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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine headed for rerun of presidential run-off

Supreme Court overrules CEC

by Stephen Bandera

Special to the Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – The Supreme Court of Ukraine on December 3 overturned the Central Election Commission's decision to designate Viktor Yanukovich the winner of the presidential election in Ukraine.

The court ordered a repeat of a run-off vote election between Prime Minister Yanukovich and opposition leader Mr. Yushchenko to be held on December 26.

The decision came after five days of proceedings initiated by the Yushchenko's campaign team on November 29.

The proceedings were broadcast live on television and watched closely by Yushchenko supporters who were in their 12th day of protesting what they considered to be a fraudulent victory for Mr. Yanukovich. The Supreme Court essentially agreed with their claim.

The 21-judge panel emerged after seven hours of deliberation and presiding Justice Anatolii Yarema read the decision that satisfied four of the five points in the complaint filed by Mr. Yushchenko's legal team.

The court denied the Yushchenko team's appeal to name their candidate the winner of the presidential elections.

The highest court of the land did conclude that electoral fraud was systemic in nature – not isolated to a few incidents as suggested by the Yanukovich team.

Mr. Yushchenko's representatives challenged the results of the election in eight of the country's 27 regions.

The results in Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhia, Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Mykolaiv oblasts, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol were placed under question. According to the CEC results, Mr. Yanukovich defeated Mr. Yushchenko in these eight regions.

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Supporters of Viktor Yushchenko gathered outside the Parliament building.

Rada approves package of laws

by Stephen Bandera

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Tensions were lifted in Ukraine's political crisis on December 8 after the Verkhovna Rada overwhelmingly approved a new law on presidential elections and changes to the country's Constitution.

Supporters of presidential candidate Victor Yushchenko voted together with the pro-President Kuchma parliamentary caucuses, the Communists and the Socialists to provide 402 votes for three bills in a single package.

Outgoing president Leonid Kuchma was present in Parliament to immediately sign the laws.

Opposition MPs demanded that Mr. Kuchma be present, because they suspected he might opt to not sign the new law on presidential elections. This was the first time in over two years that President Kuchma appeared in the Verkhovna Rada.

The constitutional reforms required 300 votes, or two-thirds of the country's 450-member Parliament, to be passed.

Mr. Yushchenko's close ally, Yulia Tymoshenko, and her bloc, did not support changing the Constitution of Ukraine. The changes have been described as transforming the form of Ukraine's government from a "presidential-parliamentary" republic to a "parliamentary-presidential" one.

Parliament will approve candidates for prime minister, minister of defense and foreign affairs minister nominated by the president, and will approve other members of the Cabinet nominated by the prime minister. Under current legislation, Parliament approves the prime minister only, and the president appoints and fires members of the Cabinet of Ministers.

The amendments also extend the term of office for national deputies from four to five years, following the March 2006 parliamentary elections.

The Constitutional changes will go into effect either September 1, 2005, or January 1, 2006, with the timing dependent upon when Parliament will approve a law that will reform the country's system of local self-governance.

On December 8 that bill received preliminary approval in the Verkhovna Rada and was sent to the Constitutional Court for its consideration. Parliament will have to vote on the bill at least one more time before it becomes law.

When enacted, that law will give elected local governmental bodies a greater say in whom the Cabinet of

U.S. secretary of state defends democracy in Ukraine

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – With Russian leaders repeatedly criticizing the United States and Europe for "interfering" in the electoral process in Ukraine in order to expand their sphere of influence deeper into former Soviet territory, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell was called on to remind them about the true meaning of the "Orange Revolution" that has been driving political

events there for the past few weeks.

It came during a news conference on December 7 in Sofia, Bulgaria, where he was attending a ministerial meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

That same day in Washington, the U.S. Congress was looking into developments in Ukraine and how it could help at a hearing of the House International Relations Committee. Asked to comment on Russian President Vladimir Putin's

statement earlier in the day that the United States was playing "sphere of interest politics" in that region in the name of democracy, Secretary Powell said, "The people of Ukraine are playing democracy in the name of freedom."

"What I have been seeing on my television screen for the last several weeks are people going out into the streets in Kiev and other cities in the Ukraine saying, 'We

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ANALYSIS

Pro-Kuchma camp in Rada continues to disintegrate

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor
December 8

In the aftermath of the scandalous second round of the Ukrainian presidential election on November 21, the pro-Kuchma parliamentary majority, established originally to back up Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's "coalition government," is continuing to unravel. The disintegration is part and parcel of the gradual defection of state institutions from President Leonid Kuchma to either a neutral position or challenger Viktor Yushchenko's camp.

The pro-presidential majority has been in crisis since September, when the Agrarian Party faction, led by Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, announced that it was "suspending" its membership. This step effectively eliminated the pro-presidential camp's claim to be a "majority," as it brought their number to below 225 deputies. New defections have reduced the pro-Kuchma camp by another one-third.

On the eve of Round 1, opposition ally Yulia Tymoshenko claimed that a new parliamentary majority of 233 deputies was ready to be dispatched in the event of a Yushchenko victory (Ukrainska Pravda, October 31). After Round 2 Yuri Kostenko, another close ally of Mr. Yushchenko, claimed that this embryonic pro-Yushchenko majority had increased to 270 deputies (razom.org.ua, December 3).

This increase, Mr. Kostenko argued, was due to three factors. First, President Kuchma's "administrative pressure" on deputies to stay in line is no longer effective. Second, deputies are re-aligning their loyalties to a new president-in-waiting: Mr. Yushchenko. Third, some deputies are angry at the actions of Labor Party head and faction leader Serhii Tyhypko, who resigned as head of the Yanukovich campaign and chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine without consulting either his party or his parlia-

mentary faction.

Labor Ukraine, controlled by the Dnipropetrovsk oligarchic clan, suffered the greatest disintegration from Mr. Tyhypko's resignations. Ten deputies quit the faction, reducing it to only 16 deputies. The defectors include the head of the Labor Ukraine faction, Ihor Sharov, as well as Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk. This latter defection shows the degree to which the military has deserted President Kuchma. Two former defense ministers (Yevhen Marchuk and Valerii Radetski) have also defected to the Yushchenko camp.

The defections from Labor Ukraine were caused by the party's loss of authority ahead of the March 2006 parliamentary elections. As head of the Yanukovich camp, Mr. Tyhypko and Labor Ukraine were viewed by the public as linked to election fraud in the presidential run-off, which was severely denounced by Parliament in a resolution on November 27 and in a Supreme Court ruling six days later.

Most of the deputies who have quit Labor Ukraine remain unaffiliated. But they likely will either create a pro-Yushchenko faction or even join Our Ukraine under a Yushchenko presidency. Serhii Buriak, the founder of Brokbiznesbank, is, for example, Mr. Yushchenko's father-in-law (from his first marriage).

Many unaffiliated deputies have long cooperated with Mr. Yushchenko by maintaining a neutral position under the "protection" of Rada Chairman speaker Mr. Lytvyn. Oleksander Volkov, once Mr. Kuchma's adviser and an important strategist in the 1999 presidential elections and 2000 referendum on changing the Constitution, has long cooperated with Mr. Yushchenko. In the re-run of Round 2, set for December 26, Mr. Volkov predicts that Mr. Yanukovich's chances are "nil" (Ukrainska Pravda,

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The run-off is rescheduled, but has Yushchenko settled for a smaller prize?

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor
December 6

The December 4 Ukrainian parliamentary session should have been a second day of victory for the opposition. Instead, Viktor Yushchenko and his allies failed to obtain what they sought and Parliament voted to recess for 10 days. This means that it will reconvene only 12 days before the scheduled re-run of Round 2 of the elections on December 26. Clearly, this may put the elections in jeopardy, as Central Election Commission (CEC) officials believe that they need between 21 and 45 days to prepare (Ukrainska Pravda, December 3).

A day earlier, the Supreme Court's 21 judges had unanimously voted to annul the second round of the elections and re-

hold them within three weeks. This decision went against President Leonid Kuchma and Russian President Vladimir Putin who, meeting only one day earlier in Moscow, had both argued for a repeat of the entire election, not just the run-off. As the full election campaign is four months long, this would have meant an election day not earlier than April 2005 with Mr. Kuchma extending his time in office in the interim.

The authorities had already planned for this scenario with a new candidate waiting in the wings, Serhii Tyhypko, who resigned on November 29 from his posts as chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine and head of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's campaign. Throughout the week, oligarch Viktor Pinchuk, Mr. Kuchma's son-in-law from Dnipropetrovsk's Labor Ukraine party led by Mr. Tyhypko, had lobbied for new elections with Mr. Tyhypko as the authorities' new candidate (The New York Times, December 1; The Times, December 3). Clearly, this move signaled that the authorities had dumped Mr.

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ELECTION WATCH

PM takes leave in order to campaign

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich told Ukrainian journalists on December 6 that he is taking leave to campaign for a rerun of the November 21 presidential run-off which is to be held on December 26, the Ukrainska Pravda website (<http://www2.pravda.com.ua>) reported. "The only thing I ask the president, the Verkhovna Rada and people's deputies, is to allow the current government to work until the end of the election," Mr. Yanukovich said. Under Ukraine's Labor Code, the dismissal of a state employee is prohibited when she or he is on sick leave or vacation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma approves PM's leave

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on December 7 signed a decree allowing Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich to go on leave to campaign for the rerun presidential election on December 26, Ukrainian media reported. This effectively defies the Verkhovna Rada's vote of no confidence in Mr. Yanukovich's Cabinet on December 1. President Kuchma also appointed First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov as acting head of the Cabinet. Mr. Yanukovich has reportedly left Kyiv for his native region of Donbas to meet with voters there. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russian spin doctors leave Ukraine

MOSCOW – A team of Russian public-relations consultants and campaign strategists that worked on the presidential campaign of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich is returning to Russia as their services are reportedly no longer desired, Trud reported on December 8. "We welcome advice, but all major decisions will be made by Viktor Yanukovich and his team," Yanukovich campaign manager Taras Chornovil said, according to strana.ru on December 7. Gleb Pavlovskii and Marat Gelman headed the team. Meanwhile, Political Research Institute Director Sergei Markov, who also advised the Yanukovich presidential campaign, said that the Russian consultants are not to blame for the loss of Russian prestige in Ukraine, TV-Tsentr reported on December 6. "Russian spin doctors remain among the best in the world," he said. "We were there to prepare an election, not a revolution." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko has 56 percent support

KYIV – Fifty-six percent of those

Ukrainians who will vote in the country's December 26 presidential run-off election plan to support democratic opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko, while 40 percent plan to vote for incumbent Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, a Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Studies opinion poll shows. The Razumkov Center surveyed 2,013 respondents throughout Ukraine during the period November 25-29. In the repeat run-off mandated by the Supreme Court last Friday, 4 percent of those planning to vote will cast their ballot against both candidates. The poll's margin of error was 2 to 3 percent. During the past three weeks, the gap between Yushchenko and Yanukovich supporters has widened by 8 percent. A Razumkov opinion poll conducted two weeks before the November 21 run-off (November 3-7) showed the gap between Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich at 8 percent. Then 54 percent planned to vote for Mr. Yushchenko, while 46 percent supported Mr. Yanukovich. The current poll gives Yushchenko a 16 percent lead over Mr. Yanukovich. (Our Ukraine Update)

Putin cautions West on "meddling"

ANKARA – In his first public reaction to the Ukrainian Supreme Court's December 3 decision to nullify the second round of Ukraine's presidential election, President Vladimir Putin, at a December 6 press conference in Ankara, Turkey, told journalists that he considers Western support for the "orange revolution" in Kyiv to be "intolerable," RTR and other media reported. "One can play the role of a mediator but one must not meddle and apply pressure. Only the people of any country – and this includes Ukraine in the full sense – can decide their fate," Mr. Putin said. He suggested that Western meddling in Ukrainian affairs will create "new divisions in Europe." "I don't want, as in Germany, for us to divide Europe into westerners and easterners, into first-class and second-class people," the Russian president said. He also said that Russia is openly and correctly working with Ukraine's government. "Of course we will ... accept the will of any nation in the former Soviet space and will work with any elected leader," Mr. Putin concluded. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Putin slams Yushchenko's remarks

ANKARA – President Vladimir Putin on December 6 criticized recent comments made by Ukrainian opposition presidential candidate Viktor

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Canada to send 500 observers for December 26 run-off vote

OTTAWA – Etobicoke Center Liberal MP Borys Wrzesnewskij welcomed the December 6 announcement by Canada to send 500 election observers to the December 26 presidential election in Ukraine. This represents more than a ten-fold increase in size from its previous observer teams.

Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew and the Minister of International Cooperation, Aileen Carroll, made the announcement. This observer project is being co-ordinated with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), and a majority of the observers will be Ukrainian Canadians," explained Mr. Wrzesnewskij.

"Sending 500 official Canadian observers is unprecedented in terms of the number of people being sent and the dedication of resources," noted Mr. Wrzesnewskij. Even more importantly, however, is the leading role that Canada has taken within the international community in supporting free, transparent and democratic elections in Ukraine. Clearly Canada has not only stepped up to the plate in a very big way, it has also issued a serious challenge to our allies. The United States and the European Union each have 10 times the resources that Canada does, and they can both

afford to make a commitment of a proportionate nature. This is particularly true of the countries of the European Union; with their proximity to Ukraine, I don't see how the EU can now stand on the sidelines," stated Wrzesnewskij.

This is not the first time that Canada has taken the lead in supporting Ukraine in its quest to join the democratic community of nations. Following Ukraine's independence referendum on December 1, 1991, Canada was the first western nation to recognize the country's independence.

On September 21, Andrew Robinson, Canada's ambassador to Ukraine, spoke out on behalf of the Canadian government when he warned that "the presidential election in the country will fail to meet democratic standards."

On November 25, after an emergency debate the night before, the House of Commons passed a unanimous motion, put forward by MP Wrzesnewskij, condemning the fraudulent election, rejecting its results and warning of consequences should the situation not be remedied.

Just last week Prime Minister Paul Martin sent a strong message – the first by any Western leader – that the will of the Ukrainian people must be respected and that there must not be interference by Russia.

OSCE chief voices strong support for active OSCE role in Ukraine

SOFIA – The OSCE chairman-in-office, Bulgarian Foreign Minister Solomon Passy, on December 6 called for an active role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in helping Ukraine with the re-run of its presidential elections and asked OSCE Secretary General Jan Kubis to return to Kyiv to take part in the third round-table meeting of political leaders.

The situation in Ukraine was high on the agenda on the first day of the OSCE Ministerial Council, the annual gathering of the 55 OSCE foreign ministers, in Sofia.

There were general calls for a peaceful and democratic election in line with OSCE commitments and the need for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity to be respected was stressed.

The chairman-in-office called on OSCE participating states to provide a large team of observers for the December 26 election.

"We need to move quickly and offer support in a way that will live up to the expectations of the people of Ukraine, who want a process that they can trust," he

added. "The international community needs to work together in order to best support the democratic process in Ukraine."

Minister Passy repeated his praise for last week's Supreme Court's ruling and underlined the importance of a "made in Ukraine" solution to the crisis.

With the support of Bulgaria's OSCE Troika partners – Foreign Ministers Bernard Bot of the Netherlands and Dimitrij Rupel of Slovenia – the chairman-in-office asked Secretary General Jan Kubis to return to Kyiv today to join other international negotiators in continuing the process of dialogue designed to resolve the current impasse. This will be the secretary general's fourth visit to Ukraine in less than two weeks.

"Jan Kubis has my full support and his active involvement demonstrates the commitment of the OSCE to Ukraine," Minister Passy said.

The chairman-in-office welcomed financial pledges to support the election observation process made by a number of OSCE countries.

UWC issues statement on court ruling

Following is the text of a statement issued on December 6 by the Ukrainian World Congress.

On Friday, December 3, 2004, the Supreme Court of Ukraine voided the results of the run-off election held on November 21 and mandated that a second run-off be held within three weeks. The following day, the Central Elections Commission announced that the run-off would take place on December 26, 2004. In light of this information, irrespective of the ultimate composition of the CEC or the supervision over the second run-off, the Ukrainian World Congress calls upon all Ukrainians in the diaspora to prepare for the elections as scheduled.

According to Ukraine's Law on the Election of the President, lists of voters utilized during the run-off election will undergo corrections/additions. We urge Ukraine's citizens abroad who did not participate in either previous rounds, to communicate immediately with the election precinct nearest them, to ascertain whether they appear on the existing list. If not, we urge them to visit that precinct no later than December 18, show their passport for travel abroad and sign a statement in order to be included in the list of voters.

We encourage non-citizens of Ukraine, who are not accredited as international observers, but have the capacity to serve as such in the next round either in Ukraine or in the precincts abroad, to communicate with any of the following providing your name, surname, patronymic, address, profession, passport number, issuing country, citizenship, place of work, expertise on election mon-

itoring as well as anticipated duration of stay in Ukraine to: UWC at (416) 323-3020 or congress@look.ca; Ukrainian Congress Committee of America at (212) 228-6841 or ucca@ucca.org; Ukrainian Canadian Congress at (866) 942-4627 or ucc@ucc.ca.

The significance of these elections is overwhelming. We appeal once again to Ukrainian citizens abroad who have been included in voter lists and who will do so by December 18, 2004, to come out and vote on December 26, 2004. We urge accredited international observers to sacrifice their time once again, travel to Ukraine, in particular to locations where in the past falsification was particularly flagrant, or, at the very least, participate as observers at voting precincts abroad. Since the election has been scheduled during the holiday season, we urge our central national representations to appeal to their governments, non-governmental organizations and the media in their countries to participate notwithstanding the inconvenience.

We continue to insist that the elections must be supervised by the international community, with a CEC of new composition, elimination of wandering ballots and allowance for equal media access both to the two candidates and all voters. Finally, it is imperative that the international community ensure Russia's non-interference in the electoral process.

For the Ukrainian World Congress:
Askold Lozynskyj, president
Victor Pedenko, secretary general
Jurij Darewych, chair, Election Coordinating Committee

House Speaker Hastert comments on Ukrainian Supreme Court decision

Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, J. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) on December 3 made the following statement regarding the Ukrainian Supreme Court decision to invalidate the country's recent presidential election results. The statement was disseminated by U.S. Newswire.

The road to democracy for emerging countries is never easy as we've seen in Afghanistan, in Iraq, and most recently in Ukraine. Since the Eastern European nation declared its independence from the Soviet Union 13 years ago, Ukraine has attempted to pave a path to freedom for its people, embracing and advancing democratic values, practices and institutions.

As Americans, we must continue to support Ukraine and other emerging democracies to meet these principled goals. That's why today's decision by the Ukraine Supreme Court to hold a new election on December 26 is just, right and responsible for the people of Ukraine and their country's future.

In order for democracy to flourish, citizens must be able to exercise their votes freely, fairly and without intimidation. Hopefully, Ukraine's election in three weeks won't experience the rampant voting problems, reports of fraud and allegations of campaign corruption that marred last month's contest. Ukrainians have the right to be heard and their votes accurately counted at the ballot box.

UCCA and UCC seek volunteers to serve as election monitors

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – With the date of a third round of voting for the Ukrainian presidency likely set at December 26, two Ukrainian organizations are again asking for and sending international election observers to monitor the runoff vote.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America will again send election observers to monitor the vote throughout Ukraine. Further information on registering through UCCA can be obtained by visiting the organization's website, specifically by going to <http://ucca.org/events/obap.htm>. A follow up e-mail should then be sent to ucca@ucca.org announcing that a registration form was filled out. There is no requirement that people must be Ukrainian in order to register with the UCCA.

Also, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress urged anyone over the age of 18 who is interested in monitoring the Ukrainian election and who is a resident of any country other than Ukraine to register with them.

The UCC noted that the key role of an international observer is to monitor the election process and record evidence of violations and falsifications, if any. Election observers should expect to arrive in Ukraine about one week before the election and stay for three days after the election.

Training sessions are planned for observers before the election, and observers were urged to bring with them a video camera, digital photo camera, flashlight and a mobile phone that will work in Europe.

Monitors can expect to be posted to the oblasts of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv, Zaporizhia, Kirovohrad, Odesa, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Dnipropetrovsk, as well as Crimea.

Canadians can register as international observers by completing the forms found on the website of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, www.ucc.ca. The forms should then be sent by fax or e-mail to Ostap Skrypnyk, executive director, Ukrainian Canadian Congress; fax, (204) 947-3882; e-mail, ostap.skrypnyk@ucc.ca.

Gov. Pataki comments on Ukraine's election

Below is the text of a statement from Gov. George E. Pataki of New York issued December 3.

I'm gratified that Ukraine's Supreme Court has ruled that a new run-off presidential election should be held. Free and fair elections which reflect the will of the people

are the very basis of democracy. The people of Ukraine deserve an election based on integrity and freedom and that is why every effort must be made to ensure that each vote is counted, and that every vote counts.

I'm hopeful that freedom and democracy will help unite the Ukrainian people and ensure a just, new election.

