

INSIDE:

- Analyses of developments in Ukraine — pages 2-3.
- Acting Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk speaks in DC — page 3.
- More on the Yushchenko visit to the United States — pages 4-9.

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Yekhanurov approved as prime minister Yushchenko signs pact with Yanukovich

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — No one braving the freezing temperatures of the “maidan,” or Independence Square, last year could have imagined this outcome.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko replaced his Orange Revolution comrade Yulia Tymoshenko, but only after signing a pact with his nemesis, Viktor Yanukovich, to support her successor, Yuriy Yekhanurov.

In his deal with Mr. Yanukovich, reached only 30 minutes before the September 22 vote that approved Mr. Yekhanurov as prime minister, Mr. Yushchenko agreed to end all reprivatizations, according to National Deputy Vitalii Khomutynnyk of the Party of the Regions. Many of those privatizations targeted oligarchs who enriched themselves during the Kuchma era.

After the vote, Mr. Khomutynnyk reported that the president also agreed to provide amnesty to election commission officials accused of violations.

The Verkhovna Rada gave 289 votes, more than enough, in support of the nominee, described as a non-polarizing technocrat who was born in the Yakutsk region of Siberia but spent most of his life in Ukraine.

Mr. Yekhanurov is a critical part of President Yushchenko's plan to create a pragmatic, stable government that will attempt to stabilize Ukraine's economy and convince investors that the country is a safe place to do business.

“I am convinced that only a Cabinet made up of pragmatists can work actively for the benefit of Ukraine for the next seven months,” Mr. Yushchenko told the Rada on September 20.

In the irony to end all ironies, Mr. Yushchenko could not receive Ms. Tymoshenko's support but did manage to find common ground with his opponent in last year's presidential elections, Mr. Yanukovich.

Both their respective factions, the Party of the Regions and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, rejected Mr. Yekhanurov in the narrow September 20 vote in which the Verkhovna Rada fell three votes short of the required simple majority of 226 votes in order to approve the new prime minister.

In Ukraine's parliamentary system, a faction or bloc is a union of political parties. For example, Ms. Tymoshenko leads the Batkivshchyna Party, but also leads the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc that includes several other parties. The Party of the Regions is both a party and a faction.

In the end, it seems Mr. Yekhanurov would have won approval during the second vote on September 22 without the Party of the Regions' 50 votes.

At a meeting with 18 faction and political leaders who gathered at the Presidential Secretariat on Bankova Street on the night of September 21, Mr. Yushchenko felt he had enough votes secured, participants told Ukrainian reporters.

With his last-minute pact with Mr. Yanukovich, it's now apparent that by morning the president still wasn't confident there were enough votes.

“His grasp is very bad,” said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy, which is exclusively financed by Ukrainian business donations. “It's not like the U.S. Congress, where you know down to the last vote who's going to be on your side. He has a very vague idea of who's going to vote to support him.”

Mr. Yushchenko made the deal with the Party of the Regions because he couldn't afford to have the Rada reject Mr. Yekhanurov a second time, Mr. Lozowy said.

“He would have been made to look very, very weak,” he said. “It would have shown that he can't handle a crisis and he would have lost face in front of his main opponent, Yulia Tymoshenko.”

Ms. Tymoshenko's allies immediately went on the political offensive after the vote in an effort to distinguish themselves as the true reformers.

Mykola Tomenko, former vice prime minister for humanitarian affairs, said that, in effect, former President Kuchma

(Continued on page 20)

Yushchenko receives Liberty Medal, and hero's welcome, in Philadelphia



President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine addresses the crowd after receiving the Philadelphia Liberty Medal.

by Christine Shust Fylypovych
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

PHILADELPHIA — Amid heavy security and with throngs of supporters gathered at the National Constitution Center, President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine was awarded the prestigious Philadelphia Liberty Medal.

The ceremony in Philadelphia was a highlight of the president's second trip to the United States. President Yushchenko

and First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko arrived in the city on Saturday afternoon, September 17, following a visit to New York that revolved around his participation in the World Summit at the United Nations.

The Philadelphia Liberty Medal, established in 1988 to commemorate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, honors an individual or organization from anywhere in the world that has “demonstrated leadership and vision in the pursuit of liberty of conscience or freedom from oppression, ignorance or deprivation.” It is administered by the non-profit, non-political Philadelphia Foundation, and carries an accompanying prize of \$100,000. Former recipients of the Philadelphia Liberty Medal include Lech Walesa, Vaclav Havel, Nelson Mandela, and Sandra Day O'Connor.

The program, which was broadcast live on ABC6, took place on a specially designed stage in front of the grand entrance to the National Constitution Center, facing Independence Hall, with a larger-than-life medal as its backdrop.

Distinguished participants sharing the dais with President and Mrs. Yushchenko included: Archbishop Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church; Martin Meyerson, chairman of the Philadelphia Liberty Medal Selection Committee (and former president of the University of Pennsylvania); H. Craig Louis, chairman of the board of directors of the Philadelphia Foundation; Edward Rendell, governor of Pennsylvania; John Street, mayor of Philadelphia; Rep. Curt Weldon of Pennsylvania; Richard Stengel, President and CEO of the National Constitution Center; and WBC heavy-

Ukrainian president addresses World Summit at United Nations

by Andrew Nynka

NEW YORK — Speaking before the United Nations and some 150 world leaders, Viktor Yushchenko told a milestone summit, which sought to re-evaluate the U.N.'s role as an international organization, that Ukraine stands ready to help form a new Europe.

“At this meeting the international community shapes its new guidelines in the third millennium,” Mr. Yushchenko said. “New Ukraine — free and independent — follows it together with the whole family of democratic nations. I believe that the efforts and experience of my country will contribute to finding important benchmarks.”

In his six-minute address on September 15, Mr. Yushchenko said overhauling the United Nations Security Council — the body charged with maintaining peace and security between nations — was a prerequisite to reforming the U.N.

“To perform adequately, its membership should reflect present realities,” Mr.

Yushchenko said of the Security Council. “It would be fair if all regional groups, including the group of Eastern European states, are represented in the council. The voice of the region, which is shaping new Europe, deserves to be heard.”

Mr. Yushchenko's speech came 10 days after a United Nations report said the number of people killed as a result of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster would ultimately be much less than previously expected. Though he didn't address the report directly, the Ukrainian president stressed that the consequences of Chernobyl were still affecting his country. He noted that the world will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the catastrophe next year.

“I strongly believe that this will be an important opportunity to realize the universal social and cultural depth of this tragedy; it will enable us to combine our

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued on page 6)

ANALYSIS

Behind Ukraine's political crisisby **Taras Kuzio***Eurasia Daily Monitor*
September 14-16

The removal of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's government on September 8 came as a surprise in Ukraine, as it had not been accused of corruption until days earlier. On September 5 the outgoing head of the presidential secretariat, Oleksander Zinchenko, had raised such accusations against close members of President Viktor Yushchenko's circle (*Eurasia Daily Monitor*, September 7 and 8).

Similar accusations were made a week earlier by Mikhail Brodsky, an adviser to Ms. Tymoshenko. Mr. Brodsky had been an opponent of Mr. Yushchenko's 1999-2001 government and had voted for its dismissal in April 2001 (*Times*, September 5).

Members of the outgoing government are angry that their reputations have been tarnished due to their association with those accused by Mr. Zinchenko. Ms. Tymoshenko could not understand how her government, which had fought against corruption, was now being removed (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, September 9).

Few Ukrainian citizens had felt the effects of the Ms. Tymoshenko government's battle against corruption. A poll of Kyivites found that 73.1 percent did not believe that corruption had declined (*Dzerkalo Tyzhnia/Zerkalo Nedeli*, September 10-16). Another poll found that only 31 percent of Ukrainians believed that the government had successfully battled corruption, with 59 percent disagreeing (*UNIAN*, September 9). The poll also found that Ukrainians did not credit the government with positive developments in inflation, job creation or re-privatization.

Dr. Taras Kuzio is visiting professor at the Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University. The article above, which originally appeared in The Jamestown Foundation's Eurasia Daily Monitor, is reprinted here with permission from the foundation (www.jamestown.org).

Yushchenko nominates stopgap PMby **Jan Maksymiuk***RFE/RL Newline*
September 15

Immediately after dismissing the government of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on September 8, President Viktor Yushchenko announced that he wanted Dnipropetrovsk Oblast State Administration Chairman Yuriy Yekhanurov to form a new Cabinet. On September 13, Mr. Yushchenko submitted the candidacy of Mr. Yekhanurov for the Verkhovna Rada's approval, stressing that he wants to have a "pragmatic government." Mr. Yekhanurov needs at least 226 votes to obtain the job.

Most political observers in Ukraine do not foresee any problems in Mr. Yekhanurov's approval, particularly after Messrs. Yushchenko and Yekhanurov on September 13 signed a Declaration of Unity and Cooperation for the Future with leaders of parliamentary factions comprising nearly 240 deputies. The signatories pledged to pool their efforts "to secure the interests of the Ukrainian people, improve their welfare, consolidate

Jan Maksymiuk is the Belarus and Ukraine specialist on the staff of RFE/RL Newline.

Accusations of corruption are common in Ukraine and other CIS states, often with little supporting evidence. But the reasons for the split between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yushchenko go far beyond the issue of corruption.

First, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yushchenko differ on how to address the legacy of former President Leonid Kuchma.

National-democratic forces split

Ukraine's national-democratic forces have split for a second time. In the early 1990s Rukh divided over whether to cooperate with the national communists, who are today's centrists. Now the national-democratic camp has divided over the issue of how to relate to the past. Ms. Tymoshenko seeks to prosecute high-ranking centrists in the former regime implicated in corruption, abuse of office, the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze and election fraud.

In contrast, Mr. Yushchenko seeks "stability and peace" and turning over a new leaf (*Financial Times*, September 9, 12). Members of the Gongadze family, in particular, remain pessimistic that the president has the necessary "political will" to find who ordered the murder (eng.imi.org.ua). Many suspect that Mr. Yushchenko promised Mr. Kuchma immunity during the December 2004 roundtable negotiations.

Acting Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov was head of the State Property Fund in 1994-1997 and opposes re-privatization. With this issue resolved, oligarchs may no longer feel threatened by the government and seek to cooperate with President Yushchenko.

Mr. Yushchenko's People's Union Our Ukraine party will now fight the 2006 parliamentary elections in alliance with centrists, the former backbone of the Mr. Kuchma regime, such as Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn's People's Party. Ms. Tymoshenko had opposed cooperating with centrists in the 2006 election.

A fundamental difference is that Mr.

(Continued on page 17)

society and boost Ukraine's authority in the world." Making a new Cabinet get down to work without delay is no doubt a priority in this endeavor.

Mr. Yekhanurov is widely seen in Ukraine as an experienced and efficient administrator without political ambitions. Therefore, many assert, he is the best choice President Yushchenko could make for the six months that remain until the parliamentary elections in March, when the political scene in Ukraine may undergo a considerable rearrangement.

In other words, Mr. Yekhanurov is seen as a "stopgap" prime minister whose main concerns will be to draft a 2006 budget, secure a tolerable price for Russian gas supplies next year and push through the Parliament what remains of the previous Cabinet's package of bills intended to facilitate Ukraine's access to the World Trade Organization by the end of this year.

Mr. Yekhanurov, an ethnic Buryat, was born in a village in Sakha (Yakutia) in 1948. His family moved to Ukraine in 1963. In Kyiv, Mr. Yekhanurov graduated from a construction school in 1967 and from the Institute of People's Economy in 1973. He climbed the career ladder in

(Continued on page 25)**NEWSBRIEFS****Yulia offers to make peace**

KYIV – Former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who was dismissed by President Viktor Yushchenko on September 8, said at a news conference in Kyiv on September 21 that she is ready to work once again with Mr. Yushchenko and form a new Cabinet if he makes peace with her, Channel 5 reported. "In this difficult time, when the political crisis is deepening, I want to declare that I am ready to give him a helping hand," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "I want to propose to [Mr. Yushchenko] simply to return [to the time we had] a year ago and unite our efforts once again." On September 14 Ms. Tymoshenko had told Reuters that Mr. Yushchenko could "recognize his mistake" and rejoin forces for the parliamentary elections in 2006. "Despite the fact that the president has accused me of various acts against the national interest, I believe he can always take the road back," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "We do have different visions on moral aspects of wielding power. And this is a fundamental difference. I proposed to the president not to wage war with political forces occupying a single ideological niche, but rather to support them all." Commenting on a new Cabinet to be formed by Yuriy Yekhanurov, Ms. Tymoshenko said it will be "very temporary." (*RFE/RL Newline*)

Yushchenko meets with Yanukovich

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on September 19 met with former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, his main rival from the 2004 presidential election, the presidential press service reported. Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions joined last week's Declaration of Unity and Cooperation for the Future, which was signed by Mr. Yushchenko, Acting Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and leaders of several parliamentary groups. During the meeting Mr. Yushchenko said it is time to forget "the emotions accompanying the presidential election and to make efforts toward leaving negative trends of the presidential race in the past." According to Mr. Yushchenko's press service, the meeting took place at Mr. Yanukovich's request,

while Mr. Yanukovich's website said it was held at Mr. Yushchenko's request. "In our opinion, a coalition government could be formed following an immediate introduction of the political reform for a transitional period until the parliamentary elections," Mr. Yanukovich was quoted on his website as saying after the meeting. (*RFE/RL Newline*)

Acting PM comments on new Cabinet

KYIV – Acting Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov told the Verkhovna Rada before it first voted on his candidacy on September 20 that a new Cabinet would focus on assiduous everyday work rather than on "sensations" or "everyday news conferences," Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Yekhanurov said the main task of a new Cabinet is to stabilize the economy. He pledged to give more attention to regional policies. Mr. Yekhanurov also said that in the event he is approved as prime minister, two-thirds of the posts in the Cabinet will be given to new people. (*RFE/RL Newline*)

Rada hears Gongadze case report

KYIV – Parliamentarian Hryhorii Omelchenko, head of the ad hoc parliamentary commission investigating the kidnapping of Internet journalist Heorhii Gongadze in 2000, reported to the Verkhovna Rada on September 20 that former President Leonid Kuchma jointly with former Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Kravchenko organized the abduction of Gongadze, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Omelchenko added that, according to the commission's findings, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and former Security Service of Ukraine chief Leonid Derkach instigated the kidnapping. Mr. Omelchenko criticized Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun's role in the Gongadze investigation and proposed a vote of no confidence in him which, if passed, would result in Mr. Piskun's dismissal. "I think that as long as Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun remains in his post, the organizers of this crime ... and other participants in it will not be made accountable in court," Mr. Omelchenko said. The Verkhovna Rada did not heed Mr. Omelchenko's request and decided to ter-

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NEWS ANALYSIS: Rada rejects Yushchenko's nominee for PM in first vote

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor
September 21

On September 20 the Ukrainian Parliament failed to approve Yuriy Yekhanurov as prime minister, seven days after President Viktor Yushchenko submitted his candidacy. Mr. Yushchenko disbanded the government headed by Yulia Tymoshenko on September 8 after a corruption crisis engineered by outgoing State Secretary Oleksander Zinchenko (see *Eurasia Daily Monitor*, September 8, 9).

During four of the seven days between Mr. Yekhanurov's nomination and the Parliament's rejection of his candidacy, September 15-18, President Yushchenko was in the United States. Originally scheduled to arrive on September 13, he postponed his visit by two days.

A State Department official told EDM that he was "surprised" that Mr. Yushchenko would be visiting the United States during the political crisis. This reaction was frequently heard from other U.S. government officials and think-tank experts on Ukraine. The Carnegie Endowment's Anders Aslund could not understand why President Yushchenko traveled to the United States when his "political life" was on the line.

Ukrainian political commentators have criticized the Yushchenko team's poor interaction with Parliament. Even Mr. Yushchenko's presidential representative in Parliament, Serhii Soboliev, voted against Mr. Yekhanurov. Mr. Soboliev is a member of the Reforms and Order party faction that has now aligned itself with Ms. Tymoshenko.

Mr. Yekhanurov's candidacy was backed by 223 of the 450 deputies – three short of the bare majority required to pass. In contrast, 373 parliamentary deputies voted for Ms. Tymoshenko in February

when she was confirmed as prime minister.

Prior to leaving for the United States, Mr. Yushchenko negotiated an agreement with parliamentary factions to drum up parliamentary support for Mr. Yekhanurov (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, September 14). But the declaration was vague and non-committal, and the Party of the Regions signed but did not vote for Mr. Yekhanurov.

The failed nomination of Mr. Yekhanurov results from the divisions in the Orange Revolution coalition. Before the crisis, 128 deputies belonged to the hard-line opposition Party of the Regions, Social Democratic Party – United and the Communist Party. Since the crisis, an "opposition-lite" has emerged around Ms. Tymoshenko. The political forces that support her (Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, United Ukraine, Reforms and Order) number 74 deputies. Thus, the hard-line and "lite" opposition to Mr. Yushchenko inside the Verkhovna Rada now totals 202 deputies.

The pro-Yushchenko camp includes 26 Socialists (SPU) who gave their votes in exchange for keeping three positions in the government. (It is understood that the SPU will become an independent political force after the March 2006 parliamentary elections.) The latest holder of one of these three positions, the minister of agriculture, was heavily criticized for his neo-Soviet approach to agricultural policy.

A fourth Socialist headed the State Property Fund (SPF), which sent the wrong economic signals to foreign investors preferring a free market. Under Ms. Tymoshenko, Ukraine's investment climate worsened. Although foreign investors will welcome the ruling out of further re-privatization by Messrs. Yekhanurov and Yushchenko, this boost of confidence could be undermined if a Socialist returns to the SPF.

After the SPU, the remaining votes for Mr. Yekhanurov came from national

democrats (83) and former pro-Kuchma centrists (93). The crisis, therefore, has forced President Yushchenko to heavily rely upon centrists and Socialists, who together gave him 119 votes.

In reality, Mr. Yushchenko's parliamentary predicament is made worse by the fact that 14 members of the hard-line and "lite" opposition supported Mr. Yekhanurov. These included six Reforms and Order, four United Ukraine, and three Party of the Regions deputies. Without these 13 defectors, Mr. Yekhanurov would have obtained only 189 votes (rada.kiev.ua).

The president now has little choice but to cut a deal with either former Mr. Kuchma centrists, such as Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, or Ms. Tymoshenko to create a parliamentary majority after the 2006 elections. Alone, Mr. Yushchenko's People's Union Our Ukraine will only obtain 20 to 30 percent support, according to polls conducted throughout this year. Relying on Mr. Lytvyn would tie Mr. Yushchenko's hands in two ways.

First, he will be unable to block constitutional reforms through the Constitutional Court. Both the centrists and the Socialists have always strongly backed them.

Ms. Tymoshenko's political opportunism and feeling of personal betrayal by Mr. Yushchenko has led her to undertake a 180-degree shift in her views on constitutional reforms. Now she endorses them. The Tymoshenko bloc was always the parliamentary force most hostile toward the move from a presidential-parliamentary to a parliamentary-presidential republic. Not any more.

Second, on September 20 the Verkhovna Rada finally heard the report of the commission established to investigate the murder of journalist Heorhii

Gongadze in fall 2000. President Yushchenko's failure to investigate the instigators of the crime will be used against him by the "lite" opposition.

The commission was established in 2002, and it is headed by Hryhorii Omelchenko, who was elected in 2002 in third place on the Ms. Tymoshenko bloc list. Although the commission had submitted its findings to the Procurator General's Office in September 2002, it had never received any response. After charges are made, Ukrainian law requires that within 10 days either a case is opened or the charges are rebutted.

The commission's report accuses then President Leonid Kuchma, Mr. Lytvyn, former Security Services of Ukraine chief Leonid Derkach, and deceased former Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Kravchenko of collusion and organizing the murder of Gongadze.

The most damaging aspect of this report is its impact upon Mr. Lytvyn's reputation, which had risen along with the Orange Revolution and in the months afterwards. Mr. Lytvyn has already announced the creation of a 2006 election bloc named after him.

It is clear that Ms. Tymoshenko has seized the opportunity to damage the alliance between Messrs. Yushchenko and Lytvyn through the Gongadze affair. If successful, she could then force Mr. Yushchenko to ditch Mr. Lytvyn and strike a deal with her.

A repeat vote for Mr. Yekhanurov may take place. President Yushchenko had called upon the Verkhovna Rada to back Mr. Yekhanurov to head a "non-politicized and non-party" government. If Mr. Yekhanurov's candidacy fails again, an alternative candidate suggested by State Secretary Oleh Rybachuk is the popular acting Minister of Internal Affairs, Yuriy Lutsenko (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, September 20).

Acting minister of foreign affairs comments on upheavals in Ukraine

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – Borys Tarasyuk, Ukraine's acting foreign affairs minister, says that the recent internal political upheaval in Ukraine, while dramatic, should not be viewed as a tragedy.

These events, he told a foreign policy forum here September 19, "are evidence of democracy, a part of a democratic process in my country." Mr. Tarasyuk was speaking at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a prominent Washington think-tank, on the first day of his two-day visit here for talks with Bush administration officials, members of Congress, business groups and non-governmental organizations interested in Ukrainian affairs.

He said that in analyzing the political give-and-take and President Viktor Yushchenko's dismissal of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and her Cabinet, in which Mr. Tarasyuk was foreign affairs minister, "one should not be lost in details – then, one will see the whole forest, not just the trees."

"The enthusiasm of the first months after the Orange Revolution has been transformed into the healthy pragmatism of a young rapidly developing modern society," he said, "which is not a tragedy, but the most natural thing in the world."

Such a development in Ukraine, he added, along with similar political developments in Georgia and Kyrgyzstan, "has a potential to define some important tendencies on the post-Soviet space in general." And, with this in mind, he said, the presidents of Ukraine and Georgia, during



Borys Tarasyuk speaks in Washington.

their meeting last month in Borzhomi, launched a new initiative: the Community of Democratic Choice (CDC), which seeks to promote democracy in the region and create a community of democratic countries in the vast area between the Baltic, Black and Caspian seas.

Mr. Tarasyuk said that the CDC intends to closely cooperate with Poland, Romania and other Central, Southern and Eastern European countries, the European Union (EU), the United States, Russia and other countries and groupings.

"Our objective is to clear out our region from all remaining dividing lines, from violations of human rights, from

any spirit of confrontation, from frozen conflicts and thus to open a new era of democracy, security, stability and lasting peace for the whole of Europe, from the Atlantic to the Caspian Sea."

Asked about Ukraine's relations with some of the countries and groups he mentioned, Mr. Tarasyuk said he would not "over-exaggerate" Kyiv's "difficulties and differences" with Moscow.

