

FOR FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE IN UKRAINE

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Orange Revolution in second week, as presidential rivals negotiate

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – For the second time in a week, European leaders mediated negotiations in Kyiv between the two rival presidential contenders to move Ukraine from the brink of fragmentation. The talks were aimed at resolving the impasse over who actually won the November 21 run-off election.

With millions of Ukrainians continuing to demonstrate in a second week of peaceful civil disobedience across the country – at least 1 million in Kyiv alone – in what has become known as the Orange Revolution, political events kept moving at lightning speed, providing no certainty or specifics on how the country's deepest crisis since it broke from the Soviet Union 13 years ago would end.

On the anniversary date of the national referendum by which the Ukrainian nation confirmed its intention to split from the Soviet Union and elected its first president, Polish President Alexander Kwasniewski, Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus, European Union External Affairs Commissioner Javier Solana and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Secretary General Jan Kubis, along with Borys Gryzlov, chairman of the Russian State Duma, Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma and the two candidates, Viktor Yushchenko and Viktor Yanukovich, met again to negotiate how Ukraine's third president would be determined.

The sides issued a statement after the three-and-a-half-hour meeting at the Mariyinskyi Palace in Kyiv in which they noted that the two presidential contenders had agreed to resume negotiations to determine when and in what manner another national vote would take place to determine the next president. The statement noted that the parties had agreed that steps would be taken in preparation for the election, including changes to the current election law, completion of the political reform process, which would involve amendments to the Constitution, and the appointment of a new government and prime minister.

The statement, read to journalists by President Kuchma, included an agreement by the Yushchenko camp to withdraw blockades by demonstrators that have surrounded both the Presidential Administration and the Cabinet of Ministers buildings for the last five days, in return for assurances that state authorities would not use force to clear the Khreschatyk, where hundreds of thousands of Yushchenko supporters have lived for the last 10 days.

On the following day, however, the two government buildings remained encircled by Yushchenko supporters.

National Deputy Viktor Pynzenyk, a close aide to Mr. Yushchenko and leading member of his Power of the People election coalition, stated on Ukrainian television later in the evening that the coalition would demand that five basic requirements be fulfilled before it would be prepared to move beyond the protest phase of its action. He identified them as agreement on a specific date for the election; passage of a new election law; appointment of a new Central Election Committee; the completion of political reform; and designation of a new government.

Mr. Solana told journalists that Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn had told him he believes that the necessary legislation for a new round of elections would be in place by the end of the month.

EU Commissioner Solana expressed optimism after the meeting that the agreement hammered out by the

(Continued on page 12)



Hundreds of tents and thousands of demonstrators are seen on the Khreschatyk, Kyiv's main boulevard.

Kyiv's tent city transformed into a town

by Yana Sedova
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – The tent city on the Khreschatyk has no vacancies. “No registrations accepted,” states a message pasted on the registration tent.

Today protesters have erected some 1,000 tents on Kyiv's central thoroughfare to protest what they believe were rigged presidential elections and to call for recognition of their candidate, Viktor Yushchenko, as the country's duly elected state leader.

About 13,500 inhabitants from all regions of Ukraine

have been registered during the last week. They are the center of a demonstration movement that has drawn well over 1 million people onto the streets of central Kyiv since November 22.

“The town is overpopulated. We have no room for the newcomers,” said Andrii, a worker at the registration tent. He has been on the Khreschatyk since the day after the presidential election run-off on November 21.

Four long rows of tents are stretched for about a quarter mile out along the main street of the capital. The

(Continued on page 6)

ANALYSIS

International community denounces mass election fraud in Ukraine

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor
(November 24)

The entire international community has condemned the second round of the Ukrainian presidential election. The only exception has been the CIS Election Observers Mission, a body established in Russia in 2003 that brings together most CIS member-states. CIS Executive Secretary Vladimir Rushailo, head of the election mission to Ukraine, noted that the November 21 second round was an improvement on the first, a view that contradicted Western governments and international organizations (Interfax, November 21).

Observers of the Commonwealth of Independent States reported that the elections were "legitimate and of a nature that reflected democratic standards" (Ukrainska Pravda, November 22).

In contrast, the Civic Voters Committee in Ukraine, which deployed 10,000 observers, and the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations, which deployed 1,100 observers, both condemned round 2 as not being "free and fair."

The CIS Election Observation Mission never attempted to be impartial. Its members supported Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and condemned his opponent, Viktor Yushchenko, in their printed materials. One letter sent by a CIS observer to Ukrainian voters warned that a Yushchenko victory "would lead to Ukrainian politics being dictated by American activists" (Ukrainska Pravda, October 28).

Russia's position on the elections has flip-flopped many times. During round 1 on October 31, Russia blatantly intervened, only to have its intrusion backfire. Between rounds 1 and 2, Russia adopted a relatively neutral position, even giving television airtime to Yushchenko aides. The Russian ambassador to Ukraine, Viktor Chernomyrdin, even stated his

willingness to work with whoever was elected in round 2.

The same flip-flopping occurred after the second round. Russian President Vladimir Putin reportedly telephoned Mr. Yanukovich on Monday, November 22, to congratulate him on his "convincing victory," only to backpedal the next day, saying that he had been referring to exit polls conducted by the Yanukovich team, not the official results. The Bush administration summoned the Russian ambassador and complained about Russia recognizing Mr. Yanukovich before the Central Election Commission had released the final results (Washington Post, November 23).

In round 1, the only observers not criticizing the conduct of the elections were a group of former U.S. congressmen whose visit to Ukraine was paid for by Alexei Kiselev, Mr. Yanukovich's representative in the United States, and the CIS. But the congressmen criticized the conduct of round 2, possibly due to negative publicity about the group from other former U.S. congressmen (Washington Times, November 14) and an exposé in The Washington Post (November 20).

The Ukrainian authorities have been caught off guard by the widespread accusations of massive election fraud, from both Ukrainian citizens and international organizations.

After round 1, the International Election Observation Mission (IEOM), which brings together the parliamentary Assemblies of the OSCE, Council of Europe, NATO and the European Parliament, concluded that the elections "did not meet a considerable number of OSCE commitments and Council of Europe and other European standards for democratic elections" (www.osce.org/odihr). The IEOM complained that the authorities had failed to take remedial action to deal with their complaints so these would not arise again in round 2: "Overall, state executive authori-

(Continued on page 20)

Yanukovich loses control in Kyiv, retreats to Donetsk

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor
(November 29)

As the political standoff continues in Ukraine, the only conclusion that can now possibly be made is that the pro-presidential camp never sought to hold free and fair elections in the first place. Both rounds 1 (October 31) and 2 (November 21) of the presidential elections were condemned by international organizations, Western governments and Ukrainian domestic observers.

Plans for organized mass election fraud have been confirmed on tapes made by the Security Service of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SBU) in Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's campaign headquarters and subsequently leaked to challenger Viktor Yushchenko. (The Russian-language tapes can be heard at maidan.uar.net/audio, and

pravda.com.ua has published three excerpts.) Just as President Leonid Kuchma was implicated in Kuchmagate, now a "Yanukovychgate" is taking shape.

While the first round witnessed moderate "massaging" of the vote, in the second round the authorities deployed extensive and blatant fraud. The political crisis following round 2 has paralyzed the authorities, which grossly under-estimated the domestic and international reaction and vastly over-estimated their own strength. Mr. Yanukovich has admitted, "If I am to be really honest, I never expected such statements [from the West]" (Ukrainska Pravda, November 25). Institutions of state power (local councils, educational institutions, television, the Internal Affairs Ministry, the military and SBU) have increasingly recognized Mr. Yushchenko as Ukraine's next elected president while refusing to recognize Mr. Yanukovich's alleged "victory."

The authorities paralysis pushed them into pressuring the Central Election Commission (CEC), which itself was involved in election fraud, to declare on November 24 that Mr. Yanukovich had won. Their plans to rush through Mr.

(Continued on page 21)

ELECTION WATCH

Protesters await PM's departure

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko's adherents will unblock the building of the Cabinet of Ministers only after Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and his ministers leave their posts, following the no-confidence vote in the Cabinet of Ministers by the Verkhovna Rada on December 1, the Ukrainska Pravda website reported on December 2, quoting lawmaker Petro Poroshenko, a Yushchenko ally. Mr. Poroshenko was commenting on an accord between Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich providing for the removal of the ongoing blockade of the government offices. "There is no government, it was dismissed, and this [dismissal] does not require any additional steps on the part of the president or the prime minister," Mr. Poroshenko said. Meanwhile, Mr. Yanukovich said on December 1 that the parliamentary no-confidence vote in his Cabinet was illegal. "I will never recognize a decision taken under pressure," Ukrainian media quoted him as saying. "They [parliament] approved the decision in political terms. But it is against the law, it is against the constitution." (RFE/RL Newline)

Kuchma against repeat vote

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma said on December 1 that neither he nor Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich support the idea of a rerun of the second round of the presidential election in Ukraine, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma stressed that he is in favor of staging a new presidential election. "Where in the world [do you have] a third round of elections?" the president said. "A repeat [runoff] is a farce. I will never support it because it is unconstitutional." (RFE/RL Newline)

Yanukovich files court appeal

KYIV – As the Ukrainian Supreme Court was reviewing Viktor Yushchenko's complaints of massive vote fraud in Ukraine's eastern oblasts for the third consecutive day, Viktor Yanukovich filed a complaint on December 1 claiming that results of the November 21 presidential run-off were falsified in a number of constituencies in western Ukraine, Interfax reported. According to Mr. Yanukovich, the alleged falsification took place in many polling stations where Mr. Yushchenko beat his opponent overwhelmingly or by a wide margin – notably in the Volyn, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Rivne, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Cherkasy, Chernihiv and Chernivtsi regions, as well as in the capital city. (RFE/RL Newline)

Donetsk seeks federation in Ukraine

DONETSK – The Donetsk Oblast Council on December 1 adopted a resolution to hold a regional referendum on January 9 to seek constitutional amendments that could introduce a federal system in Ukraine and give their region a status of republic in a new federation, Interfax reported. The resolution confirms the council's vote of November 28 to seek such a status for the region, which overwhelmingly voted for Viktor Yanukovich in the October 31 and November 21 presidential election rounds. Donetsk Oblast Council Chairman Borys Kolesnykov told journalists that after staging the "consultative" referendum on January 9 the region will begin collecting signatures for organizing a national referendum on Ukraine's federalization.

NBU Chairman Tyhypko resigns

KYIV – Serhii Tyhypko on November 29 resigned as head of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU), Ukrainian media reported. "Now, in my opinion, it is impossible to combine positions of NBU governor and [Labor Ukraine] party leader," Mr. Tyhypko told journalists. "I will concentrate fully on politics." Mr. Tyhypko, who was manager of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's presidential campaign, distanced himself from the prime minister. "I am not staying on as the head of the Yanukovich campaign," Mr. Tyhypko said. "We fulfilled our function when the voting took place [on 21 November]." (RFE/RL Newline)

Brodsky Synagogue helps protesters

KYIV – The Brodsky Central Synagogue has begun 24-hour distribution of food and hot beverages to all who are currently demonstrating in the streets of Kyiv. The leaders of the community explain that they do not consider this a political action. According to a November 25 report by mignews.com.ua, a spokesman said: "We are saying that there are people in the streets today, regardless of their political passions. They are cold, they are in trouble, and we cannot stand aside from what's going on." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Liturgy on Independence Square

KYIV – On the morning of November 24, Father Sviatoslav Shevchuk, vice-rector of Holy Spirit Seminary in Lviv, served a divine liturgy for the "residents" of the tent camp on the Khreshchatky.

(Continued on page 34)

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Ukrainian television stops lying

by Oleg Varfolomeyev
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The information blockade around opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko has broken. Channel 5, which is controlled by Yushchenko aide Petro Poroshenko, is no longer the only television channel to give air time to the opposition and offer more or less unbiased coverage of Ukrainian politics.

Several months ahead of the October 31 first round of the presidential election, ICTV, STB, and Novy Kanal – all linked to President Leonid Kuchma's son-in-law Viktor Pinchuk – had started to broadcast fairly objective news programs. Then between October 31 and the November 21 run-off, Era TV, which is owned by Andriy Derkach, whose godfather is none other than Mr. Kuchma, openly sided with Mr. Yushchenko. Last week the staff of the state-owned UT-1 and the privately owned 1 + 1 television rebelled against the "temnyky," the instructions regarding TV coverage issued by Kuchma's administration. Unlike Channel 5, Era, ICTV, STB, and Novy, whose signals are received in most major cities but not across the entire country, UT-1 and 1 + 1 are truly national channels. The ruling elite's monopoly on information is now over.

1 + 1 was the first to rebel. On November 22, its news team refused to go on the air, as a protest against its management's bias in favor of the government. Chief news editor Viacheslav Pikhovshek, a Kuchma loyalist, had to anchor news programs solo for several days. November 25 saw an unexpected turn. In the morning, several websites reported that Pikhovshek had been sacked. Then 1 + 1's flagship evening news program was preceded by a short statement from Oleksander Rodnianskyi, the channel's general producer and co-owner. "We admit our responsibility for the biased reports that we so far have been broadcasting under pressure and on orders from certain political parties," he said. "From today," he continued, "we guarantee that any news program by our channel will be impartial, in full accordance with principles of professional journalism."

1 + 1 has kept its word so far, offering its viewers meticulously impartial coverage of the ongoing political crisis, giving air time to both Mr. Yushchenko and his

arch-rival, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. And Mr. Pikhovshek's weekly analytical program, a relic of Soviet-style hate journalism, did not air in its usual slot on Sunday (November 28). Instead, Mr. Pikhovshek appeared on screen an hour later and pledged to support his colleagues and give fair reports.

UT-1 followed suit on November 24, when its news team went on strike. "Over the past month we have been negotiating with the National TV Company to make news coverage less biased and impartial," they noted in a statement for the media. "Unfortunately, we have not reached the desired result." This goal, however, was reached shortly thereafter. UT-1 chief manager Oleksander Savenko grudgingly backed down the following day, telling the journalists that they could present their news programs in accordance with their understanding of impartiality. UT-1's coverage of the political crisis has visibly shifted toward objectivity.

But the fight for freedom of expression is apparently not over at state television outlets. On November 26, a source at UT-1 complained to UNIAN that Mr. Savenko had allegedly issued secret instructions to dismiss one-by-one the journalists who had demanded the editorial policy change. The source also said UT-1 was not allowed to film the pro-Yushchenko rally in central Kyiv, but was instead ordered to place its cameras at Kyiv's main railway station, where Mr. Yanukovich was addressing his supporters, who had arrived from eastern Ukraine.

These tidal changes at nationwide television channels have been a major victory for Mr. Yushchenko. Yet, their significance should not be overestimated. UT-1 has been quite unpopular for many years, due to the low quality of its programs, and 1 + 1, whose news programs come out in Ukrainian only, is watched mostly in Ukraine's western and central regions, where Mr. Yushchenko is already popular. The predominantly Russian-speaking east and south, however, prefer news in Russian by Inter-TV and, recently, by the Donetsk-based Ukraina channel. Both remain on Mr. Yanukovich's side. On November 28, Ukraina was the only nationwide channel broadcasting, live from eastern Luhansk region, a meeting of

(Continued on page 23)

OSCE's media representative concerned about media harassment

VIENNA – The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Miklos Haraszti, expressed concern over several recent cases of media harassment in Ukraine that have been reported to his office.

"At this time of post-election turmoil in Ukraine, I am impressed by recent changes in the general openness and objectivity being demonstrated by Ukrainian media in covering the events. This is something I did not see when I visited Ukraine on my first assessment visit in April 2004," said Mr. Haraszti on November 30.

"However, I am concerned that in several regions serious media violations are being reported," he said.

He said Channel 5 broadcasts have been blocked in the Uzhorod, Donetsk, Luhansk and Kharkiv regions. Approximately 15 to 20 percent of Channel 5 viewers can no longer watch its programmes.

TV Era reported that the Luhansk and Donetsk regional state authorities are stopping its broadcasts. There are cases

of pressure on cable operators to exclude these channels from their cable packages.

The office has also been informed that on Sunday, November 28, the print-run of the newspaper insert *Tvyi Vybir*, totalling 35,000 copies, was confiscated by police on arrival in Luhansk.

There are reports from Donetsk that correspondents for ARD, Reuters, Ukrinform and the local newspaper *Salon Dona i Basa* were assaulted when trying to report from a local political rally.

During another rally in Luhansk, journalists of the news agency *Ukrainski Novyny* and the newspaper *Luhanchane* were beaten and their equipment was destroyed.

"It is imperative that the local authorities in these regions cease harassment of the media, give it due protection and allow their citizens to have access to all voices, including those that might not be in line with the views of the majority of the population in the region. Safeguarding good working conditions for journalists is a major OSCE commitment," said Mr. Haraszti.

Foreign Affairs Ministry recalls diplomat who signed letter of protest

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ukraine has recalled a Washington-based diplomat apparently in connection with a letter penned last week that demanded that "the results of the elections reflect the true will of the people as the only source of power in Ukraine."

Oleksander Potiekhin, the diplomat and a co-author of the November 22 statement that was written together with three other officials stationed at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, has been immediately recalled to Kyiv, he told *The Ukrainian Weekly*.

Mr. Potiekhin said it was obvious that his recall was "political punishment," and said "they will fire me if the present government stays in office."

Volodymyr Yelchenko, the first vice minister for foreign affairs in Ukraine, sent a letter to Mr. Potiekhin requesting that he return to Kyiv no later than December 6. Mr. Potiekhin acknowledged that Ukrainian diplomats are regularly rotated to different assignments, but they are traditionally given up to a month notification. "Even if there is some sort

of accident and you have to leave, they will usually have two weeks," he said.

"I'm going back. This is not a question," he said, though he added that he was not in a rush to return to Kyiv. Mr. Potiekhin also told *The Ukrainian Weekly* that, "as a result of some pressure from the Ukrainian diaspora onto my government, my ambassador said I can stay 10 days longer." The extension was given by Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Mykhailo B. Reznik, Mr. Potiekhin believes, because his wife is undergoing medical treatments in the United States.

On November 22 the four diplomats made a statement that read in part: "Guided by our conscience, our professional pride and our oath to loyally serve the Ukrainian state, we express our solidarity with the voice of the Ukrainian people. That voice is an expression of protest against the violation of our citizens' right to elect a president by democratic means."

Mr. Potiekhin said his replacement is in place in Washington and he is now working with that person to ensure a smooth transfer of his responsibilities to the incoming diplomat.

MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj leads parliamentary delegation to Ukraine

OTTAWA – For the third time, Etobicoke Center Liberal MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj is leading a Canadian Parliamentary Delegation to Kyiv to bolster the democratic movement in Ukraine.

Mr. Wrzesnewskyj led a Canadian parliamentary fact-finding mission to Ukraine between the two rounds of voting and a Canadian parliamentary observer delegation during the second round of the election.

He also spearheaded the unanimously accepted House of Commons motion of October 26, the emergency debate of November 24, and the motion of November 25.

Joining Mr. Wrzesnewskyj on the all-party parliamentary delegation are Conservative MP Peter Goldring, Bloc Quebecois MP Bernard Bigras, and New Democratic Party MP Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

The House of Commons motion of November 25 underscored that "a concerted, systemic and massive fraud has been committed by the current regime and the Central Electoral Commission of Ukraine against the will of the people of Ukraine; the electoral commission does not have a legitimate basis for declaring Mr. Yanukovich the winner of the presidential election; and, in the event that President Kuchma and the government of Ukraine do not ensure that the democratic will of the Ukrainian people is respected, the government of Canada shall consider the introduction of appropriate and effective measures, mindful of the impact on the people of Ukraine and will seek the cooperation on such measures with the inter-

national community."

This second Motion followed the emergency debate that took place in the House of Commons on November 24 at 6:30 p.m.-11:15 p.m., with the purpose of: "discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely the rapidly deteriorating situation in Ukraine as a result of an attempt at coup d'état by the present administration and its impact on our domestic and foreign policies."

Mr. Wrzesnewskyj stated:

"The unanimous passage of the motion on November 25 gives meaning to the phrase 'special relationship' which we have used since 1991 and demonstrates that in this hour of need Canadians stand shoulder to shoulder with the students, workers, pensioners, police and soldiers fighting for democracy in the streets of Ukraine.

"The presence of the Canadian parliamentary delegation on the ground in Ukraine will demonstrate to the Ukrainian people that Canada will not only stand with them, but will also exert pressure to ensure that the will of the Ukrainian people and their support for Viktor Yushchenko is recognized.

"Our delegation brings a forceful message from the House of Commons that we will not accept this blatant coup d'état. The will of the people must be respected and there will be consequences to President [Leonid] Kuchma and his administration should the usurpation of power not be reversed."

Quotable notes

"It can't be a coincidence that if the Ukrainian election is settled in Moscow's favor, it will mark the third such dubious vote in Russia's 'sphere of influence' in the past two months, following polls in Belarus and the separatist province of Abkhazia, not counting the irregularities that were belatedly uncovered in the election of Putin himself."

– Anne Applebaum, writing in the November 24 issue of *The Washington Post*.

"These elections meet only the standards of autocrats from Moscow."

– November 26 editorial from *The Wall Street Journal Europe*.

President Bush and his administration continue to support the will of the people

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – As the mass protest demonstrations and judicial and political efforts to resolve Ukraine's election crisis continued into the second week in Kyiv, the U.S. government's effort to try and help bring the impasse to a just and peaceful resolution continued as well.

President George W. Bush discussed the crisis in Ukraine with Prime Minister Paul Martin during a two-day visit to Canada, while Secretary of State Colin Powell and his deputy conducted telephone diplomacy with the major players in Ukraine, Europe and Russia.

Visiting Canada, President Bush said during a news conference on November 30 that he had spoken by phone that morning with Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski, who was about to lead another European delegation to Kyiv to encourage the Ukrainian government and opposition leaders to work for a "political and legal solution" to the crisis.

"Our common goal is to see the will of the Ukrainian people prevail," he said.

The president declined to comment on whether Russian President Vladimir Putin's remark earlier in the day that Ukraine's political crisis had to be solved without foreign pressure was a warning aimed at the United States; nor would he say whether he thought President Putin had followed his own advice in this matter.

"I haven't seen his comments. I'm hesitant to talk about something that I haven't seen," he said, repeating his statement of appreciation to the Polish president for his efforts in Ukraine and noting that "it's very important that violence not break out there, and it's important that the will of the people be heard."

In his response to the same question, Prime Minister Martin was less hesitant in calling Russia to account when talking about foreign interference in Ukraine's affairs.

Reiterating his statement of the previous day that "the essence of democracy is that elections be free and open and transparent, and that they be elections in which people can have confidence," the Canadian prime minister added: "I absolutely agree that elections within Ukraine have got to be free from outside influence, and that includes Russia."

When he returned to the White House on December 2, President Bush echoed the Canadian prime minister's words, telling reporters in the Oval Office that events in Ukraine "ought to be free from any foreign influence." He did not explicitly mention Russia, however. While the U.S. and Canadian leaders were fielding journalists' questions about their meetings in Ottawa, State Department Spokesman Richard Boucher reported that Secretary of State Powell was on the phone in Washington, discussing the crisis with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and the European Union's High Representative Javier Solana, who that same day was returning to Kyiv for more talks.

And on November 29, Mr. Boucher said, Deputy Secretary Richard Armitage had phone conversations with the two presidential candidates, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and Viktor Yushchenko.

Commenting on President Kuchma's suggestion that another round of presidential elections be held in Ukraine, Mr. Boucher said that Washington feels his proposal merits consideration. "We welcome

(Continued on page 25)

FOR THE RECORD: Statement of support from Lithuanian-American Community Inc.

Following is a statement issued on November 24 by the Lithuanian-American Community Inc. in support of Ukraine's democratic forces.

On behalf of the tens of thousands of members of the Lithuanian-American Community Inc. we express our solidarity with the people of Ukraine, particularly the democratic forces of Ukraine, who today are standing firm against a corrupt, arbitrary and lawless regime to defend their electoral process and the future of their children.