State Department analyst discusses Ukraine's Orange Revolution

by Serhiy Bilenky

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – Gene Fishel, a senior analyst for the U.S. State Department, on Thursday, December 2, discussed the current crisis revolving around Ukraine's presidential election. Sponsored by the Ukraine Study Group (USG) of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI), the lecture attracted some 80 people: from the Harvard community, including the Harvard Law School, the Kennedy School of Government, the Harvard Divinity School and the Harvard Slavic Department; from the Ukrainian diaspora in the greater Boston area; and from news outlets, including reporters from the Providence Journal and Ukrainska Pravda.

Mr. Fishel, who has also been a HURI research associate, noted that U.S. officials had on various occasions recently offered views on the alleged fraudulent nature of Ukraine's election. In a statement on November 23, the White House said that "the U.S. government stands with the Ukrainian people in this difficult time." The following day, Secretary of State Colin Powell affirmed that the U.S. does not recognize the official results of the election.

Mr. Fishel was blunt in his observation that "the election was stolen." An artificially high turnout in the eastern regions of Donetsk and Luhansk, the unprecedented number of absentee voter certifi-

cates and home votes, and the pre-election purging of election commission officials appointed by the opposition all provided strong evidence the result was fraudulent. In Mr. Fishel's words, the inability of Ukraine's government to conduct free, fair, and transparent elections was "an act of violence upon the Ukrainian people."

In response to a question from the audience about the "worst-case scenario," Mr. Fishel said that the introduction of martial law by current President Leonid Kuchma would have the most severe repercussions for the citizens of Ukraine, as well as for its foreign relations.

As is well known, the West supports the holding of another run-off election, with increased supervision, between Viktor Yanukovich and Viktor Yushchenko. Mr. Fishel said that the U.S. government, however, does not support a particular candidate; rather the U.S. supports the democratic process.

In Mr. Fishel's view, however, Russia has made a "colossal miscalculation" in taking sides and supporting Mr. Yanukovich's candidacy. While it is true that a Yushchenko victory would give Ukraine the opportunity to strengthen its ties to the West, a Yanukovich presidency would not necessarily be in Russia's economic interests.

The current developments in Ukraine, according to Mr. Fishel, will affect both Europe and Russia in their perceptions of one another. If the Ukrainian elections proceed toward greater democracy, the



Gene Fishel speaks at Harvard.

outcome can help Russia become "a normal state" and overcome its imperial legacy.

At the same time, Ukraine's democratic revolution can broaden Europeans' perception of their borders and perhaps eventually bring Ukraine into the European Union, assuming it fulfills the strict membership requirements and that action is approved by the Ukrainian people.

In offering predictions, Mr. Fishel stated that he does not believe Mr. Yanukovich will win the presidency. He

asserted that it was highly likely that the Supreme Court of Ukraine would deem the November 21 election as fraudulent and, perhaps, would authorize a run-off election between the original two candidates. [On December 3, the day after Mr. Fishel's lecture, the Supreme Court in fact did authorize that run-off, to be held by December 26.]

According to Mr. Fishel, the Ukrainian government can best handle a revote by ensuring that its election commissions are objective, that absentee and home balloting are tightly controlled, and that the media are allowed complete freedom to observe and report on the election. Meeting these conditions would guarantee that the will of the Ukrainian people is reflected in the outcome. The price of failure would be high, he said, in that the government would have no legitimacy and that a new dividing line would appear in Europe.

Following the lecture, the audience participated in a spirited debate over issues ranging from possible inclusion of Ukraine in the European Union and in NATO to the effects of separatist tendencies in the eastern regions of the country.

Whatever the outcome, Mr. Fishel emphasized that through the non-violent protests in Kyiv and elsewhere "the Ukrainians have shown that there is a civil society in Ukraine." Expressing solidarity with the opposition party, the majority in the audience voiced their hopes that the election of Mr. Yushchenko can further promote the development of democracy in Ukraine.

Ukrainian American Coordinating Council congratulates people of Ukraine

The following statement from the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council was received on December 9.

The Ukrainian American Coordinating Council congratulates the people of Ukraine for their commitment to the legal principles they employed to resolve the potentially explosive situation facing them during the last three weeks. We are humbled by the great strength and stami-

na of the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens of all ages, religions, regions and ethnic backgrounds gathered in the Independence Square, who despite the harsh winter conditions, refused to be cheated of their right to fair, democratic elections and who rejected threats to the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

By their example, they created a role model for generations of Ukrainians everywhere, now and in the future.


Through their vigorous yet peaceful determination to defend their civil and human rights, and above all the right to live as a free nation, the people of Ukraine have demonstrated that a democratic civil society has been born and is alive and well in Ukraine.

We applaud the Supreme Court of Ukraine for resisting political pressure and exercising its constitutional duty as expected by the people. We likewise

commend the Verkhovna Rada, and especially Our Ukraine and its supporters, for the restraint which allowed them to achieve a compromise that advanced the rule of law. These historic actions demonstrate to the world that the political and legal development in Ukraine is firmly following the legacy of modern European nations.

We call upon the Ukrainian authorities and political camps to reaffirm Ukraine's commitment to these principles by holding fair, democratic and transparent elections on December 26.

For the UACC Executive Committee:
Ihor Gawdiak, president
Dr. Roman Baranowskyj, secretary



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 32nd Convention, held in 1990 in Baltimore, the fraternal organization's president, John O. Flis, spoke proudly of the UNA Washington Office in his report to the delegates. Following is an excerpt of his report.

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Attention, Students!

Throughout the year Ukrainian student clubs plan and hold activities. The Ukrainian Weekly urges students to let us and the Ukrainian community know about upcoming events.

The Weekly will be happy to help you publicize them. We will also be glad to print timely news stories about events that have already taken place. Photos also will be accepted.

MAKE YOURSELF HEARD.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Alexander V. Kolody, son of Andrew and Lucia Kolody of Highlands Ranch, Colo., (seen above at the age of two months) is a new member of UNA Branch 171. He was enrolled by his grandmother Areta O. Kolody.



Michael Anthony Inzana, 2, son of Anthony and Debra Inzana of Rochester, N.Y., is a new member of UNA Branch 367. He was enrolled by his great grandmother Kateryna Szczur.



Peter George Stromeckyj, son of George Z. and Halina A. Stromeckyj of Des Plaines, Ill., is a new member of UNA Branch 452. He was enrolled by his parents.



Dylan Leo Marfey, son of Lynn and Johan Marfey of New York, is a new member of UNA Branch 13. He was enrolled by his grandmother Dr. Anne Marfey.



Anthony Volodymyr Dmytrijuk, 2, son of Natalia Myroslava Derzko-Dmytrijuk and Dr. Andrew Dmytrijuk of Alexandria, Va., is a new member of UNA Branch 127. He was enrolled by his parents.

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This way, you'll be sure to enjoy each issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, and will keep yourself informed of all the news you need to know.

Report of the Auditing Committee of the Ukrainian National Association

The Auditing Committee, in accordance with the UNA By-Laws, on November 16-18, 2004, conducted a review of the operations of the Ukrainian National Association for the first nine months of 2004. The previous audit was conducted on May 24-27, 2004. The Auditing Committee's plan of action consisted of reviewing the implementation of resolutions of the 35th Convention of the UNA, the activity of the financial and organizing departments, UNA publications, and the administrative and financial state of the UNA resort Soyuzivka, and other matters. As a result of its review, the Auditing Committee reports the following.

1. Resolutions of the 35th Convention of the UNA

Since the last audit, the following changes occurred regarding implementation of the resolutions of the 35th Convention.

The convention authorized the Executive of the UNA to create a standing committee whose task it would be to resolve the issue of the future of Canadian membership. This committee was to present its recommendations to the Executive within two years. To date, nearly nothing has been done in this regard.

2. Financial Department

For the first nine months of 2004, the UNA's operating losses were \$135,000. For the nine months of 2004 operating income was \$867,000.

The UNA Corporate Headquarters was profitable by the sum of \$177,000 – \$3,000 more than in the previous year.

Despite the increase in the value of the Canadian dollar and the value of market investments, the deficit of Soyuzivka and UNA publications contributed to the decrease in the UNA's reserves (surplus) by \$437,000.

As of the end of September 2004, the UNA's reserves totaled \$5,860,000, while all assets totaled more than \$68 million.

The finances of the UNA were reviewed for 2003 by an independent auditing firm. The report of their audit did not contain any comments.

The state auditors of New Jersey focused attention on the matter of escheats, that is, unclaimed assets, which in accordance with the law must be transferred for safe-keeping to the state government. The UNA transferred an additional \$5,029 to the state of New Jersey and \$2,890 to Pennsylvania, as well as \$1,139 to Texas. The amounts owed to other states are being analyzed.

As a result of recommendations by the Auditing Committee that efforts be increased to collect debts for advertisements, these debts decreased within a one-year-period from \$7,660 to \$5,720. The collection of payments due continues.

3. Organizing Department

For the nine months of 2004, 255 new policies for \$5,250,000 of insurance were sold. This number includes 36 policies sold by Western Catholic Union, which works for us only in the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Florida, for the sum of \$500,000. In view of the favorable interest rate, the UNA gained 76 annuities accounts totaling \$1,429,000.

Evaluating the work of individuals, the following three persons deserve commendations: Steve Woch, who enrolled 13 new members insured for \$211,000 and sold nine annuity certificates for a sum of \$167,000; Myron Pylypiak, who enrolled 12 new members insured for \$121,000; and Christine Brodyn, who enrolled 11 new members insured for \$115,000 and sold five annuity certificates for a sum of \$108,000.

At this time we have 51 branches out of 220 that enrolled one member or none, unfortunately, during the past seven years.

4. UNA Publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly

As of the end of September 2004, the number of Svoboda subscribers was 6,239;

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UNA Auditors (from left): Yaroslav Zaviysky, Zenon Holubec and Alexander Serafyn.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A victory for the people of Ukraine

For Ukraine this was a week of celebration in the wake of the December 3 Supreme Court ruling that overturned the Central Election Commission's decision to announce Viktor Yanukovich as the winner of the country's heavily flawed presidential election. Agreeing with the claims of Viktor Yushchenko that there was massive fraud in the November 21 run-off, the Supreme Court also decided that there should be a rerun of the run-off on December 26.

The ruling was a slap in the face for President Vladimir ("What Me Meddle?") Putin, who had ridiculed the idea of a repeat run-off. Instead, the Russian president had suggested a completely new election with new candidates, the better to choose a new candidate as he and his crony, President Leonid Kuchma, were ready to dump Mr. Yanukovich for another version of the Ukrainian Lukashenka.

But the Supreme Court acted honorably and upheld the principle that a presidential candidate must have the support of "the will of the people" as expressed in an untainted election, Judge Bohdan Futey notes in this issue. "December 3, 2004, will be remembered as a day on which the rule of law and democracy in Ukraine took a 'leap forward,'" he underscores.

Five days later Ukraine witnessed more historic decisions as the Verkhovna Rada approved a package of laws that included a new law on presidential elections and amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine. That same day the Parliament approved a new Central Election Commission and gave the CEC's former chairman, Serhii Kivalov, the boot. The European Union, the Council of Europe and the United States all offered congratulations on the compromises reached on December 8, which are seen as defusing the electoral crisis in Ukraine.

Ukraine is now headed for the repeat run-off on December 26 under a new election law that has done away with several provisions in the previous law (e.g., widespread use of absentee voter certificates and home voting) that left the door wide open to fraud. Election observers both from within Ukraine and from abroad are sure to be even more vigilant as they monitor the polling on election day.

Meanwhile, Russia and its president have suffered a huge blow to their reputation as world leaders and commentators alike noted Russia's blatant interference in Ukraine and its leaders' attitude that Ukraine is somehow "theirs." New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof, who dropped in to Kyiv last week, wrote that Mr. Putin "has behaved utterly disgracefully," adding: "Mr. Putin seems to regard the Ukrainians as Russia's serfs, bound to obey the will of their master. Mr. Putin was a co-conspirator with Ukraine's outgoing president, Leonid Kuchma, to tilt the campaign and fix the election in favor of the pro-Moscow candidate, Viktor Yanukovich, whose criminal history (he served almost four years for robbery and assault as a young man) would make him a fine Putin stooge."

Mr. Kristof also criticized President George W. Bush and the White House for not speaking strongly and clearly enough in support of democracy in Ukraine and against Mr. Putin's interference, including, we might add, the Russian president's backing of election fraud. A behind-the-scenes role, we agree, is simply not enough – surely it is time for Mr. Bush himself to take a stand.

On the other hand, President Bush's outgoing secretary of state, Colin Powell, has performed admirably in his public pronouncements on the situation in Ukraine. His response to President Putin's complaints about U.S. and Western interference in Ukraine's election was to the point: "What we have seen isn't interfering in democracy. What we have seen is the international community coming together to support democracy." One of his most welcome comments referred to the concept of spheres of interest, whereby Russia believes it has a special interest, and a special role, in Ukraine and other parts of what it like to call its "near abroad." Secretary Powell stated: "Spheres of influence is a term that really is not relevant to the circumstances that we are facing today" – whether in Ukraine, Central Asia or the Caucasus, he added.

Regarding the most recent developments in Ukraine, Mr. Powell said: "...the Ukrainian people have spoken. They have made it clear that they want a rerun of the election. And their Supreme Court has said that the election should be rerun. ... And now today the Rada has put in place the legislation to do this. So this is a victory for the Ukrainian people."

Speaking that same day, Mr. Yushchenko addressed the masses on Independence Square: "Seventeen days of peaceful civic resistance brought us to final victory. We are now a different country; we finally feel ourselves to be a European nation."

And, thus, the people of Ukraine have shown their power and expressed their free will. We pray that they will be able to do so again on December 26.

Dec.
12
2002

Turning the pages back...

Precisely two years ago, The Weekly's editorial was headlined "Ukraine in Russia's thrall." The editorial noted a number of "disquieting developments in Ukraine in recent months." Following are excerpts of the editorial dated December 12, 2002.

In March President Leonid Kuchma decreed that in two years Ukraine would commemorate the anniversary of the 1654 Treaty of Pereiaslav, the ill-fated pact between Ukrainian Kozak Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky and Russian Tsar Aleksei Mykhailovich, as a result of which Ukraine became a protectorate of Muscovy. Many wondered what exactly there was to celebrate.

In June it was reported that a joint committee would be formed to review Ukrainian and Russian school textbooks ... "to objectively present Ukrainian history and Ukrainian-Russian relations in Russian textbooks and the history of Russia and Russian-Ukrainian relations in Ukrainian textbooks and to quicken the development of constructive cooperation."

Next came a new direction in foreign policy unofficially dubbed "To Europe with

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NEWS AND VIEWS

The Orange Revolution's meaning: freedom and the voice of the people

by Taras Szmagala Jr.

An older woman called a radio station in Lviv last week: "I am an invalid," she said, "living in a small village. My son is the only person who takes care of me. But he came to me yesterday, and told me he needed to leave me and go to Kyiv. He said he needed to be there for his country. I gave him my blessing." As my father and I listened to this broadcast over the Internet, the meaning of Ukraine's Orange Revolution became clearer. This isn't about the United States vs. Russia, or Bush vs. Putin. This is about freedom.

Oh, the talking heads will tell you differently. Tune into any cable news channel, or read the opinion pages of any newspaper, and you will find no end of "analysis" of the Ukrainian situation. "It's the nationalist western Ukrainians against the Russified eastern Ukrainians," some proclaim. Yet others are fixated by the seeming re-emergence of a rift between Washington and Moscow. Still others see the shadowy hand of the CIA in all of this, which, they suggest, is manipulating unsuspecting Ukrainians into supporting U.S. geopolitical goals.

Don't let them fool you. To be sure, what happens in Ukraine has profound implications for Europe, the United States and Russia alike. But the central players in this drama are not the world leaders – they are the Ukrainian people themselves. As is so often the case in situations where fundamental human rights are at stake, the people are leading, and the leaders are following.

The transformation of Ukrainian civil society over the past decade is nothing short of remarkable. Ten years ago, as an expatriate resident of Kyiv, I noticed that the most prevalent attitude among the populace was apathy. Indeed, I remember being ridiculed by one Ukrainian colleague for taking the time to stand in line at the U.S. Embassy to obtain an absentee ballot. "Why bother?" she wanted to know, "one person can't change anything." "That's the problem with you Americans," another replied, "you're just so idealistic."

I was dumfounded. After 70 years of Communist oppression, and centuries under the tsars, Ukrainians finally controlled their

Taras Szmagala Jr. of Cleveland, is a third-generation Ukrainian American attorney who practiced law in Ukraine for two years.

own destiny – but they seemed not to care. Why was this, I wondered? Could it be that, after so many years of subjugation, Ukrainians did not really want the responsibility of shaping their own future?

The Ukrainian people paid a price for their 1990s apathy. Ukraine's leadership during the past decade can only be described as both inept and corrupt. Many of the country's state-owned enterprises were not sold to qualified investors, but were given away to government cronies who used those assets to pad their Swiss bank accounts. Western investors shied away, as well, uncertain of the ever-changing legal and business climate. Rather than opportunity, the Ukrainian people were faced with yet more economic hardship.

The government also cracked down on freedom of speech. Newspapers and broadcasters who did not "toe the line" were shut down. Journalists critical of the administration were harassed, and, in one case, even beheaded. By tightening his grip on the media, President Leonid Kuchma assured himself, and his chosen successor, Viktor Yanukovich, of fawningly positive coverage reminiscent of the Soviet era.

How, then, does one explain what is happening now? Indeed, if you're one of those "talking heads" from an Ivy-league school, it's hard to explain. This unexpected and sudden transition from "passive Ukraine" to "active Ukraine" has thrown those Ph.Ds into a tizzy. Surely, George Soros or the CIA is behind this, right? Some pundits can't help but see "the fingerprints of Washington" on the orange protest signs of Ukrainian students.

But there's a simpler explanation: liberty has a long gestation period. Lech Walesa understood this. So did Mahatma Gandhi, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and those many others who led not by pushing from the top, but by harnessing the power of people when the people themselves became ready – finally ready – to assume the dignity and responsibility of leadership.

And so it was that I received the single best e-mail I have ever received. It was from my Ukrainian friend and office-mate from 10 years ago who gave me such a hard time about that absentee ballot. Writing from Ukraine immediately before the elections, she said: "Taras, I want to let you know – you were right. Every vote counts. I believe that, and my friends believe it, too." I pray that events in Ukraine prove us right.

This revolution is my own

by Yaroslav Harchun

I emigrated from Ukraine to Argentina in 1974 but, quite naturally, those fast-flowing 30 years could not change my ethnocultural orientation. Today I resent the fact that Putin, Lavrov, Kuchma & Company chose a thug as a desirable president of my motherland. They nurtured him, pampered him, provided him with funds and instructions and said: "Now go and do the dirty job for us."

I do not hesitate to use the word "thug": I heard it at an international conference of Canadian, American, British and German political scientists, cultural anthropologists and sociologists in Ottawa two weeks before the Ukrainian

Yaroslav Harchun, an emigrant from Ukraine, is a former employee of Radio Canada International.

election. The word, therefore, a legitimate scholarly definition of the phenomenon of Viktor Yanukovich.

Mr. Yanukovich spent over three years in detention for robbery, assault and who knows what else; his criminal record was smuggled to Moscow immediately after the collapse of the USSR. He was young and stupid, some apologists would say. But this kind of reasoning is rather simplistic since the jail became his university. As prime minister, today he sports a heavy golden chain around his neck and he hates neckties. My Ph.D. is in Slavic linguistics (University of Ottawa), I studied at Harvard as well, and I am quite capable of identifying people by listening to them speaking formally or casually. My verdict: Mr. Yanukovich speaks the language of the convicts when he speaks

(Continued on page 24)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“Chicken Kiev”: the sequel?

Dear Editor:

At a press conference during his state visit to Canada on November 30, President George W. Bush was asked whether he saw President Vladimir Putin's recent “warnings” about foreign pressure on Ukraine as some sort of warning toward the United States, and whether Mr. Putin had lived up to his own words.

Mr. Bush replied: “I haven't seen his comments. I'm hesitant to talk about something that I haven't seen...”

Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin followed up a more substantive response “...I absolutely agree that elections within Ukraine have got to be free from outside influence, and that includes Russia.”

It appears that Mr. Bush is reluctant to confront Russia for its meddling. In contrast, Canada and European countries have condemned Russia for its interference.

This Mr. Bush looks alarmingly similar to the previous one, the one who didn't think it was wise for Ukraine to reach for independence. What is the unambiguous position of President Bush toward Ukraine? What is the position of the U.S. government? Why? These are questions to which Ukrainian Americans should be demanding answers. In fact, they should be helping to form these positions.

Ukrainian Canadians have been successful in making sure the Canadian government has gotten the message and that the government represents our views clearly and firmly.

The purpose of my message is not to boast as a Canadian, but to encourage Americans, to mail, e-mail and phone politicians and journalists because it really can bring results. Contact them repeatedly, not just once. Republicans, in particular, should make their voices heard within their party. It has made a difference in Canada and the same can happen in the U.S. Ukraine needs a firm, intelligent stand from the U.S. government now like never before.