He pointed out that President Yushchenko took the first step right after his election by visiting Moscow, which started a constructive dialogue, established a presidential commission on bilateral relations and initiated a "pragmatic action plan," which will be ready for approval during President Vladimir Putin's visit to Ukraine in October. Since then, "nothing negative has taken place," he said, adding: "I do believe that we can keep our relationship in a normal, constructive channel."

Mr. Tarasyuk characterized the development of Ukraine's relationship with the EU as being "not bad." He said he expects that the major outstanding issues between them will be resolved by the next Ukraine-EU summit in December, which would include granting Ukraine market economy status, the beginning of talks on free trade and visa liberalization, and the resolution of the Ukraine's World Trade Organization (WTO) membership issues.

"We have completed around 40 percent of our commitments according to the action plan," he added and said he expects the remainder to be completed by March of next year.

The agenda of his meetings with U.S. administration officials, Mr. Tarasyuk said, included such bilateral outstanding issues

as recognizing Ukraine as a market economy, Ukraine's membership in the WTO, and getting Ukraine back into the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences, from which it was dropped a few years ago.

Vice-President Dick Cheney and the president's national security advisor, Stephen Hadley, were among the officials with whom Mr. Tarasyuk met. He also had a meeting with members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, the Ukrainian-American Business Council, and with the president of the National Democratic Institute, former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright.

Introducing the acting foreign affairs minister at the CSIS forum, Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was national security advisor to President Jimmy Carter, said that what struck him the most about Mr. Tarasyuk's tenure in office was that "it has been characterized by genuine strategic clarity."

"And that's a very important asset for a country – clear strategic objectives formulated in a realistic fashion, with a long-range perspective in mind," Dr. Brzezinski said.

In the evening of September 19, the Ukrainian Embassy hosted a reception-meeting for Mr. Tarasyuk with a small group of leaders of Ukrainian American organizations, during which he discussed his country's recent internal political developments and future cooperation with diaspora organizations, among other issues.

He also presented an award to Dr. Ihor Masnyk of the National Cancer Institute in Washington, honoring him for his efforts in helping provide effective medical treatment for children suffering from the effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Ukrainian president...

(Continued from page 1)

efforts to mitigate its consequences," Mr. Yushchenko said.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan met with Mr. Yushchenko that same day. According to the Ukrainian president's press service, the two men discussed a plan to hold a U.N. General Assembly meeting to mark the 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. They agreed that the world should do more to raise funds to construct a shield over the nuclear power plant.

World leaders were also reminded of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Mr. Yushchenko stressed during his speech that the U.N. should work to prevent crimes against humanity.

"I am referring to you as a representative of the nation that lost 10 million human lives in the Famine-Genocide," President Yushchenko said. "At that

all of the world leaders who attended the three-day summit also spoke.

The summit produced a 35-page final document that established a new Peacebuilding Commission to help countries make the transition from war to peace, and agreed that there is an international responsibility to protect people from genocide, war crimes and ethnic cleansing.

Addressing that responsibility during his speech, Mr. Yushchenko said that only through collective efforts could humanity respond to a variety of international threats.

"We believe that the international community should do everything possible to destroy the environment nourishing the virus of terror – intolerance, tyranny, poverty and humiliation," President Yushchenko said.

He also said his country would recommit to the U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals – which include halving poverty and



United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan (right) meets with Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko at the U.N. headquarters on September 15.

time, the governments of many countries turned their eyes from the genocide that was organized to destroy our people. We insist that the international community should tell the truth about this crime."

Mr. Yushchenko's speech before the U.N. was part of the 2005 World Summit that brought presidents and heads of state from over 150 countries together on the 60th anniversary of the United Nations. The U.N. billed the summit as the largest ever gathering of world leaders and as an opportunity to reshape the world body for the challenges of the 21st century. Nearly

achieving universal primary education by 2015 – that Ukraine stands ready to "provide our support for their full achievement."

Ukraine's Acting Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk accompanied Mr. Yushchenko during his trip to the United States. The two men met with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to discuss cooperation between the two countries and the current situation in Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko said that dismissing his Cabinet of Ministers, as well as National Security and Defense Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko, had helped



Guests at the gala honoring Viktor Yushchenko in New York City on September 16 are (from left) Karen Chelak, UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich, Adia Fedash, Myron Kukuruza, UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj, Swiatoslawa Kaczaraj, Russ Chelak and Orest Fedash.



Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko enters The Pierre Hotel on September 16 for a banquet in his honor. He is flanked by Ukraine's acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk (left) and Ukrainian World Congress President Askold Lozynskyj.

to stabilize the situation in the country. He also stressed that the new government would spare no effort to overcome stagnation in the economy.

According to the presidential website, Dr. Rice assured Mr. Yushchenko that Washington supports Ukraine as it works to eradicate corruption. Dr. Rice said the United States welcomed Ukraine's democratic advance.

While in New York, Mr. Yushchenko also met with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, the presidential website reported. The two men agreed that Ukraine's new prime minister would visit Brazil in October to spur trade and economic relations between Brazil and Ukraine.

Messrs. Yushchenko and da Silva also discussed ways to cooperate in the aerospace field, as the two countries reportedly want to create a joint company to launch space satellites. Mr. da Silva reportedly accepted Mr. Yushchenko's invitation to visit Ukraine next year.

Mr. Yushchenko also met with former President Bill Clinton, the Ukrainian press agency Ukrinform reported. The meeting was held within the framework of Mr. Clinton's Global Initiative conference, which took place in New York City during the U.N. summit.

During the meeting, Messrs Yushchenko and Clinton discussed the political situation in Ukraine, Ukrinform reported. They also dealt with cooperation between the Clinton fund and the Health Ministry of Ukraine, particularly in combating HIV/AIDS. According to the press service, Mr. Clinton accepted Mr. Yushchenko's invitation to visit Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko also visited the New York Stock Exchange, where he met with the NYSE Manager John Thain. Mr. Thain briefed the Ukrainian delegation about the NYSE's proceedings and noted that the NYSE is interested in cooperating with Ukraine, Ukrinform reported.

While the focus of Mr. Yushchenko's trip to the United States, which took place on September 14-18, was his participation in the World Summit, he also took the opportunity to address a number of other issues.

In New York, Mr. Yushchenko met with representatives of leading financial corporations, religious leaders and representatives of the Ukrainian diaspora. He also paid a visit to The Ukrainian Museum.

He met with representatives of American Jewish organizations, who told the president they intended to ask the U.S. Congress to repeal the Jackson-Vanik amendment, the presidential website reported.

Mr. Yushchenko was greeted at a reception hosted by the law firm Chadbourne and Parke, and later attend-

ed a banquet hosted by the Orange Circle organization (see story on page 5).

The law firm held a small VIP reception and question and answer session for the president at Chadbourne's offices, according to the Action Ukraine Report.

The 75 guests at the reception included Chadbourne attorneys and firm clients as well as former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, former Carter administration National Security Advisor Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, former U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills, former Canadian Prime Minister John Turner and ex-New York City Police Commissioner Howard Safir. Also attending were the president's wife, Kateryna, and Orange Circle representatives.

President Yushchenko was also the guest of honor at a Ukrainian community banquet attended by over 300 people on September 16 at The Pierre Hotel in New York City.

In his 50-minute speech in Ukrainian, Mr. Yushchenko used humor to address the recent political events in Ukraine.

"Something tells me I need to say a few words about Tymoshenko," he said, referring to former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, as the crowd laughed. He explained that he regarded her as a trusted ally, but that favoritism and secretive decisions marred her administration.

In response to criticism that he has not delivered on the reforms he promised during the presidential campaign, he said, "Give us time – we cannot do in one year that which people could not do in 20 years."

During another speech at the banquet, President Yushchenko's wife, Kateryna, called for people to invest in Ukraine's health care network. In Ukraine there should be only the best hospitals and every region of the country should have a first rate medical center, Mrs. Yushchenko said.

The Ukrainian first lady also thanked the Ukrainian diaspora. "When the world did not know about Ukraine, you stood out and said that it exists," she said. "You've held on to our language. Continue doing what you have been doing. Democracy is not an event, but a process."

The president was joined on the dais by Mr. Tarasyuk, Ukraine's acting minister of foreign affairs; Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress; masters of ceremonies Ulana Kekish of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America and Michael Sawkiw Jr., president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; the Very Rev. Bernard Panczuk of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York; and the Rev. John Lyszyk of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Church in New York.

Yushchenko delivers keynote address at founding dinner of Orange Circle

NEW YORK – The Orange Circle, a new international initiative to support democratic reforms in Ukraine, held its founding meeting on September 15 at New York City's Rainbow Room. The keynote address at the dinner was delivered by Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko, who warmly welcomed the initiative and urged all friends of Ukraine to support the new initiative's work.

The dinner drew some 400 participants, including representatives of the business community, former government leaders and the Ukrainian diaspora.

A wide array of eminent persons attended, including Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski; former U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills; United Nations Assistant General Secretary Kalman Mizsei, former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright; Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.); ex-U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller; actress Polly Draper, representing her brother, hi-tech investor Tim Draper; Rep. Corinne Brown (D-Fla.); Coca Cola executive Sonya Soutus; Roman Kyzzyk, founder and principal in the Draper Fisher Jurvetson Nexus Fund; Natalie Jaresko, managing partner of Horizon Capital; former Canadian Prime Minister John Turner; heavyweight boxing champion Vitalii Klitschko; European Union Commissioner for External Relations Benita Ferrero-Waldner; and Deputy EU Commissioner for External Relations Karel Kovanda.

Major corporate leaders and investors also took part.

Prior to the dinner, President

Yushchenko spent an hour with major Orange Circle donors and eminent persons at a VIP discussion focused on Ukraine's economic reforms and growth potential.

In his keynote address, President Yushchenko expressed strong support for the Orange Circle and thanked the eminent world leaders and members of the diaspora who have come together in the new initiative that will promote Ukraine's integration into the international community. President Yushchenko expressed his appreciation for the support given to the Orange Circle by founding board members U.S. investor George Chopivsky, Canadian businessman James Temerty, Prof. Alexander Motyl of Rutgers University, Ihor Rakowsky of Citibank, East-West Management Institute President Adrian Hewryk, Chicago attorney and banker Julian Kulas, and Nadia Diuk, senior director of the National Endowment for Democracy.

Mr. Yushchenko also addressed recent events in Ukraine, emphasizing that the dismissal of the government of Yulia Tymoshenko and of National Security and Defense Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko was a result of the "loss of a team spirit" that had prevented the smooth implementation of the reforms he had promised during his campaign.

The president stated that the new government he was putting in place would move quickly to create a more friendly environment for Ukraine's entrepreneurs and external investors, and stated that increased protections for Ukraine's most economically vulnerable required a busi-

ness-friendly pro-growth environment.

Dr. Brzezinski, who delivered the evening's other major address, called for Ukraine's integration into such structures as the World Trade Organization, NATO, and the European Union, and underscored that the stakes in the success of the Orange Revolution were high. "The success of the Orange Revolution," he said, "will have a major impact on the evolution of Russia."

Dr. Brzezinski also called on the leaders of the Orange Revolution to preserve civility and to avoid recriminations amid developing political differences.

Adrian Karatnycky, founder and coordinator of the Orange Circle, reported on the progress that already had been made by the month-old initiative to support Ukraine's democratic and economic reforms, and press for Ukraine's integration into the "community of prosperous democratic states."

The dinner also honored the memory of independent journalist Heorhii Gongadze, who was abducted and murdered five years ago in Kyiv. The crowd warmly greeted his widow, Myroslava Gongadze, who has spearheaded the international campaign to bring those responsible for his murder and for ordering his abduction to justice.

The new organization's international board now includes Dr. Brzezinski, Former Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt, former Czech President Vaclav Havel, U.S. high tech investor Tim Draper, European Parliament Vice-President Janusz Onyszkiewicz, former European Commissioner Emma Bonino and Vitalii

Klitschko.

President Yushchenko has committed to taking part in Orange Circle events on major overseas visits and in Ukraine. The new privately funded non-governmental organization also has the support of a broad spectrum of Orange Revolution leaders, including Ukraine's First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko and Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk, who attended the Founding dinner, as well as State Secretary Oleh Rybachuk and former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

According to Mr. Karatnycky, the Orange Circle has been asked by the Yushchenko administration to work with Ukrainian think-tanks and civic groups to organize a conference focused on the achievements and setbacks since the Orange Revolution.

The Orange Circle also expects to be very active in promoting international investment in Ukraine and supporting efforts to promote Ukraine's entry into the European Union, Mr. Karatnycky added.

Corporate and organization donors of the new initiative include Coca-Cola, Horizon Capital, Chadbourne & Parke LLC, Port Vera Development, Draper Fisher Jurvetson, Self Reliance Federal Credit Union of New York, Northland Power Inc., the Heritage Foundation of Chicago, the PBN Company and the Canadian Ukrainian Parliamentary Project.

Individual donors include George Chopivsky, Julian Kulas, Julian Baczynsky, Borys Chabursky, and Iryna and Jaroslaw Kurowyckj.

Philadelphia rolls out the red carpet for president and first lady of Ukraine

by Stasia Bohacz

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

PHILADELPHIA – Hollywood took a holiday on September 17 because its two main residents, glitz and glamour, were in Philadelphia to roll out the red carpet for Ukrainian President Victor Yushchenko and First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko.

A dinner gala was held in their honor by the Philadelphia Foundation, which earlier in the day awarded Mr. Yushchenko the Liberty Medal. The event was appropriately held in the National Constitution Center on Constitution Day.

Five hundred fifty people turned out resplendent in their finery to welcome Ukraine's first couple. Guests enjoyed cocktails and passed hors d'oeuvres in the center's first tier, while the president and first lady attended a VIP reception in

the center's Signer's Hall. It was followed by a tour of the Constitution Center guided by its director, Richard Stengel.

A selection of music performed by the Ukraina combined choir entertained revelers before guests were ushered to the second tier overlook for dinner at sunset. Special theatrical lighting splashed bursts of color on the center's ceiling.

The evening's event broke with tradition and did not have a head table; instead, President and Mrs. Yushchenko dined with their supporters.

At the president's request, those seated at his table represented the local Ukrainian community and the Philadelphia Foundation. His entourage and dignitaries were seated elsewhere.

Philadelphia Foundation Chairman H. Craig Lewis offered a toast and introduced the evening's host, Mr. Stengel.

The evening's menu was American



President Viktor Yushchenko and First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko tour the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia.



Ulana Mazurkevich offers a toast at the banquet honoring Ukraine's president. In the background is the Ukraina combined choir.

with a Ukrainian twist. It opened with a delicate appetizer of prepared cabbage and lean kovbasa topped with a tiny varenyk. The entrée: beef filet, Chicken Kiev and grilled vegetables, was followed by a fluffy chocolate mousse cake topped with fresh berries.

Toasts were offered between courses. Among them was a toast by Ulana Mazurkevich, chair of both the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee and the Committee to Welcome Yushchenko. The latter committee was made up of 40 organizations and institutions.

Ms. Mazurkevich stood on the stage before a window looking out on America's most historic square mile. Referencing Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, Ms. Mazurkevich spoke to those gathered and reminded them that for many decades they gathered on the square below, demonstrating to demand human rights in Ukraine, freedom for Ukrainian political prisoners, and free-

(Continued on page 24)

Yushchenko receives...

(Continued from page 1)

weight champion Dr. Vitalij Klitschko.

The official ceremony began with a brief musical interlude, followed by a short film (shown on an wide LED screen to accommodate the thousands of seated and standing spectators), documenting the history of the Philadelphia Liberty Medal.

The 100-voice combined Ukrainian American choir Ukraina, conducted by Nestor Kyzymyshyn, performed a welcome song called "Voskresla" (She is Risen), and the Voloshky dance ensemble, dressed in traditional Ukrainian attire, greeted the honored guests with the customary bread (representing hospitality) and salt (representing eternal friendship) – a ritual dating back to the Middle Ages. Master of Ceremonies Jim Gardner, anchor of ABC6 News, cordially welcomed all to the auspicious event.

Mr. Gardner then introduced a traditional American ceremonial opening by the U.S. Armed Services Color Guard, which presented the colors of the United States and Ukraine, followed by stirring renditions of the national anthems of Ukraine (performed by the Ukraina choir) and the United States (performed by baritone Stefan Szkafarowsky).

Afterwards, Metropolitan Soroka offered a prayer of gratitude and blessings for all those in pursuit of democratic ideals, particularly for the inspirational personal witness of faith and freedom of President Yushchenko and the Ukrainian people.

Mr. Louis of the Philadelphia Foundation then acknowledged the partnerships instrumental in organizing the program: the Ukrainian American Welcoming Committee (Ulana Mazurkevich, chairperson), the Independence National Historical Park, the National Park Service, the City of Philadelphia and the National Constitution Center.

Mr. Louis also welcomed all those gathered on this occasion to celebrate liberty and honor an extraordinary champion of freedom, President Yushchenko, who courageously challenged government corruption and election fraud. He noted that, along with Mr. Yushchenko, "the world relearned a painful lesson: the price of freedom is eternal vigilance."

Gov. Rendell followed, speaking of the American and Ukrainian people's shared love of freedom and democracy – and how Americans watched Mr. Yushchenko's leadership of a peaceful uprising in the Orange Revolution, as the "flame set here... in the City of Brotherly

Love... in 1776... raced across the globe and reached Ukraine."

Mr. Stengel of the National Constitution Center noted how fitting it was to honor President Yushchenko on Constitution Day, since "constitutions represent the highest aspirations of the people," and "he himself is the living embodiment of the idea that freedom is never free; we all have to make sacrifices for freedom."

Rep. Weldon – who, according to the MC, is sometimes called "Mr. Ukraine" in the halls of the U.S. Capitol, and who introduced the newly democratically elected President of Ukraine to a rare joint session of Congress earlier this year – reminded the audience that he has known Mr. Yushchenko for 12 years and has admired his consistent resolve that the "Ukrainian Constitution be followed."

The Congressman also introduced Mykhailo Volynets, who was influential in the Ukrainian labor movement and who supported Mr. Yushchenko in the Rada (Ukrainian Parliament), as a symbol of the people standing with their leader.

After the congressman's moving speech, the MC presented Dr. Klitschko, who stated it was a pleasure for him to be in Philadelphia, "home of Rocky Balboa – and democracy!" – and expressed his gratitude to all supporters of Ukraine "in this very difficult time."

At the conclusion of Dr. Klitschko's remarks, another short film documented Ukraine's – and Mr. Yushchenko's – historic struggle for democracy and the principles of the Constitution of Ukraine.

Finally, Mayor John Street thanked all the sponsors associated with the Philadelphia Liberty Medal, especially the Selection Committee for making "the perfect choice" by recognizing Mr. Yushchenko's "perilous journey to his nation's highest office – while campaigning for democracy." Just before presenting the Philadelphia Liberty Medal to President Yushchenko, the mayor announced that the famous Boathouse Row and Benjamin Franklin Bridge of the city of Philadelphia would be aglow in orange during the evening – in commemoration of Ukraine's Orange Revolution.

In his keynote address, President Yushchenko thanked the American people for this high honor – and the Ukrainian American community for its comforting display of ethnic culture, here at the site of the Liberty Bell, with its renowned inscription of God's commandment to "proclaim liberty throughout the land."

Mr. Yushchenko said he is dedicating the Philadelphia Liberty Medal to all the free and democratic citizens of Ukraine,



Members of the Voloshky ensemble greet the president and the first lady of Ukraine with the traditional Ukrainian greeting of bread and salt.

and will pass it onto his children along with the award his father received as a soldier in World War II, during which he was wounded and sent to concentration camp. "These are the signs of freedom," which remind one of the high price that was paid for it, he said.

President Yushchenko insisted that "the Constitution will not fluctuate" depending on individual politicians, and

called to mind the words of George Washington that, once freedom takes root – no one can stop it. Millions of Ukrainians, he added, have already seen "the light at the end of the tunnel."

President Yushchenko admitted that his administration is only several months old and has much to learn yet – but he envisions Ukraine in a free market economy with high social standards among all



Philadelphia Mayor John Street (left) and H. Craig Louis of the Philadelphia Foundation flank President Viktor Yushchenko as he receives the Liberty Medal.



Photos courtesy of Roman Czenstuch

Seen during the Philadelphia Liberty Medal ceremonies are: Philadelphia Mayor John Street, Vitalii Klitschko, Kateryna and Viktor Yushchenko, interpreter (next to flag), Pennsylvania Gov. Edward Rendell, Philadelphia Foundation Chairman H. Craig Lewis, Rep. Curt Weldon, National Constitution Center President/CEO Richard Stengel and Superintendent of Independence National Historical Park Dennis Reindenbach (wearing hat).

the democratic nations of the world. The road is not easy, he conceded, but "we will overcome"; the peaceful Orange Revolution demonstrated the importance of democratic values and fairness already in the hearts of Ukrainians.

The president expressed his sympathy for the United States in light of the Gulf Coast calamity and, recalling Ukraine's offer of assistance, urged joint confrontation of new challenges in the new millennium.

At the conclusion of the president's address, the Ukraina choir sang "God Bless America" as a simultaneous Air National Guard flyover provided an awe-inspiring finale to the awards ceremony.

At a brief news conference immediately after the ceremony, President Yushchenko acknowledged that there are problems in the new government, but added that "this is not a critical time; this is a great and very trying time." He said the Ukrainians who stood on the "maidan" and wore orange ribbons of solidarity expect a government with "team spirit" and he is continuing to work toward a transparent, effective and honest government.

At an elegant evening banquet held at the National Constitution Center in his honor, Mr. Yushchenko re-emphasized that, after 800 years of oppression, the Orange Revolution sealed the message that Ukraine will never go back. The first lady of Ukraine also spoke, inviting all to come and visit the unique and beautiful Ukraine, rich in cultural traditions and rife with investment opportunities.

FOR THE RECORD

Viktor Yushchenko's speech at the United Nations

The following is the text, as delivered, of Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko's speech on September 15, before the United Nations in New York City.

Dear co-presidents!
Dear Mr. Secretary General!
Dear heads of state!
Ladies and Gentlemen!

The jubilee of the United Nations is a celebration of hope for all humanity. The whole history of our unique forum convinces us that the peoples of different nations and cultures are able to hear and support each other. Churchill said that these walls were erected for a Temple of Peace, not for a tower of Babylon, and I truly believe that we will live up to their expectations.

At this meeting the international community shapes its new guidelines in the third millennium. New Ukraine – free and independent – follows it together with the whole family of democratic nations. I believe that the efforts and experience of my country will contribute to finding important benchmarks.