We call upon our own government to support the democratic forces in Ukraine and not recognize the Ukrainian Central Election Commission's decision to certify Viktor Yanukovich the winner of the Ukrainian presidential election – an election which has already been judged by independent international observers as flawed by wide-scale and visible fraud.

The attempt to steal the elections from the people of Ukraine makes this no longer an internal matter of Ukraine and Ukrainians. The United States and other Western democracies must act on their convictions in defense of the democratic process.

We, Lithuanian Americans, know something about the issue of not recognizing an illegal regime because the

United States for over 50 years did not recognize the illegal occupation of Lithuania by the Soviet Union – the U.S. never recognized the Soviet government which claimed to speak for the people of Lithuania. Therefore, we call upon the United States to not recognize the presidency of Viktor Yanukovich.

The United States and other Western democracies must also insist on the removal of any foreign troops or other foreign armed units from the territory of Ukraine. There are widespread reports that Russian Interior Ministry troops, and even Russian spetsnaz troops have entered the territory of Ukraine. This is a violation of both international law and the Constitution of Ukraine since the Parliament of Ukraine has not voted to support any such request.

People of Ukraine, do not lose faith in your ability to govern yourselves. We call on all people of conscience in the government of Ukraine to support the candidate of the majority, Viktor Yushchenko. We call on the regime of President Kuchma and presidential candidate Yanukovich to refrain from the use of police or military force against your fellow Ukrainians.

We urge our members throughout the United States to call on the Congress of the United States and the president of the United States to support the democratic forces of Ukraine.

Canada rejects announced results of Ukraine's presidential election

OTTAWA – Canada on November 24 rejected the results of Ukraine's bitterly disputed presidential election, joining the United States and other countries in refusing to recognize the declared winner, reported the Canadian Press news service.

Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan told the House of Commons that the federal government does not recognize the victory of Kremlin-backed Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. "Considering the allegations of serious and significant electoral fraud from inter-

national and Canadian election observers, the government of Canada cannot accept that the announced results by the central election commission reflect the true, democratic will of the Ukrainian people," said Ms. McLellan.

"Canada rejects the announced final results. The government of Canada calls for a full, open, transparent review of the election process and Canada will have no choice but to examine its relations with Ukraine if the authorities fail to provide election results that reflect the democratic will of the people of that country," she said.

Manitoba legislature takes a stand

WINNIPEG – All parties in the Manitoba legislature passed a resolution on November 30 urging the Manitoba government to work with its federal counterpart to take whatever measures possible to uphold the democratic process in Ukraine.

"Manitoba joins the Ukrainian Parliament, our federal government and international election observers in expressing grave concerns about the legitimacy of the recent presidential election in Ukraine," said Energy, Science and Technology Minister Dave Chomiak. "Ukrainians who have taken to the streets to demonstrate peacefully for free and fair elections deserve to have the same

democratic rights as Canadians."

"As members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, we join Manitobans and Canadians in calling for free and fair elections in Ukraine," said Opposition House Leader Len Derkach. "The voice of the Ukrainian people must be heard."

Liberal Leader Jon Gerrard expressed his party's strong support for democracy in Ukraine. "People in Ukraine have waited a long time to have valid elections. We in Manitoba must do all we can to voice our support for fair and legitimate elections," he said.

The resolution in the Manitoba legislature supports a similar resolution passed by the federal Parliament.

UCC holds emergency session

WINNIPEG – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) board of directors gathered for an emergency session on November 27 in Winnipeg, to discuss the developing events in Ukraine.

The UCC board decided to call on the government of Canada to:

1. Recognize Victor Yushchenko as President of Ukraine.
2. Call upon Russia to cease all involvement in Ukrainian internal affairs.
3. Support the Ukrainian people in their struggle for democracy; actively monitor election activities in Ukraine; and offer assistance in resolving the election crisis caused by widespread falsifications during the presidential electoral process.
4. Call upon Ukrainian authorities not to use force against their own people.

"We wish to commend the Honorable Pierre Pettigrew, minister of foreign affairs, for his continuing commitment to

ensure that the will of the people is recognized in Ukraine," stated UCC President Irene Sushko. "We wish to impress upon the prime minister and the government of Canada that the Ukrainian Canadian community is extremely troubled with Russia's interference in the sovereignty and in the democratic free will of the Ukrainian people. Russia's active sponsorship of Viktor Yanukovich, the pro-Russian candidate, must be denounced by Canada."

The UCC board also stated that it "congratulates and supports Canadians across the country for rallying in support of the will of the Ukrainian people."

The UCC encourages Canadians to:

- (a) continue to rally across Canada to support the Ukrainian people; and
- (b) contact the prime minister of Canada, the minister of foreign affairs, and their member of Parliament, to reinforce the UCC's position.

Quotable notes

"Russia's blatant intervention makes a mockery of President Putin's accusation that the West is meddling in Ukraine and his statement that no one should interfere in the electoral process. The mayor of Moscow, Yuriy Luzhkov, fueled more controversy when he was welcomed at a pro-Yanukovich rally in eastern Ukraine at the weekend."

– Peter Biles, BBC world affairs correspondent, writing on December 1.

"The elections were stolen. Violations are too numerous to enumerate. They were legion and they were flagrant, and what happened in Donetsk in terms of 'getting out the vote' and the positive vote for the 'right candidate' was reminiscent of the electoral zealotry of Soviet times."

– Orest Deychakiwsky, staff adviser of the Helsinki Commission, writing on November 24 after returning from a stint as an election monitor in Ukraine.

"The official results of the elections do not meet the people's will and this is a violation of their constitutional rights."

– Roman Zvarych, an advisor to Viktor Yushchenko, as quoted on November 29 by the Associated Press.

On the streets of Kyiv: a look at the protesters' days, and nights

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Protests can take the form of rallies, sit-ins, hunger strikes, riots, etc. The Orange Revolution occurring in Kyiv has taken on a form of its own, quite unlike mass actions of protest and civil disobedience that have occurred in recent history. Peaceful mass protests under way on the streets of Kyiv's city center, now ending their second week, continue to revolve around movement.

Like ants that scurry in a seemingly chaotic manner around and about their anthills, with their purpose most evident only to them, the millions who have taken part in the mass actions against widespread election fraud in the November 21 presidential vote and in support of democracy, were in a constant state of movement as they spent their days on and around the Khreschatyk, Kyiv's main thoroughfare. In some ways, they were like troops in a raging battle.

The protesters responded to directives to go to the Verkhovna Rada, to support the lawmakers pressing the Parliament to hear their demands; or to the Cabinet of Ministers Building and the Presidential Administration building, to support the blockade of those structures, which has been in effect for nearly a week.

After demonstrators supporting Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich set up camp in Dynamo Stadium, the home of the Kyiv Dynamo soccer team, the orange-clad Yushchenko supporters were soon found there, confronting their opponents with offers of hot food and drink, cigarettes and warm clothing.

The most important weapon the demonstrators deployed was their good will and positive attitude. They were repeatedly reminded not to succumb to provocation to use violent methods by people either planted among them by government forces or others who are simply impatient to see a quick result. Organizers feared – more than anything else – that a provocation could result in the use of force by state and government authorities, which could lead to bloodshed on a massive scale given the numbers on the streets and their resolve.

Before the Presidential Administration building, which has been guarded by rows upon rows of Internal Affairs Ministry special forces since nearly day 1, the demonstrators resorted to song and dance as their weapons of choice.

Young girls sang contemporary and folk songs, and performed traditional Ukrainian folk dances for the young men deployed on Bankova Street. Clergy of various confessions have spent hours talking and praying with them. A week of such interaction resulted in a symbolic victory for the demonstrators when they were able to peacefully disassemble, first, the riot barriers and then the metal gate that had separated them from the law enforcement troops. The young men in riot helmets, comfortable that no threat was posed, calmly watched as the process of sawing through the metal barriers took place.

During a normal day of protest, the demonstrators were repeatedly urged to simply keep moving, whether in columns or in groups, along the streets of the city center. The objective was not only to make their presence known and their numbers felt, but to keep warm as well.

As a result, the city center took on a festive atmosphere, much like New Orleans during Mardi Gras, or a city hosting an Olympics. Groups of orange-clad demonstrators bundled in their warmest winter gear, held aloft banners, Ukrainian flags and signs with their hometowns or oblasts, wandered the

streets of downtown Kyiv greeting each other while chanting, "Yushchenko," or the now anthemic, "Together we are many, we cannot be defeated!" Cars that can make it through the often-dense crowds that have taken over the streets signal their support with a blast of their car horns.

The hub of all this activity has been the huge stage on Independence Square, erected the day before the November 21 vote, which was originally supposed to function as the focus of a public parallel vote count that the supporters of Viktor Yushchenko had planned for election night. It quickly became the stage from which Mr. Yushchenko and the leaders of his Power of the People election bloc organized the peaceful mass demonstrations that have paralyzed the country after it became evident that large-scale voting fraud had occurred, giving the



A group of Yushchenko supporters relax in the tent city erected on Kyiv's Independence Square, popularly known as the "maidan."

presidency to his opponent, Prime Minister Yanukovich.

Each morning and evening, Power of the People officials – most often National Deputy Mykola Tomenko of Our Ukraine, who has become the official MC of these demonstrations, often with National Deputy Yurii Lutsenko of the Socialist Party – have climbed onto the stage to motivate the crowds, urge them to remain calm and united and explain the day's activities. National Deputies Yulia Tymoshenko, Anatolii Kinakh and Petro Poroshenko, and a host of other leading officials of the Yushchenko team have usually joined them.

While Mr. Yushchenko at times hasn't greeted the crowds in the morning, he has been on the stage each evening, thanking the people and explaining that without them there is no Orange Revolution.

During the first week of the mass protest, demonstrators were treated to concerts by some of Ukraine's most popular musicians, including Okean Elzy, Vopli Vodopliasova and Tartak. Since the weekend, the concerts have stopped to conserve energy and allow the demonstrators more sleep time. Nonetheless, recorded music constantly streams from the stage during the daytime when no speakers are present.

To coordinate the actions and the movement of the millions who have descended upon the Khreschatyk from all regions of Ukraine, on November 24

Power of the People officials organized the peaceful takeover of the Ukrainian Home and Convention Center. Although the building, located some 300 yards from Independence Square, comes under the authority of the Presidential Administration, it was taken calmly and without recrimination. In the following two days, Power of the People officials had their supporters also move into the Trade Unions Building and the October Palace Exhibition Center, both located directly adjacent to Independence Square.

Only hours after having taken control of the three government buildings, the demonstration organizers had established governance over a good-sized city within a city. The level of organization among the demonstrators that exists today is beyond what would be expected for such a seemingly chaotic and unpredictable

duty. Medical clinics and dispensaries were organized. Even such seemingly trivial matters as cell phone recharging points were not overlooked.

This protest action has turned on its head any previous notion that most Ukrainians have no idea of the meaning of volunteerism. Within hours after Channel 5 and Novyi Kanal put out an appeal for food and clothing for the tent city on the Khreschatyk on November 24, the street was inundated by Kyivans with bundles of coats, socks, gloves, hats and sweaters, and bags of bread, sausages, cheeses and canned foods. Many women prepared hot meals and soups at home, and carried them to the tent city.

By the beginning of the second week, institutional volunteerism took hold. Food and drink was now being delivered truckloads at a time. The press entrance to the Ukrainian Home became a warehouse of sorts, the area just inside the entryway piled floor to ceiling with dry goods and bottled water. On the Khreschatyk, volunteers walked through the crowds with stacks of telephone cards for cell phones, distributing them to the protesters for free. At one end of Independence Square a row of tents sprang up in which volunteers baked chickens on rotisseries for a field kitchen that stood less than 20 yards away.

Donations in large numbers by ordinary individuals, including from a Ukrainian diaspora ever ready to help, allowed for the purchase of the telephone cards – which are considered vital in keeping lines of communication open among the protesters stocking the kitchens and purchasing vital outerwear such as gloves, hats and rubber boots. No less important, the money was used to buy vitamins, which were distributed to demonstrators to maintain their energy and level of immunity.

Kyivans also took a more personal concern with the well-being of those who had come from out of town. They signed up in such great numbers to take individuals into their homes, to feed and shelter them, that some never received the awaited phone call informing them that protesters in need of personal recharging were on their way.

By the middle of the second week, the organizational level was so high and the turnout so overwhelming that home visits were being organized for those who had been on the streets of Kyiv for a few days. Transportation tickets were free and the demonstrators were being urged to return, cost free as well.

An unexpected or perhaps very expected – result of the close contact and cohabitation among the demonstrators was that three weddings among people who had only recently gotten to know one another had taken place before the second week was completed.

Quotable notes

"Ми разом, нас багато, і нас не подолати." (We're together, there are many of us, and we cannot be defeated.)

– chant of opposition movement.

"...now it is clear that the people of Ukraine have stood up for their right to choose and they are choosing Yushchenko."

– Prof. Marta Dyczok of the University of Western Ontario, an election observer, writing on November 25 from Kyiv.

"This is Ukraine's rebirth, and you should remember that."

– Dmytro Schwartz, 71, a retired schoolteacher who came to Independence Square on November 23, speaking to his 11-year-old grandson, David, as quoted by the Associated Press.

Russian TV continues to display its bias against Ukraine's opposition

by **Maryna Makhnonos**

Special to the Ukrainian Weekly

MOSCOW – Russian state TV channels continued to manifest their bias against Ukrainian opposition leaders and their actions, while explaining what is going on in Ukraine after the second nationwide presidential vote. Their ironic comments were directed also at Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili too after he indirectly supported opposition protests in Kyiv.

All local TV journalists and TV hosts, except for the private NTV channel, which respected journalistic and democratic principals, condemned presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko indirectly. As some 100,000 opposition supporters gathered at his mass meeting in Kyiv's central square on November 22, the day after the run-off elections Russian media did not report the gathering as having any significance.

However, as the mass protests continued and grew, Russia's TV couldn't ignore the event. The media then tried to represent Mr. Yushchenko as a marginal or radical leader. "I can't understand, why doesn't he simply accept his defeat and that's all. That would be more honored," said Moscowite Natalia Tsener, 23.

As a standoff developed between the opposition and President Leonid Kuchma, local media in Russia softened their tone, but conveyed the impression that ordinary Ukrainians don't like protests and a Western-oriented policy.

For example, one TV journalist spent a day with a taxi driver in Kyiv, who blamed protesters for chaos and traffic jams that reduced his daily earnings. Another story aired on TV showed a Kyiv man who blamed the political crisis for his divorce. The man said his wife couldn't forgive him for his support of the pro-Kuchma candidate, Viktor Yanukovich.

Television reports also tried to present anti-opposition mass meetings in eastern Ukraine as equal in scale to the protests in Kyiv.

Some examples of media coverage include a report by Viktor Trubetskoi of the Vesti news program: "It will be decided later who will swear to the presidency on an authentic Bible." In this case the journalist used the word "authentic" in reference to the Bible, questioning the legitimacy of Mr. Yushchenko's oath in Parliament last week.

Other TV reports purported to show

how opposition leaders gave orders and money to protesters inside their headquarters in Kyiv as captured on a "hidden camera." A journalist said each protester was given 50 hryvna (about \$10) per day. As for the money issue, journalists linked the protests with the U.S., saying American taxpayers were funding the opposition.

Broadcasting Georgian President Saakashvili's appeal in the Ukrainian language in support of the people's quest for democracy, Russian TV journalists added that Mr. Saakashvili spoke "surzhyk," a combination of Russian and Ukrainian.

Attempts to provide a local angle also revealed double standards. If an analyst spoke on Russian TV, it was usually Gleb Pavlovsky, head of the Russian Institute of Effective Politics and an advisor to Mr. Yanukovich's campaign.

The roughest comments came from Mikhail Leontyev, an observer with the Russian ORT television channel, who speaks on top issues daily after prime time TV news. He spoke unflatteringly about Mr. Yushchenko saying "(he) sits like a doll and stamps decrees' when the leader gave orders to allies.

Mr. Leontyev is known for his intolerant attitude not only toward Ukraine, but toward anybody who doesn't fit Russia's general political vector. Regarding protests by Kyivans, who were the first to support Mr. Yushchenko's call for demonstrations against election fraud, the observer called Kyivans "well-bred hillbillies."

However, some newspapers and Echo of Moscow Radio maintained an unbiased line and hosted opposition representatives. Nevertheless, ordinary Moscowites seemed to be far removed from Ukrainian politics. Street surveys indicated that their everyday problems are of greater priority.

Also, there are some people who have a unique attitude. "I haven't watched TV news for the past two years because it is full of propaganda," said Ivan Yegorov-Tismenko, 23, a post-graduate student at Moscow State University.

"As for Ukrainian events, I believe there's a fight between pro-Russian and pro-Ukrainian powers, not even pro-Western. American geo-political expert Zbigniew Brzezinsky wrote once that Russia won't ever become an empire without Ukraine ... So, it's not only Ukraine's future that is being decided, but Russia's future, too. That explains everything," the Ph.D. student added.

students," Andrii explained.

As he speaks, the flag of the commander of the left flank chaotically moves to and fro among the tents.

"He never keeps still," notes one of the guards about his commander. "He checks the perimeter all day long, talking to people and resolving problems."

Groups of unarmed guards have lined the curbs that separate the street from the sidewalk since the day when the student group Pora (It's Time) announced after a rally on the morning of November 22 that they would begin building a tent city. Discipline and order were immediately regarded as a basic requirement, and the

Russian spinmaster offers theory of "Polish conspiracy"

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Noted Russian political analyst Sergei Markov, in commenting on the ongoing political crisis in Ukraine, offered, in the early days of pro-Yushchenko public demonstrations in Kyiv, a conspiratorial line of analysis, stating that the situation in Ukraine was to be attributed to "a Polish conspiracy with the aim of imposing Polish patronage over Ukraine and thus raising Polish influence within the European Union."

His comments were noted in MosNews in an article titled "Russian Political Scientist Blames Polish Conspiracy for Ukraine Election Crisis" (November 25).

More precisely, Mr. Markov proffered that "Yushchenko's electoral campaign has been developed within the Polish diaspora abroad and its ideological basis was prepared by former U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and his two sons," the newsru.com website quoted Mr. Markov as saying.

Mr. Markov went on to say that another figure implicated in the alleged Polish conspiracy was "another ethnic Pole [sic], Andrian Karatnitsky [sic], the head of the U.S. foundation [sic] Freedom House," who Mr. Markov said "had hired Serbian spin doctors and brought them to Ukraine ahead of the presidential elections."

Mr. Markov concluded that the main drawback of the "original plan" was that "its implementation was possible only on the condition of extreme secrecy," underlining that "due to historical reasons the Ukrainians are very suspicious of the Poles and such a plan would find widespread disapproval among the majority of Ukrainians."

Mr. Markov was part of a team of Russian political consultants, that included such key figures as "political technologist" Gleb Pavlovskiy of the Foundation for Effective Policy, sent by the Kremlin to help the Yanukovich campaign.

FOR THE RECORD: American Chamber of Commerce reacts to events in Ukraine

Following is a statement released on November 24 by the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine, which is based in Kyiv.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine ("AmCham") expresses its concerns to the Ukrainian authorities about the reported results of this past Sunday's presidential election. A functional democracy requires transparency and stability, and these are the keys to the success of an internationally oriented economy. AmCham is a business association representing the largest foreign investors in Ukraine, as well as many Ukrainian businesses, and, according to our practice and by-laws, we do not support any political party or candidate. Our members simply require all concerned to respect democratic principles and civil rights in Ukraine, as set forth in the Ukrainian Constitution.

AmCham respectfully requests the Ukrainian president, Verkhovna Rada and Supreme Court, as well as the Central Election Commission, to review the electoral process and the

reported preliminary results of the second-round presidential election, taking into account the reports and comments issued by the OSCE/ODIHR monitors, the European Union statement on the election, and the statements of U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar and other authorized representatives of international organizations and foreign democratic nations, who have commented on the presidential election process and the reporting of its results.

We strongly encourage all involved parties to use reasonable and non-violent methods to allow the Ukrainian people to express their opinions in a manner guaranteed by the Ukrainian Constitution, so that the world will recognize this to be a free and fair election. This is extremely important for Ukraine and its people, in its quest to grow and prosper, and to establish itself as a democratic European country with close economic ties to the larger international community. It is good for business, it is good for foreign and domestic investment, and, most importantly, it is good for the people of Ukraine.

Kyiv's tent city...

(Continued from page 1)

perimeter is marked with ropes and plastic foam shields. Men in plastic orange capes with armbands noting "Day Watch" or "Night Watch" guard the camp's outer boundaries. They are there to prevent instigators and unwanted intruders from infiltrating the "town."

"We've got a security service, and those who work there are specially trained people with experience in quick-response military brigades troops and the Ministry of Emergency Situations. But some of them are just plain people, often

guards were instructed as to their main duty – no weapon of any kind would be allowed in the tent city. Each person who enters is checked.

"We have three shifts of workers here that rotate every four hours," explained Oleh, the commander of the left flank, who is an artist and a jeweler in his everyday life. "I have direct charge of 400 men. We instruct them how to behave and what to do in case of an emergency."

Oleh said that the tent city's security service had uncovered a dozen bandits the day before, people who had stolen donations to the tent city, including new sleeping bags, and hidden them in three tents. They were turned over to the police.

"We carry out inspections at night, check tents. Where we find drunken people, we first caution them, then throw them out if they keep on doing the same," said Oleh.

The tent city never sleeps, whether day or night. The street teems with people around the clock. The things needed

to keep the tent city and the protest action going requires non-stop organization. The inhabitants often don't get a good night's rest, but nobody complains.

"The hardest day was the first one," said Ihor, a student at the Ukrainian Academy of Typography in Lviv. "We had to sort clothing and apparel, and only got a chance for a nap. But now everything is in abundance and we are very grateful to Kyiv residents for their positive attitude and support. We didn't expect such a heartfelt welcome," he commented.

Since the second day of the action, when Channel 5 Television, the station that has covered the events on the street from day 1, asked for contributions of food and clothing, mounds of boots, socks, hats, coats and warm undergarments have been donated as have foodstuffs – fresh, canned, hot and cold – all for the millions of out-of-towners who have descended upon Ukraine's capital city.

(Continued on page 33)

To Our Readers:

Due to the overwhelming amount of information concerning the presidential election in Ukraine (as is evident on the pages of this issue), the regularly scheduled installment of "Focus on Philately" has been postponed and will appear in our next issue.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

OBITUARY

Nicholas Cheddar, Branch 161 officer, dies at age 81

FAIR OAKS, Pa. – Nicholas Cheddar, 81, a long-time member, officer and delegate of UNA Branch 161 in Ambridge, Pa., passed away on November 12, following a brief illness.

A longtime resident of Fair Oaks, Pa., Mr. Cheddar was born on September 29, 1923, in Ukraine. He immigrated to the Ambridge area as a young man. He was employed by J&L Steel Co., in Aliquippa until his retirement.

He was an active member of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church and served on the church council and advisory board. He was also a member and past officer of Ukrainian National Association Branch 161. He represented the UNA as a convention delegate in 1998 in Toronto and 2002 in Chicago, where he served on a convention committee. He was a constant participant in branch meetings and events and gave valued advice and support to many branch initiatives. His seniority and counsel was well respected by the branch members and officers.

Friends were received and parastas was held on Sunday, November 14 in John Syka Funeral Home in Ambridge. The church service was at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church and interment followed in Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Cemetery on Monday, November 15.

Mr. Cheddar is survived by his wife of 58 years, Anna Hladio Cheddar, and his three children and their families, daughters, Helen Guyer and her companion, Robert Thompson, Ambridge; Elizabeth Cheddar, Fair Oaks, and a son, Bill Cheddar and his wife, Deb, Sewickley.

Mr. Cheddar was the grandfather of Tracy and Danielle Guyer; and Erin, Kristen, Katie and Nicholas Cheddar. Also surviving are three sisters and their families, Maria Ugrim, Westport, Conn.; Anna Hrodysky, Naples, Fla., and Ulana Chedarchuk, Ukraine.



Nicholas Cheddar

UNA releases Christmas cards for 2004-2005



by Oksana Trytjak
UNA National Organizer

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Christmas is a joyous and wonderful holiday. The celebration of Christmas encourages us all to keep in touch with our loved ones and the tradition of sending out Christmas greetings is still being upheld. The Ukrainian National Association, in keeping with tradition, has published a packet of Christmas cards that is being mailed to UNA mem-

bers and subscribers of its two newspapers.