Eugene Cholkan
Toronto

Kuchma is no Ukrainian leader

Dear Editor:

It is obvious that Leonid Kuchma is not a Ukrainian leader. A true Ukrainian leader would not speak Russian in interviews with the media. A true Ukrainian leader would not fly to Moscow to meet with his Russian puppetmaster, Vladimir Putin. I have something to say to Mr. Putin: Vlad, the puppet show is over. The Orange Revolution has tangled your puppet strings. The mafia-run puppet theater is out of business.

Mr. Kuchma appears to be a Pavlov's dog kind of guy; Mr. Putin has him well trained. Mr. Kuchma, if you love Russia and the Russian language better than the country you have pilfered, why not just become a Russian citizen and live in Moscow? When you move, please take your mafia car-accident-causing trucks, your journalist-beheading thugs, and your special state dinner expert cooks with you. You will go down as one of the most disgraceful figures in Ukrainian history.

The will of the Ukrainian people will be met. Ukraine will no longer be known

solely for the Chernobyl disaster – it will go down in history because of the bravery, dedication and pride of Viktor Yushchenko's Orange Revolution.

Chrystia Wynnyk
Austin, Texas

Comments about Kuropas column

Dear Editor:

In his columns, Myron Kuropas frequently writes against the Jews, and I find it offensive. Let me respond to his piece “Jews for Yanukovich” in the October 31 issue (in Edmonton, I get The Ukrainian Weekly very late).

He writes: “...Jews were especially well represented in the Soviet secret police..., where their involvement was significantly larger than their percentage in the general population would suggest.” This charge has appeared more than once in Dr. Kuropas's columns. It is true that Jews were at one time overrepresented in the Soviet secret police organs, but at that time so were the Poles, Armenians and Latvians, of whose role in Soviet service Kuropas never writes.

But as of 1937-1938 Jews (and the other three nationalities) began to be eliminated from the secret police, usually violently, until few remained. In their place, Stalin began to rely more on Russians and Georgians, and the percentage of Ukrainians also rose. By February 1941 Jews made up 5 percent of the Soviet NKVD leadership and Ukrainians 15 percent. In Ukraine by January 1945 Jews made up 4 percent of the total NKGB personnel and Ukrainians 30 percent. (See: N.V. Petrov and K.V. Skorkin, “Kto rukovodil NKVD 1934-1941. Spravochnik,” ed. N.G. Okhotin and A.B. Roginskii [Moscow: Obschestvo “Memorial,” 1999], 495. Amir Weiner, “Making Sense of War: The Second World War and the Fate of the Bolshevik Revolution” [Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2001], 269 n. 101.)

As to the main point of the “Jews for Yanukovich” piece, Dr. Kuropas bases himself on a single columnist in a Baltimore Jewish newspaper to affirm that “Jews are backing the Kuchma gang.” For better information, I advise The Ukrainian Weekly readers to check out what Lily Galil writes in Haaretz (November 29): “According to sources following the election in Ukraine, most Jews supported the liberal Yushchenko. ...” Or look at The Jerusalem Post story (November 23) entitled “Ukraine's Jews Split in Vote.”

I personally am ashamed to belong to a community where anti-Semitism is so blithely tolerated in its most representative newspaper.

John-Paul Himka
Edmonton

EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions of columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own. While we welcome discussion of a columnist's opinion, pro or con, we cannot accept the charge of anti-Semitism leveled at this newspaper, as we feel it is unfounded.

For the record, the article to which the letter-writer refers was not simply an article run by a local Baltimore newspaper. In fact, the article in the Baltimore Jewish Times was based on a September 24 news release that was disseminated worldwide by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA). That release was readily available on the Internet and, thus, The Weekly's editors were able to verify its contents before publishing Dr. Myron B. Kuropas's column.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Go orange!

At last, at long last, the people of Ukraine and their friends around the world have had their day in the sun.

Never in my lifetime have I been more proud, more enthusiastic, more hopeful about my fellow Ukrainians, both here and abroad.

Thousands of Ukrainians came up to the plate and stayed there until they hit a home run. Viktor Yushchenko never wavered. And how about Yulia Tymoshenko? There's a woman with backbone! At one time or another, Ukraine's people, the Parliament, even the Supreme Court came through during Ukraine's hour of greatest need.

On this side of the Atlantic, it was those outside of our Ukrainian establishment and academic circles who led the charge. While most of us kind of lumbered along, cheering and demonstrating on the sidelines, a new generation was doing the heavy lifting. It's impossible to list all contributors to the cause but some deserve special kudos. Taras Kuzio kept the media informed with authoritative and persuasive commentary. Marko Suprun sent e-mails, organized demonstrations, and was interviewed on Fox News cable in New York. Walter Anastazievsky and Luba Magits in Minneapolis fired up their community.

Another pleasant surprise for me was the Fourth Wave. Supposedly apathetic and indifferent, they rallied their own kind, and invigorated Third Wave leaders. Not since the early 1990s has our Chicago community been so united, so focused, so supportive of each other. I want to believe that the Orange Revolution in Ukraine heralded a new era for our people, both here and abroad.

The greatest credit, however, belongs to the youth of Ukraine. Often depicted as detached and listless, Ukraine's young people proved us wrong. It was they who were fearless. It was they who responded with moral outrage at the blatant thuggery of Leonid Kuchma and Viktor Yanukovich. It was Ukraine's youths who inspired others to stand up to the power structure. Thanks to them the whole world now knows Ukraine and its people. Remember how we all thought it would take two generations before Ukraine would recover from its Soviet past? Thank God we were wrong.

We owe the youth of Ukraine many hugs and kisses for showing the world that Emperor Vladimir Putin has no clothes, that he is nothing more than a

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



Ostroh students rally in Kyiv's Independence Square. The smiling face in the middle is that of Rector Ihor Pasichnyk.

naked aggressor with the finesse of a Molotov cocktail.

As we pay homage to Ukraine's new generation of leaders, however, we need to remember that there is much that still needs doing. Even if Mr. Yushchenko is elected on December 26, the old guard will still be in place in Ukraine's Soviet-style, governmental institutions. The Soviet-minded bureaucracy will still try to hamper, obstruct, diminish the work of the new president, and this will continue to be the case until the youth of today takes its rightful place in Ukraine's governmental organs. And that, dear reader, is still a decade away.

I am especially proud of the students of the National University of Ostroh Academy. They went to Kyiv by the busload and camped out in Independence Square. They ran a daily shuttle service between Ostroh and Kyiv – a distance of some 200 miles – providing food, blankets and warm clothing for the demonstrators. Dr. Ihor Pasichnyk, their rector, fully supported his students. University rectors are approved by Kyiv and if the Orange Revolution fails, Ostroh's rector could easily lose his position and the students could be expelled. These are the kinds of risks professional educators and students face in Mr. Kuchma's Ukraine.

Ostroh is on the move. To my knowledge, it is the only university in Ukraine with a Center for the Study of the Ukrainian Diaspora. The center has sponsored one conference on this topic already, and the university edited and published the Ukrainian version of a history of the Ukrainian National Association. A brand new, state-of-the-art library is almost complete in Ostroh. The next big project is the construction of housing. As things stand now, student applications are being rejected because of space problems. Dr. Pasichnyk would like to double the university's enrollment in the next few years.

There is no doubt that the students of Ostroh performed nobly. As in the past, however, they need and deserve our support. There is still time to make a generous contribution to the university and to receive a deduction on your income tax return this year. Please show your appreciation by making your check out to: Ukrainian National Foundation/Ostroh Fund, and sending it to: Ukrainian National Foundation/Ostroh Fund, c/o Myron and Lesia Kuropas, 107 Ilehamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115-1856.

If you send a note of praise along with your check, regardless of size, I will send it to Ostroh so that they know how much we value their contributions to Ukraine's democratic movement. Go orange!

LEGAL ANALYSIS: Ukraine's Supreme Court decision

by Bohdan A. Futey

In the months leading up to the Ukrainian presidential election, grave concerns were expressed regarding whether Ukraine would move forward as a democratic nation supporting a civil society that protects individuals rights under the rule of law, or would take a "step backwards" as the Venice Commission had noted.

Problems began to surface when the Verkhovna Rada, on the eve of the presidential election, attempted to initiate political/constitutional reform. The draft laws would have allowed the Parliament

judiciary, as the third branch of government, could issue an independent and objective opinion.

The Constitutional Court compounded this problem when it issued two vastly criticized opinions upholding the constitutionality of Parliament's election of the president and allowing President Leonid Kuchma to seek a third-term in office. The Constitutional Court's actions resonated throughout and the negative public opinions which accompanied those actions were imputed to the judicial branch as a whole.

The public's skepticism was shared by the international legal community, which

them of a meaningful election.

Over the course of the last two weeks, Ukraine and the world have witnessed the "Orange Revolution." The Ukrainian people are to be applauded for rising to the occasion and exercising their constitutionally protected right of peaceful assembly to demonstrate against the stealing of an election. The people are demanding nothing more than what they are entitled to.

As the voice of the people emboldened a nation, the Verkhovna Rada took notice and responded to the credible allegations of fraud. Through brave and courageous actions, the Parliament passed a resolution that called the election results into question as not representative of the will of the people. The Parliament also passed a vote of no-confidence in the current government. As representatives of the people, Parliament attempted to ensure that the presidential election reflected the will of the people.

Despite the allegations of widespread fraud, on November 24, the Central Election Commission (CEC) nevertheless voted to declare Viktor Yanukovich, the prime minister, the winner of the run-off election against Mr. Yushchenko, the opposition candidate.

On November 25, Mr. Yushchenko's representatives immediately filed a complaint with the Supreme Court of Ukraine. The complaint alleged that the final vote tallies in forty territorial districts, 20 percent of all districts, were falsified. The complaint also focused on voter list irregularities, improper use of absentee voter certificates, certification of precinct voting where the number of votes exceeded the number of registered voters, and multiple voting.

In an initial display of authority, the Supreme Court prevented the CEC from officially certifying the final vote count until the Supreme Court issued a decision addressing Mr. Yushchenko's allegations of fraud.

Over the span of five days, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the matter of Yushchenko vs. CEC. On December 3, after deliberating for approximately seven hours, the Supreme Court issued its historic decision. In one opinion, the Supreme Court unequivocally restored the dignity of the entire judiciary and instilled hope in democracy.

The Supreme Court began by overturning the CEC's November 24 vote count. The decision to overturn the vote count was based, in part, on the CEC's failure to consider the complaints filed by Mr. Yushchenko. Further, the Supreme Court concluded that, in accordance with provisions of the Law on the Election of the President and the Constitution of Ukraine, the CEC should not be permitted to officially certify the vote because complaints before lower courts were not yet resolved. Therefore, the November 21 run-off election was for all practical purposes "invalid."

The Supreme Court then determined that the appropriate remedy to redress the violations was to order the CEC to conduct a "repeat second round" of voting in every precinct in Ukraine. The Supreme Court also ordered that the additional round of voting would need to take place within three weeks and would be limited to the two candidates who initially advanced to the run-off.

The people of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada and the Supreme Court have not only spoken, but have acted accordingly. They should be saluted for their democratic actions geared toward preserving the sacred right to vote. The significance of their actions stems from the fact that the right to vote in a democratic society is one of the most precious of all individual rights. The Constitution of Ukraine provides that the president is to be elected "by the will of the people." The United States Supreme Court also has endorsed this

proposition: "No right is more precious in a free country than that of having a choice in the election of those who make the laws under which as good citizens they must live." Voters' trust and confidence in the election process are of great importance. If citizens cannot be assured fair and honest elections, they will have no faith in other components of the political process. Social stability rests on the individual's confidence in the electoral process to function correctly in every respect.

It is now incumbent upon the executive branch to ensure that the final decision of the Supreme Court is enforced. The executive must heed the Constitution's instruction that judicial decisions are adopted by the courts in the name of Ukraine and are mandatory for execution throughout the entire territory of Ukraine." Nearly all governments enforce the decisions of their judicial systems. According to Article 11 of the Law on the Judiciary, court decisions, entered into force, are binding and must be followed by state organs, local authorities, its officials, associations and other organizations, citizens and legal entities in Ukraine.

The importance of enforcing judicial decisions cannot be overstated; it goes part and parcel with the establishment of a credible, respected and independent judiciary. Further, the establishment of the rule of law rests on the development of a system that respects and enforces judicial decisions. There would be disastrous domestic and international consequences if a decision of this magnitude were not enforced.

The three branches of government must act in concert to resolve the presidential election crisis. While the steps taken to this date are commendable, it is imperative that the December 26 repeat vote comport with applicable constitutional provisions and international democratic standards.

The practical ramifications of a presidential candidate assuming office through a tainted election, and without the support of "the will of the people," cannot be overlooked. The candidate's tenure as president would be marred by allegations of illegitimacy. The repercussions flowing from such a usurpation of power would extend beyond Ukraine's borders. The candidate's ability to govern effectively in Ukraine would be severely undermined, and the lack of international recognition could lead to isolation or, at a minimum, stifle international relations.

Such an undesirable outcome can be avoided by adhering to the constitutional safeguards already in place.

The rule of law is secured through independent courts. The Supreme Court, in Yushchenko vs. CEC, re-instituted in practice the theory of separation of powers and affirmed the judiciary's independence. The Supreme Court harnessed its strengths and seized upon the judiciary's true potential. The judges fulfilled their constitutional mandate by placing the rule of law above any individual or political interests.

Simply put, the judges will be afforded respect because they respected themselves. Putting aside the substance of its decision, the example the Supreme Court has set for Ukraine's judiciary will have far-reaching implications. The theory of separation of powers no longer exists as merely a principle; rather, the day has come where the judicial branch is in application a co-equal and independent branch of government.

The Supreme Court should be congratulated. It seized upon the unique opportunity in Yushchenko vs. CEC to shape the law and the legal system in the same manner that the United States Supreme Court did in Marbury vs. Madison 200 years ago. December 3, 2004, will be remembered as a day on which the rule of law and democracy in Ukraine took a "leap forward."

December 3, 2004, will be remembered as a day on which the rule of law and democracy in Ukraine took a "leap forward."

to elect the president and would have shifted a significant portion of the president's power to the prime minister.

Prior to voting on the measures, Parliament was required to obtain an opinion from the Constitutional Court of Ukraine certifying the draft laws' conformity with the Constitution of Ukraine. The judiciary, however, did not command respect from either the citizens of Ukraine or the other branches of government.

Surveys conducted in 2002 showed a deterioration of public confidence in the judiciary. It was unclear whether the

doubted whether the judiciary was capable of efficiently and impartially resolving the inevitable presidential election disputes. The shortcomings of adjudicating election disputes following the 1998 and 2002 parliamentary elections were not corrected. Important issues concerning jurisdiction and venue remained unresolved. The election of the mayor of Odesa in 1998 and the election of the mayor of Mukachiv in 2003 are two well-known examples of courts in different oblasts invalidating election results outside their geographic territories.

Against this backdrop, supporters of democracy and the rule of law had difficulty maintaining a positive outlook as the presidential election approached. Nevertheless, the October 31 Presidential election and November 21 run-off took place as scheduled. Both rounds, however, were marred by allegations of massive fraud. In particular, international monitoring organizations noted serious deficiencies in the election process: many countries, including the United States, likewise questioned the election results.

In response to these allegations, the Ukrainian people stood up for the right to have their vote counted. The Ukrainian people could not remain silent as certain segments of the political establishment doctored the election results and deprived

Bohdan A. Futey is a judge on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, and has been active in various rule of law and democratization programs in Ukraine since 1991. He served as an advisor to the Working Group on Ukraine's Constitution, adopted June 28, 1996. This article was written on December 6 expressly for The Ukrainian Weekly.

Judge Futey served as an official election observer for the International Republican Institute (IRI) during the first two rounds of the Ukrainian presidential election and will return for the repeat second round scheduled for December 26.

NEWSBRIEFS

Rada votes for troop withdrawal

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on December 3 passed a resolution authorizing the pullout of the Ukrainian military contingent from Iraq, Ukrainian media reported. The resolution was backed by 257 deputies. To become law, it must be signed by President Leonid Kuchma. The withdrawal of Ukrainian troops from Iraq is one of opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko's election promises. It is noteworthy that just 24 out of 100 deputies of Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine parliamentary caucus voted for the resolution, which was supported primarily by deputies from the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and pro-Kuchma groups. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Prices frozen on household commodities

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on December 3 passed a resolution intended to prevent a financial crisis and a "further reduction of cash settlements between enterprises and the state budget" in Ukraine, UNIAN reported. The resolution was backed by 385 deputies. It obliges the government to freeze prices for household appliances at the level of those standing on November 30. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Record grain harvest reported

KYIV – Ukraine harvested 45 million tons of grain in 2004, which is the country's highest grain crop since independence, Ukrainian news agencies reported on November 17, Farm Workers Day in Ukraine. Authorities organized a gala concert the same day that served as a platform for outgoing President Leonid Kuchma to once again endorse Prime Minister Yanukovich's presidential bid. Kuchma, who was presented a wheat sheaf by a child in national dress at the concert, handed the sheaf to Yanukovich. "I want this sheaf to be safeguarded by a reliable pair of hands," Reuters quoted Kuchma as saying. "I am therefore turning it over to the prime minister." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada overrides president's veto

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on November 18 overrode President Leonid Kuchma's veto of a law to extend a moratorium on the sale of farmland by individuals and legal entities in Ukraine from January 1, 2005, to January 1, 2008, UNIAN reported. Three hundred ten of the 437 deputies registered for the session voted to override the veto. (RFE/RL Newsline)

FOR THE RECORD

Sen. Richard Lugar's statement at hearing on Ukraine's election

U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Richard Lugar gave the following testimony at the U.S. House International Relations Committee hearing on Ukraine on December 7.

I had the honor of being President [George W.] Bush's personal representative for the November 21 presidential runoff election in Ukraine. As I approached this responsibility, I noted publicly that I was not an advocate of either candidate in the election. My focus was to stress free and fair election procedures that would strengthen worldwide respect for the legitimacy of the winning candidate.

The campaign for president in Ukraine had already been marked 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 persistent.

President Bush wrote in a letter which I carried to President [Leonid] Kuchma: "You play a central role in ensuring that Ukraine's election is democratic and free of fraud and manipulation. A tarnished election, however, will lead us to review our relations with Ukraine." In thoughtful and careful representation of President Bush's words, I visited with President Kuchma and both candidates, with explicit requests for them to terminate any further campaign violations. I stated that I had come to celebrate the building of strong democratic institutions in Ukraine.

Unfortunately, a nationwide celebration of democratic election procedures at that point, was not to be. The government of President Kuchma allowed, or aided and abetted, wholesale fraud and abuse that changed the results of the

election. It is clear that Prime Minister [Viktor] Yanukovich did not win this election despite erroneous election announcements and calls of congratulations from Moscow.

In 1986, I witnessed a democratic and diplomatic challenge in the Philippines. There, too, I served as co-chairman, with Congressman Jack Murtha, of an observer group appointed by President Ronald

The United States must be at the forefront of international efforts to secure individual freedom. Democracy must be at the core of our foreign policy. We must be prepared to play an active role in ensuring that democracy and basic freedoms are promoted and preserved around the world.

Reagan. The parallels between the Philippine experience of 1986 and Ukraine today are interesting. President [Ferdinand] Marcos called a snap election and Corazon Aquino, the widow of an assassinated opposition leader, challenged Marcos. While Marcos attempted to steal the election through fraud and abuse, the overwhelming support for Aquino led the government to falsify the vote count. Tens of thousands of Filipinos poured into the streets of Manila in support of Aquino. The international community was shocked by the enormity of the fraud and the popular EDSA revolution. Ultimately, the will of the people brought change and President Marcos' efforts to subvert freedoms failed.

Democracy in U.S. foreign policy

President Bush has expressed his unequivocal support for democracy

around the world. He has said: "I simply do not agree with those who either say overtly or believe that certain societies cannot be free. It's just not part of my thinking." I agree with the President.

The United States must be at the forefront of international efforts to secure individual freedom. Democracy must be at the core of our foreign policy. We must be prepared to play an active role in

ensuring that democracy and basic freedoms are promoted and preserved around the world.

An election on December 26 that is free and fair will be a tribute to Ukraine's maturing democracy and will place Ukraine on a path to join the community of European democracies. A secure and democratic Ukraine is in the national security interests of the United States, NATO, the European Union, and Russia. A fraudulent and illegal election would leave Ukraine crippled. The new president would lack legitimacy with the Ukrainian people and the international community.

The U.S. Secretary of Defense Don Rumsfeld, the Deputy Secretary of State Rich Armitage, former Secretaries of State Madeleine Albright and Henry Kissinger, and Congressional leaders have visited, written and called

Ukrainian leaders to advocate a free and fair election process. Secretary of State Colin Powell's leadership and the outstanding efforts of our ambassador, John Herbst, have left no doubt of the impact an illegitimate election will have on the future of Ukraine and our relationship.