I am a son of a soldier of World War II, whose fate was to live through the battles, wounds and the horrors of the Auschwitz concentration camp. Millions failed to survive. Millions of women and men died. Every Ukrainian family has a live memory of pain and losses. Due to its heroic contribution to the victory over Nazism, Ukraine gained an honorable right to become one of the founders of the United Nations.

We brought in our aspiration for peace. We are always ready to counteract the threat of war everywhere. I believe that the Ukrainian peacekeepers under the United Nations flag will once again

prove their courage and professionalism.

As a representative of a nation that shoulder to shoulder with free nations liberated humankind from the Nazi threat, I am convinced we can set free humanity from other mortal threats.

These days we are honoring the memory of those who died on September 11 and sharing the pain of those who suffered in the south of the United States. Ukraine is an active member of the fight against terrorism. We believe that the international community should do everything possible to destroy the environment nourishing the virus of terror – intolerance, tyranny, poverty and humiliation.

Ukraine has already contributed much to security in the world by abandoning its nuclear weapons. We can put nuclear technologies under rigid international control; we are obliged to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Next year will be the 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl catastrophe. I strongly believe that this will be an important opportunity to realize the universal social and cultural depth of this tragedy; it will enable us to combine our efforts to mitigate its consequences.

Distinguished World Leaders:

We are obliged to prevent crimes against humanity and mankind in the 21st century.

I am addressing you as a representative of the nation that lost 10 million human lives in the Famine-Genocide. At that time, the governments of many countries turned their eyes from the genocide that was organized to destroy our people. We insist that the international community should tell the truth about this crime. Only by doing so can we be certain that indif-

ference will never encourage criminals.

The high ideals of the United Nations have always encouraged our people to fight for dignity, human rights and independence. The statehood of Ukraine paved the way for advancing these values. The peaceful victory in Independence

to work together to find ways to strengthen multilateralism. I'm convinced that the greatest opportunity in this regard will come from reforming the United Nations.

The reform of the Security Council is a prerequisite to enhance the effectiveness of our organization. To perform ade-

... the governments of many countries turned their eyes from the genocide that was organized [in 1932-1933] to destroy our people. We insist that the international community should tell the truth about this crime. Only by doing so can we be certain that indifference will never encourage criminals.

Square opened up for Ukraine the path to achieving these ideals.

Our nation turned away from the past, and no one will be able to resurrect it. We are determined to create an open, integrated society and a free-market economy that will be integrated into the world economy. We gained a historic chance to be a part of a united Europe and we have the roadmap that brings our relations closer.

Ukraine is very conscious of its responsibilities and once again we would like to reconfirm our commitment to the international development established by the Millennium Declaration, and we are ready to provide our support for their achievement.

Ukraine stands ready to be a trusted partner in all political, economic, ecological and humanitarian projects. Ukraine is ready

quately, its membership should reflect present realities.

It would be fair if all regional groups, including the group of Eastern European states, are represented in the council. The voice of the region, which is shaping a new Europe, deserves to be heard.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Sixty years ago Franklin Roosevelt said: "We are to secure our friendship and to share its spirit with the rest of the world. This is not the ultimate end, but, if achieved, we will be empowered to meet the great goal of humanity."

The United Nations managed to establish the foundation for that. We can proceed together to ensure that peace and freedom and fairness for every nation will be achieved.

Thank you for your attention.

The president's speech at the Liberty Medal ceremony

Following is the text of the speech delivered by President Viktor Yushchenko on September 17 in Philadelphia after he received the Liberty Medal. The text was released by the press office of the president of Ukraine.

Ladies and gentlemen!

I am grateful to the United States and U.S. government. I am thankful to the award committee. I am honored to be with you at this wonderful place. I would like to express my special gratitude to the Ukrainian community.

You know, it is very warm and pleasant to see posters reading "Greetings from Tysmenytsia" or "Greetings from Ternopil," hundreds of people dressed in national costumes and dozens of national flags thousands of miles away from my motherland. Thank you so much for this.

Thank you for loving Ukraine however far you live from your country.

I am honored to celebrate your Constitution Day in the city where it matured. More than 200 years ago a bell that bears a divine inscription pealed out to declare its birth.

The sound of that bell still echoes around the world. Nations hear the bell and understand its language. Only freedom can protect such precious things as children, family, work and welfare. Only democracy can make people respect their natural rights granted by the Creator.

Signing the Constitution, its fathers were aware of their lofty mission. "We work for the benefit of all mankind," said Thomas Jefferson. Our history proves that he was right.

The authors of the Constitution and Declaration knew that their creation had

absorbed all precious treasures of freedom. Ukraine also contributed its share to that experience.

The Ukrainian nation is proud of writing Europe's first constitution. Its author, Pylyp Orlyk, was the first national leader who took an oath on the Constitution in 1710. He believed that "rights and liber-

The sound of that [Liberty] bell still echoes around the world. Nations hear the bell and understand its language.

ties are granted to the people by God."

The American Constitution made a breakthrough in that century-long struggle for freedom. I am excited to think this is the place where its triumphant way started. It has been living for almost two centuries. It cannot be stopped by iron curtains or barbed-wire fences. Polish Solidarity, the Czechs' Velvet Revolution and the fall of the Berlin Wall show that democracy changed the whole European continent. The Ukrainian nation is the first to continue these changes in the 21st century.

The peaceful and spectacular Orange Revolution demonstrated its power of freedom. It showed that Ukrainians respected human dignity, justice and independence. These values remain in the hearts of millions of people. They took to streets to battle for these principles. They stood up and won!

Dear ladies and gentlemen:

I am honored to be decorated with the

Philadelphia Liberty Medal.

I am grateful to the Philadelphia Foundation and all the noble people who nominated and supported me. Dear friends, thank you for your respect and support. Thank you for believing in my hard work.

Thank you for this honor. I would like

to reiterate that millions of my fellow citizens will share it with me. They deserve this award for their patience, courage and dignity. I am dedicating this award to all citizens of the free and democratic Ukraine.

The Ukrainian nation chose its democratic way to the future. We will never turn back.

"When freedom takes root, its growth can never be stopped," said George Washington. "Freedom cannot be stopped," repeated the people, standing in the Orange maidan. We will never break this oath.

Freedom and democracy helped the American nation turn deserts and prairies into this wonderful and prosperous country. They encourage Ukrainians to restore their country. Our aim is to make all citizens confident in their future and ensure justice.

We regard our country as a territory of a free, prospering economy and high

social standards. We regard it as a part of united Europe. We see ourselves in this big family of democratic nations.

Ladies and gentlemen:

This road ahead is challenging, but we are ready to overcome it. We have already started to change our life. I am convinced that only a powerful and free nation can achieve such results so fast. You can freely express your opinion in Ukraine. There are no topics or individuals that cannot be discussed or criticized. Next year we will have our first fair elections.

Ukraine should do much to eradicate poverty. However, millions of people are hopeful. Solidarity and responsibility are becoming a norm for the state.

The government wants to be a partner for businesses.

Our democracy is insipient and we should all learn to live in its bright light.

I am convinced that our nation is strong enough to be responsible for the state and its fate. It will never plunge into civil strife. Responsible politicians are uniting to make the country prosper. Democratic changes will only be introduced democratically.

I appreciate your unique respect for the Constitution, which is also manifested at this ceremonial place.

I am sure we can change the Constitution only when all politicians and people reach mutual understanding. It should belong to generations of people and never be re-written to please politicians.

Dear friends:

We will never forget the solidarity

(Continued on page 27)

Yushchenkos and entourage pay a visit to The Ukrainian Museum

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK – Emotions ran high on Friday afternoon, September 16, inside The Ukrainian Museum. The board of trustees, administration and staff members paced nervously in the lobby and looked through the huge windows into the street. Outside, on the sidewalk and across the street, large crowds had gathered. Near the museum entrance, a group of children from St. George Ukrainian Catholic School, clad in embroidered shirts and blouses, some holding colorful bouquets of flowers, moved restlessly, as children tend to do. The people outside peered through the windows into the museum, and both those inside and those outside waited with great anticipation.

The people on the rim of the crowd were rewarded with the first glimpse of the police-led motorcade as it quickly made its way down Sixth Street, to halt in front of the museum. As the doors of the automobile in the center of the motorcade opened, the people could no longer contain themselves, and a huge roar went up, quickly settling into a chant: “Yushchenko! Yushchenko! Yushchenko!”

The man on whose behalf the Orange Revolution was fought and won by the people of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko, president of Ukraine, and Kateryna Yushchenko, the country’s first lady, had come to visit the newly built Ukrainian Museum in New York City.

The president and Mrs. Yushchenko were met in the entryway of the museum by Olha Hnateyko, board president, Maria Shust, director, and Sophia Hewryk, board member. The president and his wife were presented bouquets of flowers – big, bright orange zinnias and delicate pink roses.

Moments like these must be seen and experienced, for they are difficult to describe. In the commotion of everyone trying to get a glimpse of the famous couple, with security people bustling about and flash bulbs exploding on cameras almost every second, President and Mrs. Yushchenko remained remarkably focused on their greeters. Everyone smiled and kissed and embraced, and all of us around this small group felt as if we had known our two visitors all our lives; we just hadn’t seen them in a while.

“Your visit, Mr. President and Mrs. Yushchenko, is a monumental historical event for The Ukrainian Museum, and it will be recorded in golden letters in the history of our institution,” Ms. Hnateyko said in greeting the special guests. She explained to the assembled that the museum, which was founded by the Ukrainian National Women’s League of America almost 30 years ago, was built with the determination and great generosity of the Ukrainian community in the United States. She said that the unwavering dedication of the Ukrainian community to the preservation of its cultural heritage would become apparent as the guests walked through the galleries of this institution. Mrs. Hnateyko delivered her welcome message following the traditional Ukrainian extension of hospitality with bread and salt.

Several days prior to his visit, the museum had received a gift from the president – a tapestry that bears the name “The Paths of Songs” (“The Four Seasons”). This beautiful wall hanging is composed of four separate rectangular panels, each representing a holiday in the Ukrainian calendar – Christmas, Easter, the Summer Solstice and the Feast of the Transfiguration. The tapestry was mounted on a large wall made of natural stone in the museum’s lobby. Upon seeing the decorative wall hanging, the president acknowledged it with a smile and a remarked to his wife that it looked familiar.



Marta Baczynsky

Outside of the museum, enthusiastic crowds wait for the president to arrive.



Andrij Wowk

President Yushchenko tours the Alexander Archipenko exhibit with Dr. Jaroslaw Leshko (left), exhibit curator.



Andrij Wowk

The Ukrainian Museum’s board of trustees, administration and staff with the president and the first lady of Ukraine.

The tapestry was made at the Kosiv National Institute of Applied and Decorative Art and was chosen specifically for the museum by Mrs. Yushchenko. “When I first saw it, I thought it was so beautiful that I cried,” said the first lady of Ukraine. She was delighted to learn that the tapestry, with its symbolic message proclaimed in imagery, rhythm, color and ornamental motifs, is perfectly suited to the museum’s second inaugural exhibition, “The Tree of Life, the Sun and the Goddess,” the theme of which is symbolism in Ukrainian folk art. Mrs. Hnateyko noted that the tapestry will serve as an appropriate introduction to the new exhibition (scheduled to open in November) and “as a valuable addition to the museum’s folk art collection.”

Valeriy Kuchinsky, Ukraine’s ambassador to the United Nations, with his wife, Alla, and Borys Tarasyuk, the country’s acting minister of foreign affairs, accompanied the presidential party. Along with them was the popular boxer Vitalii Klitschko. For this special event the museum also invited Frances Archipenko Gray, the widow of Alexander Archipenko, an exhibition of whose magnificent sculptures opened the new museum in April of this year.

Prof. Jaroslaw Leshko, curator of the museum’s premier inaugural exhibition “Alexander Archipenko: Vision and Continuity” and author of a comprehensive essay on the artist in the exhibition catalogue, accompanied President and Mrs. Yushchenko through the exhibition. The Yushchenkos were attentive and very interest-

(Continued on page 9)

First lady hosts reception celebrating Ukraine's cultural heritage

by Roma Hadzewycz

NEW YORK – While in town with her husband for the World Summit at the United Nations, Ukraine's First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko hosted an elegant reception "to celebrate the Cultural Heritage of Ukraine" at the Ukrainian Institute of America, a landmark end-of-the-19th century mansion located on 79th Street and Fifth Avenue.

Some 50 women, including the first ladies of Poland, Lebanon and Slovakia, and the wife of the U.N. secretary general, attended the event held at midday on Thursday, September 15.

Mrs. Yushchenko welcomed guests at her reception by quoting the words of Ukrainian poet Lina Kostenko, who described newly independent Ukraine as "a new state with a thousand-year-old culture." For many years, the first lady noted, Ukraine was "a hidden nation." The reception at the Ukrainian Institute of America provides "an opportunity to learn about the Ukrainian people," Mrs. Yushchenko continued.

Ukraine's first lady also spoke briefly about the Ukraine 3000 Foundation, a non-governmental charitable organization that aims to promote Ukraine's strategic development through diverse projects in the social, educational and cultural spheres with a view toward the country's past, present and future. She invited all those interested in its wide-ranging goals to work with the foundation, which she chairs.

The event at the Ukrainian Institute of America, located on New York City's famed "Museum Mile," was attended by the U.N. secretary general's wife, Nane Annan; First Ladies Jolanta Kwasniewska of Poland, Silvia Gasparovicova of Slovakia and Andrée Lahoud of Lebanon, along with American political and cultural figures,



Ukraine's First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko with Poland's First Lady Jolanta Kwasniewska descend the staircase at the Ukrainian Institute of America. In the background are photos from the Orange Revolution.

Presidential Press Service

Yushchenkos...

(Continued from page 8)

ed in the exhibit. As the tour proceeded, the president asked numerous pointed questions, according to Prof. Leshko.

Archipenko's quote "It is not exactly the presence of a thing but rather the absence of it that becomes the cause and impulse for creative motivation," which sheds light on one of his prime innovations – volume/space transference, is prominently displayed in the exhibition's main gallery, along with a number of striking works that reflect this principle. President Yushchenko found the idea intriguing, explained Prof. Leshko, and he and the president held a lively discussion on the subject. "It was a distinct honor to present to the president and the first lady the innovative genius of Archipenko and witness their enthusiastic response."

It is known that President Yushchenko is a collector of Ukrainian folk art and has a splendid personal collection. Mrs. Hnateyko said that when she asked the president if he would consider exhibiting his collection in the museum, he responded positively and enthusiastically. In a later interview with Ukrainian television, the museum board president said this would be a magnanimous gesture on Mr. Yushchenko's part to support the museum in this way. An exhibition from the presidential collection would not only add significantly to the museum's prestige, but would also generate enormous interest among the public.

The museum's gift to President Yushchenko was a collection of its exhi-

bition catalogues, including the fully illustrated catalogue from the Archipenko exhibition. Mrs. Yushchenko's gift from the museum was an elegantly framed Jacques Hnizdovsky woodcut, "Fern on Black" (1975).

Before he departed, President Yushchenko signed the museum's guest book. He wrote: "I was proud of what I saw in your (our) museum. Only patriots could accomplish such a challenging task." Mrs. Yushchenko added her compliments by writing "Beautiful museum!"

All too soon the presidential visit ended. President and Mrs. Yushchenko departed the museum, surrounded by their security detail. Outside, the people waited patiently. Once again the cry "Yushchenko! Yushchenko!" resounded. The president shook hands, lovingly touched the faces of children, smiled and waved with infectious joy. He and Mrs. Yushchenko were guided into the waiting automobile, and in a brisk minute they were gone.

In the sudden, quiet aftermath, the people began to disperse, but slowly, lingering to savor the moment. Soon the street was empty. In the museum we milled about, unwilling to let the charged atmosphere of this exciting event dissipate. It had been a long day, a most unusual day, and we were witnesses to history.

The exhibition "Alexander Archipenko: Vision and Continuity" has been extended to October 10. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St. Museum hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

and members of public and charitable organizations, as well as leading Ukrainian American women, among them community activists, professionals and journalists.

Among notables present were: Jeannette Chang, senior vice-president/international publishing director, Hearst International; Susan Kropf of Avon, Avon Products Inc.; Kathryn Martin, senior vice-president, Memorial

Sloan Kettering; Judith Rodin, president, Rockefeller Foundation; Patricia Rosenfield, program director, Carnegie Corp.; Marjorie Tiven, commissioner, New York City Commission for the United Nations; Elizabeth Holtzman, former member of the U.S. Congress from New York; and Georgette Mosbacher, CEO, Borghese Cosmetics.

The reception began with champagne and hors d'oeuvres served on the historic mansion's first floor, where Mrs. Yushchenko mingled with her guests. Afterwards, the reception moved to the institute's second floor, where the first lady formally opened the program. A brief musical interlude was provided by 10-year-old pianist Olha Kalabynina, Ukrainian National Opera soloists Iryna Symonenko and Dmytro Popov, and violinist Dmytro Tkachenko.

Afterwards guests were invited to enjoy more hors d'oeuvres, as well as wines, chocolates and confections from Ukraine.

During the reception guests had an opportunity to view works by artists representing Ukraine's avant-garde, including the paintings of Davyd Burliuk (1882-1967), Abraham Manevych (1881-1942) and Olexander Tyshler (1898-1980).

Sculptures by Alexander Archipenko (1887-1964), one of the 20th century's most important sculptors, also were on view.

Photos of the Orange Revolution were on display on the staircase between the UIA's second and third floors, and large screens on the second-floor landing displayed scenes of Ukraine. Beautiful flower arrangements graced the entire mansion.

The institute's third floor featured an exhibit of art works by children of Ukraine's orphanages and, in another room, stylized versions of costumes from such historic eras as the ancient Scythian period, the work of designer Ludmyla Semykina.

The first lady's reception was coordinated by Vasyl Vovkun, who also produced Kyiv's 2005 celebrations of Ukrainian Independence Day.

The Ukrainian Institute of America building is a French Renaissance mansion designed in 1898 by Charles P.H. Gilbert. It was purchased in 1955 by philanthropist William Dzus, who donated it to the UIA, which had its headquarters in West Islip, N.Y.



Ukraine's first lady is flanked by Nane Annan (left), wife of the U.N. secretary general, and Jolanta Kwasniewska, wife of Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski.

Presidential Press Service

IN THEIR OWN WORDS: Yushchenko and Tymoshenko on the government crisis

President Viktor Yushchenko offered his version of the conflict with former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko during a press briefing with Western and American journalists on September 13 in the Presidential Secretariat building on Bankova Street.

When I began my election campaign, around me was a complicated entourage. (Yulia) Tymoshenko, (Petro) Poroshenko, then (Oleksander) Zinchenko joined. When I traveled in eastern Ukraine, they asked, "Why is a bandit standing next to you?" And then when I crossed the Dnipro into western Ukraine, they said, "Viktor Andriyovych, you have to be with Yulia." I understood there were matters involving her and preceding matters: (\$1.6 billion) in debt to the national budget and (\$300 million) in debt to the Russian Federation. [Editor's note: The amounts were originally cited in hryvni.] I heard a lot about their life stories.

I was convinced of one thing: in this country we need to underline everything. In essence, we have to make this process more democratic – economically, politically. Above all, we are supposed to be building a new country. We declared on the maidan that we were striving for three things: wealth, liberty and progress.

I didn't idealize that every great person might have problems. My hope was that with each of these great people, they would resolve their relations and they wouldn't lay their problems on my shoulders and on the team. I thought that when they received their directions to work and they'd work in those directions, they wouldn't have time to work against each other. That didn't take place, although I had waited seven months for that.

In the last nights, I spent days and nights in the Cabinet just to find a resolution in the team. Not with me. I had no conflicts with anyone. There were conflicts in the team along the lines of Tymoshenko, Poroshenko and Zinchenko. If you look at source of this conflict, then you know there were signs and evidence of the prime minister taking advantage of her position and doing things behind the backs of the team that weren't proper.

The last straw was the privatization of Nikopol Ferroalloy factory. When behind the banks of government, through a system of illegitimate steps, with a legal decision from a higher court, a situation was provoked when thousands of people came out on the streets and stood on the brink of bloodshed. Only because Tymoshenko decided to carry out her own interests, not the government's or the country's interests, striving to obtain mass media in Ukraine and obtain a certain TV channel. She calculated that she could overstep the nation's interests with regard to the Nikopol factory.

This kind of cooperation became impossible. The question arose with this episode: What was going to be next? An aluminous factory, an Odesa factory, the Severodonetsk Azot. But this practice led to the point where I saw with my own eyes the government started to go in different directions and they didn't trust each other.

Several days before the resignations, I made a proposal. There are two paths to resolve the conflict: first, either everyone resigns or we accept partial resignations. The resignations included the National Security and Defense Council secretary, Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) chair, the customs chair and a few ministers who failed to ensure consistent policies. And we'll end it at that. Yulia agreed to this option.

After this, at night, she called a meeting. She called the procurator general and the SBU chief, and suggested that they hold their own press conferences the next morning betraying the option of reconciliation. She called me in the morning and said, "Viktor Andriyovych, I think it's best that I resign." I said fine. That's also an option. Let it be. Afterwards, I invited her to a press conference. I stress that I invited her, "Come and we will discuss the final matter."

When she came here, she started to plead with me to return to the option offered the night before. I said, "Yulia, this is after you organized a late night meeting of enforcement heads, you pressured the procurator general, after what you did with the judges, after Tomenko has already appeared on television, and he had already given his press conference at this point. This is after the president had made a decision and you judged him amongst a different circle.

I listened to hundreds of her prayers and spells that we are together, and that I'm not going anywhere, and so forth. I saw each time that in reality her actions were different. The country began to decay during these seven months. This was obvious. My view was that if we didn't stop this process, it would become a lot worse.

I am convinced the theme of corruption was floated because there was no other reason for the conflict in the team other than the prime minister's behavior. But only decent people recognize this: strong people, honest people. And that's why I don't regret for a single second my decision. For the last four days, I've been able to calmly go to work. The government's work is rational. The next year's budget is being formulated. In political circles, intrigues have declined. No one is calling the procurator general and telling him where he's supposed to be, and so forth.

Think please: In any country would it be possible to say that a fabricated

(Continued on page 27)

Former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko offered her version of the conflict with President Viktor Yushchenko on September 9 on live national television on the Inter network.

This group from the president's inner circle realized that they should save their skins. They put the president in an extremely difficult situation. They were looking for a way out. When I felt that this critical situation started to avalanche, the president invited a broader circle that included Poroshenko, (Roman) Bezsmertnyi, (Mykola) Martynenko and other people. There I heard things which simply scared me.