The packet contains 16 cards representing the works of eight Ukrainian artists. The community is encouraged to purchase the cards, as profits from the sales are designated for Soyuzivka. Payment for the cards and any additional donation should be made to the Ukrainian National Foundation Inc. All payments are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

The UNA would like to thank all the artists who have submitted their artwork

for reproduction this year. Their permission to reproduce their work is their donation to Soyuzivka – they receive no payment. This year's participants are the following: Marta Anna, Potomac, Md.; Krystyna M. Marchak-Baransky, Bridgewater, N.J.; Bohdan Borzemy, Teaneck, N.J.; Olenka Hanushevskaya Galadza, Ottawa; Bohdan Lopata, Terra Cotta, Ontario; Christine Sobol, Oak Brook, Ill.; Myroslava G. Stojko, Highland Park, N.J.; and Olvin Vladyka, Lviv.

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАРОДНИЙ СОЮЗ

Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

A special yearlong feature focusing on the history of the Ukrainian National Association.

At the Ukrainian National Association's 31st Regular Convention held in 1986 in Dearborn, Mich. (near Detroit), Supreme President John O. Flis reported on the UNA's work "in defense of our Ukrainian heritage."

Following are excerpts from his report to the convention.

(Continued on page 26)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The will of the people

This week readers, listeners and viewers around the globe saw that the Orange Revolution in Ukraine was not waning, but growing. More and more people flocked to Kyiv to take part in the mass protests there, and more and more actions were organized around the country in support of the opposition. The momentum seemed to be on the opposition's side, judging by the actions of the Verkhovna Rada, the fact that the Supreme Court was hearing Viktor Yushchenko's appeal, and the ever-increasing reports of news media, police, security officials and ordinary people taking the opposition's side. Mr. Yushchenko vowed to stand fast on insisting for a revote of the second round of the presidential election due to the massive vote fraud that rendered the election illegitimate.

Viktor Yanukovich, the favorite son of the eastern regions and the hand-picked successor of President Leonid Kuchma, seemed to be strangely quiet this week. His supporters were deserting him in droves, willing to sacrifice their candidate for the sake of something greater – a reflection of whatever their personal interests are. His wife resorted to scare tactics as she told an audience in Donetsk that the demonstrators in Kyiv were ingesting drug-laced oranges and that there was an outbreak of meningitis.

Meanwhile, the president of Ukraine traveled to Moscow on December 2 for talks with "Big Brother" Vladimir Putin, who backed his position on a new election – a completely new election, that is, not a revote of the run-off. Said President Putin: "A revote of the second round might prove useless." He ridiculed the very idea of a revote by adding: "And then what? A third, fourth, 25th time. This could continue as long as one of the sides doesn't obtain the result it needs." [And just why did Mr. Kuchma need to travel to Moscow at this time? His country is in the midst of a crisis and he visits with Vlad! Surely, it can't be that Russia is "meddling" – after all, President Putin has spoken out forcefully against the West's "meddling" in Ukraine and has even stated that Ukraine doesn't need to be lectured. What a guy – always on the lookout for the good of Ukraine!]

What Messrs. Yanukovich, Kuchma and Putin, and others who support them would like the world to believe is that the millions demonstrating in Ukraine are simply unhappy that their candidate lost. Therefore, these "malcontents" are not to be taken seriously. Thankfully, most of the West agrees with the opposition that there is much, much more at stake here. What we're talking about is an election stolen from the people of Ukraine. The people are not going to stand for this and that's why they've been occupying Kyiv for the past 11 days (as of the writing of this editorial).

Already there have been rumblings from some quarters along the lines of: "What's the big deal? Exit polls in the U.S. also showed a different result than what was ultimately declared." That, of course, is a completely erroneous and, indeed, deceptive premise. For it is not the exit polls that are the issue, but the hundreds of thousands of ballots destroyed, coerced, altered and illegally cast – many of them over and over again – to secure a Yanukovich victory. Nor is this an issue of east versus west, or Orthodox versus Catholic, or Russophones versus Ukrainophones. True, most of Mr. Yanukovich's support comes from the eastern regions of Ukraine, overwhelmingly Orthodox and heavily Russian-speaking, which is his home base. But, there are Yushchenko supporters in those regions as well. Mr. Yushchenko also enjoys the support of millions of Orthodox Ukrainians as well as those who speak Russian or any number of languages spoken in multi-ethnic Ukraine. The news media's simplifications of alleged "divisions" in Ukraine are misleading at best and disinformation at worst.

The only issue in Ukraine is that the voice of the people must be heard. Millions are demanding a free and fair election, and their demands and aspirations deserve the strong support of the West.

A completely new election, we must underscore, is aimed at bamboozling the people of Ukraine – and the world. Agreeing to that scenario would certainly not reflect the will of the people who believe that, finally, they have a say in the future of their beloved country. Nor would it contribute to the progress of democracy in Ukraine, for if the voice of the people is ignored, what, then, is democracy? Is it something to be negotiated away? For presidents to decide between themselves?

The United States, Canada and the West have already issued strong statements about the historic events in Ukraine. They must continue to insist that it is the will of the people of Ukraine that must prevail via a revote of the run-off; they must forcefully protest Russia's blatant interference in Ukraine's election (and, please, drop the illusions about President Putin, who dreams only of a renewed empire); and, perhaps most importantly for the long term, they must no longer ignore Ukraine but instead put out the welcome mat at the European Union and NATO.

Dec.
5
1999

Turning the pages back...

Exactly five years ago, in our issue of December 5, 1999, we reported on the inauguration of President Leonid Kuchma, who told the nation in an inauguration address on November 30 that Ukraine finally must sweep aside the detritus of its

Communist past and strengthen a still-fragile democracy, to become a society in which individual incentive and free markets rule.

"Today is not a date of personal triumph for me, it is not one of individual victory, but a triumph and a victory for the Ukrainian nation," said Mr. Kuchma after being sworn in for a second term. The president called his second inauguration a historical Rubicon – Ukraine's final rejection of Communism and a new era for Europe. "In fact, November 1 became the second all-Ukrainian referendum that testified to the fact that our society would not venture aside, that it would never change the course that it had chosen eight years ago on December 1, 1991," said President Kuchma.

Source: "Kuchma says Ukraine must sweep aside its Communist past," by Roman Woronowycz, Kyiv Press Bureau, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 5, 1999, Vol. LXVII, No. 49.

UKRAINIAN CHURCHES RESPOND TO EVENTS IN UKRAINE

Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

The Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Halych Metropolitanate of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC), which began its work in Lviv on November 23, issued an address on the critical situation in Ukraine. In the words of Bishop Stepan Meniok, UGCC exarch of Donetsk and Kharkiv, "If we are quiet, then we will be slaves forever." The complete text of the address, provided by the Religious Information Service of Ukraine, follows.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

In this decisive and fateful moment for our Ukrainian people, we, the bishops of the UGCC gathered in synod, feel our obligation before God and the people to address you with our pastoral message. The Church of Christ is always with its people, it is their conscience and in every critical situation goes in their defense.

Above all, we want to recall that our Church more than once addressed you all in its statements in the period before the election, saying that every citizen of Ukraine should freely, according to the voice of his or her conscience, and honestly cast his vote for the worthy candidate for the presidency of Ukraine. Our Church did not campaign for any of the candidates. In our pastoral addresses to the faithful we emphasized the importance of preserving democratic principles during the election. We will briefly recall the possible violations of these principles that we cautioned against:

- interfering in the free expression of the will of each citizen of Ukraine;
- one-sided information;
- using "administrative resources";
- buying votes;
- falsifying the results of the election.

Have we not become witnesses of these violations?

More than once the president of

Ukraine publicly stated that the election would be democratic. Did he, as the guarantor of the Constitution of Ukraine, properly see to it that this was so?

Today the nation is convinced that democratic principles were violated.

When people take to the streets to defend their constitutional rights in a peaceful way, they are not a dark mass "off the street." These are brave people, self-sacrificing and responsible, who should be honored and whose voice should be heard, for "the voice of the people is the voice of God."

So, we turn to those persons in positions of power, entrusted with power by this same people, asking them not to give in to the temptation during the resolution of this very difficult situation, not to use their standing, the means of force and law-enforcement structures, for their own narrow interests, against their own people. Your activities should always be within the boundaries of the law.

We achieve true freedom through the way of the cross and suffering. Let us be ready for this, for Christ the God-Man freed the human race by His suffering and death on the cross from sin, and gave us all freedom.

In this difficult and responsible moment for our country, we call people one by one, families and the whole nation, to common prayer for God's help. We hope and we ask God Almighty that He, as the gracious Lord, would give each and all of us the opportunity together and freely to build a happy future for our long-suffering but blessed Ukrainian land.

May the Lord's blessing be upon you!

† **Lubomyr**
in the name of the Bishops of the
Synod of the Kyiv-Halych
Metropolitanate of the UGCC.

Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Following is a statement by the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Beyond the Borders of Ukraine, which was released by the Office of Public Relations of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. on November 24.

On the 13th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine a few months ago we wrote:

"On this auspicious and joyful occasion we remind ourselves, those who now govern and those who will govern in the future that Ukraine was not founded as a secular state, but, by the will of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, sanctified by the apostolic presence – that of St. Andrew, the First-Called – and nurtured by the deeds of countless holy men whose lives reflected the seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

"On this particular anniversary, many in Ukraine find themselves enmeshed in the web of emotion of pre-election machinations. We are reminded of the lofty concepts of righteousness, justice and dedicated service to humanity proclaimed in Holy Scripture, obligations which are incumbent upon all its citizenry and not just a select few. Centuries ago the Divine Teacher from Nazareth reminded us of our responsibility to render to the One, Eternal God that which pertains to Him and to secular government that which pertains to it."

It continues to be our prayer that this wise counsel given by our Lord will

guide all the citizens of Ukraine entrusted with the spiritual and secular stewardship of the nation will be heeded during these very difficult days following an obviously unjust electoral process.

The lack of validity in the recent presidential election is confirmed at all levels of Ukrainian government and society – from the humble single participant in the vote to some of the most important lofty members of the current presidential administration. Most governments of the world have, indeed, notified Ukraine of the significant consequences of not investigating the fraud evident in the electoral process.

An unprecedented reaction of the population of Ukraine is being witnessed by the entire world, which places an enormous moral responsibility upon the key figures involved in the elections – Mr. Kuchma, Mr. Yushchenko and Mr. Yanukovich.

It is good news to learn of recent statements of willingness to meet and compromise made by each of them, and we must pray that they act promptly in this regard. It is also a good thing to witness the followers of both the presidential candidates mingling in the streets of Kyiv – in some photos actually holding hands and opposing flags – discussing the results of the elections and what Ukraine's future might be.

We cannot simplify the issues involved in this crisis by portraying Mr.

(Continued on page 28)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Fighting an attempt to subvert democracy

by Lubomyr Luciuk

Writing this, I am looking at a photograph of my father. He is marching. Swirling around him are thousands of others, carrying placards, recalling the many millions murdered by Moscow's men, demanding freedom for Ukraine.

That was Munich in the spring of 1949. My parents were political refugees, displaced by war, caught up in a valiant struggle for an independent Ukraine, victims of Nazi and Soviet oppression. Later they found asylum in Canada and gave my sister and me chances for a better life, the kind Europe's tyrants denied them.

Yesterday my father went marching again. Doing so was difficult but, as he told me on boarding the bus, his life was long ago dedicated to securing Ukraine's freedom. He won't give up, not now. So, as I wrote these words, he was in Ottawa, snowflakes and sleet pelting him, and my mother, and hundreds of others standing beside them, demonstrating solidarity with the millions in Ukraine who have shown the world that they will have liberty.

Tellingly, the placards carried in Ottawa bore messages not much different from those hoisted a half century ago. While yesterday's marchers went to condemn the rigged results of an election universally dismissed as fraudulent, that was not their sole purpose. For, yet again, they were demonstrating against the Soviet-schooled satraps of Kyiv and their Moscow masters, a collective of parasites who, in decades past, engorged themselves on Ukraine's wealth.

Pining for "the good old days," when they ingested luxuries while trapping their captive nations behind an Iron Curtain, these scoundrels were spewed up only when their man, Viktor Yanukovich, was about to lose power. Knowing their fate is tied to his they reacted, deploying henchmen and hooligans to stuff ballot boxes, corrupt whomever they could. So panicked were they that they did not even bother to hide their frenetic scurrying. They perpetrated multiple deceits, openly, throughout Ukraine. A vomit from the past, they are still at it as I write, trying desperately to somehow steal power from the people.

I am now certain that all of them should have been expunged after the Soviet Empire exfoliated, in 1991, just as the Nazis were after the war. The Reds never could become democrats. In truth,

Lubomyr Luciuk is a professor of political geography at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston Ontario.

there was never much difference between Black and Red fascism, save for the latter's more remarkable record of mass murder. We were too forgiving. So we have a Russia in which an ex-KGB-man-turned-president, Vladimir Putin, recently honored a Chekist killer, Felix Derzhinsky, with a new statue in Moscow. Scarcely any international outrage was expressed. Imagine what would have been said if a German chancellor accepted a statue of Heinrich Himmler in Berlin.

Not surprisingly, the mood among Ukrainian Canadians is sombre, if determined. Over the days ahead many will speak up for a country that will soon either embrace Europe or slide back to certain perdition. What is different, however, is that Ukraine's champions won't be of my father's age, or even mine. The next generation has taken charge in Canada, and over there. The young have mounted the barricades and they are the future, whatever happens. That makes them unstoppable. Mr. Yanukovich and his bussed-in buggers aren't.

What can Canada do? We have already recognized that a majority voted for Viktor Yushchenko. Unquestionably, he was democratically elected president. Now we must isolate Mr. Yanukovich and the ringleaders of his November putsch. They know that power brings perks, so we must deny them their pleasures by freezing their assets. They should not enjoy our resorts, get treatment in our hospitals, study in our universities, or claim refugee status when, inevitably, they flee. By trapping them where they are, making it impossible for them to leave Ukraine unless they slink away to Russia or Belarus, we leave them surrounded by people who know what they are, who will – sooner rather than later – bring them down. In the West we need to round up Mr. Yanukovich's agents of influence, deporting them whence they came. No democratic country should have any truck with those bent on indulging relic Great Russian imperial pretensions, imperiling the present and future peace of Europe.

Many hope this crisis will resolve itself through a Rose Revolution, similar to Georgia's last year, that Mr. Yanukovich will yield in the face of overwhelming protests, as Eduard Shevardnadze did. That view is likely naïve. Yanukovich is no Shevardnadze. The West must act, urgently, to help Ukraine's people exorcise the criminal gang that blatantly attempted to subvert Ukrainian democracy. If we fail, a revolution will do so. That won't be rosy.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY

**Three elections and the direction of Kyivan Rus'**

There's an old French saying, "Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose" – the more things change, the more they stay the same. Cynics looking to validate this world-weary perspective will certainly find it in the stolen election in Ukraine. Actually, though, this is a story of three elections, which will determine the future course of the whole Western world.

The first one was in March in the Russian Federation, where incumbent President Vladimir Putin ran against five little-known candidates. Apparently, unwilling to subject himself to an honest vote of the Russian people, Mr. Putin cleared the ballot of anyone who might have offered serious competition, disqualifying several candidates, even going so far as to arrest potential opponents. None of the candidates, with the exception of Mr. Putin himself, was given access to mass media.

Even then, the campaign and the election were heavily manipulated to insure an overwhelming Putin victory. After the election, Secretary of State Colin Powell delicately observed that the U.S. was "concerned about a level of authoritarianism creeping back into society" and urged Mr. Putin "not to throttle political dialogue and openness in society." Mr. Putin told Secretary Powell to mind his own business: "If we think there is something to think about, we will draw corresponding conclusions." He then went on to close down several independent media outlets and repeal elections for provincial governors. As they have in the past, the Russian people endured with stoic silence, if not apathy, at the erosion of their hard-won freedoms.

Having assumed powers that are more worthy of a tsar or Soviet-style dictator than a democratically elected president, President Putin started paying a lot of attention to Ukraine. Throughout the year, he met with President Leonid Kuchma on a monthly basis. Together they began pursuing a common Ukrainian-Russian economic space. Mr. Putin also promoted dual Ukrainian-Russian citizenship, establishment of a common currency and efforts to legislate Russian as an official state language in Ukraine – all this in the context of Ukraine's fourth presidential campaign since independence.

There the issue was defined by no less an authority than the great Russian novelist Leo Tolstoy, writing more than a 100 years ago about two versions of Rus': "Kievan Rus", was a part of Europe [with] its roots in universal, or at least in European culture," he wrote. "In this Rus', the ideas of goodness, honor and freedom are understood as in the West. But there is another Rus': the Rus' of the dark forests, the Rus' of the taiga, the animal Russia, the fanatic Russia, the Mongol-Tatar Russia. This last Russia made despotism and fanaticism its ideal; Moscow long remained the negation of Europe."

In the election campaign reform candidate Viktor Yushchenko promised to promote Ukraine's continued development as an independent country that would integrate more closely with Europe. Historians will recognize this as the path Ukraine pursued in the 1920s. That movement, the so-called "Ukrainian Renaissance," was drowned in blood and stifled by famine, on orders from the Kremlin in Moscow, which pursued policies that Tolstoy would have readily identified as "the negation of Europe."

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In 1991 more than 90 percent of Ukrainians voted for independence, freeing not only themselves, but also the Russian people from the burden of empire. Finally, it appeared that peace, stability and prosperity would prevail.

But that was before Vladimir Putin. Brazenly campaigning for Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, who promised to steer Ukraine more closely toward Russia – the exact opposite of what Mr. Yushchenko promised – Mr. Putin invested hundreds of millions of dollars into the campaign and even barnstormed the country on behalf of "his" candidate, as if Ukraine were just another Russian province.

The disgraceful election outcome, of course, had all the earmarks of a KGB operation. The official U.S. observer, Sen. Richard Lugar, and a joint mission from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and NATO all observed a systematic abuse of state resources in favor of Russia's candidate, Mr. Yanukovich. Notoriously, the election, in a word, was stolen – "a concerted and forceful program of election-day fraud and abuse," as Sen. Lugar described it.

This year, of course, there was a third election, the one for president of the United States. Some Ukrainian Americans made much of the Senate Famine resolution and the fact that the Bush administration blocked its passage in deference to Russia's sensitivity about the word "genocide" in describing that atrocity. Ukrainians and others were also concerned over what they saw as George W. Bush's overly solicitous attitude toward President Putin. Referring familiarly to the Russian president as "Vladimir," Mr. Bush assured the people at the presidential debates that he would speak forthrightly to the Russian president and steer him toward a democratic course.

Many with bitter memories of Soviet imperialism and an earlier American president who said he could handle "Uncle Joe," saw President Bush's confidence in Mr. Putin as naïve. In view of developments, you can certainly argue that that view has been vindicated. Hopefully the president has learned a lesson and has finally shed whatever illusions he had about the KGB-trained president of the Russian Federation.

In their ordeal this November, the Ukrainian people demonstrated to the world that, regardless of the election debacle, which occurred through no fault of their own, that they are brave and determined and utterly dedicated to democracy. Deprived of a fair election and an honest count of their ballots, they voted with their feet, millions of them filling the squares and boulevards of Ukraine's major cities. What a spectacle to see such an overwhelming number of young people, energized and activated! This is the base from which to begin a new approach to a European policy.

Finally, there's the Ukrainian community in America and elsewhere who rose to the occasion to trumpet support for Ukraine's democracy and independence. Our task is only beginning. We've invested in academic, cultural and political infrastructure. We must redouble our efforts to educate the broader public that ancient Rus' indeed consisted of two distinct cultures – one based in Moscow and the other based in Kyiv. As the events of November demonstrated, Ukraine's destiny lies with Europe, just as Europe's destiny depends on an independent, democratic Ukraine.

Quotable notes

"If Ukrainian democracy prevails, Russia has no choice but to go to the West and to be a democracy. If democracy fails, Russia and imperial ambitions are awakened."

– Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, as quoted by the Associated Press on December 1.

"Putin stands athwart [the march of freedom] in Russia, where he has marginalized inconvenient parties, controlled the media and used the criminal justice system to intimidate potential rival sources of power and social authority. Now the Kremlin, which issued instructions to Ukrainian state-controlled media during the presidential campaign, seems determined to export Putinism to contiguous countries."

– George Will, writing on townhall.com on November 30.

"President Bush should not let a bunch of gangsters in Kyiv and the sons of the KGB in Moscow destroy the hopes of a major European state. Ukraine isn't Russia's to steal."

– Ralph Peters, writing in the November 24 issue of the New York Post.

Partnership with Rochester medical school alters medical education in Ukraine

by Roman Tratch

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – A groundbreaking program of change in medical education is happening in Ukraine, thanks to cooperation between the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and the Rochester's Ukrainian community. What started as an attempt to help medical education in the USSR ended up with Ukraine being the sole beneficiary of an effort on the part of an American physician, Daphne Hare, M.D. (1937-1995), to remold the study of medicine in the USSR.

It began almost accidentally. Dr. Hare's husband, a philosopher, was teaching as an exchange professor at the university in the Russian city of Yekaterinburg in 1990. His wife accompanied him on his tour and, being a physician, was interested in Russian medical education. She made contact with the local medical school.

What she discovered was an educational system that was bogged down in hierarchy, students who could not afford to buy textbooks, textbooks with outdated science, oral exams which could be abused as there was no record left. Being an activist at heart, Dr. Daphne Hare decided to organize a program to help Russian medical education by bringing selected sixth-year medical students for a three-month study tour, called a "clerkship," at an American medical school. While applying for grants to start the program going, Dr. Hare herself financed the original expenses.

Over the next five years 20 Russian students had a chance to get acquainted with American medical education by going to classes in their respective specialties together with American students.

The Soviet Union collapsed in 1991. Four years later the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry received a two-year grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to establish a partnership between four U.S. medical schools, and three Russian and two Ukrainian medical institutes. The objective of the program was to help change clinical teaching curricula and to introduce standardized testing in evaluating student achievement. For that purpose, testing centers were to be established at the participating medical institutes (nowadays called medical universities) and, in addition, national testing centers were to be created in both Ukraine and Russia.

In addition to bringing in students, the grant enabled senior faculty and high-level administrators from Ukraine and Russia to come to Rochester in 1996 for two conferences: "Innovations in Medical Education" and "Innovative Teaching Methodologies." The visitors also attended two "Introduction to Human Health and Illness" classes, where several new approaches were presented, such as using literature and movies to spark discussions on psycho-social, biomedical and medical ethics issues.

The grant also sponsored trips by U.S. medical faculty and young residents to Ukraine and Russia to conduct seminars on ways to improve medical education. Sadly, Dr. Daphne Hare died of melanoma in 1995 and did not see all the fruits of her efforts.

In 1997 the grant money expired and the program was in danger of ending. At this point Nataliya Shulga, Ph.D., a young biologist from Ukraine who was working as a research associate faculty member at the department of biology at Rochester University, appealed to the

local Ukrainian community to save the program for students from Ukraine.

A Ukrainian Community Fellowship Committee (UCFC) was organized and an agreement was signed with the University of Rochester providing the 50-50 financing of the program: the university would waive tuition, tailor the programs to the needs of individual students and help in obtaining student visas; the UCFC would contribute the costs of round-trip airfare, visas, medical insurance, and room and board.

Rochester Ukrainians are seeking financial support for a medical education program in partnership with the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

For the UCFC this amounted to an estimated cost per student of \$3,500 and the goal was to bring four students per academic year for a total cost of \$14,000.

A fund-raising campaign was launched and, with substantial support from the Rochester Federal Ukrainian Credit Union, the necessary funds for the first year were collected. Since nothing comparable was done on the Russian side, the program with Russia ended.

From now on the name of the program was "Medical Education Partnership and Training Project with Ukraine" and to date 21 medical students from Ukraine were able to complete the medical clerkship, during three-month rotations in various departments of the Rochester University School of Medicine and Dentistry. Seven additional students completed the clerkship earlier at Yale University, the State University of New York (SUNY) School of Medicine at Syracuse and SUNY Brooklyn VA Medical Center – a total of 28 students.

