Light-middleweight champion, kept his title for the third time in an 11-round TKO on May 22 after Dzinziruk sent previously undefeated Carlos Nascimento across the ring and through the ropes.

The Ukrainian Boxing Team collected eight medals, five gold, one silver and two bronze, at the 12th European Cadet Boxing Championship in Hungary on July 2.

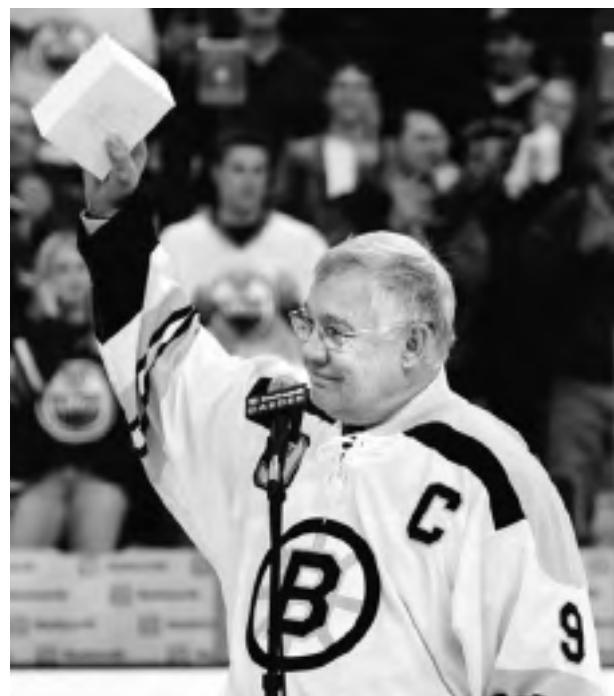
Ukrainian featherweight Vasyl Lomachanko won the silver medal at the AIBA World Boxing Championships on October 27 in Chicago, while middleweight Serhiy Derevynchanko won the bronze and super-heavyweight Vyacheslav Hlazzkov won the silver medal. Light-flyweight Georgi Chygaev who finished fifth and the above competitors qualified for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

Biathlon

Ukrainian biathletes won eight medals in the 23rd World Winter Student Games in Turin, Italy, on January 22. Oksana Khovstenko won the 15-kilometer women's mass start race at the World Cup of Biathlon in Polljuka, Slovenia, on January 21. Andriy Deryzemlya won the bronze medal in the 10-kilometer race at the Biathlon World Championships in Anterselva, Italy, on February 3. Oksana Yakovleva won gold at the European Biathlon Championships held in Bulgaria on February 22.

Figure skating

Dana Zhalko-Tytarenko, 15, won the junior women's title at the Canadian figure skating championships on January 19. Ukrainian pairs figure skaters Tatiana Volosozhar and Stanislav Morozov won fourth place at the 2007 Figure Skating Championships in Tokyo on March 20-25.



John "the Chief" Bucyk was honored on February 13 by the Boston Bruins.

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Christina M. Paschyn

A Ukraine soccer fan all dressed up for the big game between Ukraine and Scotland on October 13.

Gymnastics

At the World Olympic Gymnastics Academy Classic 2007, held in Plano, Texas, February 2-3, Alina Kozich won second place in the all-around, placed third in the uneven bars, tied for third in the floor event and won fourth place in the balance beam. Her teammate Olga Sherbatiykh won first place in the balance beam event, tied for 11th place in the floor event and placed 16th in the uneven bars, to finish eighth in the all-around.

Ukraine's women's gymnastics team visited St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Minersville, Pa., on March 23. Maria Proskurnia, 21, Valentina Holenkove, 14, and coach Svetlana Skrypchuk were in the area for the Pottsville Gymnastic Training Center-sponsored Friendship Classic on March 23-25. Proskurnia won second place in vault, uneven bars and balance beam. Holenkove won first place in the Junior Elite division; she won second place in vault and uneven bars, and first place in balance beam.

Anna Bezsonova won the all-around at the 28th Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships held in Patras, Greece, on September 18-24, also winning the bronze medal in the hoop category. Ukraine collected four medals to finish in second place.

Olena Movchan won gold medal in the all-around at the 2007 Trampoline Gymnastics International

Invitational Tournament on November 30-December 3 in Beijing, China.

Tennis

Tennis champion Tatiana Perebynis won the doubles group in the Women's Tennis Association Championship in Warsaw, Poland, on May 7 to claim a \$600,000 prize, split with her teammate Russian Vera Dushevina. Perebynis also beat Petra Cetkovska from the Czech Republic in the singles group of the International Tennis Federation tournament in France on May 21 to collect \$50,000 in prize money. This was her fourth ITF prize in 2007.

Swimming

At the 12th FINA World Swimming Championships in Melbourne, Australia, Oleh Lysohor won the gold medal in the 50-meter breaststroke on March 27, while Anna Khlystunova won bronze in the 100-meter breaststroke on March 28.

Yana Klochkova set a new world record of 4:40.92 in the 400-meter individual medley and won the 200-meter individual medley at the Mare Nostrum competition in Monaco, on June 19.

Diving

The Ukrainian National Diving team won the Arena Diving Champions Cup on February 17, with three gold, one silver and two bronze medals.

Chess

Chess grandmaster Vasyl Ivanchuk won bronze in the 16th Amber Blindfold and Rapid Chess Tournament on March 16-30 at the Fairmont Monte Carlo Hotel in Monaco. Ivanchuk finished fourth in the blindfold games, and tied for fourth place in the rapid chess games. Ivanchuk also won the Pivdenny Bank Chess Cup held in Odesa, Ukraine, on July 4-6 and the 2007 Montreal International chess tournament on July 19-28. He also won the three-day "blitz" tournament in Mukachiv, Ukraine, on October 25-28 at which a tiebreaker match decided the victory, and the World Blitz Championship in Moscow on November 22.

The Ukrainian women's team beat the Vietnamese team in the final round of the World Chess Championships held in Yekaterinburg, Russia, on May 29.

Yuriy Vovk, 18, won the Sevan Lake International Chess Tournament held in Armenia on July 16.

Alexander Moiseenko won the nine-round Swiss-style Arctic Chess Challenge held in Tromso, Norway, on August 4-12.

Illya Nyzhnyk, a 10-year-old chess prodigy, won the Moscow Open tournament on January 27-February 4, competing at a grandmaster level rating of 2633.

Track and field

High jumper Yuriy Kryamarenko won the silver medal at an athletics tournament in Bydgoszcz, Poland,



Christina M. Paschyn

Scottish Ukrainian Alex Demianczuk from Edinburgh, cheers on Ukraine on October 13 in his Ukrainian jersey and blue-and-yellow kilt.

on February 18 with a height of 2.34-meters.

Cycling

Yaroslav Popovych, 27, who rides for The Discovery Cannel team, won the fifth stage of the Paris-Nice race, which stretches 178 kilometers from Sorgues to Manosque, France. The team finished the 1,260.2-kilometer race in third place, while Popovych finished in 44th place overall. Popovych led his team during the Tour of Italy race on May 12-June 3, after the previous captain, Ivan Basso was suspected of doping and withdrew from the competition. Popovych also finished the Tour de France in eighth place with a time of 91 hours, 12 minutes and 51 seconds, just 12 minutes and 25 seconds behind the winner, his teammate, Alberto Contador.

Over 1,200 cyclists took part in the "All-Ukrainian Day of Bicycle" in downtown Kyiv to demonstrate the advantages of traveling by bicycle rather than by car and to urge authorities to create better conditions for cyclists.

Mountaineering

In 2007 mountain climbers Ihor Parchevskiy, Yuriy Kravchuk, Oleksander Shcherba and Oleksander Kalatukha planted the Ukrainian flag on Mount Kosciuszko, at 7,310 feet the tallest peak in Australia.

Wrestling

Vasyl Fedoryshyn won the gold medal at the European Greco-Roman Wrestling Championship in Sofia, Bulgaria, on April 22. Oleh Khvosch won third place overall in the 66 kg division and Serhiy Priadun won gold in the 120 kg freestyle division. Olha Kohut won in the 48 kg women's division, and Kateryna Burmistrova won bronze in the 67 kg division.

Weightlifting

Olha Korobka won the over 75 kg division on April 23 at the European Weightlifting Championship in Strasbourg, France, with 133 kg, setting a new record in the snatch and lifting 160 kg in the clean and jerk. Yulia Dovhal won the bronze medal in the same division and Nataliya Trotsenko won the silver in the 53 kg division. Nataliya Davydova won second place in the snatch in the 69 kg division, and third place in the clean and jerk, to win the bronze medal overall. Ukraine finished the tournament in third place overall, with four gold medals, three silver and seven bronze.

Archery

Ukrainian archers won gold, silver and bronze medals at the European Junior Cup of Archery held in



The USCAK team, which comprised Ukrainian soccer clubs from the U.S., with the team from Great Britain. The teams tied for third place in the International Ukrainian Football Tournament held in Sydney, Australia, on January 14-20.

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Limassol, Cyprus, on May 16-20.

Black Sea Games

Ukraine won third place in the 2007 Black Sea Games held in Turkey. The Ukrainian team collected 56 medals – 21 gold, 23 silver and 12 bronze. Areas of competition included track and field events, archery, gymnastics, swimming, Tae Kwon Do, wrestling, soccer, basketball and volleyball.

Strongman

In strongman competitions, Vasyl Virastyuk won the 2007 International Federation of Strength Athletes European Strongman Championships held in Kyiv on July 21-22. Virastyuk also won the IFSA Strongman World Championships in Geusman, South Korea, on September 15.

Marathon

Mykola Antonenko won the Twin Cities Marathon in St. Paul Minn., on October 7, finishing with a time of 2 hours, 13 minutes and 54 seconds – more than six minutes faster than his nearest competitor.

Pro sports

Among the pro sports athletes profiled by Ihor Stelmach were the following.

Walter Szczerbiak finished his first full season with the Boston Celtics in 2007, after playing for the Minnesota Timberwolves for six years. Averaging 19.5 points per game and a 51.7 shot percentage, the 6-foot-7, 240-pound Szczerbiak is in the top 10 for three-point throw accuracy at 44.7 percent.

Viktor Khryapa, the 6-foot-9 forward for the Chicago Bulls, from Kyiv, Ukraine, showed that his game is constantly improving. In the 2005-2006 season the 25-year-old started 53 games for the Portland Trail Blazers, with 5.8 points per game and 4.4 rebounds, shooting 45.5 percent and 34 percent from three-point range.

Sports columnist Stelmach profiled Oleh Blokhin, the revered soccer great of Dynamo Kyiv and coach of the Ukrainian National Team, and reported how his "Midas touch" transformed the Ukrainian National Team. Perhaps the greatest soccer player ever to emanate from the Soviet Union, Blokhin competed in 101 international competitions. Ukraine's soccer hero celebrated the team's 2006 World Cup performance and said he looks forward to Ukraine's preparation for the Euro-2012.

Oleksiy Pecherov, 21, of Donetsk, the Washington Wizards 18th pick was signed to a two-year contract, with a first-year salary of \$1.2 million, with options for his third and fourth years. In the 2006 Summer League, the 7-foot tall Pecherov averaged 12.6 points per game, and 46.2 percent shooting, while rebounding 7.6. On September 8 Pecherov, accompanied by this family



Courtesy Washington Wizards

Washington Wizards forward/center Oleksiy Pecherov.



The N.Y. Kozaks with their newly won hockey trophy in the spring of 2007.

from Ukraine, participated in the annual Washington Ukrainian Festival in Silver Spring, Md.

A profile of tennis star Alona Bondarenko, who has been competing in professional-level tournaments since the age of 14, revealed she is already considered a seasoned pro at the age of 22. In most tournaments in 2007, her elimination from the finals has been at the hands of a top-10 ranked player. Both her mother and father became coaches, and her two sisters also play the sport or coach. Currently ranked in the 40s of all women players, Alona competed with her sister Kateryna in the Fed Cup in Australia; Alona had to play both singles and doubles, with Kateryna as her teammate.

Diaspora sports

The Ukrainian Sports Federation of the United States and Canada (USCAK) traveled to Sydney, Australia, to compete in the inaugural International Ukrainian Football Tournament (IUFT), held on January 14-20. The tournament attracted teams from the U.S., the United Kingdom (tied for third place) and three teams from Australia, including Sydney Trident FC (first place), USC Adelaide (second place) and Victoria. A team from Chernivtsi, Ukraine, was also scheduled to compete, but visa problems prevented the players from participating.

USCAK was represented by Michael Turek (Stamford Levy); Mark Howansky and Ivan Kopytchak (Yonkers Krylati), Bogdan Yatsishin, Oleg Yatsishin and Serhiy Molchanovych (Syracuse Ukraina), and Hryts Serheev, Andriy Panas, Lecyk Myskiw, Andriy Kudryk, Roman Holowinsky, Matt Zielyk and Dan Lewycky (Chornomorska Sitch).

The Carpathian Ski Club (KLK) held its 53rd ski races on a NASTAR-sanctioned course at Ski Windham, in Windham, N.Y., on February 24. The competitors – 81 skiers, one snowboarder and one telemark skier – ranged in age from 5 to over 60. An awards banquet was held at Hunter Mountain Ski Lodge, which attracted 147 people.

The 2007 Bulba Cup of curling was won by the Ottawa Curling Club, captained by Mychajlo Wysoczanskyj for the third straight year, on April 13. The Bulba Cup has been held since the 1990s.

The first-ever ping-pong tournament at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany was held on April 28 and attracted 37 participants. Peter Lysiak won the 13- to 18-year-old division, Jan Lysiak won the 45 and over division, and Bo Kucyna, the tournament director, won the open tournament. Marc Andrian won the 12 and under division and in doubles, Karl Wilbur and Greg Serheev were the champions.

The Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, in Horsham, Pa., hosted its sixth annual Ukrainian Nationals Invitational Soccer Tournament on May 25-27 attracting teams from Canada, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and New York. Ukrainian teams that won in their divisions included USC Karpaty (U-12) and Ukrainian Nationals Bohatyri (U-16).

Over 60 golfers participated in the 31st Tryzub Golf

Tournament on June 9 at Limekiln Golf Club in Horsham, Pa. An awards banquet followed at the Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub. The men's winner was Mike Zarembo of Forked River, N.J., and Ulana Warren of Middletown, N.Y., won the women's division. The first-place team included Bohdan Anniuk of Philadelphia, Steve Nahorniak of Gillette, N.J., and Lou and Walter Wilczak of Whippany, N.J.