With the stakes so high, I applaud the thousands of election observers who were sent by the U.S. and European states through organizations such as the National Endowment for Democracy, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations. Most importantly, over 10,000 citizens of Ukraine were organized by the Committee of Voters of Ukraine to carefully observe individual polling stations. These observers outlined an extensive list of serious procedural violations including:

- illegal expulsions of opposition members of election commissions;
- inaccurate voter lists;
- evidence of students, government employees and private sector workers being forced by their deans and supervisors to vote for one candidate over another;
- busloads of people voting more than once with absentee ballots;
- representatives of the media being beaten and their equipment stolen or destroyed; and
- suspiciously large use of mobile voting.

Even in the face of these attempts to end any hope of a free and fair election, I was inspired by the willingness and courage of so many citizens of Ukraine to demonstrate their passion for free expression and the building of a truly democratic Ukraine. As corrupt authorities tried to disrupt, frighten and intimidate citizens,

(Continued on page 21)

Rep. Henry Hyde's remarks at hearing on Ukraine's next steps

Below is the statement of Henry Hyde, chairman of the House Committee on International Relations Committee, delivered at the hearing on "Ukraine's Election: Next Steps" on Tuesday, December 7.

Although far away and unfamiliar to most Americans, Ukraine is presently host to a dramatic struggle between the past and the future, between liberty and oppression. It is a struggle for the future of one of the largest countries in Europe, one which has been reborn after centuries of oppression, including the deliberate engineering by the Soviet regime of an artificial Famine in the 1930s that killed more than 5 million people in an attempt to destroy the Ukrainian nation once and for all.

This contest is being played out in the ongoing election for the next president of Ukraine. But the stakes extend far beyond Ukraine itself and embrace the security of the European continent and, by extension, that of the United States.

Since before recorded history, Europe has suffered repeated invasion from the East. Over the past three centuries, first the Russian, and then the Soviet, empires subjugated much of Europe and posed a waiting, permanent threat to the rest. By 1945 Soviet armies were massed in the heart of the continent, having overrun Central and Eastern Europe and poised to conquer the rest. It was this overwhelming threat that necessitated the historic guarantee of Europe's security by the

United States and brought about the formation of NATO.

With the collapse of the Soviet empire, its menace disappeared as well. But we have too quickly and mistakenly become used to the idea of permanent peace. There is no guarantee that a similar threat from the still-unsettled East can never be reconstituted – no guarantee, that is, except for an independent Ukraine.

Without Ukraine's 50 million people and extensive resources, and denied access to a strategically situated territory larger than that of France, no would-be imperial power could easily assemble a threat to Europe. An independent Ukraine allied to the West, then, is the key to security in the East.

Freed from the Soviet empire for only 13 years, and ruled by remnants of that regime, Ukraine is being pulled in opposite directions – toward integration with the West or toward a closer relationship with and increasing dependence on Russia. The former would secure Ukraine's independence; the latter is a road leading perhaps to a progressive loss of autonomy and potential subjugation by some new overlord.

These two positions are given form by the two candidates for president. As all the world is aware, the election was so compromised by open fraud that Ukraine's population took to the streets, determined to preserve their newfound liberties and prevent the installation of an illegitimate regime. Given that resistance and near-universal condemnation by the

international community, the once all-powerful government has been forced to admit that the election it presided over was fraudulent. A new run-off may soon be scheduled for December 26.

I focus on the need for an independent Ukraine but also stress the importance of democracy. Why is the latter important? Because if Ukraine's independence is to be made secure, it must be fully integrated into, and protected by, the West and its institutions. I do not know what the

would be the Russian people. For centuries, the greatest enemy of those promoting democracy and freedom in Russia has come from its leaders' pursuit of empire, a goal that required autocratic rule and a massive military establishment to accomplish. Without the prospect of dominating Ukraine, the Russian people will at last be liberated from their leaders' vision of an empire in Europe, one that has been instrumental in justifying their long centuries of oppression.

With Ukraine's democratization and its integration into NATO, we will have achieved the last great piece remaining in our effort to liberate and secure Europe that began on those beaches so long ago.

European Union may do toward this end, but I believe that Ukraine's independence can only be guaranteed by its becoming a full member of NATO. And it can become a member of NATO only if it has become a true democracy.

Full membership may not be possible in the immediate future, but many of its benefits can be harvested by making our commitment clear now. Given that Russia is usually cited as the principal threat to Ukraine, it may surprise many to hear that among the greatest beneficiaries of a guarantee of Ukraine's independence

On June 6, 1944, American and Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy to begin the liberation of Europe. It did not end in 1945. We have steadily advanced in that mission for over half a century, first freeing and transforming Western Europe and then embracing the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. With Ukraine's democratization and its integration into NATO, we will have achieved the last great piece remaining in our effort to liberate and secure Europe that began on those beaches so long ago.

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CCRF raises hope for newborns at Chernihiv maternity hospital



U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John E. Herbst and his wife Nadezda, at a fund-raiser at their private residence to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund's work in Ukraine, with Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, president of CCRF.

by Ruslan Tracz

KYIV – The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund celebrated its 15th anniversary on October 16, raising funds to purchase and deliver a neonatal respirator and an infant warmer to the Chernihiv City Maternity Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

In addition to the equipment, essential technical and medical training of neonatologists and hospital engineers is being provided by Volodia Mitin, the director of NZ Techno.

"It is very comforting to work with progressive-minded physicians who are not afraid to admit to the need of advancing of training in their department, which immediately elevates the quality of healthcare in their NICU," said CCRF President Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky.

The fund-raiser, hosted by American Ambassador John Herbst and his wife, Nadezda, celebrated the gift of hope for the infants, children and parents of Ukraine. Hope, or "nadia," was the central theme of the evening.

"The results speak for themselves – the infusion of essential life-saving equipment and physicians' training always results in a decrease of infant mortality in the intensive care unit," stated

ed Olena Welhasch.

The evening included a silent auction of 15 works of art – including works by such renowned Ukrainian artists as Yuriy Khymych and Serhiy Savechenko. The auction also included a stunning ring that was anonymously donated and went for \$1,500.

"There were 110 guests at the fund-raiser, and our goal was to raise over \$20,000 in order to purchase the equipment. Unfortunately, we were \$3,000 short of reaching our goal," explained Ms. Welhasch. Nonetheless, she called the fund-raiser a success.

Among those in attendance were: U.S. Rep. John Conlan and his wife, Julia; Ukrainian actor Ostap Stupka, who also acted as one of the masters of ceremonies for the evening; and CCRF's president and co-founder, Dr. Matkiwsky.

In addition to the new equipment for the NICU, the CCRF will soon launch another sea shipment, with over \$500,000 worth of materials destined for hospitals in Chernihiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Lutsk, Lviv, Odesa, Rivne and the Znamianka orphanage.

Over the last 15 years CCRF has established nine neonatal intensive care units and delivered 1,300 tons of humanitarian aid in Ukraine.



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CCRF's 15th anniversary convention draws participants from U.S., Canada, England and Ukraine

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – During the weekend of November 19-21, the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund celebrated the 15th anniversary of its first medical shipment to Ukraine with a national convention in at the Ramada Conference Center in East Hanover, N.J. At its peak, the convention drew over 200 delegates, medical experts and supporters from 12 states.

CCRF President and co-founder Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky opened the convention with a quote from the great anthropologist Margaret Meade: "Never underestimate the power of a small but determined group of people to change the world." He welcomed delegates from Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, Virginia, Oregon, as well as many cities from the Northeast. He reviewed some of the most notable achievements from CCRF's 15-year history: its 30 airlifts and 14 sea shipments; its model neonatal intensive care units; the Lviv Regional Specialized Children's Hospital; and its success in treating children with leukemia and Hodgkins lymphoma.

The convention featured in-depth presentations by medical experts from Kyiv, London, New York City and Chicago. Among the most prominent speakers were Dr. William Novick, a cardiac surgeon from Memphis who was a subject of this year's Oscar-winning documentary "Chernobyl Heart." Dr. Novick has performed life-saving operations on many Belarusian and Ukrainian children suffering from congenital heart defects.

Others included Dr. Wolodymyr Wertelecki, the chairman of medical genetics at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Dr. Wertelecki is an internationally renowned geneticist who is conducting a massive USAID-funded study in the Volyn and Rivne oblasts (provinces) of northwestern Ukraine.

Both Dr. Novick and Dr. Wertelecki shared their findings on the unusually high incidence of certain types of rare birth defects found in Ukrainian children. Among these were Epstein's cardiac syndrome, spina bifida and neural tube defects. Dr. Oleh Slupchinskyj of the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary shared his experiences working alongside Ukrainian doctors in Kyiv and Lviv to correct facial deformities.

For the first time, CCRF invited three doctors from Ukraine to describe the impact that the fund has had on their partner hospitals. Dr. Valery Rutsky, chief doctor of the Volyn Regional Children's Medical Center in Lutsk, showed slides of the new technology that CCRF has put in operation, including neonatal intensive care stations, an ambulance and transport incubator, a "super modern" Ohmeda endoscopy system, a chromosome analyzer and surgical supplies. Dr. Rutsky especially thanked Prof. Volodymyr and Oksana Bakum of Highland, N.Y. for their generous contributions to his center.

Dr. Oleh Korneychuk, a talented young anesthesiologist from Kyiv City Children's Hospital No. 2, expressed his gratitude for the national medical training programs that CCRF has implemented for neonatal intensive care specialists, including neonatal nurses and pediatric surgeons. He especially recognized Dr. Morris Cohen, Dr. Robert Shaddy, Dr. Andriy Bilyk and Chief Neonatal Nurse Rennell Leichty of Fort Wayne Medical Center. Ms. Leichty and her husband, Philip, traveled from Indiana to attend the convention and gratefully accepted Dr. Korneychuk's praise.

The convention also provided a unique opportunity for CCRF activists and chapter leaders to share their experiences in organizing fund-raisers, reach-



Seen at the CCRF convention banquet (from left) are: Paul Speaker, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Nadia Matkiwsky, Alexander Kuzma, Tanya Fesenko Vena, Archbishop Antony, Father Bohdan Lukie and Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky.

ing out to corporate sponsors and securing press coverage on the long-term consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. Chapter Presidents Lesia Telega (Rochester), Dr. Chrystina Petrykiw (Chicago) and Julie Nesteruk (Hartford), and Buffalo delegate Yuri Hreshchysyn presented reports on some of their chapters' notable successes.

Natalie Kapeluk-Nixon, the director of the Ukrainian Orthodox Youth Ministries from Carnegie, Pa., provided a very moving report on the progress that has been made at the Znamianka Orphanage in Kirovohrad Oblast and the continuing challenges children face at the Zaluchia Children's Home. Her Power Point presentation showing disabled orphans smiling and interacting with American college interns and missionaries moved many in the audience to tears.

Ms. Nixon reported that since CCRF and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church began their partnership to aid the orphans of Znamianka three years ago, none of the orphans have died, while previously an average of seven orphans died at the orphanage each year. Thanks to the physical therapy and training offered by U.S. volunteers, some of the orphans are beginning to walk for the first time. Capital improvements and humanitarian aid delivered by CCRF have dramatically improved living conditions in Znamianka, she added.

Kalyna Butler of the Children of Chernobyl Canadian Fund offered valuable insights on the "Help Us Help the Children" campaign based in Toronto that has provided youth counseling and summer retreats for thousands of teenage orphans and youngsters who are particularly vulnerable to homelessness and international sex slave trafficking.

One of the most sobering workshops addressed the rapidly spreading AIDS epidemic in Ukraine. CCRF Board member Prof. Tom Denny of the department of immunology at the New Jersey Medical School served as the moderator of the panel that urged CCRF supporters to become active in the campaign to combat AIDS. "Let's not allow Ukraine to repeat the terrible mistakes made by countries like Burkina Faso and Guyana that turned their backs on this crisis when it was still in its infancy," he said.

Dr. Arlene Bardeguet, an award-winning teacher and obstetrician from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj of the George Washington Medical Center tried to impress on the audience that "we

could lose entire generations of Ukrainians to this disease." They both praised the joint project of CCRF and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America to establish a PCR testing laboratory in Lviv to help prevent the mother-to-child transmission of HIV in western Ukraine.

During the evening banquet on November 20, CCRF honored Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. for his pioneering work in improving the quality of life at Ukrainian orphanages. The fund also honored Father Bohdan Lukie, the former pastor of St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark who helped to inspire an entire generation of parochial school students to get involved in the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, and who helped CCRF to mobilize its first airlift.

In accepting the award, Father Lukie said: "This organization's mission reminds me very much of Jesus' fundamental teachings in Matthew: 25: 'You have fed the hungry; clothed the naked; healed the sick. Inasmuch as you have done this for the least of your brethren, you have done this for me.'"

In a surprise move, CCRF co-founder Nadia Matkiwsky also presented a special award to Tanya Fesenko Vena of West Orange, N.J. who is the longest-serving volunteer with the organization. Mrs. Matkiwsky praised Mrs. Vena for her thousands of hours of dedicated service and for the "fiscal discipline" she has instilled in the fund's operations.

The master of ceremonies for the banquet was Paul Speaker, the president of RKO Pictures who has worked extensively with actor Robert Redford and other Hollywood celebrities on various acclaimed film projects. In his earlier work with the National Football League, Mr. Speaker organized a charity golf tournament for CCRF featuring NFL stars like Tony Siragussa and Boomer Esaison.

Mr. Speaker recognized Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia, who donated \$20,000 for an AIDS testing laboratory for Lviv.

He introduced CCRF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma, who recognized some of the most important donors and volunteers who contributed to the convention's success. Among these were Lisa Milanytch and Alexa Milanytch who coordinated much of the convention preparations, including the silent auction, program booklet, registration, banquet, and travel

arrangements for speakers. Andriy Mykyta received special commendation for his outstanding work in coordinating audio-visual and power point presentations.

Mr. Kuzma recognized several major donors, such as Prof. Volodymyr and Oksana Bakum and Dr. Alex Andriuk, each of whom made contributions of \$20,000 to the fund. He also introduced Ms. Telega of the CCRF Rochester Chapter, who presented a check for \$10,000 for the Ivano-Frankivsk City Maternity Hospital. Mr. Kuzma also acknowledged the CCRF Hartford Chapter for its generous support of the convention and especially the late William Derlycia of Simsbury, Conn., who left a growing legacy of over \$80,000 for the Fund.

At the conclusion of the program, the fund recognized Valerie and Dr. Andriy Burachinsky and thanked them for hosting a little girl from Kyiv, Marika Tkachuk. The Burachinskys housed Marika and her mother, Vera, during an eight-month period when Marika underwent a series of complex surgeries to restore her breathing passage and reconstruct a facial deformity caused by a near fatal infection. The fund also thanked Dr. Slupchinskyj and Dr. Jay Dolitsky, who operated on Marika and helped to secure funds to pay for the operations. Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky also thanked Rodney Seddon and the Venik Trust of Great Britain for their contribution to help CCRF establish a bone marrow transplant program.

On Sunday, November 21, the fund hosted a panel discussion on corporate outreach featuring the former president of Roche Pharmaceuticals, Myron Holubiak, and Leonard Mazur, president of Genesis Pharmaceuticals, both members of the CCRF board of directors. Also featured was Roma Thibodeau, a former vice-president of Cigna Health Systems, and Karina Tarnawsky, a marketing specialist working with firms investing in East Europe. The luncheon speakers were Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly and Irene Jarosewich, editor-in-chief of Svoboda, who addressed various concerns related to press relations.

The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund is a tax-exempt, charitable organization. Tax-deductible contributions may be forwarded to: CCRF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, N.J. 07078. To discuss a planned gift to the fund, readers may contact Alex Kuzma at (973) 376-5140 or (973) 220-4161.



FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inbert Kuzych

Ukrainian provisional stamps, 1992-1995

CONCLUSION

Further examples of provisional stamps

Local Provisionals: The very simplest provisional types produced locally were small pieces of paper with the initials "TP" (French for tax percue or "charge collected") and spaces for the amount (Cyrillic "P" for ruble and "k" for kopyyka), see Figure 11. A variant form only showed the word "oplacheno" (Russian for paid) and the amount imprinted onto a paper strip (Figure 12).

Other post offices took a little more time in creating their provisional issues, which then in some way usually came to resemble regular stamps. A variety of methods were used to create these provisionals. In Kharkiv a simple design was drawn, repeated 100 times on a sheet, and photocopied on a copy machine (Figure 13). These stamps only remained

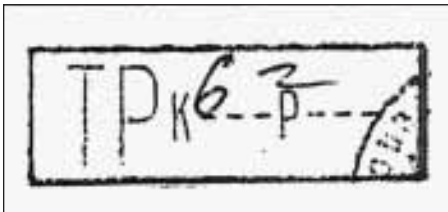


Figure 11. An example of a simple "TP" stamp from Melitopil.



Figure 12. Crimea is the most Russified of Ukrainian regions. A one-line local provisional from Krasnoperekopsk in northern Crimea displayed the Russian word "oplacheno" (paid) and the amount.

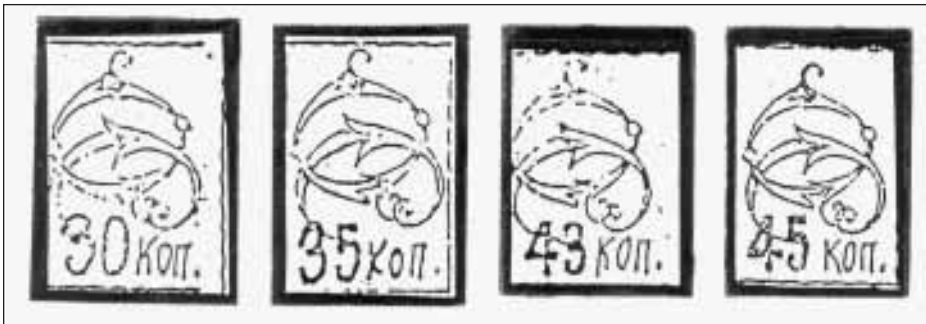


Figure 13. Examples of the first provisionals from Kharkiv, which were in circulation for only five days. The cryptic design represents the initials "OC" (reading downward) which stand for "Otdelenie Sviazi" (Department of Communications, in Russian).

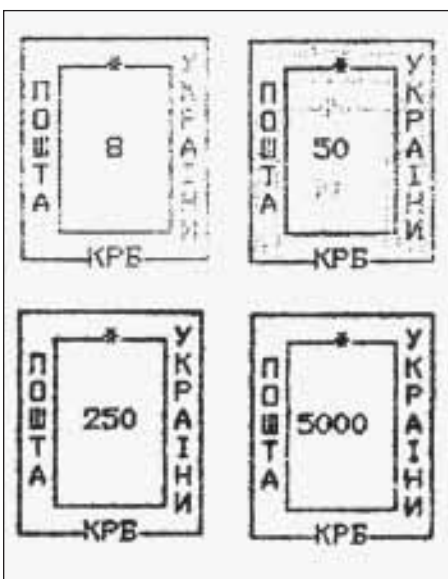


Figure 14. Examples of stamps created by computer in Mykolaiv.

in circulation for five days, however, when it was discovered how easily anybody could make them on a copy machine.

In Mykolaiv, stamp designs were created by computer and printing took place on the computer printer (Figure 14). Most provisionals, however, were created by modifying post office canceling machines to "stamp out" new stamp designs (Figure 15). Many of the smaller post offices resorted to the old-fashioned method of provisional stamp production and simply hand stamped designs onto paper that was then cut up to create new stamps (Figure 16).

Overprints: The city that disseminated the largest quantity of overprinted Soviet stamps was Chernivtsi; no less than six series of overprints were applied. The first series of stamps resembled those of Kyiv, Lviv and Chernihiv: the tridents were very similar, but the value numerals were far more bold. Subsequent overprints had the words "Poshta Ukrainy" and sometimes added the province name "Bukovyna" (Figure 17). In all, 220 different overprinted stamps have been documented from Chernivtsi.

Mykolaiv also was responsible for issuing a very large number of overprinted stamps. Two series of overprints were produced, one of which showed "Poshta Ukrainy" and the city name reading upward and one of nine new values along the bottom. The second displayed the city name at the top, a trident-in-shield, and one of three new values (Figure 18). In total, 116 different overprinted stamps came from this city.

Lutsk, too, had trident-in-shield overprints (four distinct sizes) and seven different values, along with the word "Lutsk," printed onto stamp panes (sheets) of 100. Two colors, black or



Figure 15. Various types of stamps from Rivne printed with a canceling machine.



Figure 16. Examples of provisional stamps from Kamianets-Podilskyi created with hand stamps.



Figure 17. A selection of Soviet stamps overprinted in Chernivtsi.



Figure 19. Examples of stamps overprinted in Lutsk. Here a different value occurred in every row; the sizes of the tridents also varied.

orange, were used, and a total of 70 different stamps are known (Figure 19). Here, however, the status of the stamps is somewhat dubious. They were available for only one day, August 27, 1993, at the opening festivities of Volyn State University. While they were locally authorized, they were withdrawn at the insistence of the postal authorities in Kyiv. Only letters created by philatelists are known to carry these stamps.