The Ukrainian students came from the National Medical University in Kyiv and the state medical universities in Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Odesa and Ternopil. They were "cream of the crop" medical students, selected via a careful procedure that involves both the University of Rochester and Ukrainian community input.

Six U.S. medical faculty members and residents traveled to Kyiv and Dnipropetrovsk to introduce new teaching methodologies. The Rochester crew introduced Ukrainians to the "ward teams" approach, which, while caring for patients, provided students with practical, hands-on medical education, starting already in their second year of study in American medical schools.

In the U.S. students learn the basic sciences on the undergraduate level, and medical education requires four years of graduate training. In Ukraine the student enters a medical university immediately after completing his/her secondary education and studies both basic sciences and clinical subjects in a medical university for six years.

In the United States medical students start caring for the patients already in the second year of their training. Under the supervision of the resident physician and the patient's physician, they examine the patient, order laboratory tests if necessary, and discuss their findings with their supervisors. It is worthwhile to note that in this "ward teams" process both the student and the resident physician receive medical training. This approach differs radically from the practice in Ukraine

where the student does not get a chance to examine a patient until the very last year of his/her medical education.

The Rochester medical visitors also conducted clinical rounds in Ukrainian hospitals. They found that students were not encouraged to ask questions of their teachers. The attitude was that the teacher knows best, and one did not dare to question his teaching – this was the old Soviet system. The teacher would simply lecture to the students who would listen and take notes silently, even if sometimes they did not understand what was said. The Americans encouraged students to ask questions of their teachers. Ukrainians were surprised when someone asked a question of the visiting American professor and he responded candidly that he did not know the answer to it.

A Learning Center, containing a library of English-language medical books and journals, as well as video recordings of some surgical interventions opened in Kyiv. Most important, a national Testing Board was established in Kyiv, which introduced for the first time in Ukrainian medical education standardized testing for objective merit-based evaluation.

Several persons in Ukraine contributed to the success of the program. Dr. Marianna Shershneva, M.S., was involved in the partnership program since 1995 and is credited, together with Iryna Bulakh, M.D., in creating the national Testing Board. Dr. Shershneva, a rheumatologist, was dissatisfied with the old system, particularly with the lack of continuing education offered to physicians. The senior colleagues with whom she worked were often outdated in their knowledge and there was no one to consult in case of need, no one she could trust. Dr. Shershneva felt that the best way to change health care in Ukraine was "from bottom up," i.e. to work on changing the medical education and doing away with the old system. Presently she is working toward a Ph.D. in the Continuing Medical Education Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School.

Dr. Bulakh is the present director of the Testing Board. She recently defended a doctoral dissertation on objective evaluation in medical education. She was particularly helpful in dealing with Ukraine's Ministry of Health which had total control over medical education and was reluctant to give it up.

Dr. Yuri Kovalenko from the Ministry of Health visited the University of Rochester with the first group of administrators and became convinced of the transformative value of objective exams in medical education. Thus, he was an "insider ally" in the struggle for the change.

Marina Mrouga, M.D., is presently deputy director of the Testing Board. She was one of the first students who, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Hare, was able to complete her three months of clinical rotation at the State University of New York Brooklyn VA Medical Center.

The "old system" did not easily give up its positions. The above-mentioned persons in Ukraine had to deal with resistance, suspicion, threats and even with attempted bribes to buy the tests. The greatest challenge to the old guard came from the introduction of objective, merit-evaluation written exams. Due to the efforts of Drs. Mrouga, Shershneva and Bulakh, and with the support of Dr. Kovalenko inside the Ministry of Health, standardized objective testing is currently in use in Ukrainian medical education, including the licensing of physicians.

It was Ralph F. Jozefowicz, M.D., the first administrator of the USAID grant, who was most helpful in teaching Ukrainian partners how to create multiple-choice questions. He had experience in item-writing while working for the American Board of Medical Education. The Ukrainian

Testing Board has a working arrangement with its American counterpart.

To sum up, major changes are taking place in Ukrainian medical education, thanks to the partnership with the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. No longer are there subjective oral exams. It is now impossible for a student to "buy" better grades, admission to the university or a final diploma. The results of testing are published, and available for discussion and analysis among professional educators. Based on those results, a ranking of medical universities is possible which provides a stimulus for self-improvement on the part of individual institutions.

The trend toward objective, merit-based assessment testing is now spreading to other areas of college education in Ukraine, and Dr. Mrouga is sought as speaker at conferences and seminars devoted to this subject. Also, Dr. Shulga of Rochester was invited to address the International Conference on Higher Education in Ukraine in the city of Mykolaiv on September 29-October 2. Her topic: "International Partnership as a Tool to Enhance Curriculum Teaching Methodology".

Unfortunately, the yearly tab of \$14,000 turned out to be too much for the Rochester Ukrainian community to bear alone. In 1997 the Fellowship Committee wrote to the leaders of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) inviting them to become partners in this project. In answer UMANA provided the committee with addresses of its members – some 700 individual physicians and dentists in the U.S. and Canada, with a suggestion to directly contact them. The committee sent letters to all of them, outlining the Rochester medical program and asking for tax-deductible contributions in support of its project. Some 20 UMANA members responded, and the total collected was about \$1,000. The leadership of UMANA was approached again in 2004, and this time it gave the committee \$500. An additional \$500 was donated by the UMANA Chicago chapter.

Lacking adequate funding, the Rochester medical program was forced to reduce the number of rotating Ukrainian medical students from four to two per year. If it were not for the continued generous support of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, the program would not be able to continue. This would be a great loss for medical education in Ukraine, where graduates of the Rochester program are now in leading positions as junior faculty and in private practice.

In spite of the present situation in Ukraine, medicine is still a calling profession there, as was frequently observed by participating American physicians. I would like to finish this report by quoting from a letter that Lyuba Milevska, a recent graduate of the Rochester program, wrote to Dr. Shulga, chair of the UCFC:

"Dear Ms. Nataliya! I would like to share with you current events in my life. ... The Seventh International Congress of Students and Young Scientists took place at our Ternopil Medical Academy. There were many guests from other cities and countries. I had a great chance to present my independent project [as a part of their Rochester training students are required to work on an independent project.] in two languages – English and Ukrainian. I don't want to be immodest, but it was a triumph! I was awarded two diplomas at once – the diploma for first place and the diploma for the best report. And at the closing of the congress I was asked to present my report once more. Thank you so much! Because in my project there is a great part of your soul and your efforts, too."

Roman Tratch, Ph.D., is a member of the Rochester Ukrainian Community Fellowship Committee. He resides in Penfield, N.Y.

Seventh annual UCCLA conclave witnesses unveiling of Niagara Falls internment plaque

NIAGARA FALLS, Ontario – The seventh annual conclave of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) was held in Niagara Falls, on October 28-31 with delegates from across Canada and guests representing the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, as well as a delegation from the newly established Ukrainian American Civil Liberties Association (UACLA).

debated in Parliament in the near future.

The conclave also made modest donations in support of a new play on the internment operations, "Our Home and Native Land," by Dan Ebbs, a ballad by Donna Creighton on the same theme, and committed itself to another internment plaque to mark the site of the Fernie camp in British Columbia. Special briefings on the trafficking of Ukrainian women, on the activities of Canadians for a Genocide Museum, and on UCC

to a close 85 years after the end of the internment operations.

Chaired by John B. Gregorovich, the 2004 UCCLA conclave was attended by an even greater number of delegates than last year and a larger than ever youth delegation. Commenting, Mr. Gregorovich said: "UCCLA continues to represent a pro-active force within the Ukrainian Canadian community and it is evident that that is what our people want. The conclave was not only well attended but the average age of our members decreased, exactly the opposite of what is happening with the organizations of yesteryear."

"We are continuing to successfully engage the support of thousands of Ukrainian Canadians from coast to coast because we are project-driven, evolve new ideas and projects, and put the community's interests forward in the public domain, month after month," he added.

Mr. Gregorovich also pointed out: "This year we were particularly pleased to be able to witness the unveiling of another internment plaque, at the Niagara Falls Armory, a facility used as a detention camp for Ukrainians and other Europeans throughout the first world war. That both the mayor of Niagara Falls, His Worship R. T. Salci, and the Honorable Walter Lastewka, MP, were able to bear witness to the installation and consecration of this memorial by our clergy was particularly welcome, especially Mr. Lastewka's remarks, in which he committed to ensuring that our redress claims are finally heard by the Liberal government."

Noting that this meeting witnessed the birth of a partner organization, the Ukrainian American Civil Liberties



MP Walt Lastewka of St. Catharines, parliamentary secretary to the minister of public works and government.

Association (UACLA), the chairman said: "That young American Ukrainians are joining us to create a comparable body in the U.S.A. is very welcome, for it will help ensure that, over time, our presence and influence throughout North America increase. We are already planning several joint initiatives with UACLA, and hope, next year, to have similar bodies established in Australia and Great Britain, perhaps even in Ukraine."

The UCCLA's next conclave will be held in the fall of 2005 in Fernie, British Columbia, where an internment camp was in operation from June 1915 to October 1918.



Plaque commemorating the internment of Ukrainians in Canada 1914-1920.

Together they deliberated various project proposals for the coming year, all intended to further a more pro-active stand in advancing the Ukrainian diaspora's interests.

Among the critical new and approved initiatives is one aimed at identifying Soviet war criminals and bringing them to justice and an intensified campaign intended to get all of the parties in the House of Commons to vote favorably in support of Bill C 331 – the Ukrainian Canadian Restitution Act, due to be

proposals for future collaboration with the UCCLA were also heard.

Member of Parliament Inky Mark (Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette) via teleconference participated in a discussion about ways and means to advance the redress issue. Given the minority status of the current Liberal government of Canada, and the pre-election pledges of all three of the opposition parties in the House (who together control a majority of seats) it is expected that Bill C 331 will be passed, thus bringing this matter

TWG intern completes stint at Embassy

by Michael Drabyk

WASHINGTON – The Washington Group selected a law student at Kyiv National Economic University as this year's Embassy intern in Washington. Diana Medvedeva worked this past summer at the Ukrainian Embassy, receiving a \$1,500 stipend from The Washington Group Fellowship Fund.

Ms. Medvedeva's background includes knowledge of English and Ukrainian, as well as computer and Internet skills.

"One of the basic subjects of my curriculum is English," said Ms. Medvedeva. "The prospect of working in the U.S.A. is extremely exciting for me, as I can learn more about peoples' lives in their native country." Upon graduation she hopes to work for a Ukrainian company with international contacts. Ms. Medvedeva said she hopes her work experience at the Embassy will help to better understand the needs of foreign partners in business.

The TWG Fellowship Fund was established within The Washington Group in 1987, and placed its first intern at the Embassy of Ukraine back in 1996. The experience has proven useful both for the interns, as well as the Embassy itself, according to the second secretary for the cultural, information and press office there, Nataliia Holub.

"This summer the Embassy greatly bene-

fited from the work of Ukrainian students," Ms. Holub said. "The interns worked at the Consular Office and the Trade Mission. Their responsibilities included assisting with visa processing; working with databases, catalogues and archives; helping with adoption issues of Ukrainian children; analyzing and reporting on American and Ukrainian legislative issues; and helping with diplomatic correspondence."

"Students also gained experience and knowledge of how a diplomatic mission operates, which is very important and useful for their future careers in international affairs," Ms. Holub added.

"We greatly appreciate this cooperation with The Washington Group (TWG), which has become a good tradition," Ms. Holub said. "We hope it will continue in the future bringing great experience and knowledge for the Ukrainian students as well as helping the Embassy to benefit from their work."

The TWG Fellowship Fund is now conducting a fund-raising drive to cover next year's Embassy Internship. If enough funds are raised, a second paid internship will also be started next year at the Voice of America Ukrainian Desk in Washington.

TWG is a 501c non-profit organization, with contributions being tax-deductible. Donations may be sent to: TWG Fellowship Fund, P.O. Box 7951, McLean, VA 22106.

United Artists for Justice in Ukraine present a

Benefit Concert for Viktor Yushchenko

Featuring:

Stefko of Sicksided and Burned

Lubko Konrad

Andrij Wowk and his band IKA

Slavko Halatyn of Darka and Slavko



Wednesday, December 8,

8 p.m.

at the Ukrainian
National Home in
New York City

\$10 suggested donation

**All proceeds to benefit the Yushchenko campaign
and his supporters in Plast who are demonstrating in
the streets of Kyiv.**

**Details about specific donation allocations available
at the concert.**

**Questions, information:
please e-mail: sicksided05@yahoo.com**

Orange Revolution...

(Continued from page 1)

parties to the negotiations would allow for resolution of the conflict in an equitable manner.

"We have achieved an agreement that complements the one achieved last Friday and have consolidated the steps we had already made," explained Mr. Solana, speaking to reporters at the Dutch Embassy in Kyiv.

He characterized the discussions as "not easy," but noted that they were "moving in the right direction." He also noted that he expected to return for further mediation talks in the next days.

First meeting with negotiators

The European leaders had first met in Kyiv on November 26 to find a way out of the crisis, which began after the campaign team of Mr. Yushchenko alleged that Ukrainian state authorities had stolen a run-off vote on November 21 between their candidate and Mr. Yanukovich. The Yushchenko team cited extensive evidence of widespread fraud, including illegal use of absentee voter certificates, home voting and voter intimidation.

Ukraine's Central Election Commission announced on November 24 that Prime Minister Yanukovich had beaten Mr. Yushchenko by 49.5 percent to 46.6 percent.

International observers subsequently supported the charges made by the opposition candidate.

During the first round of mediation, the international delegation managed to bring the two opposing sides together to recognize the need for another vote. However, negotiations between the opposing parties on how to resolve the particular issues quickly broke down and were ended after the third day of meetings.

Rada votes no confidence

Further deepening the crisis, Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada met prior to the arrival of the European leaders and by a slim margin supported a vote of no confidence in the government of Prime Minister Yanukovich. In accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, the vote should have forced the government and its leader to resign, but Mr. Yanukovich said he did not accept the manner in which the vote took place. Ukraine's Constitution allows Ukraine's president up to 60 days in which to accept Mr. Yanukovich's resignation.

"I will never agree to a decision made under pressure, and this decision was made under direct pressure," explained Mr. Yanukovich. "I continue to be the prime minister and will be until a new president is recognized," explained Mr. Yanukovich.

Mr. Yanukovich said that the tens of thousands of people who had encircled the Parliament building, chanting "Yushchenko" as the vote took place, had intimidated many lawmakers. Some who

supported Mr. Yanukovich said the crowds blocked their colleagues from entering the building for the session.

The decision by Ukraine's Parliament came with barely more than a quorum of lawmakers present in the chamber. The parliamentary factions aligned with Mr. Yanukovich – Regions of Ukraine, Social Democratic Party-United and Labor-Ukraine – boycotted the vote, as did the Communist faction. The final vote obtained the needed majority with two votes to spare. Lawmakers earlier had agreed to allow for secret balloting, done to assure that members could vote free of pressure and concern for retribution – a tool rarely used in the legislative chamber.

After the resolution was passed, National Deputy Volodymyr Filenko of Our Ukraine walked out to the demonstrators who had gathered before the Verkhovna Rada building, most of them wearing at least a bit of orange – the official color of the Yushchenko campaign, which has become the symbol of support for the protest – to explain to them that they were witnesses to a historic transformation taking place in Ukraine.

"This vote assures that Ukraine today is no longer even what it was yesterday," explained Mr. Filenko. "Today we had the unique chance to witness as the Verkhovna Rada directly expressed the will of the people. And it is historic and unparalleled that it occurred on December 1, on the anniversary of the referendum in which the Ukrainian nation in 1991 expressed its desire for independence."

Nonetheless, the vote of no confidence was passed only after a second effort. The previous day the Our Ukraine faction headed by Mr. Yushchenko watched as the motion it believed would receive a majority was defeated after the Communists, who had held out earlier that they would consider supporting the matter, voted unanimously against it. The Communists then joined the three pro-Yanukovich factions in passing an opposing motion canceling a resolution from November 27 that had expressed no confidence in the Central Election Committee and called on Ukraine's president to dismiss the body and submit a list of new candidates for parliamentary confirmation.

Passage of the motion rescinding demands for a new CEC led crowds of Yushchenko supporters to break through restraining barriers on the square before the Parliament building and force their way through the doors of the front entrance in an effort to take the building. They were restrained by special forces and then convinced to withdraw by Mr. Yushchenko, who quickly appeared to calm the situation.

Supreme Court review

As the European leaders met and the Verkhovna Rada sat in session, Ukraine's Supreme Court continued to consider complaints of voting improprieties filed by officials of the Yushchenko campaign team – more than 10,000 in all. The

Yushchenko team argued that vote fraud and falsification of the count was so extensive as to force a cancellation of the results in some voting districts, primarily in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, regions that overwhelmingly supported Mr. Yanukovich. The Yushchenko team believes that if the vote count were adjusted accordingly, their man would claim victory. The court was expected to announce its decision no earlier than December 3.

Mr. Yushchenko, who expressed restrained optimism over the results of the second round of negotiations with the European mediators on December 1, told the throngs on Independence Square that evening that he believes a Supreme Court decision fully in his favor would turn the tide of support toward him and force Mr. Yanukovich to surrender the prime minister's chair.

EU External Affairs Commissioner Solana told reporters during his press conference that he thought a Supreme Court decision supporting Mr. Yushchenko's claims was plausible.

"I think it possible; I don't think it unlikely," explained Mr. Solana.

Eastern separatism

Mr. Solana's words could not have comforted supporters of Mr. Yanukovich in the eastern oblasts of Ukraine. Officials in Donetsk, Luhansk and Kharkiv had threatened to split from Ukraine and form a separate southeastern republic if the presidency should go to Mr. Yushchenko. A special congress of concerned government officials from the eastern regions of Ukraine met in Siverodonetsk on November 27 and resolved to hold a referendum on the matter of separation from Ukraine on December 5.

Mr. Yanukovich, while present at the meeting to provide moral support, stated during his presentation to the delegates that he could not allow for a split within the country. He did, however, tell the congress that it should do whatever it could to assure that the opposition didn't win the presidency.

Within days the eastern oblasts had stepped back from the precipice.

After President Kuchma angrily warned the chairman of those regions against separation during a hastily called meeting in Kyiv and attended by Mr. Yanukovich, the regional leaders alternately explained that separatism had never been seriously discussed. The issue before them had been the possibility of an autonomous republic within a federative Ukrainian state.

"No motion for a move toward separation was ever considered and never will be," explained Donetsk Oblast Chairman Anatolii Blyzniak after the meeting with Mr. Kuchma.

Although the Donetsk Oblast chairman noted at the time that a referendum would no longer occur on December 5, a few days later his office confirmed that plans were under way for another referendum, to be held on January 9, to determine whether Donetsk should become an autonomous region within Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Kharkiv Oblast Chairman Yevhen Kushnariov, who had initiated the call for separatism with a fiery speech on November 26 to the Kharkiv Oblast Council, which then gave him extraordinary powers, began a pacification movement on December 1 to bring the two sides in the conflict together. He visited the two opposing camps of demonstrators on Kharkiv's Freedom Square – one of the largest plazas in the world – and met with representatives of the tens of thousands of protesters on both sides to ask them to work toward reconciliation.

While President Kuchma chastised the chairmen he had appointed for their care-

less, reflective actions, he told journalists after the meeting that he did not believe that large-scale falsification had occurred in the election run-off. He also stated that he could not envision a third round of voting as the Yushchenko camp would like. He called such a scenario "a farce."

Mr. Kuchma did not comment a few days later when two garbage trucks, which protesters had allowed to pass through their blockade and enter the presidential administration compound – ostensibly to remove snow that had piled up in the last days – were discovered to be carrying mounds of shredded and ripped documents beneath a thin outer layer of snow. The documents, uncovered as the trucks were leaving, were receipts of monetary payouts to local and territorial election commissioners. It could not be determined whether the receipts were records of legal or illegal transfers of money.

The incident occurred several days after Mr. Kuchma had asserted that the Presidential Administration had no relationship to either the elections or the vote count. The documents were handed over to the Supreme Court.

Psychological victories

The latest events were one of several psychological victories felt by Yushchenko supporters in the last days. The first indication that events may be turning in favor of Mr. Yushchenko occurred on November 29 when Mr. Yanukovich's campaign manager Serhii Tyhypko announced his resignation as the head of the Yanukovich election team, as well as his post as chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine. He cited a desire to return to his position as leader of the Labor Ukraine Party and prepare for parliamentary elections in 2006.

Western leaders continued to call for peaceful resolution of the stand-off between the two presidential wannabes. Russian President Vladimir Putin changed his stance once more on November 30, expressing a desire to see a new round of elections. Earlier he had been the first world leader to recognize the official results announced by the CEC on November 24. He had first congratulated Mr. Yanukovich on a victory the day after the vote – even before an official tally had been announced – a move that had brought a round of criticism from the international community. Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Armenia and China have also recognized the official results.

Rumor, innuendo and disinformation were rampant in the last week, especially in Donetsk and Luhansk, where scare-mongering had taken on extraordinary proportions.

Mr. Yanukovich's wife, Liudmyla, told a crowd of some 30,000 supporters of her husband, who had gathered in Donetsk, that demonstration organizers in Kyiv were feeding the crowds on Independence Square oranges filled with narcotics to keep them on the streets. She also told them that a meningitis epidemic was raging in Kyiv, and that many demonstrators were hospitalized from dehydration, lack of food and alcohol poisoning.

The only two media broadcast outlets still functioning in the eastern regions were warning residents of the imminent attack of fascist UNSO [Ukrainian National Self-Defense] paramilitary forces from Lviv.

In Kyiv, meanwhile, the editorial staffs of the four major national television networks announced separately that they would no longer execute the directives of the central government authorities, widely known as "temnyky," and would now offer balanced and objective reporting. Many journalists in Kyiv heralded the events as a revolution all its own.

Quotable notes

"It's simply an orange orgy there. ... There are rows and rows of felt boots – all American-made! See! And mountains of oranges! Oranges! And the background is 'orange sea, orange sky ...' [a line from "Oranzhevaya Pesnia," a popular song for kids - ed.] Gosh! It's just ... it's a nightmare! And look here, guys: those oranges aren't just any oranges – they're loaded. People – take an orange, eat it – and take another one. See! And the hand keeps reaching, keeps reaching for it. I was on my way here; there was news. They said people in the square are getting poisoned, on a mass scale. Frequent hospitalizations. They bring people in with meningitis! What have we come to? And they keep standing, keep standing! Eyes simply glazed over! Just like that!"

– Liudmila Yanukovich, wife of presidential candidate and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, speaking at a November 29 rally in Donetsk, as quoted by the Kyiv Post.

Dancers celebrate 40 years of Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky's work

by Helen Smindak

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

NEW YORK – Interpreting the beauty, vitality and grace of Ukrainian dance with intensity and passion, close to 150 dancers transformed the stage of Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall into a kaleidoscope of color, movement and beguiling formations on November 13, dazzling the standing-room-only audience as they celebrated the life and illustrious 40-year work span of their late teacher-choreographer, Roma Pryma Bohachevsky.

The event, titled "Reflections of Ukrainian Dance," included vividly costumed folk dances from various regions of Ukraine, a historical ballet choreographed by Ms. Bohachevsky in celebration of Ukraine's Millennium of Christianity in 1998, a spicy tango, modern dance and the pleasant song stylings of vocalist Olya Chodoba-Fryz.

Performers came from the tri-state area of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut and from as far away as Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Ontario to take part in the concert. Ranging in age from 10 to 46, they represented Ms. Bohachevsky's career as a leading North American instructor of Ukrainian folk dance and the director of the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, the dance troupe of "shimmery-winged birds" she founded in New York City 25 years ago.

Mindful of the instructions of the beloved teacher and mentor they called Pani Roma – "dance with feeling, listen to the music, believe what you're doing" – they threw their hearts and souls into their portrayals, creating a show that was reminiscent of the technically superb Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company. Working with Ms. Bohachevsky's balletic ethnic stylizations, the women's dancing was light-footed, graceful and replete with dizzying pirouettes; the men executed bold squat steps and exciting leaps and jumps with strength and agility.