Soyuzivka hosted the USCAK-East Tennis Tournament on June 30-July 1, which attracted 60 participants. Mykola Stroynick won the men's singles, George Petrykevych the senior men's singles, Don Kopach and George Sawchak the men's doubles, Nusia Dubas and Orest Wasyluk the mixed doubles, Ada Kowcz the junior girls singles, Biata Gerasymenko the girls' singles, Kowcz and Alexandra Foty the junior girls' doubles. Petro Chudolij won in the youngest boys' group, and Danylo Tylawsky the 14-and-under group; the junior boys' doubles was won by Tylawsky and Adrian Burke.

The Ukrainian Nationals (Tryzub) won the USCAK East Coast Cup held in Syracuse, N.Y., on July 21. The final match saw Tryzub win 2-1 against Krylati (Yonkers, N.Y.), despite having only 10 players. Six teams from the United States and Canada participated, including Krylati SC (Yonkers, N.Y.), UAA Chornomorska Sitch (Newark, N.J.), Karpaty (Canada), UASC (Rochester, N.Y.), UASC Tryzub (Philadelphia) and FC Ukraine (Syracuse, N.Y.). Tryzub's Ryan Gilesy was awarded the MVP of the tournament.

The New York Kozak Hockey Club won the Sky Rink League Division 3B title in the spring at the Chelsea Piers Sports Complex in New York City. Finishing the regular season with a 14-3 record, the Kozaks earned a No. 2 seed in the playoffs and faced off against the first-place Blackjacks, who defeated the Kozaks 7-3 in the regular season. Despite the Blackjacks' record, the Kozaks swept them 2-1 and 2-0 in the best-of-three final.

The Labor Day weekend tennis tournament and swimming competitions sponsored by USCAK took place at Soyuzivka. Winning the men's tennis tournament was George Charuk of Illinois; Ann Marie Shumsky won in the women's division. Mykola Nalywayko of Pennsylvania won the 35 and over, and 45 and over groups, George Petrykevych of Connecticut won the over 55 group. In the girls' division, Ada Kowcz won the 18 and under group, while Alexandra Foty won the 14 and under group. Oles Charchalis of Maryland won in the boys' group.

In the swimming competition, Chornomorska Sitch defended its title at the Labor Day meet, which attracted 54 swimmers to Soyuzivka. Sitch finished with 210 points, the Ukrainian American Youth Association came in second with 121 points and Tryzub came in third with 70 points.

The USCAK volleyball tournament at Powerzone Volleyball Center in Denville, N.J., was held on November 10. Lys Sports Academy won the men's open division and the youth division, while Chicago Slava won the senior division. Other teams competing were

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Katia Kucyna

Table tennis players of all ages who turned out to compete at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey on April 28.

Hartford Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA), Toronto Ukraina and Chornomorska Sitch.

The third annual UACCNJ volleyball tournament was held on October 13 at Powerzone Volleyball Center, in Denville, N.J. The tournament drew 16 teams, including Lys Sports Academy, Whippany UAYA, Yonkers UAYA, Chornomorska Sitch and Hartford UAYA. Lys won the men's, women's and open divisions, while Yonkers Krylati won the youth division. MVP honors were awarded to father and son duo Vlodko and Oleh Bykoretz of Lys.

At the UNA: changes in N.J., at Soyuzivka

Changes were observed in many aspects of the Ukrainian National Association's activity during 2007 – at the UNA's Home Office, at its Soyuzivka estate and at the UNA's newspapers.

The year began with changes on the Svoboda editorial staff. On January 30 the newspaper bid farewell to Olha Kuzmowycz, with sincere expressions of thanks for 25 very fruitful and faithful years of service to Svoboda, the UNA and the Ukrainian community. Though she would no longer be on staff, it was expected that Mrs. Kuzmowycz, whose pen name is O-KA, would continue to write her signature column "Pro Tse i Te" (This and That) from her home in New York City. UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj wrote: "We thank Mrs. Kuzmowycz for 25 years of faithful service, lovingly rendered, at Svoboda, and especially for her columns, which have been enjoyed by countless readers through the years. We wish her good luck as she continues to work in her beloved field of journalism and look forward to seeing her byline on the pages of Svoboda."

Mrs. Kuzmowycz, 89, a native of Lviv who studied journalism at Warsaw University, wrote several pieces for the paper, but then opted to go into retirement. After many years of work in journalism, Mrs. Kuzmowycz had joined the editorial staff of Svoboda in 1981, at first working out of the paper's Jersey City, N.J., headquarters and since 1997 out of Parsippany, N.J., in recent years making the trip from New York City twice a week.

On February 16 the UNA hosted a farewell luncheon for the senior editor that was attended by executive officers and employees of the UNA, and Mrs. Kuzmowycz's colleagues and co-workers at Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. Mrs. Kuzmowycz addressed the gathering, expressing her pride at having worked at Svoboda with its illustrious editors. She turned 90 in November.

In February the Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association announced the appointment of Roma Hadzewycz as the editor-in-chief of both UNA publications – Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. Ms. Hadzewycz had served as the editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly since May 1980; she joined the staff full-time in February of 1977. "We wish

her much success in this new position and ask our readers and the community to join us in congratulating her," the UNA's executives wrote in an official announcement published in both newspapers. Ms. Hadzewycz took on her additional duties on February 1.

The UNA also announced the retirement of its medical examiner, Dr. Bohdan Shebunchak, and welcomed his successor, Dr. Bohdar Woroch. "The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association extends its sincerest gratitude to Dr. Bohdan Shebunchak for his many years of dedication and service to the UNA. As a longtime member of UNA Branch 25, Dr. Shebunchak served as a delegate at UNA conventions and for the past 25 years diligently served as medical examiner for the UNA, reviewing each UNA application," the UNA's execs wrote.

Dr. Woroch, a member of UNA Branch 25, assumed all responsibilities of the position of medical examiner on March 1. The UNA Executive Committee wished him "many years of success in working with the UNA for the good of its membership and the greater Ukrainian community."

In June the UNA sold its corporate headquarters building in Parsippany for \$11 million. The closing took place on June 4. The announcement of the sale was made in an article titled "Step 1 in 'Redesigning the UNA for the 21st Century'" that was published in the June 17 issue of The Weekly. "After long and careful consideration, the Ukrainian National Association has

decided to capitalize on a strong real estate market and to sell its corporate headquarters building in Parsippany, N.J.," began the article signed by the UNA Executive Committee. "This sale will allow the UNA to repay its outstanding debt on the property and will provide a cash infusion of about \$4.4 million after all closing costs are paid. The sale of the building is a milestone event that immediately strengthens the UNA's financial condition and will allow more productive utilization of funds previously tied up in the property." The UNA remains a tenant in the building, having signed a long-term lease at a low price with the new landlord.

It was also noted in the article that "that the funds gained from the sale of our office building will be spent on advancing initiatives critical to the UNA's future. These include the development of a strong sales network with both a regional presence and a professional sales force. This sales structure will complement the traditional branch network that, alone, is no longer capable of generating sufficient insurance and annuities sales to financially sustain the UNA and its fraternal activities, as well as to secure their future. The newly gained funds also will be used for a sorely needed professional marketing campaign and the expansion of targeted advertising to key critical markets." The Executive Committee underscored: "Such initiatives will allow the Ukrainian National Association to completely restructure its insurance sales program and to provide UNA members with continued low-cost insurance and better-than-average benefits, as well as to retain the icons of our Ukrainian community – our newspapers and the UNA estate, Soyuzivka – for generations to come."

Later in the year, once Soyuzivka's summer season – by all accounts one of the most successful for the UNA estate – was over and certain annual fall events at Soyuzivka had taken place, the UNA announced that the estate would be closed during the off-season for renovation and redevelopment, most notably of the Veselka pavilion, Soyuzivka's main activity center, as well as the pool adjacent to the building. The last public event of 2007 was held at the estate over the weekend of November 10-11, and Soyuzivka was slated to reopen in the spring of 2008.

The announcement of Soyuzivka's seasonal closing came in an October 28 article by UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich titled "Soyuzivka update: it's an exciting time..." The UNA promised more details on the large-scale redevelopment of Soyuzivka, whose goal is to transform the estate into "a four-season facility that is self-sustaining and community-based," as each project phase is tackled. "The plans ... include the renovation of existing buildings, new structures, a new housing component, the creation of a park preserve from the forested lands adjoining Minnewaska State Park and the transformation of the current operating entity to a non-profit community-based foundation."



Roma Hadzewycz

The corporate headquarters building of the Ukrainian National Association was sold in June.

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Furthermore, Ms. Lisovich noted the success of the 2007 season:

"This summer, the fruits of our labors were evident as new camp programs were added, workshops and seminar offerings expanded and our first-ever, very successful Ukrainian Film and Cultural Festival took place [on July 11-15]. We were thrilled with the high level of activity Soyuzivka generated this summer and expect next summer to be another banner year. Concentrating on our foundation's mission to preserve our rich heritage, Soyuzivka-sponsored camps offered a renewed focus on the cultural enrichment aspect of the camp experience. ...

"At one point in time this summer, with three diverse camps operating simultaneously, Soyuzivka was accommodating over 350 children. It was a logistical feat to feed them all, and our staff handled it remarkably well. We will continue to work on plans on how to accommodate these increasing numbers for the next season, as we expect attendance to be even greater. Many more programs are being planned for the next season. Our valued partners – the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Workshop and Ukrainian Dance Camps, the Sitch Sports Camp and Plast's 'Tabir Ptashat' day camp – are all returning and new camp venues will be added. For example, as an outgrowth of the UNA-sponsored workshops specifically designed for adoptees from Ukraine and their American parents, Soyuzivka has plans for a special heritage camp just for these special children. Our second Ukrainian Cultural Festival, which promises to be better and bigger than 2007, is already being worked on." (It will be held on July 9-13, 2008.)

Soyuzivka first-ever Ukrainian Film and Cultural Festival featured five days of film and performances, food and vendors, plus dances, presented by the UNA's Ukrainian National Foundation in support of Soyuzivka. The foundation's partner in the endeavor was the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University. Over 2,000 people attended; and over 60 volunteers helped pull the mammoth event off under the direction of Soyuzivka General Manager Nestor Paslawsky and with the assistance of the dedicated Soyuzivka staff. Commenting that the festival was a sign of things to come at the new Soyuzivka Heritage Center, The Weekly opined: "Just as most local Ukrainian communities have a place known as a Ukrainian national home or 'domivka' on a smaller scale, the Soyuzivka Heritage Center will become the home of the greater Ukrainian community on a larger scale – a place we can all continue to call our own for generations to come."

Speaking of Soyuzivka's summer season, we would be remiss not to note a very special anniversary: the 40th anniversary of George Sawchak's leadership of the estate's very popular Tennis Camp, which marked its own 40th year. Mnohaya Lita! Mr. Sawchak's partner for 30-plus years at the Tennis Camps was Zenon Snylyk, a former editor-in-chief of Svoboda and editor of The Ukrainian Weekly, who passed away in 2001.

Also at Soyuzivka, the annual Miss Soyuzivka contest was held August 11 and top honors went to Alana Lenec of Highland, N.Y., a student at Marist College, who was chosen Miss Soyuzivka 2008. Runners-up were Andrea Popovech of New York, a student at Johns Hopkins University, and Olga Bezverkhnyy, originally from Ternopil and now a student at Iona College.

Soyuzivka's 2007 season was featured in a four-page pull-out in The Weekly on September 2, timed to coincide with the ever-popular Labor Day weekend festivities at the estate. This year's holiday weekend, August 31-September 3, was marked by record attendance and the presence of international guests – a group of European and Australian members of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization who had been in the area (relatively speaking) to attend the Plast Jamboree held in Canada in August.

Not to be forgotten was the annual UNA Seniors Conference held at Soyuzivka on June 10-15, which attracted 106 participants. The mission of the UNA Seniors: "Support UNA endeavors to preserve and cultivate Ukrainian heritage, promote unity, develop social activities and maintain Ukrainian community life in America."

The UNA Auditing Committee – comprising Slavko Tysiak, Dr. Vasyl Luchkiw and Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta – conducted a review of the association's operations, finances and management for the second half of 2005 and all of 2006. The review was conducted on February 1-2 at the UNA Home Office in Parsippany.

The Auditing Committee reported that its members had "reviewed with executive officers a specific set of business challenges and opportunities that will enable



Christine Syzonenko

Dancers soar through the air during the ever-popular Hopak at Soyuzivka's first Ukrainian Film and Cultural Festival held on July 11-15.



Dance workshop participants and staff on the Veselka patio of Soyuzivka during the summer of 2007.



CCL Photography

UNA cruise participants – many of them decked out in Ukrainian embroidery – gather for a group photo on the staircase of the ship's main lobby before a formal dinner. The group sailed on March 4-11 aboard the Miracle.

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The cover of the UNA Almanac for 2007.

the UNA to increase its reserves” and “concluded that the Executive Committee has a workable plan to build up reserves.” However, the report noted, “Due to the time-critical and sensitive nature of current negotiations with a number of interested parties, the Auditing Committee is able to provide only a general description of the multiple interconnected business opportunities that, if implemented as envisioned, should enable the UNA to increase its reserves.”

The reported continued: “The business strategy being pursued involves the conversion into cash of certain assets that may be either idle or unproductive in terms of unrealized intrinsic value and that, if successfully leveraged, will have the twin benefits of increasing reserves and reducing costs. The strategic plan being pursued involves the sale of certain real property holdings that will provide the UNA with an infusion of cash and thus increase reserves. Concurrently, the plan envisions the transfer from the UNA’s books of the accounts of Soyuzivka, and possibly the newspaper publications, to those of either a tax-exempt foundation or corporation as allowed by law. Such a transfer of assets will also enable the UNA to eliminate certain operating costs associated with these fraternal benefits from the UNA’s financial statements. According to the strategic plan, part of the cash proceeds from the conversion of certain idle or unproductive assets will provide the seed money for the development of a professional sales force. According to executive officers the development of a professional sales force is the centerpiece of the UNA’s strategic plan going forward.”

