

INSIDE:

- Helsinki Commission members travel to Ukraine — page 3.
- Yushchenko to receive JFK Profile in Courage Award — page 9.
- Special section: Ukrainian debutante balls — pages 11-17.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXIII

No. 11

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2005

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ex-minister of internal affairs found dead before questioning

by Valentinas Mite

RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report

Former Ukrainian Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Kravchenko was found dead in his home on March 4, just hours before he was scheduled to be questioned about the 2000 killing of investigative journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

A spokeswoman for the Internal Affairs Ministry, Inna Kisel, said the death appeared to be suicide but that a forensic investigation is under way.

The death comes two days after Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun said investigators had identified four people involved in the death of Gongadze, who was kidnapped and slain in late 2000.

Two of the suspected killers were employed by the Internal Affairs Ministry, which at the time was headed by Mr. Kravchenko. Mr. Kravchenko served as internal affairs minister from 1995 to 2001.

President Viktor Yushchenko was quoted on March 4 as saying he believed the Gongadze investigation may have played some role in Mr. Kravchenko's death.

Gongadze, whose reports were critical of the government, was abducted in Kyiv in September 2000. His decapitated body was later found buried in a forest outside the capital.

The death sparked months of protests against then President Leonid Kuchma, who the opposition alleged was involved in the killing.

Those allegations were given new life when a former security officer for President Kuchma — Mykola Melnychenko — said he had made secret recordings of conversations in Mr. Kuchma's office that appeared to link the president to Gongadze's death. Some of the tapes involved alleged conversations with Mr. Kravchenko.

In one of the tapes, a voice believed to be Mr. Kuchma's was overheard purportedly ordering Mr. Kravchenko to take measures against the journalist. In response, a man believed to be Mr. Kravchenko said he will do whatever it is that Mr. Kuchma wants.

Mr. Kuchma has denied any connection with Gongadze's killings, and no conclusive link has yet been presented. The authenticity of the tapes has never been completely proven, though investigators in the United States and other countries say they appear to be genuine.

Procurator General Piskun announced recently that he intends to conduct another investigation into the tapes' authenticity. He has asked Mr. Melnychenko to return to Ukraine and be present during this examination.

(Continued on page 8)

Kuchma testifies as prosecutors continue Gongadze investigation

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Former President Leonid Kuchma visited Ukraine's lead prosecuting body on Thursday, March 10, and testified as part of the office's investigation into the murder of Heorhii Gongadze.

Investigators of the Procurator General's Office who are exploring Gongadze's murder questioned Mr. Kuchma and will decide whether to press further, said Vyacheslav Astapov, the procurator general's press secretary.

With the questioning of Mr. Kuchma, the highest officeholder at the time of the Gongadze murder, President Viktor Yushchenko moved closer to fulfilling his commitment to investigate and prosecute the Internet journalist's slaying to the fullest extent.

"I will do everything possible to not only bring the killers into court, but also the organizers and those who ordered the murder," Mr. Yushchenko told the German Bundestag on March 9 while on a two-day visit to the country.

Ukraine's chief prosecutor, Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun, said on March 2 that the authorities know who had ordered Gongadze's murder. As a result, the investigation is likely to call more high-ranking officials to testify, perhaps in court.

President Yushchenko's determination to solve the murder has led to drastic

actions on behalf of those suspected to be involved.

On March 4, former Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Kravchenko was supposed to meet with prosecutors for questioning. Instead, he was found dead that morning in country home on the outskirts of Kyiv.

Police concluded that Mr. Kravchenko died of suicide, and even released excerpts of a note in which he denies any involvement in Gongadze's murder and describes himself as "a victim of the political intrigues of Mr. Kuchma and his entourage."

Many Ukrainians, however, have cast doubt on that version, especially considering that the former minister had two gunshot wounds to his head.

If it was suicide, then Mr. Kravchenko failed in his first attempt, in which a bullet entered his chin, said Petro Koliada, the vice minister of internal affairs. The lethal second bullet entered Kravchenko's temple.

National Deputy Hryhorii Omelchenko said he had asked Mr. Piskun to detain Mr. Kravchenko more than a month ago. "The arrest would have been a way to protect Kravchenko," he said.

As a result, a common conspiracy theory among Ukrainians is that Mr. Kravchenko was either indirectly pressured to kill himself by high-ranking officials because his testimony could impli-

cate others, or that he was murdered for that same reason.

Mr. Kravchenko and Mr. Kuchma are widely suspected of playing a role in Gongadze's murder, partly because of secret recording made by a former security officer for President Kuchma, Mykola Melnychenko.

They are widely believed to be the voices behind the now famous dialogue in which the voice believed to be Mr. Kuchma's orders a subordinate to threaten Mr. Gongadze's life.

"We're working on him," said the voice similar to Mr. Kravchenko's.

"I'm telling you, haul him out, throw him out," said the voice similar to Mr. Kuchma's. "Give him to the Chechens, (inaudible), and then ransom."

The voice similar to Mr. Kravchenko's later said, "I have right now a fighting team, these 'Orly,' who will take care of everything you want."

Throughout the recordings, of which only 30 hours have been released by Mr. Melnychenko, the voice similar to Mr. Kuchma's repeatedly expresses his contempt for Mr. Gongadze and a desire to threaten the journalist's life.

Investigators made further progress this week, charging two police colonels on March 7 with premeditated murder following their arrests the prior week. Mr. Piskun has declined to reveal their

(Continued on page 8)

New book focuses on Ukrainian women in history

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — It was 1973 when Iryna Senyk stood before a Soviet prosecutor, accused of "anti-Soviet agitation with the



Cover of the new book "Ukrainian Women in History" released in Kyiv.

goal of overthrowing Soviet authority."

Incensed by her defiance, the prosecutor demanded that she recite a verse from her poem, written in Russian and addressed to "tovarish."

"It's Siberia where you would see 'father's home' all around you / Millions locked up, doomed to starve / Where spines are bent for years, under the master's laughter," Ms. Senyk said from memory.

With that, the prosecutor tacked on an extra year to what became an 11-year prison sentence. A wonderful price, Ms. Senyk retorted.

Such stories of strength, sacrifice and devotion to Ukraine are abundant in a new book, "Ukrayinky v Istoriyi" (Ukrainian Women in History) released by Lybid publishers of Kyiv.

The day after International Women's Day, March 8, which is celebrated here as a national holiday, First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko joined women from Ukraine and the diaspora in unveiling the book before hundreds gathered in Kyiv.

"I think in the last few days women have received many gifts," Ms. Yushchenko said in Ukrainian. "However, I can frankly say that this

book was the single best present because this is a gift that will last many years. I think this book opens a new world for me and my children."

Printed in large, legible letters and replete with artwork and photographs, "Ukrayinky v Istoriyi" is a 326-page hardcover text that contains the biographies of 63 women who had a significant influence on Ukrainian society.

What unites the women selected for the book is their love for Ukraine — their love for their land, love for their culture and love for Ukraine's traditions, Ms. Yushchenko said.

"I'm happy that in Ukraine we are finally opening the pages to our history that were once closed," she said.

Valentyna Borysenko, the book's chief editor, said it's not the first such book about women. However, its editors collected those events that were forgotten in the Soviet era, she said.

"To understand your fatherland and your people, you must comprehend and know its history," Ms. Borysenko said.

Reaching as far back as Princess Olha, the first leader of Kyivan Rus' to accept Christianity, the book reveals the lives of

(Continued on page 26)

ANALYSIS

Kyiv launches far-reaching reform of Internal Affairs Ministry

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

It was inevitable that radical, democratizing reforms would be launched within the Ukrainian Internal Affairs Ministry (MVS) after the appointment of Yuriy Lutsenko as minister of internal affairs. Already the new atmosphere inside the MVS has contributed to progress in the Gongadze murder investigation. Mr. Lutsenko is a young activist from the Socialist Party of Ukraine (SPU) who was highly involved in the Ukraine Without Kuchma movement (2000-2003) and then in the Orange Revolution protests.

Mr. Lutsenko is being assisted by MVS officers who also want to cleanse their agency of corruption and human rights violations (Zerkalo Nedeli, February 5). The Ukrainian media now regularly publish highly critical open letters from MVS officers and addressed to Mr. Lutsenko (maidan.org.ua, February 22, 25, 28, March 1; kuchmizm.info, February 27).

Mr. Lutsenko has made tackling corruption an urgent priority. "Without this step it will be impossible to revive trust towards the MVS," he declared, adding "And only after this can one hope of struggling against criminality inside Ukraine" (Ukrainska Pravda, February 4). MVS officers who are likely to be charged with human rights and corruption violations include former MVS

Minister Mykola Bilokon and the former head of the Kyiv City MVS, Oleksander Milenin. Under former President Leonid Kuchma, the MVS was widely regarded as the most corrupted power ministry.

The degree of corruption inside the MVS could be seen from the size of bribes required to land one of its high-ranking positions, such as the heads of oblast departments. The highest bribe known is \$1 million for the post of chief of the Donetsk Oblast MVS. Other oblasts reportedly cost between \$50,000 and \$250,000 (maidan.org.ua, February 28).

Mr. Lutsenko is in favor of bringing in younger people and of raising the status of the MVS as steps towards introducing democratic reforms. During his first month in office, Mr. Lutsenko has introduced six key reforms at the ministry.

- First, all MVS officers were to be evaluated by March 1. Citizens with grievances against any MVS officer were asked to come forward and provide evidence. This process was intended as a way to measure the trustworthiness of MVS officers and the level of corruption inside the MVS.

- Second, Oleksander Kikhtenko replaced Serhii Popkov as head of MVS Troops. Mr. Popkov had been ready to use force against the Orange Revolution crowds. MVS Troops will be renamed the Republican Guard.

MVS Troops were downsized after Ukraine became an independent state and some of its functions were assigned to the newly formed National Guard. Although the National Guard became the most professional and patriotic combat unit of the security forces, Mr. Kuchma

(Continued on page 18)

Reining in the Security Service of Ukraine

by **Roman Kupchinsky**

RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report

The Ukrainian Security Service (SBU) is being overhauled by its new civilian head, Oleksander Turchynov, a close political ally of newly elected Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

Mr. Turchynov said in an interview published in the February 19 edition of the Dzerkalo Tyzhnia weekly that the SBU is presently involved in investigating Volodymyr Satsiuk, the first deputy of his predecessor, Col. Gen. Ihor Smeshko, on a number of charges – among them financial irregularities and possible involvement in the poisoning of Viktor Yushchenko. Many in Ukraine have alleged that the SBU, an all-powerful government within a government, was used by former President Leonid Kuchma to listen in on opposition leaders' phone conversations and conduct special operations to physically harm his enemies and blacken their reputations.

Mr. Satsiuk, a former KGB officer, also had a seat in Parliament as a member of the Social Democratic Party – United faction. He was said to have been appointed deputy head of the SBU at the insistence of Viktor Medvedchuk, the head of the Kuchma administration.

In the interview, Mr. Turchynov said:

Roman Kupchinsky, a Prague-based analyst, is a contributor to RFE/RL.

"I do not want to comment on an ongoing investigation, but I can tell you that there is evidence of serious [financial] wrongdoings. As to other, more serious matters, we shall have answers to these in a very short time."

On February 17 Interfax reported that Mr. Turchynov announced that the SBU had initiated a criminal investigation of the former SBU leadership into alleged wiretapping of the telephone conversations of Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yushchenko during the election campaign.

Mr. Turchynov did not say who used the information gathered by these wiretaps or whether they included Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB), presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich, President Kuchma, or others who might have benefited from having access to such conversations.

On February 19, Interfax reported that Mr. Turchynov announced that the SBU had begun an investigation into the possibility that many SBU officers and Ukrainian diplomats had been "recruited by foreign countries." And, while Mr. Turchynov did not specify which "foreign countries" might have been involved, he did dwell at length on the fact that, according to bilateral agreements with Russia, both sides had agreed not to engage in such activities against each other.

Mr. Turchynov also narrowed down

(Continued on page 19)

NEWSBRIEFS

Yushchenko seeks German support

BERLIN – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko met with German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer in Berlin on March 8, during the first day of his two-day trip to Germany, Interfax reported. Mr. Yushchenko told the German television channel ARD that the meeting focused on obtaining Germany's support for Ukraine joining the World Trade Organization, receiving market-economy status and forming a free-trade zone with the European Union. President Yushchenko also said they discussed prospects for a simplified visa regime between Ukraine and the EU. Mr. Yushchenko declared that Ukraine is ready to allow non-visa travel for EU citizens in the near future. According to dpa, Mr. Yushchenko told German journalists that he hopes Ukraine will achieve EU membership "certainly before the year 2016." (RFE/RL Newswire)

PGO files charges in Gongadze case

KYIV – The Procurator General's Office (PGO) has officially charged the recently arrested suspects with killing journalist Heorhii Gongadze in 2000, the Ukrainska Pravda website reported on March 8. Following his meeting with German President Horst Koehler in Berlin, President Viktor Yushchenko announced this news, but did not elaborate. Last week Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun said that two police officers of the rank of colonel were arrested in the Gongadze case. Some reports suggested that the Security Service of Ukraine detained three people in the Gongadze case, two colonels and one general. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Kravchenko leaves suicide note

KYIV – Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko told journalists on March 5 that former Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Kravchenko had left a note before killing himself on March 4. According to Mr. Lutsenko, the note reads: "My dear ones, I am not to blame for anything. Forgive me. I have fallen victim to political intrigues of President [Leonid] Kuchma and his entourage. I'm leaving you with a clear conscience. Farewell." Meanwhile, Security Service of Ukraine chief Oleksander Turchynov said on March 5 that Mr. Kravchenko's note provides "a lot of information for the investigation" in the kidnapping and murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze, according to Interfax. "The note concerns particular people who are also suspects in the case," Mr. Turchynov said. "It provides investigators with a chance to plan the further direction of the investigation." (RFE/RL Newswire)

Kuchma: 'I have a clear conscience'

KYIV – Former Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on March 5 returned to Kyiv from Karlovy Vary in the Czech Republic, where he had stayed for spa therapy since February 15, Ukrainian and international media reported. "Before God, before the people, I have a clear conscience," Mr. Kuchma told reporters on March 4, referring to the allegations linking him and former Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Kravchenko to Heorhii Gongadze's assassination. Mr. Kuchma said during a funeral service for Mr. Kravchenko in Kyiv on March 7 that he does not believe Mr. Kravchenko was guilty of ordering Gongadze's murder. "Under no circumstances will I believe that he [Kravchenko] could give such a felonious order," Interfax quoted the former president as saying. The so-called Melnychenko tapes suggest that Mr. Kuchma may at least have inspired Mr. Kravchenko to abduct Gongadze in 2000 (RFE/RL Newswire)

Pro-presidential party emerges

KYIV – More than 6,000 delegates gathered at a congress in Kyiv on March 5 to set up a party called Our Ukraine People's Union, which will provide political support to the government of President Viktor Yushchenko, Ukrainian media reported. The congress elected 120 delegates to the party's council, and chose Vice Prime Minister Roman Bezsmertnyi as head of the council and Yuriy Yekhanurov as head of the party's executive committee. The congress also made President Yushchenko honorary chairman of the new party. Lawmaker Oleh Bilorus from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc declared at the congress that his bloc is ready to form a coalition with the Our Ukraine People's Union for the 2006 parliamentary election. It is not clear for the time being how political parties constituting the pro-Yushchenko Our Ukraine bloc in the 2004 presidential election will react to the emergence of the new pro-presidential party. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Putin to visit Ukraine this month

KYIV – The Russian ambassador in Ukraine, Viktor Chernomyrdin, announced in Kyiv on March 4, after talks between Russian Security Council Secretary Igor Ivanov and Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, that President Vladimir Putin will visit Kyiv on March 19, ITAR-TASS reported. Meanwhile, Mr. Ivanov said that President Yushchenko told him about his desire to develop good relations with Russia and that there is "political will from

(Continued on page 28)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices.
(ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly:

Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510

UNA:

Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:

The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz

Editors:

Andrew Nynka

Ika Koznarska Casanova (part time)

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

The Ukrainian Weekly, March 13, 2005, No. 11, Vol. LXXIII

Copyright © 2005 The Ukrainian Weekly

Helsinki Commission members meet with Ukrainian officials in Kyiv

by Orest Deychakiwsky

KYIV – United States Helsinki Commission Co-Chairman Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.) and Ranking Commission Member Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Md.) met with Ukrainian officials, non-governmental organizations, and religious leaders in Kyiv on February 26-27. The delegation also laid wreaths at the memorial to the victims of the 1932-1933 Terror-Famine and at the Babyn Yar memorial.

The commissioners had substantive and far-reaching meetings with Ukraine's State Secretary Oleksander Zinchenko, Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk, Justice Minister Roman Zvarych,

they were impressed with the political will and determination of Ukraine's government officials as well as the non-governmental organizations to work for positive change in Ukraine.

As an original co-sponsor, Rep. Smith noted the recent introduction of a bill by House International Relations Committee Chairman Rep. Henry J. Hyde (R-Ill.), which would grant Ukraine normal trade relations (NTR). Cardin affirmed his support for NTR and Ukraine's joining WTO, noting that it was critical for Ukraine to conclude intellectual property rights talks with the United States. Discussions also centered on human trafficking, corruption, the

civil society. Secretary Zinchenko also emphasized the importance of U.S. investment in Ukraine.

The commissioners and Ukrainian officials also discussed in detail HIV/AIDS in Ukraine, which Mr. Zinchenko described as very acute and far-reaching, and the proposed new Chernobyl shelter that will cover the crumbling old sarcophagus.

Justice Minister Zvarych outlined priorities to encourage and ensure the rule of law. Securing human rights and liberties would include such measures as getting the police to pay attention to procedural norms and urging Parliament to adopt necessary civil and administrative procedural code changes. With respect to combating corruption, Mr. Zvarych said he hopes to soon unveil a comprehensive "Clean Hands" program, including a code of ethics. Cleaning up the court system is another priority, and the Justice Ministry has plans to take a variety of steps against judges engaged in corrupt practices.

The delegation and Mr. Zvarych discussed the issues of human trafficking, torture of detainees, the Gongadze case, restitution of religious property and

national minority issues.

Chairman Stretovych and representatives of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) gave a comprehensive briefing on the problem of human trafficking in Ukraine, noting the steps being taken by the government and NGOs to combat this scourge and plans to further address this important issue. A key concern was improving law enforcement cooperation between Ukraine (as a country of origin for victims of trafficking) and countries of destination.

U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Sheila Gwaltney hosted a meeting with the U.S. Embassy, the U.S. Agency for International Development and the FBI officials during which U.S. efforts to assist the new Ukrainian government in promoting the rule of law and combating human trafficking were discussed. The delegation also visited an IOM-sponsored medical rehabilitation center for trafficking victims. Human trafficking, as well as religious rights issues, were also discussed in a meeting with the papal nuncio to Ukraine, Archbishop Ivan Jurkovich.

(Continued on page 19)



During their meeting in Kyiv (from left) are: U.S. Ambassador John Herbst, Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin, Ukraine's State Secretary Oleksander Zinchenko and Rep. Christopher H. Smith.

Minister of Transportation and Communications Yevhen Chervonenko, and the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's Committee on Organized Crime and Corruption, Volodymyr Stretovych. The meetings covered many topics, including the lifting of the Jackson-Vanik amendment and granting of normal trade relations (NTR) status, as well as facilitating Ukraine's entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Commissioners Smith and Cardin said

Orest Deychakiwsky is staff advisor at the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission). He traveled to Ukraine with commission members.

rule of law and human rights issues such as torture, the Gongadze case, sustaining media freedoms, and on how the United States can best assist Ukraine during this time of historic transition.

State Secretary Zinchenko expressed pleasure at the current state of U.S.-Ukraine bilateral relations, observing that both sides now have trust in each other. He outlined President Viktor Yushchenko's priorities, including combating corruption, extending a hand to business, protecting private property, promoting respect for the rule of law – especially in government entities such as the Internal Affairs Ministry, tax police and the security services – as well as promoting the further development of

Helsinki Commission letter to Yushchenko

The following letter from the Helsinki Commission was presented to Ukrainian State Secretary Oleksander Zinchenko in Kyiv on February 26 by Co-Chairman Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.). The letter was signed by Chairman Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kan.), as well as commission members Sens. Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.), Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) and Saxby Chambliss (R-Ga.) and Reps. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Md.), Robert B. Aderholt (R-Ala.), Mike Pence (R-Ind.), Louise McIntosh Slaughter (D-N.Y.), Alcee L. Hastings (D-Fla.) and Mike McIntyre (D-N.C.).

Dear Mr. President:

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to you as the newly elected president of Ukraine. As members of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and longtime supporters of human rights and democracy in independent Ukraine, we followed with great attention the Orange Revolution which succeeded in peacefully overturning the results of a fraudulent election.

Mr. President, we greatly admired

your remarkable personal courage, persistence and dignity as you led the struggle for democracy and freedom, despite the many attempts to keep you from achieving your vision of a democratic future for Ukraine. The historic stand for freedom taken by the Ukrainian people under your leadership represents a defining moment in the history of Ukraine.

Most certainly, formidable challenges lie ahead to overcome the legacy of the past. Your determination to confront corruption, improve respect for human rights and the rule of law, and facilitate Ukraine's integration with the Euro-Atlantic community will bring about a brighter, more peaceful and prosperous future for the Ukrainian people.

Be assured of our most sincere wishes for your success in the consolidation of democracy and rule of law in Ukraine. The Orange Revolution is of tremendous inspiration for people everywhere yearning for liberty and democracy. You can count on our steadfast support and solidarity in our partnership for freedom.

President Bush meets with champions of freedom in Bratislava

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia – U.S. President George W. Bush met with 21 "Champions of Freedom" from 13 Central and Eastern European countries, including Ukraine, during his visit to Bratislava, Slovakia, on February 24.

The group included Natalia Dmytruk, a sign language interpreter for UT-1, who is credited with helping galvanize independent media coverage of the 2004 Ukrainian presidential elections, and Vladyslav Kaskiv, a leader of Pora, a pro-democracy movement in Ukraine.

Speaking in Hviezdoslavovo Square in Bratislava on February 24, President Bush said "With us here today is a group of remarkable men and women from across Central and Eastern Europe, who have fought freedom's fight in their homelands and have earned the respect of the world. We welcome you. We thank you for your example, for your courage and for your sacrifice."

A White House press release describes the contributions of Ms. Dmytruk and Mr. Kaskiv as follows.

• Natalia Dmytruk: The Wall Street Journal observed that Ukraine's Orange Revolution gained unexpected momentum from "small acts of courage by people previously uninvolved in politics." Natalia Dmytruk, the sign language interpreter for Ukrainian State Television (UT-1), was one of those people.

Angered by her network's refusal to broadcast the truth in the days following Ukraine's fraudulent November 21, 2004, run-off presidential election, a courageous Ms. Dmytruk acted on her anger: after "signing" the news on November 25, she unexpectedly pulled an orange ribbon (the color of the opposition) from her sleeve and informed her viewers that, "Everything you have heard so far is a lie. Yushchenko is our true president. Goodbye, for you will probably never see me here again."

Her action galvanized journalists throughout Ukraine, especially those at the major pro-government TV networks. Inspired by her example, hundreds of her colleagues at UT-1 confronted the network's owners, chanting, "No more lies!"

Ms. Dmytruk has humbly and succinctly described the motivation behind her action: "Without telling anyone, I just went in and did what my conscience told me to do."

• Vladyslav Kaskiv: Mr. Kaskiv was a key leader of Pora (It's Time), the pro-democracy movement comprising mostly young people, which played a critical role during the November-December 2004 Orange Revolution. In the run-up to the Ukrainian presidential election, Pora mobilized voters and highlighted problems with voter registration lists. For its efforts, the movement was vilified by the former Ukrainian administration, and Pora activists were repeatedly roughed up

by government thugs and detained by police on trumped-up charges.

