

INSIDE:

- Obituary: Joseph Lesawyer, former UNA president — page 4.
- Book launch for Mary Mycio's "Wormwood Forest" — page 8.
- Profile: Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten of Stamford — page 12.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

Vol. LXXIV

No. 7

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2006

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ambassador Oleh Shamshur visits Ukrainian organizations in New York



Andrew Nynka

Ambassador Oleh Shamshur is presented with bread, salt and flowers by UNWLA New York Regional Council President Nadia Sawczuk (left) and UNWLA President Iryna Kurowyckyj.

by Andrew Nynka

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

NEW YORK — Ukraine's newly appointed ambassador to the United States, Oleh Shamshur, stressed during a visit here on February 4 that his Embassy would "cooperate fully with members of the diaspora," particularly on issues involving investment in Ukraine, recognition of the Ukrainian Famine Genocide

of 1932-1933 and the upcoming parliamentary elections in Ukraine.

In visits that stretched throughout the day, Dr. Shamshur, 49, met with representatives of various Ukrainian American diaspora organizations based in this city. During his visit, the ambassador answered questions and touched on a wide variety of topics, among them the

(Continued on page 6)

International business conference promotes opportunities in Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Now is the time to give Ukraine a second look, former World Bank President James Wolfensohn told more than 300 international businessmen attending the second annual Renaissance Capital conference.

Bankers, investors and their representatives converged upon Kyiv on February 7 and 8 to feel out the business climate and examine the latest opportunities available in post-Orange Ukraine.

Ukraine is a nation "with absolutely enormous potential, yet "there is a lack of political strength to get things done," Mr. Wolfensohn said, citing the domination of entrenched oligarchs and few market-friendly systems.

"The potential here just makes you want to cry in terms of what can be done," he added.

While European Union and World Trade Organization membership are worthy goals, "Ukraine's problems can be solved internally in Ukraine by Ukrainians," he said. Joining those organizations are mere extras.

For example, corruption and bureaucracy continue to plague the economy, despite the fact that there are impressive government officials who are competent and have a desire to move the country forward.

Ukraine ranked 124th out of 155 nations in terms of the ease of doing

business, according to the World Bank's "Doing Business in 2006" report. Such a ranking is far behind Hungary and Poland, Mr. Wolfensohn said, which ranked 52nd and 53rd, respectively.

Such problems exist despite Ukraine's excellent geographic position, abundance of natural resources and educated population.

Only 8.4 per 100 Ukrainians are Internet users, an incredibly low number for a nation so well-educated, he said.

"The problems in Ukraine are not fundamental problems," he said. "They're bureaucratic problems."

Mr. Wolfensohn said Ukraine's agricultural future is exceptional and pointed out that Renaissance Capital has already recognized the opportunity for modernizing the sector. "I salivate at the prospects of agriculture," Mr. Wolfensohn said.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Wolfensohn mentioned that his Jewish grandparents had emigrated from Ukraine, having been "asked to leave at a less hospitable time."

While Mr. Wolfensohn spoke positively and optimistically of Ukraine's potential, government officials did little to buttress his endorsement and impress investors.

President Viktor Yushchenko, Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov and National Security and Defense Council Chair Anatolii Kinakh didn't appear at the conference, despite being scheduled to so.

(Continued on page 5)

Ukraine's Olympians honored at send-off ceremony in Kyiv

KYIV — The Ukrainian Olympic team was honored at a send-off ceremony at Independence Square on February 3, Ukrinform reported. The team, which consists of 53 athletes who will compete in 10 types of sports, will represent Ukraine at the XX Winter Olympic Games to be held in Turin, Italy, on February 10-26.

Ivan Vasiunyk, first deputy head of the Presidential Administration, read a message from President Viktor Yushchenko to members of the team. Mr. Yushchenko expressed the hope that the athletes will be worthy representatives of Ukraine at Turin.

Sports, Youth and Family Minister Yuriy Pavlenko, Ukrainian National Olympic Committee President Serhii Bubka, Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko and UMC mobile communications company head Adam Wojacki also participated in the sendoff ceremony. UMC is the general sponsor of the National Olympic Committee and the Ukrainian Olympic team.

President Yushchenko met with the team separately on February 3 to wish the athletes victory and to sign the flag of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Ukraine, Ukrinform reported. Mr. Yushchenko announced that he had signed a decree on the creation of a National Council on Physical Education and Sports a few hours earlier, and that he would head the council.

The Ukrainian president said the council would convene its first meeting after the Olympic Games to discuss all urgent issues. NOC President Bubka noted that those include the need for an extensive network of specialized sports bases and the completion of the Olympic House.



Official Website of the President of Ukraine

President Viktor Yushchenko and National Olympic Committee of Ukraine President Serhii Bubka with a group of Ukrainian Olympians before they left for Turin, Italy.

ANALYSIS

Terms of new gas deal remain unclear

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Newsline

Officials in Kyiv announced on February 2 the finalization of a gas deal from January, under which Ukraine is now to receive gas from Russia at \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters. According to Kyiv, the price of \$95 is to remain unchanged for five years. However, RosUkrEnergo, a Swiss-based company that was made the monopolist of gas supplies to Ukraine, signals that this is not quite so.

On February 2 Naftohaz Ukrayiny, Ukraine's gas transportation company, signed an accord with the Swiss-based gas trader RosUkrEnergo in Kyiv on the creation of a joint venture to sell gas in Ukraine. Both companies were obliged to do so by a framework gas agreement of January 4, under which RosUkrEnergo became the monopolist of gas supplies to Ukraine for the next five years.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov praised the five-year accord as advantageous for Ukraine. But he told journalists that he is also fully aware that the document may be bitterly criticized by his political opponents. "My future political career is not important here. It is important that it will be warm in your apartments tomorrow. In summer you may curse me to your souls' content. But in winter you may find a good word for me," he said.

On January 4 Naftohaz Ukrayiny, RosUkrEnergo and Gazprom signed a deal whereby Ukraine is to obtain 34 billion cubic meters of gas in 2006 from Russia for \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters – up from \$50 in previous years. The deal also provided for the creation of a joint venture between Naftohaz Ukrayiny and RosUkrEnergo to sell gas in Ukraine and share profits from it.

Critics of the deal said it was valid for only the first six months of the year as regards the gas price for Ukraine, simultaneously pointing out that it set the gas transit tariff for Gazprom for five years. Such critics also slammed the government for making RosUkrEnergo – a dubious intermediary created by Gazprom – the monopolist responsible for gas supplies to Ukraine.

On January 10 the Verkhovna Rada passed a motion of no-confidence in Prime Minister Yekhanurov's Cabinet over the gas deal. Mr. Yekhanurov and his ministers, however, have remained in office due to a constitutional reform that took effect on January 1 and effectively prevents the current legislature from appointing a new Cabinet.

The joint venture created on February 2, named UkrGazEnergo, has a charter capi-

tal of 5 million hrv (\$1 million U.S.) with stakes shared evenly between its founders. The same day UkrGazEnergo and RosUkrEnergo signed a contract under which Ukraine is to obtain 34 billion cubic meters of gas in 2006 and some 60 billion cubic meters annually in 2007-2010.

Naftohaz Ukrayiny spokesman Eduard Zaniuk told journalists in Kyiv on February 2 that neither gas storage facilities nor gas pipelines in Ukraine will be included in UkrGazEnergo's charter capital. Mr. Zaniuk was thus addressing the common fears in Ukraine that Moscow is using gas price as a weapon to gain control over Ukraine's gas transportation network.

In a no less important statement, Mr. Zaniuk announced that the new gas price for Ukraine will remain stable for five years: "Responding to questions from skeptics in Ukrainian political circles, we announce that the gas price defined in this contract is fixed for five years and is \$95 for 1,000 cubic meters."

If this is really so, then the new contract represents a major victory for Kyiv, which had initially been promised the price of \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters just for the first half of 2006. The victory seems to be even more significant if one takes into account that the gas price for Ukraine is lower than that charged by Gazprom for all other post-Soviet countries except Belarus. For example, Gazprom set the new gas price for Moldova and Georgia at \$110 per 1,000 cubic meters.

However, the same day, RosUkrEnergo managers Konstantin Chuichenko and Oleg Palchikov cast doubt on Mr. Zanyuk's words. Mr. Chuichenko said the price may be changed depending on the price of Russian gas for RosUkrEnergo. In turn, Mr. Palchikov asserted that there is no "price formula" included in the contract, adding that the price for Ukraine will depend on the price of Central Asian gas in the total gas volume supplied to the country.

And, Andrii Halushchak, Naftohaz Ukrayiny's representative on the UkrGazEnergo supervisory board, admitted that a change in the gas price may actually take place, but only with the consent of both sides. If there is no such consent, he added, the sides should appeal to court. Thus, it seems that the deal does not end the gas supply controversy between Kyiv and Moscow and may lead to a renewed row in the longer run, particularly if Turkmenistan, a major gas source for Ukraine, moves to increase its price for RosUkrEnergo.

It should also be expected that the gas supplies will continue to be a topical issue for the opposition in the ongoing parliamentary election campaign in Ukraine. There is still a mystery surrounding the owners of RosUkrEnergo, which came into the global spotlight on January 4. And this latest gas contract, instead of dispelling this mystery, has added some of its own.

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

U.S. experts focus on avian flu efforts

KYIV – A U.S. government interagency delegation on Avian Influenza visited Ukraine on January 27-29 as part of a trip to Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to learn about the region's preparations to address avian influenza.

The team met with Ukrainian counterparts to hear about the avian influenza situation, see what lessons have been learned, and make recommendations on what the U.S. can do to support efforts in Ukraine to prepare for, detect and respond to outbreaks of avian influenza as part of a broader international assistance effort.

"The team hopes to expand existing

lines of communication between bilateral, multilateral and private-sector partners, and encourage closer collaboration among experts in government and non-governmental animal and human health organizations," said Anne Derse, Department of State representative on the team.

"We are urging countries across the world to accelerate efforts to address avian influenza, including rapid detection and reporting of cases, transparent and open sharing of information, data and samples, and comprehensive planning to respond to and contain potential outbreaks," she said.

NEWSBRIEFS**Kyiv removes envoy to Canada**

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on February 7 relieved Mykola Maimeskul of the position of Ukraine's ambassador to Canada in connection with a new job. Mr. Maimeskul had served as Ukraine's envoy to Canada since March 20, 2004. (Ukrinform)

New Rada session is opened

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn opened the ninth session of the Verkhovna Rada of the fourth convocation on February 7. All members of the government, Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov, representatives of judicial bodies, the ombudsperson, the Central Election Committee chairman, the Accounting Chamber chairman, the State Property Fund chairwoman and other officials were present at the session hall. Mr. Lytvyn said the session will "have a clear election content." Among the session's main tasks the chairman listed prevention of any spontaneous or uncivilized manifestations, which are possible during the election campaign. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovych says SES is solution

DONETSK – Former Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, head of the opposition Party of the Regions, told journalists in Donetsk on February 6 that the creation of a Single Economic Space with Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia is "the only realistic way for resolving the gas crisis," the Ukrayinska Pravda website reported. According to Mr. Yanukovych, that conclusion was reached during recent talks between his party and the pro-Kremlin Unified Russia. "Our countries should have a single energy policy," he noted. "Russia is vigorously integrating with the European economic space, and it is very important for Ukraine not to let this process bypass our state." (RFE/RL Newsline)

McCain criticizes Putin

MUNICH – U.S. Sen. John McCain told the Munich security conference on February 4 that "under [President Vladimir

Putin, Russia today is neither a democracy nor one of the world's leading economies, and I seriously question whether the [Group of Eight] leaders should attend the [upcoming] St. Petersburg summit," mosnews.com reported. Sen. McCain argued that "the Kremlin ... continues to pursue foreign and domestic policies strongly at odds with our interests and values." He noted that Russia's "broadcast media are Kremlin-controlled, as are the Parliament, the provincial governors and the judiciary. All of these were free and independent when ... Putin took office." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Population below 47 million

KYIV – The State Statistics Committee announced in mid-January that Ukraine's population has fallen to 46,958,740 as of December 1, 2005. As of December 1, Ukraine's urban population was 31,886,688 (a decrease of 0.01 percent, or 3,534) while its rural population was 15,072,052 (a fall of 0.2 percent, or 25,238). In the January-November 2005 period, the country's population fell by 0.7 percent, or 322,060. According to the nationwide census conducted in December 2001, Ukraine's population was 48,415,500, including 32,538,000 in urban areas and 15,877,500 in rural areas. (Ukrainian News Agency, Action Ukraine Report)

Envoy presents letter of credence

WASHINGTON – Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the United States of America Dr. Oleh Shamshur presented his letter of credence and a letter of recall of his predecessor to Secretary of State Dr. Condoleezza Rice on January 24. As reported by the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States and Ukrinform, Dr. Shamshur was born in Kyiv on July 6, 1956. In 1978 he graduated from the international relations and international law department of Kyiv State University. He worked as a counselor of Ukraine's Permanent Representation to United Nations headquarters and other international organizations in Geneva. Between 1998 and 2003 he worked as a

(Continued on page 14)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

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

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

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

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

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

Postmaster, send address changes to:
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Editor:
Zenon Zawada (Kyiv)

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

The Ukrainian Weekly, February 12, 2006, No. 7, Vol. LXXIV

Copyright © 2006 The Ukrainian Weekly

ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Prochorenko Ph.D., director of publications	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3034 e-mail: prochorenko@unamember.com
Walter Honcharyk, administrator	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3041
Maria Oscislowski, advertising manager	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040 e-mail: adsukrpubl@att.net
Mariyka Pendzola, subscriptions	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3042 e-mail: ukrsubscr@att.net

ONE YEAR AFTER: Residents of Lviv, in western Ukraine, reflect on Orange Revolution

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

“One Year After” is a four-part series examining the lives of Ukrainians one year after the Orange Revolution. This final installment features Olha Boyko, a 23-year-old Lviv resident completing her last year of medical school. (Previous articles in this series took a look at life in Alchevsk, eastern Ukraine; Yevpatoria, Crimea, in southern Ukraine; and the capital, Kyiv, in central Ukraine.)

LVIV – The Orange Revolution defined her generation, said Olha Boyko, 23. That’s why she’ll fondly remember the events and never regret taking part. Yet the revolution did not change the fact that the Ukrainian government will choose her medical specialty and require her to work, likely by herself, in a village for her medical internship.

“I talked to the interns who work there,” said Ms. Boyko, who is in her final year of studies at Lviv National Medical University. “There’s no medicine, no tools, no instruments. In these conditions, you can’t treat or help people.”

One year after, most Ukrainians who took part in the Orange Revolution realize that it was the first step in what will be a decades-long process in creating a civil society in Ukraine.

It’s a challenge that makes a two-and-a-half week revolution pale in comparison. Those graduating, such as Ms. Boyko, are bracing for the task, admittedly with reluctance and concern.

Ms. Boyko believes the government should have already set as its priority creating minimal working conditions for medical interns, the nation’s future doctors.

Instead, upon graduation in June she faces a three-year internship that will likely pay \$80 a month, requiring her to work at least two jobs, “if not three,” just to make ends meet, she said.

“This is not what we fought for”

Not all Ukrainian medical students are forced to accept medical specialties and a designated assignment.

In April 2004, the Ministry of Health led by Andrii Pidaev forced Ms. Boyko and all medical students on government scholarships to sign agreements requiring them to perform their internships, typically three years, where it needed them most. More than likely, that meant a

Ukrainian village, a destination no other doctor wanted to go because of the meager conditions.

In theory, each Ukrainian village is supposed to have an “FAP” (“Feldshersko-Akusherskyi Punkt”) or a Medical-Obstetrics Center. However, many lack even one of those. Those FAPs that do exist are typically dilapidated buildings that often lack plumbing, furniture and windows.

For water, a doctor or medic would rely on a well that could be as far as 100 meters away. Most FAPs offer no tools or medicine for the doctors to work with. On their paltry salaries, some doctors have to obtain equipment themselves.

Some villages offer no place for a doctor to live, while others offer a very meager home.

Imagining her internship, Ms. Boyko has already begun to imagine the hardship. “Working on enthusiasm alone is very difficult,” she said with a sheepish laugh.

The Ukrainian government was able to force its scholarship students to accept such conditions because these people had no other choice. Those students who paid their own tuition had no debt and couldn’t be forced into the villages.

According to the decree, if Ms. Boyko refused, she would have to repay the government her entire tuition at once.

When she commenced her studies in 2000, annual tuition at Lviv National Medical University was about \$850 a year. It has risen every year since then to about \$2,000 a year, Ms. Boyko said. Refusing now would require a \$12,000 payment – an astronomical sum for students such as Ms. Boyko.

As if that weren’t enough, the Orange Revolution brought in more restrictions for medical students.

Within a month of his appointment, the new health minister, Mykola Polishchuk, issued a decree cutting the number of medical specialties in Ukraine’s universities from 54 to 16.

In the same decree he increased the length of internships by two years. Therefore, an internship would last between three and five years.

Dr. Polishchuk had good intentions, most authorities believe.

Students graduating with narrow medical specialties, such as ultrasound diagnostics or infant neurology, are unable to find jobs in Ukraine’s large cities because



Lviv, population 758,500, is western Ukraine’s principal city. Ninety-five percent of the Lviv Oblast is ethnic Ukrainian. Viktor Yushchenko won 94 percent of the vote in the Lviv Oblast in the third round of the 2004 presidential elections.

these positions are already filled. Meanwhile, small towns and villages are desperate for family doctors, the type that could offer broad, basic medical treatment.