Another city where the overprinting of Soviet stamps was widespread was Melitopil. Here 57 different Soviet-era stamps were overprinted in a two-step process: one to apply a trident and another to revalue the stamp. Seven distinct tridents and six different values were used in various combinations, but in Melitopil – unlike the previous three locales described above – the entire process was carried out by hand (Figure 20). As happened in 1918, all sorts of varieties were created: double overprints, missing overprints, inverted overprints, different-colored overprints, etc.

Other smaller post offices simply hand stamped a new value number – without any trident or text – onto a limited quantity of Soviet stamps (e.g., in Huliai-Pole, Mykhailivka, Polohy and Borodianka).

Cash register receipts

The use of these little paper tapes varied tremendously from region to region. In some oblasts they were not prepared at all; in others they were extensively used. Cash registers were each numbered and produced numbered receipts, so one can collect different “stamps” from each of the different machines. For example, no less than 28 cash registers at various post offices in the Kharkiv Oblast printed off receipts, and this many distinct “stamp” types can be collected from that province (Figure 21).

Provisional stamp fakes

During the early 1990s, while communication officials in Ukraine and in other former Soviet republics tried to bring order to their postal establishments, many unscrupulous speculators took advantage of the general confusion and the variety of provisionals in circulation to fabricate “stamps” of their own. These creations they then passed off as legitimate “new” provisionals. In some instances, they even bribed postal workers (usually underpaid) to pass letters bearing these “stamps” through the postal system so they could then have “used” examples “proving” their authenticity. Many collectors, particularly those outside of the former Soviet Union, fell victim to these machinations.

Today, however, Ukraine’s legitimate provisional stamp issues are some of the best documented of all of those from the former Soviet republics. For this we can thank one particularly dogged individual, Hryhoriy Lobko, who set about visiting as many Ukrainian post offices as possible to obtain first-hand information about provisionals. His first catalogue of 1996 was greatly expanded and translated into English in 2000 and remains the definitive reference work on the subject. Since he only lists issues with verifiable backgrounds, all other “provisionals” may be assumed to be bogus.



Figure 18. The two basic overprint types – one for small stamps and the other for large stamps – used in Mykolaiv on remnant Soviet-era issues. Different values appeared in different columns on a pane (sheet) of stamps.



Figure 20. Examples of Soviet stamps overprinted with tridents and a new value in Melitopil.



Figure 21. Cash register receipt “stamps” from three different locales in Kharkiv oblast: post office nos. 37, 135, and 177.

Conclusion

There is no doubt that modern-day provisionals form one of the most interesting areas of Ukrainian philately. The above descriptions give only a representative sample of the variety of provisional stamps prepared in Ukraine during the early 1990s. The sheer quantity produced, however, ensures that these stamps will remain available to collectors

and at the same time that not everything about them has yet been learned. New discoveries await those willing to explore this intriguing new area of inquiry.

The “Bible”

Readers wishing to learn more about Ukraine’s amazing diversity of provisional postage stamps may acquire Mr. Lobko’s unsurpassed reference work, “The Provisional Postage Stamps of

Ukraine, 1992-1995,” from the following address: Ukrainian Philatelic Resources, P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150. This fascinating 272-page volume contains over 700 illustrations. The cost of the book is \$27 postpaid to U.S. addresses, \$30 to Canada and abroad.

Inger Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150 or at his e-mail address: ingert@starpower.net.

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, etc. – we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, **no photocopies or computer printouts**) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned

- only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ **Full names** (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must **provide a daytime phone number** where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- ✦ Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

The UCCA is organizing a U.S. tour to premier Oles Yanchuk's new film

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The film, in Ukrainian with English subtitles, will be screened on:

Sunday, December 12th at 2:30 p.m.

Ukrainian National Home,
142 Second Avenue, New York City

Friday, December 17th at 7:30 p.m.

Ramada Conference Center
130 Route 10 West, East Hanover, New Jersey

Saturday, December 18th at 1:00 p.m.

Ukrainian Educational & Cultural Center
700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania

Saturday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m.

UAYA National Home
301 Palisade Parkway, Yonkers, New York

Rada approves...

(Continued from page 1)

Ministers will appoint to head regional and local state administrations.

The new law on presidential elections, drafted by pro-Yushchenko deputies in the Rada, takes aim at the three primary methods of falsification, according to National Deputy Roman Zwarycz.

The law reduces the number of absentee ballot certificates to 0.5 percent of total voters, down from the previous 4 percent limit. In addition, voters' passports will be stamped to indicate that they have already voted. The law also reduces the number of voters eligible to vote at home via mobile ballot boxes.

In addition the law includes a provision for preventing the previously widespread practice of excluding voting station commission members the day before and on the day of the vote.

Following the vote, the Verkhovna Rada's next order of business was the approval of new members of the 15-member Central Electoral Commission.

Eleven of the 15 former members and four new commissioners were approved.

Parliament did not approve Serhii Kivalov, who headed the CEC during the two scandal-ridden rounds of presidential elections. Mr. Kivalov promptly left the session hall as opposition deputies sounded catcalls after him.

Later that day, Yaroslav Davydovych, a veteran CEC member who refused to sign the contested presidential election results from November 21, was approved to head the elections body.

In a related development, President Leonid Kuchma told Parliament that Procurator General Hennadii Vasyliiev had submitted his resignation and that he will sign it. Mr. Yushchenko has put forward Mr. Vasyliiev's resignation as a demand last week.

Mr. Vasyliiev explained that he is resigning because he "does not want his name or position to be used as an element of trade in today's political game," according to UNIAN.

"He pre-empted us by one or two hours," Oleksander Zinchenko, Mr. Yushchenko's campaign manager, told journalists on December 9, "we were going to initiate his dismissal on the grounds of the state prosecutor's lack of action on electoral falsification."

Prior to becoming procurator general, Mr. Vasyliiev was a deputy elected in the Donetsk oblast in 2002.

The events of December 8 left many of the opposition's demands unsatisfied.

Speaking at a briefing the next day, Anatolii Hrytsenko, who heads the analytical division of the Yushchenko campaign, summarized the shortcomings.

"The opposition was unsuccessful in securing the dismissal of the (entire) Mr. Yanukovych government, Minister of Internal Affairs Mykola Bilokon and the heads of the state administrations in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy, Kirovohrad and Luhansk," Mr. Hrytsenko said.

Mr. Hrytsenko also said that Mr. Yushchenko would have preferred to enact constitutional amendments after a new Parliament was elected in 2006.

Not everyone in the Yushchenko camp was content with the decision.

Ms. Tymoshenko called the December 8 vote "a victory for Kuchma" and said that "it will be hard to instill order" for Mr. Yushchenko if he becomes president. She said that her faction will appeal the vote to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

But Mr. Yushchenko's support for the constitutional amendments was a key condition for another Yushchenko ally, Socialist leader Oleksander Moroz.

After the vote, Mr. Moroz confirmed that his party will continue working for Mr. Yushchenko during the election campaign.

A member of the Yushchenko caucus, Mr. Zwarycz argued that the legislation is not as bad as Ms. Tymoshenko claims and refuted accusations that a deal had been struck with President Kuchma.

"We are convinced that the nine months minimum (of a Yushchenko presidency) will be sufficient to restore democracy in Ukraine," Mr. Zwarycz said, "moreover 10 of our 12 demands were included (in the constitutional amendments)."

Presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovych, who had taken a leave of absence from being prime minister, was on the campaign trail in his native oblast of Donetsk when he heard about the decisions made in Kyiv.

He commented on the CEC appointments only. None of the commission members put forward by Mr. Yanukovych's Party of the Regions were approved by Parliament.

"The country is witnessing a creeping coup," Mr. Yanukovych told journalists. "Lawlessness has taken over our country."

The next day, Mr. Yanukovych's press service issued a statement on the Verkhovna Rada's approval of the constitutional amendments. Mr. Yanukovych said "the vote in Parliament was an important step towards the democratization of the state, but this process will only have a logical continuation on the regional level," according to UNIAN.

The European Union, Council of Europe and the U.S. State Department all extended congratulations on the compromises reached in Ukraine on December 8.

Mr. Yushchenko addressed tens of thousands of his supporters gathered in Kyiv's Independence square later that night, both Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Moroz stood by his side.

The Our Ukraine leader said that the common fight for democratic rights by the opposition and people of Ukraine "is the first chapter of the history of Europe in the third millennium."

"We are one step away from total victory, and that's the vote on December 26," Mr. Yushchenko said after thanking the protesters for their 17-day vigil in the capital city. He said that the tent-city will be reorganized, but not eradicated, to allow some protesters to work on the campaign. The massive stage also will remain in place on the "maidan."

Protesters ended their blockade of the Cabinet of Ministers by December 9, but maintained their siege of the two street entrances to the Presidential Administration.

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Supreme Court...

(Continued from page 1)

The Supreme Court did not admit into evidence recordings of telephone conversations alleged to have taken place between the head of the CEC, Serhii Kivalov, and members of the Yanukovich campaign team about falsifying the results of the November 21 poll.

Mr. Yushchenko's legal team put forward evidence that the main method of falsification was the manipulation of voter lists, whereby names were added under the pretense of correcting the lists while old names and "dead souls" remained.

Further proof of falsification, according to Mr. Yushchenko's lawyers, was the incredibly high voter turnout in 400 polling stations in the eastern regions of the country, where 100 percent and even 127 percent of eligible voters cast ballots on election day.

In Mr. Yanukovich's native Donetsk Oblast, over a quarter million more Ukrainians supposedly voted on November 21 than did in the first round of presidential elections three weeks earlier.

The complainant's lawyers said that absentee voter certificates were another source of fraud, and that observers recorded instances where the same person voted multiple times; in one instance the same person voted 15 times at one polling station, according to Mr. Yushchenko's lawyers.

Lawyers for Mr. Yanukovich and mem-

bers of the Central Election Commission also participated in the hearings.

In an obvious attempt to stall the proceedings, the Yanukovich campaign team submitted a motion on the second day of proceedings to call the 35 heads of Territorial Election Commissions (TECs) from Donetsk and Luhansk as witnesses before the court.

The Supreme Court denied the motion. On several occasions during the proceedings, judges asked one of Mr. Yanukovich's lawyers if she was purposefully trying to stall the court's work.

The Yanukovich team also countered with a motion to cancel election results in 10 western and central Ukrainian regions and to dismiss Mr. Yushchenko's chief counsel.

On December 1, members of the CEC began to take the stand. On November 27, more than 300 MPs in Ukraine's 450 seat parliament passed a vote of no-confidence in the CEC.

Three members of the 15-person CEC refused to sign the official results, and two additional members later recalled their signatures.

CEC member Andriy Magera, testified that he refused to sign the protocol on the election results because he was not provided with supporting data that showed the results were valid. He said that numbers were filled in to the official returns before the CEC received all of the results.

Mr. Magera also told the court that he saw fake absentee voter certificates.

On December 2, CEC member Ruslan

Kniazevych, who also refused to sign off on the official results, testified that the access codes to the CEC's computer systems were seized the day before the vote by "unknown forces."

Halyna Mandrusov, director of the ProCom firm that was responsible for the computer systems confirmed the fact that data coming into the CEC was manipulated "from the outside."

Mr. Kniazevych, who has worked in the CEC for seven years noted that voter turnout data for Donetsk and Luhansk arrived in the CEC databanks nearly 12 hours after polling stations closed. In all past elections, exact voter turnout numbers had been provided within an hour and a half after polling stations were closed, Mr. Kniazevych told the court.

According to Mr. Kniazevych's testimony, "more than a million ballots were stuffed" after polls closed at 8 p.m. on election day.

He said that the other CEC members "could not have not known" about the falsifications that occurred.

During the five day proceedings, outgoing President Leonid Kuchma expressed his opinions on the case before the court. On November 29, Mr. Kuchma said that the members of the CEC are essentially "accountants" and that the CEC "does not influence the results of the election."

That same day Mr. Kuchma called for both a recount and new elections, according to Ukrainian wire services. He told reporters that Mr. Yanukovich agreed to a recount of votes in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

The next day, Mr. Kuchma suggested holding repeat elections between the two candidates only in Luhansk and Donetsk.

After the court announced its decision President Kuchma agreed to abide by the ruling.

Speaking to hundreds of thousands of joyous protesters on Kyiv's Independence Square after the Supreme Court ruling, Mr. Yushchenko said "We have proven that civil society exists in Ukraine, that we are a nation who will not let ourselves be called goats."

Mr. Yushchenko was referring to a widely underreported comment made by Mr. Yanukovich in October when the prime minister said that "we won't let those goats (kozly) get in the way of doing our job."

Mr. Yanukovich said that the ruling was made "under tremendous political pressure," and that "there is nothing left to do but run and win the elections."

The Council of Europe and European Union immediately welcomed the court's ruling. The U.S. State Department and Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski soon followed suit.

A day before the court's decision, Russian President Vladimir Putin mocked the idea of a repeat run-off between Messrs. Yanukovich and Yushchenko when he asked whether there will "have to be a third, a fourth, a 25th round until one of the sides obtains the satisfactory result?"

The comment was made during a brief meeting with President Kuchma at a Moscow airport.

The day after the ruling, the CEC announced that a repeat election will be held on December 26.

That same day the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) initiated a criminal investigation into the illegal use of access codes to the CEC's computer systems.

UCCA appeals for assistance in form of volunteers, funds

The following appeal by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America was received on December 9.

On December 3, Ukraine's Supreme Court invalidated the official results of the disputed presidential run-off election on November 21 and ruled that a repeat vote must be held. The Supreme Court reviewed and accepted incontrovertible and massive evidence of election fraud, falsification and unfair election practices in its historic and courageous ruling to overturn the elections.

Much of this evidence was provided by international election observers, who played a vital role in documenting, gathering and disseminating evidence of violations to the world community. Through their respective organizations and through the press, the world learned of the blatant election law violations and voter intimidation carried out throughout numerous polling stations throughout the country.

Statements, such as Sen. Richard Lugar's (R-Ind), that "a concerted and forceful program of election-day fraud and abuse was enacted with either the leadership or cooperation of government authorities," were backed by the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and several non-governmental organizations that sent observers to Ukraine.

As Ukraine moves toward a historic opportunity to create a truly democratic state and elect a leadership based upon the will of the people, the need to support democratic principles and free and fair elections exists more than ever. The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), a non-profit organization that has represented the interests of Ukrainian Americans for over 60 years, requests your assistance in its initiative to support a fair election process and to send international election observers to Ukraine for the third and final round.

The UCCA, one of the few non-gov-

ernmental organizations registered with the Central Election Commission, deployed over 270 international election observers to Ukraine for the first two rounds of the 2004 elections. The UCCA has worked with the Central Election Commission since 1994 to field delegations of international election observers in all the previous elections and works with other organizations to coordinate the deployment of election observers to various regions within Ukraine.

On behalf of the UCCA, we are requesting your assistance to serve either as an international election observer, sponsor an international election observer, or donate funds. Funds that are raised will be used to mobilize and coordinate election observers throughout Ukraine, as well as to help defray expenses associated with the program.

If you have any questions regarding registration or collecting funds, please contact Tamara Gallo Olexy at the UCCA's National Office at (212) 228-6840 or via e-mail at ucca@ucca.org.

The registration form for International Election Observers can be found on UCCA's website www.ucca.org.

If you would like to make a donation, please send a check/money order made out to "UCCA-Democracy in Action" and send it to the UCCA's National Office at 203 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003. Donations can also be directly deposited at or wired to Self Reliance (NY) Federal Credit Union, Democracy in Action Account Number 4225-01.

Help support and uphold democracy and the right to free and fair elections in Ukraine.

All donations to the UCCA are tax-deductible.

The UCCA thanks you for your support!

On behalf of the UCCA Executive Board:
Michael Sawkiw, Jr., president
Marie Duplak, executive secretary

The "maidan" celebrates

by Ruslan Tracz

KYIV – The streets of Kyiv were awash with faces of exhausted joy on December 4 after overnight celebrations that went on into the wee hours of the morning. The grins on people's faces contrasted with the large bags under their eyes.

The party started Friday, December 3, after the Supreme Court announced its decision that the results of the November 21 presidential election run-off between Western-leaning Viktor Yushchenko and his Kremlin-backed rival were falsified and a revote would be held on December 26.

There is a sense among the people that this battle has been won, and it's now just a matter of time.

On Friday there had been hesitant anticipation in the crowd of a few thousand congregated around the Supreme Court building on Pylyp Orlyk Street. Protesters lined both sides of the streets as they awaited the court's ruling. The crowd was rather subdued. A group of older women stood praying for hours on end, while others just stood and waited.

A number of supporters of presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich sang hymns as they made their way through the crowd, carrying crosses, icons and Yanukovich flags. The group, which consisted mainly of older men and women, had been walking daily in procession since the opposition protests began.

Security staff from Our Ukraine, Mr. Yushchenko's party, and the Pora youth movement made sure no one challenged or interfered with the Yanukovich supporters.

On Saturday, the crowd was gone, replaced by flowers on the sidewalk outside the Supreme Court building.

After the court announced its ruling

Friday night, fireworks scattered through the evening sky above the crowd at Independence Square, touching off the celebrations.

When asked yesterday how the party went, a group of students laughed.

"It was a fun night," one said.

They also joked that they felt like having another orange, poking fun at a speech that Mr. Yanukovich's wife made in Donetsk this week in which she said the oranges handed out at Independence Square were filled with drugs, and that's what made all the people stay in the streets through almost two weeks of cold, wet weather.

Although the crowds thinned out after the court issued its ruling, many are determined to stay in the streets until the December 26 vote. On Khrestchatyk, between City Hall and the tent city that was erected November 22, a small chapel has been built where, over the last few days, a few weddings have taken place. There is a sense, judging by the new structures being erected – the chapel, tents with chimneys and fences – that the camp will be around for a while.

"Some will leave while others will come back; we have a rotational system," explained Yura, a security guard at the camp.

"Yes, last night everyone felt like it was victory," said Maryna, who had come to Kyiv from the Sumy region to be part of the demonstrations. But, she added: "We will be here until Yushchenko becomes president."

This story was originally published in the December 5 issue of The Winnipeg Free Press under the headline: "All-night party celebrates order for new run-off; Opposition vows to keep up pressure." It is reprinted here, in a slightly abridged form, with permission from the author and The Winnipeg Free Press.

Chicago community rallies to build U.S. support for Ukraine

by Pavlo T. Bandriwsky

CHICAGO – Pioneer Court on Chicago's Magnificent Mile, north of the Chicago River, was the location for a massive rally organized by the ad hoc group Rebirth of Ukraine Committee (Rebirth) that was held on Saturday, December 4.

The rally was organized just a few days earlier at the founding meeting of Rebirth, a group formed on an interim basis to coordinate activities supporting the democratic activities currently occurring in Ukraine with various political and community organizations in Chicago, including the group Presidential Elections 2004 and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Branch.

The Ukrainian Saturday school dismissed its students early so parents and children could participate, joined by high school and college students who made up the youth contingent of the rally. Together with new immigrants, seniors, American-born Ukrainians and representatives of other nationalities, thousands of people filled the plaza enthusiastically chanting "Russia out of Ukraine," "U.S.A. support Ukraine" and "President Yushchenko."

The goals of the rally were to draw the attention of the American public to the

events in Ukraine and call upon the U.S. government to support democracy in Ukraine. These objectives were resoundingly achieved as coverage was extensive: four television news stations showed rally excerpts and interviews, stories were published in the Chicago Tribune and reported on NPR and other radio stations. Additionally, hundreds of Christmas shoppers heading to the Magnificent Mile stopped to see what the sea of orange demonstrators were about and warmly received informational flyers.

U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, in whose district the Ukrainian Village section of Chicago is located, spoke very favorably about his solidarity with Ukraine's quest for democracy through the Orange Revolution. He included in his speech "Slava Ukraini." Alderman Manny Flores, who represents most of the Ukrainian Village before the Chicago city council, read a resolution supporting Ukrainian democracy and a fair election process. The politicians promised to enlighten their colleagues about Ukrainian issues and to solicit their support as well.

Several speakers from the Ukrainian community, including Dr. Yuri Melnyk and Yaroslav Zahaysky, co-initiators of Rebirth, shared their perspective that the



Supporters of Ukraine's Orange Revolution gathered at a rally in Chicago.

will of the people will prevail on December 26, resulting in Viktor Yushchenko being elected president.

It was emphasized that international observers must monitor the run-off elec-

tion to ensure that voter fraud, which tainted in the previous vote, is not repeated. Participants were urged to contact their federal representatives to ensure funding for election observers.

Australia's foreign minister meets with Ukrainian community's leader



Minister for Foreign Affairs Alexander Downer (left) met with Chairman of Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations Stefan Romaniw to discuss the situation in Ukraine and Australia's involvement.

CANBERRA – Australia's Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Downer and Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO) Chairman Stefan Romaniw OAM met in Canberra on December 2 to discuss the current election situation in Ukraine.

Mr. Romaniw acknowledged and thanked the minister for the Australian government's position to date and the cooperation afforded to the AFUO.

He called on the government to look at ways to apply additional pressure to ensure the will of the people is reflected in the final outcome of the presidential election.

"The issue of democracy is paramount and must be supported and defended," Mr. Romaniw underscored.