Following the fraudulent November 21 presidential run-off election, Pora members moved quickly, gathering en masse at Independence Square, setting up a massive tent city in downtown Kyiv, and peacefully blockading key government buildings.

Led by Mr. Kaskiv and others, and enduring brutal winter weather, Pora members, often waving their distinct yellow banners, maintained a peaceful presence "on the barricades" for the duration of the Orange Revolution, refusing to abandon their tents until the announcement of the official vote tally on January 10, 2005, showing that Viktor Yushchenko had won the election.

Pora's rallying cry, printed on orange stickers that were liberally applied to government property during the protests, was this universal truth: Freedom cannot be stopped.

Sen. Lugar underscores that Ukraine deserves U.S. support

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – Sen. Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.), the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that the announced withdrawal of Ukrainian troops from Iraq, while “not a plus factor” in its relationship with the United States, is being handled “tactfully” by the government of Ukraine’s new president, Viktor Yushchenko.

“There is, I think, pragmatically a desire to keep walking around the problem and sort of see how things go in our relations generally,” Sen. Lugar said on March 3 during a briefing on developments in Ukraine at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. He was commenting on the announcement that Ukrainian troops could be withdrawn from Iraq by October of this year.

“I’m not suggesting that somehow the October date will be forgotten, but I think it is a diplomatic way of trying to fulfill pledges” made during the election campaign, while at the same time maintaining good relations with the United States.

That same evening, Ukrainian Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko, who two days earlier spoke about an October withdrawal, said in Warsaw that 900 of the 1,650 Ukrainian contingent may well remain until December.

At the briefing, Sen. Lugar discussed his long involvement in Ukrainian affairs, but focused primarily on the recent presidential election process, during which he was President George W. Bush’s special representative to Ukraine during the second round of the presidential election in November.

Sen. Lugar arrived in Kyiv a few days before the second round with what he described as a “tactful but rather stern” letter to President Leonid Kuchma from President Bush about U.S. concerns over the gross violations evident in the first round. Noting that Washington was expecting that this would not be repeated in the second round, the letter indicated that, oth-

erwise, there would be “substantial consequences” for the bilateral relationship.

He said that, as the polls closed, it was obvious that in their determination to guarantee a victory by Viktor Yanukovich in the second round, his supporters outdid themselves in the use of multiple voting.

Early in the counting, Sen. Lugar said, the Yanukovich camp was eager to see high turnouts in its eastern strongholds. They wanted to see at least a 95 percent turnout. “And they were getting it,” he said. “It was exceeding 96 percent.”

But in order to get that high an average turnout, he pointed out, it was equally obvious that some of the polling stations must have had more than 100 percent of eligible voters casting ballots.

Sen. Lugar indicated that these results “could not have occurred without overt complicity of the government in the result,” and he explained that conclusion in his report, which was based on findings



Sen. Richard Lugar speaks at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

C. David Hawhurst/WWIC

by the thousands of European, American and Ukrainian election monitors.

Fortunately, he said, within a week the Verkhovna Rada and the Supreme Court of Ukraine weighed in and set the stage for the deciding third round.

On the way back to Washington, Sen. Lugar said he stopped in Berlin to discuss the situation in Ukraine with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder. Germany, like Poland, he said, has a “tremendous strategic interest in Ukraine.” Later he was told by the European Union’s foreign affairs commissioner, Javier Solana, that Chancellor Schroeder actively pursued the Ukrainian issue with his European partners and “energized” a good number of European countries to become involved.

The senator said he was also “very pleased” with the way Secretary of State Colin Powell weighed in after the second round.

Now that a new, democratically elected Yushchenko government is in power in Ukraine, he said, Congress and the administration are discussing “what do we do as a country.”

Sen. Lugar said that at a recent meeting between congressional leaders and the president, he recounted the positive developments in Afghanistan, Ukraine, Georgia, the Palestinian territories, as well as in Saudi Arabia. While these cases were not “hanging in the balance,” he said he told the president, there could be reversals without outside support.

He recalled the heady times in the 1980s when democratic movements were taking root in Latin America, “Then, unfortunately” – I wouldn’t say our country forgot Latin America – but our attention moved on.”

“We really have to have an attention span that is supportive and cognizant of these changes if they are to take root,” he said. And Ukraine, he added, “offers an extraordinary opportunity in terms of the strength of the people, well-educated, lots of talent, badly in need of capital, very much in need of political support on all fronts.”

“I am certain that we will give it,” he underscored.

Asked about the possible effect on foreign investment in Ukraine resulting from the new government’s plan to undo much

of the suspect privatization that occurred during the previous administration, Sen. Lugar said he expects that the Verkhovna Rada, which has been showing signs of being a vibrant, democratic institution, will ensure the transparency of this process.

“Ukraine will have to sort of set some ground rules if this investment, this capital that we all hope will come to the country, is going to occur,” he said.

“I hope the debate on re-privatization is a debate on the rule of law, on the development of stronger contract law and obligations to minority shareholders, wherever they are upon this earth.”

As for former President Kuchma, who is blamed by many for much of what was bad in Ukraine over the past decade, Sen. Lugar singled out one very important instance for which his statesmanship should be recognized.

About a week after the second-round election, with the maidan filled with Yushchenko supporters and the Orange Revolution gaining momentum, an important meeting or possibly a series of high-level meetings on the situation took place, at which some in the president’s inner circle were advising him to use force, otherwise, as Sen. Lugar put it, “the ball game is over.”

“And the president’s judgment was not to shoot and to advise the people there to stand down,” he said.

“I’m not here to predict what would have happened in case of a full-scale civil war at that stage,” Sen. Lugar added, “but it would be very different than the potential constructive thing we’re talking about today.”

Sen. Lugar’s mission to Kyiv in November was not without its lighter moments. As he was leaving President Kuchma’s offices, Russia’s ambassador to Ukraine, Viktor Chernomyrdin, and a large Russian delegation, were waiting at the door for their turn with the president. When the same thing happened after his next meeting, with Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, he asked Ambassador Chernomyrdin if he could expect to see him again following the next meeting on U.S. delegation’s itinerary – with Viktor Yushchenko. No, the Russian envoy replied, Mr. Yushchenko was not on his schedule.

Presidential secretariat replaces presidential administration in Ukraine

Interfax-Ukraine

KYIV – Back in January, newly inaugurated president of Ukraine replaced the presidential administration created by his predecessor in 1996 with the Presidential Secretariat.

President Viktor Yushchenko appointed Oleksander Zinchenko as state secretary to head the new body. Former Education Minister Vasyl Kremin and former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Oleksander Motsyk were tapped as first deputy state secretaries.

Mr. Zinchenko said the main activity of the Presidential Secretariat is intellectual work and described the structure as the “brain center of initiatives.”

“The main task of the secretariat is intellectual work. This will be its main weapon,” he said at a press conference in Kyiv on February 15.

He explained that the Secretariat would focus on taking Ukraine’s economy out of the shadows, fighting corruption and integration into the EU. “This is a colossal intellectual challenge to society. The work of the secretariat lies in the coordination of daily political work,” Mr. Zinchenko explained.

Commenting on personnel, he said young people between the ages of 23 and 28 will work in the Secretariat. He said the young people should have education and

work experience “in the best establishments of Europe and the world.” There will be up to 500 employees in the structures of the Presidential Secretariat, whereas there were about 2,000 employees in the former presidential administration, he said.

The structure of the Presidential Secretariat includes the state secretary of Ukraine, the first aide of the president, the first deputies and deputies of the state secretary, the press secretary and the Cabinet of the president.

There will be 13 main offices in the structure of the Secretariat, including offices for internal, foreign, economic, social, humanitarian, regional and staff policies, state and legal issues, state protocol of the president, issues involving citizens appeals and human rights, administrative and legal policies, as well as the analytical service, the office for liaison with the Verkhovna Rada, the Cabinet, the Constitutional Court and other establishments, and the state provision service.

In addition, the Secretariat includes a group for strategic planning, a group of counselors and scientific consultants of the president, the office of the state secretary, the press service of the president, the service for information policies, the service for state awards and heraldry, and the chancellery of the president.

Quotable notes

“... Freedom is spreading: from the villages of Afghanistan to the squares in Ukraine, from the streets in the Palestinian territories to the streets of Georgia, to the polling stations of Iraq.

“Freedom defines our opportunity and our challenge. It is a challenge that we are determined to meet. ...

“How could you not be impressed with the Rose Revolution in Georgia and the Orange Revolution in Ukraine, and the Palestinian people going to elect a leader who says that it is time to give up the armed Intifadah and live in peace with Israel? And how could you not be impressed by the Afghans, really, in a very underdeveloped society standing along dusty roads to vote where women who used to hide their faces and couldn’t even have medical care without a male relative; and now they stand and they vote and they run for office? And how could you not be impressed with the Iraqi people and their facing down fear?

“So much is changing in our world. So much is changing in the Middle East. And if we, in this great alliance, put our values and our efforts and our resources to work on behalf of this great cause, we’ve only just begun to see what freedom can achieve.”

– Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, speaking in Paris on February 8.

“...About Ukraine, I was receiving President [Viktor] Yushchenko. You know I supported him very much. Even before when he was in a position, I received him in another capacity. And we have a great, great admiration for his role and we fully support democratic Ukraine.

“So I said, and I believe that the future of Ukraine is in Europe, but now the journey is not for [the] European Union membership. We have the European Union’s Neighbor policy. It’s a very ambitious program, very ambitious program, that includes the liberalization, trade liberalization, assistance, political cooperation, harmonization of standards in all issues.”

– European Commission President José Manuel Barroso speaking in Brussels on February 9 at a joint appearance with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and European Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner.

Ambassador to Canada now represents the new Ukraine

by Christopher Guly

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

OTTAWA – On Parliament Hill it's understood that a week in politics can sometimes feel like a lifetime for a government. Just ask Prime Minister Paul Martin and his Liberal caucus, which holds fewer seats than the three opposition parties in the House of Commons. In the capital's diplomatic circles, time is not usually a sensitive issue – unless you happen to be the ambassador from a country that's undergone an enormous transformation and entered what many now hail as a new era. Just ask Mykola Maimeskul, who was appointed Ukraine's ambassador to Canada on March 20, 2004.

Within a year, his longtime colleague Viktor Yushchenko went from being an opposition leader – largely unknown in the rest of the world – to joining a stellar league of presidents, including the Czech Republic's Vaclav Havel and Poland's Lech Walesa, of other former Soviet-bloc countries who have become global symbols of democracy and freedom.

Not long ago, Mr. Maimeskul reported to President Leonid Kuchma, the man who appointed him Ukraine's ambassador to Canada and who could now face a criminal investigation on charges of corruption as well as on the still unsolved murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze nearly five years ago.

Now, Mr. Maimeskul reports to President Yushchenko.

When asked whether he ever thought that the man he has known for over a decade would become Ukraine's president, the 56-year-old, Odesa-born ambassador paused. "That's a very interesting question – a very interesting question," said Mr. Maimeskul, as he sat back in a red velvet chair in a main-floor sitting room at the Embassy in downtown Ottawa.

"A few years ago, possibly not. But in the last two years, yes," he replied.

The ambassador explained that he changed his opinion as he watched

Ukraine's opposition parties, including Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine, gain momentum and because of Mr. Yushchenko's passion.

"What I love very much about Viktor Yushchenko is his very heartfelt sincerity and patriotism toward Ukraine," said Mr. Maimeskul, who holds a Ph.D. in international relations from Taras Shevchenko State University in Kyiv.

Though the two men haven't seen each other since a chance meeting at Kyiv's Boryspil Airport almost two years ago, their paths have crossed many times.

Indeed, they made their first visit to Canada at a special G-7 economic conference on Ukraine held in Winnipeg during the autumn of 1994. Mr. Maimeskul attended as head of the international economic cooperation department at Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry; Mr. Yushchenko, as head of the National Bank of Ukraine.

A few years later, Mr. Maimeskul, as Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, was involved in behind-the-scenes organizing for the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, which Mr. Yushchenko attended, as he did last month.

Now, Mr. Maimeskul is working with Canadian government officials to make Mr. Yushchenko's first official visit to Canada as Ukraine's newly elected President a reality. (Mr. Yushchenko last visited Canada in March 2003.)

Judging by the attention Ukraine has received in Canada, the ambassador knows that much attention will be devoted to President Yushchenko the moment he steps onto Canadian soil.

Consider the past few months.

The Canadian government organized a mission headed by former Prime Minister John Turner that sent nearly 500 official observers – not to mention the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, which dispatched hundreds – to monitor the repeat second round of voting in the presidential election on December 26.

Then, last month Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, who represents

Queen Elizabeth II as head of state in Canada, was present at President Yushchenko's January 23 inauguration in Kyiv, sitting next to his wife, Katya, at his swearing-in ceremony and sitting next to him at his inaugural lunch, and standing next to Mr. Havel on Maidan Nezalezhnosti (Independence Square) when Mr. Yushchenko spoke to Ukrainians for the first time as their president.

In an op-ed article recently published in *The Ottawa Citizen*, the governor gen-

"We are convinced that our silence today, in the long term, would continue to undermine and erode the authority of our state."

At least four diplomats from the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington signed the statement, as did three from the Ukrainian Consulate General in Toronto and four from the Embassy in Ottawa. Mr. Maimeskul was not among them.

But while his signature does not appear on the declaration, the ambassa-



Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Mykola Maimeskul.

eral wrote that Mr. Yushchenko told her "you probably underestimate how important it is that Canada be represented here." Said Madame Clarkson: "It was very moving to me to understand how they felt that our country, which has the largest Ukrainian diaspora in the world, could make such a difference, morally and emotionally."

Mr. Maimeskul certainly appreciates how important it is for him to represent Ukraine here.

Throughout an over hour-long conversation, he repeatedly heaped praise on Canada and recalled with pride his appearance on December 21, 2004, at the Ottawa Congress Center where the Canadian election observers – about one-third of them of Ukrainian descent, he noted – had gathered prior to leaving for Ukraine.

Speaking in English, French and Ukrainian, he told them they would witness "the birth of a new Ukraine" and that the December 26, 2004, vote was "a crucial moment in the history of my nation."

CanWest News Service, which covered the ambassador's address, reported that his remarks earned him a loud standing ovation.

But it was one line that resonates still. "Friends, I envy you," he said.

Certainly, for a few tense weeks between the second round of voting in the presidential election on November 21 and the Supreme Court-ordered repeat second-round vote on December 26, Ambassador Maimeskul was in an unenviable position – a "difficult situation," as he puts it.

As the Orange Revolution exploded onto Kyiv's Independence Square, more than 500 Ukrainian diplomats stationed around the world signed an "open declaration" to "protest against what has become the transformation of the presidential elections of 2004 into a disgraceful war against the people of Ukraine ... an expression of protest against the violation of our citizens' right to elect a president by democratic means.

dor points out that he was far from silent when accusations of fraudulent election activity were first reported from Ukraine following the November 21 vote.

He made himself available to the Canadian media to deliver a straightforward message: "I said these elections are vital for Ukrainian democracy and [that the] choice of the majority should be accepted – but only if this choice was made in a fair and open manner, and the votes were counted fairly. If it's not the case, there is a right to appeal to the Supreme Court of Ukraine for its final judgment."

About 275 Ukrainian nationals voted at a poll set up at the Ukrainian embassy in Ottawa on November 21. The Consulate in Toronto attracted an estimated 3,000 voters. Between 90 and 95 percent of the votes were cast for Mr. Yushchenko, said Ambassador Maimeskul, who added that the Canadian polling process went smoothly.

"We thought the same would be true in Ukraine, but it was not the case – what happened was not honest. For me as a citizen, it was absolutely unacceptable," he stated.

He explained that he publicly called on Ukraine's Central Election Commission to investigate "each case of irregularity" cited by international election observers.

On December 1 – the 14th anniversary of the historic Ukrainian referendum – Mr. Maimeskul also appeared before the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs to answer questions about what the chairman, Sen. Peter Stollery, described as the "crisis in Ukraine."

Speaking in French, the ambassador called it a "dramatic situation," but was quite candid in his opening remarks.

"I must admit that I do not feel very comfortable sitting in this room at a time when hundreds of thousand of Ukrainians are marching in the cold streets of Kyiv and other cities in Ukraine," he said.

(Continued on page 19)

State Department announces new fees for consular services

Embassy of the United States

KYIV – The U.S. Department of State has revised the schedule of fees for consular services. The new schedule will be effective March 8, at which time the fees for certain services provided by the Department of State and by U.S. embassies and consulates abroad will change. The new fees are applied to all applicants worldwide.

The department is required by law and regulation to recover the actual costs of providing most consular services through user fees. To comply, the fees for consular services are adjusted periodically following cost-of-service studies conducted by an independent contractor under the supervision of the department. The last major revision of the schedule of fees was in 2002.

The revised schedule of fees for consular services also reflects new surcharges authorized in the 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

Recovering the actual cost of providing consular services is essential to maintaining and improving high-quality customer service, utilizing advances in information technology and enhancing the security features of the consular function of border security.

The Schedule of Fees for Consular

Services revisions resulting from the recent cost-of service study include:

- an increase in the Diversity Visa (DV) Lottery surcharge for diversity immigrant visa applications from \$100 to \$375;

- an increase in the passport file search fee from \$45 to \$60; and,

- a reduction in the fee charged for issuance of a transportation letter for Legal Permanent Resident Aliens (LPRA) to re-enter the U.S. from abroad from \$300 to \$165.

Additional revisions in the new schedule of fees resulting from the 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act include:

- a surcharge of \$12 to be added to current passport fees;

- a surcharge of \$45 to be added to the current fees for immigrant visas; and,

- a \$500 "fraud prevention and detection fee" for persons applying for L-1 visas under "blanket" provisions abroad.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005 also mandated a "fraud prevention and detection fee" to be charged for H-1B and L-1 principal applicants at time of petition filing or change of employer. These fees are not reflected in the new schedule of fees for consular services, as they will be collected by the Department of Homeland Security.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Teaching about genocide

The Illinois State Legislature is currently considering a bill that would expand the state's curriculum on genocide to encompass genocides throughout the world. House Bill 312, sponsored by Rep. John Fritchey (D-Chicago), would amend the Illinois School Code to require all elementary and secondary public schools in the state to teach about the genocides that occurred in Armenia, Ukraine, Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and Sudan. Thus, it would add to the already mandated state curriculum on the Holocaust. The bill has already been passed by the Illinois House, but still awaits action by the state's Senate.

The Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation – U.S.A. explains that “the intended premise of Section 5, Chapter 122, Paragraph 27-20.3 of the Illinois School Code is to mandate Illinois public elementary and high school students to be educated about the Nazi Holocaust of 1933-1945 so that such atrocities would never happen again. But genocide continues to happen: most recently in Rwanda and Bosnia.” Thus, the foundation underscores, it is important to expand the study of genocide to include various periods of history to the present day, and to cover genocides that devastated diverse countries around the globe – a position that we wholeheartedly endorse.

“As we educate our children about the injustice of hate crimes, it is important to recognize that any form of genocide, against any people, is equally detestable. The multicultural nature of the United States of America is integral to its cultural and political identity. In such a multicultural society, there is no room for showing more reverence to one ethnic group, its memory, history and tragedies, than to another,” argues the Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation.

Despite its noble intentions, House Bill 312 faces some stiff opposition. Opponents argue that it would require local school districts to fund new curriculum units and to teach them without adding any additional school time. “I just think we need to look very carefully at what we're expecting from schools,” said Deanna Sullivan of the Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance. “It's amazing what we're required to teach. We grapple with this every year.”

In answer to funding concerns, the Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation has stated that it is prepared to provide the teachers of Illinois with curriculum guides at no cost to their schools.

In addition, some Jewish groups have expressed wariness toward the bill, according to the Chicago Sun-Times, based on their fear that expanding the study of genocide to cover all such crimes “would minimize the mass murder of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany.” The newspaper quoted Richard Hischhaut, executive director of the Holocaust Memorial Foundation in Skokie, Ill., as saying that “The Holocaust – that's capital-letter-H Holocaust – stands as a singularly unique tragedy in the course of human history.” Adam Schupack, spokesman for the Anti-Defamation League, told the Sun-Times that “We certainly view it as a priority that any additional genocide education, which is worthy, comes as additive, and not at the expense of Holocaust education.” On the other hand, the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago testified in favor of House Bill 312.

Rep. Fritchey quite correctly pointed out in the Sun-Times that “A student walks away with one understanding if they think [genocide] is an isolated incident ... They have quite a different one once they see that it's happened with a sense of disturbing regularity.” In urging support for the bill, Rep. Fritchey has also underscored: “This long overdue legislation will help us ensure that our students learn of the devastating role that genocide has played around the world throughout history, and unfortunately, in current times.”

We encourage our readers in Illinois to take up the cause of House Bill 312, and work for its passage. (See the story on page 10 for more information.) For, as Rep. Fritchey has stated: “It is only through this type of education that we can work to erase the type of global indifference that allowed the tragedy in Ukraine to occur and the apathy that exists today with respect to the genocide happening in Africa. We must value all human lives equally.”

March
20
1983

Turning the pages back...

Back in 1983, when the Ukrainian community was observing the solemn 50th anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933, The Ukrainian Weekly published a special issue dedicated to that genocide. Among its features was a section of

letters written by ethnic and community leaders on the occasion of the Famine's 50th anniversary. The letters were the result of a February 15 meeting, which was organized by the Illinois Consultation on Ethnicity in Education and moderated by UNA Vice-President Myron B. Kuropas, in commemoration of this genocide of the Ukrainian nation.

Edwin Cudecki, chair of the Illinois Consultation on Ethnicity in Education, wrote: “Along with many of my colleagues in diverse ethnic communities, I am writing to assure you that I will work to make people aware of the great human tragedy that befell Soviet Ukraine 50 years ago this winter.

“America is a nation of many nations. Unfortunately, in an effort to enter the mainstream, some groups may have unwittingly sacrificed their greatest treasure, their history. By keeping the past hidden, we deny all Americans access to the lessons that only we can teach.

“By confronting all Americans with the memory of Stalin's man-made Famine, Ukrainian Americans are committing an act of faith in themselves and in us. We recognize our obligation to join with you and your people in sharing this tragic aspect of your history, so that events like the Famine never happen again. This is the lesson that we must learn to teach others from your history. ...”

Source: “Ethnic, community leaders on Famine,” *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 20, 1983.

COMMENTARY

Another look at the issue of two Church calendars

by Andrew Sorokowski

This year, some of us in the diaspora will celebrate Easter on March 27, others on May 1. Most Christians in Ukraine will celebrate on May 1. The divergence between the two dates is a stark reminder of the fact that our Eastern Churches (Greek-Catholic and Orthodox) in Ukraine and the diaspora do not agree on when to celebrate their chief holidays.

There are really two issues. One is when to celebrate Christmas and the various other fixed or immovable feasts such as Theophany, Annunciation, Transfiguration, Immaculate Conception, Nativity and Dormition of the Mother of God. This is not really a question of dates – for example, our Churches agree on December 25 as the birthdate of Jesus Christ – but of calendars. The other issue is how to calculate the date of Easter. This determines the dates of the Great Fast, as well as of the moveable feasts of Ascension and Pentecost (Descent of the Holy Spirit).

The matter of when to celebrate Christmas and the other immovable feasts depends on whether one follows the calendar of Julius Caesar or that of Pope Gregory XIII. The Gregorian calendar, actually a correction of the Julian calendar, was introduced in October 1582 on the basis of calculations by Vatican astronomers. It was resisted for many years by Protestant and Orthodox countries because it was a “Catholic” calendar. Russia held out until January (or rather, February) 1918, and even after that, its Church retained the “old” calendar. Church and state were separated temporally as well as institutionally.