Nevertheless, scholarship students were furious that the new government – supposedly more democratic and pro-Western – was limiting their freedom of choice.

“I agree that villages need doctors, and students agree,” Ms. Boyko said, reflecting the position held by most students. “If the government created acceptable conditions to work as a doctor, then we would go and work there.”

Shy and gentle to an extreme, Ms. Boyko doesn’t seem like the protesting type. However, it was the Orange Revolution that gave her and other medical students the inspiration to challenge the Health Ministry’s February 2005 decree.

“Before, we wouldn’t have even had the idea to strike,” Ms. Boyko said. “Until the revolution, we weren’t taught to do such things. The Orange Revolution gave us the inspiration.”

Students from all over Ukraine descended upon the Ministry of Health in April to protest the decree.

At Lviv National Medical University,

Ms. Boyko and others wrote a letter to the minister and gathered signatures demanding that he rescind the order. They refrained from a student strike because the Ukrainian government forbids doctors from such taking part in such acts because they threaten the public welfare.

During the last week in April, Ms. Boyko and 30 classmates traveled to Kyiv. The boldest demonstrators set up a tent city at Mariinskyi Park and staged a hunger strike. Some protesting students arrived wearing orange scarves, symbolically taking them off and throwing them onto the ground in protest.

“This is not what we fought for!” some shouted.

Eventually, Minister Polishchuk confronted the students, essentially telling them that the government was working both in their best interests and in the nation’s interest, Ms. Boyko said.

President Viktor Yushchenko also greeted the students, assuring them he would help them reach a compromise.

However, there was no compromise. Only after Mr. Yushchenko fired his Cabinet of Ministers on September 8, 2005, did any change take place. The

(Continued on page 10)

POLITICAL BLOC PROFILE: The Our Ukraine coalition

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

During the 2006 parliamentary election campaign, The Ukrainian Weekly will profile the leading political blocs. This week we feature the Our Ukraine bloc.

KYIV – “Not Words, But Actions” was President Viktor Yushchenko’s maxim ever since he formed the Our Ukraine coalition in July 2001.

Following the events of the past year, during which “the bandits” never sat in prison and the oligarchs kept their swiped booty, the phrase required a little tinkering.

So “Action and Force” (“Diya ta Syl”) is now Our Ukraine’s slogan in its campaign for the March 26 parliamentary elections, referring to the pro-democracy protests that took place in Sumy, Kharkiv and Mukachiv in the past several years and resulted in the formation of Mr. Yushchenko’s bloc.

“These political forces were the avant garde that organized the ‘maidan,’” said Roman Bezsmertnyi, the Our Ukraine

Our Ukraine Bloc’s Top Five Electoral List

1. Yuriy Yekhanurov, prime minister
2. Anatolii Kinakh, National Security and Defense Council secretary
3. Borys Tarasyuk, foreign affairs minister
4. Olha Herasymyuk, political and talk show host
5. Ruslana Lyzhychko, pop star

Bloc’s campaign chief.

The Our Ukraine bloc is currently polling in second place for the March 26 parliamentary elections.

However that doesn’t necessarily matter, said Oles Donii, chair of the Kyiv-based Center for Political Values Research, which is supported by Ukrainian citizens and is seeking international financing.

Any bloc wanting to form a majority coalition will have to join with Our Ukraine, said Mr. Donii, a view with which

most Ukrainian political experts agreed.

“Sooner than anything, it’ll be Party of the Regions,” said Mr. Donii, who is on the Socialist Party’s electoral list. “But without Our Ukraine, a majority coalition is impossible.”

The Our Ukraine bloc is the most pro-American and pro-European alternative for Ukrainian voters, political experts said, as it firmly supports European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organization membership.

Under President Yushchenko’s leadership, it strongly supports free market economic policies for Ukraine, strongly differentiating itself from the other political blocs.

Similar to other political blocs, Our Ukraine supports a high degree of social spending, which was demonstrated in the 2005 and 2006 budgets.

The Our Ukraine bloc opposes giving the Russian language official status in Ukraine.

The most visible figure in the Our Ukraine bloc is President Yushchenko, however the electoral list is led by Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov.

Given that the Our Ukraine bloc prob-

ably will have to form a coalition with either the Party of the Regions or the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, it’s unlikely that Mr. Yekhanurov will return as prime minister, said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy.

Party leadership allocated the next two electoral positions to leaders of parties that joined the bloc.

National Security and Defense

(Continued on page 17)

Our Ukraine Bloc’s Member- Parties

- Christian-Democratic Union Party
- Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists
- Our Ukraine People’s Union
- Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs
- People’s Rukh of Ukraine
- Sobor Ukrainian Republican Party

OBITUARY: Joseph Lesawyer, president of the Ukrainian National Association (1961-1978)

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Joseph Lesawyer, former supreme president of the Ukrainian National Association, died on Tuesday, January 31, at the age of 94. Mr. Lesawyer served as UNA supreme president for 17 years, and prior to that as supreme vice-president.

Mr. Lesawyer was born on May 25, 1911, in Northampton, Pa., the son of Ilko and Anna Lysohir. That same year the family moved to Hudson, N.Y., where Mr. Lesawyer completed his secondary education. He enrolled at New York University and in 1933 received a bachelor's degree in commerce. He was a real estate broker in New York City in the 1930s and 1940s and was on the Real Estate Board of New York.

He was also an avid athlete. He played

baseball for NYU and took up golf and tennis after college. For many years he could be seen on the tennis courts of the UNA's Soyuzivka estate in Kerhonkson, N.Y.

Mr. Lesawyer served in the U.S. Army in 1941-1945, attaining the rank of captain in Gen. George Patton's famed 3rd Army. He earned the Bronze Star for distinction in service during the Battle of the Bulge. Later he became one of the founders of the nationwide organization of Ukrainian American Veterans.

On June 22, 1946, he married Mary Wallick, originally of Shamokin, Pa., a lyric soprano with the New York City Opera.

He was elected supreme vice-president of the UNA in 1950, serving his first term through 1954; he was elected to another



Capt. Joseph Lesawyer, U.S. Army

four-year term in that post in 1958.

In 1961, after the death of longtime UNA Supreme President Dmytro Halychyn, Mr. Lesawyer became the fraternal organization's president. After serving the remainder of Mr. Halychyn's term, Mr. Lesawyer was elected supreme president in 1962 to the first of what would be four terms as the UNA's top executive officer. He served as supreme president through mid-1978.

Mr. Lesawyer was active in many Ukrainian organizations, including the Ukrainian Professional Society of North America (president, 1951-1953), the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (treasurer, 1949-1962; executive vice-president, 1962-1978). In 1967, at the first World Congress of Free Ukrainians, he was elected a vice-president on the WCFU presidium; in later years he was a member of the WCFU plenum.

In 1964 he was named by President Lyndon B. Johnson to serve as a member of the National Citizens' Committee for the Community Relations Service. As President Johnson noted, the service was established by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to "assist communities in preventing or resolving racial disputes and tensions through reason, persuasion and conciliation."

Mr. Lesawyer was executive director of the Shevchenko Memorial Committee of America Inc. that was responsible for the erection in 1964 of the monument to Taras Shevchenko in Washington. He also served for many years on the board of the Ukrainian Institute of America, was a board member of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, was an officer of the Ukrainian Youth League of North America and served on the Visiting Committee for Ukrainian Studies at Harvard University.

In 1976 he was national chairman of the Ukrainian Bicentennial Committee that sponsored a program in Washington on the occasion of the 200th anniversary

of the American Revolution and the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to America.

In addition he was active in the Democratic Party, playing major roles on both the state and national levels, in the National Fraternal Congress of America, the New Jersey Fraternal Congress, the Jersey City Chamber of Commerce and the Liberty State Park Commission.

In 1997 Mr. Lesawyer was honored at a dinner at New York sponsored by the Ukrainian Institute of America, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian National Association.

During his many years of service to the Ukrainian community, Mr. Lesawyer received many honors, among them the Shevchenko Freedom Award, the World Congress of Free Ukrainians Award and the Ukrainian Institute Recognition Award.

Mr. and Mrs. Lesawyer, who resided for many years in Scotch Plains, N.J., later retired to the North Port area in Florida, where they were active members of the Presentation of the Most Holy Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church (known locally as St. Mary's). In recent years they had resided at an assisted living facility in the Orlando area.

The Lesawyers were known as supporters of various educational and charitable organizations, among them the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and the Ukrainian Institute of America.

A funeral liturgy was held on Monday, February 6, at St. Mary's Church with the Rev. Severyn Kovalyshyn, pastor, officiating. Interment was to take place at Indiantown Gap Military Cemetery in Pennsylvania, where Mr. Lesawyer's wife, was buried after her death on June 13, 2004.

The Ukrainian National Association was represented at the funeral by Martha Lysko, first vice-president; Ulana Diachuk, former president; Walter Hetmanskyy, former branch secretary in Boston; and Walter Boyd Boryskewich, secretary of Branch 381 in Florida.

Also present was a delegation of Ukrainian American Veterans, headed by Atanas T. Kobryn, past national commander and member of the national executive board. According to Mr. Kobryn, among the veterans present were members of North Port's Cpl. Roman G. Lazor Post 40, led by Post Commander Ihor Hron. UAV members served as honorary pallbearers and delivered a final salute to their departed comrade in arms.

Mr. Kobryn also noted that the local Ukrainian American community joined Mr. Lesawyer's nephews and nieces — Greg Wallick with his wife, Michelle; Kathy Stumpf with her husband, Bob; AnnMarie Curran with her husband, Larry; and Dennis Kivell with his wife, Nan — in paying their last respects.

The family has requested that memorial donations be made in Mr. Lesawyer's name to any Ukrainian charity or to the Alzheimer's Association.



UNA Supreme President Joseph Lesawyer at his desk in the newly built UNA headquarters building, a project for which he was best known.



UNA Supreme President Joseph Lesawyer (left) during the dedication of the UNA headquarters building on February 22, 1974. Sealing the cornerstone with him are U.S. Sen. Dominick V. Daniels (second from left), Supreme Treasurer Roman Slobodian (top right) and Supreme Director for Canada Paul Yzyk (bottom right).



A view of the UNA headquarters building in Jersey City, N.J., under construction in 1972. (Note the nearly completed World Trade Center in the background.)

Immediate job opening at The Ukrainian Weekly

Editorial staff member based at our home office in Parsippany, N.J.

Journalism or related experience required. Bilingual (English/Ukrainian) skills a must. Photography skills a plus. Position requires knowledge of Ukrainian community in the diaspora (primarily North America) and current events in Ukraine. Position involves: writing, reporting, interviewing, rewrites, copy editing, proof-reading, translation and more. Applicants must have a willingness to work on diverse assignments.

Send résumé and clippings, plus a cover letter explaining your interest in the position, to: Editor-in-Chief, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ. For info call (973) 292-9800, ext. 3049.

Andrew Nynka, Ika Koznarska Casanova leave The Weekly's staff

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Editors Andrew Nynka and Ika Koznarska Casanova have left The Ukrainian Weekly's editorial staff effective February 6.

Mr. Nynka, an editor with The Weekly since April 2001 who worked out of its home office in Parsippany, N.J., will continue to contribute to the newspaper as a special correspondent. He hopes to find work as a daily newspaper reporter.

During his time at The Weekly, Mr. Nynka covered Ukraine's participation in the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah, both as a reporter and a photographer. He also covered Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko's speech before a joint meeting of Congress and his meeting in the White House with President George W. Bush in 2005. During one of his trips to Ukraine he reported from a jail in Kharkiv, Ukraine. His reporting duties also took him to the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

In early December 2004, when Roman Woronowycz, The Weekly's Kyiv correspondent at the time, left the staff, Mr.



Andrew Nynka

Nynka volunteered to serve at the Kyiv Press Bureau while The Weekly searched for a new bureau chief. Mr. Nynka served in that capacity through mid-January, covering some of the most important developments of the Orange Revolution.

In addition to covering politics, both in Ukraine and the United States, Mr. Nynka's reporting covered religion, Ukrainian society, economics, culture and a variety of other topics.

While working for The Weekly, Mr. Nynka earned a master's degree in journalism from New York University. He also holds a B.A. in political science and economics from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., and pursued additional studies in photography.

Ms. Casanova was on The Weekly staff as an assistant editor in 1980-1981. After working for the journal *Suchasnist* and The Ukrainian Museum in New York, she re-joined the staff part-time as an assistant editor in 1990. She was later named an editor and assumed the duties of arts editor of The Weekly.

While at The Weekly, Ms. Casanova prepared such noteworthy series as "On the state of contemporary Ukrainian church art and architecture" (a 17-part series) and "The Ukrainian Museum and Ukrainian culture after independence" (four parts).

She conducted interviews with such notables as former Soviet political prisoner Leonid Plyushch, Education Minister Petro Talanchuk and writer and political activist Ivan Drach.

Ms. Casanova holds a B.A. in French and an M.A. with an A.B.D. in comparative literature from New York University. She also studied abroad in Innsbruck, Austria, and at New York's Parsons School of Design. She is proficient in French, German and Spanish and travels extensively.

Ms. Casanova is executive director of the Music and Art Center of Greene County, which is based in Jewett, N.Y.

The Weekly staffers bid a fond farewell to Mr. Nynka and Ms. Casanova during the first week of February, wishing their colleagues well in their future endeavors.

International business...

(Continued from page 1)

The highest-ranking official to show was 31-year-old Minister of the Economy Arsenii Yatseniuk who offered vague and unclear economic data and summations.

The 2005 economic results were neutral to positive, Mr. Yatseniuk said. Ukraine's 2005 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth was higher than the European Union's, he said, without naming a figure.

Earlier in January, Mr. Yatseniuk had reported real GDP growth of 2.4 percent in 2005 as a tentative figure.

Vasyl Yurchyshyn, an economist at the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Research in Kyiv, said a final GDP figure isn't yet available.

Inflation increased by 10 percent, Mr. Yatseniuk said, which was lower than 2004. Producer prices were twice as low in 2005 as compared to 2004 he said.

More precisely, inflation rose 10.3 percent in Ukraine in 2005 and 12.4 percent in 2004, according to Mr. Yurchyshyn.

In 2006, the Ukrainian economy will grow at about the same rate as the prior year, Mr. Yatseniuk said.

Though he represented the Ukrainian government and was speaking in Ukraine's capital city, Mr. Yatseniuk delivered his remarks in Russian.

Speaking in Ukrainian, State Property Fund Chair Valentyna Semeniuk went to great lengths to assure investors that no foreign investment will be re-privatized.

"Of the properties that were re-privatized, none belonged to foreign investors," Ms. Semeniuk said. "This involved domestic investors who neglected to fulfill their responsibilities. I always tell foreign investors, 'You don't have any reason to fear that your property will be taken.'"

She stressed that the Nikopol Ferroalloy Plant was illegally privatized, which is why the government took back control.

While Ms. Semeniuk favors government repossessions, she is against re-privatizations and opposed the Kryvorizhstal auction, even submitting her resignation over it. President Viktor Yushchenko refused to accept her resignation.

When asked by The Weekly whether or not she favored re-privatization, Ms. Semeniuk said she wouldn't comment until the process reached that far. But she hinted that she'd be against privatizing

Nikopol.

When addressing the subject of re-privatization policy, Ms. Semeniuk said she'd like the issue to be off the table because no laws currently exist on the matter.

"I understand that today, sharp steps to the left or the right aren't positive for Ukraine," Ms. Semeniuk said. "Moreover, even if someone would like re-privatization to occur, we will never allow it without laws in place."

That was an indirect reference to Yulia Tymoshenko, who had expressed a very aggressive plan for re-privatization when she was prime minister. Businessmen and economists blamed this plan for scaring off investors, both foreign and domestic.

Ms. Semeniuk is a member of the Socialist Party, which is running in the elections as its own bloc.

As for privatization of those properties still owned by the government, Ms. Semeniuk said the State Property Fund will support such efforts but under strict oversight in which the buyer will properly develop the property.

"If you don't execute your investment responsibilities, the property returns to government ownership and is again up for competitive bidding," she explained.

During Ukraine's privatization, 98,000 properties were privatized, Ms. Semeniuk said, of which 83,000 became small businesses, 11,000 became stockholder companies, and 4,000 were incomplete construction projects.

In 2005 the Property Fund raised about \$4.7 million in budget revenues from privatizations. Currently, 65 properties are in the process of privatization, she said.

Ms. Semeniuk said she foresees the day when stocks for privatizations will be offered and traded on Ukrainian television on a Ukrainian exchange, and that Ukrainian companies will begin selling their shares on the world's major exchanges.

She stressed that all privatizations will occur on a transparent basis and foreign investors are welcome to take part.

Prominent Ukrainian Canadian businessman Jaroslav Kinach also spoke at the conference, representing XXI Century Investments, a Kyiv-based real estate development and property management firm that became the first Ukrainian company to have its shares traded on a major stock exchange.

On December 12, 2005, XXI Century Investments shares began trading on the London Stock Exchange's Alternative Investments Market. The initial public offering (IPO) raised \$140 million by

floating 32 percent of its shares.

Half of the buyers represented the United Kingdom, and investors from 11 other countries bought shares.

The company's market capitalization increased by 20 percent after the IPO, said Mr. Kinach, who serves as a board director and owns options in the company.

Mr. Kinach formerly chaired the Ukrainian office of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. He gained much of his experience working for Toronto Dominion Bank and earned a master's of business administration from Columbia University in New York.