"All governments, including the Australian government, have a role to play now, whilst there is an opportunity to effect change and allow the people of Ukrainian to choose their leader in an open and transparent way in compared to the fraud and manipulation of results experienced to date," Mr. Romaniw added.

Minister Downer reinforced the Australian government's position, which rejects the election result due to many reported violations. He indicated that the

pending decision of the Supreme Court hopefully will provide a possible breakthrough.

The minister also indicated that the government is in regular contact with Ukraine's ambassador to Australia, Oleksander Mischenko.

Mr. Downer and his staff complimented the Australian Ukrainian community for its effectiveness in disseminating information and its work in focusing on the issue of democracy. The minister also indicated a willingness to participate in an event or rally dependant on schedules.

In response, Mr. Romaniw reinforced the importance of a having a strong presence in Ukraine through monitoring processes, if there were to be a third round. Mr. Romaniw also provided an overview of the community's reading of the situation.

The AFUO proposed that the government appoint a high-profile Australian to head a delegation of monitors and observers, which should be made up of representatives of electoral commissions from throughout Australia and community representatives.

Minister Downer was also provided details of the strong working relationship between the community and the ambassador of Ukraine in Australia and fully

supported the ambassador's position on demanding free and open elections.

It was agreed the AFUO should continue to provide regular information to the minister's office and that the strong working relationship should continue.

Mr. Romaniw also acknowledged the support and cooperation of the minister's

staff and department especially Dave Sharma, who has been extremely helpful in being a conduit between the AFUO and the minister. He noted that the AFUO will continue to seek the minister's support and the strengthening of the Australian government's position the issue of Ukraine's road to meaningful democracy.

Australia's Ukrainians to send 6,000 mascots to Kyiv

CANBERRA – The Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO) will send over 6,000 stuffed toy kangaroos and koalas to the pro-democracy supporters who are braving rain and snow on Kyiv's Maidan Nezaleznosty, or Independence Square.

AFUO President Stefan Romaniw OAM said the aim of the gesture was to help provide a lift in spirits to those who have sacrificed their time to keep up the vigil for Ukrainian democracy, since the rigged presidential election.

"Australia is also sending over \$30,000 in aid to those rallying in Kyiv, including food and medicines, so the kangaroo and koala drop is just another small way in which we're telling those rallying in Maidan Nezaleznosty that we're all supporting them," Mr. Romaniw said.

"It is incredibly important that the citizens who have given up so much to rally for democracy know that the world is with them and that Ukrainian organizations around the world are active in their support for a free and fair Ukrainian democracy," he commented.

The AFUO has already held rallies in Sydney, Canberra, Adelaide, Perth and Melbourne in support of the fight for real democracy in Ukraine.

"We've doing everything we can from 20,000 kilometers away to help the cause for democracy, by sending money, food, medicine, goodwill and now, kangaroos and koalas, Mr. Romaniw said.

"It might be cold in the snow at the moment, but the gesture of 6,000 Aussie mascots will hopefully warm up those who are rallying for the cause of democracy!"



Members of the Australia Ukraine House Team in Kyiv are seen above as they take a break from working to deliver services and assistance to the Orange Revolution on the capital city's Independence Square, known as the "maidan."

UKRAINE'S ORANGE REVOLUTION BEGETS ORANGE WAVE IN THE DIASPORA



Roma Lisovich

Valia Kaploun and Sofia Derzko take a day off from work at the Ukrainian National Association to demonstrate in New York City in support of Viktor Yushchenko.



Oksana Melnyk

Chicago resident Danylo Melnyk joins a nationwide campaign on Thursday evening, December 2, to show support for Yushchenko by hanging orange ribbons.



Wowk Photography

Teens make their feelings quite evident in New York City.



Oksana Melnyk

Chicago-area Ukrainians show their colors and their support for Yushchenko.



Wowk Photography

A demonstrator in New York, with an orange ribbon tied around his neck, waves a huge Ukrainian flag.



Wowk Photography

"Mozhemo" – "We Can" – is the slogan held aloft by a Yushchenko supporter in New York.



Roma Lisovich

Marko Suprun (right) is interviewed by a correspondent for Fox News during a demonstration near the network's offices.

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Pro-Kuchma camp...

(Continued from page 2)

December 1).
Other unaffiliated deputies provided concrete assistance to Mr. Yushchenko during the elections. Former Dnipropetrovsk oligarch Andrei Derkach, now an unaffiliated deputy, permitted Mr. Yushchenko to be prominently shown on ErA TV and ErA radio, two media outlets that he owns. Besides Channel 5, owned by Our Ukraine businessman Petro Poroshenko, ErA TV was the only other television channel where Mr. Yushchenko received positive media coverage.

As with Mr. Lytvyn's Agrarians (20 members), three other factions are now neutral, meaning that after President Kuchma departs from office they will move into the Yushchenko camp. These include the National Democratic Party - Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (16), United Ukraine (17), and the Center faction (16) - a total of 69 deputies.

In addition to the end of the Kuchma era and the discredited second round of the elections, another factor promoting a re-shaping of centrist factions is their lack of an ideological profile. This separates them from the ideologically oriented national democrats (Our Ukraine, Tymoshenko bloc) and left (Socialists, Communists). Oleksander Yedin, a defector from Labor Ukraine, complained that it was unclear what they stood for, "orienting in western Ukraine upon one political force and in the east on another" (Ukrainska Pravda, December 3).

Viktor Medvedchuk's Social Democratic Party - United faction (SDPU) is also in decline, losing seven deputies. Yuriy Liakh, a close ally of Mr. Medvedchuk and chairman of Ukrkreditbank, committed suicide on December 3 in Kyiv. The SDPU, unlike Labor Ukraine in Dnipropetrovsk or especially Mr. Yanukovych's Regions of Ukraine in Donetsk, has little support in its home base of Kyiv, where Mr. Yushchenko dominates.

Of all of the centrist parties and factions, the SDPU has the most to lose from a Yushchenko victory. It will prove impossible for Mr. Medvedchuk to remain in Ukraine under a Yushchenko presidency. Parliamentary votes earlier in the year called upon the Ministry of Justice to ban the SDPU as a "fascist" party and for President Kuchma to remove Mr. Medvedchuk as chief of the presidential administration.

After the Supreme Court ruling, the Security Service of Ukraine launched a criminal investigation into alleged hacking into the Central Election Commission (CEC) server, using evidence provided by the computer consultants who designed the CEC system. Mr. Medvedchuk and Deputy Prime Minister Andrei Kluyev have been implicated in this scheme.

Other centrists concerned about their future include Transport Minister Heorhii Kirpa. Deputy Transportation Minister Ivan Saliy provided mounds of evidence to the Supreme Court about the massive abuse of "administrative resources" by state transportation companies in support of Mr. Yanukovych, which was undertaken on the orders of Messrs. Kirpa and Kluyev. Mr. Kirpa organized the Vidrozhennia Party in the summer to force transportation workers to back Mr. Yanukovych.

If a nascent parliamentary caucus of 270 deputies has indeed already been formed, a pro-Yushchenko parliamentary majority would be only 30 short of the 300 votes needed to consider changes to the Constitution of Ukraine.

Highlights...

(Continued from page 4)

"400 First Street NW, Room 710, is an address that is well-known to Washington, D.C., Ukrainians and to most lawmakers in our nation's capital. It is the address of the UNA Washington Office ... If the lawmakers are in need of information about Ukraine or Ukrainians, they tell their staff members to contact Eugene Iwanciw, the director of the UNA bureau, and his helpers, John Kun and Maria Lischak.

"There are many visitors to our nation's capital, including visitors from Ukraine, who assumed that our Washington Office is the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, D.C. It has become very popular among visitors from Ukraine. Our employees endeavor to live up to our visitors' expectations. Information on Ukrainian communities, on Ukraine and on problems affecting Ukrainian can be obtained there upon request.

The president noted that "the upkeep of the office is high," but added that "judging by the praises we receive, our Washington, D.C., office is worth its keep."

Source: Report of UNA Supreme President John O. Flis in Minutes of the 32nd Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association (1990). The border used for this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dated 1942.

Turning the pages....

(Continued from page 6)

Russia." As Dr. Taras Kuzio wrote, ... this new policy indicated that "Ukraine was meant to operate only under Russia's wing in the same manner as when it was a 'younger brother' in the Soviet era."

Then, in October, the Russian State Duma began meddling in Ukraine's affairs by passing a resolution that expressed support for Russian as the official language of Crimea.

Now ... Ukraine has made moves toward joining the Russian-dominated Eurasian Economic Union. That, of course, is seen by many as completely incompatible with membership in the European Union. Nonetheless, Mr. Kuchma said: "I cannot see the future of my country without the warmest possible relations with Russia."

... And thus, as the year draws to a close, we can only conclude that the breach between Ukraine and the West has widened further. The scandal-ridden Kuchma administration is choosing to look eastward, where there is a welcoming embrace, not westward, where there is strong, but justified, criticism of its actions. Indeed, it appears to be much more convenient for Ukraine's current leaders to keep Ukraine in the Russian sphere of influence.

Source: "Ukraine in Russia's thrall," editorial, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 15, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 50.

Whippany community starts off year of activity as one



WHIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian American community of Whippany started its yearly activities on Sunday, September 19, during the parish picnic of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, with all area groups participating. There was also a brief program celebrating the anniversary of Ukraine's independence that was organized by the Morris County branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, in which representatives of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), the local Ukrainian dance group and parish youth took part. Also in attendance were three members of the Hanover Township Town Council, Howard Olsen, Leonardo Fariello and Judy Iradi, who were greeted by the pastor, the Very Rev. Protopresbyter Roman Mirchuk. Seen above are the participants of the program.

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Ivanna Prystacky-Szkafarowsky

October 13, 1937 – December 14, 1994

In Loving Memory

*The light that shown within her eyes
has long since dimmed and left our lives.
Emptiness is what we feel
still coping with the tragedy so real.
A decade has passed since that night
we were last touched by her guiding light.*

*A granddaughter, Adia, has now wed
starting an exciting life ahead.
Alexandra, pretty and graceful as can be,
a beautiful Debutante for all to see.
Nykola, the eldest grandson, instilled with her wit,
so many unique talents and artistic gift.*

*Two more grandsons have since been born,
both will surely grow up and cause a storm.
Petro, a dancer & musician, the way he livens up the crowd,
would make his Baba oh so proud.
Danylko, the youngest of his generation,
so full of Baba's energy and determination.*

*As our family grows in number,
we still somehow wonder:
Why God's master plan has this flaw,
for losing her was not fair at all.
So much has changed within our lives,
wondering how she'd see it through her eyes.*

*We try to think of what she'd say;
She always did things just the right way.
The memory of her will always be the same
and her love forever in our hearts remain.
She was more than a mother, she was a friend,
Whose love for us had a beginning but no end.*

*In honor of her life
and love for Ukraine,
her children,*

*Olia, Stefan & Lillianna,
donate \$300 to the*

"Fund for Democracy in Ukraine."



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що у вівторок, 23 листопада 2004 р.
відійшла у вічність наша найдорожча
МАМА, БАБЦЯ, ПРАБАБЦЯ і СЕСТРА

бл. п.

МАРІЯ АННА СПОЛЬСЬКА

з дому ІВАНИЦЬКА

нар. 1 березня 1916 р. у Львові, Україна.

Вдова по св. п. Ярославіві Спольському. Передова громадська діячка. Голова Суспільної Служби Українців Канади, філія Торонто (1978 – 1996), голова Пласт-приятю (1970 – 1974), голова ОЖ ЛВУ (1960 – 1964). Як голова ССУК – Торонто, Покійна започаткувала цілу низку програм, що діють і по сьогодні, створила фонд для потребуючих в Україні (Поміч Україні) і для потребуючих у Канаді (Харитативний Фонд), та зорганізувала відпочинково-оздоровчі табори для дітей України. За свою віддану і успішну суспільну працю Покійна була наго-роджена численними відзначеннями: Онтарійська Премія Добровольця 1986 р., 1993 р.; Премія ССУК 1986 р.; Премія КУК 1991 р.; Премія СКВУ 1993 р.; Жінка Року (КУК) 1995 р.; почесна Шевченківська Медаля (КУК) 1996 р.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися 27 листопада 2004 р. в українській католицькій церкві св. о. Николая в Торонто, а відтак тіло Покійної поховано біля чоловіка на цвинтарі Проспект у Торонто.

В смутку залишилися:

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донька – ХРИСТИНА з чоловіком ТОМОМ УЗЕЛЕМ
син – МИРОН з дружиною РАДОЮ
внуки – ЛЯРИСА, МОТРЯ і ДАНИЛО СПОЛЬСЬКІ
– СТЕФАН і РЕНАТА УЗЕЛИ
правнук – ХРИСТОФОР УЗЕЛ
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MICHAEL HRYNENKO

June 6, 1954 – November 17, 2004

beloved husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend passed away from respiratory failure at the age of 50 at his home in Palidades, N.Y.

In February 2004, he was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, also known as ALS, a devastating neuromuscular disease that paralyzed his entire body.

By mid-July 2004, he lost the ability to walk and lost movement in his arms and hands. For the past two months an oxygen tank facilitated his breathing.

A wake service took place on Friday night in the Lower East Side, the area in which Michael's buildings and former restaurants, including the popular Ukrainian coffeehouse "Kiev," were located. He was also the previous owner of the Mountain House in Sparkill when it served Eastern European food.

The burial took place on Saturday at Rockland Cemetery.

Michael is survived by:

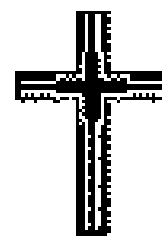
Wife – Maria
Son – Mischou
Daughters – Crystal
Sherry and Natasha

The entire Hrynenko family thanks the members of the community for their condolences at this painful time.

For those who would like to express their sympathy and support, the family is asking for donations for ALS research.

Checks made payable to the ALS Association or MDA Association can be sent to P.O. Box 50, Palisades, NY 10964.

Once again, we are truly grateful for the community's support at this time and those who continue to keep us in their thoughts and prayers.



У глибокому смутку повідомляємо рідних, приятелів
та пластову громаду, що 6 грудня 2004 р.
відійшов від нас наш найдорожчий
МУЖ, ТАТО, ДЗІДЗІ і БРАТ

бл. п.

МИХАЙЛО САВИЦЬКИЙ

нар. 26 жовтня 1920 р. в Хишевичах, Галичина.

В глибокому смутку залишились:

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внуки – МАРКО
– ДАНИЇЛ
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сестра – ТАТІЯНА КОРОМЕЦЬ
та ближча і дальша родина в Америці, Канаді і Україні.

ПАНАХИДА відбудеться 10 грудня 2004 р. в похоронному заведенні Kutch Funeral Home, Trenton, NJ.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбудуться 11 грудня 2004 р. в українській ка-толицькій церкві св. Йосафата в Трентоні, а відтак на цвинтарі св. Духа в Гемптонбургу, Н.Й.

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Sen. Lugar's...

(Continued from page 9)

brave Ukrainians pushed back by continuing to do their best to keep the election on track and to prevent chaos.

President Kuchma pledged to Ukraine that there would be "elections worthy of a 21st century European country." The day after the run-off election, I told the press and the people of Ukraine through a live television broadcast in Kiev [sic] that President Kuchma had the responsibility and the opportunity to produce even at that point an outcome that was fair and responsible. I pointed out that he would enhance his legacy by prompt and decisive action which maximizes worldwide confidence in the presidency of Ukraine and the extraordinary potential future which lies ahead of his country. To date, President Kuchma has not met these responsibilities.

What to do

This morning we have learned from our embassy in Ukraine that an agreement was reached late last night between European mediators, President Kuchma, and the presidential candidates. Although not as sweeping as earlier reports of a compromise, the agreement reportedly has two elements. The current Central Election Commission will be dismissed and replaced with new members to oversee the December 26 run-off. Secondly, a new election law has been agreed to by the parties in an effort to eliminate the fraud perpetrated in the previous rounds of voting.

These reports are promising but we will have to await the final outcome of the Rada's deliberations, future rounds of negotiations, and President Kuchma's signature before offering firm conclusions. In the meantime, I offer four recommendations:

- absentee and mobile voting must be excluded;
- the presence of Ukrainian and international observers must be increased to, ideally, observers in each of the 33,006 polling stations;
- the candidates must have equal time to present themselves and to broadcast their platforms to the Ukrainian people; and
- the domestic and international press must commit to monitor and to debate the electoral process in an open and transparent manner that fully illuminates illegal activities and conveys legitimacy to the rightful winner.

Absent vigorous attempts to meet these changes, I do not believe that the Ukrainian people will have confidence in the integrity of the election process. Worse yet, they may be doomed to witness a repeat of the fraud and abuse that were apparent in the previous rounds of voting.

I am pleased to report that the U.S. Department of State has notified Congress of their intent to supplement election monitoring and related assistance to support the December 26 run-off. This is critical and I urge the department to provide the funds necessary, as quickly as possible, to assist the Ukrainian people in their goal of free and fair elections. Specifically funds will be used to support election observers, exit

polling, parallel vote tabulations, training of election commissioners and voter education programs. I share the administration's strong objections to separatist initiatives and continue to urge all Ukrainians to resolve the situation through peaceful means. The future of the country rests with Ukrainian voters, but the United States and Europe must continue to support a foundation for democracy, rule of law and a market economy, which will allow Ukraine to prosper and reach its full potential.

Conclusion

With democratic forces in retreat in neighboring Russia and Belarus, a free and fair election will be a turning point in Ukraine's history that could have widespread constructive effects beyond its borders and the region.

I have strong affection for the people of Ukraine and the bravery and determination they have shown since the fall of the Soviet Union. I have good memories of suggesting an initial pledge of \$175 million in Nunn-Lugar assistance to dismantle the Ukrainian nuclear arsenal. I carried the Ukrainian message to Secretary of State James Baker request-

ing a strong U.S. diplomatic presence when our representation consisted of a small consular office. The secretary moved quickly to establish an embassy and to send a U.S. ambassador to Kiev.

The United States has stood by Ukraine through difficult moments before and we must not fail to do so at this critical juncture. My presence in Ukraine during this important time was meant to underscore President Bush's support for the future of Ukraine. Free and fair elections in Ukraine embody our hope and goal of a Europe whole and free.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, I am pleased that Ukraine has dominated newspaper headlines and media broadcasts all over the world for the last 16 days. In that time, extraordinary events have occurred. A free press has revolted against government intimidation and reasserted itself. An emerging middle class has found its political footing. A new generation has found its hope for the future. A society has rebelled against the illegal activities of its government. It is in our interests to recognize and protect these advances.

Thank you for the opportunity to be here today.



Ділимося сумною вісткою з друзями і українською громадою, що 3 жовтня 2004 р. відійшов у вічність з Божої Волі на 34-му році життя

СВ. П.

адвокат

**МАРКО ОЛЕКСАНДЕР
ПЛЕШКЕВИЧ**

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися 9 жовтня 2004 р. в українській католицькій церкві св. Івана Хрестителя в Баффало, Н.Й. Похований на українському цвинтарі св. Миколая в Чикаго, Іл.

У глибокому смутку залишені:

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Please include the daytime phone number of a contact person.



With deep sorrow we announce that on Saturday, December 4, 2004, our beloved husband, father and grandfather entered into eternal rest.



JUCHYM CHARCZENKO

Born on January 20, 1912 in Podobna, Ukraine

He was a member of St. Volodymyr's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Glen Spey, NY; a former President of the UCCA in Glen Spey; member of the Organization for the Defense of Ukraine; member of the World Organization of Ukrainian Political Prisoners.

Viewing was held at the Gray-Parker Funeral Home in Port Jervis, NY

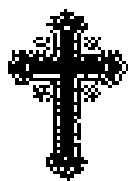
On Tuesday, December 7, 2004, from 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.;
panachyda was held at 3:00 p.m.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 8, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. with a Liturgy Mass in St. Volodymyr's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Glen Spey, N.Y. followed by burial at St. Andrew's Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

Surviving are:

- Wife - Eugenia
- Children with their families: Stefa, Lida, Walter
- Grandchildren - Lada, Roman

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to the Ukrainian Museum.



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що по довгій недозі у вівторок, 23 листопада 2004 р. оточений родиною, відійшов у вічність на 57 році життя

БЛ. П.

пілот-капітан

РОМАН ОХОЦЬКИЙ

нар. в Зальцбургу.

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Залишив у смутку:

- батьків – МАРІЮ і БОГДАНА ОХОЦЬКИХ в Нью-Джерзі
- сестру – КАТЕРИНУ
- дочку – МЕЛАНІЮ в Австралії
- сина – РОБЕРТА в Австралії
- тету – КАТЕРИНУ ОЗАРКІВ у Дітроїті
- наречену – ХРИСТИНУ в Каліфорнії
- родину та приятелів в Україні.

Вічна Йому пам'ять!

The run-off...

(Continued from page 2)

Yanukovych.

The authorities adopted three strategies. First, they would lobby the Supreme Court, as well as Western and Russian governments, on the need to hold completely new elections. The West supported Mr. Yushchenko's demand that there only be a repeat of Round 2. In the event of a new election, Mr. Tyhypko would replace Mr. Yanukovych, as the authorities believe he could be a more formidable challenger to Mr. Yushchenko.