The usual argument for following the Julian calendar in the West is that this is the Ukrainian tradition. But traditions evolve. After all, we no longer count our years from the Creation, or begin them in March.

A common objection to introducing the Gregorian calendar is that this constitutes a Latinization of the Byzantine rite (shared by Ukrainian Catholics and Orthodox). I fail to see, however, what is so “Latin” about a scientifically more accurate system for measuring time, or what is so “Byzantine” about the calendar of Julius Caesar (whose Latin was surely better than Pope Gregory's). Or does loyalty to Eastern tradition require slipshod chronometry?

A novel argument against the Gregorian calendar is that it is “Polish.” In pre-war Galicia this made sense. But since the imminent Polish invasion rumored in 1990-1991 proved nothing more than a horde of weekend shoppers from Peremyshl, this point has become moot. Besides, the Copernican theory that the earth revolves around the sun is most certainly a “Polish theory,” yet to my knowledge no Ukrainian Church has rejected it.

True, there is a philosophical rationale for keeping the Church calendar separate from the civil calendar (which in most of the world is the Gregorian one). Sacred time is different from ordinary time, just

A lawyer and historian by training, Andrew Sorokowski wrote his doctoral dissertation on the Greek-Catholic parish clergy in Galicia between 1900 and 1939. He is employed at the Environment Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington as a researcher on the U.S. war industry in the 1940s.

as the spiritual realm is distinct from the common everyday world. On the other hand, such a compartmentalization of our lives into religious and secular components, if only symbolically in how we measure time, invites spiritual schizophrenia and double-think. And in the end, we relegate sacred time to the realm of fantasy.

When we come to Christmas liturgy on January 7, we are asserting that it is really December 25; yet we date our donation checks January 7. Are we living in two realities, or is it just make-believe? Time is a fundamental dimension, and if we cannot record it with a single system, there is something unresolved. Perhaps this is a consequence of the artificial division of life into sacred and secular spheres, now so entrenched in our civilization. But if our aim is to overcome our ambivalence and Christianize our entire lives, should we not express this with a single system of counting time?

The date of Easter is a separate matter. It is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. The Eastern tradition additionally requires that Easter occur after Passover. This is because, historically, the Crucifixion and Resurrection took place after the Jewish holy day. Theologians say that this reflects our respect for the historical reality of the entire redemption story.

Can one celebrate Christmas by the “new” Gregorian calendar and Easter by the Eastern calculation? Of course. Most of the Greeks do, and we have traditionally followed the Greeks, from whom, after all, we received Christianity. In fact, the “Eastern Easter” eliminates a major objection to the Gregorian calendar, which is the danger of Easter coinciding with Passover.

To be sure, there is good reason to celebrate all our holidays “together with Ukraine.” But that begs the question of how Ukraine should celebrate. Must it follow Russia? Must Ukraine cling unthinkingly to tradition, or can it enliven tradition through thoughtful development? Ukraine's European choice suggests a fresh look at its heritage.

Ecumenical discussions about a universal determination for Easter may solve that problem for us. As for Christmas and the other fixed holidays, realists might predict that while Ukraine's Orthodox will never abandon their Eastern calendar, the diaspora Churches, in the inevitable process of assimilation, will all eventually adopt the Western one. Though idealists loyal to a Kyivan Patriarchate (Greek-Catholic, Orthodox, or both) may insist on a single Church calendar for Ukrainians worldwide, others may not care who celebrates when.

It has not always been so. When Greek-Catholic Bishop Hryhorii Khomyshyn attempted to introduce the Gregorian calendar in the Stanyslaviv Eparchy in 1916, it was roundly rejected. When Bishop Jaroslav Gabro did likewise in St. Nicholas' Cathedral parish in Chicago in 1964 the opposition mounted, culminating, in the revolutionary year of 1968, in a near riot. One may regret the conflict, but not the concern.

For the matter is not trivial. It is not just that in some of our communities, saying “Christ is Risen” to the wrong person at the wrong time invites the

(Continued on page 19)

NEWS AND VIEWS

A Catholic high school in New Jersey learns about the Orange Revolution

by Andrew Nynka

On Monday, February 28, staff and students at Pope John High School in Sparta, N.J., listened to a presentation on the Orange Revolution. Organizers of the event asked that this reporter present the school with a picture of the historic events that unfolded there, as I covered the revolution for *The Ukrainian Weekly* from December 14, 2004, to January 19.

It was my distinct honor and privilege to report on the Orange Revolution. It was a moment in Ukrainian history that I will not soon, if ever, forget. But, in this space, thanks and praise should go to the students and staff of the coed Catholic high school for dedicating an academic day to learning about Ukraine. Their interest and attention to Ukraine, my ancestral homeland, should be commended.

A private Catholic school of nearly 900 students, Pope John gave me every opportunity to speak about freedom and democracy, and how Ukrainians decided to reclaim a country that has historically been ruled by external forces.

During the presentation, a day that began with gray skies and ended with nearly a foot of snow, the high school saw orange. The students heard about former Presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Leonid Kuchma, and the regimes under which they controlled Ukraine for 13 years, from 1991 to 2004. They looked on as pictures of President Viktor Yushchenko – one from July 2004, prior to his poisoning, and one from September of that same year, after he was poisoned – were displayed on a large screen in front of them. They heard the story of his poisoning by dioxin, a powerful toxin that nearly took his life.

The students sat, well-mannered and respectful, and watched as video footage showed hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian protesters rally peacefully before masses of Ukrainian militia, clad from head to toe in black protective gear, their dark helmets partially covered in snow, reflecting the blue color of fluorescent street lights during a freezing cold Kyiv night.



The Ukrainian Weekly's Andrew Nynka speaks about the Orange Revolution at Pope John High School in Sparta, N.J.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Congratulations due to Soyuzivka

Dear Editor:

We'd like to thank Nestor Paslawsky for the second consecutive perfect Valentine's Day dinner. The ambiance in the Main House dining room was perfect, the food – exceptional, and the entertainment – top-notch.

However, clearly the word has not spread about how wonderful Soyuzivka's holiday evenings are.

Soyuzivka's New Year's Eve was not to be missed. The three ingredients to a perfect evening were once again in evidence: ambiance, food, music.

Congratulations to the manager, chef and staff of Soyuzivka. Keep up the good work and let us spread the word about what a treasure we have in the heart of the Catskill region.

Marianna and Myron Zajac
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Church deserves thanks from dancers

Dear Editor:

In regard to the short article I submitted about the Barvinok dance group of South Bound Brook, N.J. (UKELODEON, February 13), it should have been noted that the dance instruction is made possible by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. The Church's sponsorship of the group continues to benefit many members and non-members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church through the loan of its facilities for many years.

While the omission may seem like a small detail, when you consider that any dance teacher would expect to pay thousands of dollars each year for rent of a dance space, then the Church's contribution of the stage and facilities of its banquet-sized hall for many years is a serious contribution indeed.

Though the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. has never sought credit for its long-time sponsorship of Barvinok, this is all the more reason that the Consistory and Archbishop Antony

should be recognized for their support of young children's instruction and, in turn, of the Ukrainian community at-large.

Roma Ann Krauth
Milford, N.J.

Moldova's stand on interference

Dear Editor:

Bravo, Moldova, for taking a tough stand against external political interference.

The Russian Embassy in Moldova asked the Moldovan Foreign Ministry to explain why more than 100 so-called Russian "observers" and "human-rights activists" who were traveling to the Moldova to "monitor" the country's March 6 parliamentary elections were halted at the Moldovan border.

Moldovan police said the St. Petersburg train was stopped and sent back because "some were spinmasters and people with no reason to stay in Moldova."

In a similar incident, at a recent democracy conference in Slovakia in February of this year, Russian political analysts Gleb Pavlovsky and Vyacheslav Nikonov, who wanted to attend the conference, were not allowed entry into the country. A conference spokesman said "It is a conference about democracy, and [Pavlovsky and Nikonov] are not the best representatives of Russian democracy."

Ukraine should take note.

The likes of Mr. Pavlovsky and other Kremlin anti-Ukrainian advisers and spinmasters and xenophobic hate-mongers like Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, who harbor separatist views, should be made personae non gratae in Ukraine and North America for their continuous anti-Ukrainian sentiments.

On the other hand, Russians who have a more liberal view of Ukrainian-Russian relations should have the welcome mat extended for them by the more open-minded Yushchenko/Tymoshenko government.

Wolodymyr Derzko
Toronto

The 40-minute presentation was repeated eight times throughout the day, and by the end of it all students were presented with only a glimpse of the struggle that Ukrainians went through to secure a more meaningful democracy. My hope is that they felt what it meant to vote – to participate in a democracy – and the great gift that it is to live in a country where they can freely express their views without fear of retribution. I was most proud to tell the students that, after years under a repressive regime, Ukrainians voted in huge numbers – some 75 percent of eligible voters cast their ballots in Ukraine – and demanded that their choice be recognized.

In addition to the students, thanks should also go to the staff who organized the event: Msgr. Kieran McHugh, the school principal; Elizabeth Buniak, a Ukrainian American computer science teacher; Shayne O'Connell, social studies department chairperson; Thomas Morro of the social studies department; school librarians Carol McBriar and Thomas Fox; Kendall Foss and Ukrainian American Andrew Pawlyszyn. Other individuals who also helped but were not affiliated with the school included Natalie Buniak, Anna Denysyk and Martha Salenko.

In addition to the presentation – which

originally stemmed from the curiosity of a handful of students – a number of the individuals mentioned above created and maintained a beautiful display of Ukrainian cultural items (pysanky, embroidery, wood carvings, etc.). The display has been in the school's library – the Biondo Research Center – for months, where students and staff have been free to look through it and learn a little about Ukrainian culture.

Mrs. Buniak reported to me recently that the students are "still so enthusiastic, interested, and, I think, proud of themselves for knowing so much now – and my colleagues are reporting that their students are now able to draw analogies to similar events, problems, etc., that are going on elsewhere in the world."

In reflecting on that presentation, I am most heartened to think that a school of American high school kids – who previously knew little of Ukraine – decided that they also wanted to learn about freedom and democracy, and on that day they chose as their example Ukraine's Orange Revolution. I wish the students at Pope John High School all of the very best as they continue to learn about the world around them, but today I'm glad to know they are aware of Ukraine and its struggle to become a leading democratic nation.

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.
- 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.
- 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.

Mailing address: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

PLEASE NOTE: Materials may be sent to *The Weekly* also via e-mail to the address staff@ukrweekly.com. Please do include your mailing address and phone number so that we may contact you if needed to clarify any information.

Please call or send query via e-mail before electronically sending anything other than Word documents. This applies especially to photos, as they must be scanned according to our specifications in order to be properly reproduced in our newspaper.

Any questions? Call 973-292-9800.

Zhovta Pora establishes party

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Zhovta (Yellow) Pora's leaders said they are establishing a political party, declaring it a vehicle for the Orange Revolution's ideals, among them the expansion of democracy and European values in Ukraine.

Pora will be distinct from the scores of other Ukrainian parties because it has created politicians who have a moral right and responsibility to power in Ukraine, its leaders said.

It also offers a realistic chance for the new generation to take an active role in politics, as the party has been built from the bottom up, leaders said.

"We changed the nation, together with the Ukrainian people," said Vladyslav Kaskiv, one of Pora's key leaders during the Revolution. "Today, Pora consists of activists who are supposed to take responsibility for the fate of Ukraine."

Pora's status as a political party ensures a permanent rift with Chorna (Black) Pora, which seeks to keep Pora as a grassroots civic campaign that fights corruption in elections and government.

In their view, becoming a political party contradicts the original purpose of Pora, which was to serve as a decentralized citizens' movement that resonated across party lines and individual leaders, according to a Chorna Pora press release.

The formation of a party also violates Pora's stated rule of political non-partisanship, said Chorna Pora activists.

Chorna Pora's leaders accused Zhovta Pora of capitalizing on the Pora brand name and symbols in order to launch their own political careers.

"They've put people in power who had no participation in the Revolution," said Anton Pivniuk, a Chorna Pora activist and student at the Kyiv University of Technology and Design. "They are associates, or they have nice financing. They will be working for money, while we will be working for untainted ideas."

Pora's party leaders said they aim to finance their organization through contributions from small to mid-level businessmen, but no oligarchs.

Chorna Pora also accuses Zhovta Pora's leaders of engaging in their own form of "Kuchmism" by deciding to create a political party without a wide discussion or an agreement with Pora's activists, the press release said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Kaskiv is building a name for himself in Ukrainian politics.

On February 24 he was honored as one of 21 "Champions of Freedom" from 13 Central and Eastern European nations. U.S. President George W. Bush met these Champions of Freedom, including Mr. Kaskiv and Natalya Dmytruk, a sign language interpreter for Ukrainian State Television, on a visit to Bratislava, Slovakia. (See story on page 3 of this issue.)

"Led by Mr. Kaskiv and others and enduring brutal winter weather, Pora members ... maintained a peaceful presence 'on the barricades' for the duration of the Orange Revolution, refusing to abandon their tents until the announcement of the official vote tally showing that Viktor Yushchenko had won the presidency," said a press release issued by the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv.

Kuchma testifies...

(Continued from page 1)

names.

Like all Ukrainian police officers, the four accused of Gongadze's kidnapping and murder were employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, led by Mr. Kravchenko at the time.

A third suspect is under house arrest in Kyiv.

Yurii Nesterov, a key witness who is currently under police protection in Kyiv, was reportedly wounded two weeks ago when someone threw a grenade at him and his guard.

Gen. Oleksii Pukach, the former head of police intelligence, has fled the country and is the subject of an international search warrant, Mr. Piskun said.

Another witness, Ihor Honcharov, died in prison two years ago. He said that Mr. Nesterov played a direct role in the kidnapping and murder of Mr. Gongadze.

It has been widely speculated in the Ukrainian media that the procurator general's investigation would stop at Mr. Kravchenko because of a possible immunity deal that Mr. Yushchenko could have struck with Mr. Kuchma.

However, Mr. Yushchenko's close ally, chocolate mogul Petro Poroshenko, said there is no immunity deal extended to Mr. Kuchma. "In the Gongadze matter, there wasn't any person above the law, and there won't be anyone having immunity," Mr. Poroshenko said.

Mr. Melnychenko has stated that a full investigation of the Gongadze murder should implicate four top government officials, including Mr. Kuchma, Mr. Kravchenko, former Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) chief Leonid Derkach and current Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn.

A voice similar to Mr. Lytvyn's on the Melnychenko recordings said, "In my opinion, let loose Kravchenko to use alternative methods."

Mr. Lytvyn dismissed allegations and said he is also ready to testify.

Since Mr. Gongadze's disappearance in September 2000, Mr. Kuchma has vigorously denied any role, later claiming that he is the victim of a frame-up hatched by his political enemies. He has said the recordings are fakes and were doctored.

"Before God, before the people, I have a clear conscience," Mr. Kuchma told reporters after Mr. Kravchenko's death.

Attending Mr. Kravchenko's memorial service several days later, Mr. Kuchma said, "I have already said that this is all a game that began in 2000, when some people did not like President Kuchma."

More than a third of Ukrainians, or 35 percent, believe Mr. Kuchma should be brought to court, according to a poll released on March 9 by the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Research.

The question posed to 2,012 participants was, "What future for Mr. Kuchma do you believe would be most just?" Almost 45 percent of respondents believe that Mr. Kuchma should simply leave civic and political life. Almost two-thirds of Ukrainians, or 64 percent, have a negative view of Mr. Kuchma, the poll reported.

Meanwhile, a mini-drama has unfolded between Mr. Melnychenko and Mr. Piskun, who extended the former security officer an invitation to come to Ukraine from the U.S., where he has received political asylum.

Mr. Piskun said he hopes to obtain Mr. Melnychenko's original recordings and employ them in his office's investigations. However, Mr. Melnychenko has made clear he doesn't hold Mr. Piskun in



Former President Leonid Kuchma pays his last respects at the coffin of former Minister of Internal Affairs Yurii Kravchenko, whose photo appears on the top right.

high regard.

Vice Prime Minister of Humanitarian Policy Mykola Tomenko met with Mr. Melnychenko in Warsaw between March 6 and 7. During their meeting, Mr. Melnychenko said he was ready to hand over his recordings to Ukrainian authori-

ties and testify for the procurator general. In return, Mr. Melnychenko asked for security during his visit to Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko is willing to meet with Mr. Melnychenko during his visit to the U.S. planned for early April, Mr. Tomenko said.

Ex-minister...

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Kravchenko's death complicates the investigation and raises many new questions in the rapidly unfolding Gongadze case.

"As concerns the investigation, it will be more difficult to investigate the role of former higher state officials [in the killing]," said Oleksander Sushko, director of the Center for Peace, Conversion and Foreign Policy, a Kyiv-based research center. "Without Mr. Kravchenko it will be more difficult to prove or dismiss the role of [Leonid] Kuchma."

He said Mr. Kravchenko's death also exposes what he calls the "complete incompetence" of Procurator General Piskun. He said it was Mr. Piskun's

responsibility to ensure Mr. Kravchenko's safety as the main witness in the Gongadze case.

Mr. Piskun on March 2 said investigators had identified all four people involved in Gongadze's slaying and knew who was the mastermind. He did not name names, but the Interfax news agency reported that the suspects were cooperating in the investigation.

Hryhorii Omelchenko, a member of the Verkhovna Rada's commission investigating the murder of Gongadze, had told the media on March 3 that Mr. Kravchenko was under extreme pressure, adding that he feared Mr. Kravchenko might take his own life.

RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service and RFE/RL Regional Analyst Roman Kupchinsky contributed to this report.

Quotable notes

"We have reasons today to say that the murder of Giya [Heorhii] Gongadze has been solved. Giya Gongadze's murderers have been detained. They are now giving testimony.

"Yesterday, when we were discussing how to conduct the operation, I learned some circumstances of the last moments of the life of Giya Gongadze. It was a horrendous death, which has been corroborated by testimonies of the murderers. It was hard to believe that in this millennium there are people among civil servants who have such anger, such hatred and such animal behavior toward their citizens.

"My main goal today, together with law-enforcement agencies, is to find the answer to the main question: who organized and committed that murder. The investigation has now reached that stage.

"I think the fact that the murder has not been solved for four and a half years but was solved in several weeks under the new authorities proves that the previous government not only lacked the political will to solve it ... but, what is important to say today, the previous government sheltered the murderers."

– Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on March 1, as quoted by the Ukrainska Pravda website and cited by RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report.

"I think it will be possible to say the case is resolved once both those who ordered the killing and those who carried it out are named. So far, we have not heard the names of those who ordered it."

– Myroslava Gongadze, the wife of Heorhii Gongadze, in an interview with RFE/RL on March 2.

Yushchenko to receive JFK Profile in Courage Award

BOSTON – Ukraine President Viktor Yushchenko, who survived an assassination attempt and overcame the efforts of Russian-backed political opponents to rig his defeat as the democratically elected leader of Ukraine, has been named the recipient of the 2005 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award, it was announced on March 8 by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation. (Three other award recipients were to be announced later in the week.)

Mr. Yushchenko will be presented with the Profile in Courage Award by Caroline Kennedy and Sen. Edward Kennedy when he visits the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum this spring.

“Viktor Yushchenko has inspired citizens of the world with his extraordinary courage” said Ms. Kennedy, president of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation. “His commitment to freedom and the democratic process is a powerful example of how one person can truly make a difference. Viktor Yushchenko is a true profile in courage who my father would have greatly admired.”

The John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award is presented annually to public servants who have withstood strong opposition to follow what they believe is the right course of action. Past recipients of the award include former U.S. President Gerald Ford, U.S. Sen. John McCain and U.S. Sen. Russell Feingold, United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, former U.S. Rep. Charles Weltner of Georgia, former U.S. Rep. Carl Elliott Sr. of Alabama, Afghan human rights activist Dr. Sima Simar and the peacemakers of Northern Ireland.

The award is named for President Kennedy’s 1957 Pulitzer Prize-winning book, “Profiles in Courage,” which recounts the stories of eight U.S. senators who risked their careers to fight for what they believed in. The John F. Kennedy Library Foundation created the Profile in Courage Award in 1989 to honor President Kennedy’s commitment and contribution to public service. It is presented in May in celebration of President Kennedy’s May 29 birthday.

Described by one recipient as the

“Nobel in government,” the Profile in Courage Award is represented by a sterling-silver lantern symbolizing a beacon of hope. The lantern was designed by Edwin Schlossberg and crafted by Tiffany & Co.

President Yushchenko was chosen as the recipient of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation’s prestigious award for political courage by a distinguished bipartisan committee of national, political and community leaders. John Seigenthaler, founder of the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University, chairs the 14-member Profile in Courage Award Committee. Committee members are Michael Beschloss, author and presidential historian; David Burke, former president of CBS News; U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran (R-Miss.); Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children’s Defense Fund; Antonia Hernandez, president and chief executive officer of the California Community Foundation; Al Hunt, Washington managing editor of Bloomberg News; U.S. Rep. Nancy

Johnson (R-Conn.); Elaine Jones, former director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund; Ms. Kennedy, president of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation; U.S. Sen. Kennedy (D-Mass.); Paul G. Kirk, Jr., chairman of the board of directors of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation; U.S. Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-Maine); and Patricia M. Wald, former judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum is a presidential library administered by the National Archives and Records Administration and supported, in part, by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, a non-profit organization. The Kennedy Library and the Kennedy Library Foundation seek to promote, through educational and community programs, a greater appreciation and understanding of American politics, history and culture, the process of governing and the importance of public service.

Historians discuss legacy of Yalta Conference at UIA event

by Andrew Nynka

NEW YORK – Four prominent historians came together here on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Yalta Conference to say that the 1945 summit, seen widely as partitioning Eastern Europe in terms favorable to the Soviet Union, no longer has a practical application and is now only a remnant of history.

Hosted by the Ukrainian Institute of America on March 1, the four historians addressed the evening’s theme – a meeting between then U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Marshal Joseph Stalin of the Soviet Union that was held in the Ukrainian resort city in the Crimea. The summit, which took place on February 4-11, 1945, is known simply as the Yalta Conference.

The discussion examined the historic summit against a context of several milestone events that have occurred recently in Eastern Europe. Those events, the historians argued, freed many of the countries that were affected in part by the outcome of the Yalta Conference. The first of those events – membership in the European Union and NATO by Poland, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania – were the first in a series that culminated with the Orange Revolution in Ukraine, the historians said.

“Yalta is receding from memory into history,” said John Micgiel, adjunct associate professor of international affairs and the director of the East Central European Center at Columbia University in New York. “Yalta is not quite dead, but with any luck it will soon be.”

A second scholar, Charles Gati of Johns Hopkins University, agreed. “I don’t think 10-15 years from now Yalta will become a topic of discussion even in this room because it has largely lost its significance,” said Mr. Gati, a senior adjunct professor of European studies at the School of Advanced International Studies in Washington.

“What has Yalta become?” Mr. Gati rhetorically asked the audience of nearly 100. “It’s finished. It’s gone, and I think we should celebrate it. The details of Europe have been taken care of,” added the professor, a fellow at the Johns Hopkins Foreign Policy Institute and a former senior advisor for the U.S. State Department.

Each of the four scholars was given 15 minutes to speak on the theme of the evening – the Yalta Conference in 1945 and its legacy 60 years later – and to discuss “the impact of the tripartite meeting from an Eastern European perspective,” a statement released prior to the event announced.

The discussion was moderated by

Adrian Karatnycky, a counselor and senior scholar at Freedom House, who, in introducing the speakers said the evening had assembled “an extremely accomplished and excellent panel of experts on the post-Yalta region.” He also reminded guests that a “wonderful” exhibit of photographs, rarely displayed outside of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, accompanied the panel discussion and would be on display at the Ukrainian Institute’s landmark building at 2 E. 79th St. until March 4.