It turned out that this team gathered to voice their complaints against me, to formalize them and to state that it is their decision to dismiss everyone – Poroshenko, (Oleksander) Tretiakov, the Cabinet – and in doing so to put an end to the scandal which took place. I heard things that I think will remain in my head for the rest of my life. Martynenko took the floor and said that I am implementing a special project against the president and that Zinchenko is part of my program to ruin the president's authority.

You know how inappropriate these people are. They do not understand that Zinchenko, who has been through a colossal stage in his life, you know that he was on the verge of death, that this man managed to rise above all these petty squabbles, over all this filth, over insincerity. This man's courage cannot be someone's program, project, or someone's terrible idea or conspiracy. I should say that they simply do not understand that a man like Zinchenko will not tolerate this and he is not my special project.

Then the president took the floor and said that he is absolutely indignant that I personally created such a situation in the state that in the media the president looks weak and incapable of running things, while the prime minister seems strong, efficient, and that he would never allow this to continue. He said that there are

other countries – Russia and Belarus. He said, "Look at Putin or Lukashenka." They have brilliant prime ministers. No one ever sees them on television.

The second serious claim against me was that I should not head the Cabinet in a manner that I give my public results of the Cabinet's performance, but everything that is happening in the Cabinet should be simply passed onto the presidential administration. Then after the president makes an announcement, I should simply do my routine job.

Dear friends, I am saying honestly that all this had ruined my hope. No claim was leveled against me in that I failed to do something in the economy or in the social sector. Because the president is a good economist and a good financier, and he knows better than anyone else about what has been done in this country. By the way, the president said this on the maidan when we marked Independence Day.

Then they told me that I had failed to come to terms with the president's inner circle, with his team, and that I should have done so. And after this I tried to prove that this was absurd, that the president's fears that I will run in the election separately were absurd. I want to work in a team, I want to be close, I want to be a supporter of the president. By the way, nothing has changed for me.

I do not want these people to be frustrated, their hearts broken, their families separated if one is for Yushchenko and another for Tymoshenko. For this reason I told the president that we should put this aside because I do not have to come to terms with his team. I need to have a president who lends me a hand, and this should be the hand of a friend.

Three days and half a night of these talks and after that – I think this is a key point – I was presented with a very clear set of conditions. The first condition was that I had to extend my hand, not to the president, but to his team – Poroshenko, Martynenko, Tretiakov, Bezsmertnyi. That I should give them a hand. But how could I extend my hand to them if their hands are constantly busy stealing something?

By the way, this idea to sack everyone at the same time – the Cabinet and those who were suspected of corruption – this idea came from Roman Petrovych Bezsmertnyi. I can say that this was a unique, destructive idea. I have just remembered how Bezsmertnyi proposed this territorial reform and traveled to his native village to present it. He almost got beaten up just for proposing it in his native village. He barely escaped from there.

Such experiments must not be made in the country. That is why I told the president that instead of shaking hands with his entourage, I was ready to shake his hand personally, and to be by his side under any circumstances in any moment.

The second condition, which was set clearly, was that I had to close my door to the people who did a lot to help me work, to help the government work and to help the country work. I was presented with a condition that I could not have any political agreements on forming election teams with the Reform and Order Party, the Ukrainian People's Party led by Yurii Kostenko and that I had to publicly support Poroshenko, Tretiakov and Martynenko, to say that they were honest and moral people who had been slandered. At the same time, I had to publicly condemn Oleksander Zinchenko and I could not include him into my bloc's election list under any circumstances.

Another condition was that I sign decrees to dismiss those Cabinet members

(Continued on page 27)

Quotable notes

"I personally participated in all the consultations undertaken by the president during this crisis. As far as this process was under strong public scrutiny and all the details became well-known to the mass media and the whole society, I would limit myself only to drawing a conclusion.

"And my conclusion is that these events are evidence of democracy, a part of a democratic process in my country. This is the main substance of what happened. In analyzing this process one should not be lost in details. Then one will see the whole forest – not just the trees.

"I regret that yesterday's brothers in arms, who had gone through extremely difficult years of fighting for democracy, follow different paths today. But this is what we mean by democracy – the right of people to choose freely their way and to follow it without fear to be punished for their political views.

"There is no tragedy here – even if we are perfectly aware that unity among national-democratic forces is better for the country and internal skirmish is not."

– Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk, speaking on September 19 in Washington at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, as reported by the Action Ukraine Report.

"We continue to believe the Ukrainian government is headed in the right direction. ...

"The job we [the United States] have is to be a good friend of Ukraine and support the reforms and to encourage private investment and have them work with us on the security issues that are so important for the world."

– U.S. Undersecretary of State Nicholas Burns, commenting on September 15 at the United Nations, where President Viktor Yushchenko met with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, as reported by the Associated Press and the Reuters news service.

"If this is not a political crisis and the collapse of the 'Orange project,' I don't know what else would represent a similar collapse."

– Petro Symonenko, leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine, as quoted by the RIA Novosti news service on September 16.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Slava Hausler Lew, daughter of Olesia Lew and Pete Hausler of Brooklyn, N.Y., is a new member of UNA Branch 5. Slava was enrolled by her grandparents Oksana and Wasyl Lew of Vienna, Va. The entire Lew family belongs to Branch 5.



Markian Roman Voronovych, son of Roman Woronowycz and Victoria Voronovych of Kyiv, is a new member of UNA Branch 175. He was enrolled by his grandparents Myron and Anna Woronowycz.



Quinlan William Bobeczko, son of Gregory William and Kristin Lynn Bobeczko of Geneva, Ill., and grandson of Daniel and Oksana Bobeczko, is a new member of UNA Branch 102. He was enrolled by his great-grandparents Nicholas Bobeczko, who is branch secretary, and Mary Szmagala Bobeczko.



Sebastian Powzaniuk, son of Tatiana and Dorian Powzaniuk of Monroe, N.Y., is a new member of UNA Branch 88. He was enrolled by his grandparents Lesia and Roman Batorfalvy.



Roman Alexander and Bryce Patrick Lucyshyn, twin sons of Patricia Hoin Lucyshyn and Paul Alexander Lucyshyn of Lawrenceville, Ga., are new members of UNA Branch 423. They were enrolled by their grandparents Myron R. and Theresa R. Lucyshyn.



William Sergey and Joseph Alexey Zubinski, newly adopted sons of Anthony and Rita Zubinski of Niles, Ill., are new members of UNA Branch 125. They were enrolled by their great-grandaunt Katerina Hulchiy, who is a former secretary of Branch 425.

National Fraternal Congress names Fraternalist of the Year

OAK BROOK, Ill. – The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA) announced that Lois L. Maurer, a member of Catholic Knights, from Marshfield, Wis., is the 2005 Fraternalist of the Year. Ms. Maurer was recognized at the “Celebration of Fraternalism” luncheon held this month at the 119th NFCA annual meeting in Milwaukee.

“Lois Maurer is a shining example of what it means to be a fraternalist,” said NFCA President and CEO Frederick H. Grubbe. “We are pleased to honor Lois for selflessly giving her time to serve her community in so many ways.”

The national award is given annually to recognize the nation’s top volunteer among the almost 10 million members affiliated with the NFCA’s member-societies. The award goes to a fraternal benefit society member who has provided outstanding volunteer service in his/her community and excellent leadership in his/her local chapter throughout the past year. Ms. Maurer received an award trophy and a \$1,000 donation to the charity of her choice.

This year, Ms. Maurer chose to split the contribution between two charities: Children’s Miracle Network – St. Joseph Hospital and the Marshfield American Legion Baseball Corporation. Each of these charities will receive a \$500 honorarium.

Ms. Maurer has been a member of Catholic Knights for 47 years, and has spent 41 of those years in service as a branch officer in various positions. In the past year she planned a recognition dinner

for seven branches, the annual picnic and the annual business meeting. She coordinated a scholarship program and worked in fund-raising activities for Sacred Heart Parish and Columbus High School.

On Mother’s Day, Ms. Maurer sold roses to benefit Hannah House, a home for unwed mothers, and on Father’s Day, carnations to benefit Morality in Media, an organization that works to raise media standards in the Marshfield area.

“Lois is a dedicated volunteer with a passion for doing good in her community,” said Michael Stivorik, NFCA immediate past chair of the board and vice-president of fraternal operations at Catholic Knights. “To find Lois at home is unusual due to her many volunteer commitments.”

A self-proclaimed “tomboy at heart,” Ms. Maurer continues to support baseball by serving on the board of the American Legion’s Junior and Senior Baseball Corp. and working food stands and dinners to raise funds to support the leagues. She is the American Legion Auxiliary’s poppy chairman and has been active with the Camp Fire Girls Inc. and Boy Scouts of America.

She continues to involve the youth from these organizations through Join Hands Day projects, Make a Difference Day, parish activities and her American Legion duties. In fact, volunteering is one of the qualifications of her scholarship program, and she provides many opportunities for youth to get involved.

*Visit the websites
of the UNA’s publications:*

www.ukrweekly.com
www.svoboda-news.com

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The latest from Ukraine

If you're confused about this week's developments in Ukraine, there's no need to apologize. It was one of those weeks ... just about when you thought you'd figured things out, something else happened and you were confused again. And that was the case through deadline day for us – Thursday – when the Verkhovna Rada voted to approve Yuriy Yekhanurov as Ukraine's new prime minister, this after failing to approve him two days earlier.

First there was the soap opera revolving around ex-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Was she in the opposition? Or was she trying to call a cease-fire, or make peace, or perhaps even reunite with her fellow Orange Revolutionaries? Who knows? On September 14 she said she and Viktor Yushchenko could rejoin forces for the parliamentary elections of March 2006 if the president would "recognize his mistake"; one week later she said she was ready to work with the president to form a new Cabinet if he made peace with her. "I am ready to give him a helping hand," she said on September 21. But, on September 9 she had suggested on TV that orange and blue (the color of the Yanukovich campaign) make up the Ukrainian flag, asserting that she wants to unite Ukraine.

In the meantime, President Yushchenko was holding consultations with leaders of Ukraine's parties and the Verkhovna Rada's factions. The result was some sort of amorphous Declaration of Unity and Cooperation for the Future. Among the signatories to the pact was Viktor Yanukovich's Party of the Regions, but not the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. Mr. Yushchenko also met with Mr. Yanukovich, his archrival from the 2004 presidential race; each man claimed the other had requested the meeting.

The newfound unity wasn't strong enough, however, to have the president's nominee for prime minister approved by Parliament on September 20. Mr. Yekhanurov missed approval by three votes (he needed 226 for a simple majority).

Mr. Yekhanurov was ultimately confirmed on a second vote by the Rada – this time with 63 votes to spare. Interestingly, just half an hour before the vote Mr. Yushchenko signed some sort of pact with Mr. Yanukovich. That was the bombshell of the week. Stay tuned – the details are sure to leak out.

In short, it was a week during which enemies became partners and partners became opponents. A pertinent question is: has the loss of team spirit, as President Yushchenko described the unraveling of his first government, now been followed by the loss of a team? And what lies ahead for Ukraine? The first indication should come with the appointment of the Cabinet of Ministers; Prime Minister Yekhanurov has said that two-thirds of his Cabinet will be composed of new people.

The chief goal of the new government – one that has been articulated by both the president and his prime minister – is stability. But will the cost of stability be stagnation as all of Ukraine looks ahead to the parliamentary elections? Will pragmatism mean a loss of ideals? And what will happen to the reforms pledged during the Orange Revolution? And let's not forget the charges of corruption leveled earlier this month, the new revelations that Russian oligarch Boris Berezovskii financed the Yushchenko campaign, and the signs that Ukraine now appears to be leaning toward working within the Single Economic Space favored by Moscow. All these matters, and more, await clarity.

In a nutshell, as our Kyiv Press Bureau chief tells us: "It's a wait-and-see situation." We'll try to sort it all out as more information comes in.

Sept.
30
1990

Turning the pages back...

Fifteen years ago, on September 30, 1990, more than 100,000 people marched through the streets of the Ukrainian capital to call for Ukraine's independence and to demonstrate their vehement opposition to the proposed union treaty with

Moscow. Western news services reported that the demonstration was the largest held in Kyiv (or Kiev as the name of the city was spelled in those days) in more than 70 years of Soviet rule.

The protest began with a mid-afternoon rally outside the city's main stadium where speaker after speaker – among them deputies of the Ukrainian Parliament, leaders of the Popular Movement of Ukraine for Perebudova (Rukh), the Ukrainian Republican Party, the Green World environmental association, the Ukrainian National Democratic Party, the Association of Independent Ukrainian Youth (SNUM) and the Ukrainian Women's Association – stressed that signing a new union treaty would mean continued subjugation of the Ukrainian nation.

According to the Ukrainian Republican Party's press service, Respublika, the speakers also called for the resignation of Leonid Kravchuk, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet, and of the party-ruled government headed by Vitaliy Masol, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

Calls were heard also for realization of the principles enumerated in the historic July 16 Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine, shutting down the Chornobyl nuclear power station and nationalization of all property in Ukraine owned by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Afterwards, the throng marched down the capital city's main boulevard, the Khreschatyk, carrying slogans such as "Mother Moscow: we want to be orphans" and "Long live the Communist Party – at the Chornobyl power plant," and chanting "Down with the union treaty," reported the Associated Press and United Press International.

Similar demonstrations, according to Respublika, were held in Ivano-Frankivsk, Donetsk and Lviv. Previously, demonstrations protesting a new union treaty were held throughout Ukraine on Sunday, September 16.

Source: "100,000 in Kiev [Kyiv] march to protest union treaty," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, October, 1990, Vol. LVIII, No. 40.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Assessing Ukraine: Anders Aslund responds to Alexander Motyl

by Anders Aslund

In *The Ukrainian Weekly* (August 14), Alexander Motyl faults me for being overly critical of the Yushchenko-Tymoshenko government, with reference to my *Washington Post* article (May 18) on Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's economic policies. By happenstance, I did not have time to respond before the Yushchenko-Tymoshenko team fell apart, but let me deal with the substantial arguments.

First, *The Washington Post* put the title "Orange Revolution Betrayed" on my op-ed article. As any writer should know, you do not choose the headline of an op-ed article. This is the prerogative of the newspaper editors. Since I did not use the words "betray" or "betrayal" anywhere in the article, nobody can accuse me of having used such a word.

Second, Prof. Motyl complains that the new Ukrainian government was criticized for its loud disagreements. Well, that government fell apart three weeks after the publication of his article. We would be very poor observers if we did not focus on the splits in a regime just before its collapse. A prime minister who publicly criticizes individual businessmen and members of her government of all kinds of immoral acts is an unusual occurrence worthy of attention. So is a president's repeated repudiation of his prime minister's major decisions. The discord in the former Ukrainian government was just extraordinary. To tell people not to pay attention to it is neither sensible nor realistic.

Third, Prof. Motyl also reacts against excessive discussion of the government's corruption (without reference to me). Well, since the government finally fell apart, President Viktor Yushchenko has accused former Prime Minister Tymoshenko of personal malfeasance to the order of 8 billion hryvnia, that is, almost \$1.6 billion. Current and former administration members are hurling multi-million-dollar corruption accusations against one another. This is rather unusual. If we think that corruption is a bad thing, which of course we do, we had better pay attention to these interesting accusations.

Anders Aslund is director of the Russian and Eurasian Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Corruption must never be swept under the carpet.

Fourth, Prof. Motyl dislikes the criticism of the Tymoshenko government's populist economic policies, arguing that every sensible government is populist in order to win elections. Yes, but to a degree. The Tymoshenko government's populism was just extraordinary, both in principle and in its effects. Over the past five years, Ukraine's GDP has grown by an annual average of 8.4 percent. Last year, it surged by 12.1 percent. During the first eight months of 2005, Ukraine's GDP increased by only 2.8 percent over the same period in 2004. The growth rate has fallen every month but July, and in August Ukraine's GDP contracted by 1.6 percent. Clearly, the Ukrainian economy is heading to a dismal growth rate of 2 to 3 percent this year. This is a unique deterioration. Last June, monthly GDP fell for the first time since 1999.

As I indicated last May, this decline can be explained almost entirely by the former government's economic policy. The main problem was the government's re-privatization debate, which undermined all property rights, leading to plummeting investment and construction (after a massive boom). Another concern was a massive increase in the total tax burden. A third issue was the willful and arbitrary intervention by the former prime minister in the economy, attempting to regulate prices and trade in gasoline, meat and grain. Promised market economic reforms, by contrast, were not delivered. For any economist commenting on Ukrainian economic policy, it would be dishonest not to pass a clear judgment.

For the rest, Prof. Motyl does two things. First, he emphasizes domestic political and democratic achievements. I agree. The current democratization is the main thing. The foreign policy changes after the Orange Revolution are also to be welcomed as great achievements, but that does not make the awful economic policies any better, and that happens to be my professional preoccupation.

Second, he falls into the old Ukrainian whining about how poor Ukraine is and how it has suffered throughout its history, and therefore nothing can be demanded from it. But many other nations have also suffered. Most of Ukraine's neigh-

(Continued on page 26)

Quotable notes

"Walk down Long Market Street, past the shops selling amber beads and cavalry swords, through the medieval gates of the city of Gdansk, Poland. Cross the highway, head toward the shipyard and look up. When I did so a few days ago, I saw an enormous billboard featuring a list of cities: 'Gdansk. Budapest. Prague. Berlin. Bucharest. Sofia. Kiev [sic].' The list makes it clear that the 1980 Gdansk shipyard strikes, which broke the state's monopoly of power in the Soviet bloc and created the independent Solidarity trade union, set the pattern for the democratic revolutions that rolled across Eastern Europe in 1989 and that continue to roll across the nations of the former Soviet Union today. ..."

"But what is most interesting about the billboard and the exhibit, along with the multiple conferences, concerts and celebrity speeches taking place in Gdansk this week, is the fact that they are happening at all. Until recently, it wasn't easy to find public displays of pride in Poland's democratic revolution. Five years ago, on the 20th anniversary of the founding of Solidarity, giant screens set up to relay celebratory speeches to the citizens of Gdansk attracted no more than 50 or 60. Far from seeing themselves as part of a peaceful revolution that stretched from Gdansk in 1980 to Kiev in 2004, most Poles associated the collapse of communism with corrupt politics and personal hardship. ..."

– Columnist Anne Applebaum, writing in the August 31 issue of *The Washington Post*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let's get away from the negative

Dear Editor:

I am not Ukrainian, but I am married to a Ukrainian. I like Ukraine and I am always very surprised when letters in The Ukrainian Weekly, from people with Ukrainian names, say bad things about Ukraine. In the past month we have had letters bemoaning the "wilting of the orange blossoms" and saying that the women in Kyiv who wear rather revealing clothes are prostitutes, that no one in Kyiv speaks Ukrainian and that, in general, Ukraine is a terrible place to visit.

My wife and I just returned from a four-week research trip to Ukraine, where we had a wonderful time. I'd like to pick up on some of the points the previous letters raised.

Everyone we spoke to in Ukraine, from those in Kyiv to villagers, were much more realistic than we are in the West about the Orange Revolution. "Miracles cannot happen overnight," was the usual comment. What we did feel was an energy and enthusiasm that were not there during our last visit in 2001. I have been to Ukraine many times since my first visit in 1987. Perhaps because each visit was separated from the previous by a few years, I see dramatic changes for the better each time. People are increasingly able to make a living and are increasingly able to enjoy life.

To comment on clothing: My wife and I would often sit and drink a beer in a cafe on Vulytsia Industrialna (Industrial Street) on the way home to our apartment, or at a table on the maidan (Independence Square) and watch the "fashion show." Indeed, many of the outfits worn by the women were quite revealing, but I suspect that not all these women were prostitutes. Our very good female friend in Kyiv, a proper lady in her early 40s, will go out shopping wearing a fairly translucent pair of white pants (thong visible from the rear). This is topped with a gauzy blouse that shows her bra, lace upper portion fully visible. We, who actually know this person, realize that our friend has quite enough to do working in retail and in a clinic, and that her jobs bring in a good income which she would never consider supplementing in the way her outfit would imply to some people. As for the outfit – it happens to be contemporary Ukrainian fashion. Similar outfits were worn by the staff and the secretaries at the Academy of Sciences Institute, where we attended a conference.

Concerning the Ukrainian language: I have only had one year of Ukrainian language instruction so cannot comment in detail, but my wife assures me that in the buses, the metro, the kiosks and the stores in Kyiv, the predominant language is Ukrainian. Perhaps in the Hotel Dnipro and restaurants on the Khreshchatyk, Russian is preferred. We do not know. Ukrainian is the language of choice among the ordinary folk, the ones who live and work in the less affluent sections of Kyiv. Certainly, in the villages few people even understand Russian.

Let us get away from the negative aspects. Everywhere in the villages where we lived three weeks, we saw improvements in lifestyle and attitude. Many people have installed electric pumps on their wells. In Ploske, my wife interviewed a young man who had built a gym with his friends. It has equipment they made from old automobile parts. Their willingness to improvise like this shows laudatory initiative, in my opinion.

In Yavorivka, the 200-year-old church which was forcibly converted into a granary by the Soviets is being rescued by the villagers, with no outside help. We interviewed four very nice, very dedicated young priests. A village farmer who had a car in 2001 now has a tractor and a new car

and just bought a computer for his children.

The people in Kyiv have time to sit at cafés and have a beer, rather than just trying to round up two more people to share a bottle of horilka, as in the past. While we were having our "brown bag" lunch of bread and cheese with a beer we bought on the maidan, the woman flower seller shared her lettuce with us, with a smile. The people are smiling, not leering.

I think the loosening up of the visa requirements for U.S. and Canadian citizens should encourage the diaspora to return to Ukraine for a visit.

Peter W. Holloway
Edmonton

The letter-writer is emeritus professor of biochemistry and molecular genetics at the University of Alberta.

Alumni proud of SUNY Potsdam

Dear Editor:

It was a great surprise that I read in the School of Education and Professional Studies Newsletter an article about Ukraine. I am a graduate of the State University of New York at Potsdam with B.S. and M.S. degrees in education. The article stated that a \$300,000 Freedom Grant from the U.S. Department of State was awarded to Dr. Ed Portugal, chair of the business administration department at SUNY Potsdam, and that John Nixon, professor of psychology at SUNY Canton, brought five faculty from Ukraine to campus for the 2004-2005 academic year.

The grant goals included creation of a new SUNY International Business Management Certificate program and development and implementation of a new Small Business Development and Resource Center for Southern Ukraine at Kherson. Exchange faculty and staff from all three campuses traveled between northern New York and southern Ukraine.