Throughout the evening, the applause was loud and long, and when the entire cast and crew came on stage to take bows after the final number, the cheering audience rose to its feet as one to give a tumultuous ovation.

Welcome Dance

With two brief intermissions to allow for costume changes, the two-and-a-half hour show opened with a gracious "Welcome Dance" (Pryvit) and the traditional Ukrainian offering of bread and salt, presented by the Syzokryli dancers. The highly spirited, romantic qualities of Ukraine's Hutsul region were depicted by the Syzokryli dancers in the "Hutzul Suite" as they moved to the haunting strains of "Verkhovyna"; in "Leginy," a competitive men's dance; in "Hutsul Wedding Dance," which portrayed a betrothal ceremony; and in "Vorozhennia," a coquettish, playful work depicting young women's games with wedding wreaths.

Students of Ms. Bohachevsky's New York school joined the Syzokryli dancers in "Vorozhennia" and further demonstrated their dance prowess with "prysidky" and twirling moves in a children's dance "Hutsulka." On their part, students of the Whippany, N.J., school gave an expert rendition of a lively "Zakarpatsky Wedding Dance" choreographed by Ms. Bohachevsky's son, Boris.

In "Ikona," the dramatic work created by Ms. Bohachevsky to commemorate the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine, icons picturing events in the New Testament came to life as gold-robed performers moved slowly and grandly across the stage to a majestic Liapunov composition. In a time-shift to Rus'-Ukraine's pagan era, lighting

effects spotlighted a series of vignettes that portrayed "hahilky" and pagan rituals, Princess Olha's conversion to Christianity and her sainthood, followed by the removal of pagan idols and the baptism of Prince Volodymyr the Great.

Cast in principal roles were Lydia Kulbida as the Virgin Mary, Ania Bohachevsky Lonkevych as Princess Olha, Yaroslav Dobriansky in the "Crucifixion," and Mark Sklaryk as Grand Prince Volodymyr.

Ms. Chodoba-Fryz, elegant in a claret red gown, brought a delicate, sensuous grace to nostalgic Ukrainian songs, both folk and contemporary, as she offered Rybchynsky-Zlotnyk's wistful "Skrypka Hraye" (The Violin Plays) and the highly popular ballad "Vodohray," a Volodymyr Ivasiuk composition which stirred up long-suppressed feelings of national pride in Ukrainians in the 1980s (the audience enthusiastically clapped in time to the "Vodohray" rhythm).

Ms. Chodoba-Fryz dedicated the folk song "Moonlit Lullaby" to Ms. Bohachevsky, noting that "Pani Roma ignited a passion for Ukrainian dance in America; her students carry on the tradition and they excite audiences everywhere they go, just as you see here tonight."

Homage to Ivasiuk

Groups of Syzokryli dancers showed their dance mettle in excerpts from "The Ivasiuk Suite," Ms. Bohachevsky's homage to Ivasiuk set to his music. The suite included a fiery tango "Chervona Ruta" (Red Rue), its fluid sensuality contrasting with crisp, sharp movements; "Don't Put Out the Fire," a work based on classical jazz movements, and "Bachu Tebe" (Looking at You), a modern dance piece showing men and women carrying a body aloft in a procession, possibly an image of Ivasiuk's funeral.

Ms. Lonkevych and Mr. Bohachevsky appeared in the suite's "Malvy" (Hollyhocks) number, a modern but lyrical dance they dedicated to their mother. Set beside a Ukrainian cottage enhanced by blooming hollyhocks, the work suggested the poignant parting of a mother and son.

Turning to Ukraine's Poltava region in the show's final portion, New York students trotted out a brisk "Kozachok" dance, choreographed by Mr. Bohachevsky, as a prelude to the "Hopak," the most popular and best known Ukrainian dance. Striding out in single file to the insistent beating of a drum, Syzokryli's male dancers were joined by their fleet-footed female counterparts to create a whirlwind of leaps, jumps, twirls, sword fighting and a variety of "prysidky"



The Syzokryli ensemble performs the "Pryvit" (Welcome Dance).

as men and women by turns exhibited their dancing skills. The audience roared as the male dancers, backed by a row of smiling women, broke into their wild "galloping" "prysidky" at stage front.

After an encore of the Hopak's headiest moments, a much-applauded finale choreographed by Syzokryli's artistic director, Andriy Cybyk, brought dancers on stage in ever-growing numbers until all the performers were aboard to take final bows.

Musical accompaniment throughout the program was supplied by electronic devices rather than live performers, the only shortcoming to an otherwise beautifully synchronized evening of inspired

dancing. Lighting was directed by Danylo Dobriansky, stage management by Shari Houtman, while costumes and a costume-changing crew of former dancers were supervised by Ms. Lonkevych, assisted by Larissa Pagan.

Among the many floral tributes brought on stage as performers took their bows was a huge basket of yellow blooms from the Slavic Heritage Council, saluting Ms. Bohachevsky and the Syzokryli dancers for their numerous appearances at the council's annual World Festival.

Later, cast, crew and friends gathered

(Continued on page 26)



The young men of Syzokryli on stage.



The finale of the program, which brought all the performers out for a bow.

COMMENTARY

Wherever the buck stops, it sure is not here!

Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky

One of the most bizarre aspects of recent events in Ukraine has been the statements made on repeated but separate occasions by both President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, the substance of which has been that if there were any voting irregularities, then they would be in favor of doing one thing or not doing another.

If there were any voting irregularities? From what planet did Messrs. Kuchma and Yanukovich suddenly descend? What is it exactly of which the architects of these "irregularities" are unsure? Whether their henchmen carried out their orders? Surely the announced election results confirm their work. That this is all some kind of bad dream from which Messrs. Kuchma and Yanukovich will suddenly awake? News flash: I don't think so.

Although the agnostic posture adopted by Messrs. Kuchma and Yanukovich is indeed bizarre, it is entirely consistent with the Russo-Soviet model of leadership in which both were steeped and against which Ukrainians are now rebelling.

A half century ago president Harry S. Truman had a sign on his desk at the White House that over the years became famous. The sign read: "The Buck Stops Here." This is an idiomatic expression meaning that I, as president, am ultimately responsible, and that I accept that responsibility. That is called accountability, a fundamental precept in, for example, Western and Japanese political culture. When a European or Japanese politician messes up badly, he will resign.

In the Russo-Soviet model of leadership, the leader has all of the power, but no responsibility in the sense of accountability. As president of Ukraine, Mr. Kuchma appointed new prime ministers

as often as some women change dresses. To begin with, the number of prime ministers appointed is a joke in itself. If the men chosen were such bad choices, who is responsible for making those choices? (Kuchma: "Wherever the buck stops, it ain't here. And besides, we don't have any bucks in Kyiv.) And if the choices were not so bad, who is responsible if the numerous prime ministers were needlessly removed? One obviously competent prime minister, Viktor Yushchenko, was sacked after serving a year and a half. Some of the others were semi-incompetents, and at least one, if not more, criminals (Pavlo Lazarenko).

In the West, a leader that had made such appointments to high office would be held accountable. But in the Russo-Soviet tradition, it's always someone else's fault, because the leader is, of course, a great man who doesn't make mistakes, or else he wouldn't be the leader. How's that for logic?

So, back to the "if." If there were any voting irregularities! It's simply breathtaking to see how naturally and effortlessly they lie, all with a perfectly straight face and full sincerity. Russia's President Vladimir Putin also gets the highest marks for sincerity when he lies: "Of course the elections in Ukraine were democratic and fair." Do these guys attend special classes where they were taught to master the public lie? Are there then advanced classes on how to lie and be indignant about it? Or how to lie while strenuously insisting that the people who are actually telling the truth are the liars? We need George Orwell to come back and unpack some of these riddles.

Somehow, though, Ukrainians have managed to maintain a sense of what is true and what is false. And now they are demanding what is true and want to do away with what is false. It is as simple as that.

Sens. DeWine, Voinovich cite election abuses

WASHINGTON – U.S. Sens. Mike DeWine (R-Ohio) and George Voinovich (R-Ohio) have commented on the conduct of the presidential run-off election in Ukraine. Based on evidence collected by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, non-governmental organizations and other observers, including Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, they say it is clear that there was significant fraud and abuse.

"The people of Ukraine deserve free and fair elections," said Sens. DeWine and Voinovich. "It is wonderful to see the robust stand for democracy the citizens

are making as they take to the streets to demand that their votes be counted and their voices be heard."

Sens. DeWine and Voinovich continued: "We would like to see the government of Ukraine recognize the right of the people to peacefully demonstrate. We also urge all citizens of Ukraine to not resort to violence. We strongly urge the government of Ukraine to conduct an investigation and be forthcoming about their findings. We have the utmost faith that the Ukrainian people will continue to work toward a more democratic and transparent electoral process and we can assure them that they have the support of Congress and the American people."

Sen. Corzine criticizes widespread fraud

WASHINGTON – Sen. Jon S. Corzine (D-N.J.) on November 24 criticized widespread fraud in the Ukrainian election and condemned the premature announcement of a winner by the Central Election Commission.

"There is overwhelming evidence that the elections were marred by extensive, systematic fraud," Sen. Corzine said in a statement. "Today's declaration by the election commission is therefore premature, at best."

Sen. Corzine called on Ukrainian authorities to retract the declaration and

instead undertake a thorough review of the election. "The principle of fair and transparent elections must be upheld. Until there is a credible and objective accounting, neither the United States nor the international community should recognize the declared results," the senator said.

Sen. Corzine also called on Ukrainian authorities to exercise restraint with protesters and avoid all violence. "The people have the right to protest peacefully in support of their democratic rights," he underscored.

The Orange Revolution

by Marta Kolomayets

KYIV – Contrary to some Western media reports, the turbulent events in Ukraine over the past week are not a struggle between Ukraine's nationally conscious western lands and the Russian-speaking eastern regions. It is not a geographic divide, but a moral dilemma that has united the people of Ukraine in the streets of Kyiv to protest the blatant falsification of the presidential election held on November 21.

This is not discord between the religious confessions, an issue of the Ukrainian and Russian languages, a rift between the regions, or even a clash between the generations. It is a battle of good against evil, truth versus lies. And, ultimately, it is also a choice between the pro-reform candidate Viktor Yushchenko who wants to lead Ukraine to European prosperity and Viktor Yanukovich, who sees Ukraine's future tightly interwoven with its domineering neighbor to the north, Russia.

Even recent rumblings about the secession of Ukraine's industrial east, fueled by Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov and backed by the Kremlin, have subsided as people in the regions have accused their governors and politicians of treason and citizens of a foreign country interfering in the internal affairs of a neighboring country. Ukrainian citizens who voted for Viktor Yanukovich want to live in one, united sovereign Ukraine.

Over the past 10 days, close to 1 million Ukrainian citizens descended upon Kyiv, by car, bus, train, plane, from all parts of the country, braving the cold, the wind and the snow to come and seek the truth and have their long-suffering nation take its rightful place among the community of democratic European states.

First attempts at this were taken in August 1991, with the putsch that toppled the Soviet Union and led to Ukraine's declaration of independence – but that victory was a "seize the moment" opportunity manipulated by Communists not wanting to lose their power base. That historic era, when more than 90 percent of Ukrainians voted for independence on December 1, 1991, also saw Ukraine's riches and resources robbed by a fast-growing clan of oligarchs and power mongers, headed by President Leonid Kuchma and his cronies, among them Prime Minister Yanukovich.

Today, this is a grass-roots movement; the people who have been standing in the heart of Kyiv – Independence Square, which is known as the "maidan" – now want only one thing: to live in an independent, lawful and democratic country that guarantees them their basic freedoms and rights. The last straw for these people was the blatant fraud and intimidation they witnessed during the dirtiest election campaign in the 14-year history of this fledgling state. Observers witnessed ballots being dropped into transparent urns in packets, they saw "dead souls" casting votes, thugs delivering absentee ballots to more than one voting station, and factory workers being intimidated with loss of their jobs if they did not vote for "the right

candidate." In fact, 102 percent of the voters of Donetsk came out to cast their votes in this eastern industrial region supported by Mr. Yanukovich's cronies.

With their demonstration of free political will this week, the honest and hard-working people of Ukraine have gotten up off their knees and raised their heads high in opposition to the regime of President Leonid Kuchma and his hand-picked candidate, Mr. Yanukovich, who ultimately would like to wind up in the fold of Vladimir Putin's Russia. These leaders' aim was to divide the country – but they have failed, and the people of Ukraine here are more united than they have ever been.

What we are witnessing this week is the peaceful expression of the people's will, a young democracy in the making. These people will not allow the government to manipulate them and force them to live in a land of corruption, intimidation and manipulation.

It is inspiring to watch the people of Ukraine from all walks of life, sharing food, water, clothes, blankets, shelter with their fellow citizens; they are one united people, whose favorite chant has become "Together, we are many and we shall overcome."

Some showed courage from the start, but every day, more and more people are rising to the occasion, giving their testimonies of loyalty to the people's president – Viktor Yushchenko. Today, many of the rank-and-file troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs have thrown their support over to Mr. Yushchenko – the militia has made statements that it would never shoot at its own people. More than 400 Ukrainian diplomatic mission workers throughout the world and other government officials have gone over to the opposition. The list grows longer every hour.

Is there a possibility of confrontation? That is always possible, but in the atmosphere that prevails in Kyiv today, hardly likely. Some of Mr. Yanukovich's supporters, who are coming in from the east, are defecting to the Yushchenko camp once they see how they have been fooled by the authorities. Some have told stories of how they were paid to come to Kyiv and promised vodka and food if they waved the blue and white flag of the Yanukovich campaign.

Last week, as I celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday thousands of miles from my native Chicago, I thought of how, growing up in the Windy City as a Ukrainian American, I always wanted to see the blue-and-yellow national flag of Ukraine wave freely in my ancestral home, in a democracy of the free and the brave. Today it waves on Independence Square, with promises that Ukraine will never again be the corrupt, lawless state it has become.

The sea of orange flags of the opposition, with the words "Yes, Yushchenko" fly side by side with national flags, as supporters of this cause wear the orange color with great pride and commitment on their sleeves, on their hats, around their necks.

The people have spoken – they are truly brave. If they will be truly free remains to be seen in the next few critical days.

Rep. Kaptur urges president to speak out

TOLEDO, Ohio – U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur on November 30 urged President George W. Bush to speak out in support of pro-democracy demonstrators in Ukraine.

"Hundreds of thousands of people are standing up for democracy in Ukraine. President Bush should stand together with them," said Rep. Kaptur, an 11-term Democrat from Ohio who serves as co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

Rep. Kaptur acknowledged that Secretary of State Colin Powell had said early on that the United States could not accept the results of the flawed election in Ukraine. But the political crisis affecting the strategically important nation of 48 million people has deepened as the government refuses to relinquish power.

"It's time for President Bush to put the United States squarely on the side of liberty," said Rep. Kaptur.

STATEMENTS REGARDING UKRAINE'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine

Following is the text of a statement released on November 22 by the national executive of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine.

The national executive of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (ODFFU) expresses its solidarity with the will of the Ukrainian people from Luhansk to Lviv and its commitment to support the realization and representation of that expressed will in the United States of America as well as internationally.

Expressing a personal concern for freedom and democracy in Ukraine, President George W. Bush requested Sen. Richard Lugar to be his official representative during the November 21 run-off election in Ukraine. After witnessing the elections first hand, Sen. Lugar concluded that "a concerted and forceful program of election day fraud and abuse was enacted with either the leadership or cooperation of governmental authorities." International observers from the OSCE and other groups have also recognized the elections as "not free and not fair." The Lviv, Frankivsk, Ternopil, Vinnytsia and Kyiv municipal councils have demanded that the Verkhovna Rada (the Parliament of Ukraine) impeach the results of the Central Election Commission.

The National Executive of the ODFFU believes, therefore, that the results of the run-off election have proven the regime that presently runs Ukraine represents the interests of a neo-colonial elite controlled by Moscow. The official results of the run-off election can only be understood as a reassertion of Moscow's imperial ambitions and a return to totalitarianism.

The struggle for a free and democratic Ukraine is the struggle of all freedom-loving people around the world. We cannot remain idle as a small group of corrupt officials defraud the elections and ignore the will of the Ukrainian electorate to express their inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We, therefore, express our unanimous support for Viktor Yushchenko and call

upon the White House and the Congress of the United States to recognize Mr. Yushchenko as the legitimate president-elect of Ukraine.

We call upon all members of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine and all Ukrainian Americans in the United States, as well as Ukrainians around the world who support a free and democratic Ukraine, to initiate a series of protests in front of Ukrainian embassies, consulates and missions demanding that the neo-colonial government institutions relinquish their hold on power to the government of president-elect Mr. Yushchenko, who truly represents a government "of the people, by the people and for the people" of Ukraine.

Furthermore, we call upon Americans and Ukrainians to exercise their right to peaceful assembly and protest at the embassies, consulates and missions of the Russian Federation demanding that Moscow refrain from meddling in the internal affairs of Ukraine and respect international norms.

Over 55 years ago, a group of Ukrainian Americans, guided by a love for their native Ukraine created a committee in the United States that would support the liberation of Ukraine during World War II. Their committee supported the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army as they fought against the Nazi and Communist occupation of Ukraine. This committee became the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, named after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's famous address wherein he declared that all nations and individuals have the right to freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, freedom from fear and a freedom from want. Today, we reiterate our commitment to defend these four freedoms for Ukraine.

Theodore Oleschuk

President

National Executive

Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Inc.

W. K. Lypynsky East European Research Institute

Following is the text of a statement released on December 1 by the W.K. Lypynsky East European Research Institute.

The board of directors of the W.K. Lypynsky East European Research Institute in Philadelphia wishes to express its condemnation of the falsification of the results of the second round of the presidential elections on November 21, 2004. We commend the courage and the fortitude of the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who have persevered

in the streets of many cities in bitter cold and snow in the protest against the violation of basic democratic principles and of the civil rights of voters.

We are expressing our solidarity with the members of the academic community, with the professors and students who have joined the protest. We are confident that the fraudulent elections will be annulled and that democracy and justice will prevail in Ukraine.

— **I. Mazepa**, president

Christian Churches of Ukraine

The following address of the leaders of six Christian Churches of Ukraine was released on November 23 on Kyiv's Independence Square, where several hundred thousand Ukrainians have gathered to protest what they claim are falsified presidential election results. The Church leaders state the Church is with the people at this time of crisis. The full text of the address was provided by the Religious Information Service of Ukraine.

Dear Brothers and Sisters! Respected fel-

low citizens!

Having received mass media reports on the preliminary presidential election outcome, which caused mass demonstrations on a scale our country has not seen before, with hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens participating, and having learned that a large part of the demonstrators are youth, which is especially evident in Kyiv, Ukraine's capital, we think it our pastoral and civic duty to say the following:

(Continued on page 32)

Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations

The letter below was sent on November 23 by the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO) to Australia's minister for foreign affairs, Alexander Downer.

Dear Minister:

On behalf of the Ukrainian Australian community, I write to seek the Australian government's official condemnation of the massive election fraud perpetrated by the incumbent government of Ukraine during recent Ukrainian presidential elections.

As Australian citizens, we believe that the Australian government has a moral duty to protest undemocratic and oligarchic practices. As widely witnessed and documented by any number of independent election monitors, including the OECD and members of the U.S. Congress, the Ukrainian presidential election was simply rigged on behalf of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. There were widespread incidents of ballot fixing, political intimidation and any number of other irregularities on the part of authorities in Ukraine.

Our Australian representative Peter Romaniw, who acted as an international monitor and remains in Ukraine, can also verify many of these claims.

The total falsification of the presidential election by entrenched power elites has dashed the national and democratic aspirations of the Ukrainian people. We are concerned that the election fraud will perpetuate a system where a corrupt few reap all the benefits of Ukraine's hard-earned national independence while the majority of citizens continue to be politically disenfranchised and economically exploited.

It should be noted that, by its own admission, a Yanukovich-led regime is likely to draw Ukraine further into Russia's geopolitical sphere and away from the European Union and international engagement. This realignment has negative implications for Australia's interests in terms of global political stability and the war on international terrorism.

For the above reasons, the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations strongly urges the Australian government to:

- issue an immediate statement on the issues and the government's intended action in this matter;

- consult its international allies, including the United States, in terms of the events surrounding the Ukrainian Presidential election and its implications;

- demand international action to have all reports of falsification lodged by international observers investigated through the courts and nullify all acts of falsification and votes associated with these acts;

- request a meeting with the ambassador of Ukraine to Australia and seek a formal explanation of the events surrounding the Ukrainian Presidential election;

- have its diplomatic staff in Ukraine conduct an investigation of the Ukrainian presidential election and then publicly release its results as an official report;

- subject to the outcomes of the above measures, prepare and forward to the Ukrainian government an official condemnation of the Ukrainian presidential election's conduct and results.

International silence in this matter will see a huge injustice being inflicted upon the Ukrainian nation. Seventy years of Communist totalitarian rule was overcome in 1991. To have it returned because of a passive international community would not serve anyone well. To have this happen without a challenge would be a blight on all who could have done something.

Australia has shown itself on previous occasions as being a leader in taking a stance. We request the same be done in this case.

I thank you in advance for considering the request of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations and await your urgent reply.

Stefan Romaniw
Chairman

Shevchenko Scientific Society

Below is the text of a November 27 statement by the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) on the election in Ukraine.

The executive board of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America applauds the Ukrainian Parliament for rejecting today the fraudulent results of the November 21, 2004, presidential election in Ukraine.

We admire the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who have been demonstrating peacefully in many Ukrainian cities, protesting these falsified election results, demanding that the will of the people be heeded. We support their struggle for democracy, civil rights and the rule of law in Ukraine.

We support the peaceful participation in this struggle of our academic colleagues, scholars and students, and express our solidarity with their principled stand.

We are confident that the just struggle of the Ukrainian people for freedom, democracy and a transparent and fair presidential election in Ukraine will prevail.

Larissa M. L. Z. Onyshkevych, Ph. D.,
president

Roman Andrushkiw, Ph. D., first vice-president

Swiatoslaw Trofimenko, Ph. D., vice-president and learned secretary

Yuriy Slusarczuk, Ph. D., vice-president and CFO

Orest Popovych, Ph. D., vice-president

NB: On November 28 the executive board of NTSh issued a similar statement on the elections in Ukraine in the Ukrainian language for promulgation on the Internet, to selected newspapers in Ukraine and especially to academic colleagues in Ukraine.

In addition, the society on November 26 sent a letter to Ukraine's Parliament, expressing its concern about the official results of the presidential election in Ukraine and calling on the Verkhovna Rada to review the election results and to ensure that the will of the Ukrainian people is heeded.

Prior to that, on November 23 the society penned a letter to President George W. Bush, calling upon him to intercede in defense of democracy in Ukraine by pressing the Ukrainian government to arrange "for an honest recount in the presence of international observers." That letter was eventually signed by close to 3,000 persons.

STATEMENTS REGARDING UKRAINE'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Ukrainian World Congress

Below is the Ukrainian World Congress position paper on current events in Ukraine (released November 29).

On November 21, 2004, a presidential election took place in Ukraine. According to most international observers, the process was fraught with widespread and flagrant violations and fell well below common democratic standards. Documented violations included but were not limited to fraudulent proxy voting, multiple voting, ballot box stuffing by administrative officials and electoral commission members, bribery, misuse of administrative resources, use of foreign governmental resources, threats and intimidation, voter list manipulation and vandalism.

The violations heavily favored the candidacy of current Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. Nevertheless, all exit polls, except Mr. Yanukovich's, indicated that opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko had prevailed, some by double digits. Nevertheless, the Ukrainian agency entrusted with the electoral process, the Central Election Commission, proclaimed Mr. Yanukovich the winner.

The November run-off elections were preceded by a period of intense manipulation by the president and prime minister of Ukraine, acting through various levels of government, including the Central Election Commission. Cabinet ministries essentially functioned to make the prime minister president.