A sign describing a portion of the exhibit, made up of black and white photographs of the famed meeting, was hung on the second floor of the UIA’s building. A portion of it read: “Today the conference occupies an ambiguous place in historical memory.”

Addressing that place in history, Dr. David Woolner, a professor of history at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., said the feelings of many Ukrainians toward then Soviet leader Stalin and the Yalta conference stem, in part, from the actions of President Roosevelt.

“Your rage, and the rage in this room, at Joseph Stalin is defined by F.D.R.,” said Dr. Woolner, the executive director of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute. “If the U.S. had gone back to its unilateral approach of isolationism, the world would have been much worse

off because that’s what isolationism is. It is a unilateral decision not to engage with anyone else.”

Dr. Vojtech Mastny, a senior research fellow at the National Security Archives at George Washington University in Washington, addressed the goals of the participants of the Yalta Conference.

“That was the frame of mind on both sides,” Dr. Mastny said, referring to the Western allies and the Soviet Union. “They wanted to preserve a measure of cooperation – not a deep cooperation but they certainly didn’t want the problems that were to come,” said Dr. Mastny, also a coordinator of the independent Parallel History Project on NATO and the Warsaw Pact, a partnership of more than 20 international institutes.

Dr. Mastny added that, although the participants left the conference feeling they had achieved a measure of success in deliberating on the future of Eastern Europe, they quickly realized they had made a mistake.

“Let’s remember that they parted in the best of spirits,” Dr. Mastny said of Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin. “They really all believed that they got out of it all that they wanted. Of course, that was not the case, and they would realize that in the coming weeks.”

(Continued on page 19)



Andrew Nynka

Speakers at the Ukrainian Institute of America presentation dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Yalta Conference (from left): Adrian Karatnycky, John Micgiel, David Woolner, Vojtech Mastny and Charles Gati.

Illinois State Legislature considers new genocide curriculum bill

by Katya Mischenko-Mycyk

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation – U.S.A. (UGFF) is urging all Illinois Ukrainian Americans to write their state legislators in support of Illinois House Bill 312. If passed, House Bill 312 would mandate that all public elementary and secondary schools in Illinois teach about the genocides that occurred in Armenia, Ukraine, Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and Sudan, in addition to the already mandated study of the Holocaust. This bill amends a current law in Illinois which requires state public schools to teach students only about the Holocaust.

“This long overdue legislation will help us ensure that our students learn of the devastating role that genocide has played around the world throughout history, and unfortunately, in current times,” said State Rep. John Fritchey (D-Chicago), the sponsor of House Bill 312. “It is only through this type of education that we can work to erase the type of global indifference that allowed the tragedy in Ukraine to occur and the apathy that exists today with respect to the genocide happening in Africa. We must value all human lives equally.”

On September 21, 2003, Rep. John Froehlich (R-Schaumburg) was the only Illinois public official to accept an invitation from the UGFF to participate in the commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933 at the Ukrainian Genocide Monument in Bloomingdale, Ill. During his speech, Rep. Froehlich pledged to work on behalf of the Ukrainian American community to see to it that Illinois schools are required to teach stu-

dents about the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933.

Keeping his word, less than a year and a half later, Rep. Froehlich is the chief co-sponsor of House Bill 312.

The UGFF commended Reps. Fritchey and Froehlich for their commitment to increasing awareness of the over 10 million victims of the Ukrainian Genocide and calling attention to other ethnic groups that have suffered from a similar history of ethnic hatred and genocide.

House Bill 312 is in the early stages of the legislative cycle. All bills must be read by title on three different days in each chamber (House and Senate) before being passed. After the first reading, the bill is assigned to a committee and a hearing takes place. If the committee approves the bill after the hearing, then it proceeds to the second reading and third reading before a vote is taken.

House Bill 312 cleared the hearing in the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education on February 9. Committee members voted 13-8 in favor of House Bill 312.

Testimony opposing House Bill 312 was delivered by Deanna Sullivan of the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Representatives of the UGFF were present at the hearing and submitted both written and oral testimony to the committee. Chairperson Katya Mischenko-Mycyk delivered oral testimony on behalf of the UGFF in support of House Bill 312. In her testimony she presented the committee a brief history of Stalin's policy for liquidating the Ukrainian kulaks as a class and explained how that led to the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933.

“Many historians believe that Stalin's

ability to carry out the genocide in Ukraine while concealing it from the rest of the world encouraged Hitler to commence his extermination of Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, Slavs and others in what is known as the Holocaust,” stated Mrs. Mischenko-Mycyk during her testimony.

A number of the representatives who voted against House Bill 312 asked the forgiveness of their negative vote on the bill from Rep. Fritchey and the ethnic communities that have experienced genocide. A few, including Rep. Watson (R), explained that their opposition centered on their concern for the number of mandates already placed on Illinois teachers and current budget shortfalls, and was not a rejection of the importance of the genocides included in House Bill 312.

In light of State Department of Education budget shortfalls, the UGFF is prepared to provide Illinois teachers with curriculum and resource guides at no charge. In addition, through the work of Dr. Myron Kuropas, the UGFF is pleased to announce a one graduate credit seminar accredited by Northern Illinois University on the teaching of the Ukrainian Genocide.

This two-day seminar for Illinois teachers will be held at the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago on April 1-2 and will be led by Dr. Kuropas. Teachers registered for this seminar will receive a curriculum guide, a textbook, a video on the Ukrainian Genocide and a luncheon. For further information on how to register and about tuition fees for this program, readers may contact Nicholas Mischenko at (847) 699-9484 or UGFF-USA@sbcglobal.net.

On March 1, House Bill 312 was read for the third time in the Illinois House

and a final vote was called. The Illinois House of Representatives passed the Bill by a vote of 96 in favor to 11 against, with seven abstaining.

Representatives voting against the bill in the final House vote were Suzanne Bassi (R), Mark H. Beaubien Jr. (R), William B. Black (R), Joe Dunn (R), Renee Kosel (R), Eileen Lyons (R), Jerry L. Mitchell (R), Donald L. Moffitt (R), Richard P. Myers (R), Ed Sullivan Jr. (R) and Jim Watson (R).

Of particular concern to the UGFF is that Rep. Bassi, who represents District 54, voted against the bill. The Ukrainian American Youth Association's Palatine Branch, which houses a Ukrainian Saturday school and a Ukrainian School of Dance, and is home to SUM activities, lies within Rep. Bassi's legislative district.

The bill was placed on the Illinois Senate calendar for a first reading on March 3.

The UGFF noted that it is imperative that the Illinois Ukrainian American community rally together once again and write to their Illinois state senators to support House Bill 312.

The UGFF suggested that letters be sent also to:

- Sen. Emil Jones Jr., Illinois Senate President, 327 Capitol Building, Springfield, IL 62706;

- Sen. Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson, Senate Education Committee, M114 Capitol Building, Springfield, IL 62706;

- Sen. Frank C. Watson, Illinois Senate Minority Leader, 309A Capitol Building, Springfield, IL 62706;

- Sen. Louis S. Viverito, Chairperson, Senate Rules Committee, 121A Capitol Building, Springfield, IL 62706.

UHRC meets with members of Congress



WASHINGTON – Members of the Philadelphia-based Ukrainian Human Rights Committee recently traveled to Washington in the aftermath of the Orange Revolution to meet with elected officials in order to urge them to support Ukraine in its efforts to foster democracy and create a free market economy. UHRC members met with co-chairs of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) and Curt Weldon (R-Pa.) and asked them to work to increase U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine. Rep. Kaptur shared her experiences in visiting the tent city on Kyiv's Independence Square, while Rep. Weldon commented that it is time the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik amendment be revoked in regard to Ukraine. The UHRC also met with Rep. Charles Dent (R-Pa.), a newly elected member of Congress who represents the Lehigh Valley region, and his legislative director, Peter Richards. The UHRC emphasized the importance of U.S. support for newly inaugurated President Viktor Yushchenko, who is leading Ukraine on a new course of democratization. Seen above (from left) are: Mr. Richards, Ulana Mazurkevich, Rep. Dent and Marta Fedoriv.

ACTION ITEMS

Yushchenko's visit and aid to Ukraine

Friends and supporters of Ukraine's democracy:

President Viktor Yushchenko is due to visit the U.S. in early April. Of the three levels of presidential visits, state, official and working, this visit was first characterized as a “working” visit, but apparently now is set as an “official” visit. Ukrainian Americans would obviously like to see President Yushchenko be received with all the honor and dignity due him, but sources on both sides of the Atlantic say that one month's time is not enough to arrange a state visit. At a meeting of local Ukrainian American organization heads convened on March 8 by Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Mykhailo Reznik, it was decided to urge the Bush administration to arrange a state visit in November in view of the lengthy preparations regarding not only the state dinner, but political protocols to be agreed upon and prepared for signing, and security arrangements to be made.

In view of the above facts, the next most prestigious event for a visiting head of state is an address to a joint session of Congress. Please contact, by phone or fax, members of the House of Representatives and Senate to urge that they appeal to Speaker Dennis Hastert to invite President Yushchenko to address a formal, joint session of Congress during his visit in early April as a signal of U.S. support for the new administration in Ukraine

* * *

In the Foreign Assistance section of the Supplemental Appropriations Bill for 2005, the Bush administration included \$60 million for Ukraine. The sum is part of the administration's post-Orange Revolution response in support of Ukraine's new reform government. The House has proposed to cut this figure by half, to \$30 million. Given the current budget situation, there is no guarantee that even that much will remain in the final version of the bill.

Please immediately contact members of the House and Senate to urge them to reinstate the administration's original \$60 million in the Fiscal 2005 Supplemental Appropriations bill for foreign assistance to Ukraine. Providing the \$60 million of funding will fulfill President George W. Bush's commitment to supporting freedom in this vital area of the globe.

* * *

If you don't know your House and/or Senate members' telephone numbers and faxes (regular mail and e-mails take too long), call 202-225-3121 or log on to <http://www.house.gov> and <http://www.senate.gov>.

For further information about these Action Items readers may call (410) 884-9025.

– submitted by the Action Ukraine Coalition

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

California gala presents debutantes, supports aid to Ukraine

by Anna Micevych

GLENDALE, Calif. – Saturday, February 5, was a crisp, southern California evening. Four girls were about to make their debut, and a charity was about to have its annual gala. The event: the 2005 California Association to Aid Ukraine Ball held at the Hilton Hotel in Glendale, Calif.

It was a night to celebrate culture and community. Members of the Ukrainian community came to watch the debutantes, bid on silent auction items, dance and, most importantly, to help a great cause. Last year the CAAU Ball funded orphanages in Ukraine. Proceeds from this year's ball were earmarked to support Wheelchairs for Ukraine, a part of Wheels for Humanity, an organization dedicated to providing wheelchairs throughout the world.

The ball is not the CAAU's only charitable action for the Ukrainian people. The organization also provides financial support to orphanages, educational programs, neonatal training for physicians, democracy education, and helps Wheels for Humanity deliver wheelchairs and mobility aids to needy in Ukraine, among other causes. Last year, through the generosity of the southern California community and the dedication of its members, CAAU provided nearly \$30,000 in support for these programs.

But this was not on the minds of the debutantes, their families and the guests. It was a magical night for the debutantes and their families. All was ready: the grand ballroom was elegantly appointed with covered chairs, crisp linens and floral centerpieces accented with orange roses. Andriana Gnap led everyone in "God Bless America" and the Ukrainian national anthem. The band, Vorony, from New York, which had donated their time to provide music for the event, played a soft accompaniment for the young ladies' presentation to the community.

This year's debutantes came from all over California, but all had ties to the local southern California community. The young ladies were resplendent in their white gowns and gloves. They were an amazing group indeed.

Sophia Zerebinski is involved in marine ecology and will travel to Costa Rica this summer to study leatherback sea turtles. Olha Kalish is active in the



Debs and escorts: Left to right: Cedar Lampe and Alexandra Prodaniuk, Volodymyr Kalish and Olha Kalish, Alyssa Demus and Artem Panchenko, Sophia Zerebinski and Andrij Zacharczuk

San Francisco Ukrainian and Orthodox community. She has been energized by the Orange Revolution and demonstrated in favor of free elections in Ukraine. Alyssa Demus organizes charity events at her school to raise money for a variety of community service projects. Alexandra Prodaniuk is an athlete and accomplished mountain hiker; she and her team hold the record for the youngest team (13-year-olds) to traverse the Tahoe Rim Trail in one stretch – a distance of

150 miles.

Marta Mykytyn-Hill, CAAU's treasurer, acted as master of ceremonies for the event and kept the program running smoothly. Before dinner commenced, Father Myron Mykyta, pastor of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, gave the invocation. He gave a traditional blessing for the food, the debutantes, the CAAU Ball Committee, the guests, and, in an unexpectedly lighthearted twist, included the band, to the amusement of all.

Following dinner, Luba Poniatyszyn-Keske, chairman of the CAAU board, introduced members of the board, all of whom are deeply committed to the organization's goal of improving life in Ukraine.

She gave special recognition to Dr. Roman Kulczycky for his countless hours of volunteer work in refurbishing wheelchairs and overseeing their distribution in Ukraine. Since 1997 Dr. Kulczycky has been leading, on a yearly basis, a small group of volunteers to various oblasts in Ukraine to distribute wheelchairs, walkers, canes and other mobility aids to needy children and adults. His team has included professionals who are trained in personalized fittings for each recipient.

Also recognized was David Richard, director of Wheels for Humanity, CAAU's partner organization in the Wheelchairs for Ukraine program. Through this partnership the lives of thousands of needy people in Ukraine have been transformed with the gift of mobility. The next delivery of wheelchairs is scheduled for this summer for

Chernivtsi. To date, deliveries have been made to Lviv, Rivne, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Volyn and Uzhorod.

In addition, the board acknowledged the efforts of Bohdan Malaniak (CAAU advisor, Los Angeles) and Dr. Rostyslav Stoika (CAAU advisor, Ukraine), who assist Dr. Kulczycky on a continuing basis with the coordination of wheelchair shipments with U.S. and Ukrainian governments and other organizations.

Last, but not least, Mrs. Keske introduced the vice consul of Ukraine, Taras Kuzmich, who presented personal greetings on behalf of Dr. Valery Hrebeniuk, consul general of Ukraine in San Francisco.

After 45 minutes of dancing to the energetic band, the enthusiastic guests were treated to a brief performance by the Los Angeles dance group Chervona Kalyna. The group entertained everyone with the traditional "Welcome Dance" followed by two traditional Ukrainian dances and one contemporary dance, all of which were expertly executed by the dancers, who were rewarded with thunderous applause. Chervona Kalyna, whose artistic director is Yuri Nester, consists of Svitlana Bagatchenko, Anna Panchenko, Natalia Kosykh, Andriana Futala and Tonie Dupey.

Later in the evening, one and all gathered in a large circle for the much-anticipated "Kolomyika." Young and old participated, showing off not only their dance talent, but the multi-generational presence at the ball. Marko Billey, as

(Continued on page 17)



The board of CAAU (back row): Dr. Yarko Maryniuk, Dr. Roman Kulczycky, Luba Keske, Marko Billey, Dr. Paul Micevych, Shannon Micevych, Dr. Andrij Olesiuk, Taras Matla, (front row): Anne Prokopovych, Bohdan Malaniak, Marta Mykytyn-Hill, Irynej Prokopovych and Zoryana Keske.

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Ukrainian Association of Washington hosts debutante ball



Natalie Sluzar

Washington debutantes and their escorts, with organizers of the event (from left): Sophika Nakonechny-Smith, Ulana Baczynskyj, Danylo Deychakiwsky, Marta Olena Prynada-Demidenko, Alex Constantine, Katya Anna Chopivsky, Marika Anna Balahutrak, Patrick Manion, Larissa Breslawec Levine, Zachary Stovall, Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych and Yaromyr Oryshkevych.

by Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych

WASHINGTON – On January 15 the Ukrainian Association of Washington Metropolitan Area again hosted the grand Malanka Debutante Ball here at the new Leo J. O'Donovan Hall on the Georgetown University campus.

Co-President Sophika Nakonechny-Smith introduced herself and her new co-president, Ulana Baczynskyj. In her wel-

coming remarks, Ms. Nakonechny-Smith introduced Mykhailo Reznik, ambassador of Ukraine to the U.S.A., who concluded his greeting by stating: "Ukraine is free, Mnohaya Lita."

Ms. Baczynskyj introduced former Congressman Michael Kopecky from Oregon, who was an observer in Ukraine's rerun election. Mr. Kopecky expressed his joy in helping the people of Ukraine in witnessing a free election.

Ms. Baczynskyj then introduced the members of the board who organized this event: Ms. Nakonechny-Smith; Halyna Breslawec, former co-president; John Kun, treasurer; Irene Kost, secretary; Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych and Yaromyr Oryshkevych, debutante coordinators; and Oleh and Slavko Voloshyn, administrative support. A word of thanks went to Roman Goy for his technical expertise and timely help. Ms. Baczynskyj thanked Richard

Smith for his creative marketing campaign and keepsake programs.

Afterwards, the masters of ceremony, Ms. Shashkewych-Oryshkevych and Dr. Oryshkevych, announced this year's four debutantes and their escorts, giving a brief biography of each young lady. Marta Olena Prynada-Demidenko, Marika Anna Balahutrak, Katya Anna Chopivsky and Larissa Breslawec Levine were introduced to the Washington community.

The presentation was choreographed by Ms. Shashkewych-Oryshkevych and was followed by a lovely waltz played by Chicago's Veseli Chasy, featuring the debutantes and their escorts in their first dance. It was a magical evening, and even the January weather was accommodating.

The Rev. Wasyl Charuk, the spiritual director of St. Josaphat's Seminary, gave the benediction, and wished all bon appetit. On behalf of the debutantes, Ms. Chopivsky thanked Dr. and Mrs. Oryshkevych for their support and effort in preparing them for this special evening, presenting Mrs. Oryshkevych with a bouquet of orange roses.

After a superb dining experience, the attendees danced the night away to the wonderful music of Veseli Chasy. At midnight everyone welcomed the New Year with a champagne toast and continued dancing until 2 a.m.

In attendance were the pastors of all three Washington area parishes: the Rev. and Mrs. Taras Lonchyna, the Rev. and Mrs. Wolodymyr Steliak, and the Rev. Nestor Iwasiw. This year's gala brought many out-of-town guests, some from as far away as Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana and North Carolina, in addition to the local community of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. All had come together to continue the tradition of the Washington Malanka Debutante Ball. Next year's ball is planned for January 14, 2006.

Malanka of SUM's Chicago branch presents five debutantes

by Marijka Krutiak

CHICAGO – The Mykola Pavlushkov Branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) in Chicago held its annual New Year's ball, or "Malanka," on Saturday, January 15, at the Chicago Marriott Downtown.

Elegantly dressed guests arrived at 6:30 p.m. for hors d'oeuvres and cocktails

in the foyer of the Chicago Room. Friends, both old and new, gathered on the cold January evening to share in the warmth of hope that the New Year brings.

Once the massive carved doors were opened to the beautiful dining room, guests marveled at the ornate chandeliers, sparkling marble floors, and breathtaking tablescapes by Katya Mischenko Floral Designs, as well as beautiful commemora-

tive booklets designed by Olia Korol, that added to the adornment of the table setting.

Andrew Luczak-Glubisz, master of ceremonies, opened the celebration by greeting the 230 dinner guests and explained why this celebration was even more joyous than ever before: Ukrainians all over the world are celebrating the election of Viktor Yushchenko as president of Ukraine. Ukraine would finally

take its rightful place alongside other great nations because of the peaceful Orange Revolution, he said.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of five lovely debutantes, conducted by Kateryna Kulas, choreographer of the debutante presentation, and a counselor in SUM for all of the 2005 debutantes. As they entered the room, guests greeted the proud and beaming parents. Each debutante was individually introduced with a brief description of her accomplishments, extracurricular activities, as well as plans for the future.

The official delicate sash and congratulations were received from the "bulavnyi," Andrij Kosowsky, "zastupnyk bulavnoho," Natalka Kowal; and president of the Mykola Pavlushkov Branch, Mario Kolody. After receiving her sash, each stunning debutante performed a deep and graceful bow. Each escort then provided his young lady with a single perfect red rose, which, in turn, she presented to her mother, creating a most touching and tender moment for all present.

Mr. Kolody greeted all of the guests and their families with warmest wishes for the coming New Year. Congratulating the debutantes, he wished them success as they embark on their path into adulthood. He also thanked members for all their hard work in the completion of many successful events and projects in 2004, and the community for its support.

Ms. Kulas then continued with the



Chicago SUM debutantes and their escorts (from left): Tanya Boyduy and Matthew Kwapisz; Marta Zelena and Taras Demberecky; Christina Alexandra Keryczynskyj and Paul Proczko; Natalia Kurinna and Peter Krutiak; Marta Shvets and Mark Fafendyk.

(Continued on page 17)

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Ukrainian American Youth Association holds 41st deb ball



Wowk Photography

SUM debutantes and their escorts at the Meadowlands Crowne Plaza Hotel.

by Orest Kozicky

SECAUCUS, N.J. – On February 5 the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) sponsored its 41st annual Debutante Ball at the Secaucus-Meadowlands Crowne Plaza Hotel in New Jersey.

The debutante ball is a traditional affair at which each debutante is formally presented to the community as a young lady, having attained the milestone of her 16th birthday.

Genya Kuzmowycz-Blahy, who was appointed by the SUM national board to head the ball's organizing committee, formally opened the ceremonies and welcomed the debutantes, their family members and guests.

After the opening prayer, masters of ceremonies Olia and Pavlo Figol began the presentation of each of the 12 debutantes. After enjoying an affectionate exchange with her parents, each debutante was joined by her escort. After being formally introduced, each debutante was heartily welcomed by the guests as she was escorted through the center of the ballroom.

This year's debutantes included Karina Elizabeth Winiarskyj (Hartford, Conn.), escorted by Christopher Rusyniak; Natalia Vera Hlushko (New

York), escorted by Taras Kulynych, Christie Michelle Deskiewicz (Syracuse, N.Y.), escorted by Roman Palylyk; Natalie Halyna Kebalo (Hartford), escorted by Peter Drobenco; Katherine Ana Kleban (Whippany, N.J.), escorted by Eric von Hofen; Ulana Maria Romaniw (Passaic, N.J.), escorted by Michael Bybel; Monica Anna Sawchuk (Yonkers, N.Y.), escorted by Michael Kapitula; Jennifer Ana Sorano (Hartford), escorted by Peter Kolinsky; Anna Natalia Stroynick (Goshen, N.Y.), escorted by Michael Pawlyk; Natalia Ustimenko (Hartford) escorted by Damian Shchur; Stephanie Christine Szafran (Hartford), escorted by Christopher Gojdyecz; and Alexandra Ivanka Szkafarowsky (Yonkers), escorted by Markian Frycz.

Bohdan Harhaj, the president of the SUM national executive board, paid a special tribute to Kornel Wasyluk, a deeply revered and extremely popular SUM member and youth leader who, after being one of its original founders served for many years as the head of the SUM Debutante Ball Organizing Committee and as the cultural arts coordinator of the youth organization's national executive board. This recognition elicited a protracted and deeply respectful round of applause.

Mr. Harhaj then warmly addressed the debutantes, after which the 12 young couples delighted the audience with an exquisite minuet choreographed by balletmaster Hryhorij Momot. Each debutante then joined her father in a heart-warming waltz.

An evening of lively dancing to the music of Zolota Bulava of Montreal and Na Zdorovia of Yonkers followed, culmi-

nating in a "Kolomyika" that lasted over 30 minutes.