XXI Century's main objectives include doubling company size in the next two years, Mr. Kinach said, as well as carefully leveraging capital base and assets using a wide variety of financial instruments.

Speaking with The Weekly, Mr. Kinach said the Orange Revolution turned Ukraine's image around "180 degrees" and put Ukraine on the map for international businessmen and investors.

Under President Yushchenko's leadership, business conditions have improved because there is no longer a risk that the government will put administrative pressure on businesses for political reasons. Foreign investors can expect a faster pace of reforms and more stable business environment, he noted.

"The rules of the game have been sim-

plified and straightened out in many senses," Mr. Kinach said. "There's still a way to go. The tax regime is still rather complex, but it is not abused as often and frequently in the past."

The recent changes, or attempted changes, with prime ministers projects instability and inconsistency to foreign investors, added Mr. Kinach. As a result, many investors are waiting until after the March 26 parliamentary elections to make decisions, he said.

"I think that's a big mistake," he said. "Conditions are only going to improve in Ukraine. They will not get worse. Those who are fence-sitting are missing the boat."

Investors favor the Our Ukraine bloc winning the March 26 elections, but the bloc will have to form a coalition to secure the majority in the Parliament, he said.

Successful and open elections free from abuse will be critical for investors, Mr. Kinach said. Then, a coalition government led by Our Ukraine would have to form an economic and social program that it will implement, he said.

"The big problem in this part of the world has been many programs announced and very few executed," he underscored.

Renaissance Capital is a Cyprus-based investment bank with a Kyiv affiliate. It is recognized as one of the top investment banks in the Russian Federation.



Cutty Sark Co.

State Property Fund Chair Valentyna Semeniuk assured international investors that their investments would not be re-privatized.



Cutty Sark Co.

Former World Bank President James Wolfensohn told international investors gathered in Kyiv that Ukraine is worth a second look.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Joseph Lesawyer, 1911-2006

"... Whenever my father's friends got together I would hear discussion about Soyuz. UNA or Ukrainian National Association were terms that were awe-inspired in those days. They represented that colossus that stood astride every important Ukrainian community in America and like a shining light beckoned all of our people to a better way of life. To become supreme president of that mighty organization could not even be a dream – it was that remote and that far away. Yet it happened today. It couldn't have been possible anywhere excepts in miracles countries such as the United States or Canada."

These were the words of Joseph Lesawyer in his acceptance speech on May 24, 1961, after he was unanimously elected by the UNA Supreme Assembly as supreme president of the organization following the untimely and unexpected death of Dmytro Halychyn.

The following year, Mr. Lesawyer, the American-born son of Ukrainian immigrants to the United States, was elected to the first of his four terms as president of the Ukrainian National Association, in his words, "the largest, most dynamic and financially the most powerful Ukrainian fraternal group in the free world." In 1962, it should be noted, the Ukrainian National Association had 82,000 members in 500 branches throughout the United States and Canada, and assets of \$26 million.

It was a time when the UNA was growing, a time when the organization could think large and look boldly into the future. The UNA was a prestigious organization that played a principal role in the Ukrainian community; it was represented on the boards of other leading Ukrainian community organizations, from the World Congress of Free Ukrainians and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America to the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee and the Shevchenko Memorial Committee.

Under President Lesawyer's leadership, the UNA continued to grow, reaching a peak of 89,200 members. The organization's assets also grew, totaling \$41.6 million by the end of 1977.

During his terms in office, the UNA funded the two-volume Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia, and the Svoboda Press continued to publish books on a variety of topics, especially history, literature and culture. President Lesawyer saw the UNA's newspapers as major assets in community life, "vital not only to the continued growth of Soyuz but to the continued cultural development of our communities" and as "the leaders in espousing the cause of a free and independent Ukraine." He spoke in favor of more material support for Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly in order to create "a still more powerful press to carry on its vital work with greater effectiveness."

He was a man of the people who cared what the people thought and worried about their welfare; and, although he had no children of his own, he had a special place in his heart for the youth of our community. Soyuzivka was dear to him, and he saw the estate as a "center of Ukrainian culture, art and education," as well as a mecca for Ukrainian youth.

Mr. Lesawyer will perhaps be best remembered for the 15-story UNA headquarters building constructed in Jersey City, N.J., in the early 1970s. The imposing building – our Ukrainian "khmarosiah," or skyscraper – was seen by many as the physical manifestation of the ideal of the UNA as the "Ukrainian fortress beyond the seas."

But, most of all, Mr. Lesawyer will be remembered as a man of vision who could imagine what to others seemed impossible, as a man who dared to dream. His words in 1961, when he first took the helm of the UNA, were perhaps most indicative of his spirit: "Our resolutions that were adopted today set the present sights for 100,000 members. 'Impossible,' say all too many of our people. 'You are shooting for the moon.' Yes, we are, and I might add so is President Kennedy."

Though the UNA never did reach that magic 100,000 mark, Joseph Lesawyer gave it his all. Along the way he left his mark on the UNA and our community in so many ways. He will always be remembered as a stalwart of the Ukrainian National Association and the Ukrainian American community.

Feb.
15
2004

Turning the pages back...

Our issue dated February 15, 2004, reported that Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, leader of Orthodox Churches worldwide, said in a November 2004 letter that, if the Vatican were to recognize the Patriarchate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church,

Catholic-Orthodox relations would return to a "climate of hostility." In his letter to the pope, Patriarch Bartholomew said: "it is necessary that you assure the Ukrainian people and all the Orthodox Churches with persuasive force that you have no intention of initiating the institution of the Greek-Catholic Patriarchate in Ukraine as Cardinal Kasper's text alludes."

Bishop Basil Losten of the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church wrote on February 10 to Patriarch Bartholomew: "I am most disturbed by this development and disappointed that Your All Holiness should evince such a cruel and negative attitude towards a sister Church – especially one that does not fall under your jurisdiction. Your letter ... is creating a new, unnecessary division in Catholic-Orthodox dialogue..."

The Stamford eparch also pointed out that "The question of a Patriarchate for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church is a matter between the Synod of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Bishops and Pope John Paul II, and concerns no other Church."

In a letter to Cardinal Walter Kasper, president of the council for Promoting Christian Unity, Bishop Losten wrote: "I prevail upon Your Eminence... to defend the rights and privileges of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, one that has been so loyal to the Holy See despite decades-long attempts of the tsarist Orthodox Church to vanquish it from the earth. ... Be the bridge builder that you can be, and not be remembered as one who participated in an attempt to crush a faithful, struggling Church."

Source: "Patriarch of Constantinople presses pope not to recognize Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchate," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, February 15, 2004, Vol. LXII, No. 7.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reacting to reports about Soyuzivka

Dear Editor:

I read the reports submitted by several members of the UNA Executive Committee and, in a nutshell, the Ukrainian National Association's financials need serious shoring up. Some proposed solutions call for hiring more salespeople to sell more insurance policies and to spin off the deficit-ridden Soyuzivka into a non-profit cultural foundation.

As much as I would like both organizations to succeed and prosper, I'm not as optimistic as is Zenon B. Masnyj in his letter to the editor in the February 5 issue of *The Ukrainian Weekly*. Basically, he suggests that Ukrainians forego the \$5,000 life policies with the \$400 single premium, the UNA's "bread and butter" product, and "buy policies in real-world amounts," whatever that may be. He suggests that this increase in premiums will enable the UNA to pay a dividend and there will be a sufficient surplus to keep Soyuzivka afloat.

Even if this simplistic solution was valid, it assumes you can convince Ukrainians that the life policy is a better investment than the array of competing financial products being offered by their employers, banks and investment companies, and that the UNA will be around in 30 or 40 years to pay the policy beneficiary. That will be a hard sell.

With regard to Soyuzivka, Mr. Masnyj suggests that if Ukrainians spent a week vacationing at the resort rather than merely being day-trippers, Soyuzivka

would turn a profit. Unfortunately, Mr. Masnyj fails to recognize the change in demographics. True, the newer generation of Ukrainians, and older ones as well, "with all their Ph.D's" can afford a week at Soyuzivka. In fact, they can afford better and that's the problem.

Ukrainians are no longer content spending days sitting at poolside discussing President Viktor Yushchenko's policies. Instead they're vacationing in Europe, skiing in Utah and wine-tasting in Napa Valley. In order to be a viable vacation destination, Soyuzivka needs a massive upgrade and I doubt if there are adequate funds to support such a renovation. A new TV in each room isn't going to cut it.

Realistically, day-trippers and weekenders are probably Soyuzivka's salvation. The younger generation of Ukrainians are there to socialize and party. They spend money on parking fees, beverages and food, which are good cash generators. Current management is to be commended for also promoting special events and weddings, and catering to local interests to hold their functions at the resort. Unfortunately, if Soyuzivka is to survive, it can't rely solely on Ukrainians for financial support.

Walter Pitio
Skillman, N.J.

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed; they must be originals, not photocopies.

The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes.

Ambassador Shamshur...

(Continued from page 1)

need for American-based business investment in Ukraine, a priority that President Viktor Yushchenko repeated during his most recent trip to the United States.

Ambassador Shamshur, who was appointed to the post on December 20, 2005, said he would do everything to promote "Ukraine's strong investment climate" and to show people in the United States that Ukraine is a stable investment.

"I believe we have done much to show that the investment climate in Ukraine is strong," Dr. Shamshur said. "But it is important that we don't stay on the level of talking about our potential. We must move from potential to work."

Ambassador Shamshur's visit here included stops at the Ukrainian Institute of America, The Ukrainian Museum, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian National Home, among others.

While not an essential part of his job, the new ambassador nonetheless took the time to meet with representatives of the Ukrainian American diaspora. People who took part in those meetings afterward recalled having a positive first impression of him.

"I like that he's very energetic and understands the issues," said Michael Sawkiw Jr., president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. "He is willing and able, and he was very sincere."

"You can talk with him, and he listens," said Maria Shust, director of The Ukrainian Museum in New York City. "He left here very pleased, and we were very pleased."

During a meeting with UCCA officials, Dr. Shamshur said he would act as

a contact within the Ukrainian government to help bring art exhibits that are based permanently in Ukraine to the U.S. for temporary exhibition.

After touring the museum, located at 222 E. Sixth St., the ambassador signed its guest book, noting that he promised to do everything he could to help promote Ukrainian culture.

Olha Hnateyko, president of The Ukrainian Museum's board of directors, said she spoke with Dr. Shamshur about ideas for future exhibits. She said she was impressed by the new ambassador's sincerity.

"His way of thinking is in the overall big picture, and maybe that's why he was chosen to be the ambassador," Mrs. Hnateyko said.

Meanwhile, during his meeting with UCCA officials, the ambassador addressed questions dealing with the upcoming elections to the Verkhovna Rada in Ukraine, saying that he did not foresee any problems for Ukrainian citizens who want to vote in the U.S.

At that meeting, Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress, urged the new ambassador to be extra sensitive on the issue of recognition of the Ukrainian Famine Genocide of 1932-1933. Mr. Lozynskyj said the administration of President George W. Bush had slid backward on the issue and he cautioned Dr. Shamshur in his approach of the topic with both the president and the U.S. Congress.

During a meeting with officials from the Ukrainian National Women's League of America President Iryna Kurowycky, presented the ambassador with a traditional Ukrainian greeting of bread and salt.

"Women have always played a strong role in Ukrainian society overall," Ambassador Shamshur said. "If this continues, Ukrainian society will continue to move forward."

Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition appeals for urgent action

The Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition is pushing to persuade the House of Representatives to pass legislation in February to graduate Ukraine from the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. This is now a matter requiring urgent action.

The coalition is urging Congress to take action now, due to concern that, with the approaching March 26 Verkhovna Rada elections, a failure by Congress to act will be seen as a failure of the Ukrainian government's foreign policy and an indication of Western disinterest in Ukraine. Congressional inaction, thus, could be used by opponents of the government's pro-reform, pro-West course in the run-up to the parliamentary elections. The coalition thus seeks passage of legislation by the House of Representatives in February, to send a strong signal of U.S. support to Ukraine.

The Senate passed by unanimous consent legislation to graduate Ukraine in November 2005, but the House of Representatives adjourned without taking parallel action. The House returned to work on January 31.

Our understanding continues to be that there is no opposition per se to graduating Ukraine in Congress; indeed, there is general agreement that Ukraine has long met Jackson-Vanik's freedom-of-emigration requirements. However, the House Ways and Means Committee (the House committee with primary jurisdiction for Jackson-Vanik) is reluctant to take up legislation until it has the opportunity to review the U.S.-Ukraine bilateral protocol on Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). Both U.S. and Ukrainian government sources report that significant progress has been made on the protocol and that only a handful of issues remain, but it is not known how soon the protocol will be finished.

The coalition is urging members of Congress to support and co-sponsor H.R. 1053, introduced by Rep. Gerlach of Pennsylvania. Of the three House bills

pending on Jackson-Vanik graduation for Ukraine, H.R. 1053 has the greatest receptivity in the Ways and Means Committee. As of January 31, H.R. 1053 had almost 40 co-sponsors.

Coalition co-chairmen Steven Pifer and William Miller sent letters on February 2 to members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus who have not yet co-sponsored H.R. 1053 urging them to do so and graduate Ukraine this month (see text on the right). They also sent letters to the co-sponsors of H.R. 1053 and to members of the Ways and Means Committee urging action this month.

The coalition urges all those who are interested in seeing Ukraine graduated from Jackson-Vanik to fax letters now urging Congressional action this month to their members in the House of Representatives, to the members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, and to members of the House Ways and Means Committee. The coalition suggests faxing letters to district offices as well as to the representatives' Washington offices.

Suggested points for use in letters or in calls to congressional offices follow.

- In November 2005, the Senate passed by unanimous consent legislation to graduate Ukraine from the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment. The House of Representatives now must take similar action, and pass the graduation bill H.R. 1053 by the end of February.

- Independent Ukraine fully meets the freedom-of-emigration requirements of Jackson-Vanik, with an exemplary emigration record. This has been acknowledged by Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush.

- Urgent action is required. Ukraine holds parliamentary elections in March. Opponents of the Ukrainian government's pro-reform, pro-West course will seize on congressional inaction as a failure of the Yushchenko government's foreign policy

and an indication of Western disinterest.

- Congress must act now to pass H.R. 1053 to graduate Ukraine and send a positive signal of support for a democratic, market-oriented Ukraine that is fully integrated into the Euro-Atlantic community. This is not just good for Ukraine; it is in the U.S. national interest.

- Moreover, graduating Ukraine from Jackson-Vanik is necessary to meet one of

the key U.S. commitments from the April 2005 Bush-Yushchenko Joint Statement.

- Early action is supported by a broad coalition, which now numbers more than 250 Ukrainian American groups, Jewish American groups, American business and NGOs.

For more information about the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition, readers may e-mail jvgc@usukraine.org.

Congressional Ukrainian Caucus members who are not yet sponsors

Following are the names and fax numbers of members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus (listed in alphabetical order) who have not yet co-sponsored H.R. 1053.

Corrine Brown (D-Fla.)
Fax: (202) 225-2256

Lloyd Doggett (D-Texas)
Fax: (202) 225-2947

Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.)
Fax: (202) 225-7810

Alcee Hastings (D-Fla.)
Fax: (202) 225-1171

Tim Holden (D-Pa.)
Fax: (202) 226-0996

Darrell Issa (R-Calif.)
Fax: (202) 225-3303

Dale Kildee (D-Mich.)
Fax: (202) 225-6393

Joe Knollenberg (R-Mich.)
Fax: (202) 226-2356

Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio)
Fax: (202) 225-5745

Tom Lantos (D-Calif.)
Fax: (202) 226-2722

Sander Levin (D-Mich.)
Fax: (202) 226-1033

Dan Lipinski (D-Ill.)
Fax: (202) 225-1012

Robert Menendez (D-N.J.)
Fax: (202) 226-6025

Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.)
Fax: (202) 225-9665

Bill Pascrell Jr. (D-N.J.)
Fax: (202) 225-5782

Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.)
Fax: (202) 225-8259

Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.)
Fax: (202) 225-0816

Brad Sherman (D-Calif.)
Fax: (202) 225-5879

Louise Slaughter (D-N.Y.)
Fax: (202) 225-7822

Henry Waxman (D-Calif.)
Fax: (202) 225-4099

Anthony Weiner (D-N.Y.)
Fax: (202) 226-7253

Joe Wilson (R-S.C.)
Fax: (202) 225-2455

FOR THE RECORD: Letter from coalition's co-chairmen

Below is the text of the letter sent from Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition to Congressional Ukrainian Caucus members who have not yet co-sponsored H.R. 1053.

Dear Congressional Ukrainian Caucus member:

We are writing to urge your support, as a member of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, for graduating Ukraine from the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment by the end of February. In particular, we ask that you join now in co-sponsoring H.R. 1053.

The Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition, which currently represents more than 250 businesses and Ukrainian American, Jewish American and other non-governmental organizations, believes this is a matter of urgency. Congressional action in February will send a critical signal of support for strong U.S.-Ukrainian relations in the run-up to the very important March 26 parliamentary elections in Ukraine. Lack of action, on the other hand, will be seized upon by opponents of Ukraine's pro-reform, pro-West government as both a failure of its foreign policy and an indication of Western disinterest. Congressional action now will have the optimum positive impact in Ukraine and promote the U.S.

national interest in integrating a democratic, market-oriented Ukraine into the Euro-Atlantic community.