The Ukrainian World Congress, acting as the central coordinating body for the Ukrainian diaspora, attempted to include relocated Ukrainian citizens abroad into the electoral process. We were confounded and ultimately manipulated in this effort by Ukraine's Ministry for Foreign Affairs, as well as the Central Election Commission. Lists of voters were compiled selectively. In those countries where it was anticipated that Mr. Yushchenko would prevail, obstacles, logistic and otherwise, were artificially imposed to maintain voter lists at a minimum. On the other hand, where the anticipated winner was Mr. Yanukovich, such as in the breakaway Republic of Moldovan Transdnister, voter lists were expanded. Complicit in these efforts were local diplomatic personnel, local election commissions and even foreign officials.

Striking examples of these incongruities are the aforesaid geographically tiny Transdnister (not more than 20 kilometers wide) and expansive Canada. In the former, the Central Election Commission created seven additional polling stations (in the final weeks prior to the primary election), whereas it formed no additional polling stations in Canada. Not surprisingly, almost 90 percent of the voters in Transdnister voted for Mr. Yanukovich and a similar percentage of the voters in Canada voted for Mr. Yushchenko. However, given geographic and registration manipulations, those percentages translated to some 20,000 votes for Mr. Yanukovich in Transdnister and less than 3,000 for Mr. Yushchenko in Canada.

Many democratic governments and international organizations have voiced their disapproval of the fraudulent vote, among them the United States of America, Canada, the European Union, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and others. No democratic foreign dignitary or international institution has recognized Mr. Yanukovich to date. Not surprisingly, only such notorious autocrats as President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Federation, President

Alyaksandr Lukashenka of Belarus, President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan and President Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan have come out in support of Mr. Yanukovich. In view of Russia's intense interference in the pre-election, electoral and post-election processes, many governments, organizations and the media have expressed their condemnation of Russia's actions.

The people of Ukraine have taken to the streets and squares in order to retrieve their subverted vote. Huge manifestations of protest over the announced election results and in support of Mr. Yushchenko have sprouted all over Ukraine. Police and military leadership and personnel, academics, businesspersons and even hundreds of Ukraine's diplomats have broken with the ruling regime and voiced their support for Mr. Yushchenko.

In solidarity with the Ukrainian people's struggle to establish, at long last, an independent and democratic Ukrainian state, Ukrainians in the diaspora on six continents, including such countries as Argentina, Australia, Canada, Mozambique, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and many others, have initiated public rallies, protests and political activism: manifesting outrage with the announced results; urging Ukrainian diplomats to join the ranks of the Ukrainian people; protesting Russia's interference; and calling upon their governments to convey to the current leadership of Ukraine disapproval of the severely tainted electoral process, suggesting a just and peaceful resolution of the crisis in accordance with Ukraine's Constitution and under international objective supervision, rebuking the president of Russia for Russia's interference in Ukraine, and issuing an unequivocal warning that any further interference will not be tolerated by the international community.

The Supreme Court of Ukraine stopped the inauguration of Mr. Yanukovich pending judicial review of the election. Ukraine's Parliament declared the election invalid. Both sides submitted to international mediation, and Mr. Yushchenko made an offer of compromise. Despite the Yushchenko campaign's calculation that more than 3 million votes were stolen, which if voided would give him victory, Mr. Yushchenko magnanimously suggested a new election, this time under OSCE supervision. This offer was declined and talks have broken off.

It is the position of the Ukrainian World Congress that the election was arrogantly and demonstrably falsified in favor of Mr. Yanukovich and that the true winner of the election is Mr. Yushchenko. Therefore, the Ukrainian World Congress recognizes Mr. Yushchenko as the president-elect of Ukraine. Furthermore, the Ukrainian World Congress congratulates all members of the current government and the diplomatic corps of Ukraine, law enforcement agencies, the military and all people of Ukraine who declared their unequivocal support for democracy and Mr. Yushchenko as Ukraine's president.

In the interest of fairness and peace, we urge Mr. Yanukovich to resign his candidacy. Barring that, given the slim gap in vote tally between the candidates as reported by the Central Election Commission, and the flagrancy of non-democratic electoral violations favoring Mr. Yanukovich, the international mediators and the courts should declare Mr. Yushchenko the clear winner,

(Continued on page 32)

World Scholarly Council

Below is the text of an open appeal to Ukrainian universities, scholarly institutions and scholars from the World Scholarly Council. The appeal was issued on November 26.

The World Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress, an umbrella organization of Ukrainian scholarly institutions in the U.S.A., Europe, Canada and Australia, declares its unequivocal support for the administration of Ukrainian universities and academic institutions, faculty and students who are courageously protesting against the massive election fraud committed against the Ukrainian nation and its people by corrupt administrative officials.

We urge Ukrainian scholars and students outside of Ukraine to continue to actively support our colleagues in Ukraine, as well as the Ukrainian people

in their fight for democracy.

We are very disturbed to learn that officials at some institutions are deliberately attempting to prevent their faculty and students through threats and intimidation from supporting Viktor Yushchenko. We strongly condemn such tactics as illegal and out of place at institutions of higher learning.

We call upon the worldwide academic community to condemn this gross manipulation of the election results and to loudly proclaim their solidarity with their Ukrainian colleagues. True academic freedom can only exist within a free and democratic society.

Lubomyr R. Wynar, Ph.D., president
Assya Humesky, Ph.D., vice-president
Arkady Zhukovsky, Ph.D., vice-president
Osyp Martyniuk, Ph.D., secretary

Ukrainian American Bar Association

The statement below was issued by the Ukrainian American Bar Association on November 24.

We, The Ukrainian American Bar Association, are a professional organization of lawyers and jurists of Ukrainian descent, whose objective for over 25 years has been to promote the rule of law in representative government throughout the world and particularly in Ukraine.

It is our strong belief that in democratic societies, governments are created by the people – for the people. Members of the Verkhovna Rada, as representatives duly elected by the people, have a solemn obligation to implement the sacred trust and mandate given them by their electorate, and to promulgate the rule of law in the land of our forefathers. Lawyers and jurists, as members of a profession dedicated to justice and fair play, are both individually and collectively morally bound in good conscience to object to clear abuses of the rule of law.

We are deeply concerned and troubled

Andrew E. Steckiwi, President

Assembly of Rusyn Intelligentsia

Below is the text of a declaration issued by Rusyn civic organizations and the Assembly of Rusyn Intelligentsia concerning the Ukrainian government's falsification of the results of presidential elections in Ukraine and the resultant tense political situation in the country. The declaration was forwarded by Prof. Paul R. Magocsi on November 30.

Throughout the entire pre-election campaign and during the elections themselves, Rusyn organizations spoke out in support of a democratic electoral process in order to choose a legitimate president for Ukraine. Despite the fact that Rusyns in Ukraine are not recognized as a distinct nationality, they cannot remain indifferent to the fate of the state in which they live and therefore they have participated actively in the electoral process.

The present government of Ukraine has done everything possible to falsify the election results. We declare that the elections did not fulfill European standards in representing the will of the country's citizens, that the falsified electoral results were intended at all costs to secure victory for the candidate of the ruling government, and that these developments have

caused destabilization throughout the state which could lead to civil war. We place full responsibility for this situation at the footsteps of the incumbent president of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma.

At the same time, the elections have proven that the candidate representing united oppositional forces, Viktor Yushchenko, is today the generally acclaimed national leader of our country. It is only the planned and massive fraud carried out by the government, with its significant impact on election results, that has prevented Yushchenko from securing a landslide electoral victory.

We demand that the Central Election Commission revise the electoral results in those regions where it is believed that the final results do not reflect the will of the people of Ukraine.

We demand from all political forces in Ukraine that they do not allow any bloodshed in the country and that they make every effort to stabilize the situation and to allow the peaceful transfer of the presidential office to the legitimately elected president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko.

We demand that the Uzhhorod City Council and the Zakarpattia Oblast Council

(Continued on page 32)

1,500 Ukrainian Americans demonstrate in D.C. for democracy in Ukraine

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – An estimated 1,500 Ukrainian Americans demonstrated in front of the Embassy of Ukraine here November 24, protesting the fraud per-



Loy Van Vleet

Rep. Sander M. Levin, who co-chairs the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, was among the speakers at the protest demonstration in front of the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington.

petrated in the recent presidential elections in Ukraine and showing their solidarity with the opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko and his backers demonstrating in Kyiv's Independence Square.

Chanting "Yushchenko" and various slogans, the crowd blocked off the street in front of the Embassy's main entrance and part of Francis Scott Key Park next to it. The demonstration also forced the police to stop traffic on part of M Street, a major artery bringing bridge traffic across the Potomac River into the capital from Virginia.

While many of the demonstrators were from the Greater Washington area, most came from out of town. There were seven busloads from Chicago, six from the New York area, and two each from Detroit and Philadelphia. Others came by car from Baltimore, Cleveland, Boston and other cities in the Northeast.

The protest program, moderated by Ukrainian Congress Committee of America President Michael Sawkiw Jr., included speeches by U.S. Repr. Sander M. Levin (D-Mich.); Mykola Melnychenko, the former major in Ukraine's security service who secretly recorded President Leonid Kuchma's compromising conversations; and representatives of the communities participating in the protest. Local Catholic and



Yaro Bihun

The 1,500 demonstrators in front of the Ukrainian Embassy building in Washington came by bus and auto from as far away as Chicago. Some, it seems, took a day off from school to do so.

Orthodox priests led the gathering in prayer.

The highlight of the event was the appearance by four Ukrainian diplomats who a day earlier signed a statement expressing their solidarity with their countrymen demonstrating in Ukraine and protesting the conduct of the presidential election. The four – Counselors Oleksandr Potiekhin, Volodymyr

Chumak and Olexandr Scherba, and Second Secretary Yuri Parkhomenko – came out of the Embassy to the cheers of the crowd and shared their feelings about the election.

Toward the end of the two-hour demonstration Ukrainian Ambassador Mykhailo Reznik invited a delegation into the Embassy for what Mr. Sawkiw

(Continued on page 23)

Protests held in Saskatchewan cities of Saskatoon and Regina

by Danylo Puderak

SASKATOON – The support for Ukrainians currently protesting the falsified presidential election results in their homeland spread to Saskatchewan's two largest cities last week.

Members of Regina's Ukrainian-Canadian community gathered at the Saskatchewan Legislative Building on Tuesday, November 23, while upwards of 100 attended a rally at Saskatoon City Hall on Wednesday, November 24. Each gathering protested the flawed presidential election in Ukraine and supported the people of Ukraine and their democratically elected president, Viktor Yushchenko.

Supporters at both locations wore orange in a show of solidarity with Mr.

Yushchenko's opposition movement. They brought Ukrainian flags and carried signs calling for democracy in Ukraine and unity among its people.

In Regina, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Myron Kowalsky met with the group and invited all for discussion and coffee. Eugene Krenosky, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Saskatchewan Provincial Council (UCC-SPC), joined the group to present the official position from the council.

Asking the speaker to pass the comments on to Saskatchewan Premier Lorne Calvert, Mr. Krenosky requested that the provincial government urge the federal government of Canada to demonstrate strong leadership nationally and interna-

(Continued on page 23)



Ukrainian Canadian demonstrators in Regina.

Hartford community gathers for meeting

by Myron Kolinsky

HARTFORD, Conn. – About 175 members of the Hartford Ukrainian American community gathered on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 24, to discuss the presidential elections in Ukraine held on Sunday, November 21, and to support Ukrainian leader Viktor Yushchenko.

The group showed its solidarity with

Ukrainian citizens gathered in Kyiv's Independence Square, who have been protesting the election results.

Some members of the Hartford community also participated in rallies at the United Nations in New York City on November 23 and 27.

These community events were reported in the November 25 and 28 editions of *The Hartford Courant* and the November 25 newscasts on WTIC Newstalk 1080.

Texas Ukrainians head for Crawford



Ukrainian Americans demonstrate in Crawford, Texas, in support of democracy for Ukraine.

by Chrystia Wynnyk-Wilson

CRAWFORD, Texas – As President George W. Bush prepared to enter the Burger Barn in Crawford, Texas, on November 26 for a lunch with his wife, his parents and mother-in-law, he was greeted by throngs of cheers from 100

Texas Ukrainian Americans from Houston, Dallas, Forth Worth, Austin and College Station, including the Rev. Vasyl Savchyn of Dallas, the Rev. Mykola Dovzhuk of Houston, several students from Ukraine studying at Texas A&M

(Continued on page 23)

Rally held in Montreal's financial district

by Simon Kouklevsky

MONTREAL – Up to 300 people gathered on November 24 in Square Victoria, located in Montreal's financial district, to show solidarity with the 1 million demonstrators in Ukraine.

Montreal demonstrators supported Viktor Yushchenko by shouting "Yushchenko – President" and many other slogans. Various people presented speeches, including Eugene Czolij, vice-president of the Ukrainian World Congress, who stated, "The Ukrainian World Congress, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and Ukrainians worldwide are manifesting to

denounce the gross illegalities committed by the current regime during the electoral campaign and on the days of the vote."

The Montreal demonstrators kept an open telephone line with Mr. Yushchenko's office in Kyiv, expressing support. People waved signs and flags. They sang Ukrainian patriotic songs, as well as the Ukrainian national anthem and recited poetry. The rally began at 8 a.m. and ended one hour later.

The mass media (both French and English) picked up on the press releases, which were sent out the previous day, and they showed up in force to cover the protest rally.

UKRAINIANS IN THE DIASPORA RALLY FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN UKRAINE

Melbourne



Eugene Stefyn

MELBOURNE, Australia – Australia's Ukrainians observed what was billed as a "Day of Solidarity with the Ukrainian Nation" on Sunday, November 28. Here they are seen on the steps of the Parliament House in Melbourne.

Houston



HOUSTON – Ukrainian Americans bearing the message "Free elections for Ukraine" gather on Tuesday, November 23, outside the office of Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R- Texas.)

United Nations



Roma Hadzewycz

UNITED NATIONS – Up to 1,000 Ukrainian Americans demonstrated during the morning and afternoon on Saturday, November 27, on Dag Hammarskjold Plaza near the United Nations for democracy in Ukraine and for a fair vote count in the country's presidential election. Mykola Melnychenko (in the photo on the right), a former security officer for President Leonid Kuchma, was among the speakers who addressed the gathering.

Philadelphia



PHILADELPHIA – Local Ukrainians on Saturday, November 27, held a noon-time solidarity rally on Independence Mall. The group also secured a permit to set up a "tent city" on the mall as a symbolic show of unity with the demonstrators in Kyiv. During the evening and early morning hours protesters held candles and chanted "Yushchenko." The protest was witnessed by many passers-by and drivers honked their horns in support.

Toronto



TORONTO – Member of Parliament Borys Wrzesnewskij addressed a demonstration of several thousand Ukrainian Canadians on Tuesday, November 23, at the Consulate General of Ukraine in Toronto. The group protested against vote fraud in Ukraine.

PEOPLE OF UKRAINE TAKE TO THE STREETS OF KYIV TO DEMAND FAIR ELECTION



Members of the Vertep Society from the Ternopil Pedagogical Institute pose for a photo outside of the Verkhovna Rada.



Two volunteers man the group registration table that is used to organize demonstrators who arrive from outside of Kyiv.

Photos in this series by Vasyly Lopukh



Students take a rest from the protests and warm themselves with hot food and tea inside the October Palace Exhibition Center adjacent to Independence Square.



Written in Ukrainian, a sign cleverly alludes to Viktor Yanukovich's Donetsk-based supporters and cordially invites them for pyrohy.



Ukrainian doctors who came from areas outside of Kyiv volunteer their expertise to aid protesters within the tent city.



A Ukrainian woman stands in a park adjacent to the Verkhovna Rada.



Two students from Kamianets Podilskyi stand guard at an entrance to the tent camp in the center of Kyiv on Independence Square.



Ukrainian Kozaks, including this man, patrol the tent city to provide security.



A Yushchenko supporter, and a fashion statement to boot.



Hundreds of thousands of protesters massed at night on Independence Square and listen to music, updates and speeches.

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International community...

(Continued from page 2)

ties and the Central Election Commission (CEC) displayed a lack of will to conduct a genuine democratic election process."

NATO's Parliamentary Assembly expressed a similarly strong view, and the Council of Europe threatened – again – to suspend Ukraine's membership if the results were not changed.

The EU, which has been largely inactive in the elections, issued a statement by Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende, stating that he doubted the official results "reflected the will of the Ukrainian electorate" (AP, November 23). This view echoed the critical statements made by the EU after the first round.

Both Germany and Britain complained publicly about the unwillingness of the authorities to respect the "will of the people" (AP, November 2). British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said the election appeared "neither free ... nor fair" (AP, November 23). British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who is a close friend of Mr. Putin, has remained silent.

The growing opposition from Ukrainian diplomats may be encouraging greater Western criticism. On November 22, four senior diplomats at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington issued a strong condemnation, and 150 other senior diplomats signed an open statement describing Mr. Yushchenko as Ukraine's new legitimate president. "We cannot remain silent and observe a situation which could call into doubt Ukraine's democratic development and destroy the efforts of many years to return our country to Europe," the statement read. Ukraine needs a leader who commands "trust" and "personal moral authority" (Reuters, November 23).

It took the Bush administration until October to begin to adopt a more critical tone toward the election. The U.S. Mission to the OSCE issued a strong condemnation after round 1. Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) was sent to Ukraine as President George W. Bush's personal representative to cover the second round. Sen. Lugar complained that round two had been marred by "widespread political intimidation and failure to give equal coverage to candidates in the media. Physical intimidation of voters and illegal use of governmental administrative and legal authorities had been evident and pervasive." Sen. Lugar stated, "A concerted and forceful program of election day fraud and abuse was enacted with either the leadership or cooperation of government authorities."

An additional statement issued by the White House urged the Ukrainian authorities to "review the conduct of the election" and not finalize the results "until investigations of organized fraud are resolved." It ended by stating, "The United States stands with the Ukrainian people in this difficult time."

A resolution submitted to the U.S. Senate by Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) encouraged the president to "consider visa bans and other targeted sanctions" against those responsible for election fraud. Between the first and second rounds of the election, the United States added two more Yanukovich allies to its visa blacklist: Procurator General Hennadii Vasyliiev and Internal Affairs Minister Mykola Bilokin (Washington Times, November 18). The oblast chairmen of Sumy and Kirovohrad, two regions where election fraud has been particularly severe, were added later.

Depending on the outcome of Ukraine's post-election crisis, other individuals could be banned from traveling to the United States, including outgoing President Leonid Kuchma, Mr. Yanukovich, most members of the presidential administration and government, as well as the majority of oblast chairmen (obozrevatel.com.ua).

Yanukovych loses...

(Continued from page 2)

Yanukovych's inauguration two days later and publish the official election results in Parliament's Holos Ukrainy and the Cabinet of Ministers' Uriadovi Kurier was thwarted by both Yushchenko's "Orange Revolution" on the streets of Kyiv and by the Supreme Court ruling that no official announcement could be made until it had investigated the numerous charges of fraud.

This left the Yanukovych camp in further paralysis and panic. One day after the CEC announced the official results, the situation in Kyiv and Ukraine began to "tip" in Mr. Yushchenko's favor. While Leonid Kuchma is still president technically, real power is increasingly moving into Mr. Yushchenko's hands.

In August 1991 leading Ukrainian officials, including then-parliamentary speaker Leonid Kravchuk, waited until the anti-Gorbachev putsch in Moscow failed before jumping ship. The same delay was happening during the current "Orange Revolution," as many individuals and state institutions waited until Thursday or Friday (November 25-26) before defecting to Mr. Yushchenko. Internal Affairs Ministry cadets and officers openly sided with Mr. Yushchenko, while the SBU and former Defense Minister Yevhen Marchuk issued statements condemning election fraud (see Marchuk on 5tv.com.ua/video). The Ministry of Defense orchestra even serenaded the sea of orange-clad protesters in Kyiv.

Mr. Yanukovych's gut instincts were always to resort to force or provoke conflicts with Mr. Yushchenko's orange crowd by transporting his own supporters to Kyiv. They began to arrive on November 24-25 and never totaled more than 15,000-20,000 (compared to Mr. Yushchenko's estimated 200,000-1 million). Mr. Yanukovych's supporters tended to be coal miners or other workers from his home base of Donetsk, who were given \$100 for expenses, free alcohol and transportation (The Times, November 27).

Dispatching Mr. Yanukovych supporters to Kyiv grossly backfired. Instead of clashing with Yushchenko supporters, some of them defected to Mr. Yushchenko's side after engaging in political discussions and being given warm clothing, food and shelter. Other Yanukovych supporters were simply awed by the size of Mr. Yushchenko's support, as local Donetsk television stations had misled them about the scale of the protests. At the November 26 roundtable negotiations brokered by Poland and the European Union, Mr. Yanukovych announced that he would send home his supporters. Mr. Yushchenko wryly pleaded for him to continue sending them, as many had defected to his ranks.

The governmental paralysis deepened during parliamentary hearings on Saturday, November 27, when the pro-presidential camp split. The stormy session voted by an unusually high constitutional majority of 307 votes (out of 450) for a resolution that did not recognize the second-round vote. The resolution was supported by key opposition groups: the dissident Center faction (which had supported Mr. Yushchenko in round 2), Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn's Agrarians, and the National Democratic Party - Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (PIE head Anatolii Kinakh also backed Mr. Yushchenko in round 2), and unaffiliated deputies.

Opposition to the resolution came from Mr. Yanukovych's regions of Ukraine, Labor Ukraine (led by Serhii Tyhypko, who formally headed the Yanukovych campaign), and the Social Democratic Party - United. Even within

these three factions, 19 out of 131 deputies backed the resolution.

The 48-hour ultimatum issued by Mr. Yushchenko at the November 26 roundtable meeting, followed one day later by the parliamentary resolution, were too much for Mr. Yanukovych. Feeling betrayed by President Kuchma and other Kyiv allies, and unable for an entire week to enter his own government building due to a blockade by the orange crowds, Mr. Yanukovych was forced to abandon Kyiv and retreat to Donetsk.

Seven days after the run-off, an extraordinary session of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) convened without the prime minister. The NSDC criticized Mr. Yushchenko's supporters for barricading state and government buildings in Kyiv. Meanwhile, Mr. Yanukovych and his eastern Ukrainian allies were criticized for separatist and autonomist agitation. President Kuchma even praised Parliament's resolution as "correct," which Mr. Yanukovych interpreted as further evidence of betrayal (Ukrainska Pravda, November 28). Even before round 2 Mr. Yanukovych had threatened Mr. Kuchma that he would become his "personal enemy" if he approved changes to the law on presidential elections adopted by Parliament on November 18 that aimed to remove potential channels for election abuse.

Mr. Yanukovych ignored the NSDC session, instead preferring an "All-Ukrainian Congress of Deputies" held in Siverodonetsk, Donetsk Oblast. Besides local council deputies from Russophone regions of eastern and southern Ukraine, the congress invited Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov to speak, in what can only be understood as gross interference in Ukraine's internal affairs. The congress was broadcast using Russian television transmitters.

The congress heard calls for a "federal southeastern republic based in Kharkiv" (Ukrainska Pravda, November 28). Mr. Yanukovych threatened to call for a referendum on this issue if Mr. Yushchenko becomes president. The 1994 elections in Donetsk included a referendum on a similar question and, like then, any such referendum today would have no legal force. Not surprisingly, as Mr. Yushchenko pointed out, the officials organizing these separatist steps are the same individuals who were most involved in election fraud.

Prime Minister Yanukovych's retreat to Donetsk also reflects his skepticism about the Supreme Court ruling being held

November 29. The Supreme Court is likely either to annul the results in the regions with rampant fraud (i.e., Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv) and then hold fresh elections, or to call for a repeat of round 2 on December 12 or 19 - a step preferred by Mr. Yushchenko. In either case, Mr. Yanukovych is likely to lose to Mr. Yushchenko by a substantial margin, as he has been discredited by the charges of election fraud.

Mr. Yanukovych is in a dilemma of his own choosing. Claims that he did not know of plans to falsify the elections on his behalf are not believable. The majori-

ty of Ukrainians, who have watched unbiased television coverage since November 25, now believe Mr. Yushchenko's charge that round 2 was plagued by election fraud.