Special thanks for the success of this memorable event were given to the organizing committee, which consisted of Ms. Kuzmowycz-Blahy (chair), Lida Mykytyn, Petro and Julia Kosciolk, Natalka Kudryk, Adrianna Odomirok, Ircia Liber and Laryssa Blahy, and to the masters of ceremonies.



Wowk Photography

Debutantes and their escorts twirl around the dance floor.

Ukrainian Summer School 2005 27 June – 5 August

Learn Ukrainian in
an immersion
setting

Walk the
picturesque streets
of medieval Lviv

Enjoy the famous
hospitality of the
Ukrainian people



UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY
Ukrainian Summer School
Vul. Svientsitskoho 17
79011 Lviv, Ukraine

Tel no: 380 32 240-99-40
Fax no: 380 32 240-99-50
e-mail:

ukrainiansummer@ucu.edu.ua



- Faculty of native speakers
- Experienced teachers of Ukrainian as a foreign language
- Beginning, intermediate and advanced levels
- No previous experience of Ukrainian is required
- Visit: <http://www.ucu.edu.ua/uss>
- Academic Calendar: The full program lasts from 27 June – 5 August 2005 and is divided into two 3-week study periods (each equivalent to a 4-credit semester course).

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Detroit chapter of Engineers' Society sponsors Winter Ball

by Zina Kozak-Zachary

WARREN, Mich. – On Saturday, January 29, the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA) Detroit Branch hosted its 42nd Winter Ball and Presentation of Debutantes, a tradition initiated by the society in 1960.

This year the event took place at the newly renovated Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Mich., where nearly 250 guests gathered to welcome two additional young ladies to the Ukrainian American community in South Eastern Michigan.

To date, the UESA has presented 406 young ladies through this socially rich ceremony including its latest debutantes: Natalie Christina Lawrin, daughter of Dr. Oleh and Barbara Lawrin, and granddaughter of fellow UESA member Mykola Lawrin, escorted by Jordan Fylenenko; and Elizabeth Marie Pateryn, daughter of George and Jenny Pateryn, escorted by Patrick Nordstrom.

The presiding president of the UESA Detroit Branch, Natalie Lewyckyj opened the evening's festivities by welcoming the debutantes, their families, members of the UESA and guests. She introduced mistress of ceremonies and UESA colleague Zina Kozak-Zachary, who began her address by calling attention to the evening's orange theme. The significance of this color, to Ukrainian Americans as a whole, was twofold: it was deeply symbolic of the evening's ceremony, as well as of the recent events in Ukraine.

Firstly, orange is the nationally recognized color of the school of engineering and as such it has a meaning to the Detroit Chapter members of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society. Secondly, orange has become representative of the determination of Ukrainians to see their

country a free democracy. Inspired by this monumental historic event, the Detroit Branch of the UESA chose to adopt this symbolic color in the spirit of the peaceful revolution that took place in Ukraine. That evening the display of orange was extended to the debutantes' bouquets, the escorts' boutonnieres and even a few bow ties and pocket squares.

After completing her opening remarks, Mrs. Kozak-Zachary proceeded to the main attraction of the evening's program. As their names were announced, the debutantes entered the ballroom wearing formal white gowns and long white gloves, and carrying nosegays of brilliant orange roses. They were escorted to the center of the dance floor, where they greeted family and guests with a curtsy.

The young ladies were then invited to the first dance of the evening with their escorts, followed by the traditional second dance with their fathers. Finally, the escorts led the debutantes' mothers to the dance floor, where they each received a long-stemmed rose from their daughters. The debutantes, their escorts and the debutantes' parents enjoyed the last ceremonial waltz before taking a final bow.

Winding up the presentation ceremony, the MC and guests toasted the debutantes and sang the traditional "Mnohiyi Lita." Following the dinner, dancing and socializing lasted well past midnight to contemporary music provided by Toronto's Kari Ochi.

Special thanks were extended to the ball committee: Dianna Korduba Sawicky (chair), Ms. Lewyckyj (UESA Detroit Branch president), Laryssa Kozak and Mrs. Kozak-Zachary (debutante presentation and advertisement), Greg and Oksana Woloszczuk (reservations), and Kornel and Irene Senyk (photographs and flowers).



Detroit's debutantes and their escorts: Elizabeth Marie Pateryn with Patrick Nordstrom (left), and Natalie Christina Lawrin with Jordan Fylenenko.

Newark Plast and Plast-Pryiat introduce eight debutantes

by Irka Turynsky
and Zenia Olesnycky

WHIPPANY, N.J. – On February 5, at the Hanover Marriott in Whippany, N.J., Plast-Pryiat and the Plast branch of Newark, N.J., held their annual debutante

ball.

The debutantes and their escorts entered the Grand Ballroom with a graceful promenade choreographed by Oksana Bauer, as the masters of ceremonies, Lida Moczula and Lubodar Olesnycky, presented the eight debutantes to the

Ukrainian community.

This was a special year for the ball as debutantes from the Newark branch were joined by debutantes from Passaic, N.J. The program included a warm welcome from Zenia Brozyna and George Shypailo, the leaders of the Passaic and

Newark branches, respectively.

The "hurtkova" from Newark, Deanna Rakowsky, and Laryssa Patti, her counterpart from Passaic, recounted some of the memorable moments they had experienced with their friends during their scouting years. The program also included a benediction by the Rev. Leonid Malkov, pastor of St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J.

The debutantes and their escorts presented were as follows: Olha Bahrynivsky with Alexander Mandicz, Ulana Bihun with Michael Kolodij, Marijka Blazhenko with Taras Zenyuk, Tyrssa Korduba with Andrew Kuzyszyn, Laryssa Lukiw with Danylo Paslawsky, Laryssa Patti with Lev Halibey, Deanna Rakowsky with Alexander Myskiw, and Julie Schorniy with Roman Keniuk.

Over 350 guests enjoyed the dinner, and numerous additional guests arrived to dance to the music of Tempo. The evening was a memorable one for the debutantes, escorts, families and guests alike.

As in past years, the committee members thanked the Self Reliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union of Newark for its continued support, which included funding the printing of invitations, advertisements and tickets for the debutante ball.

The 2005 organizing committee members included Irka Turynsky, Zenia Olesnycky, Lida Moczula, Darka Semanyshyn and Laryssa Nahnybida.

Next year's Plast Debutante Ball will be held on February 4, 2006, at the Hanover Marriott in Whippany, N.J.



Members of the Newark and Passaic Plast branches with their escorts at the 2005 debutante ball.

Gabelli Studio

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Chicago UMANA's 44th debutante ball is charity benefit

by Maria Hrycelak

CHICAGO – The Illinois Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) hosted its 44th annual Charity Ball and Presentation of Debutantes on January 29 at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago.

Rose-covered tables greeted the 500 guests in the Grand Ballroom. The entrance of the debutantes, their parents and escorts into the beautiful ballroom was impressive. Dr. George Kuritza, president of the Illinois Chapter of UMANA, presented the 13 debutantes to the community. Under the expert choreography of Roxana Dykyj-Pylypczak, an intricate and beautiful dance program materialized in the ballroom.

The debutantes in their flowing white gowns waltzed gracefully with their fathers and escorts. Dr. Kuritza then welcomed the debutantes, their parents, escorts and guests who came from all over the United States and Canada. Representing the proud parents, Ruta Ripecky and Luba Skubiak addressed the debutantes and wished them well in their future endeavors.

After dinner, more guests arrived and danced the night away to the music of the local Veseli Chasy-Good Times band, which is soon to retire. The debutante ball was held just days after the historic inauguration of Ukraine's newly elected president, making it a truly memorable occasion.

The 2005 Charity Ball will distribute proceeds to the Foundation of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America. A silent auction encouraged some spirited bidding for an autographed



MVP Studio, Inc.

Debutantes at the UMANA ball (from left): Roxolana Kozyckyj with Adrian Hulyk, Vera Kazaniwskyj with Mark Murskyj, Natalie Matwijiszyn with Daniel Demus, Tanya Barabasz with Aleksander Case, Christina Pleskiewicz with Timothy Andersen, Maya Ripecky with Alexander Drabyk, Christina Dykun with Nicholas Hryhorczuk, Adria Sambor with Alexander Kuzyk, Natalie Belkairous with Dustin Kocylowsky, Nina Skubiak with Roman Pylypczak, Julia Slusarenko with Mark Tkaczuk, Kalyna Durbak with Damian Kozbur, and Melanie Wojtychiw with Gregory Sidelnik.

Klitschko boxing glove, as well as a beautiful basket donated by the 2005 debutantes. The basket, dubbed "Orange is the New Black," included over 15

Ukrainian CDs and memorabilia from the Orange Revolution

The organizing committee of the ball thanked Kathy Hrynewycz, Mila Special

Events Florist and Selfreliance-Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union for their hard work and generous contribution to the event.

51st Engineers' Ball is highlight of Philadelphia social season

by Metodij Boretsky

PHILADELPHIA – The 51st Engineers' Ball of the Philadelphia Branch of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA) was held here on Saturday, February 5, at the Park Hyatt Hotel. This year's ball included a banquet, artistic performance, presentation of debutantes and dancing to the music of the Luna orchestra.

After the cocktail hour, Metodij Boretsky, head of the Philadelphia Branch of the UESA, opened the event

by greeting the guests, especially Father John Demkiv with his wife, Myroslava; Valeriy Kuchinsky, ambassador of Ukraine to the United Nations with his wife, Alla; Dr. Serhiy Korsunsky, minister counselor at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington; Marco Shmerekovsky, vice-president of the UESA executive board; and Vera Andryczyk, member of the official U.S. delegation to the inauguration of the president of Ukraine.

Father Demkiv delivered the invocation as the banquet began. After the dinner, soloist Nadia Lychovolska sang two

songs, "Chervona Ruta" and "Ukraina Lyubov Moya."

At about 10 p.m., eight debutantes and their escorts were presented (escorts' names are in parentheses): Hannah Stephanie Zwil (Daniel N. Miller), Alexandra Plavako Petryk (Ryan Michael Chesnes), Sofiyka Yasmin Zmurkewycz (Michael Minnik), Larissa Nina Woskobijnyk (Yuriy Maksym Dobriansky), Arianna Lubomyra Watters (Victor Podpirka), Stephanie Demkiv Cartright (Nicholas John Wesolowich), Melanie Anne Trypupenko (Arthur Shull)

and Nadia Katherine Byrnes (Gregory Wesolowich).

The debutantes and their escorts were formally greeted by Mr. Boretsky and introduced by the master of ceremonies, Nestor Holynsky. Mr. Boretsky congratulated each debutante and pinned ribbons on them with the assistance of their parents. Roxolana Horbowyj, Lida Melnyk, Maria Shwed, Taras Lewytsky and Levko Strotsky prepared the debutantes for the presentation ceremony.

About 270 people attended the dinner, and about 400 guests enjoyed the dance

held afterwards. The committee that organized the 2005 Engineers' ball was composed of Mr. Boretsky (chairman), Larissa Zaika, Marta Shyprykevych, Dr. Horbowyj, Ihor Kovaliv, Wolodymyr Horbowyj, Petro Hewka, Myron Bilas, Michael Komanowsky, Orest Shwed and Oleh Ciuk. In addition, the following persons assisted the ball committee; Wolodymyr Kuzyk, Iryna Kinakh, Pavlo Kinakh, Valerij and Ludmyla Bobiak, Wolodymyr Kubrak and Paul Gurgol.

In connection with the Orange Revolution in Kyiv, the debutantes organized a "basket" for an auction to benefit various programs in Ukraine managed by the Philadelphia-based United Ukrainian American Relief Committee.



Philadelphia debutantes with their escorts and ball committee members.

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Pittsburgh UNWLA holds its first presentation of debutantes



Debutantes and their escorts at the "Vyshyvani Vechornytsi" gala in Pittsburgh.

by Luba Hlutkowsky

PITTSBURGH – Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 27 in Pittsburgh featured a presentation of debutantes at its annual "Vyshyvani Vechornytsi" on August 28, 2004, at the Greentree Holiday Inn.

It was the first debutantes' presentation

at this ball, which has been held yearly since the early 1990s.

Marika Zaliszczuk, president of Branch 27, greeted the debutantes, their families and guests. Seven young women were presented by their parents to the Ukrainian community. Each exemplified the best in academic achievement as well as charitable volun-

teerism in both Ukrainian and American community life.

The evening was filled with grace and beauty as the debutantes were introduced to the audience by Luba Hlutkowsky and Anne Konecky. The music of the Oberehy orchestra was enjoyed by young and old alike.

The following young women were

presented: Natalie Cammarata with her escort Michael Viola, Olesya Komichak with Yuriy Petlura, Katya Ivanova with Alexander Begey, Diana Andreyko with David Tomaceli, Viktoria Lutsiv with Andriy Bohonok, Nicole Morozowich with Jon Jennings, and Natalia Pavlenko with Edward Klavin II.

Celebrate Easter at Soyuzivka

March 27

May 1

Brunch featuring
a traditional
blessed Ukrainian
Easter meal
AND...
Escolar (fish)
Lamb Rack Chops
Duck Breast
Flat Iron Steak

Doors open 11:30 am
\$17++ per person



Soyuzivka
for all seasons
www.Soyuzivka.com

Call for Reservations
845-626-5641

UNA Estate Soyuzivka • P.O. Box 529 • 216 Foordmoore Road • Kerhonkson, NY 12446 • 845-626-5641 • email: Soyuzivka@aol.com

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

2005 Chervona Kalyna Ball introduces eight debutantes

by Oksana Kuzyszyn

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. – At the 2005 Chervona Kalyna Ball at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel in East Rutherford, N.J. on January 29, eight young debutantes stepped out to the sounds of the Tempo and Luna orchestras and formally started their social life in presence of guests, friends and families.

The event was also very special due to the Orange Revolution in Ukraine and the successful election of Viktor Yushchenko as the new democratic president.

The chairman of the ball organizing committee, Ihor Sochan, greeted guests, noting especially the presence of observers who had recently returned from the election in Ukraine. He stated that we all are living in an unusually joyous time because our nation, led by President Yushchenko on the maidan in Kyiv, has gained full liberty – for which we have been fighting for centuries.

As a sign of union with the freedom fighters and all the people in Ukraine, the orchestra members and guests sang the Ukrainian national anthem.

Marta and Orest Kebalo then started the presentation of the debutantes and their escorts, as they have done for 20 years. They also mentioned that this year's ball was so much more special because we are celebrating our new freedom and democracy.

The Sichovi Striltsi combatants started the ball in Lviv back in 1921. After the second world war, the tradition continued, in the U.S. beginning in 1956.

Mr. and Mrs. Kebalo likened today's young people in Ukraine to those students who sacrificed their lives for freedom in the battle of Kruty on January 29, 1918. Today's young generation made its stand on Kyiv's maidan, knowing the danger they faced.

Ukraine's new president has united all in one free democratic Ukraine with a great future as a full-fledged member of European community, the masters of ceremonies noted.

After the presentation of the debutantes, Mr. Sochan expressed his gratitude to all members of the committee and, together with Vice-Chairman Yaroslav Stawnychy, presented flowers to Mrs. Kebalo, Anna Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (choreography) Olha Stawnychy (flowers) and Maria Sochan-Tymyc (program and tableau).

The last page in this year's orange program was dedicated to the late but unforgettable Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky, who for many years arranged the choreography for the debutantes, for her contribution in raising new generations of Ukrainian dancers. Pani Roma, as she was known, managed to instill in the hearts of her students the

love for Ukrainian folk dance. All enjoyed watching and admiring the "Kolomyika" performed enthusiastically by debutantes and other students of Pani Roma, that lasted more than half an hour.

Mr. Sochan also introduced the guests of honor: Ambassador of Ukraine to the United Nations Valeriy Kuchynsky, Consul General of Ukraine in New York Serhiy Pohoreltzev and the president of the Ukrainian World Congress, Askold Lozynskyj, their spouses.

Mr. Lozynskyj in his short address acknowledged the value of our youth organizations, where young people have the opportunity to learn about their heritage and participate in cultural and political events. He mentioned cultural institutions like Ms. Pryma-Bohachevsky's dance studio and . Lydia Krushelnytsky's drama studio, both of whom brought up generations of Ukrainian youths. Due to this educational chain, many of Ukrainians traveled from the U.S. to Ukraine to participate in the presidential election as observers. The Orange Revolution in Ukraine, Mr. Lozynskyj noted, proved that "Together we are many, and we cannot be defeated."

Before dinner, Father Bernard Panchuk of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York conducted a prayer and blessed the food. He also mentioned that the Chervona Kalyna fra-



Wowk Photography

A group of debutantes enjoys dancing during the Chervona Kalyna Ball.

ternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization continues the traditions initiated in Ukraine.

After dinner, the head of the Chervona Kalyna fraternity, Ihor Dekajlo, commended Mr. Sochan for his long years of dedicated work as chairman of the ball

organizing committee.

Next year will mark the 50th anniversary of this grand debutante ball and the Chervona Kalyna Ball will be held on February 25, 2006, at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel in East Rutherford, N.J.



Wowk Photography

Debutantes and escorts at the Chervona Kalyna Ball with committee members (in parentheses): (front row, from left) (Orest and Marta Kebalo), Lara Chelak and Christian Cholhan, Melanie Huryn and Zorian Lasowsky, Emilia Kuzemka and Peter Drobenko, (Olha and Yaroslav Stawnychy); (back row) Lilian Artymyshyn and Mykola Mostovych, Natalia Gouzi and Yaroslav Vynnytsky, (Anna Bohachevsky-Lonkevych, Ihor Sochan) Olenka Kebalo and Gregory Homick, and Laryssa Kramarchuk and Michael Kolodij.

California gala...

(Continued from page 11)

usual was an energetic part of the dancing, as was Capt. Zenon W. Keske, Judge Advocate General, United States Marine Corps. There were several service men and women in attendance at the ball, exhibiting the community's commitment to service to the world at large, not just the Ukrainian community.

Though people had come to dance and welcome the debutantes, the real star of the evening was the charity. To help raise funds, the organizers, led by Anne Prokopovich, had put together a silent

auction featuring traditional Ukrainian crafts, fine art, items from the entertainment industry and other items representing a wide array of interests and the resourcefulness of the organizers. One popular item was the life size cut-out of boxing legend Vitalii Klitchko.

"With the success of the Orange Revolution and all the positive press about Ukraine, one can easily lose sight of the everyday needs of many of her citizens. CAAU remains committed to its mission to aid Ukraine," said 2005 ball organizer Shannon Micevych. "CAAU invites you to join us in 2006 at our annual gala, charity ball and silent auction."

Malanka of SUM's...

(Continued from page 12)

program, announcing the father/daughter debutante waltz to the melody of "Vechory v Karpatakh." At the end of this waltz, the spotlight was on the debutantes and their escorts. They delighted guests with another wonderfully choreographed dance, interweaving classical steps with a Ukrainian flavor to a Strauss waltz arranged by Roman Britsky. With a spirited series of dips, twirls and bows, they covered the entire dance floor. The couples were rewarded with extended applause from the guests.

An elegant and delicious dinner was preceded by a prayer led by the Rt. Rev. Ivan Krotec, pastor of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Parish in Chicago. Guests then enjoyed the rest of the evening, dancing to the sounds of the Zorepad and Impulse bands, both from Chicago.

At the stroke of midnight, New Year favors were brought out, and friends and acquaintances greeted each other with well wishes for 2005.

The Malanka Committee members were: Chairperson Lilia Zapaniuk, Darka Kusznir-Harrison, Marijka Krutiak, Ms. Kulas, Chrystyna Matkowsky and Angelina Pasika.

CLASSIFIEDS

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERTISEMENT CALL MARIA OSCISLAWSKI, (973) 292-9800 x 3040

SERVICES

The
LUNA BAND
Music for weddings, zabavas,
festivals, anniversary celebrations.
OLES KUZYSZYN phone/fax: (732) 636-5406
e-mail: dumamuse@aol.com



ЮРИЙ ЛАЗІРКО
Професійний продавець
забезпечення УНС
IOURI LAZIRKO
Licensed Agent
Ukrainian National Ass'n, Inc.
5 Brannon Ct., Clifton, NJ 07013
Tel.: (973) 881-1291
E-mail: iouri_uke@hotmail.com

IKO Productions
- Sound Systems
- Audio/Visual Solutions
- Lighting
- Disc Jockey Service

(586) 558-8876
www.ikoproductions.net

TRIDENT*
Associates Printing
Toronto - St. Catharines
Buffalo, NY

Українська Друкарня
ТРИЗУБ
Торонто - Ст. Катеринс
Біффало, Н.Й.

COMMERCIAL PRINTING
UNIQUE ENGRAVED INVITATIONS
WITH UKRAINIAN DESIGNS
Graphic Design • Custom Imprinting
Toll Free 1-800-215-9136
Tel. (905) 838-5959 Fax (905) 838-1993
We can also print from your camera ready copy



L. Kulynych Cinematic Experience
Specializing in Filming
Ukrainian Weddings
and Special Events

Web: www.UkrainianWeddings.com
Tel: (917) 848-8437

ECONOMY AIRFARES
Lviv/Odesa \$640 *tax (round trip)
one way **\$465** *tax
Kyiv \$570 *tax (round trip)
one way **\$365** *tax

Fregata Travel
250 West 57 Street, #1211
New York, NY 10107
Tel.: 212-541-5707 Fax: 212-262-3220
* Restrictions apply



ОКСАНА ТРИТЯК
Професійний продавець
забезпечення УНС
OXSANA TRYTJAK
Licensed Agent
Ukrainian National Ass'n, Inc.
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280 Parsippany, NJ 07054
Tel.: (973) 292-9800 (Ext. 3071) • Fax: (973) 292-0900
e-mail: OKRYS@YAHOO.COM

FATA MORGANA
Music for all your music needs Weddings, Zabavas,
Concerts, Festivals and Private Parties
Contact Oleksij (609) 747-1382 or email us at
OKIband@yahoo.com
Visit our website: www.fata-morgana-band.com

Run your advertisement here,
in The Ukrainian Weekly's
CLASSIFIEDS section.

Kozak Construction Co.
All aspects of home improvement:
parquet, tiles, sheetrock, painting.
Tel. 201-437-3227
646-279-1910

MERCHANDISE

WEST ARKA
2282 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont., Canada M6S 1N9

Fine Gifts
Authentic Ukrainian Handicrafts
Art, Books, CDs, Ceramics
Embroidered Goods and Supplies
Gold Jewellery, Icons, Magazines
Newspapers, Pysankas and Supplies
All Services to Ukraine, Mail-orders

Andrew R. CHORNY
Manager

Tel.: (416) 762-8751 Fax: (416) 767-6839
e-mail: andrew@westarka.com www.westarka.com

Ukrainian Book Store
Largest selection of Ukrainian books, dance
supplies, Easter egg supplies, music, icons,
greeting cards, giftwear, and much more.

10215-97st
Edmonton, AB T5J 2N9
Toll free: 1-866-422-4255
www.ukrainianbookstore.com

FIRST QUALITY
UKRAINIAN TRADITIONAL-STYLE
MONUMENTS
SERVING NY/NJ/CT REGION CEMETERIES
OBLAST
MEMORIALS
P.O. BOX 746
Chester, NY 10918
845-469-4247
BILINGUAL HOME APPOINTMENTS


THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY
ATTENTION, MEMBERS OF THE
UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION!

Do you enjoy your subscription to
The Ukrainian Weekly?
Why not share that enjoyment with a friend?

ORDER A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION
TO THE WEEKLY
at the member's rate of \$45 per year.

To subscribe, write to
The Ukrainian Weekly,
Subscription Department,
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280,
Parsippany, NJ 07054;
or call (973) 292-9800.