Ukraine fully merits graduation; it has long met Jackson-Vanik's freedom-of-emigration requirements. Moreover, it has created conditions in which religious minorities can freely practice their beliefs. This has been recognized by both Presidents Clinton and Bush. The Senate last November passed by unanimous consent legislation to graduate Ukraine from Jackson-Vanik. Action thus, now lies with the House.

The coalition supports H.R. 1053 as we have heard repeatedly that, of the three House bills pending on Jackson-Vanik graduation for Ukraine, it has the most receptivity in the Ways and Means Committee. As of January 31, H.R. 1053 had almost 40 co-sponsors, double the number in November.

We urgently ask you to please support Ukraine's graduation by joining now as a co-sponsor of H.R. 1053 and urging your fellow members to take like action, with the objective of passing legislation by the end of February.

Sincerely,
Ambassador Steven Pifer and
Ambassador William Miller
Co-Chairmen
Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition

Late-breaking news from Kyiv

President wants new Constitution

KYIV – In a February 9 address to the Verkhovna Rada, President Viktor Yushchenko called for the creation of a constitutional commission to draft a new Constitution. Ukrainian law doesn't address many of the constitutional changes that went into effect on January 1, such as what would happen to the government should the parliamentary majority coalition fall apart. "Unless these laws are changed, the government system cannot function in these new conditions," he said. He told reporters afterwards that a national referendum to approve a revised Constitution is entirely realistic. The January 1 reforms sharply reduced the president's powers, particularly the ability to appoint the prime minister and many Cabinet members. The president stressed that he isn't initiating a constitutional review prior to the March 26 elections.

Brawl erupts in Verkhovna Rada

KYIV – Before President Viktor Yushchenko addressed the Verkhovna Rada on February 9, a brawl erupted between Our Ukraine and Communist legislators. Communist Party National Deputy Oleksander Bondarchuk hung a banner in the Rada that read "Where are the Steps for the People?" referring to Mr. Yushchenko's "10 Ten Steps for the People" plan. The

banner outraged Our Ukraine deputies, who ran to tear it down, thereby igniting the fight with the Communists in which Our Ukraine National Deputy Mykola Martynenko suffered a broken nose. Mr. Bondarchuk is a frequent instigator of violence, having torn off its stand Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn's microphone several times during the 2005 World Trade Organization brawls. He also was at the center of the October 15, 2005, conflict on the Khreschatyk between Communists and Ukrainian Insurgent Army veterans and supporters.

Election of judges postponed

KYIV – The Rada will not vote to elect its quota of Constitutional Court judges this week. On February 8 those elections were postponed until at least next week by the Parliament's caucus coordinating council. The Constitutional Court has not been able to convene since September, because the Rada has thrice failed to elect four justices to the 18-member bench. The Rada has also refused to allow the judges appointed by the president and the national convention of judges to be sworn in. The court is paralyzed and thus cannot consider a number of cases, including challenges to the way political reforms were adopted in 2004 and to the immunity from prosecution for elected officials approved by the Rada last fall.

– Zenon Zawada, Kyiv Press Bureau

Museum hosts book launch for Mary Mycio's "Wormwood Forest"

by Khristina Lew

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

NEW YORK – Over 100 people attended the standing-room-only New York launch of Ukrainian American author Mary Mycio's new book, "Wormwood Forest: A Natural History of Chernobyl" at The Ukrainian Museum in the East Village on January 24.

New York was the final stop in Ms. Mycio's U.S. book tour. Earlier, on January 19, 150 people attended a launch in Washington, and on January 22, 60 people met Ms. Mycio in Chicago.

"Wormwood Forest: A Natural History of Chernobyl" is a lyrical account of the former Los Angeles Times correspondent's journeys through the radioactive wilderness thriving in the Chernobyl zone, which straddles the border between Ukraine and Belarus. The book has been favorably reviewed by Discover Magazine, Science, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, National Catholic Reporter and the Moscow Times.

In its review, Discover wrote: "Mycio's finely detailed first-person investigation of the ecology of the world's most famous disaster area has a

haunting grandeur that should appeal to naturalists and fans of the apocalypse alike."

Ms. Mycio is a longtime New Yorker who was among the first to move to Ukraine with the burgeoning independence movement in 1989. She worked for the Popular Movement of Ukraine, or Rukh, and later began writing for newspapers and magazines around the world, including the Los Angeles Times. She has visited the Chernobyl zone over 20 times.

Her B.A. in biology, law degree from New York University and hands-on experience in Ukraine put her in a unique position to detail the activities within the "Zone of Alienation" surrounding the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. Ms. Mycio currently lives in Kyiv, where she is also director of the IREX ProMedia Legal Defense and Education Program for Ukrainian journalists.

The January 24 launch at The Ukrainian Museum, in one of the new building's expansive exhibition halls, was filled to capacity. Ms. Mycio presented a slide show of her photos from the Chernobyl zone, including images of lush forests, abandoned villages choked



Author Mary Mycio (center) is flanked by Maria Shust (left) of The Ukrainian Museum and Roksolana Stojko Lozynskyj of the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine



Mary Mycio addresses the audience gathered at The Ukrainian Museum.

by underbrush, herds of Przewalski horses, and a solitary moose wandering through a peat bog.

Many of the photos were taken in Belarus, and Ms. Mycio described the difficulties she had in gaining entry into that country, including crossing the Ukraine-Belarus border several times in order to get the necessary stamps in her passport.

Ms. Mycio also explained that while the Chernobyl zone was abandoned, for the most part, by humans in 1986, many of the animals currently living there are growing in number, like the nearly extinct Przewalski horses. "Wormwood Forest" is primarily an exploration of nature in the zone and details the flourishing of plant and animal life there.

Ms. Mycio took many questions from the audience, and later signed copies of her book during a reception.

She said she was "pleasantly surprised" by the number of people who attended the

three launches, and by the types of questions asked. All the questions, she said, "were knowledgeable and demonstrated a genuine concern for the subject. Some of the questions were provocative, but not in a negative way. I expected someone to ask me why I used 'Chernobyl'"

(Continued on page 16)



Mary Mycio signs copies of her new book.

Philadelphia Specials

9 Month CD
4.31% APR 4.40% APY

IRA - Пенсійні Конта
ADD .15% to any CD of 6 months or longer

MINIMUM DEPOSIT ON ALL CDs is \$500. IRA Bonus offer expires April 15, 2006.

Fixed Mortgage

30 years 6.00%

Home Equity Line of Credit

Limited Time Special 5.99% Up to 90% LTV
Max. loan: \$200,000

ALL RATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE



Call 1-888-POLTAVA Visit Us on the Web WWW.ukrfcu.com

UKRAINIAN SELFRELANCE

Federal Credit Union

Philadelphia, PA

Immigrant family in New Jersey seized by federal officials, faces deportation

by Camilla Huk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

ELIZABETH, N.J. — The floor-to-ceiling mural, hand-painted on the cinderblock wall, depicts the Statue of Liberty. To the left is a dedication to the firefighters who perished at the World Trade Center, which is seen below the statue. And, to the right, a sign on the wall proclaims: "United we stand."

The wall faces a corridor of windows, each connected to a phone — one behind the glass, the other before it. This is the INS Detention Center at 625 Evans Ave. in Elizabeth, N.J. After waiting for over 45 minutes, having our credentials checked, I accompanied Bob Braun, columnist and reporter for The Star-Ledger, to visit a family of Ukrainian detainees.

There, in that corridor, on February 2, we waited for all four members of the family to be brought to their respective windows, where we talked to them on the telephone. They are separated by gender. Vassilli Karnaoukh and his sons, Sviatoslav and Igor, were housed in one cell in the men's quarters, while their mother, Maria, was housed alone on the women's side.

They were arrested on Ukrainian Christmas Eve, January 6, when they were surprised by 10 security officers at 6 a.m. and led from their home in Little Falls, N.J., in handcuffs. The family was waiting to welcome Christ into their home that day. They had begun preparing the traditional foods for the Christmas Eve celebration. The "kutia" was ready.

Since then, the boys and their father have not been allowed to comfort their mother or even to touch her. They wave to each other across the room from one window to another when visitors come to see them at the same time. Each is allowed one visitor at a time.

Along the other windows there were other families, other people with their visitors. I recognized a beautiful Turkish girl, who was once my waitress, and with whom I spoke at length about the educational opportunities for studying English in New Jersey. At another window, a young mother holding an infant places her hands on the other side of the glass on which her husband places his. I thought they might be Greek.

Children that are housed at the detention center are separated from their parents and are housed in the children's quarters, I was told. The parents are allowed two periods during the day when they can visit these children. Once they turn 18, they are moved to the gender-segregated adult quarters.

Sviatoslav, 20, and Igor, 23, are Vassilli's and Maria's sons. Sviatoslav is a student at Stevens Institute, and was slated to graduate this May. Igor was studying at Bergen Community College. Both boys were working full time to pay for their education and received no federal aid.

The family is slated for deportation. This means the boys will not have a chance to finish their semesters. For Sviatoslav it means a dim future, after so much effort and accomplishment — he has been working on a medical device for spinal dislocation at the small company where he did everything from the physical labor to drawing up plans. If he is deported, since he has not studied in Ukraine all these years, he will not have a diploma and would have all those years to have to catch up.

"We will survive," he assures me. "We are hard-working people. We will do whatever we have to do, but I really felt so challenged by the project I was working on ..." He continues in an animated voice, telling me how much he learned and what

his ideas for improving the device were.

"It's my parents we worry about. My poor mother. I don't want to upset her — I wish we could hold her. Our parents feel so guilty and responsible that this happened to us, because we came here as children — and they wanted to improve our futures, give us a chance to prove ourselves. And now they blame themselves," Sviatoslav says.

Vassilli, 44, the father, holds back tears and words, but they come out anyway. He came from Ukraine in 1991, working night shifts so he could pay for his schooling in computer programming.

The boys' grandmother (Maria's mother), Olga Khoma, showed a picture of Igor graduating from St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School, in his cap and gown, at the same time his father earned his associate's degree.

"Our children wanted to bring friends home and so we struggled, but we took out a mortgage for 30 years and bought a home three years ago in Little Falls. You can't imagine how happy the boys were. They were free. They had friends visit, they worked on their computers, they had their own room. They tell their grandmother to be sure to take pictures of it all so that they can still have the memories in Ukraine, after their deportation. We worked so hard. And now all the years are lost," Vassilli says. And he waves across the room to his wife.

Maria, 43, apologizes to me that she looks so pale and that her hands aren't manicured. "I'm sorry. They did not let me dress. They came at 6 in the morning. I woke up and thought there was fire and

that this was the reason they had come. They searched the house, every corner, and would not let me change from my sleepwear and slippers. They handcuffed us and took us out. My mother was hysterical. We wanted to call friends to tell them to take care of her but they would not allow it."

And so she sits, with her rosary beads on her neck, swollen eyes, still praying for a miracle. "Only God can help us now," she says, as I try to reassure her that miracles are possible, that this is not the way Americans treat people, that we are a humane nation. I tell her encouraging stories and she laughs out loud and then is surprised — because she has done nothing but cry. "You know, my husband and I were frightened but we tried to keep that fear from the boys. I prayed for a miracle, for the law to change, because it had changed so many times since we first arrived in 1991."

Maria and Vassilli came to the U.S. and were granted valid work visas. Later their sons joined them here. Maria's grandfather (her father's father) was an American citizen. And even though he died when she was little, she dreamed of America since then. Having lost her father at age 12, it was a connection for her, part of her to be here.

Now her every night is spent in agony. "You know, we are a close family. Each night before we went to bed, I would go to the boys' bedroom, bless them with [the] cross, kiss them good night, but here I cannot even touch them," Maria relates.

They were planning to become certified Americans. They hired a lawyer and

entrusted him with their papers, and he promised everything would go smoothly, just as their present lawyer promised them they would be released within three days of January 6. They paid the first one \$10,000, but he "misaid" their papers at least three times. This caused a delay in renewing their work visas, which brought them into the labyrinth they now find themselves in.

Yet, the Karnaoukhs didn't go "underground." You see, they really believed that "all men are created equal." They really believed that when are you willing to work hard, pay your taxes and not take anything from the government (they sent their children to Catholic schools, paying the tuition themselves), that there is fairness in the American justice system and that they would join the ranks of all those immigrants who came before them. They came legally, and their hope was to remain so.

"Igor wants to be [a] cardiologist and Sviatoslav was doing so well in school. He is very gifted, and the students from Stevens Institute have written an appeal for him to remain, to finish his studies. My sons can offer much to America." Maria tells me. "We wanted them to have their chance."

I am reminded of a visit by an Irish friend at home the night before, when he told me stories about his ancestors. His grandfather was only 9 when he stowed away on a ship, not even knowing where it was headed. When the ship stopped, he

(Continued on page 14)



SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



55th Annual Membership Meeting

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2006, AT 2:00 P.M.

St. George Academy Auditorium
215 East 6th Street, New York City

This year terms of the following members of the Board of Directors expire:
Bohdan Kurczak, Andrew Jaceum, Jurasian Oberyayn.

Nominations for positions on the Board can be forwarded to:

SELF RELIANCE (NY) F.C.U.
118 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10003

Attn: Nominating Committee

Members are required to bring their regular share passbooks.

UKRAINE STUDENT TOUR

AUG 2 - 21, 2006

20 Day All Inclusive Tour
via Malev Hungarian Airlines from JFK
Escort: Dr. Adriana Helbig
KYIV, ODESA, YALTA, L'VIV, YAREMCHE
BUDAPEST

plus Karly, Bakchysaraj, Chersonesus,
Sevastopol, Rohatyn, Kolomyia and
Ivano Frankivsk

Scope Travel - 800-242-7267
the Ukraine Specialists!!

www.scopetravel.com

Residents of Lviv...

(Continued from page 3)

new minister of health, Dr. Yurii Poliachenko, canceled all the provisions of the February 2005 decree the very same month.

The students had their victory, but it was moot to a large extent.

The April 2004 decree remained in place. Students such as Ms. Boyko still face the likelihood of working in the village.

"We'd have to work until death to earn that kind of money"

To Ms. Boyko's parents, Volodymyr, 50, and Tetiana, 49, the system makes sense. Sitting in their 64-square-meter (689-

square-foot) eighth-floor apartment, warmly defended against the frigid, minus 6 degrees Fahrenheit weather outside, the Boykos reflected upon their Soviet upbringing while discussing their daughter's situation.

If the Ukrainian government paid for her education, Mr. Boyko figured out loud, then, in return, it has the right to ask her to serve where it needs her help most.

Incidentally, when Mr. Boyko had completed his degree in hydro-technical studies in 1978 at the Ukrainian Institute of Water Management Engineering in Rivne, he faced a situation similar to the one his daughter faces.

The Soviet government had assigned him to Cheboksary on the Volga River to plan, build and improve hydro-technical structures and dams. "It was my duty," Mr. Boyko said. "There was no 'want to or don't want to.' We had to go. There was no choice."

"Just like I'll have to go!" Olha Boyko said, then laughing at the irony.

After 10 years in Cheboksary, the Boykos decided to return to western Ukraine to be closer to family. They traded apartments with a Lviv family; no money was exchanged.

Fifteen years after Ukrainian independence, the Soviet mentality remains ingrained in the Boykos, despite their upbringing in the village of Kryliv, Rivne Oblast.

When beginning the interview, Tetiana Boyko apologized that they were going to speak Ukrainian (instead of Russian). They didn't want to comment much on politics.

However, Mr. Boyko participated in the Orange Revolution. Currently working as a professional photographer, he proudly displayed thousands of photos he took during the first days of the revolution in Lviv, and then in Kyiv when he was there for three days.

His reasons to join the revolution were simple. He went "to defend our freedom." As for the current divide in the Orange forces, "Let them sort it out," he says.

After living in Russia, he said Ukraine is better off having an independent economy and military.

Both he and his daughter Olha stayed at her brother Anatolii's single-room apartment in Kyiv, where he is working as an economist in the Metro supermarket chain and raising a child with his wife. Olha slept on the floor alongside a friend from Lviv.

Like most residents of Halychyna, the Boykos are satisfied with the revolution and thankful that it happened. Ukrainians have more freedom now, and at least there's more truth in the media, Mr. Boyko said.

Pensions were tripled, he also pointed

out. When asked about the inflation that accompanied that pension increase, "of course prices will have to change a little bit," he commented.

Mrs. Boyko agreed with her husband that the government's policy assigning medical students to villages was fair. "You have to work because that is the law," Mrs. Boyko told her daughter as they talked in their living room. "The state provided the education, and we have to be thankful for that."

But Olha wasn't entirely on the same page. "For three years of my life I'll have to thank them!" she retorted. "It's like the Communist system."

Her mother reminded Olha that they'd have to pay the government \$12,000 if she were to back out. "We'd have to work until death to earn that kind of money," she said. "Those are the laws."

The generation gap that has emerged between the current university students and their parents is enormous. The prior generation knew questioning the Soviet government meant trouble, if not prison.

"Our parents were used to submitting," said Khrystyna Dydik, 23, a classmate and close friend of Ms. Boyko who also studied on a government scholarship and faces a similar fate.

The Orange Revolution was a direct result of their generation having grown up in an independent Ukraine, Ms. Boyko said. "Our generation had its identity formed in an independent nation," she said. "We didn't know what a Communist, totalitarian regime was. Without our generation, the Orange Revolution wouldn't have happened."

At least 80 percent of Lviv's university student population was on the maidan (Independence Square in Kyiv) the first few days, she estimated, providing that critical bedrock that later proved vital in launching the Orange Revolution.