One component of the project came to fruition when the Ukrainian Studies Center, housed at Dunn Hall on the SUNY Potsdam campus, officially opened on March 24 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

During the fall semester Prof. Nixon and Dr. Portugal worked closely with Dr. Iryna Tsobrova, Dr. Nataliya Tyukhtenko and Leonid Zhryrov to advise and guide them in the right direction for reaching their goals while researching at SUNY Potsdam. Dr. Tyukhtenko and Mr. Zhryrov returned to Ukraine in December. Dr. Kira Baysha and Yaroslava Fedorova joined Dr. Tsobrova in January. During the spring semester, Prof. Nixon and Dr. Donna Mosier, associate professor and interim chair of business administration, continued to advise and facilitate the Ukraine faculty. Dr. Portugal, on leave from SUNY Potsdam, worked with faculty at Kherson State University for seven weeks during the semester.

Dr. Tsobrova worked as a translator and taught classes at SUNY Canton and SUNY Potsdam. Dr. Tyukhtenko, Mr. Zhryrov, Dr. Baysha and Ms. Fedorova worked on researching small business development while attending classes at SUNY Potsdam to facilitate their understanding of Potsdam's teaching practices and business course content. The group gave numerous on- and off-campus presentations on Ukraine's history and culture, and their activities at SUNY Potsdam.

My husband, William, and I were proud to see the Ukrainian Studies Center on the Potsdam campus.

Gloria Misnick
Corning, N.Y.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



Subject: What's happening in Ukraine?

A friend sent me an e-mail: "What's happening in Ukraine?" Like so many others, he had followed the Orange Revolution and rooted for Viktor Yushchenko and the millions of ordinary citizens who stood in the December cold in towns and cities throughout Ukraine, most notably the maidan in Kyiv, where huge crowds gathered daily for speeches, prayer, rock 'n roll and television cameras that beamed images from the stage onto giant screens high above the crowd and to hundreds of millions of homes throughout the world.

What people saw was a man of uncommon courage rallying his people to rise against entrenched politicians who had stolen the election for president. Viktor Yushchenko, movie-star handsome at the beginning of the campaign, offered his poison-ravaged face as a symbol of what was wrong with his country. The smell of conspiracy, intrigue and an ever-present threat of state-sanctioned violence, stoked the fervor and idealism of the masses, who demanded no less than an honest election. For a nation that had seen more than its share of revolutions, that was revolutionary.

The Orange Revolution, in fact, was a continuation of the one from a dozen years earlier, when Ukrainians and others rose up against the Soviet system. Kyiv has plenty of reminders of the Soviet era: drab apartment buildings, clunky cars, the Russian language, a couple of Lenin statues, sidewalk vendors with gold teeth selling hammer-and-sickle badges and busts of Stalin, mass graves in the Bykivnia Forest.

The 1991 revolution was animated by an overwhelming sentiment to sweep away 75 years of communism, during which Ukrainians endured terror, a man-made famine, a world war and wholesale assaults on their language and culture. The dissident movement, which began in the 1960s as a lonely struggle waged by a few individuals, by the late 1980s had escalated into a mass movement. Once the uprising became unstoppable, professional politicians took over: men like Ukraine's Leonid Kravchuk, Russia's Boris Yeltsin and Georgia's Eduard Shevardnadze, who had risen to power in the same system they were now dismantling. As a result, what started as a revolution ended as a compromise.

Independent Ukraine adopted all the forbidden accouterments of national sovereignty: the trident, blue-and-yellow flag, Ukrainian language, anthem and currency, an army, free speech and democracy. In return, the apparatchiks who had previously punished people for advocating Ukraine's ancient colors and symbols, got to remain in power. Obliging, they removed Lenin's portrait and, on the very same nail, replaced it with Taras Shevchenko's. Ignoring all the dozens of political parties that emerged, a handful of insiders worked to maintain the power they had enjoyed in the Soviet era. Privatization of government assets became an excuse for a privileged few to amass fortunes in manufacturing, energy, the media, food production.

Out of this tangle, a central banker – the technocrat who had laid the foundation for a stable currency and economic growth – emerged as a reformer, putting together a coalition he called Our Ukraine, implicitly aligning himself against "Their Ukraine." Promising to orient Ukraine on Europe and the West, Mr. Yushchenko adopted the color orange and the slogan "Yes!" (Tak!). As we all know, what began as a political campaign, ended up as a revolution.

Now it's history. Following the formula of every revolution that preceded it, the Orange Revolution has given way to practical politics. President Yushchenko dismissed his government, including a number of officials who had stood shoulder to shoulder with him at the maidan. They were still his friends, the revolutionary-turned-president said, but he dismissed them nonetheless. He had his reasons. Certainly, there's no shortage of political analyses explaining it all. Never mind that they range from A to Z, black to white, triumph to catastrophe.

Ukraine is a rich land, blessed with abundant natural resources, fertile soil and a strategic location. Maybe that's why it's been burdened with so much history. Lots of monuments in Kyiv testify to that.

Bohdan Khmelnytsky, who liberated Ukraine from Poland in 1648, establishing the first independent state in Ukraine since the days of Kyivan Rus', sits frozen on a rearing steed next to the 1,000-year-old Cathedral of St. Sophia. A few blocks away, there's Taras Shevchenko. His poetry in the 1800s mobilized a nation of serfs to rise up against imperial Russia. Nearby, the scholarly Mykhailo Hrushevsky sits, book in hand. In 1918 with the Russian empire buried in the mud and gore of World War I, he stood at St. Sophia Square, next to Hetman Khmelnytsky and declared Ukrainian independence, even as Vladimir Lenin was setting up a rival government that ultimately seized power and presided over a 75-year reign of terror, famine and stagnation.

Like the nesting dolls sold at sidewalk stands all over Kyiv, Ukrainian history opens up to one revolution after the other – 1648, 1918, 1991, 2004 – all pursuing the forbidden goal Shevchenko articulated in his poetry in the 1840s: "In your own Home, your own Truth, Power and Freedom!"

At the maidan – Independence Square – a giant column commemorates the 1991 revolution that swept away the Soviet Union. So far, there's no monument to the Orange Revolution, unless you count the T-shirts and other orange souvenirs the sidewalk vendors sell throughout Kyiv. With the first anniversary of the dramatic days of last December soon upon us, serious work still needs to be done. I don't know Mr. Yushchenko's deepest thoughts, but you have to think that, every morning when he looks in the mirror, he reinforces his resolve to frustrate the plots of his would-be assassins. The best way to do that is to fulfill the promise of the revolutions of 1648, 1918, 1991 and the Orange one he led last year.

Those Mr. Yushchenko dismissed include the charismatic former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who declared her outrage and vowed to challenge Mr. Yushchenko in the coming parliamentary elections and then in the presidential election of 2009.

Think about that: to settle political differences, a leading figure threatens her opponent with a vigorous campaign in an honest election. If that's what ultimately happens, I can't help but think that the Orange Revolution will have been justified. The winners will be the people of Ukraine who courageously acted on their faith in democracy.

So, what's happening in Ukraine? Just look at the forest of construction cranes on Kyiv's horizon. In more ways than one, Ukraine is a work in progress.

Andrew Fedynsky's e-mail address is: fedynsky@stratos.net.

Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund's new name reflects long-term mission

SHORT HILLS, N.J. – The Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund has officially changed its name to the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund following the recommendations of its board of directors and based on strategic planning discussions that began last fall during the fund's 15th anniversary convention. A press release announcing the name change was issued on September 18.

"The inclusion of the word 'development' may be self-explanatory to many of our supporters who have been following our programs in recent years," said Executive Director Alexander Kuzma. "Our board wanted our name to better reflect the true nature of our mission. For many years now, we have been providing less in the way of emergency 'relief' and much more in the form of state-of-the-art technology, training and instruments that can help Ukrainian hospitals improve their infrastructure. Our long-term objective is to enable our partners to achieve sustainable development and to radically improve the quality of care in their institutions."

Established in the fall of 1989, CCRDF rapidly became the leading medical aid provider to Ukraine. Under the leadership of Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky and Nadia Matkiwsky, the fund has established hospital partnerships with children's medical centers in more than 15 cities, including Chernihiv, Zhytomyr, Lviv, Kyiv, Odesa, Lutsk, Rivne, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi.

In the early years, the fund delivered massive amounts of aid aboard large Soviet-built aircraft including the

Antonov-225 Mriya, the largest airplane in the world. Since 1992 it has relied on the U.S. State Department to provide planes and fuel to carry out its relief missions. The fund has launched 31 airlifts and 15 sea shipments, delivering more than 1,300 tons valued at \$53 million.

"Even nearly 20 years after the Chernobyl disaster, our partner hospitals are still providing treatment for large numbers of children stricken with leukemia, birth defects, cancer and immune deficiencies," said CCRDF co-founder Dr. Matkiwsky. "In addition to children's hospitals, we have begun to focus more of our activities on maternity centers and perinatal centers to help improve prenatal care, and to reduce the large number of pregnancy complications and birth defects that have appeared in recent years."

The fund has established model neonatal intensive care units that have helped to dramatically improve infant survival rates in several of its partner hospitals. Its pediatric oncology programs are now helping doctors in Kharkiv, Rivne and Zhytomyr to combat rare forms of cancer.

"We have by no means abandoned our core mission: to address the human legacy and to combat the long-term effects of the world's worst environmental disaster," said Mr. Kuzma. "As a new generation of Ukrainians is born with severe birth defects and immune deficiencies, we must now work harder than ever to save the lives of the 'grandchildren of Chernobyl' and to help improve the pregnancy outcomes of many young women who were exposed to radiation in their

childhood. But we are now integrating that mission into a strategy of long-term, sustainable development."

As an example of this strategy, CCRDF cited the success of its hospitals in Lutsk, Odesa and Dnipropetrovsk. In Lutsk, technology and training provided by CCRDF helped to save the lives of premature infants, but the hospital and CCRDF have steadily built on these early successes, developing programs in endoscopy, genetic research and laboratory diagnostics to enable doctors in the Volyn Oblast to address a multitude of health problems. The Lutsk physicians are providing emergency services to impoverished villages on the outskirts of Volyn province, and helping to strengthen programs in neighboring provinces. The hospital recently obtained a major grant from the Swiss government that it shared with hospitals in Rivne and Ivano-Frankivsk.

In Odesa and Lviv, CCRDF is working to develop new programs in infant cardiac surgery. Until last year, nearly all cardiac surgeries in Ukraine were performed in Kyiv at the Amosov Institute, but even operating at full capacity, the institute could save only 380 of the 8,000 infants born each year with life-threatening cardiac defects.

"We knew we had to decentralize this surgical monopoly, even though we have immense respect for the Kyiv physicians," said Dr. Matkiwsky. In 2004 the fund organized a national conference on early diagnosis of cardiac anomalies. It provided a heart-lung machine, a cardiac

ultrasound and other critical instruments to enable doctors in Lviv and Odesa to perform open heart surgeries.

"We believe that the future of CCRDF is very bright," said board member Leonard Mazur, who recently visited Ukraine to meet with in-country staff and health officials. In recent months, the fund has received grants from major corporations such as UMC Communications, Philip-Morris and Cargill and support from Ukrainian celebrities such as the Eurovision star Ruslana. The Yushchenko administration has also shown strong support for the fund recognizing its many contributions to health care improvements in the country.

"Over the past 15 years, we've been very blessed with talented and creative volunteers and staff who have enabled us to move to the next level," said co-founder Nadia Matkiwsky. "Our commitment is to high-impact, sustainable programs, and our new name more accurately expresses this commitment."

"Ukraine's health crisis remains very severe," said Mr. Kuzma. "Its hospitals and orphanages are in dire need of financial and material support. Thanks to the Orange Revolution Ukrainian business leaders are beginning to understand the importance of charitable giving and community responsibility. But our diaspora also needs to become much more aggressive in providing meaningful, long-term assistance. We cannot be satisfied with token efforts or symbolic gestures. CCRDF has proven that well-planned, intensive efforts can produce measurable results."

ClickUkraine education project aims to help Ukraine's children

by Alana Malick and Vadim Ostrovsky

WASHINGTON – The odds are against orphaned children in Ukraine who have big dreams in the field of technology. Fourteen-year-old Stas, just one of the thousands of foster children who are part of the legacy of the Soviet Union, has dreams of becoming a computer technician. Now his chances are improving thanks to a new education initiative fittingly called ClickUkraine.

ClickUkraine is the brainchild of another young Ukrainian, Vadim Ostrovsky, who conceived the idea while an intern at the Washington-based U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

With the Foundation's backing, the international development project took

on a grass-roots approach to providing Ukraine's orphanages and foster homes with computer equipment and technical education programs. Ukrainian-born Mr. Ostrovsky was studying at Averett University in Danville, Va., when he invited local Rotaract Clubs, from both Dan River and Capital City, to join the foundation in launching ClickUkraine.

Also collaborating in the effort is the Kobzar Society, a non-profit organization based in Lehigh, Pa., that provides refurbished computers to libraries, universities and secondary schools. The Kobzar Society is credited with supplying over 500 computers to 120 educational institutions in Ukraine. Thanks to



Vadim Ostrovsky (right) delivers a computer to an orphanage in Dnipropetrovsk.

the joint efforts of these organizations, today Stas' dreams are coming true.

Since its inception, ClickUkraine has installed two computer labs and held over 600 hours of computer literacy training sessions for Ukrainian youth. Orphanage No. 7 in Dnipropetrovsk, site of the first computer lab, now has a full-time computer teacher and a group of volunteers who run an after-school computer club for the children to meet once a week for computer training.

Mr. Ostrovsky, ClickUkraine's founder and executive director, noted that the concept of volunteerism has begun to take shape in Ukrainian society, enabling the computer lab to become a self-sustaining program. Mr. Ostrovsky is himself a native of Dnipropetrovsk and envisions establishing additional computer labs and technical education programs in the region.

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Vice-

President John Kun, endorses the initiative citing the importance of U.S. participation in development programs in eastern Ukraine as much as in western regions.

Initial funding for ClickUkraine programs came from the National Grid Fund of Westborough, Mass. Mr. Ostrovsky was selected in a nationwide competition as the recipient of the Fund's 2004 Samuel Huntington Public Service Award, carrying a \$10,000 stipend. However, to move forward with the program in the coming year, volunteers are urgently needed. Mr. Ostrovsky is seeking to empanel an executive board to develop the program's cooperation with supporting organizations.

For more information about volunteering or making a donation readers may visit www.clickukraine.org or contact the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation by phone, (202) 347-4264, or by e-mail jkun@usukraine.org.

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THE 14th ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

Toronto's Consulate General hosts Independence Day reception



Consul General Ihor Lossovskiy looks on as a giant birthday cake reading "Glory to Ukraine" is presented at the Ukrainian Independence Day reception.

Following is the text of remarks by Dr. Ihor Lossovskiy, the consul general of Ukraine in Toronto. The speech was delivered at the diplomatic reception on the occasion of Ukrainian Independence Day that was hosted by the Consulate General on September 8 at the Golden Lion restaurant in Toronto.

On behalf of the People of Ukraine, on behalf of the Consulate General of Ukraine in Canada, please let me sincerely congratulate you all on the occasion of

the 14th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine.

The path of Ukrainians towards the independence of their motherland was a long and thorny one. Armed with their diligence and hard work, with inspirational words of their spiritual leaders, and, in many cases, with weapons in their hands, Ukrainians defended their lifelong dream of freedom, a dream that was beyond their reach for many long cen-

(Continued on page 16)

San Francisco area Ukrainians gather for Ukrainian Day

by Nestor Wolansky

SAN FRANCISCO – The much-anticipated Ukrainian Day event, commemorating the 14th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, took place on August 28 in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, in Strybing Arboretum Botanical Gardens.

The festive program included the traditional Ukrainian welcome of bread and salt, performed by the Sonechko Children's Dance Ensemble, directed by Irina and George Arabadji, Merited Artists of Ukraine and Moldova, followed by a medley of Ukrainian songs by

the renowned mezzo-soprano of the Lviv Opera House, Ivanna Taratula-Filipenko.

Ola Herasymenko, of the famous bandura-performing family, also a Merited Artist of Ukraine, surprised everyone with her wonderful voice, not heard much in her past appearances. The special stage presentation of "Ivan Kupalo," the ancient Ukrainian folk festival, directed by Oksana Stus, Halyna Lorchak and Ms. Herasymenko, included several young performers wearing ancient costumes and headdresses.

(Continued on page 18)



Performers during San Francisco's Ukrainian Day celebration.

New York's mayor proclaims Ukrainian American Heritage Days

NEW YORK – Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg proclaimed the period of September 1-11 as Ukrainian American Heritage Days in the city of New York.

The mayoral proclamation noted that August 24 marks Ukraine's independence anniversary and referred to the Orange Revolution as "a stirring reminder that the idealism and integrity that inspired Ukraine's independence movement remains a force to be reckoned with."

The proclamation also noted that "Ukrainians began arriving in New York in the late 1870s, but it wasn't until the completion in 1905 of St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church that a true community took shape."

Mayor Bloomberg also wrote: "The legacy of fortitude and valor established by those who founded independent Ukraine is alive and well today among both Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans. We take this opportunity to celebrate Ukraine's historical legacy, contemporary vitality and promising future."

The mayor's proclamation was read by Iryna Kurowyckyj, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, to community members gathered on August 24 for a special divine liturgy at St. George Ukrainian Catholic



Michelle Clough

UNWLA President Iryna Kurowyckyj holds New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's proclamation of Ukrainian American Heritage Days.

Church in the East Village.

A proclamation of Ukrainian American Heritage Days was issued also by Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz on September 7. The Ukrainian flag flew over Brooklyn Borough Hall for the duration of the period.

Rockland County community holds annual observances



At the Ukrainian Independence Day ceremony in Rockland County (from left) are: William Szozda, Joseph Brega, Michael Tymoch, Vasyl Luchkiw and Michael Wengrynovich, all members of Ukrainian American Veterans Post 19.

by Dr. Vasyl Luchkiw

SPRING VALLEY, N.Y. – Rockland County is one of the smallest counties in the state of New York. The first Ukrainians settled here sometime during the last decade of the 19th century. Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church was built in 1913 and has been serving its parishioners ever since. However, we have learned from the family archives that church services were offered in private homes "well before the church was built." We also learned that several church organizations were already functioning at that time. The Ukrainian National Home, built in 1920, also housed Ukrainian Language School and the library. We can safely say that the Ukrainian community in Rockland County was served well spiritually and developed well nationally.

Ukrainian Americans began to celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day in

Rockland county in January 1968. At first it was on January 22, and from 1991 on August 24. After the liturgy for Ukraine and its people, and a panakhyda for the souls of all who gave their lives in fighting for independent Ukraine, the community would assemble at the County Legislative Offices for the solemn raising of the national flag of Ukraine. The ceremony is usually performed by Ukrainian American Veterans Post 19.

After the ceremony, participants would listen to the appropriate speeches, admire dancing of the young Vesna dancers and accept greetings and proclamations from town, county and state officials. After the official ceremony, the celebration would continue at the Ukrainian National Hall with a festive picnic.

This year the community celebrated the 14th anniversary of independent Ukraine

(Continued on page 23)

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Toronto's Consulate...

(Continued from page 15)

turies. But the continuous fight to realize
this sacred dream has made our people
stronger, and forever engraved the ideals
of freedom, equity and brotherhood in
their hearts.

The tireless work and continuous
struggle of the generations of Ukrainian
patriots resulted in re-establishment of
Ukrainian independent state in 1991.
This outstanding historical event became
the realization of a lifelong aspiration of
the Ukrainian nation, the realization of
the dreams of millions and millions of its
sons and daughters – those in Ukraine
and those living abroad.

During 14 years of Independence our
people were working to consolidate and
strengthen this historic attainment, to
develop an advanced democratic state. A
lot has been accomplished in these years
– Ukraine has been recognized as an
integral part of international community;
it has created a comprehensive network
of governmental institutions; the
Ukrainian Parliament has adopted the
fundamental law of the country – its
Constitution; Ukraine has laid founda-
tion for the development of a market
economy and democratic legislature of
the European Union type.

But it was the 14th year of Ukraine's
independence that witnessed historical
events comparable by their importance to
the proclamation of the independence
itself. In November-December 2004 the
people of Ukraine irrevocably and
unconditionally reaffirmed their dedica-
tion and support to the chosen direction
of the development of their state. The
event internationally known as the
Orange Revolution has proven to the
whole world that the Ukrainian people,
from east or west, from Ukraine or living
abroad, are united by a joint objective.
And that objective is development of a
free and independent nation. The country
that will take a well-deserved place
among the world's leading democracies.
I believe that the dramatic historic events
of the Orange Revolution will become a
powerful constructive impulse that will
determine the development of Ukraine in
decades and centuries to come.

Today we can confidently declare that
our state led by the democratically elect-
ed President Viktor Yushenko is on the
way of development of a world-class
democracy that has its people, their per-
sonal freedoms and dignity as its princi-
ple values. And we can acknowledge
substantial support for these aspirations
of the Ukrainian people from the interna-
tional democratic community, from
Ukrainians worldwide, and in particular
from Ukrainians of Canada.

We always felt this unselfish and
much-needed support in the most diffi-
cult times of totalitarian regimes ruling
on the lands of Ukraine; we felt this sup-
port in the dramatic days of the Orange
Revolution when over 1,000 Canadians
contributed their time, efforts, knowl-
edge and experience to ensure transpa-
rency and fairness of the Ukrainian
presidential elections of 2004.

And I would like to conclude my short
welcoming address today by saying a
sincere 'Thank you!' to all of the
Canadian observers who traveled to
Ukraine, to Canadians who organized
and participated in numerous manifesta-
tions here in Canada in support of the
Ukrainian democracy, and to the
Canadian government and politicians, to
some of them present here today, for
their valuable support of the Ukrainian
democracy.

This Independence Day is our joint cel-
ebration, the celebration of the 14th
anniversary of independence regained, the
celebration of independence protected.

Behind Ukraine's...

(Continued from page 2)

Yushchenko never felt comfortable in opposition, unlike Ms. Tymoshenko, and tends to seek compromise. During the Orange Revolution, for example, Mr. Yushchenko chose roundtable negotiations while Ms. Tymoshenko wanted to storm the presidential administration.

In contrast, Ms. Tymoshenko has considerable experience working in the opposition. She went into opposition in 1998 – four years ahead of Mr. Yushchenko and his business allies. After her government was removed last week, she immediately announced her readiness to go into opposition in the 2006 elections. She also intends to stand against Mr. Yushchenko in the 2009 presidential elections (Inter, September, Ukrayinska Pravda, September 13).