Second, they would hint that in the event of a re-run of Round 2, Mr.

Yanukovych would withdraw from the race. Mr. Tyhypko admitted that Mr. Yanukovych could not hope to win a second run-off, although he did not explain why. The most likely reasons would be both the "Orange Revolution" momentum in Mr. Yushchenko's favor and also an end to censorship on Ukrainian national television channels and an inability to undertake most of the fraudulent methods used in both rounds of the elections. Mr. Yanukovych's representative on the CEC, Stepan Havrysh, supports his withdrawal from another runoff.

With Mr. Yanukovych out of the race, Mr. Yushchenko could either run by himself (as Mikhail Saakashvili had in

Georgia) or face Socialist leader Oleksander Moroz, who came third in Round 1 (Ukrainska Pravda, December 3).

Third, they would try to trick Mr. Yushchenko into agreeing to support constitutional reforms in exchange for amendments to the law on presidential elections. Mr. Yushchenko walked into this trap on December 1 during negotiations brokered by the European Union's foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, and Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski.

The seven-point plan agreed to during these negotiations "shocked members of the Yushchenko camp" (Ukrainska Pravda, December 2). The plan accommodates most of the authorities demands' while ignoring or side-stepping most of those put forward by the Yushchenko team.

The declaration agrees to simultaneously conduct constitutional reforms and change the presidential election law. For the authorities, transforming Ukraine from a semi-presidential to a parliamentary-presidential republic has nothing to do with any new impulse to ensure Ukraine's democratization. Rather, they simply fear the extensive presidential powers that Mr. Yushchenko would inherit from President Kuchma. As part of Mr. Moroz's agreement to support Mr. Yushchenko in Round 2, Mr. Yushchenko had agreed to support constitutional reform on the condition that it would take effect only after the March 2006 parliamentary elections.

President Kuchma also must propose new members of the CEC, as the current composition has been discredited by a parliamentary vote of no confidence and by the Supreme Court ruling. The Yushchenko camp is demanding that the CEC's representatives be evenly divided between their supporters and Mr. Yanukovych's.

Yet, changing the composition of the CEC would not resolve three key problems. First, during the elections the Yanukovych camp controlled two-thirds of the Territorial Election Commission (TEC) officials, and many of them have been corrupted by bribes or been themselves involved in election fraud. Changing the CEC will not change these local officials. Second, the Yushchenko camp wants CEC Chairman Serhii Kivalov and other officials involved in election fraud to be prosecuted. Third, the "transit server," based in the presidential administration and used to manipulate votes coming from TECs, cannot be closed if the opposition cannot enter the presidential administration building.

Finally, Mr. Kuchma should act on the Verkhovna Rada's December 1 vote of no confidence in the Yanukovych government and dismiss it, thereby depriving Mr. Yanukovych of the opportunity to abuse "state-administrative resources" as prime minister. A provisional government would then steer Ukraine until the 2006 elections. Candidates touted for the post of prime minister include Mr. Moroz, Volodymyr Lytvyn, Yulia Tymoshenko or Our Ukraine businessman Petro Poroshenko. The subtlety of this issue lies in the fact that if constitutional reform were introduced immediately after the election, the post of prime minister would have more power than the president.

Mr. Yushchenko has walked into a trap of his own making due to his poor negotiating and debating skills. This was seen both during the live television debate with Mr. Yanukovych on November 15, where he did badly, and during round-table talks brokered by the EU and Poland. Mr. Yushchenko's orange-clad supporters in the streets of Kyiv are highly unlikely to accept constitutional reforms that strip power from an elected President Yushchenko.

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Lubomyr Luciuk addresses challenges facing the Ukrainian diaspora

by Roma Hadzewycz

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – “What role for the Ukrainian diaspora now?” was the topic of a presentation by Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, professor of political geography at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario, who was the featured speaker at a recent gathering of the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey.

“In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,” he began, noting that he would focus on the different challenges faced by succeeding generations of Ukrainians – the fathers, the sons and the succeeding generations.

First he spoke of the generation of his parents. His own father, Dr. Luciuk said, was a “Banderivets,” an adherent of the nationalist movement headed by Stepan Bandera; his mother was a slave laborer taken by the Nazis during World War II to work in Germany. Both were members of a generation that believed in the Ukrainian cause and struggled against the Poles, Soviets, Nazis and then the Soviets once again; they became post-war refugees. Like others of their generation they believed that one day there would be a free Ukraine.

“Out of the refugee camps,” Dr. Luciuk continued, “came a transformed generation.” That generation, he said, had “a compulsive need to return home.” In the meantime they organized themselves and sought to replace themselves. They taught their children to “never forget who you are” and effected a “migration of memory” from one generation to the next.

The next generation, is that of the son – the children of displaced persons (DPs). Dr. Luciuk recounted how he, a

native of Kingston, Ontario, grew up at a time when “there was no Ukraine on the map.” Very often, he recalled, “friends would say show us on a map” where this country is located. Thus, we were identified as “anything but Ukrainian”: malrosy, Soviets, etc., he continued.

Later Dr. Luciuk began to research the history of Ukrainians in Canada – who had arrived in the country generations before his parents – and he learned about such things as Canada’s internment camps and the activities of Ukrainian Communists. He unearthed a 1917 issue of the Whig Standard of Kingston that called internment a national humiliation and commented that, soon or later, there would have to be a reconciliation.

Dr. Luciuk also focused on the work of G.R. Bohdan Panchuk, whom he described as a hero and “probably the most important person of all those who helped refugees” and organized Ukrainian community life in Britain. It was Panchuk, he said, who saved members of the Galicia Division and helped fight forced repatriation of Ukrainians to the Soviet Union. He noted that he was most impressed with what Panchuk had written of his motivation: “I have but one gospel: do something.”

As Prof. Luciuk was researching Panchuk’s life, he said he learned a lot about the Ukrainian Canadians and Ukrainian Americans who worked to rescue the DPs, his parents’ generation.

Another formative moment for Dr. Luciuk was the Deschenes Commission of Inquiry which was tasked with finding Nazi war criminals among the Baltic and Ukrainian communities. The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, he recounted, was formed as a response to the Deschenes Commission. Its position



Roma Hadzewycz

Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk (center) with Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky (left) and Alex Pidwerbetsky of the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons of New York and New Jersey.

was that any person suspected of war crimes should be brought to trial.

Later it became clear that the “thousands” of Nazi war criminals that allegedly lived in Canada could not be found, Dr. Luciuk stated. Indeed, the Deschenes Commission reported that the number of war criminals had been grossly exaggerated. Furthermore, the commission agreed that there should be a “made in Canada” solution in prosecuting war criminals.

The Canadian government said it would apply that solution and would hold criminal trials in Canada of suspected Nazi war criminals, the speaker continued. Ultimately, however, the government could not prove that a single suspect was guilty.

The position of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, of which Dr. Luciuk is not only an active member but also the research director, was that “any person suspected of war crimes should be brought to trial” – not just Nazi war crimes, but Soviet war crimes, for example.

Then, in 1993, the Liberal government initiated a new strategy: denaturalization and deportation (D&D), which Dr. Luciuk said was based on the U.S. model, whereby suspected Nazi war criminals are tried not for their crimes but for lying about their wartime whereabouts and activities on their applications for immigration.

(Continued on page 24)

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Lubomyr Luciuk...

(Continued from page 23)

One of the problems encountered was that Canada destroyed case files in the 1960s, so no files were available to review in the cases of persons subjected to the D&D procedures. The court decided that "on balance of probabilities" all refugees were asked the same questions, thus upholding the government's claim that "all refugees were screened exactly the same way and perfectly." Thus, the defense of persons accused of concealing their activities during World War II is severely hampered.

Dr. Luciuk concluded this portion of his talk by pointing out that "no effort has been made to identify any Soviet war criminals in Canada and the U.S."

Another issue we have to deal with, Dr. Luciuk continued, is the "Holodomor" – the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 – and those who continue to deny it. On May Day 2003, on the initiative of the UCCLA, postcards were sent to the Pulitzer Committee; this was followed up in October of the same year with a postcard campaign directed at The New York Times.

"The campaign was a success because Ukrainians around the world got involved." And, he noted, the term "Durantism" has now become used to denote the type of dishonest "journalism" employed by Walter Duranty.

"It would have been remarkable if The New York Times caved in to us," Dr. Luciuk observed, "if the Pulitzer committee had revoked the prize." That was not something that the UCCLA expected would happen, but the postcard campaign, helped by a series of events in the news, did succeed in garnering a lot of news coverage in the print and broadcast media around the world, he noted.

Another issue that the Ukrainian community will have to face, and soon, is the 60th anniversary in May 2005 of the Great Patriotic War (as World War II was known in the Soviet Union) during which, as the Soviets always claimed, 20 million citizens of the USSR were killed. "Now the myth of 20 million Soviets will no doubt become the myth of 20 million Russians," Dr. Luciuk explained.

"But it was Ukraine that lost more of its population than any other nation," he underscored. "However, this is buried within the Soviet/Russian figure" of casualties. The government of Ukraine is not articulating the profound losses felt by

Ukraine during World War II; therefore, "we need to begin to fight the Great Patriotic War." Ukrainians must push Ukraine to act, to set up its own inquiry into Soviet war criminals, to recognize the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and give them the same rights, including pensions, as other veterans receive.

The final part of Dr. Luciuk's talk referred to the children and grandchildren of today's adults. Many of the unresolved issues that faced their parents will face the younger generations. For example, Canada's minister of justice speaks of the "unfinished business" of war criminals in Canada – but only about Nazi war criminals.

Citing the case of Wasył Odynsky, who has been denaturalized and now awaits deportation, Dr. Luciuk asked: "Why should we care about cases like Odynsky, [John] Demjanjuk and [Mykola] Wasylyk?" The answer: "for our children." Ukrainians are being targeted and smeared, and their families are being torn apart. He recalled how his young daughter once said to him: "Dad, I'm afraid of being a Ukrainian in Canada."

Another example of the perceptions that continue to plague Ukrainians pertains to the Holocaust. Dr. Luciuk recounted how when Stefan Petelycky penned his memoirs, "Into Auschwitz, For Ukraine," the Library of Congress would not describe it as a Holocaust survivor's memoirs because they said there is no such category as a Ukrainian Holocaust survivor – Ukrainians were not seen as victims of the Holocaust. Dr. Luciuk said publication of the book was held off and, finally, the author did have his book classified as a Holocaust memoir.

"The perception of us as a community," Dr. Luciuk underlined, "still is indifferent and even hostile." And that, he said, is the main challenge facing the Ukrainian diaspora.

* * *

Dr. Luciuk is the author of "Searching for Place: Ukrainian Displaced Persons, Canada and the Migration of Memory" (2000) and the editor of "Not Worthy: Walter Duranty's Pulitzer Prize and The New York Times" (2004). His presentation before the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey took place on October 2 at the Ramada Hotel.

This revolution...

(Continued from page 6)

Russian informally and his Ukrainian, both formal and informal, is heavily loaded with "surzhyk."

This guy chosen for us by Putin, Lavrov, Kuchma & Co. sure lied to Richard Armitage, undersecretary of state, by complaining that the "orange" people from the opposition almost killed his son so he was obliged to evacuate his family to his native Donbas. One has to have a very sick and criminal mind to be able to misuse one's own family for the sake of political gain.

Similarly, he lied while behaving like a clown in Ivano-Frankivsk under the impact of an egg. And this man who has been solemnly blessed and keeps feeling protected by Moscow was and still is supposed to become president of my nation!

He would represent my nation while traveling abroad, he would meet Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom and many other crowned and uncrowned VIPs. God knows what lies he would utter in front of them. He would be the supreme commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and

the supreme quarter-master of the Ukrainian diplomatic activity. No wonder, therefore, that so many appalled Ukrainian diplomats signed the petition rejecting him.

As far as his Russian mentors are concerned, they would only be happy to see again widespread political reprisals in Ukraine. They would find it hilarious to see hundreds of thousands political refugees from Ukraine flooding Europe from Poland up to Cornwall. They would welcome the decision of Mr. Yanukovych the president to send a couple of Ukrainian battalions to help them in Chechnya. For this noble purpose the law on dual citizenship would be custom-tailored at once. Since Mr. Yanukovych's criminal dossier is kept in Moscow, he is perfectly blackmailable and would do whatever the bosses tell him to do.

They want to humiliate Ukraine again and for good, and to show the Ukrainians their "right" place in geopolitical reality. The core of these pseudo-diplomatic reasonings by Messrs. Putin, Lavrov and the Duma is just this: We loathe you profoundly, you, "Little-Russians." We sort of like you when you blink and roll your eyes sideways. And we hate you, Ukrainians who gaze at us unblinkingly.

Selfreliance credit union supports Chicago's Ukrainian National Museum

by Marika Klymchak

CHICAGO – There is a saying: “As you sow, so shall you reap.” The post-war Ukrainian émigrés who settled in the United States, their adoptive home, instilled in their children and grandchildren a deep and abiding love of their cultural heritage. Thousands of professionals of Ukrainian ancestry continue to honor the traditions of their parents and grandparents. They support Chicago's Ukrainian community, and their children are growing up in the various organizations established by the previous generation, thereby assuring that the community will continue to be a viable influence in our lives.

Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union was founded in the early 1950s; together with the Ukrainian National Museum and other institutions, it has celebrated its half-century anniversary.

Early last summer an idea was born – one that would provide financial support for the Ukrainian National Museum and at the same time inform the members of Selfreliance Ukrainian-American FCU about the importance of this institution in our community.

At a meeting attended by Museum President Yaroslav Hankevych and Vice-

President Dr. George Hrycelak, Selfreliance UAFCU President/CEO Bohdan Watral and Director of Marketing Walter Tun, the decision was made to implement a matching grant program under the title “Summer at the Museum – in Cooperation with Selfreliance.” Donations to the Museum by members of Selfreliance made in July and August were matched 1:1 by the credit union, up to \$11,000. The fund drive exceeded expectations: donations, big and small, totaled \$15,000.

Community members are invited to visit the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago and to become members of the museum. For membership and program information, readers may call the museum at (312) 421-8020.

The Ukrainian National Museum expressed its gratitude to each benefactor as well as to Selfreliance Ukrainian American FCU for proposing this fundraising activity, thereby continuing and enhancing the tradition of charitable giving so prevalent in the Ukrainian American community. Donated funds will allow the museum to expand its work of preserving and showcasing the Ukrainian heritage.

(Translated by Theodora Turula)

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



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ELECTION WATCH

(Continued from page 2)

Yushchenko, who said that he was prepared to use force if necessary to take power in Ukraine. In comments made to Britain's Sunday Telegraph on December 5, Mr. Yushchenko said that "if the old regime tries to interfere in any way and tries to defy the will of the people and of Parliament, we will simply storm our way into the Cabinet office. This is what people want." In response, Mr. Putin said that it is completely unacceptable to make threats that leave people with no choice. "When a political leader says that 'whatever happens, whatever the result of the elections, we will take power, including by force,' this is not just pressure, it is intimidation of the people," the Russian president said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yulia says Putin wrong to criticize

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, a prominent Ukrainian opposition leader, told Nezavisimaya Gazeta on December 7 that President Vladimir Putin's recent criticism of the Ukrainian opposition is based on the incorrect perception that "the personality of the future Ukrainian president will define the strategic vector of Ukrainian foreign policy." According to Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Putin thinks that only presidential candidate and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich will cooperate with Russia and the CIS. "Regardless of who is elected Ukrainian president, relations between Russia and Ukraine will be warm and friendly," she said. The difference, she added, is that if Viktor Yushchenko is president, these relations will not be based on clan politics and behind-the-scenes deals. "Very soon, Putin will realize that it is better to cooperate with a democratic Ukraine, which will be a more reliable and predictable partner," Ms. Tymoshenko said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM distances himself from Kuchma

KYIV – Presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich on December 6 seemed to disassociate himself from President Leonid Kuchma. "My opponents are using a propagandistic stereotype [by referring to] the Kuchma-Yanukovich regime," he told journalists. In fact, Mr. Yanukovich revealed, he was forced to make compromises with the presidency and "restrain his emotions" because, he added, he wanted to procure an "economic wonder" for all of Ukraine as he did in the Donetsk region when he was governor there in 2002. "I can say openly that two types of state power have existed in our country for the last two years – old power and new power," Mr. Yanukovich said. "So our citizens should make their own conclusions as to whether Yanukovich is a candidate of the new power or the old power. I am sure that [Viktor] Yushchenko represents an attempt by the old power to seek revenge." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Putin and Kuchma confer by phone

MOSCOW – While Russia did not respond officially to the landmark Ukrainian Supreme Court verdict of December 3 or plans to hold a new presidential runoff, President Vladimir Putin's press service announced that he discussed the situation in Ukraine with President Leonid Kuchma by telephone on December 4, utro.ru reported. The announcement did not include details of their conversation but said Mr. Putin told his outgoing Ukrainian counterpart that as part of the international mediating effort, Duma Speaker Boris Gryzlov will attend negotiations aimed at paving the way to new balloting. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Duma speaker comments on crisis

ST. PETERSBURG – Duma Speaker Boris Gryzlov said on December 4 that the

Ukrainian Supreme Court ruling ordering a repeat of the presidential run-off election was unlikely to resolve the country's political crisis, Russian and international news agencies reported the same day. "The elections in Ukraine have shown that society in that country is split right down the middle, and the Supreme Court's decision in favor of the loser is unlikely to remedy everything and immediately," Interfax quoted Mr. Gryzlov as saying in St. Petersburg. "The presidential election has uncovered too many internal problems, and we are now dealing not with a settlement of the political crisis but with a search for ways to settle it." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Duma leader warns of tensions

MOSCOW – Konstantin Kosachev, chairman of the Duma's Foreign Affairs Committee, said the Ukrainian court's decision was "politically unfortunate" and does not ease tensions in that country, ITAR-TASS reported on December 4. "The participation of the same candidates in the revote will not bring the desired calm to Ukraine, and a considerable number of people will be displeased with the results. Therefore, the danger of confrontation and even a split will remain," Mr. Kosachev said, adding, "It would be preferable to hold a new election with new candidates." He said, nevertheless, that "the Supreme Court in this situation is the only body that is empowered to make the decision, and any decision should be implemented unconditionally." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rift between Our Ukraine, Socialists?

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on December 4 failed to agree on changing the presidential election law to prevent vote rigging and amending the Constitution of Ukraine to cut the president's powers in favor of the prime minister and the Parliament, Ukrainian and

international news agencies reported. The failure was a result of the refusal by Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine caucus to vote on both measures at once. The introduction of constitutional reform was the main condition under which Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz supported Mr. Yushchenko's presidential bid following the first election round on October 31. "This means that there may not be changes to the Constitution and our monarchist form of rule will continue," Mr. Moroz said on December 4. Yulia Tymoshenko, a staunch ally of Mr. Yushchenko, said the same day that Yushchenko supporters want the Parliament to pass changes to the presidential election law before tackling the constitutional reform. (RFE/RL Newsline)


PM vows to run in repeat vote

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said on December 4 that he will stand against Viktor Yushchenko again in a rerun of the presidential run-off, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. "He is convinced he will win the second time as he won the first time since 15 million Ukrainians stand behind him," Mr. Yanukovich's spokeswoman, Hanna Herman, told journalists. She added that Mr. Yanukovich regards the Supreme Court's decision invalidating the November 21 run-off as having been made "under huge political pressure." If one candidate withdraws from the repeat vote the other, in order to be elected, will have to obtain at least 50 percent plus one vote in a ballot involving no less than 50 percent of eligible voters. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S. hails Supreme Court ruling

WASHINGTON – Washington wel-

(Continued on page 27)



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ELECTION WATCH

(Continued from page 26)

comed the Ukrainian Supreme Court ruling that there should be a rerun of the November 21 presidential run-off in Ukraine, Reuters reported on December 3. "What is important now is to move ahead quickly as called for by the Supreme Court to ensure a new vote that is fair, free, and that results in an outcome that reflects the will of the Ukrainian people," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher noted. "The court's decision is an important step in moving toward a peaceful, democratic resolution that reflects the will of the people," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said the same day. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Donetsk leader addresses Duma

MOSCOW – Mykola Levchenko, chairman of the Donetsk City Council in eastern Ukraine, on December 1 urged Russian lawmakers to get tough with the West for interfering in his country's internal affairs, ITAR-TASS reported. "America and Western Europe are poking their snout into Ukraine, and Russia is afraid even to touch it with its hand," Mr. Levchenko told reporters after addressing a special session of the State Duma's leadership. "Political hooliganism is happening in Kyiv today," he said. Mr. Levchenko's Donetsk region, heavily Russian-speaking and pro-Moscow, has threatened to hold a referendum on autonomy if Viktor Yushchenko becomes Ukraine's president. Mr. Levchenko denied, however, that such a move would split Ukraine. "It's not about division or separatism, it's about a federation," he said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma's unscheduled trip to Moscow...