Ms. Dydik said she'll never forget the sight when she arrived at the tent city for the first time. "I suddenly realized that people were conscious of what was happening," she said. "I was happy that I wasn't alone in this world, and that others felt as I had."

The people on the maidan all had different reasons and causes that brought them there, she said. But they were all united in the desire to change Ukraine. "We all wanted change for the better," Ms. Dydik said.

Ms. Boyko's generation has also quite readily, and rapidly, adapted itself to the principles of free will, individualism and global capitalism.

She estimated that about 50 percent of

(Continued on page 11)



Volodymyr Boyko, a photographer, with his daughter Olha.

Yuri Khymych

1928-2003

ART EXHIBITION

Masterpieces of Ukrainian Architecture

FEBRUARY 14 - MARCH 10, 2006

EXHIBIT HOURS
12 TO 6 p.m. DAILY
(closed Mondays)



UKRAINIAN
INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA

• 2 EAST 79TH STREET
• NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021
• (212) 288-8660
•



Olha Boyko and classmate Khrystyna Dydik stand in the halls of Lviv State Medical University's Department of Social Medicine, Economics and Defense of Health, which celebrated its 65th anniversary in December.

Residents of Lviv...

(Continued from page 10)

her classmates won't pursue medicine after graduating.

One sixth-year medical student, identifying himself only as Volodymyr, is considering pursuing business instead of becoming a doctor – a decision quite common among the male graduates.

But the majority of Ms. Boyko's classmates are female. Some are deciding to get married, create fake marriages, or one way or another give birth to a child so that they can't be separated from their family to take a village assignment, Ms. Boyko said. "I can't imagine giving birth to a child just for that reason," she added.

"In the villages, family medicine practically doesn't exist"

Dr. Vasyl Ruden will be the first to admit that the medical education system needs improving. He is Olha Boyko's

limited, he said. They often can't even provide the doctor a place to live.

"Nobody is talking about offering the doctor a Jacuzzi!" he said. "But he needs a place to live. That's why they don't want to go."

Dr. Polishchuk deserves recognition for being among the few ministers of health to take decisive steps, he said.

But the mechanism for implementing family medicine was not effective, as evidenced by student outrage. "Several months after the maidan, the same young students came out against the indecisive, thoughtless steps of the ministry," said Dr. Ruden.

Had Health Minister Polishchuk planned his reforms better and reached an understanding with the students, he would have had success, he believes.

Of the 2,500 graduates he wanted to go to villages, between 600 and 800 would have even volunteered, he said.

"They understand what's needed," Dr.

"Then they will tell me that's not available. And then I will be told to be a family doctor for three years in a certain village."

Once the government assigns a specialty, it's extremely difficult to switch out, Ms. Boyko said.

When asked by The Weekly at a January 25 press conference whether the Ukrainian government had plans to improve conditions for medical interns, Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov said he had been working on the problem of accommodating young professionals while serving as oblast council chair.

Programs are under way to build residences and facilities, funded by local city and village budgets, the prime minister said.

In his response though, Mr. Yekhanurov acknowledged that keeping young professionals in Ukraine's towns and villages will be difficult, if not impossible.

Ultimately, "people will decide for themselves where and in which center they will settle and which of those will become centers for future young professionals," he said.

To find peace and hope, Ms. Boyko attends liturgy at Lviv's Dominican Cathedral in the city center. Constructed in the Baroque style, its magnificent altar is adorned with marble columns and robust statues of muscular saints.

On an icy January Sunday, during which temperatures plunged well below zero, she rode the bus for 20 minutes from her apartment complex on the city's outskirts to the downtown cathedral in order to pray.

Frost turned the bus into a roving icebox, forming a thick sheet of ice against the windows that prevented passengers from viewing the street outside. The cold from the metal floor penetrated thick rubber soles and rendered the riders' toes numb.

When she was 16 years old, Ms. Boyko began attending the divine liturgy on a consistent basis, either once or twice a month. At about the same period in her life she realized she wanted to become a doctor, in order to help others.

"We have a closer church, but for me, it's worth a half-hour on the road," Ms. Boyko said. "My soul is calm there and I gain strength from the divine liturgy."



Dr. Vasyl Ruden, the director of the Lviv National Medical University's Department of Social Medicine, Economics and Defense of Health.

She also enjoys hanging out in the cafes of Lviv, where between classes she sips coffee with fellow students.

On one such occasion, when asked what her ideal situation would be with her career, her face lights up as if she had already envisioned the scenario a hundred times over.

"I am working in my own clinic, which offers qualified, specialized medical help," she said. "And it is outfitted with the newest equipment: computer tomography, ultrasound diagnosis and a lab with the newest methods of diagnosis."

"Wow! You've really asked for quite a situation," said her friend Ms. Didyk upon hearing Olha's dream.

But then Ms. Didyk said she essentially wants the same thing, with one crucial requirement. "I want my work to be appreciated in such a way that my salary would cover my living expenses," she said.



Olha Boyko prays at the Dominican Cathedral in downtown Lviv.

professor of social medicine.

More importantly, as the director of the Lviv National Medical University's Department of Social Medicine, Economics and Defense of Health he said he's been trying to propose educational reforms for years, but his suggestions draw little response from the bureaucrats.

He even submitted an article to a Ukrainian medical journal, whose editor rejected it out of concern that some content might offend its pharmaceutical advertisers.

When approached by The Ukrainian Weekly, Dr. Ruden immediately launched into a cathartic speech on the problems his students face.

Students like Ms. Boyko aren't ready to become family doctors because the university hasn't adequately trained them for family medicine, Dr. Ruden said. They have been trained as specialists, he said.

"It's nonsense!" he said. "Nothing will come of it. They must start from the first year of study." Such students need more practical experience on live patients, but their studies are limited to pathology, Dr. Ruden said.

Since many of the medical students themselves know they aren't ready to become family doctors, and are aware of the fact that poor conditions await them in the villages, they will find ways to avoid the assignments, he said.

"In the villages, family medicine practically doesn't exist," Dr. Ruden said. "No one has developed it. Financing is miserly."

City and village councils are responsible for funding medical centers in villages, but their budgets are extremely

Ruden said. "But administrative pressure doesn't work anymore in Ukraine. And that was the problem. You need to talk with people, particularly in the field of medicine. People want changes, but they have to be constructive and wise."

The frustration Dr. Ruden bears for Ukraine's medical system became apparent as he began rattling off a list of the critical problems it faces.

Patients don't have the means to treat themselves. Doctors don't have the ability to earn an honest salary.

Those doctors who don't have the ability to earn a living are forced to seek bribes from their patients in order to feed their own families. Last year's 57 percent increase in doctor's salaries meant nothing because inflation eliminated those gains.

Meanwhile, government officials and hospital administrators lack training in management and marketing, he said.

"Today, here in Ukraine, there isn't a single position as to guiding the family doctor," Dr. Ruden said. "There hasn't been a single program for reforming health care after 14 years of Ukrainian independence."

"I gain strength from the divine liturgy"

For Olha Boyko, Judgment Day is February 20. On that day she will sit face-to-face with representatives from the government commission that assigns graduating students to their internships.

She has already imagined the scenario in her mind. "They will ask me what kind of specialty I'm interested in," said Ms. Boyko, who would have liked to specialize in infections.

She continued in a downcast tone.

PROFILE: Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten, builder of the Church in the U.S. and Ukraine

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – When Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten was 8 years old he was asked one Sunday morning what he wanted to do with his life. “I want to be like you,” he told the late Bishop Constantine Bohachevsky.



Bishop Basil Losten in his official photograph from 1977, when he was installed as eparch of Stamford.

A bit stunned by the response, Bishop Bohachevsky told the young boy that he first needed to become a priest. “I never forgot that,” Bishop Losten said on a recent afternoon in January.

Several years passed after his encounter with Bishop Bohachevsky, and the young Basil took his first step toward a life in the Catholic Church, leaving his family’s sprawling farm in Chesapeake City, Md., to attend St. Basil School, a grade school, in Philadelphia.

Many years later, in 1977, he would become the third eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, Conn., a position he held for 28 years, until Pope Benedict XVI accepted his resignation on January 3.

Spanning 49 years, Bishop Losten’s career in the Church included a number of achievements: he helped foster the rebirth of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine, developed ecumenical relations with figures outside the Ukrainian Catholic Church, and raised funds to support the Church both in the United States and Ukraine.

As the leader of an eparchy, Bishop Losten’s responsibilities extended far beyond the spiritual realm. A bishop must also look after the day-to-day business of the Church and all of its various needs, said the Very

Rev. Ivan Kaszczak, the pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Syracuse, N.Y.

“His spirit affects the morale of the clergy, and that filters down to the parishioners,” said the Rev. Kaszczak, regarding the general role a bishop plays within the Church. “He has a tremendous amount of influence and he can change an entire diocese.”

In that regard, Bishop Losten’s career left a deep mark on the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Specifically, in Stamford, Bishop Losten was credited with bringing a certain degree of discipline and organization to the eparchy.

“When Losten came in people were more accountable,” said the Rev. Kaszczak, who has known the bishop for over 20 years and, as a former vice-rector of St. Basil College, the Ukrainian Catholic seminary in Stamford, is familiar with the bishop’s work.

“Ukrainians knew he was a hospodar [master of the house],” the Rev. Kaszczak said. “From lawnmowers to the salvation of souls, you always knew who was in charge – you always knew who was at the helm of the ship.”

Indeed, in the 35 years he spent as a bishop – a distinction unsurpassed by any active Ukrainian hierarch – Bishop Losten was influential in the creation of a seminary in Ukraine and in bringing Ukrainian priests to study at the seminary in Stamford.

“He is a very powerful and influential individual,” said John Kurey, a board member and the legal counsel for the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, which is based in Chicago.

In keeping with church law, Bishop Losten was required to submit his letter of resignation upon turning 75. On rare occasions, the pope has rejected resignations and asked that a particular bishop continue working for the Church. Bishop Losten, who spoke with The Ukrainian Weekly on several occasions over the past month, said he is able and willing to continue working for the Church, but said there is much work he can still do as a retired bishop.

Yuliya Komar, a UCEF associate who holds a master’s degree in theology and Church history, said it was normal for the pope to accept the resignation of a bishop age 75.

“He’s always told me, ‘I’ll be retiring, and you need to be ready for that.’ He’s been preparing us,” Mr. Kurey said of Bishop Losten.

Because of its role as a fund-raiser for and promoter of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, the UCEF has relied on men like Bishop Losten. While the bishop has had critics among the laity who say he comes off as too Americanized and too focused on business, his supporters say those traits have helped make him successful.

“Sometimes he did things that were unpopular, but he had only the best intentions of the Church in mind,” said Mr. Kurey, the UCEF official who also called the bishop a good friend.

Youngest of 10 children

Born on May 11, 1930, Bishop Losten is the youngest of 10 children. The son of dairy farmers Julia (nee Petryshyn) and John Losten Sr., he grew up in northeastern Maryland, near the banks of the Chesapeake Bay, often helping his brothers with daily chores. The family later sold the dairy business but kept the farmland, giving the bishop a place to stay whenever he needed to be in Washington, D.C., for work.

Though the drive from the farm to Washington took Bishop Losten two hours, it gave him a rare opportunity to visit family.

His oldest brother, Peter, died of influenza during the Great Depression before Bishop Losten was born. In the years that followed, Bishop Losten would see his oldest sister, Stella, die at 92, while another sister, Mary, died tragically in a car accident some 15 years ago in Jersey City, N.J.

As a grade school student in the 1940s, Bishop Losten moved from his home in Maryland to Philadelphia, where he attended St. Basil School. He was later accepted into St. Basil’s Preparatory School in Stamford,

and in June 1953 he received his bachelor’s degree from St. Basil’s College in Stamford.

Bishop Losten went on to earn a master’s degree in theology from Catholic University in Washington, before being ordained a priest at the age of 27 at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia.

At age 41 he was elevated to the episcopate by Pope Paul VI, and was appointed titular bishop of Arcadiopolis in Asia and auxiliary to Metropolitan-Archbishop Ambrose Senyshyn of Philadelphia. In this capacity Bishop Losten seemed to be in line to one day take over as the next metropolitan of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States, but since that time three other men have taken the helm of the Church in the U.S.

Bishop Losten’s elevation to the episcopate was announced by the Most Rev. Luigi Raimondi, the for-



The Stamford eparch in 1987.

mer apostolic delegate in the United States, on May 4, 1971. In addition to Bishop Losten, the Rev. Raimondi announced that Msgr. John Stock would become a bishop.

The announcement of the two bishops-elect became a focus of controversy as the Society for the Promotion of a Patriarchal System for the Ukrainian Catholic Church protested against the method of nominating the bishops, stating that it was done by the Apostolic See over the head of then Archbishop-Major Josyf Slipyj and thus in violation of his rights as the leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The move at that time so enraged people that several thousand demonstrators gathered outside Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Philadelphia to protest the enthronement of both bishops on May 25, 1971. Inside the church, while the cathedral choir sang “axios” (worthy), some 300 protesters chanted “anaxios” (unworthy) in reference to the bishops being consecrated.

In addition to their disapproval with the way in which the bishops were appointed, supporters of a Ukrainian Patriarchate questioned whether Bishop Losten would respect the idea of an autonomous Ukrainian Church.

On December 7, 1977, Bishop Losten was installed as eparch of Stamford by the new metropolitan-archbishop for Ukrainians in the United States, Joseph Schmondiuk, who had been installed just six days earlier.

In the years that followed his elevation to the episcopate, Bishop Losten appears to have overcome the skepticism that greeted him as a newly tapped bishop and has shown strong support for the idea of a Ukrainian Patriarchate.

Among the protesters at Bishop Losten’s enthronement ceremony in 1971 was Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky, then a 36-year-old press spokesman for the Society for the Promotion of a Patriarchal System for the Ukrainian Catholic Church (known in shorthand form as the Patriarchal Society).

“He has been a great bishop and embraced the patriarchal ideal,” Dr. Rudnytsky said of Bishop Losten. “He has been a very good leader for his priests.”

Dr. Rudnytsky, who is now professor emeritus at La

(Continued on page 13)



Archbishop Volodymyr Sterniuk, a leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine, with Bishop Basil Losten during a visit to the editorial offices of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly in 1991.

Bishop Emeritus...

(Continued from page 12)

Salle University in Philadelphia, stressed that the goal for protesters was to highlight the autonomy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

"Most of us admired Bishop Losten, and still do, for his dynamic personality," Dr. Rudnytzky said. "You didn't have to worry about diplomatic niceties. He spoke the truth, both here and in the Vatican."

"Among the bishops, he has definitely been the most active and, I think, has shown himself to be in favor of the Ukrainian Church," said Mykola Haliv, one of the organizers of the 1971 protest and a member of the Patriarchal Society's executive committee. "He cares about his priests," Mr. Haliv added.

"While some people still don't speak about the leader of the Ukrainian Church as a patriarch and many newspapers still don't use the term, Bishop Losten does — he uses the term," Mr. Haliv.

For his part, Bishop Losten told The Weekly that Ukrainian priests who come to America from Ukraine are deeply religious men, but they lack patriotism. What makes the Ukrainian Catholic Church unique is its Ukrainian tradition, the bishop said. Maintaining that tradition and ensuring that priests also recognize it, Bishop Losten said, is a great concern for him.

Moments of doubt

While in hindsight Bishop Losten's decision to pursue a religious life appears destined, there have nonetheless been moments of doubt.

"I believe each and every one of us has that temptation to go into other fields," said Bishop Losten, who once wanted to be an opera singer. In fact, his love for classical music still runs so deep that a radio in his office is constantly tuned to 96.3 FM WQXR, the classical music radio station of The New York Times. "But I didn't have the money to go to opera school."

He was, however, able to use what skills he had to work tirelessly for the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Throughout his career, the bishop maintained the reputation of a dedicated hierarch, often answering his own phone calls, traveling on weekends to parishes within his jurisdiction and taking part in fund-raisers to benefit the Church.

"Our job is to be there and be seen,"

Bishop Losten said one afternoon after serving a Julian calendar Christmas liturgy in New York City. "I always tell the bishops: if the people don't see you, they don't know you."

Those who have worked with him personally say Bishop Losten is a decisive man, though one who keeps close tabs on the flow of money to all churches under his jurisdiction.

Helping the Church in Ukraine

As a fund-raiser and advocate for the Church, the bishop said that his work has resulted in much help for the Church in

after class. "So we went to Archbishop [Volodymyr] Sterniuk and said, 'I'm here now; let's go look for a place.'"

Bishop Losten said he and others went in search for a suitable home for what would later become a portion of the Lviv Theological Academy. They came upon a dilapidated summer camp in the town of Rudno, and Bishop Losten remembered saying, "Let's buy it."

"The archbishop thought I was nuts, but I said, 'Don't look at the buildings. Look at the land; look at all of the land,'" Bishop Losten said.

It took some four months to repair



Bishop Basil Losten with Pope John Paul II in 1993 in Rome.

Ukraine. On one occasion in the early 1990s, Bishop Losten was behind the effort to purchase new cars for bishops and priests in Ukraine. The Church at that time was struggling, having priests cover multiple parishes throughout western Ukraine. Bishop Losten helped purchase cars so that clergy could drive from congregation to congregation.

"I say that I myself did not do it, but I was instrumental in getting others to do it," Bishop Losten said of the purchases.

On another occasion, the bishop was lecturing a group of Ukrainian seminarians in Lviv in what he said was a freezing cold church. At the time, the seminary did not have its own buildings.