The Orange Revolution was bankrolled by businessmen who accompanied Mr. Yushchenko into opposition in 2001. The continued presence of these businessmen around Mr. Yushchenko, such as National Security and Defense Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko, reportedly worth \$350 million, had led Ukrainians to wonder if politics really had changed. Mr. Kuchma had his oligarchs, and now Mr. Yushchenko has his own.

Differing ideologies

Second, Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko embrace different ideologies. The Orange coalition was eclectic, including socialists, populists and reformers. Mr. Yushchenko's "liberal-right" views were opposed by Ms. Tymoshenko's "monopolistic left" policies (Zerkalo Nedeli/Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, September 10-16).

Although a populist at heart, Ms. Tymoshenko has not exhibited firm ideological beliefs in the past. She first entered politics within former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko's Hromada, the first dissident oligarch party, in the 1998 elections. After he fled abroad, Ms. Tymoshenko created her own Fatherland Party. Fatherland has no clear ideological position, and in 2002 it merged with the radical nationalist Conservative Republican Party led by Stepan Khmara. Two years later Fatherland merged with Brodsky's Yabloko Party, representing Russophone small and medium businessmen.

In the first year of Mr. Yushchenko's presidency Fatherland has attracted parties away from the People's Union-Our Ukraine coalition. These include Reforms and Order, led by former Economic Minister Viktor Pynzenyk and Yurii Kostenko's Ukrainian People's Party. Former First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Tomenko, a leading member of (R+O), has become a vocal critic of the Yushchenko administration and a proponent of an alliance between the R+O and Fatherland.

The Ukrainian Republican Party-Sobor and the United Ukraine parties are also expected to align themselves with Ms. Tymoshenko. Of the national democratic parties, only outgoing Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk's Rukh will support People's Union-Our Ukraine.

Mr. Zinchenko may now head the Pora Party, created out of the more pro-Western wing of the Pora youth movement, provided the politically ambitious head of Pora and Mr. Yushchenko adviser Vladyslav Kaskiv steps aside.

If correct, the 2006 elections could well see Pora, which played a key role in the Orange Revolution, joining Ms. Tymoshenko in the anti-Yushchenko camp (see pora.org.ua, September 10 for statement).

Change not delivered

The Orange Revolution and subsequent election of President Yushchenko

showed that Ukrainian society wanted "change." But as the Economist (September 8) pointed out, the "Orange Revolution promised much but has so far delivered little."

Indeed, Ukrainians believe that, eight months into the Yushchenko presidency, there has been little genuine change from the Kuchma regime. Indeed, crimes committed by the Kuchma administration have gone unpunished. As one Razumkov Center analyst commented, "Ukraine gave Mr. Yushchenko a giant credit of faith, but now they want results" (AP, September 7).

One reason there have been no charges against high-ranking Kuchma-era officials is that the prosecutor's office is headed by Sviatoslav Piskun. Mr. Piskun was prosecutor in 2002-2003, fired, then reinstated on December 10, 2004, only two days after Parliament voted on the "compromise package" to permit a repeat presidential runoff on December 26, 2004, and constitutional reforms in 2005 or 2006.

Was Mr. Piskun brought back to protect high-ranking Kuchma officials? To date, only low- and medium-level Kuchma officials have been charged with abuse of office, corruption and election fraud.

Serhii Kivalov, head of the Central Election Commission (CEC) in the 2004 elections, provides a telling example. The Yushchenko camp directly accused the CEC of open falsification in the first and second rounds of the presidential election. But after the elections, Mr. Kivalov was allowed to return to his position as Dean of the Law Academy in Odesa. "As long as bandits are not punished, they remain examples for criminals of all types," warned Socialist leader Oleksander Moroz (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 5).

A commission is set to investigate the charges of corruption in Mr. Yushchenko's entourage leveled by the Presidential secretariat's former chief, Mr. Zinchenko (see EDM, September 8, 9). Guilty or not, the commission poses a no-win situation for Mr. Yushchenko.

If the commission exonerates the three accused officials, the public disillusionment that the new guard is little different from the old will likely deepen, increasing ousted Prime Minister Tymoshenko's popularity in the 2006 elections. Already 51.3 percent of Kyivites, a city that staunchly backed Mr. Yushchenko in the Orange Revolution, believe the accusations made by Mr. Zinchenko (Dzerkalo Tyzhnia/Zerkalo Nedeli, September 10-16).

Mr. Yushchenko has already been criticized for pre-judging the outcome of the investigation. While welcoming the creation of the commission, President Yushchenko declared, "I am confident that these facts will not be found" (Derkalo Tyzhnia/Zerkalo Nedeli, September 10-16). In post-Soviet states, officials may take such presidential comments as hints on the preferred verdict.

If the commission does find evidence of corruption among Mr. Yushchenko's close allies, it would irrevocably damage his presidency. He would have to explain why he has tolerated corruption within his inner circle.

Another Yushchenko judgment error was the granting of additional power to the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC), headed by one of the accused, Mr. Poroshenko. Not only was the move unconstitutional, it caused a paralysis of decision-making and infighting as Mr. Poroshenko turned the NSDC into a parallel government.

Disillusionment with President Yushchenko is especially acute among young people, without whom the Orange Revolution would have been impossible. Younger generation politicians from the Reforms and Order Party (R+O), and young people more generally, are likely

to gravitate toward Ms. Tymoshenko in the 2006 elections. R & O was Mr. Yushchenko's main political ally in the 1990s, and its defection to Ms. Tymoshenko is a potentially damaging outcome of the Zinchenko crisis.

Consequences of the sacking

President Yushchenko's decision to remove the Tymoshenko government has four main consequences.

- First, with constitutional reforms that transfer some of the executive's power to Parliament due to go into effect in January 2006, Mr. Yushchenko must secure a parliamentary majority after the 2006 elections, as the legislature elects the government.

Mr. Yushchenko had intended to ask the Constitutional Court to annul the constitutional reforms this fall. Ironically, his case would have been strengthened had Ms. Tymoshenko also opposed their implementation. But now Mr. Yushchenko must rely on centrist forces, which are strong supporters of the constitutional reforms.

It would be politically disastrous if constitutional reforms left Mr. Yushchenko a figurehead facing a hostile parliamentary majority and government. This scenario would return Ukraine to the executive-legislative conflicts of the 1990s and damage progress on reforms.

- Second, Mr. Yushchenko's People's Union-Our Ukraine party now polls at only 18 percent, while Ms. Tymoshenko's bloc draws 11.3 percent (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 9). To secure Mr. Yekhanurov's confirmation as prime minister now and to establish a parliamentary majority and government after the 2006 elections Mr. Yushchenko will be forced to align himself with former pro-Kuchma centrists in Parliament.

- Third, after breaking with Mr. Yushchenko, Ms. Tymoshenko will now

draw votes away from the hard-line opposition currently grouped in Regions of Ukraine (RU), the Social Democratic Party – United (SDPU), and the Communists (CPU). All three are led by uncharismatic, unpopular leaders. In contrast, Ms. Tymoshenko has great media appeal, skill as a fiery orator, and popularity that matches Mr. Yushchenko's.

- Fourth, Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko are now expected to publicly duel over who has the right to claim to represent the "true ideals" of the Orange Revolution. Ms. Tymoshenko's bloc will campaign to separate business and politics, one of the main goals of the Revolution (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 8).

Mr. Yushchenko still surrounds himself with businessmen who supported his Our Ukraine bloc in the 2002 parliamentary elections and his presidential campaign. Their ties will be strengthened further if, as expected, the commission exonerates his close allies of corruption.

As the 2006 ballot approaches, the Tymoshenko camp will campaign on a platform asserting that the Orange Revolution is "unfinished." Ukraine needs to "commence preparations for another stage of the revolution," former Vice Prime Minister Tomenko argues, "as he [Yushchenko] has not used the chance that history and the revolution gave to him" (Kommersant, September 9).

The 2004 presidential election was a struggle between the Kuchma regime's last prime minister, Viktor Yanukovich, and the Orange democratic alternative, Mr. Yushchenko. This battle sidelined the Communists, who had been the main opposition force in the 1990s. Now both the Communists and the centrists stand to be marginalized in the 2006 elections, which are shaping up to be a contest between two wings of the Orange Revolution: those of Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko.



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Reserves, член Українсько-Американських Ветеранів (Post #6).

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Вічна Йому пам'ять!

San Francisco...

(Continued from page 15)

The Bay Area Ukrainian community cannot possibly hope to match the resources or the numbers that Philadelphia or New York can, but it

makes up in sheer determination of individuals like the mezzo-soprano Maria Tcherepenko, this year's program coordinator, who with her typical Ukrainian resolve overcame the stubborn audio cables, and moments later, entertained the audience with arias from well-known

Ukrainian compositions; or the tireless Zenon Zubrycky, the Bay Area's long time Ukrainian American activist, who reminded everyone present about Viktor Yushchenko's famous line, "Razom nas bahato, nas ne podolaty" (Together we are many, we cannot be defeated) much to the delight of the crowds.

This year's attendance was much larger than in 2004, which is not surprising, given the worldwide visibility of the Orange Revolution during the last Ukrainian election.

The vivacious Olena Bolshakoff, who performed together with her handsome son, Stanislav Mikhailov, accompanied by Grigoriy Krumik on the accordion, just the way you would hear it performed in eastern Ukraine, swept the audience off its feet.

The dignified Pentecostal Temple Men's Choir, sang "Our Father," Ella Belikovskaya performed on the electric piano, and Alex Hrynevych, the young master of ceremonies, wowed the crowds, making sure it all came together with his crisp and upbeat announcements.

Volodymyr Horbarenko, the new consul general at Ukraine's Consulate General in San Francisco, delivered a very moving address both in Ukrainian and in English, welcoming everyone, and expressing unshakeable confidence in Ukraine's future as a truly independent country on its way to European integration at last. He added that Ukraine should not be judged by less-than-favorable press reviews in the liberal media and vicious attacks by the Putin-controlled Russian press. The Ukrainian people will be subject to no timetable, do not and will not be bullied by others, he said.

As in years past, the 134-year-old Golden Gate Park Band, decked out in red suits and hats, performed Ukrainian melodies and did not disappoint.

The San Francisco weather was on its best behavior, sparing the crowds its

usual summer chills, and bestowing brilliant sunshine, as if it too wanted to honor Ukrainians on their Independence Day.

The 2005 Ukrainian Day was sponsored by the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, St. Volodymyr Mission of Santa Clara, Ukrainian Fraternal Association Assembly 270, Ukrainian National Association Branch 486, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Chapter 107, the Ukrainian Medical Association of Northern California, and the Ukrainian Professional and Business Group of Northern California.

As Ukrainian melodies reverberated among the cypress and eucalyptus trees, new immigrants and old alike watched the performances with pride. Small children, attired in Ukrainian costumes, frolicked right in front of the audience; daughters and their elderly mothers, sitting in the beach chairs they had brought along, thoroughly enjoyed a glorious day in the park; teenagers watched not only the performers, but anxiously looked around to see if any of their friends came, and what they were wearing; the many pensioners in the park sat happily, glad to have a chance to see thrilling performances. Some wore orange hats or scarves.

By next year, the Ukrainian Day will be back at its original site, at the Music Concourse, as the huge M.H. de Young Museum complex will be finally completed.

Ukrainians, both those who spoke Ukrainian and those who did not, naturally showed such enthusiastic support for the Ukrainian music and dance on display during the day. But visiting tourists from Asia also were seen energetically clapping and tapping to the Ukrainian music.

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Dr. Christine T. Rogutsky

on the completion of her doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania in May 2005.

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Theater company to stage "Becoming Natasha" based on Malarek book

by Roxolana Woloszyn

NEW YORK – "Becoming Natasha," a collaborative multimedia production work-in-progress that draws on the international problem of human trafficking for its subject, will have its premiere as part of the Six Figures Theater Company's fifth annual Artists of Tomorrow Festival.

The piece, inspired by the book "The Natashas" by Ukrainian Canadian author and investigative journalist Victor Malarek, has been chosen by New York Magazine (September 15 issue) as one of the top three shows to see from the festival's offerings.

Two performances, slated for Friday, October 7, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, October 8, at 2 p.m., will be held at West End Theater, 263 W. 86th St. (Take the No. 1 Train to 86th Street; go half a block west between Broadway and West End). Tickets, at \$15, may be reserved by calling (212) 868-4444.

In this movement-based, text driven, performance piece by Isadora Productions, every one of the six actors, in addition to the co-creators Stacey Cervellino and Anna Klein, and the director, Nancy S. Chu, was involved in the creation of the final product that is slated to be staged in 2007. Through workshops that took place on June 22-July 30, the cast worked to fill in the two skeleton scripts – 30- and 25-minute shorts.

The play follows the paths of six trafficked women, from their captures to their eventual release, escape and, in some cases, death. The story unfolds in a series of film montage and "mini-plays" as seen through the eyes of the dominant character in the scene. There is a "lead" character that the audience will be able to follow throughout the piece, making it easier for the audience to follow a cause/effect situation.

Nina Arianda, a senior at New School University's Eugene Lang College, is the Ukrainian member of the cast.

Isadora Productions, formed in early 2003 by Ms. Klein and Ms. Cervellino, was searching for meaningful work when Ms. Cervellino attended Mr. Malarek's "The Natashas" reading at the Ukrainian Institute of America. Ms. Cervellino heard actors reading passages from "The Natashas" and the "wheels started turning," she said. Ms.

Cervellino then spoke with Mr. Malarek and he was very interested in a project that, in a sense, would bring his book to life.

Before settling on making the piece, Ms. Klein, Ms. Chu and Ms. Cervellino researched the subject for about eight months, immersing themselves in books, film and people who could inform them more about this issue.

Firefly, a branch of Amnesty International and the Coalition Against Trafficking are among the sources that Isadora Productions used to gather information concerning human trafficking. Firefly has provided Isadora Productions with research and contact with NGOs, and may be able to put the group in touch with victims of human trafficking.

For Isadora Productions, which strives to highlight the common human experience, there was no question that its members wanted to be involved in raising awareness about the problem of human trafficking as soon as they began to delve into it: "The moment that you start researching the information you cannot not be a part of it," Ms. Chu said. She emphasized that people will be able to relate to "Becoming Natasha" because of the "universality of abuse and control." Both Ms. Chu and Ms. Klein feel that they now have an obligation to tell this story.

Isadora Productions consists of co-producers Ms. Cervellino and Ms. Klein; associate producer Ms. Chu and co-producer and filmmaker Susan Pavlin.

Throughout the fall of this year, Isadora Productions plans to stage the show in various locations and schools in New York City as part of its educational touring workshop.

Since the presentation of the work at the International Theater Methods Festival held in Latvia this summer, invitations have followed for collaborative work with theaters in Ukraine, Latvia, Serbia and Portugal.

A special reading from "Becoming Natasha" will be held as part of a series of events to raise awareness of human trafficking that is being sponsored by Amnesty International. The program, titled "No One Signs Up to Become a Slave," will also include a panel discussion on the topic titled "Activism in the Theater." The event, which is co-sponsored by Isadora Productions, will be held on October 10 at 8:30



Creative Playwriting Workshop collaborators (from center and then clockwise from bottom left): Nurit Monacelli, Anna Klein, Nancy S. Chu, Ilyana Kadushin, Stacey Cervellino, Michelle Maxson, Nina Arianda and Portia Adney.

p.m. at the HERE Arts Center, 145 Sixth Ave. (between Spring and Broome streets). Suggested donation: \$15. For reservations, e-mail reservations@isadoraproductions.org.

Isadora Productions, a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit company, relies on the

generosity of organizations and people dedicated to the production of work intended to promote diversity and change in theater. If readers would like additional information about Isadora Productions or how to make any contributions in support of "Becoming Natasha" they may e-mail the company at info@isadoraproductions.org.

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Yekhanurov...

(Continued from page 1)

and Mr. Yanukovich have replaced Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister in a political rotation.

The president's team, along ethical considerations, should cross out from its public lexicon any mention of the values of the revolutionary maidan, given that its key demands were "Kuchma and Yanukovich Out!" not "Kuchma-Yanukovich Tak!" Mr. Tomenko said.

A new era resembling the values and approaches of the Kuchma regime has begun, Mr. Tomenko said.

Before the critical vote, President Yushchenko also announced he was eliminating the position of first aide, formerly held by Oleksander Tretiakov, and converting the position of state secretary (chief of staff) into chair of the Presidential Secretariat.

Critics said both positions had prevented advisers from contacting the president.

In his September 20 speech urging the Rada to support Mr. Yekhanurov, Mr. Yushchenko acknowledged that "the authority and the image that we had is diminishing today."

He repeated his historical analogy comparing the current state of Ukraine to Germany in 1948. "After three years of occupation, there were no economic or humanitarian reforms in the country," Mr. Yushchenko said. "The nation didn't believe in anything. Only the elites got together and signed a pact for stability."

He warned that the ability of the government to ensure stability in the country was at stake. "I am convinced that today it is not Yekhanurov's fate that is at stake," Mr. Yushchenko said. "Not Yekhanurov's fate, whether or not he will be prime minister, but the fate of Parliament and the president, their ability to effectively and adequately react and to ensure stability in the country."

Using the Germany metaphor as a model, Mr. Yushchenko convinced 11 faction leaders on September 13 to sign a Declaration of Unity and Cooperation for the Sake of Ukraine's Future.

Among others things, the declaration called for ensuring the interests of the Ukrainian people as the priority for government and political leaders, increasing their wealth, as well as prohibiting the use of government positions to enhance personal or business interests.

Those factions not signing were the Communist Party, the Social Democratic Party – United and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

The president referred to the declaration when concluding his address to the Rada, telling the national deputies they had one of two choices: either to continue in stagnation or to achieve progress.

In a gesture of reassurance to his traditional opponents, the president assured the Cabinet there would be no political persecutions and that he would receive their input in forming the next Cabinet.

"I stress that the Cabinet will be free of people involved in business or those who have discredited themselves, or people who are out of the context of our political agreements," Mr. Yushchenko said.

Mr. Yekhanurov's selection was a clear gesture by President Yushchenko to satisfy an investment community pressuring him to create a stable environment.

Anders Aslund, an influential Washington economic advisor, had frequently criticized Ms. Tymoshenko for ruining the nation's investment climate, particularly through reprivatization efforts.

He expressed firm support for Mr.

Yekhanurov's selection, noting that he presided over the State Property Fund between September 1994 and February 1997 under the Kuchma administration, "when privatizations were normal."

However, Mr. Lozowy said it was precisely during those years that the State Property Fund became a feeding trough for corrupt oligarchs swiping Ukraine's assets at unrealistic prices.



Yurii Yekhanurov accepts congratulations after the Verkhovna Rada voted to approve him as Ukraine's new prime minister.

Mr. Yekhanurov is a "Kuchmist," Mr. Lozowy charged, and such speculation was buttressed by one of his first public appearances as acting prime minister. Photographers shot Mr. Yekhanurov on September 12 in Dnipropetrovsk warmly embracing Mr. Kuchma and engaging in a ritual kiss.

When questioned at the Verkhovna Rada by National Deputy Oleh Tiahnybok of the All-Ukrainian Union Svoboda about the now infamous incident, Mr. Yekhanurov said in his defense that the kiss was a tradition initiated by former Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev.

Mr. Tiahnybok, a nationalist, also asked Mr. Yekhanurov about his position on lustration, the process of bringing to justice officials who colluded in totalitarian or corrupt regimes.

Mr. Yekhanurov acknowledged that he himself was a member of the Communist Party. "I am against lustration as much as I myself was a [Communist] party member, as many of you were as well," he said.

The 57-year-old Mr. Yekhanurov has been closely allied with Mr. Yushchenko ever since serving as his first vice prime minister between December 1999 and May 2001. During the Orange Revolution Mr. Yekhanurov served as Mr. Yushchenko's assistant chief of staff.

Speaking fluent Ukrainian in his speech to the Rada, Mr. Yekhanurov blamed Ukraine's problems on the populist policies of the Kuchma government.

"The main objective of the new Cabinet is stabilizing the economy and creating conditions to ensure steady development," he said.

In an apparent concession to the Yanukovich team, Mr. Yekhanurov said the new Cabinet of Ministers will have a vice prime minister for regional policy so that oblast administration chairs can communicate directly to the Cabinet.

He also said there would be no attempts to centrally control the economy, indicating that he is in line with Mr. Yushchenko's commitment to deregulated markets.

Mr. Yekhanurov said he will also look to integrating market and capital within the Single Economic Space, indicating that it's unlikely Serhii Teriokhin will return to the Cabinet as economy minister. Last month, Mr. Teriokhin declared

that Ukraine was not interested in the Single Economic Space, a statement Mr. Yushchenko quickly refuted.

"We will pay special attention to developing cooperation with our closest neighbors, the Russian Federation and Poland," Mr. Yekhanurov said.

During the week, Mr. Yushchenko repeated that the last straw in his decision to fire his Cabinet of Ministers was

former NSDC secretary at the Presidential Secretariat building on September 13.

She said that Secretariat employees told her Mr. Poroshenko's car had been parked at the building almost every day since his September 8 resignation.

In response, Mr. Yushchenko replied that the former secretary was merely picking up documents to finalize his resignation. He did not address her comment that Mr. Poroshenko had been seen at the Secretariat almost daily.

Meanwhile, Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun announced on September 20 that his office would investigate five criminal cases that involved NSDC officials pressuring court judges in privatization cases.

Mr. Piskun said he found no evidence to pursue criminal charges against Mr. Poroshenko himself and two other individuals accused of corruption by former chief of staff Oleksander Zinchenko: Our Ukraine parliamentary faction leader Mykola Martynenko and former first aide Mr. Tretiakov.

The soap opera involving Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko grew more dramatic this week, replete with further attacks, attempts at reconciliation and political posturing.

During his September 21 address, Mr. Yushchenko accused Ms. Tymoshenko of trying to sabotage his government accusing her of uniting with the Orange Revolution's enemies.

"I am convinced that a cynical plan of ruining this administration is being carried out in Ukraine," Mr. Yushchenko said. "Moreover, some of those who were on the maidan, as well as those who were opposed to them, are now united in carrying out this plan. A strange alliance. And we are moving towards ruin, my dear friends."

Mr. Yushchenko has accused Ms. Tymoshenko of abusing her post as prime minister to gain personal benefit in her business affairs. Specifically, he has accused her of trying to eliminate \$1.5 billion in debt owed to the Ukrainian government by her defunct gas trading company, Unified Energy Systems.

He also has accused her of coercing judges in order to swing ownership of the Nikopol plant to the Dnipropetrovsk-based Pryvat Group, heavily invested in metals, in exchange for ownership in a Ukrainian television network.

On August 20, Pryvat Group partner Ihor Kolomoyskyi declared his intention to buy a 40 percent stake in 1+1, Ukraine's second-highest rated television network.