PROFESSIONALS



LAW OFFICES OF
ZENON B. MASNYJ, ESQ.
Since 1983

• Serious Personal Injury
• Real Estate/Coop Closings
• Business Representation
• Securities Arbitration
• Divorces
• Wills & Probate

157 SECOND AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10003
(212) 477-3002
(By Appointment Only)

ATTORNEY
JERRY
KUZEMCZAK


• accidents at work
• automobile accidents
• slip and fall
• medical malpractice

FIRST CONSULTATION IS FREE.
Fees collected only after
personal injury case is successful.

ALSO:

• DWI
• real estate
• criminal and civil cases
• traffic offenses
• matrimonial matters
• general consultation

WELT & DAVID
1373 Broad St, Clifton, N.J. 07013
(973) 773-9800

CARDIOLOGIST
PETRO LENCHUR, MD, FACC

Board Certified:
Cardiovascular
Disease,
Interventional,
Nuclear Cardiology,
Internal Medicine

The only Ukrainian-speaking Interventional
Cardiologist in NY and NJ.

In-office cardiac testing at two convenient
locations:

776 E. Third Ave. 1432 Hylan Blvd.
Roselle, NJ 07203 Staten Island, NY 10305
(908) 241-5545 (718) 351-9292

REAL ESTATE

Mobile home near Ukrainian resorts
at Blue Sky Manor, Rt. 209, Wurtsboro, NY.
3 BR + 1 1/2 Bath + Kit. + LR + many extras
\$39,500
For info or appt. (973) 335-6779

MISCELLANEOUS

Country-Western Music Show
with Buddy Max
every Saturday at 2 p.m
He can sing you a Ukrainian song.

Vinyl records, CDs, tapes, etc.,
flea market Tuesdays.

Cowboy Junction Opry
on Hwy. 44 at Jct. 490
Lecanto, Florida

OPPORTUNITY

EARN EXTRA INCOME!
The Ukrainian Weekly is looking
for advertising sales agents.
For additional information contact
Maria Oscislawski, Advertising Manager,
The Ukrainian Weekly,
(973) 292-9800, ext 3040.

Kyiv launches...

(Continued from page 2)

never trusted them because they were the only unit under joint parliamentary-executive control (Ukraine did not have a president when the guard was established in late 1991). Mr. Kuchma disbanded the National Guard in 1999 and transferred their functions back to the MVS Troops. Mr. Lutsenko was surprised to find that the MVS Troops had tanks and artillery, equipment that will not go to the Republican Guard.

The plan to re-name the MVS Troops the Republican Guard is a throwback to the 1990s, when the National Guard was modeled on West European paramilitary formations, such as the Italian Carabinieri, French CRS, and Spanish Republican Guard. The national democratic parties that back President Viktor Yushchenko will welcome the change, due to the negative image of MVS Troops as the descendants of the NKVD troops who fought Ukrainian nationalist partisans during and after World War II.

• Third, the most criminalized wing of the MVS, the Directorate to Combat Organized Crime (UBOZ), will undergo reform. UBOZ stands accused of colluding with organized crime – not combating it – under the Kuchma administration. A large group of UBOZ officers and organized crime members was recently detained and charged with murdering wealthy individuals in order to steal their property.

UBOZ officers are also believed to be behind the murder of Gongadze. The secret audiotapes made in President Kuchma's office include mention of "Eagles" by then-MVS Minister Yuri Kravchenko. The comment is believed to be a reference to an UBOZ spetsnaz unit (Sokil). UBOZ officers are also believed to have organized the "car accident" that led to Rukh leader Vyacheslav Chornovil's death in 1999.

• Fourth, Ukraine's new leaders intend to turn many MVS functions over to civilian services. Mr. Lutsenko is himself a civilian. The ministry's militarized nature is a holdover from the USSR. Again, this is an attempt to bring the MVS closer to the Western norm. Along with renaming the MVS Troops, the divisions that currently guard prisons (as they did in the USSR) will be transformed into Western-style prison guards. The passport, medical and press service departments of the MVS are to be civilianized as well.

• Fifth, the State Automobile Inspectorate (DAI), the most disliked arm of the MVS, is to be disbanded, a step copied from Georgia. Former DAI officers will conduct joint patrols with regular MVS officers to oversee road safety and traffic issues and will no longer hand out automatic fines, a DAI activity that bred massive corruption.

• Sixth, Mr. Lutsenko dispatched MVS Troops to the two most criminalized regions of Ukraine, Zakarpattia and Donetsk, to assist in rooting out organized crime and high-level corruption. The mayor of Donetsk, Oleksander Lukianchenko, complained that this move fed the widely believed stereotype that Donetsk is a highly "criminalized region," a perception that "should be proven with facts" (Interfax-Ukraine, March 1).

MVS Troops are also bound for Crimea. That these three regions are controlled by former local parties of power under President Kuchma – the Social Democratic Party – United in Zakarpattia and defeated candidate Viktor Yanukovich's Regions of Ukraine in Donetsk and Crimea – is likely no coincidence.

Reining in...

(Continued from page 2)

the field of potential culprits by saying that "The SBU is not only capable, it is charged with stopping all illegal activities of any special service, including those which represent states that are members of regional groupings."

The current investigations might shed some light on events that took place during the Orange Revolution in Kyiv in November-December 2004.

The New York Times on January 17 published a report based on conversations with SBU officers and with Mr. Smeshko. The report presented the SBU and its former head in a more positive light. The article claimed that, during the revolution, Mr. Smeshko and some of his closest SBU colleagues saved demonstrators from an imminent attack by armed Internal Affairs Ministry troops.

However, a number of SBU officers in Kyiv told RFE/RL that the article in The New York Times was one-sided, presenting Mr. Smeshko in "too good a light,"

and failed to take into account all the other illegal activities that the SBU was allegedly involved in helping the pro-government Mr. Yanukovich campaign. One senior SBU officer interviewed by RFE/RL speculated that the article in The New York Times was "an attempt by the Americans to keep Mr. Smeshko in power."

This explanation stems from a fierce internal struggle that has raged within the SBU since Mr. Smeshko's appointment in September 2003. Mr. Smeshko, the former head of the Ukrainian military intelligence service (GRU), had served as Ukraine's first military attaché in Washington in 1992-1996. Some of the SBU officers interviewed claimed that Mr. Smeshko had been recruited to work for the U.S. government at that time. Mr. Smeshko has not responded to these charges.

Other SBU officers interviewed by RFE/RL rejected these views as "disinformation" and part of a "conspiracy theory." They insist that Mr. Smeshko was resented for his connection to the GRU, a traditional rival of the former KGB.

These officers claim that Mr. Smeshko merely saw the writing on the wall and switched loyalties to the Mr. Yushchenko camp in order to preserve his position in the SBU.

How much success Mr. Turchynov will have in cleaning up the Security

Service of Ukraine is difficult to predict given the Byzantine nature of the organization. Yet, if Mr. Turchynov fails, the consequences could be far-reaching as Ukraine attempts to break definitively from its communist and corrupt past.

Another look...

(Continued from page 6)

somewhat blasphemous retort, "Not yet!" Nor is it just that a Greek-Catholic traveling from Lviv to New York gains seven "civil" hours but loses 13 ecclesiastical days, and if he does so between December 25 and January 7 by the civil calendar, he will miss Christmas altogether. Nor is it only the awkwardness and disruption of different Ukrainian Church communities living out of rhythm with one another. It is also that this is one more symptom of our cultural immaturity. Counting time is fundamental. If there

is such a thing as a Kyivan-Byzantine tradition shared by Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholics throughout the world, and indeed by all Ukrainians, it has to be coherent and cohesive. Coordinating the dates of our holidays is a small but necessary step in this direction.

Being no expert on these issues, I have surely omitted many arguments pro and con. Nor do I know how they should be resolved. Perhaps one of our learned pastors or theologians can correct or supplement my comments and provide an authoritative opinion. Then, I hope, our Churches will act. They can hardly reach ecumenical understanding if they can't celebrate Christmas or Easter on the same days.

Helsinki Commission...

(Continued from page 3)

Ambassador John Herbst organized and hosted a discussion with NGO representatives from Freedom House, the Institute for Mass Information, the Chernihiv-based organization Dobrochyn and the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union. Mykhailo Horyn, former Soviet political prisoner and head of the pro-independence movement Rukh in the early 1990s, also participated in the meeting.

The delegation met with Jewish representatives, including the new Transportation and Communications Minister Chervonenko, who is also vice-president of the Eurasian Jewish Congress. They discussed matters pertaining to Ukraine's Jewish community, assessing them positively.

Foreign Affairs Minister Tarasyuk expressed gratitude to the Helsinki Commission for its active work in support of democracy in Ukraine and stated that the clear position of Congress and the U.S. government, including support

for a strong contingent of international election observers during the recent elections, effectively helped Ukrainian democracy.

In raising Jackson-Vanik graduation, market economy status and the WTO, Minister Tarasyuk cited strong readiness and willingness on the part of the Ukrainian government to remove obstacles on their part, including a promise to shortly submit to the Rada a draft law on intellectual property rights.

Minister Tarasyuk and the commissioners also discussed the vital importance of ongoing OSCE election observation, Ukrainian-Russian relations, and Ukraine's strengthened role in resolving the long-festering Moldova-Transnistria conflict.

The United States Helsinki Commission, an independent federal agency, by law monitors and encourages progress in implementing provisions of the Helsinki Accords. The commission, created in 1976, is composed of nine senators, nine representatives and one official each from the departments of State, Defense and Commerce.

Ambassador to Canada...

(Continued from page 5)

"They are not indifferent to what is happening in their country, their principles do not allow them to accept the very thought that their choice might have been misrepresented, and they want a better future for their children," noted Mr. Maimeskul.

Would he have joined the massive crowd that gathered on the Maidan to protest the tainted results from the November 21 election, had he been in Ukraine?

"Absolutely – every day, because I lived not very far, and many of my

friends were there," said the diminutive ambassador, whose 5-foot-4-inch frame becomes animated with enthusiasm – the same kind displayed on the smile that creeps on Citizen Maimeskul's face at the mere thought.

But when asked what impact an uncontested November 21 victory for former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich would have had on his career as Ukraine's chief representative in Canada, Ambassador Maimeskul returned to the conversation as the consummate diplomat.

"That's a virtual question," he said. "We have the reality and I am happy with this reality."

A young and talented Ukrainian student has been accepted to read for the M. Phil. in Russian and East European Studies at Oxford University, United Kingdom. Her area of research and consequent dissertation is the examination of the enlargement of the European Union to include Ukraine, and political and economic hurdles for Ukraine stemming from the possible accession.

Interested sponsors and philanthropists please contact her at: tel. (415) 505-5627 or email: nadiyakravets@yahoo.com.

Historians discuss...

(Continued from page 9)

In a statement issued for the opening of the photography exhibit, Serhii Pohoreltzev, Ukraine's consul general in New York, said there were positive results for Ukraine in the aftermath of the conference at Yalta. Following the summit, "the leaders of the three nations declared their resolve to establish 'a general international organization to maintain peace and security,'" Mr. Pohoreltzev's statement read, referring to the subsequent creation of the United Nations.

"This year we will celebrate the 60th

anniversary of this organization born out of the sufferings caused by the second world war. The determination, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, 'to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war' is as vital today as it was 60 years ago," Mr. Pohoreltzev said.

"Despite the fact that Ukraine was not an independent state," the consul said, when delegates from 50 countries gathered on April 25, 1945, in San Francisco for the founding conference of the United Nations, "it is my strong belief that millions of Ukrainian soldiers who perished on the battlefields of World War II fighting against the Nazi regime deserved their homeland to be among the first 51 original member-states of the U.N."



With deep sorrow we announce that on February 22, 2005, at the age of 91, entered into eternal life our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

JOANNA (IWANKA) KULYK neé MAKSYMIW

born on February 5, 1914, in Kupcho, Ukraine

In deep sorrow:

son Teofil and Barbara with children
daughter Ola and Erko Palydowycz with children and grandchildren
daughter Mary Wengryn with children and granddaughter
daughter Christina and Kenny Kuzmuk with children and grandchildren
nephew Oleh and Mary Maksymiw with children and grandchildren

Eternal Memory

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

to be published in The Ukrainian Weekly – in the Ukrainian or English language – are accepted by mail, courier, fax, phone or e-mail.

Deadline: Tuesday noon before the newspaper's date of issue.
(The Weekly goes to press early Friday mornings.)

Rate: \$7.50 per column-inch.

Information should be addressed to the attention of the Advertising Department and sent to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280 (NB: please do not include post office box if sending via courier), Parsippany, N.J. 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510; telephone, (973) 292-9800, ext. 3040; e-mail, staff@ukrweekly.com.

Please include the daytime phone number of a contact person.

Summer Camps at Soyuzivka

Discovery Camp 8-12

Calling all future explorers! Begin to rock-climb, hike and swim in mountain lakes. Learn about wildlife eco-history, basic first aid, survival.

Week 1 July 10 - 16

Week 2 July 17 - 23

Week 3 July 24 - 30

\$400 UNA member

\$450 non members

Adventure Camp 13-16

New adventures every day! Learn camping essentials: orienteering, wilderness first aid and rescue, water safety, tracking and survival skills, wildlife awareness and eco-history.

Week 1 July 17 - 23

Week 2 July 24 - 30

\$500 UNA member

\$550 non members

Tennis Camp 10-18

Intensive two weeks with instruction and competitive play directed by George Sawchuk. Includes room, boards, 24-hour supervision. Limited to 45 participants.

Weeks June 26 - July 8

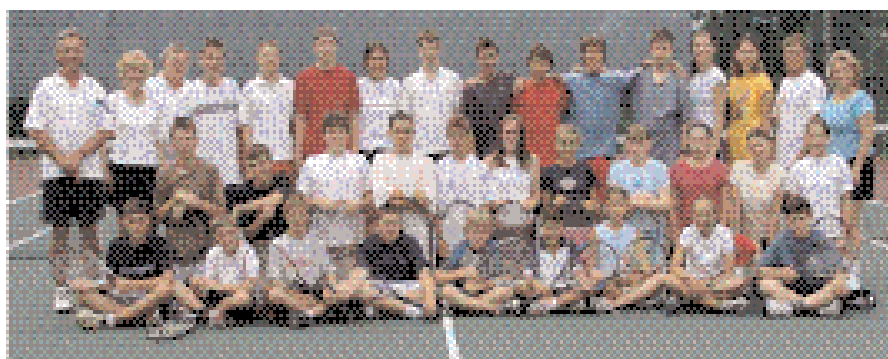
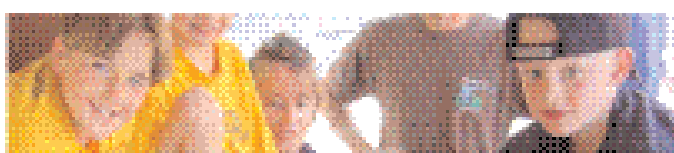
\$540 UNA member

\$660 non members

\$120 instructor fee per student

Additional brochure information about camps and requirements is available online at www.Soyuzivka.com. A \$75 deposit is required for pre-registration.

All camps are bi-lingual and geared toward a better understanding of Ukrainian culture and heritage.



Chemney Youth Camp 4-7

A day camp filled with daily activities of dance, song, games and crafts. Includes kid's lunch and T-shirt. Unless noted, is based on in-house occupancy of parent or guardian.

Week 1 July 17 - 22

Week 2 July 24 - 29

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM Daily

\$150 per camper

\$190 if not an overnight guest

Exploration Day Camp 7-10

Six hours of fun-filled activities in this new day camp.

June 27 - July 1

July 4 - July 8

\$100 per week or \$25 per day

Soyuzivka Scuba Diving Course 12 and up

One week will complete academic, confined water and open water for PADI open water certification. Classes given by George Hanushevsky, scuba diver instructor. Pre registration is required. Check on line brochure for additional information.

July 31 - August 5

\$400 course fee

\$120 deposit required

All fees payable to George Hanushevsky

Traditional Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp 8-16

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkaydyh (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky). Expert instruction for beginner, intermediate and advanced dancers. Room, board, 24-hour supervision. The camp will end with a grand recital on August, 20. Limited to 50 participants.

August 7 - 20

\$610 UNA members

\$660 non members

\$275 instructor's fee payable to "UCDA"



UNA Estate Soyuzivka P.O. Box 529 • 216 Fordmoore Road • Kerhonkson, NY 12446 • 845-626-5641

www.Soyuzivka.com

BOOK NOTES

Memoirs describe Ukrainian revolution and cultural renaissance of the 1920s

"The Ever-Present Past," by Tatiana Kardinalowska. Edmonton-Toronto: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 2004. Softcover, 180 pp., \$22.95.

The most recent publication of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press – Tatiana Kardinalowska's memoirs, "The Ever-Present Past" – is an extraordinary and extremely readable testimony of the author's childhood as the daughter of a tsarist general in pre-revolutionary Russia, the Caucasus and Kyiv, and of the cataclysmic and exceptional times she later lived through during the Ukrainian revolution, the subsequent civil war and Ukrainian-Soviet War, the Soviet Ukrainian rebirth of the 1920s and the Stalinist terror.

While a post-war refugee in the United States, toward the end of her life Ms. Kardinalowska (1899-1993) undertook to tell the story of her interaction with major Ukrainian political and literary figures as the young wife of Vsevolod Holubovych, a prominent member of the Ukrainian Central Rada of 1917 and the prime minister of the Ukrainian National Republic from January to March 1918, and later of Serhii Pylypenko, the leader of the Pluh association of Ukrainian peasant writers and an influential cultural activist in Soviet Ukraine during the 1920s. Like thousands of other members of the Ukrainian intelligentsia, both Holubovych and Pylypenko were arrested and perished during the terror of the 1930s.

The chief qualities that permeate Ms. Kardinalowska's memoirs are honesty and human kindness. They acquaint the reader with well-known Ukrainian politicians and writers as individuals. Holubovych, Pylypenko, Mykola Khvylioviy, Volodymyr Sosiura, Valerian Polishchuk, Vasyl Ellan-Blakytyn, Ostap Vyshnia and Andrii Holovko come alive with all their faults and virtues.

Ms. Kardinalowska's accounts of less noted persons – particularly her depiction of the NKVD interrogators and state prosecutors who persecuted Pylypenko



and with whom she tried to intercede – provide some of the most revealing material in the volume. Her recollections of the Soviet Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 are among the most moving passages in the text.

"The Ever-Present Past" was published with generous support from the Michael Kowalsky and Daria Mucak-Kowalsky Endowment Fund at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

The price of this paperback edition, illustrated with numerous photographs, is \$22.95. It may be purchased by credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discovery) from CIUS Press's secure online ordering system at www.utoronto.ca/cius; or by check or credit card by contacting CIUS Press, 450 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2E8; fax, (780) 492-4967; telephone, (780) 492-2973.

UNWLA branch makes book donations



CARTERET, N.J. – Branch 100 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, which is based in Carteret, N.J., recently donated books about the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, whose 70th anniversary was commemorated by Ukrainians worldwide, to local libraries. The donations were made in the wake of the Orange Revolution, which reawakened public interest in Ukraine. Branch President Halia Kaskiw and member Halia Hlushko visited the Carteret High School library and public libraries in Carteret and Woodbridge to present them with Dr. Roboert Conquest's "Harvest of Sorrow" and Miron Dolot's "Execution by Hunger: The Hidden Holocaust." Also donated were books on Ukrainian art and culture. Seen above are Ms. Kaskiw and Ellen Peterson, librarian of the Woodbridge Public Library.

Veselka Foundation

of Pueblo, Colorado

wishes to sincerely thank Dr. Volodymyr Karol and other members from the **Society for Humanitarian Help for Ukraine** of North Port, Florida for a generous contribution making it possible to send necessary, important medical equipment to Lviv, Ukraine.

John J. Schmidt, M.D.
President
Veselka Foundation

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCHES 204, 361, 5

Please be advised that Branches 204 and 361 have merged with Branch 5 as of March 1, 2005. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to the new secretary Ms. Maya Lew.

Ms. Maya Lew
245 East 25th St. # 8G
New York, NY 10010
(212) 689-8894

UNA MORTGAGE LOANS



Purchase or Refinance

- Lower your interest rate
- Consolidate your bills
- Eliminate high-rate debt
- Reduce your monthly payments
- Save thousands of dollars
- Call today



1 - 800 - 253-9862 ext 3036



SUMA (Yonkers) FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

40 Years of Service to Our Members and Ukrainian Community

- SUMA (Yonkers) FCU pays higher rates on regular share accounts and certificates of deposit than other financial institutions.
- All depositors are Federally insured up to \$100,000 by the NCUA.
- SUMA (Yonkers) FCU offers different types of Loans and Savings accounts.
- We also offer the following services:
 - ATM Cards
 - VISA Credit Cards (only 9%) - No Annual Fee!
 - American Express Travelers Cheques
 - Notary Public
 - Wire Transfers
 - Safe Deposit Boxes

Main Office

125 Corporate Blvd
Yonkers, New York 10701-6841
Tel: 914-220-4900 Fax: 914-220-4090
E-mail address: SUMA@NFCU.com
1-888-644-SLMA

<u>Yonkers Branch</u>	<u>Spring Valley Branch</u>	<u>Stamford Branch</u>
301 Palisade Ave Yonkers, NY 10703 Tel: 914-220-4900 Fax: 914-965-1936	16 Twin Ave Spring Valley, NY 10977 Tel: 845-356-0087 Fax: 845-356-5335	39 Clovelly Road Stamford, CT 06902 Tel: 203-696-0498 Fax: 203-696-0498



Hromovytsia

UKRAINIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE OF CHICAGO
ARTISTIC-DIRECTOR ROXANA DYKYJ-PYLYPCZAK



PRESENTS ITS

25TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

WITH GUEST PERFORMER - RENOWNED VIOLINIST VASYL POPADIUK

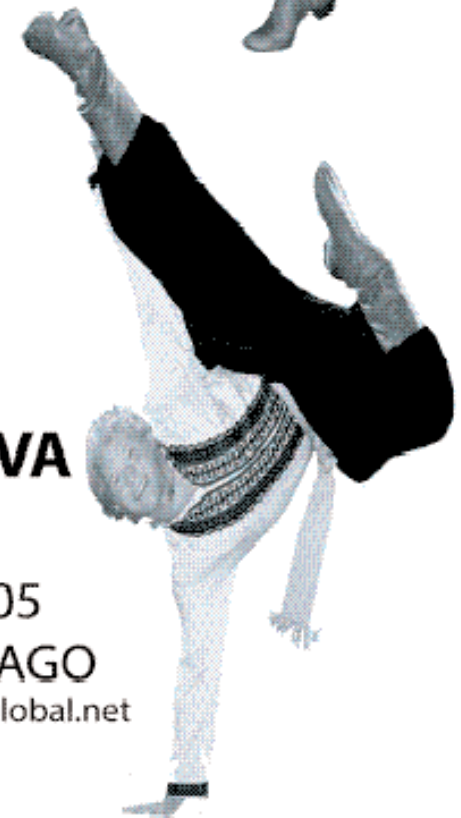
SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH, 2005
4:00 P.M.

AT THE NORTH SHORE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
9501 SKOKIE BLVD. SKOKIE, IL
FOR TICKETS CALL 847.673.6300

Also coming this fall...

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND ZABAVA

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22ND, 2005
AT THE MARRIOTT O'HARE-CHICAGO
FOR MORE INFORMATION, E-MAIL gkarawan@sbcglobal.net



"...The audience gets instantly hurled into the spins and split-leg jumps of the Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (which closed the first half to uproarious cheers). The skill and virtuosity of this company performing the spirited national "Hopak" dance cannot be underestimated..."

-Lucia Mauro, The Chicago Tribune, November 2004

Documentary chronicles Yara Arts Group's first trip to Ukraine

by Ika Koznarska Casanova

AUSTIN, Texas – The documentary film “Light From the East,” which chronicles Yara Art Group’s first trip to Ukraine as part of a cultural exchange theater project that took place in the summer of 1991, will have its world premiere at the South By Southwest Film Festival (SXSW) on Monday, March 14, at the Dobie Theater at 6:30 p.m.