In July the UNA Auditing Committee issued its separate report on the Soyuzivka estate, finding that the financial accounting system is sound and that safeguards instituted by the UNA at Soyuzivka ensure that money is spent responsibly and for intended purposes. The audit recommended several improvements, including establishment of an annual operating budget for Soyuzivka and reducing to writing the policies and procedures currently in practice at Soyuzivka. The report noted that Soyuzivka has four full-time, year-round employees who during the summer months are supplemented by seasonal workers. Soyuzivka spent \$2.2 million in calendar year 2006 and reported an operating deficit of \$635,000 after depreciation and direct payments from the UNA chiefly for payroll and related expenses.

The UNA General Assembly met at Soyuzivka on September 14-16. The principal topics of discussion were plans for the development of the Soyuzivka estate, efforts to revitalize UNA branches in Canada, and the marketing of UNA products and its newspapers.

President Kaczaraj noted that the UNA’s surplus had increased by \$4.5 million due to the sale of its headquarters building in Parsippany, N.J., and that the UNA had successfully decreased its expenses while increasing income during the period from January 1, 2006, to June 20, 2007. He said that while the UNA continued to subsidize its two newspapers and Soyuzivka, those subsidies had decreased during the first six months of 2007

to \$50,000 for Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly combined and \$336,000 for the estate.

Secretary Christine Kozak focused on the UNA’s efforts in the realm of agency-building through the hiring of professional insurance agents, underscoring that it is life insurance and annuity sales that financially support Soyuzivka and the UNA newspapers, among other fraternal benefits. She also pointed to the expansion and improvement of the UNA website (www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org), which now includes a Resource Center for branch secretaries and field agents, as well as many useful tools for members to calculate their individual insurance needs.

Treasurer Lisovich reported that the financial performance of the UNA had greatly improved in 2007 as compared with the prior year. She also noted that the UNA generates 85 percent of its insurance sales in three states: Pennsylvania (which alone accounts for 32 percent of sales), New Jersey and New York. Thus, there is much room for improvement.

In early 2007 UNA National Secretary Kozak reported on the top organizers for the prior year. Named as top organizers were: Christine Brodyn (Branch 27), Myron Pylypiak (Branch 496) and Lubov Streletsky (Branch 10). Top annuity organizers were Steve Woch, an employee of the Home Office, and UNA Advisor Eugene Serba. Mr. Woch earned honors for highest sales of insurance and annuities combined.

A first in 2007 was the UNA fund-raising cruise on March 4-11 aboard the Carnival ship called Miracle that sailed to Grand Cayman, Cozumel, Belize and Costa Maya. A group of close to 80 adventurous souls, ranging in age from their 20s to their 80s, went on the cruise. Among them were four UNA General Assembly members: President Kaczaraj, Second Vice-President Michael Koziupa, Treasurer Lisovich and Advisor Maya Lew. Cruise participants were able to designate their donations for The Ukrainian Weekly or Svoboda press funds, or the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation.

The 2007 Ukrainian National Association Almanac was released by the Svoboda Press and mailed to Svoboda subscribers at the beginning of the year. The almanac marked several historic anniversaries, first among them the 90th anniversary of the fall of the Russian Empire and the emergence of the Ukrainian Central Rada, which in 1918 proclaimed the independence of Ukraine. Other chapters in the UNA Almanac were dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the physical destruction of the Ukrainian intelligentsia, begun in 1937 at the time of Joseph Stalin’s Great Terror; the 100th anniversary of the birth of Roman Shukhevych, commander of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA); the 110th anniversary of the birth of poet Yevhen Malaniuk; and the 120th anniversary of the birth of the world-renowned sculptor Alexander Archipenko. Other anniversaries were noted as well, including the centennial of the birth of bandurist and composer Hryhory Kytasty and the centennial of the birth of pianist and founder of the Ukrainian Music Institute Roman

Sawycky. The Ukrainian-language volume also comprised chapters on politics and ecology, religious topics, travels, advice and humor. The editor of the 2007 UNA Almanac was Petro Chasto, a staffer of Svoboda; the cover design was by Stepan Slutsky.

The UNA sent Christmas packages to Ukrainian American servicemen and servicewomen on active duty in hostile territory, reported Oksana Trytjak, the UNA’s national organizer, in a February 11 article. The packages of goodies were a way for the UNA and its membership to thank military personnel for their dedication and patriotism.

The UNA’s student members received \$20,275 in scholarships for the 2006-2007 academic year. A special section devoted to the 94 scholarship recipients appeared as a four-page supplement to The Ukrainian Weekly on March 4, as well as in Svoboda. Since the formal establishment of the UNA Scholarship Program in 1964, over \$2 million in scholarships has been distributed to young people from all over North America.

Also benefiting from the UNA’s largesse during 2007 was a group of volunteers who served as monitors of Ukraine’s pre-term parliamentary elections on September 30. The UNA decided to help young volunteers who are UNA members cover the expenses of their travel to Ukraine, giving them stipends of \$500 each. Five young members received the stipends. Each of these observers, who were part of the election monitoring team organized by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, received a letter from the UNA, signed by Treasurer Lisovich, which noted, in part: “The Ukrainian National Association Inc. applauds your efforts to be actively involved in the nation-building process of Ukraine, a fledgling democracy. Your participation promotes the ideals every American holds dear – democratic, free and fair elections.”

Among the notables who visited the UNA Home Office in 2007 was Ihor Pasichnyk, rector of the National University of Ostroh Academy. On April 2 Dr. Pasichnyk addressed employees at the UNA, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, sharing with them the good news about the university’s development, which today is in the top six of Ukraine’s 320 universities. Dr. Pasichnyk expressed special thanks to the Ukrainian National Association, whose fund-raising for Ostroh covers 80 percent of the costs for a special program that gives poor and orphaned children from Ukraine’s rural regions an opportunity to pursue higher education. The fund-raising is spearheaded by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, honorary member of the UNA General Assembly, acting under the aegis of the Ukrainian National Foundation. Ostroh’s plans include the construction of a new \$11 million complex that will enable the university to expand and modernize its programs. “We want to create the Ukrainian Harvard,” Dr. Pasichnyk stated.

Before Christmas, the UNA unveiled its latest selection of Christmas cards. As usual, the cards were mailed to UNA members and subscribers to the UNA’s newspapers. Proceeds from the sale of the cards went to



Participants of Soyuzivka’s 40th Tennis Camp, which was held in June.

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Soyuzivka via the Ukrainian National Foundation. Donations were accepted also for the press funds of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

The year 2007, it should be noted, marked the 113th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Association. That milestone was noted in an editorial in The Ukrainian Weekly on February 18: "Now into its 12th decade, the UNA remains true to its founding principles as expressed in its modern-day mission statement: "to promote the principles of fraternalism; to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American, and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and to provide quality financial services and products to its members."

The noteworthy: people and events

Certainly, our annual "Year in Review" covers many categories, but very often there are articles that just don't easily fit into any one section. Following, listed in chronological order, are the notable events and personalities of 2007.

- NASA's first Ukrainian American astronaut, Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, traveled to Ukraine for the first time in January-February, for a five-day trip during which she met with Ukraine's top politicians and personalities. The Ukrainian media extensively covered the diaspora celebrity as Ms. Stefanyshyn-Piper received a hero's welcome in her father's native land. Landing in Kyiv, she was welcomed by Ukrainian billionaire Victor Pinchuk, whose charitable fund invited the astronaut to Ukraine, before heading off to meet with members of the press and Ukrainian astronaut and friend Leonid Kadenyuk. Ms. Stefanyshyn-Piper held a private discussion with First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko and received the Order of Princess Olha (third class) from President Viktor Yushchenko for her achievements. Ms. Stefanyshyn-Piper's five-day visit also included participation in a roundtable discussion on "The Economic Future of Space Exploration for Ukraine and the World," as well as the presentation of Zavtra.ua scholarships to university-bound students at the Antonov Aviation Complex. She also visited western Ukraine, where her father was born.

- Hryhorii Nestor entered the record books as Ukraine's oldest citizen when he turned 116 on March 15. Born in 1891, when his native Halychyna was under the rule of Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef, the barely 5-foot-tall former shepherd and church deacon attributed his longevity to an unmarried, simple lifestyle, as well as a diet full of vegetables and dairy products. He recalled Ukraine's long history of foreign rule by the Austrians, Poles, Germans and Soviets. When asked, he opined that life was best and most prosperous under the Austrians. Recognized by the Ukrainian government, Mr. Nestor was to be included in the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's oldest person. He passed away in his sleep on December 14.

- Avid cyclist Natalka Morawsky-Mudge set a goal of raising \$25,000 by biking across the United States on the 4,200-mile Transamerica Bike Trail in 93 days to raise money for a children's charity. Her chosen charity was Middle Earth, which runs two community youth centers in New Jersey for over 500 children. A senior business director at National Starch and Chemical, she was greatly aided by her employer, who not only offered her a one-year hiatus as part of its career-break policy, but also pledged \$2 per mile, or \$8,200. Starting in May in Virginia, Ms. Morawsky-Mudge (with her husband, Paul, behind the wheel of a supply vehicle) reached the Pacific Ocean at Florence, Ore., in late August. She raised a grand total of \$32,490.

- On April 30 Boris Jarymowych and a team of graphic designers received an Emmy Award for their work on the XX Winter Olympic Games broadcast on NBC. Ukrainian champion boxer Wladimir Klitschko presented the award to Mr. Jarymowych at the 28th annual Sports Emmy Awards ceremony at the Frederick P. Rose Hall in New York City. The Sports Emmy Awards recipients were chosen by a blue-ribbon panel of their peers from over 700 entries in 30 categories. This year, three Emmy Awards were handed out for outstanding sports content.

- In May The Weekly reported on the publication of the book "The Secret of the Priest's Grotto," which combined natural and family history to tell the tale of



Bohdan Honcharuk

Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper stands among the residents of the town of Novyi Yarychiv, during a January 30 welcoming ceremony. It was the Ukrainian American astronaut's first visit to Ukraine.

the Stermer family during the Holocaust. Christos Nicola, a veteran caver and historian of Ukrainian ancestry, and Peter Lane Taylor, a caving enthusiast, adventure writer and photographer, spent 10 years doing research on a cave system in western Ukraine known as the Priest's Grotto, after an expedition they were part of stumbled upon artifacts indicating that the subterranean chambers had once been inhabited. Research revealed that the Stermers, an extended Jewish family group that survived Nazi persecution, resided below ground for two years in that labyrinth of caves. Mr. Nicola is a co-founder of the Ukrainian American Youth Caver Exchange Foundation (UAYCEF), whose mission is to bring together young people from around the world to learn about each other's cultures while exploring caves and sharing caving techniques.

- Kurowycky Meat Products Inc. closed its doors in June after serving the community in New York's East Village for 52 years and three generations. Principal owner Jaroslaw Kurowycky Jr. listed several reasons for his butcher shop's slow demise, including changing eating trends and the post-9/11 business decline, but more importantly in his opinion, new requirements and regulations enforced by the city and state food services and health inspectors. The store was founded in 1955 by his grandfather, Erast Kurowycky, a master butcher who came to America in 1949. It was one of the last butcher



UNIAN/Oleksander Baran

Hryhorii Nestor celebrated his 116th birthday on March 15 in the village of Staryi Yarychiv, Ukraine.



Maintaining cross-country cycling tradition, Natalie Morawsky-Mudge begins her journey across the U.S. in May by dipping her rear bicycle's wheel in the Atlantic Ocean.

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shops to operate its own smokehouse. At the height of its business in the 1970s the meat market had a staff of 13 people. For the future, Mr. Kurowycky was considering several options, such as selling his smoked meat products online.

- The World Heritage Committee added the Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians to UNESCO's World Heritage List on June 28. This region is composed of 10 separate components along a 185-kilometer axis in both Ukraine and Slovakia, and features a complete and comprehensive ecological pattern and process of pure strands of European beech. The Primeval Beech Forests also represent a fine example the re-colonization and development of terrestrial ecosystems and communities after the last ice age. Three other sites in Ukraine are already on the UNESCO World Heritage List: St. Sophia Cathedral and the related structures of the Kyiv-Percherska Lavra, the ensemble of the historic city center of Lviv, and the Struve Geodetic Arc, one of a chain of survey triangulations stretching through 10 countries from Norway to the Black Sea that were carried out in 1816-1855 by astronomer Freidrich Georg Wilhelm Struve.

- Adrian Holovaty, 26, was among 35 winners of the annual Knight News Challenge, sponsored by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. He was awarded a \$1.1 million grant for his new open-source software program called EveryBlock, which will link databases to allow users to find out the latest news and information about their neighborhood. Over the next two years Mr. Holovaty will use the grant money to hire four to five people to help him build up the needed infrastructure. He has a distinguished history with software development, producing award-winning web applications for washingtonpost.com, Lawrence.com and LJWorld.com. In 2005 Mr. Holovaty won the \$10,000 grand prize of the Batten Awards for Innovations in Journalism with the development of chicagocrime.com, which tracks the locations of crimes using Google's online mapping technology and statistics from the Chicago Police Department.

- In July a dozen Ukrainians in the city of Dnipropetrovsk were bestowed the title of "Righteous Among the Nations" and honored in a ceremony attend-



Taissa Bushnell

Stone conservation course students, lecturers and organizers pose with the Lorentsovych Lion, a sculpture that stood guard at the entrance to the Lviv City Hall in the 16th to 19th centuries. They were part of Lviv's efforts in 2007 to restore its heritage.

ed by Israeli Ambassador Zina Kalay-Kleitman and Archpriest Mykola Kurdii. Awards and certificates were presented to the 12 Ukrainians; several were of the titles received by children of honorees who had died. "Righteous Among the Nations" is a title established by Israel to honor the memory of those who aided Jews during World War II. In all, 2,185 Ukrainians have received the title, putting Ukraine in fourth place after Poland, the Netherlands and France in the number of people recognized.

- A scholarship for students with demonstrated finan-

cial needs was established at Penn State University's Hazleton campus in honor of the late Ukrainian American actor Jack Palance. Born Volodymyr Palahniuk, he was a native of the Hazleton area who maintained a lifelong fondness and connection to that part of eastern Pennsylvania. Following Mr. Palance's death at age 87 in November 2006, his daughter Holly, on behalf of the family, requested that a memorial scholarship fund be established at the campus. The university not only obliged, but agreed to match 5 percent of the principal of each gift annually. Money for the scholarship is raised by friends and family from around the world and creates a lasting legacy of Mr. Palance in his former hometown.