Ms. Tymoshenko called a press conference on September 21 to announce that she wanted to unite their parties once again and form the new Cabinet.

"I've asked you here to say that I personally, and our entire team, believe that everything that happened surrounding the split of our team with Viktor Yushchenko was a huge mistake," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

In response to Mr. Yushchenko's accusations of trying to eliminate her debts, Ms. Tymoshenko said he is renewing old repressions against her using "ancient, discrediting materials" once employed by Mr. Kuchma.

Mr. Yushchenko invited Ms. Tymoshenko to his meeting with political leaders that night but did not receive her faction's support.

"I'm afraid that this stabilization [proposed by the president] will be so powerful that we will find ourselves on the stable cemetery of democracy if we cover our eyes or squint in a situation when we ought to react to this openly and honestly," Andrii Shkil, a National Deputy of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, told the Rada before its vote.

BOOK NOTES

A closer look at the pysanka, in Ukrainian or English

“The Ukrainian Folk Pysanka,” by Vira Manko. Lviv: Svichado Publishing, 2005, 41pp., \$20 (hard cover).

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian pysanka is an article of pure beauty, ingenuity and history. Its vivid colors and symbolic graphics serve as reminders to all of the beauty of Ukrainian culture.

In her new hard-cover book, “The Ukrainian Folk Pysanka,” author Vira Manko carefully documents every aspect of the art, from its rich history to its worldwide acceptance as a distinctive art form.

The 41-page, full-color book is offered in both the English and Ukrainian languages. It covers a variety of topics, and begins with an expansive historical background of the pysanka. Mrs. Manko

offers readers an excellent documentation of Ukrainian folk customs and historical traditions, as well as the symbolism and meaning behind many recurring pysanka patterns and designs.

While reading through the book, the passion which Mrs. Manko holds for her art is evident; each design is carefully described, while each symbol is explored within a historical and traditional context.

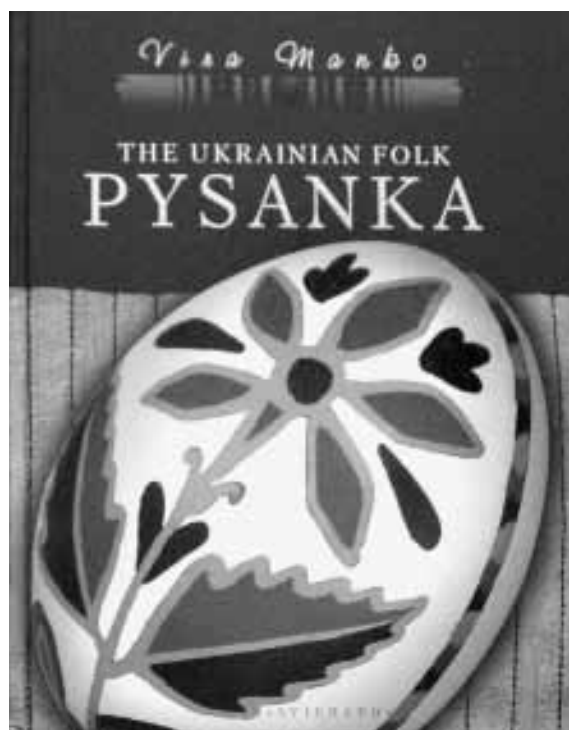
Mrs. Manko recalls pysanka stories and legends passed down from earlier generations of pysanka artists. With a subtle sense of charm and poignancy, she retells folk stories that explain the origin and purpose of certain ancient Easter traditions.

Reading further into the book, the reader will find that the author offers rather comprehensive, step-by-step instructions on how to write a pysanka.

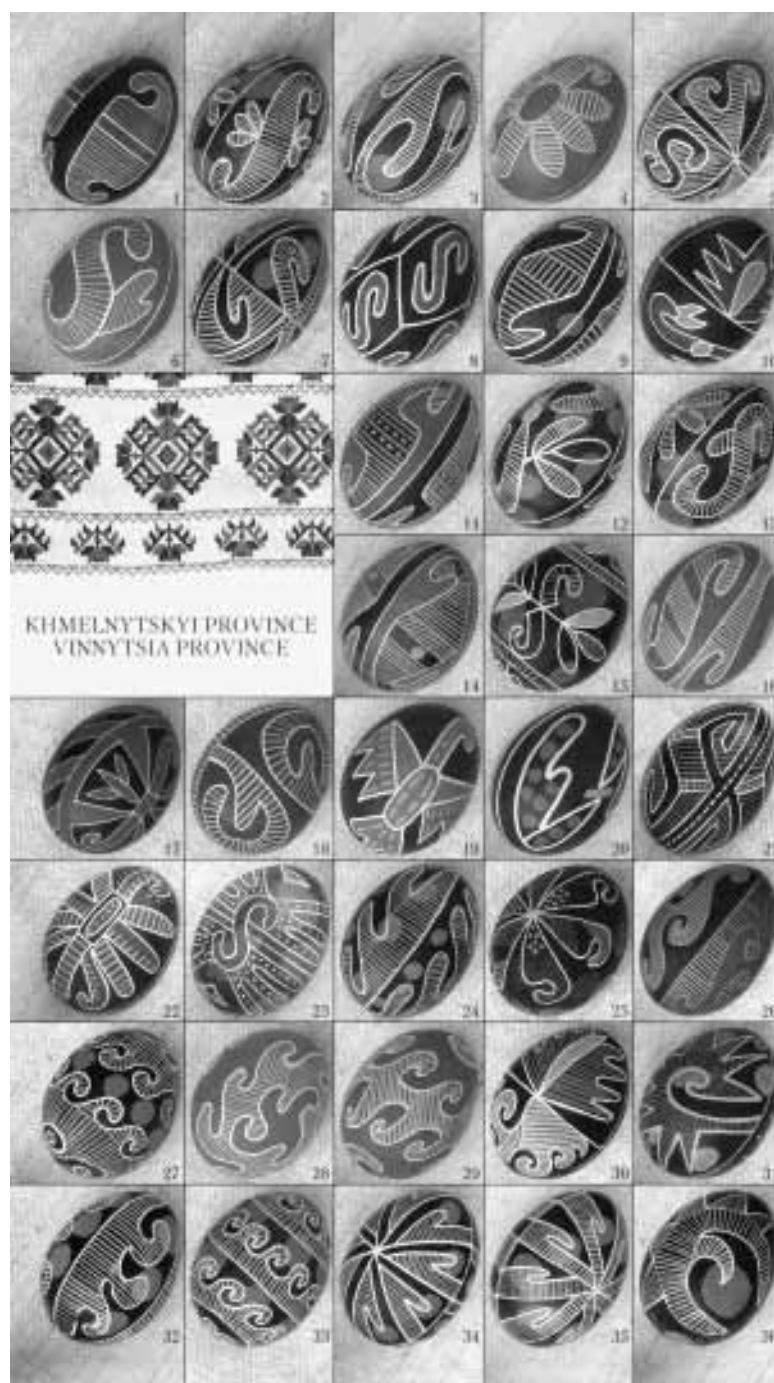
The book also features an ethnographic breakdown of pysanky; toward the end of the book Mrs. Manko offers a collection of pages that feature over 1,400 color photos of pysanky, sorted by the region from which their designs originated.

Mrs. Manko’s book is a remarkable testament to the undying devotion pysanka artists have for their art. Through this collection of highly detailed pages and photographs, it is immediately clear that the art of the pysanka is, indeed, a timeless one.

To purchase a copy of “The Ukrainian Folk Pysanka” for \$20 (plus \$2 for shipping), readers may send orders via mail to Lada Bidiak, 68 Willow Ave., Garwood, NJ 07027, or via e-mail to ladabidiak@hotmail.com. Checks should be made payable to Lada Bidiak. When ordering, please specify which language version of the book you would like to purchase.



Cover of the book’s English-language version.



One of the color plates from “The Ukrainian Folk Pysanka.”

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation staff joined by law grad

WASHINGTON – Alana Malick is the latest addition to the U.S.-Ukraine



Alana Malick

Foundation staff in Washington. The recipient of a post-graduate fellowship from William and Mary Law School, she will devote 10 weeks to foundation work on legal issues.

Ms. Malick, a graduate of the University of Virginia in philosophy and foreign affairs, received her law degree from William and Mary in 2005.

While a student at The Madeira School, she interned at the Ukrainian Embassy of Ukraine in Washington. She attended the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute in 2001, and is fluent in Ukrainian, French and Spanish.

Ms. Malick received special recognition from William and Mary Law School in national security and human rights for her involvement in a clinic that provided legal support to the Justice Department in its participation with the Iraqi Special Tribunal.

She was also associate editor of the William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law and president of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society and Moot Court team.

As a vocal performer, Ms. Malick was a finalist in the 2004 Miss Virginia Pageant. She is the daughter of Judge Gordon R. Malick and Dr. Victoria D. Malick.

Grad's stage documentary to be presented at college

KALAMAZOO, Mich. – When Taras Berezowsky, a native of Troy, Mich., was a student at the “Ridna Shkola” – the School of Ukrainian Studies and Culture in Detroit – he dreamed of combining his Ukrainian heritage with his passion for theater. Over a decade later, the dream has become a reality for the 2005 graduate of Kalamazoo College.

Mr. Berezowsky's one-man stage documentary “Catch 86,” was to open the Festival Playhouse Guest Artist Series – “The World is Our Stage: A Season of International Theater” – with a performance on Friday, September 23, at 8 p.m. in the Nelda K. Balch Playhouse, Kalamazoo College.

“My first priority was to let other Americans ‘in’ on a culture and one of its many tragedies,” Mr. Berezowsky stated. “Ukraine and her people are not ‘Russians’ or ‘former Soviets,’ and ‘Chornobyl’ is not a ‘forgettable nuclear accident’ that happened during the Cold War.” Fluent in Ukrainian as a speaker and writer, Mr. Berezowsky is a second-generation Ukrainian American.

“Catch 86” plays on the title Joseph Heller's novel “Catch-22.” Mr. Berezowsky portrays Russian, American and Ukrainian characters and their reactions to the 1986 nuclear disaster. “I conducted several interviews in the U.S. and in Ukraine with people affected by the disaster while working as a volunteer for the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund. These inter-



Taras Berezowsky

views, as well as my daily journals, formed the text of the play,” he explained.

“It's unprecedented for us to hire a recent graduate as a professional guest artist,” noted Director of Theater Arts Ed Menta. “This project encompasses his course work and training in playwriting, directing, acting and history. It's international in scope, it's political and at the same time a connection to his family roots.”

“We couldn't think of a better way to begin our international theater season and to showcase what a liberal arts education is about,” Prof. Menta said. “As we always do with our guest artist productions, there will be a talkback session with the audience,” including members of Michigan's Ukrainian National Association.”

Rockland County...

(Continued from page 15)

on Sunday, August 21. It was somewhat different than the previous celebrations. First of all, three local organizations, UAV Post 19, led by William Szozda, commander; the Prosvita Society – Ukrainian National Association Branch 16, led by Vasyl Luchkiw, secretary; and the Ukrainian Heritage Society of Rockland, headed by Bohdan Hajduk, president, agreed to sponsor this year's celebration.

Secondly, for the first time in the com-

munity's history a “newcomer,” a fellow Ukrainian who came to the United States after 1990, Borys Poznakhovsky, delivered the keynote address in Ukrainian. The master of ceremonies, Dr. Luchkiw, gave his presentation in English. Finally, more than half of participants were “newcomers” or the so-called “Fourth Wave” of Ukrainian immigrants. This was also noticed at the festival-picnic.

Before the picnic, members of the UAV Post 19 raised, on the newly erected flagpole, the American and Ukrainian national flags.



Save the Dates!

The Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation

is pleased to announce that

Rev. Borys Gudziak,

Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, will be honored at events in the following cities this fall on the following dates:

Saturday, November 5, 2005:
Rector's Dinner in New York, New York

Wednesday, November 9, 2005:
Event in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sunday, November 13, 2005:
Rector's Luncheon in Chicago, Illinois

Thursday, November 17, 2005:
Event in Parma, Ohio

Sunday, November 20, 2005:
Rector's Luncheon in Detroit, Michigan

All friends and supporters of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, along with all other interested persons, are welcome to meet Rev. Gudziak at these events. Organizations are also most welcome to these events.



Please, save these dates!

Tax-exempt contributions should be made payable to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

minate the activity of his commission. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada forms investigative commissions

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on September 20 set up an ad hoc commission to investigate the recent allegations that President Viktor Yushchenko's election campaign in 2004 was financed by exiled Russian oligarch Boris Berezovskii, Interfax-Ukraine reported. The commission is headed by Communist Party lawmaker Yurii Solomatin. The Parliament also created a temporary commission to investigate the corruption allegations against presidential aides that were voiced earlier this month by the former chief of the presidential staff Oleksander Zinchenko. This commission is headed by independent lawmaker Volodymyr Zaplatynskiy. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Prosecutor refutes Zinchenko's charges

KYIV – Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun told journalists in Kyiv on September 20 that top presidential adviser Oleksander Tretiakov, former National Security and Defense Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko and Our Ukraine parliamentary caucus head Mykola Martynenko are not involved in the criminal offenses they were accused of earlier this month by former chief of presidential staff Oleksander Zinchenko, Ukrainian news agencies reported. Mr. Zinchenko, who resigned on September 2, told journalists on September 5 that Messrs. Tretiakov, Poroshenko and Martynenko were involved in corruption. Mr. Piskun added that his office has launched five investigations into cases of exerting pressure on courts and meddling with economic activities by staffers of the National Security and

Defense Council. Mr. Piskun also said former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko is not subject to any form of legal prosecution in Ukraine at present. (RFE/RL Newsline)

AN-124 to deliver hurricane aid

KYIV – A Ukrainian Antonov-124 Ruslan aircraft, with humanitarian cargo on board to aid the southern regions of the United States that have been devastated by hurricane Katrina, departed this week from Ramstein Air Base (Germany). Under a decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, Ukraine allocated 3.7 million hryv to aid the U.S. in overcoming the disaster's consequences. The Ukrainian plane is expected to deliver the humanitarian aid, which is being accompanied by officials of Ukraine's ministries of foreign affairs and emergencies, to Little Rock, Ark. (Ukrinform)

Kravchuk: Berezovskii financed campaign

KYIV – Former Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, a lawmaker of the Social Democratic Party – United, charged on September 14 that exiled Russian oligarch Boris Berezovskii financed the presidential election campaign of Viktor Yushchenko, Ukrainian and international media reported. If found to be true, Ukrainian lawmakers would have the right to impeach President Yushchenko, Mr. Kravchuk said. Mr. Kravchuk told journalists in Kyiv that, in a telephone conversation with him, Mr. Berezovskii confirmed the authenticity of recently published copies of bank transfers worth \$15 million from Berezovskii-owned businesses to firms financing the Yushchenko campaign. According to Mr. Kravchuk, Mr. Berezovskii told him that Mr. Yushchenko's emissaries visited Berezovskii in London to arrange issues connected with the campaign funding. Meanwhile, the Ukrayinska Pravda website quoted Mr. Berezovskii as saying on September 14 that he did not tell Mr.

Kravchuk that the transfers were made specifically for Mr. Yushchenko's presidential campaign. The same day, acting Emergency Minister Zhvania denied that Mr. Berezovskii financed Mr. Yushchenko's campaign, adding that the Russian oligarch "gave money to [Yulia] Tymoshenko, and there is no need to push Zhvania into this clique." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Berezovskii confirms financing

PRAGUE – Exiled Russian billionaire Boris Berezovskii told Reuters on September 16 that he had spoken repeatedly to Viktor Yushchenko by telephone, met his top aides and agreed to help him become Ukraine's president. "I was really surprised that the people who are around Yushchenko, who are close to him, lie so much," Mr. Berezovskii said. "They are really lying, saying they didn't know me, they didn't visit me, they didn't do anything with me and so on." The prior week former Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk charged that Mr. Berezovskii financed the Yushchenko campaign. According to Mr. Kravchuk, Mr. Yushchenko's emissaries – Davyd Zhvania, Roman Bezsmertnyi and Oleksander Tretiakov – visited Mr. Berezovskii in London to discuss issues connected with campaign funding. "Neither Viktor Yushchenko nor Oleh Rybachuk knows or has ever known Berezovskii," Mr. Yushchenko's chief of staff, Oleh Rybachuk, responded on Ukraine's Channel 5. Mr. Berezovskii told Reuters that documents which emerged last week were genuine evidence of payments he had made, but he declined to comment on who had received payments or what the money was for. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko meets with Rice

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko, while on a working visit to the United States, met with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in New York, the presidential press service told Ukrinform. Acting Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk attended the meeting, which focused on bilateral relations. The president stressed that Ukraine's aspiration to join European and Euro-Atlantic entities remains unchanged. The parties discussed the situation in Ukraine. Mr. Yushchenko commented on his decisions to dismiss the government and the National Security and Defense Council secretary, noting that the move was aimed at continuing reforms. He added that the economic situation in Ukraine is stable and pledged that a new government will work hard to prevent the economy's stagnation. Dr. Rice stated that the United States is watching the situation in Ukraine and supports the Ukrainian authorities' actions, which are directed at combating corruption. The secretary of state said that the U.S. hails Ukraine's moves toward the development of democ-

racy. According to Mr. Yushchenko, Ukraine hopes to sign a bipartite protocol with the United States on mutual access to markets of goods and services and on U.S. support for Ukraine's recognition as a market economy. The Ukrainian president also pointed out that Ukraine has lifted visa requirements for U.S. citizens and said that he expects a reciprocal step by the U.S. to liberalize the visa regime for Ukrainian citizens. (Ukrinform)

Rybachuk travels to Moscow

MOSCOW – Speaking to journalists after his meeting in Moscow on September 13 with presidential chief of staff Dmitrii Medvedev, Ukraine's acting State Secretary Oleh Rybachuk said the purpose of his trip was to establish personal contacts and facilitate cooperation with his Russian counterpart, RTR reported. Mr. Rybachuk, who previously served as vice prime minister for European integration, said that there is no contradiction in strengthening contacts with Moscow as Ukraine pursues European integration. Mr. Rybachuk said in an interview with Ekho Moskvy on September 13 that his talks with Mr. Medvedev "exceeded his greatest expectations" and that they frankly discussed topics "that diplomats usually avoid." (RFE/RL Newsline)

President signs unity pact

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko, acting Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and leaders of various parliamentary groups on September 13 signed a Declaration of Unity and Cooperation for the Future, Ukrainian and international media reported. The signatories agreed to pool their efforts "to secure the interests of the Ukrainian people, improve their welfare, consolidate society and boost Ukraine's authority in the world." Reuters quoted the president as saying at the ceremony: "This is the right step to show the nation that in this difficult time, before a parliamentary election, the political elite has united and showed its attitude to democracy, property, and business issues." The parliamentary groups that joined the declaration reportedly comprise 237 deputies out of 425. There are currently 25 vacancies in the 450-seat Ukrainian legislature. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Social Democratic Party United, the Communist Party, the United Ukraine group and the Reform and Order Party did not sign the declaration. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Zvarych wants to stay in office

KYIV – Acting Justice Minister Roman Zvarych told a press conference on September 15 that he wishes to stay in his position within the new government,

(Continued on page 25)



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Philadelphia rolls out...

(Continued from page 5)

dom for Ukraine. She said that all their prayers and dreams have now been fulfilled. The toast was offered to thunderous applause and cheers.

The evening was laced with songs performed by the Ukraina choir. A special treat for the diners was a dance performance by ballerina Christina Shevchenko.

Of course, the ultimate moment of the evening came when the first couple took to the stage. Mrs. Yushchenko, who favors Ukrainian designers, was dressed in a stunning but simple dark blue gown trimmed in shimmering beads.

Framed by America's symbols of freedom and independence, President Yushchenko thanked those in attendance for their support. In a very relaxed demeanor, Mr. Yushchenko thanked those

gathered for their warm reception and reminded them that there is still much work to be done in Ukraine.

After his brief comments, he invited his wife to share some words. She spoke in English, inviting businesspeople to invest in Ukraine and the country's future, and tourist to visit the many attractions. She asked people to continue coming to Ukraine and assured them of the country's warm welcome.

The president's scheduled departure was 9 p.m. and the entire evening was to conclude at 9:30 p.m. Clearly the warmth of the reception was too great to cut short – the first couple stayed until nearly 11:30 p.m. A crowd waving orange glow sticks while singing farewell with tears in their eyes and knots in their throats sent them on their way.