President Kuchma is squeezed between the "Orange Revolution" and Mr. Yanukovych's wrath at being betrayed. By permitting Viktor Medvedchuk, head of the presidential administration, to undertake the dirtiest and most divisive elections in Ukraine's history, President Kuchma is now facing both a popular revolution and autonomist-separatist sentiment as he leaves office.



With deep sorrow we announce
that on Sunday, November 14, 2004 at the age of 81
our father, grandfather and great-grandfather

MICHAEL KOBYLECKYJ

born in Ostalovich, Ukraine
passed away after a short illness.

He was the beloved husband of the late Maria Paraschenko. He was also a member of OUN and the Ukrainian Liberation Front under the pseudo name "Kobza."

Funeral services were held on November 18, 2004, at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York with interment at the Holy Ghost Cemetery in Hamptonburg, N.Y.

He is survived by:

Son - Peter with wife Irene
Grandsons - Michael with wife Oksana
Stephen with wife Crystyna
Granddaughter - Lisa Doner with husband Steven
Great-grandchildren - Andriyko, Danylko, Stephanko and
Adrianna (children of Stephen and Crystyna)
Extended family in Ukraine and Canada.

The family asks for donations to be made in his memory to the building fund of the new chapel at the Ukrainian American Youth Association Resort in Ellenville, N.Y.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Greetings to the Ukrainian-American community at this historic time in Ukraine. We extend a sincere thank you to all organizations, corporations and individuals who support the Foundation for the benefit of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. At this crucial time, when the future of Ukraine is at stake, the Kyiv Mohyla Academy has played a vital role in the defense of democracy in Ukraine. Support the Academy in its significant work of providing excellence in education to the future leaders of Ukraine. It is Time to come forth!

ACTIVE PUBLIC POSITION OF KYIV MOHYLA ACADEMY STUDENTS

After the government's militia brutally attempted to carry out an illegal, warrantless search at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy on October 17, the University's administration blocked their efforts and two days later, students and professors stood shoulder to shoulder in a "life chain" that surrounded the campus of the University as a symbol of their readiness to defend their rights and freedoms. This protest action led the way to solidarity with the students of the entire country in their struggle for the defense of their civil rights.

O. Antonovych Donates 1 Million Dollars to the KMA Library

After long negotiations, the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy succeeded in securing the rights to a historic building located on its campus that had been used as a hospital in the 19th century. The building will be converted into the KMA's main Library and Information Center. Reconstruction, remodeling, and securing the ancient structure with new technology and equipment requires significant finances. The cost of reconstruction is \$1.25 Million U.S. Dollars. In addition to this sum, approximately

\$600,000 U.S. Dollars are needed for the equipment, furniture, and land improvement.

Omelian Antonovych, a well known, generous Ukrainian-American patron, donated 1 Million Dollars for the reconstruction and repair of the building. Through its private charitable foundation, the Antonovych family has supported significant projects in Ukrainian studies, publications and education. The Antonovych Foundation awarded over fifty major Ukrainian writers with grants and awards in

the last 24 years.

Reconstruction of the building has begun. A library is a university's bastion and a nation's academic treasure. The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation appeals to the Ukrainian-American community, organizations and corporations, to contribute to this most worthy project and help finance the technology, computers and land improvement needed. The financing for the building has been secured. Now let us assist with the necessary modern infrastructure.

Graduates of the Kyiv Mohyla Business School at Northwestern University

The first group of executive graduates of the Kyiv Mohyla Business School (KMBS) visited Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University on July 23 through August 8, 2004. The group included 45 young business executives of Ukrainian corporations. The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America promoted the collaboration between Northwestern Kellogg School of Management and Kyiv Mohyla Business School. Among other exchanges, the two-week seminar was the result of such efforts. A number of major corporations were involved in the exchange, such as Motorola, McDonald's, Kraft, Kohler, Harley Davidson,

Argonne, and A.T. Kearney. The joint program involved a series of presentations by a number of distinguished academic authorities in the field of management and marketing. Among them was renowned author, marketing guru and award-winning educator Philip Kotler and many others. The collaboration and visible support of Dean Depak Jain is a testament to the future potential and development of joint programs.

The culmination of the program was a one-day colloquium entitled *Strategies for Business Development in Ukraine*. Motorola, Kellogg School of Management and other major organizations sponsored the event.



Group of executive graduates of the Kyiv Mohyla Business School visit Northwestern University, Chicago

Joint Program of the Ukrainian National Association and Kyiv Mohyla Foundation

The Ukrainian National Association and the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation announced a joint charitable life insurance program on November 5, 2004 in New York. This new charitable project was established to benefit both the Kyiv Mohyla Academy and the UNA.

By enlisting for a charitable life insurance program and naming the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America as beneficiary, you can leave a legacy for the Kyiv Mohyla Academy and at the same time you can deduct your entire premium payment from your taxes. This is an excellent opportunity to invest in

the future of Ukraine. The support of excellence in education for a new generation of leaders in a democratic society in Ukraine merits our attention and support.

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Inauguration of the Kyiv Mohyla School of Public Health



Dr. Vlachoslav Brinkhovsky President NaUKMA, Dr. Susan Scrimshaw Dean of the University of Illinois School of Public Health (UIC) and Dr. Daniel Hryhorczuk Professor and Director of the Great Lakes Centers at UIC

The School of Public Health at Kyiv Mohyla Academy formally opened on August 31, 2004 in an official inauguration ceremony that took place at the Mariinskyj Palace. The Dean of the KM School of Public Health, Dr. Irena Gryga, opened the ceremonies. The Dean of the University of Illinois School of Public Health (UIC) Dr. Susan Scrimshaw and Dr. Daniel Hryhorczuk, Professor and Director of the Great Lakes Centers at UIC were featured participants among distinguished guests.

The Speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament, Volodymyr Lytvyn, delivered the principal address at the inauguration ceremony.

The schools of health of the University of Illinois at Chicago and the Kyiv Mohyla Academy successfully obtained a highly competitive grant in support of a partnership between the two institutions. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Herbst indicated to a joint U.S.-Ukrainian audience, "These academic partnership programs have the full support of the U.S. Government."



Ihor Wyslowsky, President of Kyiv Mohyla Foundation
Dr. Vlachoslav Brinkhovsky, President of NaUKMA,
Stefan Kacharaj, President of UNA

Ukrainian television...

(Continued from page 3)

the oblast chairmen of Ukraine's southeastern regions, who voiced their unconditional support for Mr. Yanukovich.

But the winds of change are now starting to blow at the third major national channel, Inter-TV, which has begun to give air time to representatives from the opposition. Yet, the pro-government bias remains in its programs, albeit not as strong as it

was only one week ago. On November 25 one of Inter's key journalists, the long-time Moscow correspondent Oleksander Lukianenko, submitted his resignation, saying that he had been tricked into hosting a TV marathon exclusively devoted to Yanukovich supporters.

(Sources: UNIAN, November 22, 26; Telekritika, November 24; Ukrainska Pravda, UT-1, November 25; 1 + 1, November 25, 28).

1,500 Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 17)

later described as "a very amicable, meaningful dialogue."

Asked if there was a freeze descending on relations between the Ukrainian American community and the Ukrainian Embassy, Mr. Sawkiw said that as yet it was not evident. "It depends on what happens," he added. "That's the reason we went into the Embassy as a delegation, to show that we are in solidarity with the Ukrainian people."

However, at least one scheduled joint event has been put on hold. The Washington Group, the country's largest

Ukrainian American professionals organization, "postponed indefinitely" an evening featuring the president of the Ukrainian Institute of America, Walter Nazarewicz, which was to have been held at the Embassy.

From the Ukrainian Embassy, the demonstrators went to the Embassy of Russia to show their displeasure with its government's meddling in the election process in Ukraine. Afterwards, a smaller group went on to the State Department, where a delegation had a meeting with an official responsible for Ukrainian affairs.

The Ukrainian Embassy was the scene of smaller protest marches earlier in the week, and on November 29 there was a small demonstration near the White House.

Protest held...

(Continued from page 17)

tionally regarding the less-than-democratic Ukrainian election.

In Saskatoon, UCC-SPC Executive Director Danylo Puderak addressed a crowd consisting of primary school, high school and university students, as well as adults, seniors and clergy. "We are gathered here today to show our solidarity with the people of Ukraine and we are here to show that Canadians support their

aspirations for a free, open and democratic society," he said.

UCC-SPC Past President Adrian Boyko came forward to urge everyone to contact their MPs in order to help expedite a peaceful resolution to the situation in Ukraine.

After a closing prayer, the singing of the national anthem of Ukraine formally concluded the rally. A full complement of local radio, television and print media was on hand to provide local, provincial and national coverage.



A view of the demonstration in Saskatoon.

Texas Ukrainians...

(Continued from page 17)

and a Ukrainian businessman visiting Austin.

The group carried a sea of Ukrainian and American flags, orange "Tak" (Yes - the Yushchenko slogan) ribbons, "Tak" Yushchenko signs, and placards bearing sincere thank-yous to President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell for their powerful statements regarding their disapproval of the fraudulent Ukrainian election results. One demonstrator held aloft a sign saying "Putin: Kyiv is NOT your new Moscow on the Dnipro."

The demonstrators were seen by President Bush, who stopped, smiled and waved to the group. The group returned

the greeting with chants of "Democracy for Ukraine."

The Ukrainian message from Crawford was seen and heard. Footage of the rally aired on CNN as part of its continuous coverage of the fraudulent Ukrainian presidential election.

The Texas Ukrainian Americans also sent a fax to the White House, which included the rally press release signed by all present and a letter thanking President Bush and Secretary Powell for their statements regarding the Ukrainian election, as well as asking the president to continue to demand democracy for Ukraine. Sen. Richard Lugar was copied on the correspondence.

On the way out of Crawford, the caravan of Ukrainian Americans sported orange yarn flying from their cars.

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Ukrainian Federal Credit Union holds grand re-opening in Watervliet



Board members, officers, staff and members in front of the newly re-opened branch office of the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union in Watervliet, near Albany, N.Y.

WATERVLIET, N.Y. – The Capital District Branch of the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union on Saturday, November 13, celebrated a grand re-opening of its local office at 1828 Third St., Watervliet. Since opening its first branch in 2001, the ethnic-based Ukrainian credit union has grown dramatically with three branches in upstate New York and a west coast branch in Sacramento, Calif.

Tamara Denysenko, CEO, said that the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union – formerly known as Rochester Ukrainian FCU as it served a Ukrainian American membership base at a single location in Rochester, N.Y., for almost 50 years, made a strategic decision to expand its operations not only for business reasons but also in response to requests from various Ukrainian American communities in other locations who did not have the benefit of a credit union focused on meeting their particular financial and community needs. That's how the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union came to establish a Capital District Branch in Watervliet.

Capital District members of the UFCU joined credit union board members, officers and employees at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday to mark the grand re-opening of the new and improved offices of the Capital District Branch.

The local community is hoping to build up its membership to a level where the credit union will provide full-time business hours and financial services. Currently, the local branch is open Tuesday through Saturday with part-time business hours varied to meet local customer needs.

Board Chairman Myron Babiuk said in a message that the success of the credit union in many ways reflects the success of the Ukrainian American community. As the local Ukrainian American community prospers so will the credit union's membership and its role as a financial institution. He stressed that the UFCU is a vital part of the Ukrainian American community, especially in recent years when a new wave of immigrants has arrived in the United States after the break-up of the former Soviet Union and the declaration of independence by Ukraine. The new wave of immigrants has provided the credit union with a rebirth and opportunity to fulfill its motto of "people helping people."

Founded in 1953 with eight members and \$335 in assets, the credit union has come a long way since its modest beginnings. Today it has over 12,500 members, and its assets exceed \$105 million. While its main base is still in the greater Rochester area, the credit union has grown geographically and has members in many parts of the country, as well as in the upstate New York cities of Syracuse, Binghamton and Watervliet and on the west coast in Sacramento.

The Capital District Branch is located in Watervliet, in the heart of one of this area's established Ukrainian neighborhoods, but serves residents of Ukrainian heritage located throughout the Capital District. The local branch opened in 2001 and currently has 300 members. The newly renovated branch offices and expanded business hours will enable the UFCU to better serve its members.

President Bush...

(Continued from page 4)

the fact that he is discussing and entertaining different ideas about how the situation can be resolved peacefully," he said.

Reporting on the deputy secretary's conversations, Mr. Boucher said that he conveyed to Prime Minister Yanukovich "our strong objections to any separatist initiatives and (urged) the government and his supporters to refrain from any use of force."

According to the State Department spokesman, Mr. Armitage spoke with Mr.

Yushchenko about the importance of continuing the "peaceful and orderly nature of the protests and to support the deliberations under way to resolve the crisis."

Mr. Boucher described the U.S. efforts in Ukraine this way: "So the United States is trying to work with the parties in Ukraine, trying to work with the Europeans as they make their efforts, and we're making our own efforts to work with people on the ground to try to encourage a peaceful outcome that respects the legal and political process under way in Ukraine and that comes to results that reflect the will of the Ukrainian people, unlike the flawed election that was held."

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Dancers celebrate...

(Continued from page 13)

at the Ukrainian Institute of America on Fifth Avenue to toast a highly successful performance. UIA President Walter Nazarewicz announced that the institute planned to publish Ms. Bohachevsky's memoirs in book form as an additional gift to the \$5,000 donation presented in September.

Ms. Lonkevych, director of the newly founded Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky Foundation of Ukrainian Dance, thanked all the dancers and backstage participants for "the fantastic show you've put on." She extended thanks also to her father, George Bohachevsky, who was present at the concert despite poor health, and to her husband, Mark Lonkevych, for their unwavering support.

"I think we put together a wonderful show; my mom would have been very proud of all of us. Today, backstage, I felt her presence everywhere that I looked. I don't think there could be any more fitting tribute to her; she devoted her entire life to dance," Ms. Lonkevych said.

Looking on proudly were Boris

Bohachevsky, the foundation's artistic advisor; Mr. Cybyk, Syzokryli artistic director; Mr. Pagan, ballet master; and Kristine Izak, artistic advisor.

Sponsored by the Self Reliance (NY) Federal Credit Union, the event was supported by the Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union in Newark, the Ukrainian National Association, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Foundation of Ukrainian Dance and a host of Ukrainian well-wishers.

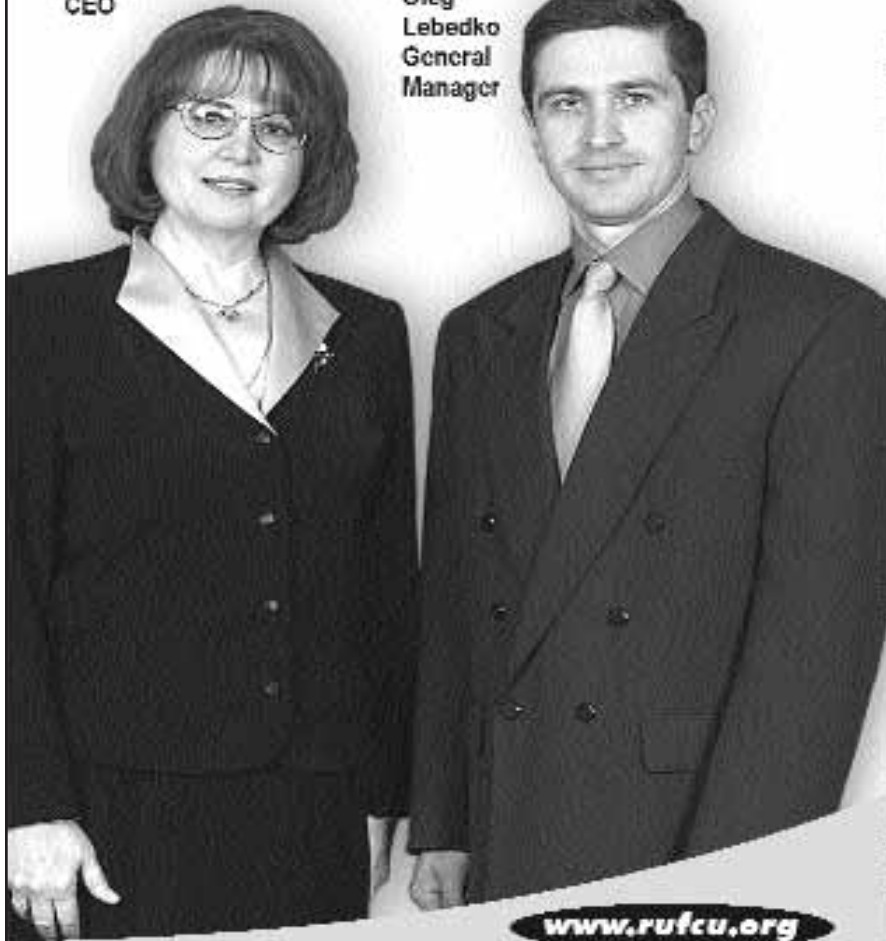
Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, who at age 14 became the youngest soloist with the Lviv State Theater of Opera and Ballet, went on to graduate with high honors from Vienna's Musik Akademie der Darstellende Kunst. Engaged as prima ballerina at the Innsbruck State Opera House, she also danced as a guest soloist with the Winnipeg Royal Ballet and the Ruth Sorrel Dance Company in Canada.

Moving to the United States in 1950, she gave a series of highly successful solo dance recitals in North America, Central America and Europe. Studies with distinguished dance masters Valentina Pereyaslavcev, Martha Graham, Katherine Dunham and José Limon influenced her choreography, leading her to weave Ukrainian dance with classical ballet and create a stylized ethnic art of dance. She opened her own dance school in 1963, staged many productions and created four full-length ballets - "Cinderella," "Fern Flower," "Dance of the Fates" and "Peer Gynt" - which played to SRO audiences in the northeast U.S. She directed dance schools in several Northeast cities, as well as dance camps and workshops at two Ukrainian resorts in the Catskill mountains, Verkhovyna and Soyuzivka, the latter owned by the Ukrainian National Association.

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Highlights...

(Continued from page 7)

"There are no individuals on this earth who are more proud of their national heritage than are our UNA members, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadians. It was, therefore, with dismay that we noted in 1984 and 1985 what we perceived as an organized and well-orchestrated attack against some leaders and activists of the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian community, because of their alleged wartime cooperation with the Nazis. ... In one book, 'American Swastika,' the UNA was being pictured as a Nazi front organization prior to and during the second world war.

"The United States [Office of Special Investigations] agreed to utilize Soviet-manufactured evidence in trials in American courts, contrary to our long-standing rules of evidence. The Ukrainian American community rose up as one in order to repel these unprovoked attacks. ...

"The Ukrainian Heritage Defense Committee was formed and funded at the 1985 annual meeting of the UNA Supreme Assembly. It immediately started planning to open a Washington, D.C., office, so that the UNA could exert some influence in similar matters of concern to Ukrainian Americans.

"... The Ukrainian Heritage Defense Committee has since its inception met monthly ... The committee at last determined to render aid to given projects intended to aid the Ukrainian cause rather than to organizations."

Source: Report of the Supreme President, Minutes of the 31st Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association (1986). The border used for this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dated 1942.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Holinaty promoted to lieutenant colonel

MANCHESTER, N.J. – Francis L. Holinaty was promoted to lieutenant colonel during a military ceremony held



Lt. Col. Francis L. Holinaty

recently in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Son of Mykola and Marion Holinaty of Manchester, N.J. and a recipient of an ROTC scholarship, he was commissioned with the rank of second lieutenant upon graduation from Rider University in 1987.

He participated in Operation Just Cause in Panama in 1989 and spent a year in the Persian Gulf during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. For his meritorious service in support of military operations against a hostile force, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

His next assignment was as a team commander searching for missing Americans from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. He led search teams to Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Korea and Japan.

Subsequently he obtained a master's degree in business management from Troy State University. He next attended the United States Army Command and General Staff College, graduating in June 2001. Deployment to Saudi Arabia followed the graduation.

Lt. Col. Holinaty is currently stationed in Fort Leavenworth with his wife and two sons.

He is a member of Branch 27 of the Ukrainian National Association.

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

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<u>Holiday Issue</u>	<u>Advertising</u>
<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>

The Weekly Svoboda	December 19	December 3
The Weekly Svoboda	December 17	December 3
The Weekly Svoboda	January 2	December 17
The Weekly Svoboda	December 31	December 17

1/16 page – \$35; 1/8 page – \$50; 1/4 page – \$100;
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Ukrainian Orthodox...

(Continued from page 8)

Yushchenko as a friend of the West and Mr. Yanukovich as a friend of Moscow. Both have, by their public statements during the campaign, proven themselves to be more broad-minded than this. Neither can we simply say after 13 years of independence that this is the battle between "good" and "evil." That battle has already been won. We must trust that God's guidance will prevail and that the voice of the people of Ukraine will ultimately be heard and responded to by all those who hold power and authority at every level of government.

As we offer Thanksgiving to God Almighty for His bountiful blessings upon the nations we serve, we call upon all the faithful of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church throughout the world to pray fervently for a just and peaceful resolution to the most significant crisis Ukraine has experienced since her declaration of independence after the collapse of the Soviet Union and to pray for the people of Ukraine – that they may remain peaceful and positive in their outlook and avoid all violence of any kind. We, who protested for 75 years about the great loss of life in Ukraine for political purposes or "principles," cannot justify physical harm or death inflicted upon anyone in this major crisis.

May God continue to grant us the grace to continue trusting in Him and His mercy as we did throughout the decades of oppression and repression, knowing that the ultimate victory of His goodness will once again prevail.

"Almighty God, all righteous and all merciful, our Father and Creator and our one Hope. Look upon your people who recognized you as the true God and who

for over 1,000 years have followed the commandments, which Prince and St. Volodymyr accepted and gave to his Ukrainian people. Your mercy has been victorious over all the historical threats to our nation's very existence.

"Cognizant of our sins and transgressions before You – both our own and those of our ancestors – we beseech you, look down upon the people of Ukraine during this time of crisis. Maintain the peace and unity of the nation in the face of injustice and dishonesty. Enable our leaders to begin a new era of openness and cooperation in the building of a society based on the rule of law and upon Your Commandments.

"Enable our people to comprehend the sanctity of life and act solely out of love for You and for one another. With a single voice, with one heart and one mind we ask this of You and in the spirit of thanksgiving we glorify You – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen."

In the Love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

- + **Wasyly, Metropolitan**, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
- + **Constantine**, Metropolitan, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and Diaspora
- + **John**, Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
- + **Antony**, Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.
- + **Vsevolod**, Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.
- + **Ioan**, Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Diaspora
- + **Yurij**, Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
- + **Jeremiah**, Bishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church, South American Eparchy

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Chicago UNWLA branch prepares Christmas tree for museum exhibit

CHICAGO – At Chicago’s museum of Science and Industry, the “Christmas Around the World Exhibit” is now open to the public. The traditional Ukrainian tree was decorated by Ukrainian National Women’s League of America Branch 85.

This branch took over the tradition in the year 2000, from Branch 22 Chairperson Lubomyra Sheremeta. Some of the members of Branch 85 remember decorating the tree as youngsters with Mrs. Sheremeta over 30 years ago.

The Ukrainian tree on exhibit this year has both traditional and contemporary ornaments. Their stylized colorful motifs are reminiscent of Ukrainian embroidery from various regions of Ukraine. Spider

webs of glitter are scattered on the tree, symbolizing luck and good fortune.

Irene Demus initiated this project within the branch and each year coordinates the actual Ukrainian tree exhibit. Christine Dziuk, Adya Liber and Natalka Mycyk were instrumental in assisting Mrs. Demus.

Ms. Dziuk coordinates the Ukrainian program performance. This year, the Blahovist choir and Hromovytsia Dance Ensemble will perform on center stage at the museum on Sunday, December 12, at 1:30 p.m. The performances are sponsored by Selfreliance Ukrainian Credit Union and The Heritage Foundation. The event is open to the public.



This year’s tree decorating team (from left): Dr. Mark Demus, Christine Dziuk, Irene Demus, Irene Stasula, Marta Charysh, Dana Pylypczak, Katrusia Saldan and Lida Marushka.

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November 24, 2004

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Christian Churches...

(Continued from page 15)

The Church has always been with the people, both in times of joy and in times of trial. Therefore, today, when Ukraine is about to choose its future, democratic or authoritarian, when a threat to the unity and even to the independence of our country is emerging, the Church is with the people.