- Voters for the 2007 Narbut Prize for Ukraine's best-designed stamps apparently made their decision with their eyes and noses. The winner this year was the "Fifth and Sixth Definitive Stamp Issues of Ukraine, 2001-2006," a 15-stamp series featuring the country's most famous plants, such as hollylocks, sunflowers, marigolds, water lilies, poppies and wheat. A total of 30,000 of these souvenir sheets was produced and quickly picked up by eager collectors. Oleksander Kalmykov designed the series and received the bulk of the Narbut Prize honorarium, as well as a certificate and medal. Svitlana Bondar, the sheet designer, received a smaller monetary award. Awarded annually since 1993, the Narbut Prize is sponsored by the U.S.-based Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS) and is named after Heorhiy Narbut, who designed three high-value stamps for Ukraine's first postage stamp issue of 1918, as well as a dozen of Ukraine's first banknotes. Runner-up winners included a series on the 750th anniversary of the founding of Lviv, a joint Ukrainian-Austrian issue featuring "Ferdinand Square" as it appeared in 1840 and a series honoring the Zaporozhian Kozaks.

- In preparing for the 10th anniversary of Lviv's inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the western Ukrainian city is working to restore the old and fragile architectural ensembles of its historic city center. In July local sculptors underwent specialized training in the conservation of stone sculpture – the first course of several in the coming months to professionally train these workers in the finer points of this painstaking yet important task. The city is being assisted by both local and international bureaus, such as the Agency for the Revitalization of Lviv and UNESCO's ICCROM (International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property), respectively. Lviv Mayor Andrii Sadovyi has organized roundtable discussions and public hearings with members of the community to keep the greater public aware of the work, and formed a steering committee of experts to initiate the conservation projects. A report on the project was written for The Weekly by Taissa Bushnell, an advisor to the Lviv mayor on cultural heritage preservation.

- On October 16-17 intellectuals and policy-makers



Matthew Dubas

Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski addresses the roundtable conference on Ukraine-EU relations held in Washington on October 16-17.

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from Ukraine, the European Union (EU) and the United States came together in Washington for the eighth in a series of roundtable discussions dedicated to "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood." This roundtable, "Ukraine-EU Relations," focused on Ukraine's potential to co-exist and prosper beside and eventually within the European Union. Participants generally agreed that Ukraine needed reforms in areas such as the judiciary system, energy sector, government accountability, constitutional reform and economic planning before being able to enter the EU.

The star of the conference was Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former national security advisor to President Jimmy Carter and currently a professor of American foreign policy at Johns Hopkins University. He described the relationship between Ukraine and Russia, calling the former the "older brother." "Politically, Ukraine has shown maturity and ability to compromise of the kind Russia has yet to demonstrate," Dr. Brzezinski said. He explained that the "younger brother [Russia] should learn from the older brother," and underscored that "Ukraine is a success as a nation-state. Ukraine is here to stay." He added that Ukraine is "a part of the European political culture."

- On November 10 the Ukrainian Technological Society of Pittsburgh presented its Ukrainian of the Year Award to Dr. Michael Kutsenkow at its 38th annual award ceremony and dinner dance. He has joined the ranks of an elite crowd that includes personalities such as Patriarch Josyf Slipyj, historian Andrew Gregorovich, Judge Bohdan Futey, and Presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Viktor Yushchenko. Dr. Kutsenkow was honored for his over 50 years as a practicing family physician in the Carnegie, Pa., area, as well as work on the boards of various medical, cultural and educational committees. The annual award is presented to those who have contributed to the Ukrainian community or Ukrainian scholarship, or who have demonstrated significant achievement which brings recognition and prestige to the Ukrainian community.

- In late September the Ukrainian community of Morris County in New Jersey was proud to host an entourage of folk dancers from Brazil, members of the Barvinok Ukrainian Folklore Ensemble and the Santa Monica Traditional Brazilian Center. Together with the local Iska Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, the Brazilians put on a wonderful show at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, located in Whippany, N.J. The 31 dancers spent several days in the area before their performance and were entertained by host families, many of whom had children in Iskra. The September 29 performance at the UACCNJ, featuring both Ukrainian and Brazilian dance numbers, was the best-attended event to date since the center's gala grand opening the previous year. It raised \$2,000 for the center.

- In December The Weekly wrote about the publication of a fascinating new book on the schooner *Batkivschyna*, whose goal was to sail around the world. The "little ship that could" grabbed the media's attention during Operation Sail in 2000. Capt. Dmytro Biriukovych's first-hand account, called "Misiya *Batkivschyna*" ("Mission Fatherland"), is about the exploits of the 89-foot, 22-ton sailboat as it sailed from Ukraine to the United States, ending its journey in Australia due to lack of funds. What truly amazed the skipper is how the *Batkivschyna* sailed so far without any official sponsors or government support, relying entirely on the donations of Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike who were inspired by the bravery of Capt. Biriukovych and his crew. Although it was an arduous journey and his schooner remains stranded in Australia, the captain is proud of his feat and all his schooner was able to accomplish on the international stage.

- In December The Weekly carried a review of "The North End: Photographs by John Paskievich," an impressive collection of black-and-white photographs by the eminent documentary filmmaker and photographer. The book depicts post-World War II Ukrainian immigrants in the North End section of Winnipeg, Manitoba. It is a diverse series of scenes of city life for the new immigrants, pictures of average people going about their daily lives in a new land. Mr. Paskievich's photographs show that, despite these hardships, the community built a solid infrastructure for later generations. The book was published by the University of Manitoba Press.

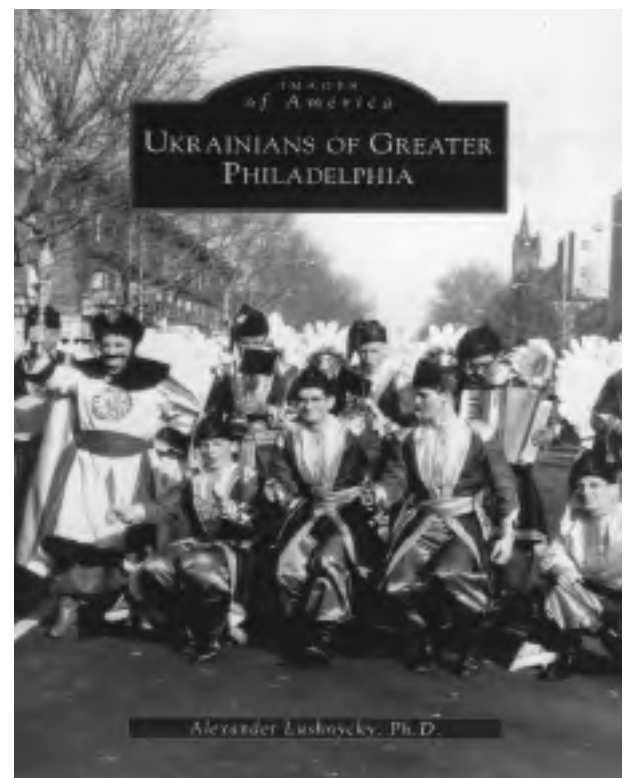
- Also noted in December was the publication of Dr. Alexander Lushnycky's photographic history "Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia," which traces the history of various aspects of diaspora life going as far



A photo from the book "The North End: Photographs by John Paskievich" shows St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Disraeli Street at Euclid Avenue.

back as the 1880s. Philadelphia is particularly important as it saw the establishment of the first Ukrainian Catholic community in the United States. Dr. Lushnycky's work also details the importance of fraternal groups, women's auxiliaries, choirs, dramatic groups, music and dance ensembles, and sports clubs in the development and growth of community life. The book is part of a series released by Arcadia Publishing.

- On December 21 the Institute for Water Resources (IWR) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers congratulated one of its own for his role as a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which made him a joint winner of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. To whom are we referring? Dr. Eugene Z. Stakhiv, an active member of the Ukrainian community, including Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and its Chornomortsi fraternity. The IPCC shared the Nobel Peace Prize with its much more famous recipient, former U.S. Vice-President Al Gore. The prize was awarded "for their efforts to build and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change and to lay the foundations for the measures that are need to counteract such change. It was presented in Oslo, Norway, on December 10. Dr. Stakhiv is co-director at the IWR of the International Upper Great Lakes Study Board. He has been an active contributor to the IPCC and chaired the first IPCC Water Resources Group.



Cover of "Ukrainians of Greater Philadelphia."



"Fifth and Sixth Definitive Stamp Issues of Ukraine, 2001-2006" – winner of the Narbut Prize in 2007.

2007: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Our community mourns their passing

During 2007 we mourned the passing of many important members of our Ukrainian community. Among them were the following, listed in chronological order:

- Nina Samokish, 83, honored member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, long-time "kommendantka" of various Plast camps and member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) – New York, December 31, 2006.

- Nicholas Bohatiuk, Ph.D., 81, professor of economics at LeMoyne College for 35 years, executive board member of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, leading member of the Ukrainian American Youth Association and the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) – Hockessin, Del., January 22.

- Stefan Bodnarenko, Ph.D., 49, associate professor of psychology at Smith College, long-standing member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and its Khmelnychenky fraternity – Northampton, Mass., February 12.

- John Kyzyk, D.M.D., D.D.S., 89, member of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, executive member of the Ukrainian Patriarchal Society and lifelong benefactor of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv – Basking Ridge, N.J., February 21.

- Swiatoslaw Trofimenko, Ph.D., 75, noted chemist, member of the executive board of the Lypynsky Eastern European Research Institute, treasurer of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, author of over 150 articles on organic chemistry and holder of 36 patents – Wilmington, Del., February 26.

- Lubomyr Mykyta, 81, Ukrainian community activist in the Philadelphia area, pioneer of ultrasonic and radiographic testing, and head of the mobile ultrasonic testing team for Colorado Iron and Steel/Phoenix Steel Corp. – Annapolis, Md., March 8.

- Marta Kokolska Musijtschuk, 83, former soloist with the New York City Opera and long-time performer at Ukrainian music concerts – April 16.

- Jurij Solovij, 85, noted modernist and abstract artist, author of many articles on art and related topics, a collection of which appeared in "Pro Rechi Bilshi Nizh Zori" (About Things Greater than Stars) – Rutherford, N.J., April 23.

- Jaroslaw Stachiw, Ph.D., 75, leading authority on ocean engineering and on the structural application of plastics and brittle materials used in external pressure housings and hyperbaric chambers, honored for his contributions to the U.S. Navy's ocean engineering programs – Canyon Lake, Tex., April 25.

- Eugene Jarosewich, 81, retired chemist in the Department of Mineral Sciences at the Smithsonian Institution, known worldwide for his wet chemical analyses of meteorites – Washington, April 30.

- Petro Balabuyev, 75, aircraft engineer and lead designer of the world's largest aircraft, the Antonov 225 "Mriya," and other aircraft made by the Antonov Design Bureau in Ukraine – May 17.

- Omelan Pleszkewycz, 99, former treasurer and executive director of Selfreliance Federal Credit Union in Chicago, founding member and president of the Society of Ukrainian Cooperatives (now the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association) and chairman of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives – Chicago, May 30.

- The Rev. Dr. Ihor Monczak, 79, prominent priest of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, professor at the Ukrainian Catholic University, lecturer of Eastern European theological studies at St. Paul's University in Ottawa, and pastor in Ontario and Quebec – Montreal, June 10.

- Maria Sherapowycz, 80, former head of the advertising department for both Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly (1987 to 1999) – New York, June 17.

- Peter Liba, 67, former lieutenant-governor of Manitoba (1999-2004) and former broadcast journalist – Lake of the Woods, Manitoba, June 21.

- Mary Manko Haskett, 98, survivor of Canada's internment of "enemy aliens" during and after World War I, honorary chairwoman of the National Redress

Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association – Mississauga, Ontario, July 14.

- Dr. Yar Mociuk, Emmy Award winner, honored by the National Academy of Arts and Sciences for Outstanding Achievement in Technical Advancement, and longtime treasurer of The Ukrainian Museum's board of trustees – Bronxville, N.Y., July 18.

- Yakiv Shegryn, 94, founding member of the Boston branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, recipient of Plast's St. George Medal in Gold for his work with Plast youth – July 24.

- Wasyl Mackiw, 79, Korean War veteran, member of Post 40 of the Ukrainian American Veterans and professional engineer with several firms and the U.S. Army, active in the campaign to de-Russify the Ukrainian armed forces after Ukraine's independence – North Port, Fla., July 30.

- John Fizer, Ph.D., 82, professor of Slavic languages and literatures at Rutgers University for 39 years, and supporter of the renaissance of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy – Somerset, N.J., August 28.

- Father Pavlo Hayda, 42, pastor of St. Joseph the Betrothed Ukrainian Catholic Church, Plast activist, community leader and educator – Chicago, September 4.

- Brig. Gen. Vasyl Kuk, 94, member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), last commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (1950-1954), prisoner of the Soviet regime – Kyiv, September 9.

- Anatolii Pohribnyi, Ph.D., 65, publicist, scholar, literary critic, laureate of the Taras Shevchenko National Prize of Ukraine, member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, professor of journalism and former first vice-minister of education – Kyiv, October 9.

- Mykola Francuzenko, 83, radio journalist, former chief of the Ukrainian branch of Voice of America, writer of poetry, short stories and dramas – Silver Spring, Md., October 28.

- Yaroslav Kulynych, 81, noted film director and producer, remembered for his historic footage of major community events such as the first conclave of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians in 1967 – New York, October 30.

- Taras Zakydalsky, Ph.D., 66, longtime collaborator of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, where he served as a translator, manuscript editor, subject editor in philosophy of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine and editor of the Journal of Ukrainian Studies – Toronto, November 8.

- Archbishop Vsevolod (Kolomijcew-Majdanski), 80, eparch of the Western Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A – December 16.

- Lev Futala, 85, president of the Society of UPA [Ukrainian Insurgent Army] Soldiers, head of the World Brotherhood of UPA, member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, president of the Litopys UPA publication and founding member of the SUM-A Federal Credit Union in Yonkers, N.Y. – Yonkers, N.Y., December 21.

Meanwhile, here at The Weekly ...