MOSCOW – President Vladimir Putin

met for two hours on December 2 with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, who made an unscheduled trip to Moscow to discuss Ukraine's political crisis, Russian media reported. Addressing journalists following the talks at Moscow's Vnukovo airport, Mr. Putin expressed his disagreement with Ukrainian opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko's demand that his disputed November 21 presidential run-off against government-backed and pro-Russian candidate Viktor Yanukovych be repeated. Mr. Putin voiced his support for holding a new election entirely, saying, "a re-vote could be conducted a third, a fourth, a 25th time, until one side gets the results it needs," RTR reported. Mr. Kuchma echoed Mr. Putin's sentiments, saying, "I don't know of a single country that has such a legal norm as a re-vote," RTR reported. Mr. Putin praised Mr. Kuchma for keeping the situation in Ukraine under control, and expressed Russia's concerns over "the possibility of Ukraine splitting up." He also said that Russia is prepared to help resolve the crisis, and that "Russia will always be together with Ukraine." (RFE/RL Newsline)

... prompts speculation as to his intentions

MOSCOW – Commenting on Kuchma's visit to Moscow, Duma Deputy Speaker Sergei Baburin (Motherland) said on December 2 that he believes the Ukrainian president made the trip to persuade Putin to retreat from his open support for Yanukovych, TV-Tsentr reported on December 2. Mr. Baburin said that while, as a Russian, he supports Mr. Yanukovych, as a politician he admires Viktor Yushchenko as "a revolutionary." The same evening in Kyiv, Mr. Yushchenko addressed his supporters with an unusual 20-minute speech in Russian, in which he called Russia

Ukraine's most import neighbor and encouraged Ukrainians to acquire a good understanding of the Russian language. Meanwhile, gazeta.ru speculated on December 2 that during their meeting President Putin probably advised President Kuchma how to handle international pressure and the popular support that Mr. Yushchenko enjoys. The newspaper went on say that Messrs. Putin and Kuchma's discussion likely centered on finding a common position on a proposal by an international group of mediators that Ukraine prepare a new presidential election law jointly with a constitutional reform that would shift the balance of power from the president to the Parliament and the prime minister. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma: Russian involvement needed

MOSCOW – During his brief visit to Moscow on December 2, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said that active Russian involvement is essential in resolving Ukraine's political crisis, ITAR-TASS reported the next day. "Without Russia's efforts it is impossible to find ways to overcome the political crisis," he said. "Otherwise Ukraine may lose its political identity." Mr. Kuchma also thanked State Duma Speaker Boris Gryzlov for taking part in roundtable negotiations on Ukraine's crisis as part of a group of international mediators. The Ukrainian president added that if the crisis is not resolved, "we can predict economic consequences." (RFE/RL Newsline)

European Parliament for second run-off

STRASBOURG – The European Parliament on December 2 passed a resolution on the situation in Ukraine condemning the November 21 presidential run-off in Ukraine as apparently fraudulent and rejecting the Central Election

Commission's decision that declared Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych the winner, the European Parliament website (<http://www.europarl.eu.int>) reported. The European Parliament called on Ukrainian authorities to annul the official results of the run-off and hold an honest rerun of the second round before the end of this year with the participation of international observers. The resolution also called on Ukrainian protesters to allow the normal functioning of Ukraine's state organs and to refrain from barricading the main buildings of these organs. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Duma assails European Parliament

MOSCOW – The Russian State Duma passed a resolution on December 3 accusing members of the European Parliament, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) of destabilizing Ukraine, ITAR-TASS reported. The resolution, which passed by a vote of 415-0 with eight abstentions, accused the Europeans of "destructive foreign interference in the development of the situation in Ukraine." The action of the Europeans "practically pushes the radically minded part of the Ukrainian population toward dangerous actions," which threatens to result in "mass disturbances, chaos and a split of the country." The resolution harshly criticized the Ukrainian opposition supporting presidential hopeful Viktor Yushchenko for using the tactics of "street democracy." The resolution added that the Duma is sincerely interested in seeing that the situation in Ukraine is resolved in "a democratic and constitutional way," and stressed the lawmakers' "firm commitment to continuing efforts toward the strengthening of traditional friendship and fraternal relations between the peoples of Russia and Ukraine." (RFE/RL Newsline)



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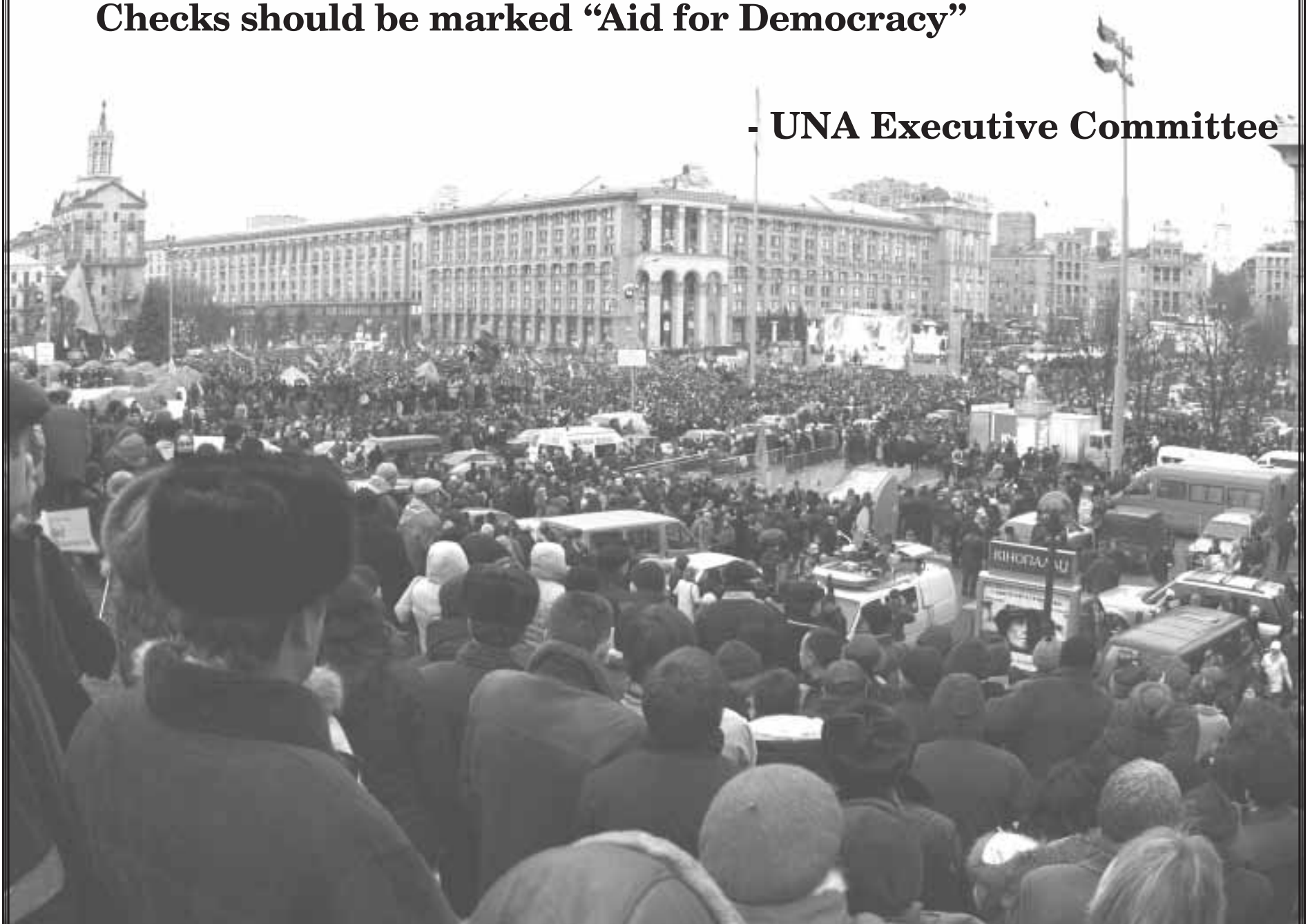
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U.S. secretary of state...

(Continued from page 1)

want to have a free, fair, open election. "And the Ukrainians have worked out a way to do that," he added, "with the help of the international community."

"Spheres of influence," Secretary Powell said, "is a term that really isn't relevant to the circumstances that we are facing today," be it in Ukraine, the Central Asian Republics and the Caucasus.

The United States is not asking Ukrainians "to choose between the East and the West," he said. "It is a different world we are living in, where people want freedom, they want democracy, they want to be able to select their own leaders, they want to be able to select their own partners and friends."

"Today I join my colleagues in voicing support for Ukraine's independence, its territorial integrity and its sovereignty. We all back the democratic process that is under way and we are looking for an outcome that reflects the true will of the Ukrainian people," Mr. Powell said.

Earlier that day at the OSCE meeting in Sofia, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov warned about "new lines of division" being created in Europe and about not allowing OSCE monitoring to be turned into "an instrument of political manipulation and a factor for destabilization in a whole range of issues."

During an interview with EuroNews TV on December 8, Mr. Powell was asked if he thought the rhetoric over Ukraine was increasing tensions with Moscow. "I wouldn't call it increasing tension," he replied. "I would say that we have some differences of opinion."

"But with respect to the Ukraine, the Ukrainian people have spoken. They have made it clear that they want a rerun of the election. And their Supreme Court has said that the election should be rerun. The run-off should be held again. And now today the Rada has put in place the legislation to do this. So this is a victory for the Ukrainian people," he said.

On Saturday, December 4, after he heard about the Ukrainian Supreme Court's ruling to hold a new presidential run-off election, Secretary of State Powell welcomed the decision and said, "It shows how the Ukrainians are able to solve their problems."

"And we hope that the upcoming election will be free, fair, open, well-supervised, so that there'd be no question about the validity of the results," he added. To help in this effort the Bush administration on December 7 notified Congress that it is making available \$3 million to provide funding for election-related activities for the December 26 run-off in Ukraine.

Testifying before the House International Relations Committee, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs John Tefft said the sum includes \$500,000 for OSCE election observers and up to \$2.5 million to support non-governmental organization monitoring and other election-related efforts.

Also testifying that day before the committee on developments in Ukraine were President George W. Bush's special envoy to Ukraine for the run-off election, Sen. Richard Lugar, and U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur, who co-chairs the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

In his testimony, Sen. Lugar [for full text, see page 9] laid the responsibility for the previous fraudulent elections in Ukraine on the government of President Kuchma, which, he said, "allowed, or aided and abetted, wholesale fraud and abuse that changed the results of the election."

"It is clear that Prime Minister Yanukovich did not win this election despite erroneous election announcements and calls of congratulations from Moscow."

Since then, he said, a lot of extraordinary events have occurred in Ukraine: "A free

press has revolted against government intimidation and reasserted itself. An emerging middle class has found its political footing. A new generation has found its hope for the future. A society has rebelled against the illegal activities of its government."

"It is in our interests to recognize and protect these advances," he said. "With democratic forces in retreat in neighboring Russia and Belarus, a free and fair election will be a turning point in Ukraine's history that could have widespread constructive effects beyond its borders and the region," Sen. Lugar said.

Rep. Kaptur underscored the moral aspect of the need to help Ukraine at this juncture of its history.

"When I first traveled to Ukraine with our mother, Anastasia, in 1973, long before I was serving as a member of Congress," she recalled, "I held little hope that what we are witnessing today would, or could, happen in our lifetime."

"America simply has a moral responsibility and, indeed, a duty, to help plant democracy where it seeks to root," she said. "No economic interest or strategic paradigm should divert our nation from standing firmly beside those who are risking all."

Opening the hearing, Committee

Chairman Henry Hyde [see page 9 for the text of his statement] noted how on June 6, 1944, American and Allied forces began the liberation of Europe on the beaches of Normandy. That process did not end in 1945, and has continued to this day, he said, adding: "With Ukraine's democratization and its integration into NATO, we will have achieved the last great piece remaining in our effort to liberate and secure Europe that began on those beaches so long ago."

The ranking minority member of the committee, Rep. Tom Lantos, stressed in his opening remarks that the "central goal of United States policy towards Ukraine must be to encourage its integration into Europe through the promotion of democracy, transparency, sound economic policies and human rights."

But he added that the United States "must remain vigilant so that the ugly remnants of the Ukrainian and Soviet past do not overwhelm what may be a promising future of democracy in the eastern part of Europe."

Rep. Lantos described the situation in Ukraine as "both volatile and complex" and "far from a case of the good guys versus the bad guys, or east versus west, as a reading of most of the media would suggest."

Rep. Lantos said he was troubled by the "misleading, exuberant portrayal in the Western media of Victor Yushchenko as a pro-Western hero with Western liberal values." Both presidential candidates are products of the Soviet system, he said, "and it remains to be seen whether Yushchenko will live up to the high expectations we in the West, myself included, have for his candidacy."

The California congressman said he was pleased with Mr. Yushchenko's "clean and non-corrupt political record," but at the same time he was "deeply distressed by instances of anti-Semitism among some of his supporters and his reluctance to condemn anti-Semitism in the press and in the public arena."

"We all know that Ukraine has a horrible past in this respect, and it is colored with the blood shed in the Cossack pogroms of the 17th century," Rep. Lantos said. He noted that the situation for Jews in Ukraine "improved tremendously, and there has been a renaissance of Jewish life in Ukraine" since independence, but he cautioned that political leaders, on all sides, "must be vigilant on this issue and not let any anti-Semitic events go unchallenged in a new Ukraine."

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Report of Auditing Committee...

(Continued from page 5)

The Ukrainian Weekly subscribers totaled 6,079. In comparison with the end of 2003, the number of Svoboda subscribers decreased by 236, while the number of Weekly subscribers declined by 113.

The deficit of both publications for the nine months of 2004 was \$140,000. For purposes of comparison, let us recall for the nine months of 2003 it was \$137,000 higher. In accordance with the budget for 2004, the deficit of both publications should not exceed \$150,000.

5. Soyuzivka

For the nine months of 2004, Soyuzivka's deficit totaled \$353,000. For nine months of 2003 Soyuzivka lost \$227,000. Despite an increase in income of \$62,000, the increase in the deficit was caused mainly by decreased donations during 2004. In 2003 donations totaled \$175,000, and in 2004 they amounted to only \$105,000.

The 35th Convention established a committee whose goal is to halt the need for cash allocations to the UNA resort and at the same time keep the resort in Ukrainian hands, if possible.

The Executive Committee sent a strategic business plan for the 2003-2005 period to the insurance authorities of the State of New Jersey. This plan details the work not only of the UNA as a whole, but of its various operations, including Soyuzivka. The plan was discussed at a meeting with state officials, who are observing the UNA's moves, principally as regards Soyuzivka.

The Executive has made several improvements at Soyuzivka and continues to work with a group of experts for the benefit of guests and Soyuzivka.

One of the projects that is now being reviewed is the expansion of existing hotel accommodations and the creation of a conference center in the Main House. The Executive plans to use the land behind Kyiv for the construction of six buildings, each of which will be composed of six to eight town homes. The second stage of construction includes the use of 30 acres of lands adjacent to the church property.

6. Miscellaneous

For the nine months of 2004 261 members of the UNA availed themselves of the ScriptSave program of discounts on medicines, saving an average of 22 percent.

Approximately 7,730 square feet are available for rent to outside clients in the UNA headquarters building. In December, the available space in the building will increase to 10,993 square feet. The Executive is working on this with a real estate agent.

For the Auditing Committee:
Dr. Zenon Holubec, chairman
Yaroslav Zaviysky, vice-chairman
Dr. Alexander Serafyn, secretary

(Translated by The Ukrainian Weekly.)

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FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Zozulky do a good deed for the New Jersey community

by Christopher Rizzo

WHIPPANY, N.J. – Our youngest “sumivtsi,” the Zozulky (ages 3-5), wanted to do something for their community. They were thinking about other children their age and families that will be hungry this Thanksgiving Day.

One Monday night during their meeting in Whippany, they decided – with the help of their counselors, Chrystya Woch and Katia Kleban – to conduct a food drive. The Community FoodBank was collecting non-perishable foods for the holiday season. The food collected would help provide a holiday meal for the less fortunate.

The little Zozulky enlisted the Puhachi (ages 6-8) for their help and asked that all the parents of

Whippany SUM (Ukrainian American Youth Association) to donate some perishable foods, asking especially for canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy and fruit juices.

On Monday, November 15, many bags and cans of food were brought to the SUM meeting place, where the little Zozulky, with the help of the Puhachi, helped fill the boxes and bags with all the canned goods.

These goods were delivered to the Community FoodBank on November 20. The goods were distributed among the less fortunate, ensuring that everyone would have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

This good deed proved that even the youngest children can make a difference in this world.



The youngest members of SUM with some of the food they collected for the needy.

Mishanyna



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

Surely by now everyone’s heard of the “ORANGE REVOLUTION” that is taking place in Ukraine, as the country of our parents, grandparents and even more distant ancestors seeks a fair and free vote for president.

The candidates in the election, which has now been moved to a repeat RUN-OFF on December 26 because of large-scale falsifications of the voting on November 21, are the leader of the Our Ukraine political bloc, VIKTOR YUSHCHENKO, and the current prime minister of Ukraine, Viktor YANUKOVYCH. They are running for the presidential seat now held by Leonid KUCHMA.



Wowk Photography

Some of the youngsters who came out in New York City in support of Ukraine’s Orange Revolution.

In the past three weeks, hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians and others who live in Ukraine have taken to the streets.

The largest pro-DEMOCRACY rallies were held in Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine. People came out wearing the color of the Yushchenko campaign, orange. They wore orange SCARVES, HATS, BANDANNAS, RIBBONS, etc. They also carried orange PLACARDS, BANNERS, FLAGS and BALLOONS.

Even here, in the DIASPORA (which is what we call our communities of Ukrainians beyond the

borders of Ukraine), we have experienced an Orange WAVE. Many cities throughout North America have held their own rallies and demonstrations in support of democracy and a free and fair presidential ELECTION in Ukraine.

People of all ages, including many of your neighbors and friends, came out to express their belief that Ukraine must have a free election, and that Russia, Ukraine’s neighbor, cannot be allowed to influence the result.

Their goal: VICTORY for democracy! And, a brighter future for Ukraine.

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A	R	T	A	O	T	U	K	A	S	M	A	R	T	Y
S	O	I	S	I	D	O	O	R	U	N	O	F	F	R
A	L	O	O	F	O	R	N	A	Y	E	P	O	E	E
D	S	N	O	O	L	L	A	B	M	R	S	S	I	D

Soyuzivka's Datebook

- December 23, 2004**
Jeremiah Flaherty Law Office
Christmas Party
Dinner, 6 p.m., \$25 per person
Overnight Packages Available
- December 24, 2004**
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas
Eve Dinner, 6 p.m., \$25 per person,
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
- January 8, 2005**
UNA Employee Christmas Party
- February 4-6, 2005**
Church of Annunciation Family
Weekend, Flushing N.Y.
- February 11-13, 2005**
Valentine's Day Weekend
- February 19-20, 2005**
Family Winter Weekend and Ski Trip
- March 5-6, 2005**
Plast Kurin "Khmelnynchenky"
Annual Winter Rada



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 12

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) invites the public to a presentation to be delivered by Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, president of the National University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and member of the Committee for the National Salvation of Ukraine, on the topic "The Political Situation in Ukraine Today." The talk will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 2 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

Wednesday, December 15

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) invites the public to a lecture by Prof. Oleh Romaniv, president of NTSh-Ukraine, titled "Ukraine Today: The Renaissance of a European Nation." The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5:30 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

Saturday, December 18

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites the public to a "Literary Bazaar," featuring the reading of old and new poetry by Marta Tarnawsky, Dima, Maria Shun and Vasyl Makhno. The evening of poetry will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between 9th and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

ADVANCE NOTICE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2005

SCRANTON, Pa.: A traditional Ukrainian New Year dinner dance – Malanka – will take place at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall, 430 N. Seventh Ave. at 7 p.m.-1 a.m. The festivities will include a buffet dinner with a variety of Ukrainian specialties, a cash bar, a late-night champagne toast with light fare Ukrainian-style and dancing to the music of Fata Morgana of New Jersey/New York. Tickets, at \$35, are available by contacting Kathleen Izak in Scranton, (570) 346-

2414; Dorothy Jamula in Wilkes-Barre, (570) 822-5354; or Ann Zinich in Berwick, (570) 752-4706. The Malanka is sponsored by the combined Ukrainian organizations of north-eastern Pennsylvania.

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 will be by Veseli Chasy. Seating is limited; tickets must be purchased in advance. Advance tickets (purchased before December 21), for the black tie affair, \$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.

CORRECTION

Friday, December 31, 2004

ELLENVILLE, N.Y.: In a notice in the December 5 issue of The Weekly, informing of Oselia SUM's 50th anniversary celebration which is to start off with a New Year's Eve ball at the SUM estate in Ellenville, N.Y., the date was incorrectly given as January 15, 2004. The correct date is Friday, December 31. As part of the celebration there will be hors d'oeuvres, an extravagant buffet dinner and dancing to the music of Chornozem. 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.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

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

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Please include payment of \$20 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Items may be e-mailed to preview@ukrweekly.com.



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