The film was written, directed and produced by American actress and filmmaker Amy Grappell, a member of Yara Arts Group at La MaMa Theater in New York City, with Christian Moore, producer and director of photography. Executive producer for the film is Michael Bleyzer in association with Strike Productions.

From the outset, Ms. Grappell was intent on documenting the troupe’s theater project, which, in her words “was worthy of note because it broke new ground in the area of American/Soviet artistic collaboration.” She said she “had no way of knowing that my camera would witness events that changed the world.”

Yara Arts Group was in Ukraine to rehearse and perform the stage play “Light From the East” written by Yara’s founding director, Virlana Tkach, and Wanda Phipps, based on the life and work of Les Kurbas, the pre-eminent Ukrainian avant-garde theater director repressed in the Stalinist period.

Two weeks into the trip, as members of the troupe prepared for opening night, there was a military coup in Moscow that led to the collapse of the Soviet Union. The actors remained in Ukraine, determined to put on the show rather than leave. As noted in a press release, “the action in the streets begins to mirror the play: as Kurbas and his company struggled to make art during the revolution that ushered in communism, the troupe performs the life of Kurbas as the

walls of communism come tumbling down.” As the play was finishing its run, Ukraine declared its national independence.

Ms. Grappell’s documentary takes viewers through a philosophical inquiry into the meaning of both artistic expression and personal freedom. “Because I believe, as the diary of Les Kurbas reads, that ‘Art is where the unity of humanity becomes manifest, it’s where our true selves converse with one another,’ I have aimed to create a film that is more a lyrical meditation than a traditional documentary,” she explained.

“Like a poem can capture the essence of a complex issue through vivid imagery and evocative language, it is my hope that “Light From the East” will examine the nature of freedom in a changing world through the depth of its characters and the power of its images,” she said.

Ms. Grappell noted in her statement: “Ultimately, with Kurbas and the coup as central metaphors, the film makes an impassioned case for the crucial role artists play in transforming societies – past, present and future.”

“In light of the post-9/11 fight against terrorism and the campaign to spread ‘freedom’ by the current U.S. administration, the global debate over the meaning of freedom becomes more and more relevant, and the significance of this film grows. Once again with the 2004 Orange Revolution, Ukrainians have shown the world that change can be brought about peacefully.”

Ms. Grappell holds a B.A. in film from New York University and is a graduate of the acting program at the North Carolina School of the Arts. She has produced written, directed and acted in feature-length documentaries, narratives and shorts.

She is currently working on a follow-up documentary to “Light From The East” that was shot during a return trip to Ukraine in

2004. The second film revisits the original characters and issues of freedom more than a decade later, exploring the transition from communism to democracy.

After the premiere screening of “The Light From the East” on Monday, March 14, at the Dobie Theater, 2021 Guadalupe St., at 6:30 p.m., Ms. Grappell and Mr. Moore will be available for a question-and-answer period. The film’s executive producer, international businessman Michael Bleyzer, will also be on hand to answer questions and contribute to a dis-

cussion of recent events in Ukraine.

Additional screenings of the documentary are slated for Wednesday, March 16, at the Dobie Theater at 5 p.m., and for Saturday, March 19, at the Alamo Drafthouse, 1120 South Lamar Blvd. at 7:45 p.m.

Single tickets, at \$7, are on sale at 15 minutes prior to screenings at the theater box office. For additional ticket information call (512) 474.2525. For additional information on the documentary visit www.lightfromtheeast.com.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 32)

La MaMa Box Office, (212) 475-7710, or accessing www.lamama.org.

at youthinHolySpirit@hotmail.com; or visit the Stamford Eparchy website, www.stamforddio.org.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday, April 10

STAMFORD, Conn.: The Eparchy of Stamford invites women of all ages to a day of sharing and discovery titled “Ukrainian Catholic Women: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow.” The event will be held at St. Basil College, 195 Glenbrook Road, at 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Program includes: participatory workshops, a special session for young women, divine liturgy, luncheon and social hour, keynote speaker Iryna Galadza, concluding panel, and open forum with audience question-and-answer period. Topics include: child-rearing issues faced by young mothers, understanding Eastern traditions, seeking spiritual insights, creating caring parish communities, and more. Cost: \$15, (includes lunch). Pre-register with your pastor or the eparchy. For additional information contact the Rev. Jonathan Morse or Maryana German, (203) 325-2116; e-mail Maryana

CORRECTION

Sunday, March 13

WASHINGTON: The concert sponsored by The Washington Group Cultural Fund in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine that will present pianist Juliana Osinchuk in a concert program featuring works of Bortniansky, Hummel, Schumann, Moss, Munger and Liszt was incorrectly listed in the March 6 issue of The Weekly as taking place on March 6. The concert will take place on Sunday, March 13. As part of the evening program, the audience will be able to meet the artist and to honor the Cultural Fund’s founder and former director Laryssa Courtney at the reception following the performance. The concert will take at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Old Town Alexandria, Va., at 3 p.m. The premises are handicapped accessible. Donation: \$20; students, free. For more information contact Svitlana Fedko Shiells, (703) 506-4745.

TAP newyork 2005

New York State MicroBrew Festival at Hunter Mountain



Saturday April 23rd, 2005



RATES:

- Roundtrip Bus Ride \$20 (RSVP by April 15th to reserve your seat)
- All U-Can Eat DINNER Buffet at SQ \$15
- Special Overnight SQ Lodging \$60/night

- Tickets are available online at www.tapnewyork.com or by calling 1-800-HunterMtn and are \$35.00 in advance, \$39.00 at the door.
- Admission includes: Unlimited food and drink, a souvenir glass and over 100 craft brews to enjoy.
- A truly unique event where New York State breweries come together under one roof!

Bus will leave from SQ at 10:00 sharp!



www.soyuzivka.com

Call NOW and reserve your spot: (845) 626-5641 x.140 or email us at: soyuzivka@aol.com



**My mother, father, brother and sister
and the rest of the family have life
insurance. What about me?
Rates are low. See the chart on the
next page for more information.**

Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund receives company donation thanks to young professional

by Ivan Durbak

CLIFTON, N.J. – Lydia Rudakewycz, who works at Enterprise Rent-a-Car in New Jersey, arranged for her company, through the Enterprise Foundation, to donate \$2,500 in February to the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund.

Ms. Rudakewycz convinced the Enterprise Foundation to donate the money to the Ukrainian humanitarian organization through her eloquent statements. The donation was facilitated by Damian Thibodeau

of Creative Solutions Unlimited.

“I am a daughter of immigrant parents who came from Ukraine. I have many relatives living there, whom I have never met, but who have suffered from this disaster. I have contributed to them financially as much as I could,” she noted. “The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund is a humanitarian organization established to help, protect and save the lives of children confronting the human legacy of the world’s worst environmental disaster, caused by the explosion of the Chernobyl atomic energy station.”



Lydia Rudakewycz (center) with Alexander Kuzma and Alexa Milanytch of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

On behalf of the UNA Seniors, it is my pleasure to invite you to participate in our annual UNA Seniors Week, which will be held at Soyuzivka, in Kerhonkson, NY, on Sunday, June 12, through Friday, June 17, 2005. For your general information please note that the UNA Seniors was organized and has been active for over 30 years. The purpose of the club is to support UNA endeavors to preserve and cultivate Ukrainian heritage, promote unity with the community, develop social activities and maintain Ukrainian community life in America. We hope that you will be able to join us. We will try to make the week interesting and fun. If you would like to suggest activities for this week, we will be happy to consider all ideas.

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SENIORS

invite you to the

31ST CONFERENCE OF UNA SENIORS

at
SOYUZIVKA

on
Sunday, June 12-17, 2005 – Seniors' Week



Call Soyuzivka and register early. Limited space available.

All-inclusive 5 nights, meals (dinner on Friday night through breakfast on Sunday), banquets and entertainment, including taxes and gratuities

UNA members - Single occupancy \$375.00, Double \$315.00 per person

Non-members - Single occupancy \$425.00, Double \$335.00 per person

Including tax and services - Banquet only \$30.00 Soyuzivka telephone: (845) 626-5641.

If you wish to organize a bus tour of 25 or more persons or need further information,

please call UNA Home Office: (973) 292-9800 ext. 3071 Oksana Trytjak - UNA National Organizer, UNA Seniors President

**Seniors' Week is fun, interesting and affordable.
WE WELCOME GUESTS – JOIN US!**

Business forum in New York to focus on Ukraine's potential

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

NEW YORK – Experts from the United States, Ukraine and the European Union will gather in New York City on March 30-31, to evaluate Ukraine's ability to advantageously compete in the global economic arena. This year's gathering, hosted by New York University, will be held at a critical moment in Ukraine's history: during a period when Ukraine has been recording double-digit economic growth and in the immediate aftermath of an election that has brought to power a leadership committed to the rule of law and to market transparency.

More than 50 representatives from government, policy advisory groups and the business community, including: Oleh Rybachuk, vice prime minister for European Integration; Oleksander Zinchenko, State Secretary to the President of Ukraine; Roman Zvarych, minister of Justice; Yuriy Yekhanurov, Verkhovna Rada Committee on Industry; Valeri Asadchev, Verkhovna Rada Committee on Budgetary Policy; Oleksander Hudyma, Verkhovna Rada Committee on Energy; Catherine Novelli, assistant U.S. trade representative; Matthew Gaertner, U.S. Department of Treasury; Christine Lucyk and Andrew Bihun, U.S. Department of Commerce; J.P. Higgins, U.S. Department of State; Keith Smith, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Craig Jones, DOS of the Boeing Co.; Oleksander Kiva, deputy chief designer of Antonov Aircraft;

Marianna Kozintseva, vice-president of Bear Stearns; and Myron Rabij, partner of Salans Partners; have been invited to provide their assessment of the state of Ukraine's economy.

The speakers at the forum will spend two days evaluating Ukraine's movement, from both a domestic and an international perspective, toward implementing the economic reforms necessary to achieve the country's ultimate stated goal: membership in NATO and the European Union.

The forum's format will include four regular sessions featuring 16 panels, two working lunches, 12 breakout business-to-business sessions and two conference receptions. Three of the regular sessions and the breakout sessions will essentially examine "micro" issues in the following categories of economic interest: agriculture, aerospace and defense technology, consumer goods, construction, energy, financial services, information technology, machine and auto building, media and entertainment, medical technology metals and chemicals, and travel/tourism. The final regular session, the working lunches as well as the conference receptions will dwell on "macro" issues facing Ukraine's economy.

Those wishing to learn more about the Ukraine-U.S. Business Networking Series, including the forum's program and how to participate, may contact the UCCA National Office by phone, (212) 228-6840; fax, (212) 254-4721; or e-mail, ucca@ucca.org.

The UNA has a single payment plan that will insure your child's life at \$5,000 for one low payment. Find your child's age below and that's all you have to pay. Call today for your application.

1-800-253-9862.

AGE	PREMIUM
0	\$ 300.00
1	\$ 300.00
2	\$ 310.00
3	\$ 310.00
4	\$ 320.00
5	\$ 330.00
6	\$ 340.00
7	\$ 355.00
8	\$ 365.00
9	\$ 380.00
10	\$ 395.00

To subscribe: Send \$55 (\$45 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054

When looking for safety, security and value come to

SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

A full service financial institution serving the Ukrainian American Community since 1951.

Regular savings: 2.22%*

5 year CD: 4.71%*§

IRA: 4.34%*

Main Office: 108 Second Avenue New York, NY 10003 Tel: 212 473-7310 Fax: 212 473-3251

Outside NYC call toll – free: 1-888-SFLFREI. (1-888-735-3735) Visit our website at www.selfreliance.org E-mail: SRNYFCU@aol.com

Kerhonkson Branch:

6375 Route 209 Kerhonkson, NY 12446
Tel: 845 626-2938 Fax: 845 626-8636

Uniondale Branch:

226 Uniondale Ave. Uniondale, NY 11553
Tel: 516 565-2393 Fax: 516 565-2097

Astoria Branch:

32-01 31 Avenue Astoria, NY 11106
Tel: 718 626-0506 Fax: 718 626-0458

* Annual Percentage Yield. Subject to change at any time. § \$500.00 minimum deposit, early withdrawal penalties apply.



SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



54th Annual Membership Meeting

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2005, AT 2:00 P.M.
St. George Academy Auditorium
215 East 6th Street, New York City

This year terms of the following members of the Board of Directors expire:

Lubomyr Zielyk, Orest Gluz and Catherine Popovych.

Nominations for positions on the Board can be forwarded to:

SELF RELIANCE (NY) F.C.U.

108 Second Avenue

New York, NY 10003

Attn: Nominating Committee

Members are required to bring their regular share passbooks.

New book focuses...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian women throughout the centuries, as well as those still active today.

Avoiding ideals of radical feminism commonplace in Western culture, the book focuses on Ukrainian women devoted to their Church, their nation, their family and their loved ones.

The work also extends beyond their professional and historical accomplishments, illuminating the diverse personal lives and struggles of the heroines.

It mentions Princess Olha as striving to preserve the memory of her deceased husband, Prince Ihor. Readers are allowed a peek at a love letter to Ms. Senyk from her "one and only love" who died in battle.

The ideal Ukrainian woman does not want to be a slave, nor a vamp, nor an amazon, said Olena Teliha, the 20th century nationalist, describing the roles women were expected to play in her time. She wants to be a woman of equal worth and in union with men in their struggle for life and for their nation, said Teliha, who was killed by the Nazis at Babyn Yar.

Women should seek their civic roles working alongside men, and not by creating their own "women's world" by locking themselves in tight feminist organizations, she believed.

Ms. Yushchenko admitted she was a bit ashamed that she was not even aware of some of the women featured in the book.

However, many of the women are not well known, she said, and it's noteworthy "that for those names that were familiar, we now know more about them."

Among those women most overlooked are scientists and mathematicians who managed to excel in fields that were, for the most part, male.

"At the end of the 1950s, I already worked with computers in America," said Nataliya Danylenko, who is credited with the idea for the book.

"But, you know, in 1942 in Ukraine, Ukrainian women were already writing computer programs. We must promote Ukrainian women not only in various arts, but also female scientists," she said.

One such woman was another Kateryna Yushchenko, who is of no known relation to President Viktor Yushchenko. Ms. Yushchenko was an exceptional mathematician and cyberneticist who in 1966 earned the first Soviet doctorate in mathematics through studies of computer programming.

Ukraine's first lady praised the efforts of Ms. Danylenko, a diaspora Ukrainian who said she had worked for 20 years to make the book a reality.

"If every person had been as devoted to Ukraine and loved Ukraine as much as Pani Nataliya, we would have achieved this freedom and independence many years back," Ms. Yushchenko said.

The book is a footbridge between Ukraine and the diaspora, and serves to connect the two communities, Ms. Danylenko said.

Diaspora biographies include poet Natalya Livytska-Cholodna, who lived in New York City, and translator and literary leader Anna-Halya Horbach, who lived in Munich.

After speeches and musical performances, Ms. Yushchenko signed books thrust in front of her by the crowd wanting to get her autograph.

The book's editors were clearly excited that Ms. Yushchenko was able to endorse their work, and the event had clear political overtones.

"It's the biggest miracle that today we have such a worthy president, Mr. Viktor Yushchenko," Ms. Danylenko said to loud applause.



І ШЛЯХИ СТАЮТЬ КОРОТШИМИ...

Тільки **Аеросвіт Українські Авіалінії** пропонує
безпосадкові рейси літаками Boeing 767
НЬЮ-ЙОРК - КИЇВ, КИЇВ - НЬЮ-ЙОРК

А також через Київ: Львів, Івано-Франківськ, Одеса,
Сімферополь, Донецьк, Дніпропетровськ, Харків,
Запоріжжя, Луганськ, Чернівці, Ужгород, Москва,
Санкт-Петербург, Мінськ, Кишинів, Рига, Баку, Ташкент,
Алма-Ата, Ашхабад, Тбілісі, Делі, Тель-Авів, Пекін,
Дубаї, Афіни, Софія, Белград, Бангкок, Каїр, Стамбул

Аеросвіт  **AeroSVIT**
UKRAINIAN AIRLINES

1.888.661.1620, 1.212.661.1620

sales@aerosvit.us

або звертайтеся у Вашу агенцію

Вантажні перевезення

1.718.376.1023

express@aerosvitcargo.com

Новинка! Тепер у Вас є можливість замовити
і оформити білет на нашій веб-сторінці

www.aerosvit.com

NOTES ON PEOPLE

Attends Republican state convention



GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Ukrainian American Roman J. Kuropas joined fellow Michigan Republicans at their state convention here on February 4-5. The Republican state convention was the 15th attended by Mr. Kuropas. Seen in the photo above (from left) are newly elected Republican State Chairman Saul Anuzis, District Chairman Kuropas and Michigan House Speaker Craig DeRoche. Mr. Kuropas told *The Ukrainian Weekly* in a letter that the leadership of the Republican convention decided to draft a letter to Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko to congratulate him and the Ukrainian people for standing up for democracy and freedom.

Nonagenarian honored by choir

PARMA, Ohio – The Ukrainian Choir of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, on Sunday, November 28, 2004, honored Olena Narizny, who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. On that occasion, at the end of the liturgy, the clergy presented Mrs. Narizny with an icon of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Born in the Kuban Region, Mrs. Narizny at the age of 15 began singing in the local church choir that was directed by her brother, Mykhailo. Later, she settled with her family in Donetsk. She continued singing in church and Ukrainian folk choirs in Germany.

Emigrating to the United States in 1949, she sang in St. Volodymyr's Cathedral in New York City. In 1952 she and her family settled in the Parma area,

where she joined St. Vladimir's Choir. In 1964 she and her husband, Alexander, moved to Los Angeles, where she joined St. Andrew's choir and the Kobzar National Choir. Because of her strong soprano voice, she had many solo roles in all the choirs in which she sang.

In 1982 she and her husband returned to Parma and St. Vladimir's Parish. She rejoined the choir and became active as a volunteer in the parish library. She also sang in the Dnipro Choir. Mrs. Narizny's love of both Church and secular music has been passed on to her family, resulting in four generations of singers in the choir namely, daughter Helen Norcka, granddaughter Lucy Komichak and three great granddaughters, Andrea, Bohdana and Julianna Komichak. Besides the female singers in the family, her granddaughter's husband, Markian Komichak, is the director of both the Ukrainian and English choirs at St. Vladimir's Cathedral.



Olena Narizny (center) is presented with an icon on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Also in the picture are clergy of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and her family members – four generations of choir members.

Named as one of top dentists

TROY, Mich. – Marko Farion, D.D.S., was recently selected for inclusion in the "Guide to America's Top Dentists" by the Consumers' Research Council of America. Dr. Farion has been practicing in Troy for 12 years with his partner and spouse, Dr. Christine Lash-Farion, D.D.S. The two merged their practice last year with Dr. Victor Wittkowski, who has also been listed in the Guide to America's Top Dentists several years ago.

The Consumers' Research Council of America is a Washington-based research organization that provides consumers' information guides for professional services throughout America. Its purpose is to help educate and assist consumers in obtaining the finest professional services. The selection process is based on a point value system that awards points for education, years in practice, affiliations with professional associations and board certifications. Their website is consumersresearchcncl.org.

"This is truly an honor for me," said Dr. Farion. "I take pride in giving my patients the utmost in care, in a gentle and peaceful setting, while providing them with the latest innovations in our field. We treat everyone like family."

He is a member of the American Dental Association, the Michigan Dental Association, the Oakland County Dental Society, and the Academy of General Dentistry.

Dr. Farion graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry in 1988 and through the years has taken numerous continuing education courses, most notably completing the Implant Synergy Program and the

FORCE Comprehensive Orthodontic Treatment Program.

Dr. Farion also studied music and voice. He is a bass soloist with the Detroit Concert Choir, as well as an alternate to sing the national anthem at Detroit Tiger games.

He has been a bandurist for 30 years and a soloist with the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus for about 25 years. He has directed the Kobzarska Sich bandura camps for 10 years and has taught the bandura in New York, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Winnipeg and Munich.

Dr. Farion is a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America. He serves on the executive board of the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Mich.



Dr. Marko Farion

Financial adviser gets top ratings

MUNSTER, Ind. – Personal financial adviser Marta N. Shuya has received high ratings from her clients in American Express Financial Advisers' annual client satisfaction survey. Ms. Shuya is one of 30 percent of all participating advisers whose clients rated them highly in areas including overall satisfaction and financial knowledge.

Five thousand advisers nationwide participated in this survey that gives clients an opportunity to rate their satisfaction with the service provided by their financial adviser. A key measure on the survey is clients' overall satisfaction with their adviser, which includes knowledge of financial products and the economy,

providing high-quality advice and proactively contacting her clients.

As a financial adviser, Ms. Shuya provides personal advice based on a written financial plan and one-on-one relationship with the client. She is a personal advisor with the office of American Express Financial Advisers located at 1725 Timberwood Lane in Munster, Ind.

American Express Financial Advisers is one of the nation's leading financial planning companies. It is part of the American Express Financial Corp., which currently owns or manages more than \$325 billion in assets. Through a network of more than 10,400 financial advisers and its online brokerage, the company provides financial advice, long-term planning and financial products to more than 2.7 million clients throughout the United States.

UKRAINIAN BUILDERS OF CUSTOM HOMES WEST COAST OF FLORIDA TRIDENT DEVELOPMENT CORP.

- Over 25 years of building experience
 - Bilingual
 - Fully insured and bonded
 - Build on your lot or ours
- Highest quality workmanship

Ihor W. Hron, President
(941) 270-2411

Lou Luzniak, Executive V.P.
(941) 270-2413

Zenon Luzniak, General Contractor

Serving North Port, Venice, South Venice and area

Notice to publishers and authors

It is *The Ukrainian Weekly's* policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: Editorial Staff, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

both sides" on this, RIA-Novosti reported. At the same time, "there are a number of problems that we are obliged to solve in the nearest future," Mr. Ivanov added. He also said that Ukraine has a sovereign right to join the European Union and "if such a choice is made, it will not touch on our bilateral relations." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko: Europe needs Ukraine

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said in Kyiv on March 7 that Europe without Ukraine will not be "complete" or "comfortable," dpa reported. Mr. Yushchenko was speaking with foreign correspondents on the eve of his two-day trip to Germany. "We are not going to try and force Europe to accept us," Mr. Yushchenko noted. "What we are going to do is make Europe ask us to join." Asked

about practical reasons why Europeans should support Ukraine's EU membership bid, the president said Ukraine offers new markets and resources, as well as cheap and productive labor that Europe badly needs. "This must be interesting [to foreign businessmen]," Mr. Yushchenko added. He was more circumspect as regards Ukraine's integration with NATO. "NATO has been heavily propagandized by the previous government," President Yushchenko said. "As a result Ukrainians are very poorly informed about NATO; according to one survey only 2 percent of Ukrainians have a clear idea of what NATO is." (RFE/RL Newsline)

State secretary visits Kazakstan

ASTANA – Ukraine's State Secretary Oleksander Zinchenko met with Kazak President Nursultan Nazarbaev in Astana on March 4, Khabar reported. Their talks focused on bilateral trade, with Mr.