Okay, now that you've read about what seems like just about everything Ukrainian-related that happened in 2007, let us tell you what went on in our little world at The Ukrainian Weekly.

First of all, we must note that there were some personnel changes.

On February 1, Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief of The Weekly, was tapped to take on the additional role of editor-in-chief of Svoboda. Readers will recall from our "2006: The Year in Review" that the Ukrainian National Association, our publisher, had decided in December 2006 to eliminate one editor-in-chief's position in an effort to streamline operations and reduce costs. Thus, Irene Jarosewich, editor-in-chief of Svoboda, was bid a fond farewell as part of this restructuring at the UNA's publications. Coincidentally, the new job as chief at Svoboda was added to Ms. Hadzewycz's duties as she marked her 30th anniversary of working full-time at The Weekly.

In mid-year, in our May 20 issue to be exact, we announced an immediate job opening for a full-time layout artist. The reason: our dear colleague Larissa Oprysko, was leaving for greener pastures – a position



Among Ukrainians who passed away in 2007 were: (top row, from left) Swiatoslaw Trofimenko, John Fizer, the Rev. Pavlo Hayda, (bottom row) Mykola Francuzenko, Yaroslav Kulynych and Lev Futala.

2007: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

working on graphics and production for The Wall Street Journal Reports. Ms. Oprysko had been with The Weekly as design artist since May 2004. We were sad to see her go, but we wished her all the best in her new endeavors.

Meanwhile, we scrambled to find someone to fill her shoes. We were extremely lucky that Dara Denysyk, a student completing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design and multi-media studies at Centenary College who happened to live in nearby Morris Plains, N.J., came to the rescue. Ms. Denysyk offered that she could work as our design artist during the summer months, thus giving us some time to continue our search for a full-time staffer. Ms. Denysyk was a godsend. Unfortunately, come the fall she was off to school again.

The Weekly succeeded in hiring a full-time layout artist in the person of David "Darko" Bushnell, who came to work with us on October 1. Three months later – after toiling in relative anonymity during the UNA's customary three-month trial period – he was officially named to the production staff of our paper, joining the ever-loyal and long-serving Awilda Rolon, our typesetter/back-up layout person. Mr. Bushnell comes to The Weekly with a B.S. in computer science and significant experience in newspaper layout, having served as production manager for newspapers at the University of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon) and McGill University (Montreal).

Not to be forgotten, Khristina Lew, once our full-time staffer, continued to come in once a week to help with editing and proofreading.

One more personnel note: during the summer of 2007 The Weekly was lucky to have an editorial intern in the person of Roman Tabatchouk, a recent political science graduate of Rutgers University. Mr. Tabatchouk is now enrolled in law school; he hopes to work in the field of international law.

As regards content in The Ukrainian Weekly in 2007, we released our "2006: The Year in Review" in January, our annual Ukrainian Debutante Balls issue in March and our annual supplement called "A Ukrainian Summer" in May. There were plenty of special features during the year, ranging from the serious, like the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, to the entertaining, like summertime activities at Soyuzivka.

We inaugurated a new monthly section called "Generation Uke," which is geared to young adults. The first such pages appeared in our July 8 issue. The brains behind "Generation Uke" are our own editorial staffer Matthew Dubas and Yarema Belej, a freelance contributor whose byline is familiar to readers of The Weekly.

Messrs. Dubas and Belej wrote in their "Welcome to our new page" message: " 'Generation Uke' " will be devoted to interests, happenings, upcoming events, individuals and a whole range of other topics geared toward



The Ukrainian Weekly's Kyiv correspondent Zenon Zawada (left), and summer interns Dara Denysyk (center) and Roman Tabatchouk.

the critical age group of young adults in the Ukrainian community. The editorial staff firmly believes that it is necessary to engage the 18- to 35-year-old demographic to help preserve, develop and legitimize the Ukrainian community in North America. To this end, we look forward to showcasing pertinent content that will shine the light on and encourage such progress. We are also interested in suggestions and even stories from readers of this generation to help propel our initiative."

So, if you are between the ages of 18 and 25, and haven't yet contributed materials for "Generation Uke," consider yourself officially invited, once again, to become one of our correspondents. (Contact mdubas@ukrweekly.com.)

The year 2007 was notable also for The Weekly's first use of full color (as opposed to spot color) on its pages. In fact, the first issue to contain color pages was the one containing our summer supplement (May 6). We're sure it was a nice surprise for our loyal readers.

On the archives front there was important work to be done. In February, as has become our custom, we unveiled all The Weekly issues of the prior year on our website, www.ukrweekly.com. The 53 (yes, 53!) issues published in 2006 include 1,849 articles. Thus, The Weekly's website now contains 20,189 full-text articles, including all articles published from 1996 through 2006, plus articles from issues of special interest. The 2006 issues were opened to the public on February 22, the anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian National Association. If you haven't yet visited our site, please do so. There is a wealth of information available, so just click away and explore.

Unbeknownst to our faithful readers, we also continued to work on archiving issues from before 1996. Our

sister publication, Svoboda, founded in 1893, the longest continuously published Ukrainian newspaper in the world, and The Ukrainian Weekly, which has been published since 1933, have begun an ambitious new project that will make its historic archives available to the general public. Our two newspapers intend to digitize all the issues we have published, thus making them available to researchers and the general public alike. This digitization requires a great investment of manpower and funds, and is expected to cost a minimum of \$70,000. We promise more news on this exciting project early in 2008.

Postal delivery in the United States, we – and our readers – noticed, declined markedly beginning in mid-2007. (The vast majority of our readers receive their papers via second-class mail; some pay extra to receive the papers via first-class mail.) And, the complaints were not limited to a particular area, but came to us from all over the country.

In mid-September, at the annual meeting of the UNA General Assembly, that body's Publications Committee, prodded by the editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, discussed this issue. The committee recommended that we run a survey in order to collect data on postal delivery, which would then be presented to U.S. postal authorities. We ran our "Survey Regarding Postal Delivery of The Ukrainian Weekly" in November and December, and are still in the process of collecting survey returns. If you haven't yet filled out your survey form, we ask you to please do so. That way you can help us secure better delivery of The Weekly from us to you.

Finally, we turn to the news about donations to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund. During 2007 we received \$33,210 in contributions (surpassing the amount received in 2006 by more than \$7,000), for which we are sincerely grateful. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your support of what we do!

Oh yes, lest we forget, here are the credits for "2007: The Year in Review." The articles in this special section – all of which are based on materials published in The Weekly and written by numerous authors – were prepared by: Roma Hadzewycz, Matthew Dubas, Khristina Lew, Yaro Bihun, Deanna Yurchuk and Markian Hadzewycz in the United States, Oksana Zakydalsky in Canada, and Zenon Zawada in Ukraine.

And now for the annual disclaimer: There is simply no way that this yearender could contain all the info about all the events that happened everywhere during 2007. Of necessity, the editors pick and choose from among the events that were covered on the pages of The Weekly to present a snapshot of 2007. (PS: If your event is not mentioned here, it could be because: a) you never submitted a story about it to The Weekly; b) it simply did not make the cut given space constraints; or c) we might have missed it – editors and journalists are, after all, human...)

Our best wishes

As this issue of The Ukrainian Weekly containing "2007: The Year in Review" – dated January 13, or New Year's Eve according to the Julian (old) calendar – goes to press, we wish you, Dear Readers, all the best in 2008. May it be a great year for you and yours. (For us, 2008 will mark The Ukrainian Weekly's 75th anniversary.)

Happy New Year – Schaslyvoho Novoho Roku!



The staff of The Ukrainian Weekly (from left): Awilda Rolon, Khristina Lew, Matthew Dubas, Roma Hadzewycz and Darko Bushnell next to Mr. Bushnell's Christmas tree. (Hey! Who's putting out this issue while they're standing around?)

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Ukraine's president...

(Continued from page 1)

"We have a hard year behind us. We lived through much – highs and lows, dramas and happiness. But we are strong, and that positive and firm strength helps us to follow our path."

"I cannot overlook politics," he added. "Changes took place in our country's life. We have elected a new Parliament and this choice's meaning is greater than politics. We have a great, truly lifetime opportunity in our hands."

Mr. Yushchenko credited his fellow Ukrainians for bringing to a stop "threats generated by treachery and discord among politicians," providing a "potent lesson."

"Owing to you, the authorities are learning to change," the president noted. "I have done everything for this learning to begin, and I will do anything for it to be authentic."

Referring to the turbulent times Ukraine endured during 2007, Mr. Yushchenko said. "We have brought the Ukrainian ship out of the storm, and now it is time for calm and coordinated work."

He then went on to note some of the highlights, both good and bad, of 2007:

"Ukraine was united in its happiness after winning the right to hold Euro-2012. I have no doubt that championship shall be worthily held in our state.

"Ukraine was united in its grief when lives of innocent people were lost during accidents in Dnipropetrovsk and at the Zasiadko mine. Neither these catastrophes and their victims, nor their causes shall be forgotten.

"Something very important happened inside our hearts when together with 193 states around the world we honored Holodomor victims and realized the tragedy's causes. After all this, we feel ourselves as a nation."

The president concluded his address by expressing hope for the future. "We have faith in our success," he said. "Everything will be fine. And let the New Year's wind carry these words from St. Sophia to Mount Hoverlia, from Hoverlia to Crimea, to our East, to our West, to our South and to our North."

Mr. Yushchenko stated: "A year of big opportunities is upon us. I pray to God for good health, happiness and well-being for each of you, for each of us, for our families and for our nation. I wish you, my fellow Ukrainians, a happy New Year 2008."

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

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

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

CONCERT REVIEW: UIA hosts Ma'alot Wind Quintet

by Victor Markiw

NEW YORK – The concert of November 17, 2007, at the Ukrainian Institute of America consisted of a somewhat unique ensemble: the Ma'alot Wind Quintet from Germany, whose name is taken from the Hebrew expression meaning "the path to harmony and musical concord." The quintet comprises Stephanie Winkler, flute; Christian Wetzel, oboe; Ulf-Guido Schäfer, clarinet; Volker Grewel, horn; and Volker Tessman, bassoon. Ms. Winkler (who was expecting a baby at any moment) was replaced by Christina Fassbender, who performed beautifully and with leadership throughout the program.

The first work on the program consisted of select movements from Beethoven's "Egmont," Op. 84, which the clarinetist, Mr. Schäfer, arranged for the quintet. In fact, Mr. Schäfer has been busy over the years writing arrangements for the Ma'alot Quintet, as well as other prominent ensembles. The performance of "Egmont for Wind Quintet" takes some getting used to, but one quickly becomes assimilated to the sounds of this instrumental combination. The ensemble performed with a perfect balance of role-playing – each member providing expert support for the soloist of the moment, resulting in a perfectly executed contrapuntal kaleidoscope. The intonation, visual communication and musical interplay were formidable throughout the evening.

The climax of the program was

Victor Markiw, who holds a doctorate in music, is a full-time faculty member at the University of New Haven.

Beethoven's Quintet for Piano and Winds in E-flat Major, Op. 16 featuring Mykola Suk on piano. Although this work is often compared with Mozart's Quintet for Piano and Winds, K. 452, Beethoven's work gives the impression of a concerto with the piano taking a more dominant and solo role as opposed to Mozart's piece with its more even distribution of the instrumental parts.

I have enjoyed Mr. Suk's notable piano talents on numerous occasions and once again listened raptly to an interpretation and display of near-Herculean stature. His ability to transform the sound of the piano to whatever particular mood the music requires is at a level few ever attain. The alternation of power and tenderness was evident throughout the long exposition of the opening movement, during which Mr. Suk's delicacy and sonorous qualities were coupled with deft agility and delivered with laser-like precision.

After once again witnessing Mr. Suk's rare qualities, a listener cannot help but compare him to keyboard giants such as Sviatoslav Richter. The opening piano solo of the second movement was gracefully executed with a transparent, yet full-bodied, singing tone. The Rondo theme, which Mr. Suk and the ensemble so brilliantly executed, displayed a Mozartean operatic flair and was most deservingly punctuated with a standing ovation.

The quintet's performance of Astor Piazzolla's "Estaciones Porteñas" (The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires) rounded out the evening's program and consisted of a set of four tango compositions in which the ensemble expertly captured the imagery of each season.

Yushchenko's...

(Continued from page 2)

rent leader of the People's Movement (Rukh), suggested that this might be a first step to forming a grand coalition including the PRU. His party has fiercely opposed the intentions of a part of Mr. Yushchenko's team to form such a coalition.

Ukrainian analyst Andry Yermolayev opined that Ms. Bohatyriova, as a representative of the opposition, may play the role of a counterweight to Ms. Tymoshenko. Another domestic analyst, Kost Bondarenko, a former adviser to both Mr. Yanukovych and Ms. Tymoshenko, agreed with this. He said that Ms. Tymoshenko's position may be weakened by the appearance of people like Ms. Bohatyriova on the Yushchenko team.

The influence of NSDC secretary on the Cabinet should not be overestimated, however. The NSDC is chaired by the president, whose word is decisive at its meetings, and who can fire the NSDC secretary at any moment. The prime minister and key ministers are members of

the NSDC along with the secretary. The president issues orders at NSDC meetings, not the secretary, whose job is to organize NSDC operations and watch how the president's instructions are carried out.

For most of Ms. Bohatyriova's predecessors, their stints in this position were the beginning of a decline in their political careers. Petro Poroshenko, who was the first to serve as NSDC secretary under President Yushchenko in 2005, fell into disgrace amid accusations of corruption. His successor, Anatolii Kinakh, defected from the Yushchenko camp in 2006 and lost his former influence. Vitalii Hayduk quit active politics after his resignation from the NSDC in May 2007. Ms. Bohatyriova's immediate predecessor, Ivan Pliusch, was elected to Parliament, but refused to back Ms. Tymoshenko for prime minister and was expelled from the Yushchenko-Tymoshenko coalition.

Sources: UNIAN, December 20, 24, 26; Channel 5, December 21; Inter TV, December 22; Interfax-Ukraine, December 24; ICTV, December 25; Segodnya, December 30.



Katherine Panchesine

May 20, 1923 - December 27, 2007



The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of former Branch 378 and to the UNA membership at large that Katherine Panchesine died December 27, 2007. Mrs. Panchesine held the position of branch secretary for 26 years.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to her son William, Jr., and the entire Panchesine family. Mrs. Panchesine will be remembered for her long years of service and dedication to the UNA.