Glitz and glamour returned to Hollywood with their red carpet tinted a decided shade of Orange.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 24)

with a view toward completing the Justice Ministry's reform. At the same time he denied rumors that he asked the president to leave him in the position. He stated his readiness to comprehensively help his successor, if another candidate is appointed. (Ukrinform)

Turchynov on Yushchenko's poisoning

KYIV – As ex-chief of the Security Service of Ukraine Oleksander Turchynov stated on September 15 that the fact of Viktor Yushchenko's poisoning has not been established so far, which has delayed investigation of the criminal case. He explained that an examination that includes blood, skin and tissue tests, is needed to establish that the poisoning did indeed occur. But the tests have not been done, and without them it is impossible to make any suppositions, Mr. Turchynov said. He stressed that under Ukrainian law the examination must be made by Ukrainian experts. A week before his resignation he said he spoke to President Yushchenko, telling him that if there is further delay in this case, "we'll be accused of forgery." He added that the president agreed to have the tests administered. (Ukrinform)

Turchynov: energy security in danger

KYIV – Oleksander Turchynov, whose resignation as chief of the Security Service of Ukraine was recently accepted by President Viktor Yushchenko, told journalists in Kyiv on September 15 that Ukraine's energy security is endangered, Ukrainian media reported. According to Mr. Turchynov, high-ranking officials in the Yushchenko administration continue "to patronize" the shady "transnational" system of gas supplies to Ukraine that was created in the era of former President Leonid Kuchma. Mr. Turchynov explained that Turkmen gas is supplied to Ukraine by an unnecessary intermediary – previously EuralTransGas, now RosUkrEnergo – which is paid for its services with gas priced at \$50 per 1,000 cubic meters and subsequently resells it to Europe for \$200 per 1,000 cubic meters. Mr. Turchynov charged that Yushchenko aide Oleksander Tretiakov pressured him to abandon an investigation into this gas scheme. "The authorities have changed but the [gas-supply] system has remained," Mr. Turchynov said. "In this year alone Ukraine will have a gas deficit of nearly 7.5 million cubic meters. It is very serious, since Ukraine will have to buy this amount of gas for \$160-\$180 [per 1,000 cubic meters]." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada chair founds election bloc

KYIV – The Executive Committee of the People's Party, headed by Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, has decided to set up a People's Bloc of Volodymyr Lytvyn, Ukrainian media reported on September 15. According to the People's Party press service, the main reason behind the bloc's creation was "a large number of appeals to the People's Party from political parties and public organizations regarding the coordination of positions and formation of a bloc" for the 2006 parliamentary elections. In March, during the founding congress of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU), President Viktor Yushchenko called for an election coalition of the OUPU with Mr. Lytvyn's party and then-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's eponymous bloc. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Crimean prime minister resigns

SYMPEROPOL – Anatolii Matviyenko, prime minister of the Crimean Autonomous Republic, tendered his resignation to

President Viktor Yushchenko on September 20, saying that the main reason behind his move was the refusal of his Sobor Party to support the candidacy of Yuri Yekhanurov for the post of Ukrainian prime minister earlier the same day, Ukrainian media reported. The Crimean Parliament on September 21 voted overwhelmingly to accept Mr. Matviyenko's resignation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russian politicians watch Ukraine

MOSCOW – Duma speaker Boris Gryzlov (Unified Russia) said on September 15 that he could not exclude the possibility of "mass street disturbances" breaking out in Ukraine as a result of the recent political crisis in the country, strana.ru reported. He said the initiation of impeachment proceedings against Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko is also possible and added that it is important to preserve political stability in Ukraine. Gleb Pavlovskii, the head of the Fund for Effective Politics, compared the present situation in Ukraine with the "artificial interruption of a pregnancy" and said that by dismissing Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, President Yushchenko has prevented the formation of a "second center of power," Moskovskie Novosti No. 37 reported. Sergei Markov, the director of Political Research Institute, said on September 15 that Ms. Tymoshenko did not develop the economy but her own popularity rating, which at one point exceeded Mr. Yushchenko's rating and is the reason she was sacked, NTN.ua reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Azerbaijan detains Ukrainian official

BAKU – Azerbaijani security forces detained an official adviser to the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry on September 15 at the Baku airport, Turan reported. Azerbaijani officials refused to explain the circumstances of the arrest of Sergey Yevtushenko, a ministry adviser, and Estonian citizen Andrei Popov by security officers from the Azerbaijani Border Service and National Security Ministry. Opposition Musavat Party Deputy Chairman Sulhaddin Akbar announced that the two visitors arrived in Baku at his party's invitation to participate in an international conference on democracy. Two other Ukrainians were also arrested but released after undergoing interrogation by security officers. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ivanov warns of change in policies

MOSCOW – Sergei Ivanov arrived in Berlin on September 13 for an informal meeting with NATO defense ministers, RIA-Novosti reported. The meeting was to focus on efforts to combat international terrorism and emerging threats to global security. Mr. Ivanov was also to hold separate, bilateral meetings with his counterparts from the United States, Great Britain, Germany and NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer. Speaking at a press conference at the Russian Embassy in Germany, Mr. Ivanov warned that Russia will revise its foreign policies on Ukraine and Georgia if those states join NATO, adding that such revisions "will not touch only on the military aspects" of those relations. Mr. Ivanov also said that disagreements remain between Russia and NATO, including on their interpretation of democracy in the post-Soviet space, RIA-Novosti reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Analyst predicts Tymoshenko victory

KYIV – National Strategy Institute founder Stanislav Belkovskii has predicted that ousted Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko will lead a united opposition to victory in Ukraine's parliamentary elections next March, apn.ru reported on September 13. Mr.

Belkovskii, who in April accurately predicted Ms. Tymoshenko's resignation in September, said that in the event of a Tymoshenko victory she will not include supporters of President Viktor Yushchenko in a new government. On September 9 National Strategy Institute Vice-President Viktor Militarev said Ms. Tymoshenko is "much less evil for Russia than Yushchenko," apn.ru reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

NATO may consider new members in 2008

BRUSSELS – During his visit to Brussels, U.S. State Department representative Kurt Volker said on September 9 that the issue of Croatia, Albania, Macedonia and, probably, Ukraine joining NATO may be considered during a NATO Summit in 2008. According to Mr. Volker, the United States has proposed to convene two NATO summits, in 2006 to discuss NATO's internal transformation, and in 2008 to discuss NATO's further enlargement. According to John Colston, an aide to the NATO secretary general, NATO will consider the U.S. proposals. He noted that the subject of enlargement will not dominate the September 13-14 informal meeting in Berlin of NATO's defense ministers. (Ukrinform)

Rada passes gender equality bill

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on September 9 approved a bill aimed at legislatively ensuring the equality of men and women and creating conditions for their realization in all spheres of social life. The bill envisages elimination of all forms of gender discrimination and provides for state guarantees in forming equal relations between women and men as main condition of civil society stable development. The bill envisages equal opportunities for women and men in such spheres as public service and service in local authority bodies, education and professional training, labor and remuneration. The bill outlines males' and females' equality in entrepreneurship and their social protection. In

particular the law notes that women's social protection during pregnancy, childbirth and breast-feeding, as well as obligatory military service for men, must not be considered as discrimination. (Ukrinform)

Anti-terrorism center to be set up

SEVASTOPOL – An anti-terrorism information center will be set up in Sevastopol, Crimea, the Defense Ministry press service said on September 9. A delegation of NATO's "South" allied naval forces arrived in Sevastopol on Friday on a two-day visit, led by Capt. 1st Class Sjord Bot, chief of the Long-Term Planning Division, with a view of discussing the center's establishment. The NATO delegation was to hold a series of briefings at the Ukrainian Navy headquarters in Sevastopol for senior Ukrainian naval officers, some of which were to deal with Ukraine's involvement in the Active Effort operation. The NATO delegation were also expected to discuss a plan of further visits to Ukraine by naval experts in logistics, communication and operation planning. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainians to train Iraqi border guards

KYIV – The Defense Ministry press service said on September 9 that Ukrainian peacekeepers in Iraq will be in charge of training personnel for the Wasit Brigade of border guards. A day earlier a conference was convened in Baghdad to discuss problems of border-crossing checkpoints, which was attended by the Iraqi deputy minister of the interior and commanding officers of national military contingents of the Multinational Forces in Iraq. The Ukrainian contingent's segment of the Iraqi-Iranian border is regarded as relatively calm, but requires constant vigilance to prevent the entry of contraband goods, weapons and drugs. When the training process is completed, the Iraqi trainees will be certified by the Multinational Forces' Commission to discharge their duties unassisted by the Ukrainian instructors. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko nominates...

(Continued from page 2)

the construction industry to the post of deputy director for economic issues of Kyiv's main construction directorate.

After Ukraine gained independence in 1991, Mr. Yekhanurov moved to the Cabinet of Ministers, where he initially served as a departmental director and then was promoted to the post of deputy economy minister.

In 1994-1997 he oversaw the initial stage of Ukraine's privatization as head of the State Property Fund. Subsequently he served as economy minister and deputy chief of the presidential administration. At that time he belonged to the People's Democratic Party, a "party of power" that provided political support to President Leonid Kuchma.

In 1998 Mr. Yekhanurov was elected to the Verkhovna Rada from a one-seat constituency in Zhytomyr Oblast. From 1999 to 2001 he worked as first vice prime minister in a Cabinet headed by Mr. Yushchenko. When Mr. Yushchenko was dismissed as prime minister in 2001, President Kuchma employed Mr. Yekhanurov as first deputy chief of the presidential administration.

In November 2001, Mr. Yekhanurov left Mr. Kuchma for good and tied his political fate closely to that of Mr. Yushchenko. He became deputy chief of the election campaign of Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc and was elected to Parliament in March 2002 from Our Ukraine's list. In 2004, Mr. Yekhanurov became deputy chief of Mr. Yushchenko's presidential election campaign. In March 2005, he was elected

head of the executive committee of the Our Ukraine People's Union, Mr. Yushchenko's "party of power." In April, President Yushchenko appointed Mr. Yekhanurov chairman of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast State Administration after his predecessor was accused of having backed Mr. Yushchenko's rival in the presidential election.

Perhaps it is also not without significance for President Yushchenko in his current situation that Mr. Yekhanurov is one of the very few in the Ukrainian president's entourage who back Ukraine's membership in the Single Economic Space with Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus. "This is a businesslike man, a man who deeply understands economics and economic relations, including those between states," Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin said of Mr. Yekhanurov last week.

In other words, Mr. Yekhanurov appears to be the opposite of the politically overambitious and charismatic Ms. Tymoshenko, whom President Yushchenko accused of focusing on "PR activities" rather than on the presidential election program. Mr. Yekhanurov seems to be a man who will easily accept his place in the shadow of Mr. Yushchenko. But this may have drawbacks for the Ukrainian president as well, because now voters will be more likely to see Mr. Yushchenko – not Mr. Yekhanurov – as the real leader of the government.

If things in Ukraine continue to go poorly, President Yushchenko will not be able to lay all of the blame on Mr. Yekhanurov and fire him as the main culprit, as he did with Ms. Tymoshenko.

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Khmelnychenky Plast fraternity's dance rocks Wildwood Crest

by Adrian Horodecky

WILDWOOD CREST, N.J. – A multitude of beachgoers danced and partied at the “zabava” (dance) organized by the Khmelnychenky fraternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization here at the Crest Pier Recreation Center on Friday, August 26.

The Crest Pier was jammed with young Ukrainians dancing the night

the auction and the dance will be donated to the Vovcha Tropa Plast campground improvement fund.

At 10 p.m. the youth “vechirka” began with Luna playing a set of rock 'n roll and concluded with the traditional and lively “kolomyika.” The teenagers had the darkened dance floor all to themselves, while the adults conversed out of sight on the deck.

After the dance ended, the party shift-



Young zabava-goers during the rousing “kolomyika.”



Youngsters enjoy watching the auction benefiting Plast's Vovcha Tropa camp.

away to live music by the Luna band and to CD mixes played through the sound system. The scene was equally festive on the pier's spacious deck, where a packed crowd of longtime Wildwood vacationers had a chance to reunite with old friends. The Khmel dance provided a perfect forum for all Ukrainians to gather in a safe and convenient family setting for a great time.

The children's dance was held at 8-9:30 p.m. Parents joined in the dancing and captured the magical moments of the “Party Ptashat” on video and film. At 9:30 p.m. the Spartanky sorority held an auction of donated items. Proceeds from

ed across Crocus Road to the Park Lane Motel, where Ukrainian singing and accordion-playing were heard well into the night.

Reflecting on their success, the Khmeli said they are proud to host such an event that reflected well on them, on Plast and the Ukrainian community. The Khmelnychenky hope to see all again next year.

The Khmelnychenky welcome comments and suggestions on how to improve the dance. Please e-mail Adrian Horodecky at adrian@telligys.com. Wildwood dance photos may be viewed in the galleries section at www.xmel.org.

Assessing Ukraine...

(Continued from page 12)

bors come to mind. Some nations prefer whining over actions, but sooner or later many nations come to their senses, realizing that only they suffer from the hypocrisy of low expectations. Poles used to whine for two centuries until they became serious about accomplishing

something in 1989. Frankly, I had hoped that the departure from the old whining would be one of the main achievements of the Orange Revolution, which amounts to saying Ukraine is inferior and cannot become a normal country or compete with others. I hope Ukrainian patriots find statements of that nature denigrating. If you demand nothing of yourself, you will accomplish nothing.

In their own words: Tymoshenko...

(Continued from page 10)

who supported me in that difficult situation of a two-chamber Cabinet, so to speak. These people supported me, helped me, they tried to protect me from all those splits in the government. I was supposed to sign decrees dismissing those people.

The main thing was that I had to agree to the dismissal of Oleksander Turchynov from the Security Service of Ukraine. I understand that it was discomforting to have the prime minister on one side and the SBU head on the other side; we could clearly see everything bad that was happening in the country – corruption, abuse and illegal lobbying. Of course, this tandem did not suit the president's entourage. I can say that 90 percent of these conditions were communicated by the so-called team, who demanded that I do it immediately.

In addition, in the joint election list for the parliamentary election, two-thirds had to be given to the president's team and one-third was to be given to our party. By the way, I was not against this. A coalition agreement and a joint election bloc – I welcomed this. It was the only way to resolve the situation.

However, honestly, I was somewhat psychologically shaken by this formal proposal. I asked the president whether it was possible to sack those who were suspected of corruption, and whether we could at least suspend them from their posts and later decide on their fate after the investigation.

But Viktor Andriyovych said, no, he could not do it because they were his team and they would feel that it was unfair that they were sacked and I stayed on. This would offset the balance. I wanted to ask, "What kind of balance can exist between the people who are suspected of corruption and those who are not? Sack them all together?"

I understood that I had to think about these conditions and I did not sign any decrees that night. I simply came to my team, I gathered everyone who would be affected by those conditions set by the

president. I gathered those people because I could not just stab them in the back and do the things I couldn't do. I gathered them and sought their advice on the situation. We exchanged ideas on what to do and how to behave in this case.

I can say that they did not protest against their dismissals or anything at all. But the main thing was that I just could not do it. I could not do it because my seat means nothing to me. Hundreds of times I just wanted to drop it all, because it was torture to work under these conditions.

But I thought that I could not drop it, because it was not some officials who appointed me to this post. I was appointed by the people who trusted me, who stood in the squares and who voted for the president. I simply could not abandon it, because it would mean betrayal. It would be like deserting the battlefield from the barricades.

I could not do it by myself. So in the morning I spoke with the president by phone and I told him that I would not be able to accept those conditions because I would not be able to look in the mirror in the morning. I would want to spit at the mirror. I would always remember those whom I betrayed to keep this seat, which was not worth much in tactical terms.

I asked the president to meet one more time and to try to find an option that would not ruin our relations. I came to the president and we talked for 20 minutes before his fateful television appearance when he dismissed the Cabinet. I

sat next to him, I took his hand in my hand and said, "Viktor Andriyovych, I am asking you, and I am struggling to find the right words, but don't ruin people's hopes, don't ruin the authority of our revolution, don't ruin the people's hope for morality, honesty and justice."

"Let us walk out to the cameras hand in hand, together, look at the cameras and say that as long as we are together, stability in Ukraine is guaranteed."

At some moment I thought the president hesitated but you know, fate will always be fate. At that moment, Poroshenko stormed into the president's office, without invita-

tion, without knocking. He was covered, excuse me, in tears and snot, and he started yelling that he had just been stripped of his Parliament seat and that the decision had been backed by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and that they were traitors who literally removed him from Parliament. It looked comical, honestly.

So the president looked, stood up, turned his back to me and said that the conversation was over. He went on, having practically destroyed our unity, our future and the future of our country. I would like to say that I consider this step absolutely illogical.

The president's...

(Continued from page 7)

Americans and other democratic nations demonstrated at that decisive time for our nation. We managed to construct a firm bridge that unites us. We built it from such solid materials as our common beliefs in good and evil. I believe we will work hard on this bridge in both directions.

Today, we grieve with the United States over the Katrina disaster. Ukraine was one of the first countries to offer its help. We believe that the American nation will transform its spiritual power into its creative power.

This millennium brings us new challenges, threats and crises. John Kennedy once said that the Chinese used two

hieroglyphs to spell the word "crisis." The first means "danger" but the second means "possibilities." I believe that unity of all free nations based on genuinely democratic values will reveal unseen possibilities. We will jointly use them.

Dear friends:

I accept this medal as an oath to loyalty. I will pass it on to my children along with the World War II medals of my father who was a war prisoner. They are equal to me – these are tokens of freedom gained by the nation. They remind us of the price we paid for it and our obligation to preserve this God's precious gift. This is our obligation. We will preserve it.

May God bless America!

May God protect Ukraine!

Thank you.

In their own words: Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 10)

Poltava court's ruling regarding Nikopol's privatization is legitimate? That an earlier shareholders meeting is legitimate? Evidence is being submitted by someone who doesn't have Ukrainian citizenship. Who needs this? To what extent can these backstage antics take place behind the back of the president and the government? Let the judges tell how many calls they received and how much they were pressured to produce evidence.

This was a fight of one against another: Poroshenko against Tymoshenko. I saw how the machine was falling apart while they were opposing each other. And both are too skillful to oppose each other. With all these emotions, I am the same as I was. I had no political right to act in a different way. This was an absolutely correct decision. I am happy that I made it. Perhaps this is the most important decision for me – it was the most complicated political decision. However, in various positions, I have made exceptionally complicated decisions.

Obviously, this was the most complicated. I am happy that I did it.

With every day, the world and nation are beginning to find out everything and see that I did it for Ukraine. [I was] not looking at it as a fight between a few people who could not figure out who is more important, to feel in charge, dragging in government officials at first, then the legal branches into their intrigues. I couldn't look at this anymore.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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| September 29-October 3, 2005
Ukrainian American Veterans
Convention | November 12, 2005
Wedding |
| September 30, 2005
KLK Weekend - General Meeting
and Banquet | November 19, 2005
Sigma Beta Chi Fraternity Formal
Dinner Banquet |
| September 30-October 1, 2005
Plast Sorority Rada - Spartanky | November 20, 2005
Ellenville Cooperative Nursery
School Auction |
| October 3-6, 2005
Stamford Clergy Days | November 23-27, 2005
Family Reunions |
| October 8, 2005
Wedding | November 24, 2005
Thanksgiving Feast 1-4 pm, \$25/per
person, overnight packages
available |
| October 9, 2005
Republican Party Fund-Raiser
Banquet | December 24, 2005
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve
Supper 6 pm, \$25/per person,
overnight packages available |
| October 15, 2005
Wedding | December 31-January 1, 2006
New Year's Eve Extravaganza Package |
| October 21-23, 2005
National Plast Convention | January 6, 2006
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve
Supper 6 pm, \$25/per person,
overnight packages available |
| October 23, 2005
UNWLA Branch 89, 40th
Anniversary Luncheon Banquet | January 27-29, 2006
Church of Annunciation Family
Weekend, Flushing, NY |
| October 28-30, 2005
Halloween Weekend with children's
costume parade, costume zabava
and more | |
| November 4-6, 2005
Plast Orlykiada | |



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday-Sunday, September 30-October 2

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: The 58th national convention of the Ukrainian American Veterans will convene at the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka estate on September 30 and end with the traditional banquet to be held Saturday, October 1. This year's banquet is dedicated to our troops in the United States Armed Forces who are fighting terrorism around the world. Guest speaker at the event is Father Ivan Tyhovych, who will speak about his experience serving as a chaplain in Iraq. The banquet begins at 7 p.m., to be preceded by a cocktail hour at 6 p.m. Music following the banquet will be provided by the Lvivany orchestra. Banquet tickets, at \$55, may be ordered by calling Nicholas Skirka, (914) 965-3707.

Saturday, October 1

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society will host the presentation of the newly published English edition of Volume 9, Book 1 of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus." The volume, titled "The Cossack Age, 1650-1653," appears in a translation by Bohdan Struminski. Presenting the volume will be Dr. Frank E. Sysyn and Dr. Zenon Kohut. The volume is a publication of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, Edmonton/Toronto. The program 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.

Thursday, October 6

Toronto: The Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine will host a lecture by Tetyana Sakharuk, lecturer, National University of Internal Affairs, Kharkiv, and a Petro Jacyk Visiting Scholar. The lecture, titled "Human Rights Observance in Justice System of Ukraine," will be held in Room 108N at the Munk Center for International Studies, 1 Devonshire Place, at noon-2 p.m. For more information contact the Jacyk Program, (416) 946-8113; send an e-mail to larysa.iarovenko@utoronto.ca; or check the program's website at www.utoronto.ca/jacyk.

Saturday, October 8

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites the public to a lecture by Olena Leontovych of Kyiv titled "The Genealogy of the Leontovych Family." Mrs. Leontovych is a member of the Writers' Union of Ukraine. The lecture 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.

Tuesday, October 11

TORONTO: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine will present a lecture by John-Paul Himka, professor, department of history and classics, University of Alberta. The lecture, titled "Disintegration of the Ukrainian Icon Tradition in the 18th Century," will be held in Room 108N, Munk Center for

International Studies, 1 Devonshire Place, at 4-6 p.m. For additional information contact the Jacyk Program, (416) 946-8113; send an e-mail to larysa.iarovenko@utoronto.ca; or check the program's website at www.utoronto.ca/jacyk.

Saturday, October 15

CHICAGO: The Chicago Business and Professional Group invites members and the community to a stimulating discussion on the current troubled phase of the "Orange Revolution." Dr. Alexander J. Motyl, professor of political science at Rutgers University and deputy director of the Center for Global Change and Governance, will analyze the recent turmoil in Ukraine while focusing on the developments that he believes justify a cautious optimism about the country's future. Author of numerous books and articles on the history and politics of Ukraine and Eastern Europe, Dr. Motyl is also a talented artist and novelist. His new novel, "Whiskey Priest," will be available for purchase at the event. The presentation will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 7 p.m. Refreshments and socializing will follow the presentation. Admission: \$10, members; \$15, non-members and guests. For additional information call (847) 359-3676.

Sunday, October 16

WASHINGTON: The Washington Group Cultural Fund announces the first event in its 2005-2006 Sunday Music Series. A trio from the famed New York ensemble Continuum will perform an all-Ukrainian contemporary music program, including works by Liatoshynsky, Sylvestrov, Hrabovsky and Baley. The concert will be held at The Lyceum Theater, 201 S. Washington St., Old Town Alexandria, Va., at 3 p.m. Unreserved seating. Suggested donation: \$20; students, free. For more information contact Marta Zielyk, (202) 244-8836, or check "Events" at www.TheWashingtonGroup.org. To become a sponsor of the 2005-2006 series, please send a check made out to TWGCF (\$100 for individuals; \$160 for couples) to R. Norair, 7414 Honesty Way, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Saturday, October 22

LOS ANGELES: St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church invites the community to "Ukraine Fest 2005," which will be held on the parish grounds, 4025 Melrose Ave., at 10:30 a.m.- 6 p.m. The entertainment program will feature Iryna Orlova and Anatoly Mamalyga, Borys Zhaivoronok, Yuriy Nelzin and Lilia Babenko, Svitlana Ziver as well as the Chervona Kalyna Ukrainian dancers. Ukrainian arts and crafts will be displayed in the church hall, and booths will offer special items for sale. There will also be children's activities. Ukrainian foods, as well as snacks and beverages, will be available throughout the day. Raffle tickets, with a portion of the proceeds to be donated to an orphanage in Ukraine, will be available for purchase. Donation: \$2 per person; children under the 12, when accompanied by a parent, free. Come and enjoy a day of camaraderie and pleasure, meet with old friends, and make new ones.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per submission) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. To have an event listed please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long.

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