"This can't be," Bishop Losten remembers saying to himself one day

buildings, raise money through collections from the community and move into the new facilities. "We were slowly able to get ourselves together. That's how we started — very, very slowly," the bishop said.

Among the pressing issues facing the Church in the future, Bishop Losten stressed during one interview with The Weekly the need to keep "the face of our Church evident."

One Church

"My whole vision for our Church is one Church," Bishop Losten said, stressing the idea among all Ukrainian Churches of ecumenism, or the idea of promoting worldwide unity among religions.

"Volodymyr only had one faith,"

Bishop Losten said. "We have to enlighten the people about this faith. It's not the bishops; the bishops are all in union about uniting to create one Church." There is a strong undercurrent among the people in Ukraine who are opposed to the idea of uniting Ukraine's Orthodox and Catholic Churches, Bishop Losten said, citing this as among his Church's greatest problems.

With his resignation officially accepted, Bishop Losten said he would continue to work as the bishop emeritus of the Stamford Eparchy. Bishop Paul Chomnycky, who will succeed Bishop Losten, will be enthroned by Cardinal Lubomyr Husar during a ceremony on February 20 in Stamford.

Bishop Losten will continue to oversee the administrative needs of the eparchy until the new bishop is enthroned. Once the new bishop is in place, Bishop Losten will stay on in Stamford and spend a portion of his time in retirement helping the new bishop get acquainted with the eparchy.

"It's not going to be easy," Bishop Losten said. "Getting him introduced into how things work in New York — it will be very new and difficult for him, but people are going to really like him."

Contemplating the past

Speaking to a crowd of 150 people who gathered in Stamford, on January 14 to celebrate St. Basil's Feast Day, the bishop said he is often asked what he will do next. "I will have an opportunity to contemplate my past," he said.

He is planning to write a memoir of his life in the Church, but said he will need help with certain technical aspects. "I have an old IBM typewriter — I can't even start a computer," he said jokingly.

During the recent celebration, Lubow Wolynetz, curator of the Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford, recounted the tale of Sisyphus, who was condemned forever to roll a huge stone up a hill in Hades only to have it roll down again on nearing the top.

"Our own Bishop Losten has been pushing this great stone up the hill for 28 years," she said.

When the moment came for him to address his audience, Bishop Losten, pushing the podium toward the center of the room, said: "You are my family, and with you I have lived through the greatest moments of my religious life."

"I think in retirement I will continue to push that boulder," the bishop said, "I still have 75 years of work left."

Ukraine's Ministry of Defense honors retired American officer

WASHINGTON — Retired U.S. Army Col. Stepan Oliynyk, Ph.D., was decorated on January 28 with the Meritorious Badge by the Defense Ministry of Ukraine, in recognition of his personal contribution to the establishment and development of Ukraine's armed forces.

The award was presented by Ukraine's new ambassador to the United States, Dr. Oleh Shamshur, who thanked Dr. Oliynyk for his many years of work in promoting American-Ukrainian bilateral relations and military cooperation.

Dr. Oliynyk, who was born in the Lviv region on July 18, 1930, resettled in the United States after World War II. His military career spanned 35 years. After retiring from the U.S. Army, Dr. Oliynyk was engaged in research work in the realm of national security for the U.S. Department of Defense.

Since 1992 he has been working as a consultant and senior counselor for national security with the Consultative-Advisory Council under the aegis of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense on matters of mobilization readiness. He is often invited to lecture at the Ukrainian Armed Forces Academy and for the editorial board of the journal Viysko Ukrainy (Ukraine's Army).

Dr. Oliynyk also participated in activities of the International Institute for Global and Regional Security, the Taras Shevchenko Scientific Society, and other professional societies and organizations both in Ukraine and the U.S.

He is the author of many scientific papers and books on military, literary and historic subjects. He has been awarded the Ukrainian Education and Science Ministry's honorary diploma.



Retired U.S. Army Col. Stepan Oliynyk (left) receives the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's Meritorious Badge from Ambassador Oleh Shamshur (center) and Col. Yuri Syvokon, defense attaché at the Embassy of Ukraine to the United States.

CLASSIFIEDS

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL MARIA OSCISLAWSKI, (973) 292-9800 x 3040
or e-mail: adsukrpubl@att.net

SERVICES

FATA MORGANA

Music for all your music needs Weddings, Zabavas,
Concerts, Festivals and Private Parties
Contact Oleksij (609) 747-1382 or email us at
OK1band@yahoo.com
Visit our website: www.fata-morgana-band.com

TRIFONT
Commercial Printing
Toronto - St. Catharines -
Buffalo, NY

COMMERCIAL PRINTING
UNIQUE ENGRAVED INVITATIONS
WITH UKRAINIAN DESIGNS
Graphic Design • Custom Imprinting
Toll Free 1-800-210-9136
Tel: (905) 928-5858 Fax: (905) 928-7001
We can also print from your computer ready, copy.

ХРИСТИНА БРОДИН
Професійний продавець
забезпечення УНЧ
CHRISTINE BRODYN
Licensed Agent
Ukrainian National Assn., Inc.

2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280 Parsippany, NJ 07054
Tel.: (973) 292-9800 (Ext. 3039) • Fax: (973) 292-0900

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

Insure and be sure.
Join the UNA!

MERCHANDISE

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

Ukrainian Book Store
Largest selection of Ukrainian books, dance
supplies, Easter egg supplies, music, icons,
greeting cards, giftwear, and much more.
10215-97st
Edmonton, AB T5J 2N9
Toll free: 1-866-422-4255
www.ukrainianbookstore.com

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

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

Andrew R. CHORNY
Manager

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

PROFESSIONALS



Smiles Unlimited Dental Center

Emil T. Kesler, D.D.S.
Valentina M. Kesler, D.D.S.

(908) 722-5511
60 South Main St., Manville, NJ 08835

CARDIOLOGIST
PETRO LENCHUR, MD, FACC

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

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

In-office cardiac testing at two convenient
locations:

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

LAW OFFICES OF
ZENON B. MASNYJ, ESQ.

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

Serious Personal Injury
Real Estate/Coop Closings
(fee for Condo/Coop Purch. in Manh.
only is \$1000)
Business Representation
Securities Arbitration
Divorces, etc.

(By Appointment Only)

MARIA ZAKOTURIA
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
NOTARY PUBLIC
TAX PREPARATION
Individual Corporate Partnerships
Trusts
12 Adam Court
Staten Island, New York 10314
Tel. (718) 761-3747
Fax (718) 761-8108; Cell (917) 363-5936
mzakoturia@aol.com

General Dentist
Marusia E. Kushnir, D.M.D.

• Advanced Restorative Dentistry for the entire family.
• Cosmetic Dentistry
• Implant Dentistry

120 Millburn Ave., Suite M-4
Millburn, N.J. 07041
(973) 467-9876
Office hours by appointment.

HELP WANTED

Wanted
Live-in care for an elderly lady
with physical limitations,
near Soyuzivka resort.
Call Vera at 878-774-3516

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

counselor of the Ukrainian Embassy to the Benelux countries, and then was appointed chief of the European Union Affairs Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. Since February 2004 he served as vice minister of foreign affairs. (Embassy of Ukraine in the United States, Ukrinform)

Klitschko to run for mayor of Kyiv

KYIV – Former boxing champion Vitalii Klitschko announced his withdrawal from the election roll of the Reforms and Order Party-Pora Bloc. Mr. Klitschko explained that the “Orange camp’s” split prompted him to make the decision. He said he was ready to enter the race for Verkhovna Rada together with a democratic bloc, but such a bloc has failed to materialize. Furthermore, Mr. Klitschko said he thinks he will prove more useful to society in the capacity of mayor of Kyiv, rather than as Verkhovna Rada national deputy. “I will be of greater use on the municipal level,” he said, “I will manage to make investors come to Kyiv as I have many influential friends.” Reuters quoted the mayoral hopeful as stating on January 19, when he announced his candidacy: “I want to become Kyiv mayor because I love my city very much and want to make life better here.” Mr. Klitschko also pledged to fight corruption. (Ukrinform, Reuters)

Gongadze hearings to remain closed

KYIV – The Kyiv City Appellate Court turned down lawyer Andrii Fedur’s petition to hold open hearings in the Heorhii Gongadze murder trial. The court’s collegium session on February 1 noted that a decision to hold the hearings behind closed doors was made on January 23 and there are no grounds to revoke it. The decision was apparently made with a view toward preventing state secrets from being divulged. Mr. Fedur, the lawyer of Lesia Gongadze, the murdered journalist’s mother, reacted by stating that barring the press from the court’s hearings stemmed from the authority’s desire to conceal the truth. Former police officers Valerii Kostenko, Mykola Protasov and Oleksander Popovych are charged with the journalist’s murder; a key figure in the case, ex-general Oleksii Pukach, has been declared wanted. (Ukrinform)

Lutsenko comments on Gongadze case

KYIV – According to Minister of Internal Affairs Yurii Lutsenko, the investigation toward establishing the masterminds of journalist Heorhii Gongadze’s murder has been stepped up. He said that, in his opinion, everything is proceeding normally, adding that the suspects now standing trial should be duly appraised, but the investigators should continue looking for the murder’s organizers and those who ordered the murder. Touching on the court’s closed-door sessions, Mr. Lutsenko said that determining the trial’s mode is up to the court. He noted that the Internal Affairs Ministry’s secret

agents are supposed to testify and their identities cannot be revealed, in accordance with Ukraine’s legislation. (Ukrinform)

Scant support for constitutional reform

KYIV – Less than one-third of Ukrainians support the parliamentary-presidential form of government that went into effect on January 1 in compliance with alterations made to the Constitution of Ukraine, according to an opinion poll conducted by the Institute of Social and Political Psychology. Only 27.4 percent of respondents nationwide (the figure is highest in Crimea at 36.1 percent) support implementation of amendments to the Constitution. More than 19 percent of respondents say the constitutional reform should be suspended and submitted to a nationwide referendum, as suggested by President Viktor Yushchenko. A significant number of respondents believe the constitutional reform is not necessary in the near future and must be canceled (17.6 percent). The latest constitutional reform passes the bulk of presidential authority to the Verkhovna Rada, which must form a majority coalition in order to name the government. (Ukrinform)

More Ukrainians registered in Italy

KYIV – According to the charitable organization Caritas, which quoted the newspaper La Repubblica, there are 2.8 million foreign immigrants in Italy – twice as many as five years ago. The immigrants account for 5 percent of the Italian population, but in such large cities as Rome and Milan every 10th resident is an immigrant. Ethnic Albanians are the most numerous group (316,000 people) and are followed by Moroccans (294,000), Romanians (248,000) and Chinese immigrants (111,000). Caritas gives the number of immigrants from Ukraine at 93,000. According to the La Repubblica, the number of immigrants from Ukraine has grown from 9,000 three years ago to 93,000. The immigrants are evenly divided among male and female, with the exception of Campagna Province, where females account for 62.3 percent of the total number of immigrants. This province is also home to the biggest Ukrainian community. (Ukrinform)

Average monthly wage up to \$200

KYIV – According to data released in late January by the State Statistics Committee, the average monthly wage in Ukraine increased to 1,000 hrv (approximately \$200) in December 2005 for the first time since independence. Compared with 2004, the average wage rose by 45 percent in 2005. The highest average wage – 2,036 hrv – was in the banking sector, while the lowest – 22 hrv – was in the education sector. (Ukrinform)

AeroSvit Ukraine’s leading airline

KYIV – According to AeroSvit CEO
(Continued on page 15)

Immigrant family’s...

(Continued from page 9)

and his 11-year-old brother looked out and realized that they had to swim to the shore – and one of the shores seemed more populated, so they ended up in New Jersey. Eighty-six descendants later, there have been engineers, school teachers, even a diamond merchant in the family, to contribute to our society in the United States.

I think of the Karnaoukhs and how many descendants they would have that could contribute as well, as so many Ukrainian Americans have in the past. I am frustrated that these peaceful, diligent

human beings are suffering such a fate; that they will be deported in the clothes they wore. And I think of my grandmother, who was arrested by the Bolsheviks many years ago. “Klavdia Yakivna, take off your shuba,” they said. “What! Did you buy me my shuba?” she retorted. And she kept it with her for the three days she was jailed until my grandfather, Wasyl, could get her out.

I think of Maria arriving in Kyiv in her nightclothes and how cold it will be there, and how the Karnaoukhs will have to find their way to Lviv from there.

How could this have happened? How could this have happened here? Mr. Braun reminds me: “They shoot illegals at the border, Cami. Haven’t you heard?”

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

Vitalii Potemskyi, in 2005 the company's performance made it Ukraine's leading air carrier. Mr. Potemskyi noted that AeroSvit carried 1,461,000 passengers in 2005. The company operates one dozen planes, 10 medium-range aircraft and two long-range planes, which service 61 air routes. According to the AeroSvit chief, by 2011 the company means to boost air carriage to 4 million passengers a year. The company's plans also envisage increasing the number of routes to 85 and boosting its fleet to 42 planes. AeroSvit is among those Ukrainian companies that allowed foreign capital investment. Since 1994 AeroSvit has been relying on Boeing planes; currently AeroSvit's fleet is composed of one Boeing 737-200, two Boeing 737-300s, five Boeing 737-400s, two Boeing 737-500s and two Boeing 767-300ER aircraft. (Ukrinform)

Children evacuated from frozen city

ALCHEVSK – Low temperatures burst two heating mains in the city of Alchevsk, Luhansk Oblast, on January 22, leaving hundreds of buildings, including schools and hospitals, cut off from the heating system, Ukrainian media reported. The Emergency Situations Ministry has said the breakdown was primarily the result of long-term neglect of Alchevsk's heating pipes, which are more than 25 years old. "About 70 percent of Ukraine's heating system is worn out and needs to be renovated, while about a quarter of it is in critical condition and must be replaced immediately," the February 2 issue of the Kyiv Post quoted Vasyl Kvashuk from the Emergency Situations Ministry as saying. President Viktor Yushchenko visited Alchevsk on January 30 and said the need for reform in the housing and communal sector has become an urgent issue, adding that Alchevsk will be the "starting block" for such reform. The government has decided to move some 4,500 children from the freezing Alchevsk to other cities. Some 700 children had been sent from Alchevsk to Crimea on January 1. The Health Ministry said the same day that 589 people have died from the cold in Ukraine during the second half of January. (RFE/RL Newsline)

EU ready for "enhanced" partnership

BRUSSELS – European Union External Relations Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner said after her meeting

with Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk in Brussels on February 1 that consultations on a new, "enhanced" partnership accord between the EU and Ukraine may start as early as this year, RFE/RL's Brussels correspondent reported. However, she made clear that the new accord – to replace the current Partnership and Cooperation Treaty which expires in 2008 – will not offer Ukraine an EU membership perspective. Ms. Ferrero-Waldner stressed that EU relations with Ukraine will for the foreseeable future be pursued under the EU's European Neighborhood Policy, which does not provide explicitly for membership. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Anti-monopoly body approves gas JV

KYIV – The Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine (AKU) has given its go-ahead for the creation of UkgazEnergo, a joint venture (JV) between Naftohaz Ukrayiny and the obscure Swiss-based gas trader RosUkrEnergo to sell gas to Ukrainian consumers, UNIAN reported on January 31. A controversial January 4 deal between Gazprom, Naftohaz Ukrayiny and RosUkrEnergo made RosUkrEnergo the monopolist of gas supplies to Ukraine and obliged Naftohaz Ukrayiny and RosUkrEnergo to set up a joint venture on a parity basis for selling imported gas in Ukraine. Last month the Ukrainian Parliament sacked the Cabinet, charging that the January 4 gas deal is disadvantageous to Ukraine. Some Ukrainian opposition politicians and media have demanded the disclosure of information about RosUkrEnergo shareholders. The AKU said on February 1 that it has received sufficient information about RosUkrEnergo in order to approve the creation of UkgazEnergo. However, the AKU added that it cannot make this information public since the law obliges it to remain silent on commercial secrets. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Morozov presents credentials

KYIV – The chief of Ukraine's Mission to NATO, Ambassador Kostiantyn Morozov, presented his credentials to NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, who congratulated the envoy on the appointment and underscored the significance NATO attaches to the promotion of a strategic partnership with Ukraine. Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry reported the news on January 20. Ambassador Morozov expressed the Ukrainian leadership's resolve to pursue the nation's Euro-Atlantic integration course. Ambassador Morozov, born in

1944, once held the posts of defense minister, deputy chief of Ukraine's Mission to NATO and ambassador to Iran. He was appointed chief of the Mission to NATO on November 5, 2005. (Ukrinform)

Opinions split on gas deal

KYIV – According to a January 15 survey ordered by the National Institute for Strategic Studies and conducted in Vinnytsia, Donetsk, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Cherkasy and Kyiv, the Ukrainian population's appraisal of the gas deal with Russia is rather balanced. Thus, 25.4 percent of the respondents view the Ukrainian-Russian "gas conflict" as having been prompted by the Russian party's wish to secure more money for its gas; 29.9 percent view it as Russia's desire to influence the outcome of the upcoming elections in Ukraine; 24 percent think Russia is seeking to get control of Ukraine's gas transportation system; and 23.8 percent interpret the "gas conflict" as having been meant to "punish" Ukraine. Over half of the respondents view the deal as a compromise or a transient truce, while 22.5 percent view the deal as Ukraine's defeat. The poll further showed that 26.2 percent of the respondents whose vision of Russia was previously favorable, worsened their attitude to that state. In addition, 41.2 percent of respondents think the gas deal with Russia should be revised in favor of Ukraine. Only 17.9 percent of the respondents said the deal must be immediately denounced. (Ukrinform)

Putin: no more subsidies

MOSCOW – Russian President Vladimir Putin said during his January 31 news conference broadcast live on RTR state television that "switching to a market-based [gas] price system for our

closest neighbors cannot in any way harm our policy on post-Soviet territory." He added that "on the contrary, I am sure that it will help us achieve our foreign-policy goals ... [Russia has been using] non-market pricing methods, or in fact subsidizing the economies of the former Soviet republics, at the expense of Russian consumers, Russian citizens, for 15 years. Subsidies to the Ukrainian economy alone cost Russian citizens \$3.5 billion annually. For comparison, as far as I remember, the U.S. provided \$174 million worth of aid to Ukraine last year." The president argued that "we have our own economy, our own country, our own citizens, our own pensioners, our own military servicemen, health workers, teachers and other government-employed workers. And we have been talking about switching to a market-based price system for a long time ... We've been talking to Ukraine about it for several years." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine-Romania commission created

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and his Romanian counterpart, Traian Basescu, signed a protocol in Kyiv on February 2 on the establishment of a joint Ukrainian-Romanian presidential commission, Ukrainian news agencies reported. Both presidents told journalists that they also created an intergovernmental commission to study cooperation in exploring and exploiting gas and oil deposits in the Black Sea continental shelf. Mr. Yushchenko said they also discussed issues related to the Romanian minority in Ukraine and the Ukrainian minority in Romania. "We jointly proceed from a principle of equality and symmetry in organizing cooperation in this issue," Mr. Yushchenko noted. (RFE/RL Newsline)



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що у вівторок,
17 січня 2006 р. відійшла у вічність наша
найдорожча МАМА і БАБЦЯ

СВ. П.