Вічна Її Пам'ять



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Похоронні відправи відбудуться у Філадельфії, де Покійна жила на протязі багатьох років і була активна в громадському житті (Союз Українок Америки, Пласт).

В п'ятницю, 11 січня о 5-ій год. по пол. Парастас у Nasevich Funeral Home, 9529 Bustleton Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19115.

В суботу, 12 січня о 9-ій ранку Парастас у у Nasevich Funeral Home, 9529 Bustleton Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19115.

В суботу, 12 січня о 10-ій ранку заупокійна Літургія в церкві Благовіщення Пресвятої Богородиці (Annunciation of the B. V. M. Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church, 1206 Valley Rd., Melrose Park, PA) та поховання на Цвинтарі Пресвятої Марії в Jenkintown, PA при вулиці Фокс Чейс.

Микола Ничай, брат
Ігор Богачевський, син
Марія Одежинська і Марта Богачевська-Хомяк, доньки
Ростислав Хомяк, зять

Онуки: Ростислава Стокер, Ксеня Муха, Олена Бенкстон,
Марія Одежинська Таня Хомяк-Салві, Теодора Хомяк
дев'ять правнуків.

Замість квітів на могилу родина пропонує пожертви
– на журнал Союзу Українок „Наше Життя“ (UNWLA, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003);

– на Український Католицький Університет у Львові, через Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 West Chicago Ave., Chicago IL 60622.



Wolodymyr Bilyk

July 25, 1918 - December 22, 2007



The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of Branch 170 and to the UNA membership at large that Wolodymyr Bilyk died December 22, 2007. Mr. Bilyk held the position of branch secretary for over 24 years. He was former chairman of the Jersey City District and honorary chairman of the Northern New Jersey District.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to his wife, Helen, children, Irene, Lubomir and George, and the entire Bilyk family. Mr. Bilyk will be remembered for his loyalty, dedication and many, many years of service to the UNA.

Вічна Йому Пам'ять

Deputy assistant secretary of the U.S. State Department speaks at HURI

by Peter T. Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – “It’s good to be back at Harvard, where I studied a country, the Soviet Union, that, I’m pleased to say, no longer exists. Conversely, I’m here to speak to you today about a country, Ukraine, that was at the time I was a student a republic on paper only,” said Deputy Assistant Secretary of State of the Bureau for European and Eurasian Affairs at the U.S. State Department David J. Kramer, who has oversight responsibilities for the countries of Russia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, at a special lecture on U.S.-Ukraine relations.

Titled “A Key Moment in Ukraine-American Relations,” the lecture was delivered at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) on December 7, 2007, before an audience of approximately 75 scholars, students and members of the greater Boston Ukrainian community. The lecture was the final event in HURI’s series of fall seminars.

In the course of his talk Mr. Kramer analyzed the history of Ukrainian-American relations, discussed U.S. government policy and then outlined changes that the new Ukrainian government urgently needs to undertake if it hopes to succeed.

“Today is the 66th anniversary of Pearl Harbor ... and the 20th anniversary of Mikhail Gorbachev’s visit to Washington for a key summit with President [Ronald] Reagan,” Mr. Kramer pointed out. “He was clearly a new face, a breath of fresh air. He wowed Washington publics and it was a seminal event in U.S.-Soviet relations.”

“The result of his years in power is that the Soviet Union broke up, freeing the 15 so-called republics to go their own way. The 15 were all over the map, quite literally, but also in terms of their history, internal cohesiveness and economic development. Not surprisingly, they have met with various levels of success in terms of economic development, political liberty and the overall happiness of their people,” he noted.

“None of the countries that finally separated themselves from Russia is as populated or as important to regional history – and to Russianness, from the clouded Russian perspective – than Ukraine. Before Russia and Belarus there was Rus’, and we all know where that was. It was the princes and princesses of Kyivan Rus’ who first adopted Orthodox Christianity. Another country and civilization developed later in the back-woods Duchy of Muscovy, but Ukraine was first.”

“Today Ukraine can be first again,” Mr. Kramer emphasized. “It has enormous potential, it has all it needs to succeed, to be at the forefront that emerged from the break-up of the Soviet Union in economic and political development. To do so, it must overcome the past and forge headlong into the future, a future Ukraine’s nearly 47 million people deserve.”

“There is some good news,” he said. “Ukraine has taken an important step forward with the coalition formed by the parties involved in the Orange Revolution. The election of Yulia Tymoshenko ... is another welcome development. The Orange majority in Parliament is narrow, but other countries have succeeded in establishing successful governments even under such circumstances. It doesn’t make life easy, but democracy isn’t easy. It’s just better than any other system.”

“With the formation of a new government, it’ll be time to get back to business,” Mr. Kramer added. “We are looking forward to a new start, but for that we need a government to talk to. And, when there is one, we have a large agenda of bilateral issues. Ukraine, for its part, has no shortage of urgent reforms that need attention.”

“Prolonged political uncertainty has stalled reform and led to inertia. It has less-

ened Ukraine’s ability to function as a strong partner to Europe and the United States. It hasn’t helped that Ukrainian politics has been Byzantine in its complexity and intrigue. The coalition took so long to materialize that for a while we were worried that there was a greater urgency to form a Ukrainian government in Washington than in Kyiv,” Mr. Kramer quipped.

“Sympathetic friends of Ukraine, among whom I count myself,” Mr. Kramer said, “have followed events with frustration. Above all, we thought infighting and delay failed to respect the wishes of the people of Ukraine.”

“One of our biggest fears was that the bickering would cause some observers to lose interest, to sort of give up on Ukraine and dismiss it as incorrigible, an impossibly convoluted place more trouble than it was worth. Those of us who know the value of this country and its people worried that it would lose the attention and good will that it so richly deserves,” he continued.

“We comforted ourselves in the knowledge that Ukraine is a functioning democracy, one where elections have real meaning. The politics behind formation of a coalition, choice of a Rada speaker and nomination of a new government have been peaceful and democratic; that should not be taken for granted. Yes it’s taken a long time, but I’d rather have that than have security forces determine the outcome or see blood spilling onto the streets,” he commented.

The fact that the vote was so closely contested “is a testament to the vibrancy of Ukraine’s democracy,” Mr. Kramer said. “A narrow result is a better sign of democracy than a lop-sided vote in an atmosphere of fear and one-sided media coverage, as we have recently seen elsewhere.”

Mr. Kramer noted that, “And, in fact, in a region where democracy is often under attack, Ukraine stands out for its consistent record of democratic elections and respect for human rights.” The media are freer now than they have ever been before, Mr. Kramer pointed out, adding “I’m impressed every time I go to Kyiv by the diversity of views and the sense of freedom among journalists. They can report on any issue and no longer fear for their safety or even their lives; the reprehensible murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze in 2000 reminds us of how things used to be for the press in Ukraine and how much things have changed for the better.”

“That is why when it comes to the subject of Ukraine, you find strong bipartisanship in Washington,” Mr. Kramer stated. “Ever since it became independent in 1991 there has been a consensus in Washington in support of a strong Ukraine.”

Acknowledging that “there have been ups and downs in our relations,” Mr. Kramer said that, nonetheless, “The United States never forgot the strategic importance of Ukraine or lost faith in its people. But the scandals, corruption and human-rights violations of the Kuchma leadership restricted close contact.”

“U.S.-Ukrainian relations leapt forward with the Orange Revolution. That event changed our relations and started us on a new trajectory of open dialogue and closer cooperation,” he noted.

“We know that there will be ups and downs,” Mr. Kramer stressed. “But what the Orange Revolution achieved, in terms of relations with the U.S. in the long term, is continued support for Ukraine’s aspiration to become a full member of the trans-Atlantic community and integration into its institutions.”

“The United States wants to see Ukraine, solidify its democratic gains and take its place as an integral part of Europe whole, free and at peace,” Mr. Kramer underscored. “U.S. interests will be served by Ukrainian success,” Mr. Kramer pointed out. “We are not battling anyone else for influence in

Ukraine. And let me be clear: We are not in competition with Russia. We don’t see things in a zero-sum way, nor do we view our relations with Ukraine through a Russian prism. U.S.-Ukraine relations stand on their own and always will.”

The speaker noted that Ukraine’s “evolution” had greatly helped bilateral ties: “Following the flawed presidential election that sparked the Orange Revolution, we’ve witnessed a succession of free and fair elections in Ukraine, the most recent on September 30, 2007. The vote mostly proceeded well, and all parties and candidates had free access to the media beforehand. A large contingent of international observers certified the basic fairness of the election.”

“The U.S. of course did not take sides in

energy negotiations, increasing domestic supply and improving efficiency. He pointed out that for every dollar’s worth of industrial production Ukraine consumes two and a half times as much energy as Poland.

Mr. Kramer noted out that corruption remains a major impediment to the achievement of Ukraine’s potential and indicated that the top priority needed to be the reform of the judicial system.

Finally, he indicated that Ukraine needs to signal its desire for more integration into the global community and that it can only do so by introducing reforms and opening markets.

Furthermore, “Ukraine can help itself with its participation in the European Neighborhood Policy... and a reforming

...None of the countries that finally separated themselves from Russia [after the break-up of the Soviet Union] is as populated or as important to regional history – and to Russianness, from the clouded Russian perspective – than Ukraine. Before Russia and Belarus there was Rus’, and we all know where that was. It was the princes and princesses of Kyivan Rus’ who first adopted Christianity. Another country and civilization developed later in the back-woods Duchy of Muscovy, but Ukraine was first.

Today Ukraine can be first again. It has enormous potential, it has all it needs to succeed, to be at the forefront that emerged from the break-up of the Soviet Union in economic and political development. To do so, it must overcome the past and forge headlong into the future, a future Ukraine’s nearly 47 million people deserve. ...

the election,” Mr. Kramer stressed. “We will work with any government produced from a democratic and legal process. We worked with an Orange government following the Orange Revolution with, first, Yulia Tymoshenko, then with Yuriy Yekhanurov as prime minister, then worked with a Blue-Red-Pink Coalition with Viktor Yanukovich in the prime minister’s seat up until these new elections. We received Prime Minister Yanukovich at very high levels in Washington last December; opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko also paid a visit to Washington this past February. We simply want to work with a government, hence our interest in seeing one formed as quickly as possible.”

“Ukraine has to prepare itself to become a full-fledged member of the Euro-Atlantic community,” he continued. “Reform is an ongoing process; reform is a road not a destination. But Ukraine has no shortage of incentives to undertake reform.”

“Basically, the reforms needed fall under the following three broad areas: energy security, corruption, and free and open markets,” he explained.

Mr. Kramer emphasized that energy is one of the biggest challenges that Ukraine faces and urged that Ukraine focus its energy strategy on diversifying its foreign energy suppliers and routes, getting greater control over its energy security, eliminating middle men, introducing transparency in

Ukraine can also help its relationship with NATO... a reforming Ukraine can play an even larger role in advancing security in the Black Sea region,” Mr. Kramer pointed out.

“The U.S. is committed to supporting Ukraine in its development from post-Soviet state to a prosperous, democratic and sovereign state oriented to Europe and integrated into Euro-Atlantic institutions,” the deputy assistant secretary of state emphasized. “The issue is whether, with our support, Ukraine will undertake the tough reforms needed to build its democracy to meet high performance-based standards of both bodies, if that is the path they take.”

“We need to encourage and support them,” Mr. Kramer concluded. “But ultimately, it will be the decisions of the people of Ukraine, expressed through a democratic government, as well as a lot of hard work and a good deal of patience that will get them through.”

In the question period, attorney Ihor Shevchenko of Kyiv asked what are the benefits to Ukraine and what are the U.S. goals in their bilateral relations. Mr. Kramer answered that the ultimate benefits will come from the reforms undertaken and that among the things the U.S. hopes is that Ukraine will contribute enormously to regional security, that it will be an ally in the war on terrorism and nuclear non-proliferation, and that it will continue to have an energy impact on all of Europe.

Ukrainians in Illinois help build an orphanage in Zolochiv

by Irene Gajecy
and Father Basil Salkovski, OSBM

PALOS PARK, Ill. – Approximately three years ago, the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate inherited a building from the Basilian Fathers in Zolochiv, Ukraine, about 45 miles from Lviv.

The sisters decided to turn this building into a “family-type” orphanage, which is a new idea in Ukraine. Orphans will be taken in from age 5 and will be allowed to live there through age 17.

This is the first orphanage of its kind in Ukraine and the long-range program consists of having a staff of seven sisters, among whom will be a teacher, a social worker and a psychologist. The children will be given an opportunity for sports, music, drama and, most importantly, they will attend school regularly. It is hoped that girls will also learn how to sew.

Two years ago, the sisters began asking for financial help from countries in Western Europe, as well as Canada and the United States. In the U.S. the daunting task was undertaken by Irene Gajecy, a member of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Palos Park, Ill. With the consent of the pastor, Father Basil Salkovski OSBM, a fund-raising campaign has been initiated.

At first, activists reached out to the parishioners at the Nativity Church, but slowly the word got out to all Ukrainian Catholic parishes of Greater Chicago. After the initial campaign came to an end, organizers decided to make it bigger and reach out to the Ukrainian community at large, targeting also businesses, and financial and philanthropic institutions. The plan was to invite someone who is familiar with what is going on in Zolochiv and could be able to relate first hand, what is the purpose of the orphanage and how it is going function.

It just so happened that during the months of November and December 2007 the superior general of the Sisters Servants was making a visitation to the nuns of the order in North America. On Sunday, December 2, 2007, Sister Janice Soluk from the Sisters’ headquarters in Rome, with Sister Michele from Sloatsburg, N.Y., provincial superior for the U.S., were invited to attend the first benefit luncheon for this orphanage.

Guests at this benefit luncheon were from the neighboring Ukrainian Catholic parishes of the Chicago area; of course, most of the supporters were from the Nativity Church in Palos Park. Also present at the benefit luncheon was Ukraine’s Consul General Wasyl Korzachenko, along with his wife, Olya.

Sister Janice gave the audience an update on the orphanage in Zolochiv. Officially the orphanage was opened on

October 18, 2007, with Bishop Ihor Vozniak of Lviv attending, along with the superior of the Sisters Servants for Ukraine, Sister Lubov Starzhynska, and other religious leaders and local political dignitaries.