Zinchenko saying that the two countries can raise trade volume to \$2 billion a year from the current level of \$1 billion, Kazinform reported. Mr. Zinchenko noted that he proposed "a number of projects that could soon give bilateral relations a full slate," Interfax-Kazakstan reported. Mr. Zinchenko stressed that the primary areas of cooperation between Kazakstan and Ukraine are energy transport corridors and the extraction and processing of oil from Kazakstan's Tengiz oil field. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainians wish pope speedy recovery

ROME – Hryhorii Khorunzhyi, Ukraine's ambassador to the Holy See, visited the Gemelli Polyclinic, where Pope John Paul II was hospitalized, and passed on greetings from Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko with wishes for a speedy recovery. This was reported by UNIAN on March 5. In addition, representatives of Ukrainian women's organiza-

tions of Italy gave the pontiff an embroidered icon of the Mother of God with Jesus, as well as a bouquet of flowers. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Melnychenko wants security guarantees

KYIV – Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz told journalists on March 3 that he recently met in Vienna with former presidential security officer Mykola Melnychenko, Interfax reported. Mr. Moroz said Mr. Melnychenko, who was given refugee status in the United States, could return to Ukraine if he was given the status of a parliamentarian and enjoyed immunity from prosecution. Mr. Melnychenko was a candidate on the Socialist Party's list in the 2002 parliamentary elections. Since some Socialist Party lawmakers have recently moved to work in the government of President Viktor

(Continued on page 29)

La MaMa E.T.C and Yara Arts Group present:

Koliada: Twelve Dishes

forces of nature, animal spirits and the dead come to dinner

an original theatre piece based on ancient winter rituals from the Carpathians and the very contemporary poetry of Serhiy Zhadan created by the Yara Arts Group



directed by Virlana Tkacz, designed by Watoku Ueno; musical arrangements by Mariana Sadovska with Yara artists: Andrew Colteaux, Olenka Denysenko, George Drance, Siho Ellsmore, Allison Hiroto, Olga Shuhan, Vira Slywotzky, Meredith Wright, and Hutsul koliadnyky Ivan Zelenchuk and Dmytro Tafiychuk

March 4 – 20, 2005

La MaMa Experimental Theatre
74 East 4th St, (between 2nd Ave & Bowery) New York

Thu-Sun at 8 PM, with matinees on Sun March 13 and 20 at 3 PM
tickets \$15 – box office (212) 475-7710 or www.lamama.org

Special sponsors: Self-Reliance (NY) FCU, New York State Council on the Arts & Trust for Mutual Understanding.

Searching for future retirement income? Contact the UNA for

THE BEST ANNUITIES!

Guaranteed income for life—regardless of how long you live!

Our interest can make the most of your money!

10% free withdrawal!

Unlimited contributions!

Tax Deferred

No maintenance or administrative fees!



Short Term Annuity

- 2 Yr. *3.50% APR
- 3 Yr. *4.00% APR

***If not withdrawn or renewed, the annuity will continue as a 10-year contract at the then assigned rate**

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

2200 Route 10 West
Parsippany, NJ 07054
Phone: 800-253-9862
Fax: 973-292-0900

Email: UNA@UNAMEMBER.COM

Long Term Annuity

- 5 Yr. *4.5% APR
- 10Yr. *5.5% APR

***1st year guaranteed**

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 28)

Yushchenko and renounced their parliamentary seats, Mr. Melnychenko apparently expects to obtain a parliamentary mandate under the procedure used for filling vacant seats contested under the party-list system. (RFE/RL Newswire)

PGO seeks tapes as evidence

KYIV – Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun assured journalists on March 2 that he is ready to pursue the Gongadze case's political ties and implications, Ukrainian and international media reported. "I call on [former presidential security officer Mykola] Melnychenko to come to Ukraine to testify and also to hand over the originals of the recordings [of former President Leonid Kuchma's conversations] and the [recording] devices to representatives of the Security Service of Ukraine, the Procurator General's Office (PGO) and the special parliamentary commission for examination by international phonoscopic experts, with his participation," Mr. Piskun said. "The results of this examination will be used, in accordance with Ukrainian procedural law, as evidence in the criminal case." Mr. Piskun announced that he has closed a criminal case against Mr. Melnychenko for illegal eavesdropping on Kuchma. The Melnychenko tapes, among other revelations, implicate Mr. Kuchma and former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Kravchenko in the abduction of Heorhii Gongadze. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Rada suspends 12 national deputies

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on March 3 approved the requests of 12 lawmakers to suspend their parliamentary powers in connection with their assumption of jobs in the

executive branch following the installation of Viktor Yushchenko as Ukraine's new president, Interfax reported. Under Ukrainian law, a person cannot simultaneously work in the Parliament and the government. In total, some 40 lawmakers have switched to the government under President Yushchenko. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ukraine's visa policy to be eased

KYIV – Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk pledged in Kyiv on February 17 to ease Ukraine's visa regime with regard to many European countries ahead of the Eurovision 2005 song contest in the Ukrainian capital in May, Interfax reported. "The new visa policy should comply with European legislation and standards existing in this sphere," Mr. Tarasyuk said, adding that the simplified visa regime will possibly be maintained for the entire summer period. Mr. Tarasyuk was speaking at a news conference jointly with the European Union's external relations commissioner, Benita Ferrero-Waldner. Ms. Ferrero-Waldner assured Ukrainians that Brussels' goal is to bring Ukraine closer to the EU. She promised that greater rapprochement in Ukraine-EU relations will be possible after all the provisions of a recently updated Ukraine-EU Action Plan have been fulfilled. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Wiretapping of opposition to be probed

KYIV – The Ukrainian Security Service of Ukraine has initiated a criminal case into illegal wiretapping of the telephone conversations of former opposition leaders Viktor Yushchenko and Yulia Tymoshenko. "The matter concerns wiretapping of telephone conversations involving Yushchenko and Tymoshenko, as well as opposition members during the presidential election campaign. The Security

Service opened a criminal case on the illegal use of special monitoring devices. We opened the criminal case and have conducted the investigation and questioning. We will inform you about the results in the near future," said the chief of the Security Service of Ukraine, Oleksander Turchynov said at a press conference on February 17. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Yanukovych wants to be "ally"

KYIV – Former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, who lost the presidential election to Viktor Yushchenko, said in a television interview on February 10 that he wants to cooperate with the new authorities in Ukraine, according to a report in Ukrainska Pravda. "I'm planning to meet with the new authorities and discuss how we are going to cooperate," Mr. Yanukovych said. "We will be allies." Mr. Yanukovych revealed that he spent the past two weeks in a sanatorium near Moscow. He said he has not met with Russian President Vladimir Putin but had a short telephone conversation with him. "I communicated [to Putin] that I lost," Mr. Yanukovych added. (RFE/RL Newswire)

S&P reports on Ukraine

MOSCOW – Standard & Poor's Ratings Services issued a commentary that finds that the inauguration of President Viktor Yushchenko represents a key milestone in the development of Ukraine's (B+/Stable/B sovereign credit ratings) democracy. The agency said in a statement that the article, titled "Ukraine and Its New Administration Face Challenges Ahead," shows that Mr. Yushchenko has the proven track record to advance meaningful reform for the fledgling democracy. "However, Mr. Yushchenko will face an uphill struggle to fight corruption and break apart the old business nexus as he takes on a Parliament and the governmental

machinery established and well oiled under the administration of former President Leonid Kuchma," said Standard & Poor's credit analyst Helena Hessel. "Powerful vested interests and widespread political patronage constrained political and economic reform in Ukraine for years, and breaking them up will not be easy," she added. Mrs. Hessel explained that Standard & Poor's has consistently viewed Ukraine's weak institutional setting as a major constraint on the country's ratings. "Ukraine's future creditworthiness depends upon the advancement of the reform agenda, in particular the introduction of legal and procedural reform that would restore the economy's payment culture," said Mrs. Hessel. "Ukraine's future creditworthiness also depends upon the newly elected government's effectiveness in maintaining monetary and fiscal stability in the currently overheated economy," she concluded. (Interfax)

Tymoshenko meets French minister

KYIV – Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko met with French Foreign Minister Michel Barnier in Kyiv on February 5 to discuss Ukraine's prospects for market economy status and entry in the World Trade Organization, the Cabinet's press service reported. Ms. Tymoshenko briefed the French foreign minister on the actions of the government to adapt Ukraine's legislation to the European Union's and to raise living standards in Ukraine to meet European standards. "We will find a key to the heart of Europe," she assured the French minister. The French foreign minister, in turn, expressed his delight with the democratic reforms in Ukraine and wished the Ukrainian people further successes on the way. The parties also discussed the issues of further development of trade and economic relations between Ukraine and France. (Interfax-Ukraine)



УКРАЇНА



INDEPENDENCE TOURS: Aug 12-26 ... \$2695 tw CRIMEA (6), LVIV (3), KYIV (4)
 Aug 17-26 ... \$1990 tw LVIV (4), Karpaty Excursion, KYIV (4)

WESTERN UKRAINE and POLAND
 via Czech Airlines from Newark
 15 Day Air/land all Inclusive Tour \$2950 tw
 KYIV (3), LVIV (3), YAREMCHE (2), LVIV (2),
 KRAKOW (3)
 plus: Ivano Frankivsk, Rohatyn, Vorokhta, Kolomyja,
 Zarvanyticia and Wielicka Salt Mines
 Departures: Jun 24, Jul 29 and Aug 12

UKRAINE – BUDGET TOURS
 via Czech Airlines from Newark
 10 Day: Air, Hotel and RT transfers \$1490 Tw
 LVIV (5) and KYIV (4)
 Great for visiting friends and relatives!
 Explore Ukraine on your own!
 Departures: May 20 and Sep 23

BEST OF UKRAINE
 via Aerosvit Airlines from New York
 13 Day Air/land all inclusive Tour Tw from \$2500
 ODESA (2), KYIV (3), LVIV (2), YALTA (4)
 plus: Bakchysaraj, Sevastopol and Chersonesus.
 Departures: Jun 09, Jul 21 and Sep 15

CRIMEA & Independence Day in Kyiv
 via Czech Airlines from Newark
 15 Day All Inclusive Tour \$2695 Tw
 YALTA (6), LVIV (3), KYIV (4) plus: Alushta,
 Bakchysaraj, Chersonesus, Simferopol, Sevastopol.
 Only one departure: Aug 12

UKRAINE, POLAND and HUNGARY
 via Malev Airport from New York
 12 Day All Inclusive Tour Tw from \$2350
 KYIV (3), LVIV (3), KRAKOW (2),
 BUDAPEST (2)
 plus: Wieliczka Salt Mines and Szentandre Village
 Departures: May 25, Jul 13 and Sep 07

MINI UKRAINE plus BUDAPEST
 via Malev Airlines from New York
 10 Day All Inclusive Tour Tw from \$1990
 ODESA (3), KYIV (3), BUDAPEST (2) plus:
 Bilhorod Dnistrovski and Szentandre Village
 Departures: Jun 12, Sep 18

UKRAINE, RUSSIA and FINLAND
 via Czech Airlines from Newark
 12 Day All Inclusive Tour Tw from \$3290
 KYIV (2), MOSCOW (2), ST. PETERSBURG (3),
 HELSINKI (2) plus: Peterhoff
 *WHITE NIGHTS in St. Petersburg + Escorted by Dr. Walter
 Karpinich. Departures: May 20*, Aug 12 and Sep 23

TAK – YOUTH TOUR (Age: 20-35)
 via Czech Airlines from Newark
 19 Day All Inclusive Tour Tw \$ 2990
 DONETSK (3), ZAPORIZZHIA (2), KYIV (3),
 LVIV (4), KARPATY (2), KRAKOW (3) plus
 Travel w. MYRON DEPUTAT and his musicians
 Sing and perform in Ukraine!!
 Only one departure: June 13- July 01



800 242 7267 www.scopetravel.com 973 378 8998
 DNIPRO RIVER CRUISES: Kyiv, Zaporizzhia, Odesa, Sevastopol, Kherson, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv ... 10-15 Days Apr to Sep

Far from home?

Manage your finances Online:



- ❖ VISA transactions & payments
- ❖ Mortgage payments
- ❖ Account balances & transfers

Selfreliance.Com

Account Access
24 / 7 / 365

Call today to add this
free service to your
Selfreliance accounts!
773-328-7500

Great Rates - Low Fees!
Unlike Banks -
our profits go to You -
our member!

Selfreliance

Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union

Самопоміч

Українсько-Американська Федеральна Кредитова Спілка

Registration and signature required for online account access. For qualified members only!
Connection fees may apply.

Your Savings
Insured to
\$100,000

NCUA

National
Credit Union
Administration,
a US Government
Agency

UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

It's a "Circus!" at Plast's annual masquerade party



Natalia Halatyn

NEW YORK – "Circus!" was the theme of this year's kostiumivka (masquerade party), held on March 6 in the St. George School auditorium. The New York City branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization has organized this annual event for 54 years – this year with the help of the Verkhovynky sorority of young adult Plast members. As seen above, participants performed as trapeze artists, acrobats, strongmen, clowns, lions and other circus stars.

Mishanyna

To solve this month's Mishanyna, find the words capitalized in the text below within the Mishanyna grid.

EASTER is a most JOYOUS holy day as it marks the RESURRECTION of Christ. In Ukrainian this FEAST day is know as VELYKDEN, which means the great day.

Easter is celebrated by all Christians, but not necessarily on the same day. Most celebrate Easter in keeping with the GREGORIAN, or new, calendar, while the Orthodox Church and parts of the Eastern-rite Catholic Church follow the JULIAN, or old-style, calendar. That is why this year some Ukrainians will be celebrating Easter on MARCH 27, while others will celebrate on MAY 1.

In preparation for Easter, many Ukrainians make PYSANKY – intricately decorated Ukrainian Easter EGGS. Through a special process, plain eggs are MIRACULOUSLY transformed into miniature works of ART. The designs on a PYSANKA all have symbolic meanings. There are books and pamphlets available for you to learn about these ancient symbols and to help you create your own pysanky.

On Easter Sunday after liturgy we enjoy a traditional meal of SVIACHENE, or blessed foods, that are taken to church in BASKETS for a special blessing.

Another EASTER custom is the presentation of HAHILKY, or spring

ritual dances. Perhaps you, or the girls in your area are now working on learning hahilky to present in your community.

According to Ukrainian TRADITION, Easter celebrations extend for three days. The second day of Easter is know as "Oblyvanyi Ponedilok," or WET Monday, because on that day young people sprinkle or splash each other with water.

V	R	J	O	Y	O	F	J	O	Y	H	C	R	A	M
E	E	O	R	E	E	M	U	O	O	O	D	O	S	I
L	S	Y	T	A	R	A	L	A	Y	T	A	B	E	R
Y	U	A	S	R	R	K	I	R	O	O	Y	O	R	A
K	R	T	R	I	M	T	A	U	N	T	U	T	H	C
D	R	E	T	S	D	E	N	R	N	O	R	S	I	U
A	E	A	R	E	T	S	A	E	R	P	T	N	Y	L
Y	C	R	E	W	W	O	D	O	R	Y	A	O	A	O
A	T	A	S	T	E	K	S	A	B	S	R	I	E	U
R	I	S	Y	P	Y	S	A	N	K	A	N	T	U	S
N	O	I	T	L	O	R	G	U	R	N	S	I	L	L
O	N	R	E	T	A	E	R	G	E	K	I	D	A	Y
R	S	V	I	A	C	H	E	N	E	Y	D	A	R	T
T	H	I	N	A	N	A	I	R	O	G	E	R	G	O
Y	A	M	D	H	A	H	I	L	K	Y	O	T	A	H

OUR NEXT ISSUE: UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated April 10, please send in your materials – stories and photos – by April 1. Please remember to include a daytime phone number so that we may contact you if needed.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

March 11-13, 2005

Plast Kurin "Chornomortsi"
Winter Rada

March 27, 2005

Traditional Ukrainian Easter Day
Brunch, doors open at 11:30 a.m.

April 1-2, 2005

UNA District Meeting and
Secretarial Course

April 1-3, 2005

Grace Episcopal Church,
Madison, N.J. – Men's Retreat

April 8-10, 2005

Road Rally Weekend – an Epicurean,
motorized scavenger hunt

April 9, 2005

SUNY New Paltz Alpha Kappa Phi
Sorority Formal Banquet

April 15-17, 2005

Plast Kurin "Chortopolokhy"
Annual Meeting

April 16, 2005

Rochester Fire Company Banquet

April 20-22, 2005

SUNY at New Paltz, Migrant
Education Program and Retreat

April 23, 2005

"Holiday Cooking in the Ukrainian

Tradition" organized by Plast
Kurin "Spartanky"

TAP New York Beer Festival at
Hunter Mountain, round-trip bus
from Soyuzivka, special room
rate – \$60/night

May 1, 2005

Traditional Blessed Ukrainian
Easter Day Brunch, doors open
at 11:30 a.m.

May 20, 2005

Ellenville High School Junior Prom

May 27-30, 2005

Memorial Day Weekend BBQ
and Zabava
Adoptive Parents Weekend, sponsored
by the Embassy of Ukraine and
the UNA

June 1, 2005

Ellenville High School
Scholarship Banquet

June 12-17, 2005

UNA Seniors' Week and Conference

June 19, 2005

Father's Day Program

June 26-July 3, 2005

Tabir Ptashat Session #1



To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 141
216 Foordmore Road • P. O. Box 529
Kerhonkson, NY 12446
E-mail: Soyuzivka@aol.com
Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

Are you still reading your mother's copy of
The Ukrainian Weekly?

How adult of you.

For \$45 a year, you can have your own.

Then your children will have something to read.

SUBSCRIPTION

NAME: _____
(please type or print)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE (optional): _____

UNA member subscription price – \$45.00/yr. Non-member subscription price – \$55.00/yr.

UNA Branch number _____

Mail to: Subscription Department
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Wednesday, March 16

NEW YORK: La MaMa and Yara Arts Group present "Kolia of Kryvorivnia," in concert with friends. The concert will focus on traditional Hustul koliady – pre-Christian epic songs sung to every living person in the village, as well as the dead, to guarantee the future harvest. Singers Ivan Zelenchuk and Dmytro Tafiychuk, who are from Kryvorivnia, a village high in the Carpathian Mountains, will also be joined in performance by local musicians. Virlana Tkacz, founding director of the Yara Arts Group, will speak about the tradition and read her English translations with Wanda Phipps. The event will take place at La MaMa Galleria, 6 E. First St., (between Second Avenue, and Bowery) at 7 p.m. The event is free.

Friday, March 18

EAST HANOVER, N.J.: The Lisovi Mavky Plast Sorority, New York/New Jersey Chapters, invite the public to a fund-raising dinner, titled "Vovk," to benefit the Vovcha Tropa Plast Camp in East Chatham, N.Y., which has planned major construction projects to improve the camp's facilities. Bring friends and family for a night-out at the Ramada Hotel starting 7:30 p.m. at Let's continue the Plast camping tradition by supporting the fund-raiser so as to ensure that our children have the same opportunity to experience Plast summer camp, cultivate lifelong friendships and cherish lasting memories. Cost of dinner: \$100 (includes appetizer, salad, main course, dessert, wine and beer). For more information e-mail i.terleckyj@verizon.net or call (973) 771-1156.

Saturday, March 19

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society and the New York Metropolitan Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) invite the public to a roundtable on the topic "Dioxin and Its Pernicious Effect on Human Health," which will be chaired by Dr. Marta Kushnir, medical director, Allmerica Financial Health Clinic. The program will include opening remarks by Dr. Lesia Kushnir, president, UMANA New York Chapter, followed by lectures by Dr. Ronald Liteplo, dermatologist, Westchester County, and Dr. Ihor Magun, specialist in internal medicine. The roundtable will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets), at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

NEW BRITAIN, Conn.: The 11th annual Ukrainian Easter Festival will be held at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall, 54 Winter St. (behind Newbrite Plaza) at 9:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. Snow date: Saturday, March 26. Available for purchase at the festival will be traditional Easter baked goods such as paska, as well as traditional Ukrainian food, including varenyky and borsch, and homemade cakes and desserts. Lunch and takeout will be available. Pysanky and Easter-egg decorating supplies will also be sold. Free admission; parking available behind church. For additional information call (860) 828-5087.

Monday, March 21

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) will host a lecture given by Rostyslav Melnykov, assistant professor, Skovoroda State Pedagogical University, Kharkiv, on "The Writer Maik Yohansen (1895-1937): Context and Legends." The lecture will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For further information contact HURI, (617) 495-4053, or visit the HURI website, <http://www.huri.harvard.edu/>.

Tuesday, March 22

NEW YORK: Yara Arts Group presents a folk singing workshop with Ukrainian-born singer Mariana Sadovska, who for the last 12 summers has traveled through villages in Ukraine collecting songs and doc-

umenting rituals. Discover the folk voice in you. Learn ancient Ukrainian folk and ritual songs. You do not have to be able to read Ukrainian or music to participate, but you must pre-register. Call (212) 475-6474 or e-mail yara@prodigy.net. The workshops will be held at La MaMa Experimental Theater Company, 74 E. Fourth St., (between Second Avenue and Bowery); time: 6-10 p.m.; fee: \$30. For additional information visit www.brama.com/yara/

Friday, April 1

NEW YORK: The Brooklyn Ukrainian Group in partnership with the United Ukrainian American Organizations of Greater New York announce that the popular Ukrainian singer Maria Burmaka, a leading female artist of Ukraine's Orange Revolution, will arrive in North America for a three-city concert tour that begins April 1 in New York City, with subsequent performances in Philadelphia on April 2 and in Toronto on Saturday, April 9. Ms. Burmaka will share her songs and stories from the Orange Revolution. Space is limited! Tickets are available at the following: New York – Surma 11 E. Seventh St.; Philadelphia – Dnipro, 1801 Cottman Ave.; Toronto – West Arka, 2282 Bloor St.W. For further concert and ticket information contact Yuri Pylyp, (203) 561-5969.

Sunday, April 3

NEW YORK: "Music at the Institute" presents as part of its new Sunday afternoon concert series, "Anthology of Ukrainian and American Chamber Music," a concert of works by Barber, Silvestrov (his Piano Quintet dedicated to Borys Liatoshynsky), and Liatoshynsky performed by pianist Angelina Gadeliya and the Rothko String Quartet. The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 3 p.m. Donation: \$25; \$20, UIA members, senior citizens, and students. For more information or to make reservations call (212) 288-8660 or visit www.ukrainianinstitute.org.

HILLSIDE, N.J.: Under the direction of Odarka Polanskyj-Stockert, children will have an opportunity to learn basic "hahilky" (Ukrainian ritual songs and dances performed traditionally at Easter) as part of a program held at the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church (intersection of Liberty Avenue and Bloy Street). All are invited; no prior experience is required. The hahilky will be held following the 10:45 a.m. Sunday divine liturgy. As part of the program, there will also be an egg hunt, and a light lunch will be served. In the event of inclement weather, activities will be held in the parish hall. For directions to the parish access www.byzantines.net/immaculateconception For additional information contact Mike Szpyhulsky, (908) 289-0127, or Joe Shatynski, (973) 599-9381.

ONGOING

Through March 20

NEW YORK: La MaMa E.T.C and Yara Arts Group present "Koliada: Twelve Dishes," an original theater piece based on ancient winter rituals from the Carpathians and the very contemporary poetry of Serhiy Zhadan, in which forces of nature, animal spirits and the dead come to dinner. The piece, which opened March 4, is created by the Yara Arts Group, directed by Virlana Tkacz, designed by Watoku Ueno, musical arrangements by Mariana Sadovska, with Yara artists: Andrew Colteaux, Olenka Denysenko, George Drance, Siho Ellsmore, Allison Hiroto, Olga Shuhan, Vira Slywotzky, Meredith Wright and Hutsul koliadnyky Ivan Zelenchuk and Dmytro Tafiychuk. Performances are ongoing through March 20, at La MaMa Experimental Theater, 74 E. Fourth St., (between Second Avenue and Bowery); Thursday-Sunday at 8 p.m., with matinees on Sundays, March 13 and 20, at 3 p.m. Tickets, at \$15, are available by calling the

(Continued on page 23)