We, as leaders of Christian Churches of Ukraine, and as citizens of our country, are troubled by the unfair course of the election campaign, and especially by massive falsification of the results of the people's will. The Church is called to bear witness to the truth, to preach love and peace and, therefore, cannot agree with injustice.

Therefore, first of all we address the faithful with the call to fasting and praying for peace in our country and for the implementation of the fair outcome of its presidential election.

We call our flock and all the people of Ukraine to defend the truth, to maintain unity and civic peace, to keep the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine, and not to allow violence.

We address government bodies, especially the ones immediately responsible

for the fair implementation of the people's will, as well as the Supreme Court and the local courts, calling them to remember their responsibility before God for how they carry out the duties entrusted to them by the people of Ukraine.

We are certain that the people of Ukraine will go through today's trials wisely and with dignity.

Truth cannot be overcome!

We bestow God's blessing on all our fellow citizens.

Patriarch Filaret, head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate;

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church;
Bishop Mykhailo Panochko, head of the All-Ukraine Union of Christians of the Evangelical Faith-Pentecostals;

Bishop Markian Trofimjak, vicar general of the Conference of Roman Catholic Bishops of Ukraine;

Senior Bishop Leonid Padun, head of the Ukrainian Christian Evangelical Church;

Bishop Viacheslav Horpynchuk, head of the Ukrainian Lutheran Church.

Ukrainian World...

(Continued from page 16)

democratic governments should recognize him as president, and the chairman of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada should hold the swearing in of Mr. Yushchenko expeditiously. Until such time the people of Ukraine, as well as Ukrainians in the diaspora need to hold forth and even intensify their efforts to ensure that the will of the people is carried out.

For the Ukrainian World Congress:

Askold S. Lozynskyj, president
Victor Pedenko, secretary general

Assembly...

(Continued from page 16)

meet in an extraordinary session to recognize immediately Viktor Yushchenko as president of Ukraine and to implement all his decrees and executive decisions.

Our Rusyn organizations call on the international community and on Rusyn organizations in other European countries and throughout the world to express their solidarity with the will of the people of Ukraine.

At this fateful moment in Ukraine's history, Rusyn civic organizations and the Assembly of Rusyn Intelligentsia call on all officials in our multinational region of Zakarpattia to unite and to give their unequivocal support to Viktor Yushchenko in order to assure Ukraine's further journey toward democracy, social progress, and prosperity.

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Kyiv's tent city...

(Continued from page 6)

Ihor said his decision to come to Kyiv was made spontaneously and even his parents didn't know at first that he had left. On arriving in the capital he called home and explained his decision to them. "They are on my side and wisely support my decision," he added.

While students dominate in the tent city, people of all ages reside there. Some spend the night as a symbolic gesture, while others have been there since the first days. When newcomers arrive in organized groups, as often happens, they create an administrative structure to coordinate the actions of their group. The tent city organizers turn to the group leaders when they organize demonstrations, whether directed at Parliament, the Presidential Administration or the Cabinet of Ministers.

Natalka, who is a student at the Lviv Commercial Academy, came to Kyiv by train in a group of 55 activists from Pora. She said that some of them have returned in order to their hometown to gather more people and bring them to the capital.

"I was surprised at Kyiv's hospitality," she said. "The only problem I have is that my mobile phone is gone." Natalka claims that she had left the phone to be recharged (which is done on a massive scale in the several building on the Khreschatyk utilized by the demonstrators) but when she returned it was gone. She was promised that those who were left responsible for recharging the phones would be found and held to answer. Serhii, the coordinator of the Lviv Pora group, said this was the first time he had heard of something being stolen.

"There were a few cases in which people lost their passports, but they were found shortly afterwards," Serhii said,

adding, "As for me, I feel so secure here that I don't even check my pockets."

Since the call went out for logistical support for the demonstrators on the second day of the action, food and medical supplies have arrived in abundance. In the first days, women would bring hot food to the edge of the tent city and offer it to the young people they found there. Other Kyivans brought spare clothing. However, when businesses got involved, the amounts and quality of the food and the items increased.

A few days ago it was forbidden to accept food from the locals in order to protect the tent city inhabitants from potentially tainted food. Now those who live here eat food prepared in military chow wagons and field kitchens under the charge of experienced cooks.

Larysa and Halyna, who work in a Ternopil regional hospital, have been working in the tent city for five days. They said that colds, coughs and the flu are the most prevalent maladies here because of the winter weather. For the last week temperatures have hovered around freezing, with snow falling almost daily. But the demonstrators have plenty of medicine and vitamins, also courtesy of commercial enterprises.

"Students from the Kyiv Medical Institute help us greatly," said Larysa. "They are intelligent kids who know how to confront the difficulties."

The one thought repeatedly heard in the tent city is that neither the intransigence and unresponsiveness of their pro-government opponents, nor the frost, the snow and the dampness will diminish the resolve, the strength and the will of these determined people.

"We feel unity. We feel that we are the nation," said Olya, a student from Ukraine who is studying at Lublin's Catholic University. "We will stay here until the end and celebrate our victory in this town."

Christmas cards to be mailed to the American-Ukrainian service people!



1st Lt. Mark Popowicz serving in Iraq.

The UNA will be mailing Christmas greetings to the American-Ukrainian service people presently serving their country in many parts of the world.

The UNA wishes to solicit your help in getting names, addresses and ranks of any Ukrainian you may know who is serving in the armed forces.

Help make this project a success. The UNA will mail Christmas and New Year's greetings to our service people by December 25, 2004.

We wish to contact all our service men and women. With your help we will reach most of them!

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Rank: _____
Address: _____

Please send the information by December 14, 2004 to:
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 UNA National Organizer – Oksana Trytjak
 2200 Route 10, PO Box 280
 Parsippany, NJ 07054
 Tel: (973) 292-9800 x 3071 e-mail: OKRYS@yahoo.com



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ELECTION WATCH

(Continued from page 2)

Father Shevchuk is one of dozens of priests of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) that have come to Ukraine's capital to provide spiritual care for the hundreds of thousands of demonstrators on Kyiv's Independence Square who are protesting what they consider to be the unfair presidential election of November 21. The administration and seminarians of Holy Spirit Seminary left Lviv for Kyiv on November 23. The same was done by UGCC seminary communities from Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Mukachiv and Drohobych. During the liturgy Father Shevchuk read the address of the Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv-Halych Metropolitanate of the UGCC regarding the current societal situation in Ukraine. The November 24 liturgy initiated what is to be a series of daily liturgies in downtown Kyiv. On the following day, priests of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church were scheduled to celebrate, followed by the clergy of other denominations. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

3,000 demonstrate in Rome

ROME – More than 3,000 people gathered in Rome's Republic Square on November 25 in support of the demand for justice in Ukraine after massive falsifications in the November 21 presidential election. The all-Italy meeting of Ukrainians of the Apennine peninsula was joined by Italians, Poles, Serbs, Macedonians, Americans and Croatians. After a common prayer service, the address of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church commenting on the situation was read. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Lavrov: Russia can mediate crisis

MOSCOW – Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on December 1 that Moscow is willing to help mediate a settlement to the escalating political crisis in Ukraine, ITAR-TASS reported. "We can provide this

assistance if we receive the corresponding request from the Ukrainian leadership and if we can help the situation remain in the channel of Ukrainian legislation," said Mr. Lavrov, who was on an official visit to Thailand. "It is our firm conviction that the situation in Ukraine should be resolved on the basis of Ukrainian laws and the procedures they envision," he said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Minister assails Europe's "interference"

MOSCOW – Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on December 1 that Europe's support for Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko has led to increased instability, RIA-Novosti reported. Speaking in Bangkok during an official visit, Mr. Lavrov said the "excessive involvement of certain European representatives in the process taking place in Ukraine has increased tension" in that country. "It was only after all these provocations" sparked talk of separatism in some Russian-speaking regions of Ukraine "that our Western colleagues began to call for restraint and necessary respect for the constitution and the laws of this country," Mr. Lavrov said. "It appears that they themselves recognize that they were a little bit hasty in trying to influence the situation from outside. We hope that they will draw the necessary lessons from this." Mr. Lavrov spoke as the European Union's foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski and State Duma Speaker Boris Gryzlov headed to Kyiv to begin a new effort to broker a resolution to the crisis. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Lavrov wants to meet with Rice

MOSCOW – Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov also said on December 1 that he would like to meet with U.S. Secretary of State-designate Condoleezza Rice as soon as possible, ITAR-TASS reported. "I think that such a meeting is necessary," Mr. Lavrov said. He added that he would be "glad to meet" with Dr. Rice even before her confirmation by the U.S. Senate if it can be arranged, but said he understands that he will likely need to wait until after her confirmation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Crisis causes run on bank deposits

KYIV – National Bank of Ukraine Acting Chairman Arsenii Yatseniuk told Reuters on November 29 that the ongoing controversy over the results of the November 21 presidential run-off in Ukraine has fueled a run on bank deposits. "We decided to satisfy everybody's needs in order to convince people that all deposits will be paid," Mr. Yatseniuk added. Earlier the same day, President Leonid Kuchma expressed his apprehension that Ukraine's financial system may collapse "like a house of cards in several days' time" because of the current political crisis. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Controls tightened on cash operations

KYIV – The National Bank of Ukraine on December 1 tightened controls on cash operations and U.S. dollar sales to prevent a banking crisis and stop capital flight out of the country in the ongoing political crisis, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. The bank limited cash U.S. dollar sales to \$1,000 a day and non-cash dollar sales to \$50,000. Withdrawals from cash machines were limited to 1,500 hrv (\$282) a day. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Zhirinovskii supporters for Yanukovich

MOSCOW – As a local leader from heavily Russian-populated eastern Ukraine prepared to address the State Duma during a special session on December 1, a group of lawmakers from Vladimir Zhirinovskii's nationalist Liberal Democratic Party (LDPR) arrived wearing blue and white scarves to show solidarity with Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Russian and international news agencies reported. "We are showing our solidarity with the majority of Ukrainian citizens who chose their president, Viktor Yanukovich," and with the deputies of the Ukrainian parliament who are supporting him, said Mr. Zhirinovskii, the LDPR leader and a deputy speaker in the Duma, according to AFP. The blue and white scarves were inscribed with the words "For Yanukovich." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Donetsk councilman appeals to Duma

DONETSK – Donetsk City Council Secretary Mykola Levchenko urged the Russian State Duma at its extraordinary session on December 1 "to toughen its positions on Ukraine" in the ongoing Ukrainian crisis. "America and Western Europe are sticking their noses into Ukraine, while Russia is afraid even to touch it with its hand," ITAR-TASS quoted Mr. Levchenko as saying at a news conference after the session. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyrgyzstan expresses concern

BISHKEK – The Foreign Ministry of Kyrgyzstan issued a statement of concern on November 30 over the tense situation that has developed in Ukraine in the wake of the bitterly disputed presidential run-off, RFE/RL's Kyrgyz Service reported. The statement called on all sides in the standoff to do everything possible to reach a compromise, use legal means to resolve outstanding issues, and preserve the country's territorial integrity. On November 25 Kyrgyz President Askar Akaev had congratulated Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich on his victory in the contested run-off. (RFE/RL Newsline)

UCU recognizes Yushchenko

LVIV – In a meeting with students, teachers and staff of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU), the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector, stated that he recognizes that Viktor Yushchenko won the second round of Ukraine's presidential election of November 21. UCU students

are among those defending the people's choice in Kyiv, among those participating in demonstrations in Lviv and praying for the triumph of truth in the presidential election. Father Gudziak spoke about this on November 22 at the university. "Today we must openly declare our position in support of what is happening in Kyiv, when for the first time since Ukraine's independence, people are actively defending their choice," he said. "We cannot be 'sheep' and 'cattle,' because we have dignity and we will protect it. Today we must ensure the spiritual dimension of the position of Ukrainians. Our actions must be coordinated, so as not to diffuse in the whirlpool of the events taking place in Ukraine today. We have already elected our president, and nobody doubts that Viktor Yushchenko is that president." The UCU community has also participated in pontifical liturgies praying for justice which took place in St. George Cathedral in Lviv, led by Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Crisis overshadows Russia-EU summit

BRUSSELS – The crisis over Ukraine's disputed presidential election cast a shadow over the European Union summit, as Moscow and Brussels failed to negotiate a "strategic partnership" agreement, Russian and international news agencies reported on November 25. "We have not reached agreement on all points," the Associated Press quoted Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende as saying after meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin. "There is still a great deal to be done." However, both said the talks proved valuable. Mr. Putin said he hopes an agreement will be reached by the next EU summit in May 2005. Mr. Balkenende said the sides could not agree on security cooperation, specifically regarding Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus and the Caucasus states. The EU wants to forge closer ties with the ex-Soviet states while Moscow is wary of an expanding Europe in its sphere of influence. Russia has complained about Europe's interference over human rights violations in Chechnya and about the treatment of Russian-speaking minorities in new EU members Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moscow envoy cites "meddling"

BRUSSELS – The Russian envoy to the European Union, Sergei Yastrzhembskii, accused the West, particularly the United States, of trying to unduly influence Ukraine's political crisis, Russian and international news agencies reported on November 27. "It's impossible not to see the direct involvement of the American Congress, individual congressmen who are spending their days and nights in Kyiv – foundations, non-governmental organizations, consultants, experts," he said in an interview on RTR television on the same day. "It's clear and obvious to everyone." Mr. Yastrzhembskii said the street protests in Ukraine have "the same signature" as those that toppled Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic and Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze, and also likened them to Poland's anti-Communist Solidarity movement in the 1980s. He accused "certain forces in the West" of attempting to use "so-called street oligarchy and street democracy" to influence the outcome of Ukraine's political crisis. "Someone wants to make citizens of states of the post-Soviet space ... think that many very serious political and electoral problems can be solved involving the crowd," Mr. Yastrzhembskii said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Duma speaker assails opposition

MOSCOW – State Duma Speaker Boris

(Continued on page 35)

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PROFESSOR LUBOMYR LUCIUK

who will speak on the topic,

Searching for Place:

What Role for the Ukrainian Diaspora?

Friday, December 10, 2004

8:00 p.m.

136 Second Avenue

New York, NY 10003

Professor Luciuk teaches political geography at the Royal Military College of Canada (Canada's "West Point") and is the Director of Research for the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, which was at the forefront of the recent campaign to revoke Walter Duranty's Pulitzer Prize. Author of over a dozen books and hundreds of articles in journals and newspapers, Prof. Luciuk will at this appearance also be autographing copies of his most recent book: *Searching for Place: Ukrainian Displaced Persons, Canada and the Migration of Memory* (2000).

ELECTION WATCH

(Continued from page 34)

Gryzlov said on November 30 that Ukraine could be headed for a violent breakup and bloodshed over its deadlocked presidential election, Russian and international news agencies reported on the same day. "The situation there is heading towards a split or towards bloodshed," he said. "I see no other way the situation could develop," he added. Mr. Gryzlov briefly participated in attempts to mediate between pro-Moscow Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and West-leaning opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko. He accused Mr. Yushchenko of fomenting unrest. "Yushchenko was expected to urge the people to clear the streets, but the opposition did not do that," Mr. Gryzlov said. "On the contrary, it's distorting the essence of negotiations." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Zyuganov weighs in

MOSCOW – Gennadii Zyuganov, leader of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, criticized members of Ukraine's parliament for passing a resolution calling the presidential elections invalid, ITAR-TASS reported on November 29. "It is not a democracy when under the pressure of an aggressive mob the parliament adopts decisions trampling upon the expression of the will of the majority of the people," Zyuganov said. Mr. Zyuganov also criticized Ukrainian Communists for endorsing a "document supporting aggressive ambitions of [Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor] Yushchenko." He added that developments in Ukraine must "be guided strictly by the letter of the law. Only the Central Election Commission, not the Parliament, has the right to determine the results of the voting." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moldova rejects vote results

CHISINAU – The Foreign Ministry of

Moldova issued a statement on November 26 that said the Ukrainian presidential election does "not meet standards [that would allow the results to be] accepted by the international community," dpa, Infotag, and Flux reported. Earlier that day, the ruling Party of Moldovan Communists (PCM) said in a statement that the rejection of the November 21 ballot by Ukrainian Communist Party First Secretary Petro Symonenko is "fully justified," according to Infotag. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Lukashenka congratulates Yanukovich

MIENSK – President Alyaksandr Lukashenka on November 23 congratulated Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich on winning the November 21 presidential run-off despite the lack of a final tally in that vote, Belarusian media reported. In a telephone conversation, both politicians reportedly expressed their firm conviction that Belarusian-Ukrainian relations will continue developing dynamically and progressively. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Parties picket Embassy in Moscow

MOSCOW – More than 200 protesters from the Yabloko party and the Union of Rightist Forces picketed the Embassy of Ukraine in Moscow in support of Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko on November 28, ITAR-TASS reported on the same day. Wearing orange scarves and waving orange flags, the symbols of Yushchenko's presidential campaign, the demonstrators chanted "We won't be overcome." A smaller group of counter demonstrators, led by the leader of the Working Russia party, Viktor Anpilov, gathered nearby to support Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. About 20 police officers kept the two groups apart. (RFE/RL Newsline)

The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America
New York Metro Area

Malanka



Saturday, January 15, 2005

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Black Tie

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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- December 23, 2004**
Jeremiah Flaherty Law Office
Christmas Party
- December 24, 2004**
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas
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Overnight Packages Available
- December 31, 2004**
New Year's Eve Celebration and
Zabava with Fata Morgana
- January 1, 2005**
New Year's Day Brunch, 10 a.m.-
1 p.m., \$14 per person
- January 6, 2005**
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas
Eve Dinner, 6 p.m., \$25 per person
Overnight Packages Available
- January 8, 2005**
UNA Employee Christmas Party
- February 4-6, 2005**
Church of Annunciation Family
Weekend, Flushing N.Y.
- February 11-13, 2005**
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- February 19-20, 2005**
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, December 6

BOSTON: The Ukrainian Students' Club of Boston College, the Slavic department at the college and the Ridna Shkola of Boston are co-sponsoring a Ukrainian Catholic liturgy to be celebrated with the following intentions: for students and their final exams; for graduate student Ihor Bilaev from Odesa who was attacked in July and is still in the hospital in a semi-comatose state; and for the students in Ukraine striking for democracy. The liturgy will be held in St. Mary's Chapel on the main campus at 7:30 p.m., to be followed by a reception with traditional Ukrainian cuisine. The liturgy and reception are open to the general public. For further information call Prof. Peter T. Woloschuk, (617) 282-8053.

Friday, December 10

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA), Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) and the UMANA New York Chapter will be hosting a benefit reception for the Wheelchair Foundation "Ukraine Project," sending new wheelchairs to the needy and disabled in Ukraine this holiday. Admission is \$100, and includes the donation of a wheelchair to a Ukrainian in need. The event will be held at the UIA, 2 E. 79th St., at 6 - 9 p.m. For more information call (212) 288-8660.

Saturday, December 11

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) invites the public to a presentation of the inaugural issue of the English-language journal Ukrainian Literature, the first periodical ever to be devoted exclusively to Ukrainian literature in English translation. Featured in the evening's program will be Dr. Maxim Tarnawsky, editor-in-chief at Ukrainian Literature and professor, department of Slavic languages and literatures, University of Toronto; as well as members of the editorial team of translators, including Mark Andryczyk, Ph.D. candidate, University of Toronto; Anatole Bilenko, member, Writers' Union of Ukraine; Uliana Pasiecznyk, editor and managing editor, Hrushesky Translation Project, Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS); and Yaryna Yakubiyak. Featured speaker at the evening will also be Marta Tarnawsky, librarian, University of Pennsylvania Law School; chair, NTSh publications committee, and author of, among other works, "Ukrainian Literature in English, 1980-1989: An Annotated Bibliography," CIUS Press (1999). The event will take place in the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

SILVER SPRING, Md.: Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, 16631 New Hampshire Ave., invites the community to its annual Christmas Bazaar to be held at the church hall at 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Sample hot Ukrainian dishes, holiday cookies, and pastries. Sale items include: handwrought Ukrainian ceramics (Opishnia and Hutsul styles), Eastern Rite rosaries, Christmas decorations and embroidery, as well as books and videos. Also offered will be tours of the Hutsul-style parish church, with reference to Ukrainian wooden church architecture, to be held at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. The Christmas Bazaar will be continued on Saturday, December 19, at the Ukrainska Shkola, Westland Middle School, 5511 Massachusetts Ave., Bethesda, Md., at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information call (410) 884-9025.

Sunday, December 12

NEW YORK: The U.S. premier of the new film by Ukrainian film director Oles Yanchuk, titled "The Company of Heroes," will be screened at 2:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian National Home, 142 Second Ave., at 2:30 p.m. The film is in Ukrainian, with English subtitles. Ticket price: \$15.

YONKERS, N.Y.: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 30 invites you to a Christmas Bazaar to be held at St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 21 Shonnard Place, at 9 a.m.-noon. Among art work featured at the bazaar will be that of Slava Gerulak, Jacques Hnizdovsky, Edward Kozak (EKO) and Lida Velezha. The bazaar offers a great opportunity to purchase unique gifts for family and friends; items for sale will include paintings, ceramics, prints, hand-painted ornaments, "didukhy," miniature jewelry cases, handmade crafts, Christmas cards and baked goods. For more information contact Olga Rudyk at (914) 762-6514.

Monday, December 13

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) will host the final lecture of the fall series, to be given by Tamara Hundorova, corresponding member, Institute of Literature, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, on the topic "Modern Ukrainian Literature as a Mirror of Popular Culture." The lecture will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. For additional information contact the institute at (617) 495-4053 or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Saturday, December 18

YONKERS, N.Y.: The U.S. premier of the new film by Ukrainian film director Oles Yanchuk, titled "The Company of Heroes," will be screened at 6 p.m. at the UAYA Home, 301 Palisade Ave. The film is in Ukrainian, with English subtitles. Ticket price: \$15.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, January 15, 2005

WASHINGTON: The Ukrainian Association of Washington invites the Ukrainian community to the Malanka Debutante Ball and Banquet, to be held at Georgetown University, Leo J. O'Donovan Building, 37th and O streets NW. Music at the black tie affair will be by Veseli Chasy. Seating is limited; tickets must be purchased in advance. Advance tickets, \$110 per person; tickets purchased after December 21, \$135 per person. Mail check for tickets to: Ukrainian Association of Washington, P.O. Box 14084, Washington, DC 20044. Fax charge order to (410) 747-1030. For more information call Sophika Nakonechny, (410) 632-1095. For information on special event room rates call (800) 228-9290.

SOMERSET, N.J.: The Committee for Aid to Ukraine, Central New Jersey Branch, invites the Ukrainian community to a Malanka, or New Year's Eve dinner/dance to be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., starting at 6:30 p.m. Music will be by the Vidlunnia orchestra. As part of the evening, there will be cocktails (cash bar), buffet dinner (Ukrainian cuisine) and a raffle. Tickets in advance: \$40 per person; \$20, students. Tickets at the door: \$45 per person; \$25, students. Proceeds to benefit students in Ukraine. For advance tickets and reservations call: D. Gecha, (908) 755-8156; the Rev. Ivan Lyszyk, (212) 873-8550, or (908) 253-0401; J. Starozhytnyk, (732) 249-1593; or M. Shulha, (908) 534-6683.

ELLENVILLE, N.Y.: Join the kick-off of Oselia SUM's 50th anniversary celebration at the New Year's Eve Ball! The celebration begins with the serving of hors d'oeuvres, followed by an extravagant buffet dinner and dancing to the music of Chornozem. To commemorate the estate's golden jubilee in 2005, complimentary champagne and soft drinks will be served throughout the night. Ticket prices for the banquet and ball: adults, \$65 per person; \$45, youth up to age 17; tickets for the ball only (after 9:30 p.m.), \$35 per person. The room price of \$60 includes brunch on New Year's Day; there is no additional charge to stay at Oselia for the rest of the weekend. For tickets and reservations call (845) 647-7230, e-mail Ellenville@CYM.org or write to: Ukrainian American Youth Association Camp, 8853 Route 209, Ellenville, NY 12428.