Much work is still to be done at the orphanage itself. The exterior of the building and the grounds must be completed. A park and play area for the children are planned, which means there will be a need for playground equipment. Inside, the chapel must be furnished, a laundry room must be equipped with washers and dryers, and the kitchen needs kitchenware, tables and chairs. In other words, the orphanage is now operating with minimal facilities and amenities. Therefore, Sister Janice appealed to the Ukrainian community in both the United States and Canada to help bring this facility to a desirable level to help the sisters educate and nurture the orphans in their care.

In addition to the facility in Zolochiv, Sister Janice described the other homes the sisters operate. For instance, they work in Lviv, Kyiv, Pehynsk, Nadvirna, Berezhany and Stryi, just to mention a few locales. At present, the Sisters Servants work in Ukraine and 12 other countries among Ukrainians and for the good of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Sister Janice appealed to all to contribute generously toward this worthy cause. She especially thanked the Chicago community for its generosity to date and requested continued and sustaining support for the Orphanage.

The Nativity BVM Orphanage Fund has raised and sent more than \$15,000 to the orphanage in Zolochiv.

The program concluded with remarks by Sister Michele, who informed the audience of the services and programs that the Sisters Servants provide in the U.S. At present the Sisters Servants have homes in the Stamford, Conn., and Philadelphia eparchies. She also cited the annual pilgrimage that takes place in Sloatsburg each year on the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15.

Father Salkovski thanked the visiting sisters as well as Ms. Gajecy, who launched the fund-raising campaign.

Further information on the orphanage may be obtained from Ms. Gajecy at 708-361-8854, or Irene.gajecy@yahoo.com, or from the parish office, 708-361-8876.

Donations for the orphanage should be sent to: Nativity BVM Orphanage Fund, 8530 W.131st St., Palos Park, Ill. 60464.



Ukraine’s Consul General in Chicago Wasyl Korzachenko joins Bishop Ihor Vozniak of Lviv at the orphanage’s official opening.



A photo of the first five children to be accepted at Zolochiv’s new orphanage in October 2007.



Sister Janice and Sister Michele are greeted by the children of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Palos Park, Ill.



The orphanage building, which awaits completion and needs furniture and supplies for the incoming orphans.

President's plot...

(Continued from page 2)

the president has violated the Constitution of Ukraine in expanding the mandate of the NSDC.

Defense Minister Yurii Yekhanurov will also act as a counterweight to the Tymoshenko government. Mr. Yekhanurov, a former prime minister with no experience in defense matters, replaced Anatolii Hrytsenko who was popular in the armed forces, NATO and Western governments.

Mr. Hrytsenko entered government as the president of the Razumkov Center and was one of a few ministers who had come from civil society, despite high hopes during the Orange Revolution that there would be an inflow of young NGO activists. Mr. Hrytsenko was one of few ministers who had served in all three governments since Mr. Yushchenko's election.

The replacement of Mr. Hrytsenko by Mr. Yekhanurov, a leading member of the anti-Tymoshenko wing of Our Ukraine – Peoples Self-Defense (OU-PSD), coupled with the demand that OU-PSD control the Internal Affairs Ministry, aims to place law enforcement fully under the president's control. Razumkov Center expert Valerii Chalyi concluded that, "greater attention is being given to political issues than maintaining professionals in place."

Under President Kuchma the NSDC secretary's post went to experts in foreign and defense policy, such as Volodymyr Horbulin and Mr. Marchuk. Under President Yushchenko the post has gone to businessmen and economic technocrats, such as Mr. Poroshenko (February-September 2005), Anatolii Kinakh (October 2005-May 2006), and Vitalii Haiduk (October 2006-May 2007). Ivan Pliusch, NSDC secretary in June-November 2006, was Rada chair during Mr. Yushchenko's 1999-2001 government.

Messrs. Poroshenko, Kinakh and Pliusch are members of the anti-Tymoshenko wing of OU-PSD. Ms. Bohatyriova's appointment, therefore, continues in the tradition of placing Ms. Tymoshenko's opponents with no experience in foreign and defense policy, in the position of NSDC secretary.

Controlling Yulia's government

Constitutional reforms in 2006 no longer make it possible for the president to dismiss the government, as was undertaken against Ms. Tymoshenko in September

2005. The new Constitution places the government under the control of the parliamentary coalition.

The president has three remaining ways to influence the government:

1. using the NSDC and OU-PSD control over law enforcement as a counterbalance;
2. placing OU-PSD Yushchenko loyalist Arseniy Yatsenyuk as Rada chair (Mr. Yatsenyuk was promoted by the president as an alternative to Our Ukraine's choice for chair, its leader Viacheslav Kyrylenko, who is closer to Ms. Tymoshenko);
3. if relations deteriorate, using the Presidential Secretariat to pressure OU-PSD to withdraw from the coalition, thereby leading to the collapse of the Tymoshenko government.

President Yushchenko has outlined six proposals that aim to control the Tymoshenko government:

1. The government meets weekly with the president and the Rada chair.
2. The prime minister meets the president each day for 30 minutes.
3. The president attends government meetings.
4. The NSDC secretary ensures the implementation of all NSDC resolutions. The majority of these would deal with domestic issues that are within the government's competence, such as reforming law enforcement, energy and coal.
5. The NSDC becomes the main generator of national priorities that would be taken on board by the government.
6. The NSDC becomes a vehicle to promote dialogue between the government and opposition and to promote national integration.

Mr. Yushchenko's aim to counterbalance Ms. Tymoshenko is unsustainable due to constitutional reforms, internal divisions in OU-PSD and public ratings.

The 2006 Constitution removes the government from presidential control.

The president's demand for OU-PSD to withdraw from an Orange coalition would be sufficient for the orange coalition to collapse as it has a slim majority of 227 deputies and upwards of a third of OU-PSD are in the anti-Tymoshenko camp. But, such a demand would irrevocably split OU-PSD ahead of the 2009 presidential elections.

The Tymoshenko bloc (YTB) came in only 3 percent behind the Party of the Regions (PRU) in the 2007 elections and a December poll put it, for the first time, ahead with 26.3 percent (compared to 25 percent for the PRU). The president's OU-

PSD had collapsed from 14 percent in the elections to 7.9 percent.

Another poll gave Ms. Tymoshenko 30.7 percent as politician of the year compared to 14.8 percent for Mr. Yanukovich and only 6.6 percent for Mr. Yushchenko. Planned anti-corruption programs and social policies by the Tymoshenko government will serve to increase her popularity ahead of the 2009 presidential elections.

Divisions in the PRU

The appointment of Ms. Bohatyriova was opposed by the Party of Regions presidium because it contradicted its opposition stance. The appointment repeats President Yushchenko's long-standing inability to separate the authorities from the opposition.

During President Kuchma's second term, Mr. Yushchenko and Our Ukraine wavered between joining the opposition with Ms. Tymoshenko or being in "constructive opposition" through a coalition with pro-Kuchma moderates, including the PRU that Mr. Poroshenko assisted in establishing in 2001. In autumn 2006 Our Ukraine was both in opposition, with Ms. Tymoshenko, and in the Yanukovich government, and was forced to fully join the opposition only after its ministers were forcibly removed.

Presidential strategy aims to divide the PRU into its liberal "constructive" wing and conservative wings. Ms. Bohatyriova is a close ally of the leaders of the PRU's constructive wing, Borys Kolesnykov and oligarch Rinat Akhmetov, who threatened to resign from the party in December.

In the next two years before the presidential elections, Ukraine's political spectrum could be re-aligned as follows.

1. center-right: composed of the Tymoshenko bloc and a majority from OU-PSD. A large majority of OU-PSD is exasperated by Mr. Yushchenko's arrogance and lack of consultation with them. OU-PSD was not informed of the plan to appoint Ms. Bohatyriova and many opposed it;

2. centrist, pro-business: composed of constructive and youth wings of the PRU and the anti-Tymoshenko minority in OU-PSD; or

3. conservatives: composed of remnants of the Party of the Regions under Mr. Yanukovich.

In opposition under the Kuchma administration and as president, Mr. Yushchenko has felt more comfortable with the second group than with the first or third. As NSDC secretary, Ms. Bohatyriova would be in a

good position to assist in Mr. Yushchenko's re-alignment as the candidate of the second group in the 2009 presidential elections. The cost to Mr. Yushchenko would be the loss of the bulk of Orange support.

If the Orange coalition were to collapse in the government's first year, the Tymoshenko government would remain as acting government, as new elections are possible only after September 2008. If Mr. Yushchenko were to re-align from Orange to the new centrist grouping, this would take place under a new government in 2008-2009.

Tension with the government

The anti-corruption and justice-seeking platform of the Tymoshenko government will, as in 2005, come into conflict with the consensus-seeking president. In a December 21, 2007, speech to Inter TV, whose viewers are primarily in eastern Ukraine, Ms. Tymoshenko said, "We are commencing the process of purifying the country, and I will make every effort to ensure that dirty money is no longer a defining factor in Ukrainian politics."

No senior officials have been criminally charged under President Yushchenko, who has instead sought reconciliation. If corruption is to be seriously reduced in Ukraine, criminal charges against senior officials who have continued to remain above the law will have to follow. Two Socialist Party members of the former Yanukovich government, Internal Affairs Minister Vasyl Tsushko and Transport Minister Mykola Rudkovskiy, are being investigated and could be charged as the Socialists are no longer in Parliament.

If charges were laid against senior PRU deputies, there would be the potential for conflict between the president and the government. In December 2007 Mr. Yushchenko awarded a state medal to Mr. Kolesnykov, head of the PRU 2007 campaign who was briefly arrested on extortion charges in 2005. The award was ridiculed by Ms. Tymoshenko but defended by the president in a three-hour live marathon in December.

Mr. Yushchenko described Mr. Kolesnykov as a member of the "constructive" wing of the Party of the Regions that sought to compromise during the spring 2007 crisis after the president had disbanded Parliament. Mr. Kolesnykov, who is close to Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha, agreed to early elections after being offered a grand coalition with OU-PSD after the elections. The appointment of Ms. Bohatyriova, who shared a parliamentary office with Mr. Kolesnykov, was an attempt at fulfilling the deal, but outside Parliament.

The NSDC secretary would be in a position to defend the Party of the Regions from criminal charges and to oppose re-privatization. It must be stated that Ms. Tymoshenko has stated her plan to take back Dniproenergo, privatized in the summer of 2007 by PRU oligarch Mr. Akhmetov, a close ally of Mr. Kolesnykov and Ms. Bohatyriova. Ms. Tymoshenko has raised questions as to who is responsible for corruption and negligence in permitting Naftohaz Ukrainy to nearly go bankrupt.

Conclusion

The appointment of a senior Party of the Regions official to the NSDC continues the tradition of using this institution not for foreign policy but as a counterbalance to the government. Presidential strategy also seeks alternative allies in the constructive wing of the PRU ahead of the presidential elections. Attempts by an unpopular president under a new Constitution to control a popular Tymoshenko government will fail, and will lead to conflict and a possible final split in the Orange camp.



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Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine carols at U.S. congressman's home

by Ihor Bilynsky

ST. CLAIR, Pa. – Carolers from the Ukrainian Homestead in Lehigh, Pa., had the opportunity to go caroling on December 29, 2007, in the Lehigh area as well as in Schuylkill County, where they visited their good friend, Rep. Tom Holden, (D-Pa.).

We arrived at the congressman's residence in St Clair, Pa., and asked if we could carol for him. Rep. Holden enthusiastically agreed and we entered the house, greeting Rep. Holden and his wife, Gwen, with the traditional Ukrainian greeting of "Khrystos razh-dayetsia – Slavite Yoho" "Christ is born – Let us glorify Him!"

The Homestead carolers sang three carols: "Boh Predvychnyi – (God Eternal)", "Vo Vefleyemi" (In Bethlehem) and "Boh sia Razhdaye" (Christ is Born), after which Ulana

Prociuk, greeted the Holdens with traditional Christmas wishes, or "Vinshuvannia.

Next the carolers sang a "schedrivka," "Dobryi Vechir Tobi, Pane Hospodaryu" (Good evening to you, master of the house) and Walter Malynychyk greeted the household in the English language.

The congressman's wife hated up some "medivka" for a Christmas toast, and the group discussed various topics with the Congressman. He regaled us with tales of his youth when he and Russ Kerick, one of our group, were mere lads and would go caroling with the "Vertep," doing the Christmas play in people's houses in St. Clair.

After a good number of toasts and well wishes too numerous to count, the Homestead carolers again sang "Boh Predvychnyi" and the posed for a group picture with their hosts.

Rep. Holden and his wife thanked the



Caroling at Rep. Tim Holden's home are: (front row, from left) Orest Hanas, Gwen Holden, Slava Harasymowych, Ulana Prociuk, Nadia Andrejko, (second row) Tim Holden, Orest Harasymowych, Alexander Prociuk, Ihor Bilynsky, Walter Malynychik, Russ Kerick.

group for not forgetting to visit them during the holidays, and thanked the Homestead carolers for maintaining beautiful Ukrainian traditions.

Woonsocket parish celebrates feast day of St. Nicholas



Father Anthony Perkins and seminarian Ivan Kostyshyn are pictured with the youth and children of St. Michael's Parish in Woonsocket, R.I.

WOONSOCKET, R.I. – St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church on December 23, 2007, celebrated the feast of St. Nicholas, in what has become an annual event in this Rhode Island community.

The program began as several of the community's youngest cherubs filed into the parish hall singing the traditional hymn, "Who Loves St. Nicholas" in Ukrainian and English. They were followed in the procession by St. Nicholas himself, who greeted everyone and then took a seat with the children. He read the story "The Miracle of St. Nicholas" and described its special meaning to the parish.

After this, the younger children sang

for St. Nicholas, complete with exuberant accompaniment on tambourines and triangles. Their energy and joy were contagious. The youths then took to the stage and performed the ancient hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," a performance that included several voice and instrumental solos.

After everyone had joined in for the final chorus, several of the youths continued to provide musical entertainment as parishioners and visitors enjoyed the wonderful lunch provided by the St. Michael Ladies' Sodality.

This event served to reinforce the central message of faith and hope that marks the traditional Ukrainian season of Pylypivka and the Nativity.

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of the UNA's publications:**

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MALANKA
an evening of dancing to the sounds of
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— Saturday, January 26th, 2008 —

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 Only ONE departure: Aug 22, 2008



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NEWSBRIEFS ...