АНАСТАСІЯ КЕНДУС

нар. 7 вересня 1924 р. в Україні.

ПАНАХИДА відбудеться в п'ятницю, 20 січня 2006 р., о год. 7-ій
вечора в похоронному заведенні Петра Яреми в Нью-Йорку.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбудуться в суботу, 21 січня 2006 р. в
українській католицькій церкві св. Юра в Нью-Йорку, а відтак на
цвинтарі св. Духа в Гемптонбургу, Н.Й.

Залишені у смутку:

син – РОМАН з дружиною СЕНДІ
дочка – ДАРІЯ
внук – АЛЕКСАНДЕР
та ближча і дальша родина в Америці і Україні.

Вічна її пам'ять!



У глибокому смутку повідомляємо,
що 3 січня 2006 р. відійшла у вічність

СВ. П.

ОЛЕКСАНДРА ОЩУДЛЯК

нар. 22 вересня 1921 р. у Перемишлі.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в понеділок, 9 січня 2006 р.
в українській католицькій церкві Різдва Пресвятої Богородиці в
Нью-Бранзвіку, Н. Дж.

Тіло поховане на цвинтарі св. Андрія Первозваного в С. Бавнд
Бруку, Н. Дж.

У смутку залишилися:

дочки – ХРИСТИНА з чоловіком ПЕТРОМ
– МАРТА з чоловіком БРУС
внуки – СТЕФАН
– ДІЯНА
та ближча і дальша родина в Америці і в Україні.

Вічна її пам'ять!

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

Rate: \$7.50 per column-inch.

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

Please include the daytime phone number of a contact person.



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

Ukrainian American Association of University Professors elects officers

by Assya Humesky

KENT, Ohio – In December 2005 members of the Ukrainian American Association of University Professors (UAAUP), voting by mail, elected a new board of directors, headed by Lubomyr Wynar of Kent State University, president.

Also elected were: Assya Humesky (University of Michigan), first vice-president; Vsevolod Isajiw (University of Toronto), second vice-president; Z. Lew Melnyk (University of Cincinnati), third vice-president; Myron Melnyk (Kent State University), secretary-treasurer and director of research endowment.

Other members of the board include: Yaroslav Bilinsky (University of Delaware), John Fizer (Rutgers University), Wasyl Janishevsky (University of Toronto), Janna Ratych (Rutgers University), Martha Trofimenko (University of Delaware) and Russel

Zhmuta (University of Missouri).

Auditing board members are: Osyp Martyniuk (Kent State University) and Yuri Chakovsky (Community College, Cleveland).

The UAAUP brings together Ukrainian university professors of the United States and Canada and cooperates with various universities in Ukraine. Its members regularly participate in international congresses and conferences. The UAAUP Research Endowment fund supports publications of its members as well as other worthy scholarly projects on Ukrainian subjects. The UAAUP is a member of the Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress.

In 2006 the association is planning a conference on the English-language textbooks dealing with Ukrainian subjects which are used in U.S. and Canadian universities. It will also be represented at the international conferences on Ukrainian subjects.

Museum hosts...

(Continued from page 8)

with an 'e' in the title, rather than 'Chornobyl' with an 'o.' No one did."

Ms. Mycio explains in the first chapter of her book that the 1986 accident and the nuclear station have commonly been referred to by the Russian spelling, "Chernobyl." She refers to the town itself, and the herb, as "Chornobyl."

Event coordinator Tamara Gallo Olexy, speaking on behalf of the

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, commented: "We are proud to host Mary Mycio and the launch of her book, 'Wormwood Forest.' The good will of the sponsoring organizations and the number of Ukrainian Americans who attended the event show that the community is proud of her success as well."

The launch was sponsored also by The Ukrainian Museum, the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group and the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine.



Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union

The shortest way to your first million!

CALL US!

We can accommodate
all your financial needs.

e-mail: admin@uofcu.org
website: www.uofcu.org



- Deposits • Investments
- IRA • Credit cards

and many other financial products

MAIN OFFICE:

215 Second Ave., (between 13th & 14th St.), New York, NY 10003

Tel.: (212) 533-2980 • Fax: (212) 995-5204

NEW YORK BRANCHES:

1678 E 17th St., Brooklyn, NY 11229 • Tel.: (718) 376-5057 • Fax: (718) 376-5670

Toll Free: 1-866-857-2464

NEW JERSEY BRANCHES:

35 Main St., So. Bound Brook, NJ 08880 • Tel.: (732) 469-9085 • Fax: (732) 469-9165

265 Washington Ave., Carteret, NJ 07008 • Tel.: (732) 802-0480 • Fax: (732) 802-0484



Call us toll free 1-866-859-5848

Our Ukraine...

(Continued from page 3)

Council Secretary Anatolii Kinakh, who leads the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, is second, while the third spot belongs to Borys Tarasyuk, the minister of foreign affairs and leader of the People's Rukh of Ukraine.

Since Ukrainian voters will see the top five names on each bloc's electoral list, celebrities are more involved in Ukrainian politics than ever.

Our Ukraine is no exception.

Talk show host Olha Herasymiuk, who is considered Ukraine's version of Barbara Walters, is fourth on the list, and pop star Ruslana Lyzhychko is fifth.

In fact, Our Ukraine has four women in the top 10 slots of its electoral list – more than most other political blocs.

The other two women are National Deputies Ksenia Liapina and Lilia Hryhorovych, the Ivano-Frankivsk native who gained popularity after she threatened to set herself on fire in the Verkhovna Rada when it voted to remove Mr. Yushchenko as prime minister in April 2001.

All of Our Ukraine's political advertising and propaganda is focused on portraying itself as the bloc representing the maidan (Independence Square, the focal point of the Orange Revolution) and its values.

Orange remains the color of Our Ukraine and the gray horseshoe with a red exclamation point remains its symbol.

A new campaign bombarding radio and television advertising repeats the slogan "Don't Betray Yourself. Don't Betray the Maidan."

Typically, any negative campaigns or slogans are a bad idea in politics, Mr. Donii said. However, it's important that at least one Our Ukraine slogan has the

word "maidan" in it.

"It carries with it the essential message – nostalgia to their own electorate, memories about brotherhood and the unity that was on maidan," he said. "The essence that they could have and should have included in a slogan is there."

Another Our Ukraine slogan to emerge is "Ukraine is One With Us!" – a response to what many Ukrainians perceive as the divisive campaign platforms of the Party of the Regions, including official status for the Russian language and federalism for Ukrainian oblasts.

Rather than trying to reach out to new voters, Our Ukraine is effectively corraling those who came out on the maidan during the Orange Revolution, Mr. Donii said. "There's no sense in them proposing anything radically new," Mr. Donii said. "They need to gather their electorate and that's what they're doing very effectively."

The New Year's Day natural gas crisis and subsequent attempt by opposition forces to sack Mr. Yekhanurov and his Cabinet has had a reverse effect, boosting Our Ukraine's ranking ahead of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, according to recent polls.

Our Ukraine commands 22 percent of the electorate, according to the National Institute of Strategic Research, compared with 24 percent for the Party of Regions and 15 percent for the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

The National Institute of Strategic Research is a government research agency that often performs work for the president and his Secretariat.

However, according to the Western-financed Democratic Initiatives Foundation, the Our Ukraine bloc has about 13 percent of the electorate, while the Party of the Regions commands 31 percent and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc has 16 percent.



The UNA has a single payment plan that will insure your child's life at \$5,000 for one low payment.

Find your child's age below and that's all you have to pay.

Call today for your application. 1-800-253-9862.

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

SUMA

Federal Credit Union

Visit us on the web at www.sumafcu.org

Certificates of Deposit*

Term	IRA, Roth IRA & Coverdell (Educational) CD	Regular CD
1 year	5.13% APY ** (5.00% APR)	4.60% APY ** (4.50% APR)
3 year	5.34% APY ** (5.20% APR)	4.81% APY ** (4.70% APR)
5 year	5.55% APY ** (5.40% APR)	5.02% APY ** (4.90% APR)
Money Market	Up to \$49,999	3.56% APY** (3.50% APR)
	\$50K+	3.82% APY** (3.75% APR)

* Regular CDs over \$100,000 receive a 0.25% bonus ** Rates are based on a one year yield and are subject to change without notice

Main Office

125 Corporate Blvd
Yonkers, New York 10701
Tel: 914-220-4900
Fax: 914-220-4090
1-888-644-SUMA
E-mail:
memberservice@sumafcu.org

Yonkers Branch

301 Palisade Ave
Yonkers, NY 10703
Tel: 914-220-4900
Fax: 914-965-1936
E-mail: palisade@sumafcu.org

Spring Valley Branch

16 Twin Ave
Spring Valley, NY 10977
Tel: 845-356-0087
Fax: 845-356-5335

Stamford Branch

39 Clovelly Road
Stamford, CT 06902
Tel: 203-969-0498
Fax: 203-316-8246
E-mail: stamford@sumafcu.org



CCRDF's Kharkiv initiative helps city's hospital for children

KHARKIV – Nurse Irina Slobodnyuk will never forget her first day on the job in the hematology ward of the Kharkiv City Children's Hospital No. 16. "I just began my shift when a child died on my floor. There was more commotion in an adjoining room and a second child passed away. On the floor below, we lost a third. Three children in the span of one hour," she recalled.

It was a horrific start for an aspiring young nurse who wanted to save the lives of children suffering from leukemia.

That was 16 years ago, and Nurse Slobodnyuk has not lost any of her zeal for combating this dreaded illness. Since 1989, Kharkiv City Children's Hospital No. 16 has made dramatic improvements in its treatment and diagnosis of children with leukemia, Hodgkins lymphoma and aplastic anemia.

Thanks to an infusion of technology from Western aid groups and major grants from Philip Morris, the survival rates for children's leukemia at this hospital have risen steadily from a dismal 5 percent in 1992 to over 70 percent in 2005. The hospital staff is working hard to reach

Western remission levels of 85 percent.

"We used to have absolutely nothing to work with," said Dr. Lyudmyla Rakovska, the assistant to the medical director in Kharkiv. "Now we have a Cobe Spectra hematology analyzer and blood cell separator that enable us to reduce by half the number of hemorrhages, infections, thrombocytes, myeloid depression and other complications during chemotherapy."

In 2005 the Philip Morris Co. awarded the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund a \$150,000 grant to further strengthen the diagnostic capacity of this hospital and especially its hematology ward. This was the fourth grant Philip Morris awarded for the Kharkiv hospital.

CCRDF used these funds to modernize the hematology laboratory with six new microscopes, diagnostic kits, reagents, a spectrophotometer, testing kits, a Roche biochemistry analyzer and many additional supplies that no leukemia treatment center should be without. The fund also procured a centrifuge, an adjustable micro-dose calcula-

tor with eight channels, aqua-distiller and other critical components.

On November 9, 2005, CCRDF Executive Director Alex Kuzma and CCRDF's Kyiv project administrator Evhenia Medvedenko met with hospital staff in Kharkiv to plan the next steps in this new partnership. Besides visiting the hematology laboratory, CCRDF monitors met with some of the children who are benefiting directly from this new technology.

Among the most poignant encounters was a little girl named Karina Izotova who at age 2 has endured two major operations and is on her second round of chemotherapy. "This kid is a fighter," said her treating physician, Dr. Lydia Bilousova. "We've never seen a child this small fight this hard for her life. She wants to live."

CCRDF representatives were impressed with the strong rapport between doctors and children, the patients' remarkably cheerful demeanor, even as they had to undergo what had to be very difficult and sometimes painful treatment.

Despite the progress they've made, the doctors at the Kharkiv hospital face enormous challenges in the months ahead. They noted a sharp increase in the number of new leukemia cases which rose by one-third just in the past year. The hospital is in dire need of a new roentgen machine as their 30-year-old Romanian-built model is on its last legs, and each year the demand for services is increasing. (The number of patients in need has risen steadily from 1,307 in 2003 to 1,406 in 2004 and to 1,753 in just the first 10 months of this year.) CCRDF hopes to negotiate a large discount on a new unit in the coming year.

As expensive and challenging as it can be to combat leukemia, the effort is well worth it. As CCRDF representatives toured the hospital late into the evening



Karina Izotova, 2 1/2, has undergone several operations on her kidneys and a grueling round of chemotherapy to help cure her leukemia.

shift, they met a strapping teenager named Ruslan Lomaka who has been in long-term remission, but returns to the hospital for periodic check-ups to avoid any relapse in his disease.

For more information on CCRDF's Kharkiv initiative, or to support the fund's charitable mission, readers may call (973) 376-5140 or write to: Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078.

"Так! Українці перемагають сміючись" (Yes, Ukrainians Win Laughing")

A unique publication about the events that took place during the 2004 presidential elections in Ukraine. The book features the Ukrainian people standing up for honest and transparent elections as well as combating the flagrant fraud of the vote by the government. Abundant in illustrations, it conveys the spirit of Independence Square in

Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, during the peaceful Orange Revolution. "Так! Українці перемагають сміючись" became possible thanks to the financial support by Alex, Halyna, George and Nina Woskob and the Ivan Bahriany Foundation. The project was administered and coordinated by Oleh Chornohuz and Yuri Zadoya, respectively.

To order the book, please send \$25 and your requests to: The Ivan Bahriany Foundation, Attn.: DeEtte K. Riley, AW & Sons, 309 East Beaver Ave., State College, PA 16801



SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK Federal Credit Union



INVESTING MADE EASY:

**ONE YEAR
SHARE CERTIFICATE***

4.71%_{APY}

APY - Annual Percentage Yield. Rates subject to change at any time. * \$500.00 minimum deposit. Penalty may be assessed for early cancellation. Other Certificate terms available.

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

Branches:

Kerhonkson: 6325 Route 209 Kerhonkson, NY 12446 Tel: 845 626-2938 Fax: 845 626-8636

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

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

Outside NYC call toll free: 1-888-SELFREL. Visit our website: www.selfreliancenyc.org

Your savings federally insured to
\$100,000
NCUA
National Credit Union Administration
a U.S. Government Agency

YOUR VOICE COUNTS!

Dear Subscribers and Readers:

Every so often, a publication undergoes a change in its coverage, editorial content, policies, views, or general direction. But is it you, the readers and subscribers, who should provide us with the direction that you would like us to take in order to make this newspaper more interesting to YOU.

For this reason, we are once again requesting that you take a small portion of your time, fill out this short survey and tell us what YOU would like to see in our publication. Every opinion and comment will be considered and counted. Your comments will show us in which direction you want us to go.

Since our papers are part of the bonds that have held our Ukrainian community together, we also strongly encourage you to please help us increase our subscription base. It is with your subscription dollars that our papers will work for you and our community.

Let us hear from you! PLEASE subscribe and give the gift of knowledge to your loved ones.

Respectfully,

Walter Prochorenko, Ph.D.
Director of Publications
Ukrainian National Association

The Ukrainian Weekly Reader Survey

By completing the questionnaire below, you could win a free weekend at Soyuzivka!

1. How often/thoroughly do you read The Ukrainian Weekly?
a. Weekly _____ Cover to cover _____ Partially _____
b. Monthly _____ Cover to cover _____ Partially _____
c. 3-4 times per year _____ Cover to cover _____ Partially _____

2. How do you receive The Weekly?
a. I/someone in my household subscribes _____
b. Read friend's or neighbor's copy _____
c. Obtain free copy _____
d. Read excerpts online _____

3. What do you think is a FAIR price for an annual subscription to The Weekly? (please consider the quality, content and cultural aspects of the publication).
a. \$25/year _____ b. \$30/year _____ c. \$35/year _____
d. \$40/year _____ e. \$45/year _____ f. \$55/year _____
g. Other _____

4. In ADDITION to news about Ukraine and news about Ukrainian events in the diaspora, what other features or articles you would like to see in The Weekly on a regular basis?