(Continued from page 2)

Anniversary of the Formation of the First Ukrainian Government," with a face value of 2 hrv, will be put into circulation by the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU). The first government of Ukraine, the General Secretariat, functioned from June 15, 1917, to January 9, 1918. Its activity was determined by a declaration of the General Secretariat drafted by Volodymyr Vynnychenko. The new coin will be made of white copper with the weight of 12.8 grams. It will be released in an edition of

35,000 copies. The obverse side contains the national symbol, and a depiction of Vynnychenko appears on the reverse side. The NBU has released 300 jubilee coins, so far, a third of which are gold and silver. The NBU will produce 24 types of jubilee coins in 2008. (Ukrinform)

Ani Lorak headed for Eurovision

KYIV - Ukrainian pop singer Ani Lorak will represent Ukraine at Eurovision 2008. This is the sixth time Ukrainian singers will take part in the event. In 2004 Ruslana Lyzhychko won the song contest. (Ukrinform)

"Zelene vyno"...

(Continued from page 4)

And as the saying goes, the longer the med stays, the better tasting it will be.

The very many Ukrainian drinks have the most delightful and descriptive names.

You would think "varenuhka" would mean something cooked or boiled. In a clay vessel, berries or fruits have horilka poured over them to cover, some honey is added and the container is sealed (often with a dough paste covering the opening - so no air seeps in or out). This is then placed in a hot oven, and baked for about 12 hours. It is taken out and is ready to consume hot. The fruit is eaten.

"Zapikanka" is similar and it does mean something baked. This includes the horilka with a variety of spices (even red paprika) plus some lemon peel. So that the cover does not pop off during baking, something heavy should be placed on it.

Many drinks end with - "ivka" "medivka" (honey), "vyshnivka" (sour cherry), "polynivka" (wormwood), "ozhynivka" (blackberry), "derenivka" (blackthorn). In general, you layer the berries or leaves

with sugar, cover the jar with a cloth and let it sit until the juices flow. Then you add horilka, filter and bottle the concoction. These could be considered a type of brandy.


My favorite name is "spotykach" - something that makes you stumble. Well, after having some - or more - you probably will. Pour a half-bottle of horilka over cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and vanilla. Let it stand for two weeks. Shake the container each day. Strain and boil this liquid with one pound of sugar. Strain and pour into a bottle.

I have not tried any of these - yet. But I still remember the "ozhynivka" or "borivka" (blueberries) that my father made back in Jersey City, N.J., decades ago. He called it "bonGO" (never knew why), and served it on Sviat Vechir.

Nowadays, the koliadnyky and schedrivnyky have a designated driver, so it is safe to serve them some spirits - especially when the vinshuvannia includes the brazen traditional request not only for bread and kovbasa and money to fill the sack, but also "Za tsi schedrivky, kvarta horilky" (for these schedrivky, a quart of horilka). Dai Bozhe!


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



VS.

The Ukrainian Kozaks



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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*Seating limited, please call (973) 590-8016 for availability.
 Make checks payable to: UACCNJ
 Reservations with payment must be received by January 7, 2008
 All tickets non-refundable

The UKRAINIAN ENGINEERS' SOCIETY OF AMERICA
 (UESA) - New Jersey Chapter, invites the community to a
 presentation on:



Is the Earth Unique in the Universe?
 by Theodor Kostiuk, NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center

Sunday, January 20, 2008 - 3:00 p.m.
 Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey
 60 North Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981
<http://www.uaccnj.org>
 973-585-7175

Light refreshments will be served. There will be a question and answer period after the presentation.

For more information please contact Andriy Wowk at
awowk1@verizon.net or at (908) 392-1592.
 For UESA information go to: www.uesa.org

OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| January 18
Ottawa | Lecture by Taras Kuzio, "Ukraine's EU Aspirations: Is Ukraine in the Membership Queue?" Carleton University, 613-520-2600 ext. 1179 or www.carleton.ca/ces | Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-870-3408 or 215-990-8146 |
| January 18-19
New York | "In a Different Light - Ukrainian Poetry Translations, Interpretations and Revision: Art Exhibit Opening," poetry, music and dance, Yara Arts Group, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-475-6474 | Lecture by Andrey Kurkov, "Ukrainian Literature and Ukrainian Politics: Which One is More Dynamic?" Ronald Regan Building and International Trade Center, 202-691-4000 |
| January 19
Washington | Malanka, with music by Zolota Bulava, Ukrainian Association of Washington, Georgetown University, 301-854-2062 | Fund-raiser pub night, featuring music by Klooch, Ukrainian American Youth Association hall, http://www.uesa.org/news/20071231/2008-nyc-malanka-pub-night-tickets.html |
| 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 | Film screening, "Good Bye Lenin" by Wolfgang Becker, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, www.kinofilmproject.org |
| January 19
Chicago | Debutante Banquet and Ball, Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Ritz Carlton Hotel, 312-282-7017 or umanadeb2008@aol.com | Malanka, featuring music by Klooch, Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, Ukrainian National Home, www.uesa.org |
| January 19
Lehighton, PA | Ukrainian Christmas Eve Dinner, Ukrainian Homestead, 215-235-3709 | Zolotyj Promin Malanka featuring music by Zolota Bulava and Hrim, St. George Hall, www.danceukraine.com |
| January 19
Carteret, NJ | Malanka, St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Demetrius Community Center, 732-541-5452 | Malanka, featuring music by Halychany, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-675-7557 or 410-687-3465 |
| January 19
Jenkintown, PA | Malanka, featuring music by Hrim, Ukrainian American Youth Association, | |

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.

the
Boston College Ukrainian Society
presents

**The First Annual
BC Ukrainian Cultural Day**
Saturday, January 26, 2008

7:00 pm Robsham Theatre
Syzokryli Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble Performance
Vika Vasilevich Ukrainian Pop Artist
www.vikamusic.com

9:30 pm O'Connell House
Fata Morgana will play at a Zabava (Ukrainian Dance)

Students	\$10.00
Seniors	\$10.00
Adults	\$15.00
Zabava	\$ 5.00

Tickets can be purchased from a club member or through the Robsham Box Office in person or by phone (617) 552-4002 the week before the performance or at the door until 7:30pm.
All proceeds go to the Archbishop Sulyk Ukrainian Student Scholarship Fund at BC.

rakowskd@bc.edu

Malanka and Car Raffle

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church and The Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey are conducting their second annual car raffle. This is your chance to win a 2008 Lexus ES-350. Proceeds will benefit the construction of the new church and continuing operations of the center in Whippany, New Jersey. The car will be awarded on January 26th during our annual Malanka.

Car Raffle Ticket Price: \$20
Maximum number of tickets sold: 3,500

To order Raffle Tickets, please visit our website or complete this form and mail with a check made payable to UACCNJ. To order Malanka tickets, please call 908-766-0030

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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION



A scene from St. Nicholas School's Christmas concert.

St. Nicholas School presents festive Christmas concert

by Natalka Doblosky

PASSAIC, N.J. – St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Passaic, NJ, presented its annual festive Christmas concert on December 18, 2007.

From the tiniest in pre-K, to the graduating eighth graders, the schoolchildren sang jolly Christmas songs and performed three delightful holiday plays.

Ukrainian and English carols were sung by the children of pre-kindergarten and kindergarten, directed by Anna Diduch and Lydia Loukachouk. The first and second graders performed the play "Holiday Wishes," directed by Patricia Balzarek and Diana Bucik. Grades 4 and 5 performed "Vertep," directed by Tetyana

Fedak. And the grand finale, directed by Maria Bereza, was the production of "Miracle on Bethlehem Street," performed by Grades 3-7.

Delicious borsch, hot dogs and sweets were served throughout the show, thanks to the school's active PTA.

The joyful evening concluded with the principal, Sister Anne Roman, SSMI, and the Rev. Andriy Dudkevych thanking all involved with the program and expressing hope that the spirit of Christmas would fill their hearts with joy.

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School is located at 223 President St., in Passaic, N.J.; telephone 973-779-0249; website, <http://home.catholicweb.com/stnicholasukrainian/>.

High school tennis star enjoys a banner year

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Katherine Charchalis, a senior at Hereford High School, is having the year of her young tennis career.

Named the Baltimore County and regional (Region VI) singles champion for 2007, Ms. Charchalis was also a singles Maryland state tournament quarter-finalist, was named to the 2007 All-Metro Team by the Baltimore Sun, and the 2007 All-State Team by the Baltimore Examiner, and was honored as a member of the 2007 United States Tennis Association's State High School All-Star Tennis Team.

Having played in tennis tournaments for the last eight years, Ms. Charchalis was also ranked No. 1 in singles during her freshman, sophomore and junior years, with an overall record of 55-7.

Ms. Charchalis attributes her accomplishments this year to her supplemental training with John Skinner two days per week, who runs tennis academies at Greenspring Raquet Club and Roland Park Country School, developing her game strategy and a more powerful serve.

"It's more of a weapon this year," she said about her serve. "This was the missing link in my game. It was okay [before]. I didn't have much pace on it."

In July 2007, Ms. Charchalis attended a three-week stint at The Colony tennis academy in Longboat Key, Fla.

Upon graduation, Ms. Charchalis will play tennis at Lafayette College, a Division 1A school.



Katherine Charchalis on the tennis court.

Mishanyna

This month, to celebrate the triumphal entry into Kyiv in January 1649 of Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytskyi after his defeat of the Polish army, we dedicate Mishanyna to Ukraine's hetmans. So, your task is to find the names of Ukrainian hetmans hidden within the Mishanyna grid. Look for the following names.

Apostol

Briukhovetskyi

Doroshenko

Khmelnytskyi

Mazepa

Mnohohrishnyi

Polubotok

Rozumovskyi

Samoilovych

Skoropadskyi

Teteria

Vyhovskyi

O	H	E	T	M	A	N	S	C	H	Y	N	A	S	S
S	O	I	Y	K	S	V	O	M	U	Z	O	R	O	A
K	L	L	D	O	R	O	S	H	E	N	K	O	C	M
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R	E	M	N	O	H	O	H	R	I	S	H	N	Y	I
O	I	L	E	R	I	O	N	S	I	D	A	Y	A	L
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D	M	O	H	O	V	Y	H	O	V	S	K	Y	I	Y
S	A	I	R	E	T	E	T	A	L	T	A	M	K	C
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, January 18

NEW YORK: "In a Different Light – Ukrainian Poetry Translations, Interpretations and Revisions: Art Exhibit Opening" will present the works of 20 artists invited by the Yara Arts Group to visually interpret Ukrainian poetry. Artists featured: Anya Farion, Annette Friedman, Roman Hrab, Petro Hrycyk, Peter Ihnat, Olena Karasyuk, Olga Maryschuk, Svitlana Matviyenko, Margaret Morton, Kateryna Nemyra, Andrea Odezynska, Oksana Prokopenko, Joel Schlemowitz, Marko Shuhan, Ilyona Sochynska, Marybeth Ward and Sofia Zielyk. There will also be readings by poets, music and dance pieces in the installations, as well as a reception with artists. Tickets at door are \$15. The event takes place at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St at Fifth Ave., beginning at 8 p.m. For information call Yara, 212-475-6474, e-mail yara@prodigy.net or log on to www.brama.com/yara.

Saturday, January 19

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group will present a vocal workshop in Ukrainian folk singing with Mariana Sadovska. Ms. Sadovska has traveled through the Polissia, Poltava, Hutsul and Lemko regions of Ukraine, collecting songs and stories, and documenting rituals. Discover the folk voice in you. Enjoy traditional harmony singing, learn the ancient songs. You do not have to be able to read Ukrainian or music to participate. You must pre-register, as space is limited. For time and place of workshops call Yara, 212-475-6474, or e-mail yara@prodigy.net.

NEW YORK: "In a Different Light – Ukrainian Poetry Translations,

Interpretations and Revisions: Gala Performances" will present performances of poetry by Yara actors of Ukrainian poetry and translations by Virlana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps, readings by poets Bob Holman, Kristina Lucenko, Askold Melnyczuk, Vasyl Makhno and Ms. Phipps, and a concert by Mariana Sadovska and others, as well as food by Olesia Lew inspired by poems. The event takes place at 8 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. at Fifth Ave. Tickets at the door are \$25. For information call Yara, 212-475-6474, e-mail yara@prodigy.net or log on to www.brama.com/yara.

Thursday, January 24

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University will open the year 2008 with the event showcasing "Shchors" (1939), directed by Oleksander Dovzhenko. Dovzhenko tries to do the impossible in this gripping war epic: to glorify Mykola Shchors, a Bolshevik commander, who according to Soviet myth was instrumental in defeating the cause of Ukrainian independence in 1919, and to celebrate Ukraine's centuries-old quest for freedom by drawing a comparison between the occupying Bolshevik armies and the Zaporozhian Kozaks of yore. The film is great testimony to the drama of a genius striving to create under the oppression of Soviet totalitarianism. The event is at 7:30 p.m. at 516 Hamilton Hall, Columbia University. Dr. Yuri Shevchuk, director of Ukrainian Film Club, will introduce the film and moderate the post-screening discussion. A recently restored Kyiv Film Studio edition of "Shchors" will be screened in Ukrainian- and Russian-language version with English subtitles. The event is free and open to the public.




PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES:

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

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long.

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

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YOUR 2008 SOYUZIVKA HERITAGE FOUNDATION CALENDAR WILL BE SHIPPED UPON
PAYMENT RECEIPT!
*BROUGHT TO YOU BY BROOKLYN UKRAINIAN GROUP AND THE UNA. PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE SOYUZIVKA
HERITAGE FOUNDATION*

UNDERGROUND film series presents

GOOD BYE, LENIN!

A film by Wolfgang Becker



East Berlin, 1989. Alex Kerner is on a protest march when his staunch socialist mother sees him, has a heart attack and falls into a coma for eight months. Just enough time for the Berlin Wall to fall and the world to change completely for East Berliners. When she awakes, Alex tries to hide the truth from her - Coca Cola, satellite TV, Burger King - even staging fake news programmes... does his scheme work?!!

8pm Friday January 25 2008
Ukrainian League of Philadelphia
Corner of 23rd & Brown, Art Museum Area
\$7 general admission

need more info? www.kinofilmproject.org