	More	Less	Same
Business news from Ukraine			
Ukrainian businesses in the U.S. and Canada			
Sports in Ukraine			
Sports in the U.S. where Ukrainians are involved			
Columnists, commentary			
Community events calendar			
Reviews of (Ukrainian) restaurants			
Art/music/book reviews			
Religion/Church affairs			
Education news			
Children's corner ("UKELODEON")			
Political cartoons			
Historical and geographical information about Ukraine			
Cultural heritage, including traditions			
Recipes			
Famous Ukrainian people in the U.S. and Canada			
UNA information: members, products, benefits			
Legal issues (e.g., immigration, Social Security, etc.)			
Personal finance			
Puzzles			
Paid birth, engagement, wedding announcements			
Classified ads			

5. Would you pay more for a subscription if The Weekly were to be published:
a. with some color pages Yes _____ No _____
i. If "yes," what ADDITIONAL amount would you be willing to pay?
1. \$10/year _____
2. \$20/year _____
3. \$30/year _____
4. Other _____

b. as a weekly magazine in full color Yes _____ No _____
i. If "yes," what ADDITIONAL amount would you would be willing to pay?
1. \$10/year _____
2. \$20/year _____
3. \$30/year _____
4. Other _____

6. Are you currently a member of the Ukrainian National Association?
Yes _____ No _____

7. Do you subscribe to Svoboda? Yes _____ No _____

General comments and suggestions for our publications: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____
e-mail address: _____
Phone number: _____

Please mail completed survey to:
Director of Publications
Ukrainian National Association
2200 Route 10
Parsippany, NJ 07054

We are grateful for your participation. To thank you for taking the time to complete this survey, your name and address will be placed in a random drawing for a free weekend at Soyuzivka during 2006 (except on the Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends, and subject to room availability).

– Administration of UNA Publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

5 REASONS TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

- 1) Replacement. If for some reason your copy does not arrive, we will replace your copy free of charge.
- 2) Delivery. Your copy is delivered directly to your home or office.
- 3) Internet. You will be eligible for 6 months FREE of the internet version of The Ukrainian Weekly once this is implemented in the next few weeks.
- 4) Support. You will be supporting YOUR newspaper, YOUR community, and YOUR heritage.
- 5) Discount. You will receive up to 87% off the newsstand price with the special rates listed below.

Please choose one or more of the following:

For The Ukrainian Weekly subscribers only: SPECIAL GIFT Subscription to SVOBODA and/or an additional subscription to The Ukrainian Weekly - \$38/yr. "Give your loved ones the gift that gives over 50 times per year!"

SPECIAL RENEWAL RATES (Valid only until February 28th, 2006)
\$40 per YEAR FOR TWO YEARS (\$39 for Non-UNA members)
\$35 per YEAR FOR THREE OR MORE YEARS (\$45 for Non-UNA members)

First Class Mail subscriptions (US and Canada):
\$88 per year for one year. (\$99 per year for Overseas subscriptions)
\$79 per year for two or more years. (\$84 per year for Overseas subscribers)

REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION \$45/YEAR (\$55 for Non-UNA members)

SUBSCRIBER:				GIFT SUBSCRIPTION:			
Name:				Name:			
UNA Member: Branch		Cart:		UNA Member: Branch		Cart:	
Address:				Address:			
City:	State:	ZIP:		City:	State:	ZIP:	
E-Mail:				E-Mail:			
Phone:				Phone:			

Mail to: The Ukrainian Weekly – Subscription Dept
PO Box 280, 2200 Route 10
Parsippany, NJ 07054

CONCERT

Saturday, February 25, 2006 - 8 p.m.
at the
Ukrainian Institute of America

LARYSSA KRUPA AND FRIENDS

An evening of chamber music
in one of the city's splendid historical architectural landmarks

featuring

Mozart: Quartet for Flute and Strings in D Major, K. 285
Hummel: Trio for Flute, Cello, and Piano, Op. 78
Brahms: Piano Quartet in C Minor, Op. 60

performed by

Barbara Siesel (flute), Marta Krechkovsky (violin), Borys Deviatov (viola),
Wanda Glowacka (cello) and Laryssa Krupa (piano)

The concert is dedicated to the memory of
Dr. Clementij and Olga Rohozynskyj

Tickets

General admission: \$30
UIA Members and Seniors: \$25
Students: \$20

Call us for more information and to get your tickets today!

Ukrainian Institute of America
2 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10021
(212) 288-8660
www.ukrainianinstitute.org

OUT AND ABOUT

February 14-March 10
New York

"Masterpieces of Ukrainian Architecture,"
art by Yuri Khymych, Ukrainian Institute
of America, 212-288-8660

February 16
Washington

Conference on "De-Stalinization: The First
Fifty Years After Khrushchev's Secret
Speech," George Washington University
202-994-6342

February 18
Toronto

Mardi Gras Zabava, St. Vladimir Institute
www.ukiestudents.org

February 18
Chicago

70th Anniversary Reunion Dance,
St. Nicholas Cathedral School
773-384-7243

February 18
Philadelphia

Engineers' Banquet and Ball
with presentation of debutantes
215-635-7134

February 25
New York

Music at the Institute concert
by "Laryssa Krupa and Friends"
212-288-8660

February 25
Marina Del Ray, CA

Ball and presentation of debutantes,
California Association to Aid Ukraine
818-774-9378

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers; please send e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each.

Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly,
send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly,
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Дебютантки ВЕЧОРНИЦЬ ЧЕРВОНОЇ КАЛИНИ Ювілей 50-ліття в суботу, 25 лютого, 2006

Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel
East Rutherford, NJ
грають: Темно і Луна
Коктейль 6-7-ма вечора
Банкет 7-9-та
Презентація дебютанток 1-ма вечора
Вечерниця від 9-тої до 2-ої ранку
Вечірній дзят

50
ліття
презентації
дебютанток
Запрошення
і інформації:
Ihor Sochan
tel. (201) 391-2581

Анна
Челак
ескорт
Микола
Кобрич



Anna
Chelak
escort
Nick
Kobryn



Анастасія
Грабовська
ескорт
Марко
Палцян

Anastasia
Hrabovsky
escort
Mark
Palcan

Марія
Каватюк
ескорт
Роман
Ковбаснюк



Maria
Kavatsiuk
escort
Roman
Kovbasniuk



Лариса
Кобзар
ескорт
Маркіан
Вірстюк

Larissa
Kobziar
escort
Markian
Wirstiuk

Діана
Декайло
ескорт
Зенон
Галатин



Diana
Dekajlo
escort
Zenon
Halatyn



Татяна
Григорівч
ескорт
Христофор
Ризанов

Tatiana
Gryhorovych
escort
Christopher
Rizanov

Наталя
Кізянка
ескорт
Олекс
Макух



Natalia
Kiyashka
escort
Olexa
Makuch



Мішель
Слота
ескорт
Юрій
Добрянський

Michelle
Slota
escort
Yuriy
Dobriansky

Cleveland soccer coach recognized as National Coach of the Year

by Lev Holubec

PHILADELPHIA – Mike McLaughlin of Cleveland's Ukrainian American Sport Club Lviv was recognized on Friday, January 20, as the National Coach of the Year for Private/Parochial High School Boys at the 59th NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) Banquet in Philadelphia.

He follows in the footsteps of coaching legend Gene Chyzowych of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) who was named National Coach of the Year in 1986 and 1990.

Mr. McLaughlin, 38, guided the St. Ignatius High School team to a perfect 23-0-0 record on its way to a second straight Ohio state title. It marked just the third time in state history a team went undefeated, and it was the second such instance of a team winning back-to-back state crowns. Mr. McLaughlin has a career record of 174-29-26.

St. Ignatius High School is an all boys Jesuit Preparatory School that has helped to educate over 100 Ukrainian children, spanning each of the Ukrainian emigrations throughout its 120-year history. The school, with a mission of forming "men for others," is known for its academic excellence demonstrated, for example, by consistent recognition from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. This year's class boasts 25 National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists, the most of any Ohio high school and among the highest in the country.

Mr. McLaughlin's 2005 soccer team, living up to and above the school's high standards, achieved All-Academic status – recognition reserved for high school athletic programs that excel on the field and carry an average team GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Mr. McLaughlin, well-known among

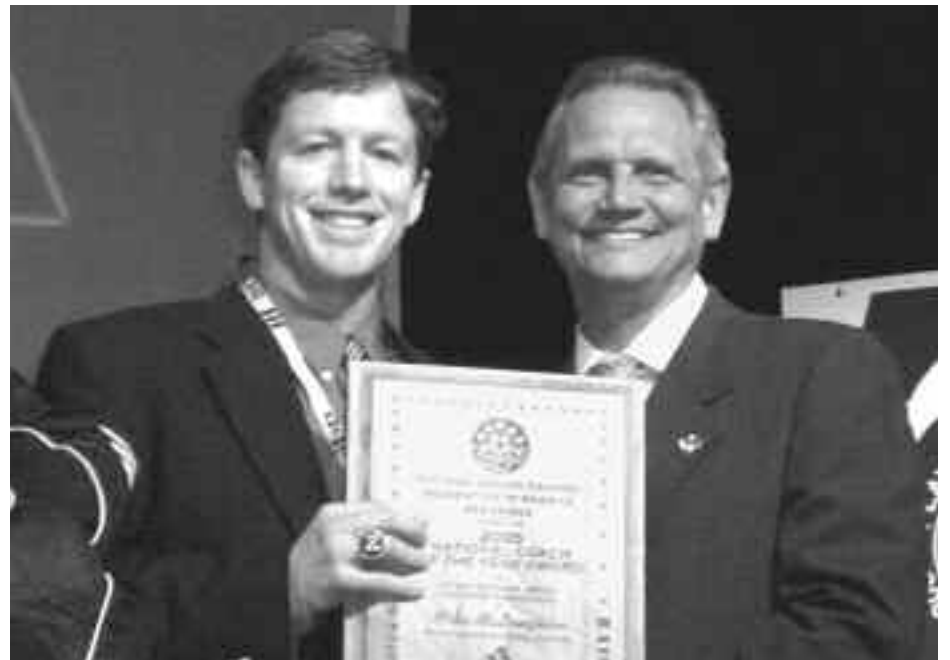
current and future (those in training at St. Josaphat Elementary) Ukrainian students at St. Ignatius, came upon the Ukrainian American community no sooner than 1981, when he followed Andrew Futey as only the second freshman to make the varsity soccer squad at St. Ignatius.

In his four years, Mr. McLaughlin teamed with a number of Ukrainians including Mr. Futey, John Tymkiw, Mike Danylo and Lev Holubec, among others. Upon graduating in 1985 he pursued a degree in theology and bettered his soccer career at Quincy College. He later earned his master's in theology from John Carroll University.

It was in the mid-1990s that Mr. McLaughlin was swept back into the local Ukrainian community – with no turning back. He began dating Motria Oryshkewych, a Holy Name High School coach and John Carroll University soccer player. Always thinking about the success of the local Ukrainian soccer club, President Taras "Guga" Oryshkewych cut a deal that that "allowed" Mr. McLaughlin to date his sister Motria – but only if he agreed to join UASC Lviv and lead the soccer team.

In March 1999, on a "Ukrainians from America" soccer trip to Paris to support the Ukrainian National Team in World Cup qualification against France (See The Ukrainian Weekly article "Springtime in Paris," April 1999), Mike and Motria were engaged atop the Eiffel Tower. They married in May 2000.

Mr. McLaughlin was a key representative of the U.S.-Ukrainian Soccer Selects at the U.S. vs. Europe Ukrainian soccer challenge during the 1999 Paris trip. He is most easily recognized among the UASC Lviv players and USCAK challengers for his subtle flair on the soccer



Mike McLaughlin (left) receives the National Coach of the Year award from NSCAA President Schellas Hyndman.

field during the annual Great Lakes Cup tournaments and helped lead the Cleveland club to win the Over 30 Great Lakes Cup in 2001.

Mr. McLaughlin is the sophomore service director at the high school. The program gives each second-year student an experience in serving the less privileged members of the local community. He began his St. Ignatius career 14 years ago, teaching theology to students of all four years. Twelve years ago he took the reins of the soccer program, as only the second head soccer coach in the school's history.

Prior to his current role, he was the director of the Arrupe Neighborhood Partnership program which the Society of Jesus has recognized as a Model Project Building Just

Communities in the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin and their two sons Matthew, 3, and Patrick, 6 months, are parishioners of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Parma, Ohio.

A dedicated husband, father, teacher and soccer coach, Mr. McLaughlin is a role model and an inspiration to the high-achieving children of the Ukrainian community. We are all proud of his success on the soccer field, but even more so of the example that he provides the current St. Ignatius students including the Dobrianskys, the Fedynskys, the Holowatys, the Kleks, the Rabosyus, who look up to Mr. McLaughlin as their teacher, or to the countless others who look forward to their future sophomore experience with "our" Mr. McLaughlin.

Все чекаєте, доки дядько Михайло полетить в Україну?



Ваші гроші будуть відправлятися через два тижні...

Надішліть гроші через "Вестерн Юніон" зараз же!



Ваші гроші надійдуть за кілька хвилин! *

Коли вам треба, ми завжди до ваших послуг

Коли ви надсилаєте гроші родині або друзям, необхідно довіряти особі, через яку ви передаєте свої гроші – так тисячі американців українського походження довіряють компанії "Вестерн Юніон" як близькому родичу чи другу.

З компанією "Вестерн Юніон":

- Вам не треба довго чекати, поки хтось поїде в Україну – **ваші гроші надійдуть за кілька хвилин.***
- Вам не треба хвилюватися за можливу втрату грошей або зміну митних правил – **ваші гроші впевнено подорожують скрізь кордон.**
- Вам не треба просити знайомого про послугу – **і тому не треба самим бути зобов'язаними.**

Тому навіть чекати, поки дядько Михайло вирішить поїхати погостювати до тітки Ганни? Ваша родина або друзі можуть вже сьогодні зайти за грошми, що ви надіслали, до понад 8800 відділень в Україні.

Відвідайте найближче до вас відділення або зробіть грошовий переказ Інтернетом чи телефоном. Задзвоніть до "Вестерн Юніон" – компанії, що можна довіряти:

1-800-799-6882

Ми розмовляємо
українською мовою
www.westernunion.com

Швидко, надійно, по всьому світу *

WESTERN UNION



І шляхи стають коротшими!

Тільки **Аеросвіт Українські Авіалінії**

пропонує безпосадкові рейси

літаками Boeing 767

Нью-Йорк-Київ,

Київ-Нью-Йорк

А також через Київ:

Львів, Івано-Франківськ, Одеса, Сімферопіль,

Донецьк, Дніпропетровськ, Харків, Запоріжжя,

Чернівці, Ужгород, Москва, Мінськ, Баку,

Ташкент, Алма-Ата, Делі, Тель-Авів,

Пекін, Дубаї, Афіни, Салонікі, Софія,

Белград, Бангкок, Каїр

1.888.661.1620, 1.212.661.1620,

sales@aerosvit.us

або звертайтеся у Вашу агенцію

Вантажні перевезення:

1.718.376.1023,

express@aerosvitcargo.com

Новинка! Тепер у Вас є можливість

замовити і оформити білет на нашій

веб-сторінці **www.aerosvit.com**

АероСвіт  **AeroSvit**
UKRAINIAN AIRLINES

UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Hartford SUM branch gathers for double celebration



HARTFORD, Conn. – Members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SUM, for Spilka Ukrainskoyi Molodi) gathered in November 2005 to celebrate the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel, the patron saint of SUM. At the same time the youths marked the 15th anniversary of the priesthood of the Rev. Ihor Midzak and his elevation to the rank of mitred archpriest. Father Ihor is a member of SUM and pastor of St. Michael’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hartford. Seen on the left are the members of Hartford’s SUM branch with Father Ihor.

Mishanyna

To solve this month’s Mishanyna, find the words on the list below in the Mishanyna grid. The place names, or toponyms, that follow are the names of many of the oblasts and the autonomous republic that are part of Ukraine. (Next month: another Mishanyna covering the remaining oblasts of Ukraine.)

- Cherkasy

Crimea

Ivano-Frankivsk

Khmelnyskyi
- Chernihiv

Dnipropetrovsk

Kharkiv

Kyiv
- Chernivtsi

Donetsk

Kherson

Kirovohrad

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

OUR NEXT ISSUE: UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated March 12, please send in your materials by March 2.

UKELODEON, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; phone (973) 292-9800; e-mail, staff@ukrweekly.com. (We ask all contributors to please include a daytime phone number.)

Parma parish’s children remember Famine victims



PARMA, Ohio – Parish youths had an important role to play at St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral during memorial services offered in memory of the victims of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine. The special prayers were offered during both the 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. liturgies at the request of the Ukrainian Genocide Famine Foundation. As seen above, during the earlier liturgy, children were invited by the clergy to come to the front of the church and light 33 candles, symbolically uniting the congregation with the 33,000 candles that had been lit the previous day in St. Sophia Square in Kyiv.

OUR NAME: UKELODEON: it rhymes with nickelodeon. Yes, that’s a kids’ network (spelled with a capital “N”), but the original word referred to an early movie theater that charged a nickel for admission. According to The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the root of the word, “odeon,” is from the Greek “oideion,” a small building used for public performances of music and poetry. Our UKELODEON is envisioned as a public space where our youth, from kindergartners to teens, can come to learn, to share information, to relate their experiences, and to keep in touch with each other. Its contents will be shaped by the young readers of the next generation.

