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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich introduces new Ukrainian cabinet

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich introduced his Cabinet of Ministers on August 4, just minutes after the Verkhovna Rada affirmed his nomination.

Of its 24 members, at least nine belong to the Party of the Regions, at least five belong to the Our Ukraine faction and two represent the Socialist Party of Ukraine.

Though Yuriy Yekhanurov will step down to become a National Deputy in the Verkhovna Rada, eight of his ministers will remain in place.

Prime Minister and Party of the Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich, 56, returned to Ukraine's top leadership post after losing it during his failed presidential campaign in 2004, during which the Ukrainian Supreme Court ruled his government falsified the presidential elections.

Prior to serving as former president Leonid Kuchma's prime minister for two years starting in November 2002, Mr. Yanukovich served as the Donetsk Oblast administration chair (governor) for more than five years.

Mr. Yanukovich was born in Yenakiyeve, a town in the Donetsk oblast, and spent most of his time working in the Donetsk Oblast. He has close ties to Rynat Akhmetov, Ukraine's wealthiest magnate.

First Vice Prime Minister/Minister of Finance Mykola Azarov, 58, of the Party of the Regions, managed to recapture the two Cabinet positions he held simultaneously while serving in Mr. Kuchma's government since November 2002.

During this tenure, Mr. Azarov created and implemented Ukraine's notoriously ineffective taxation system, which is responsible for much of the corruption that plagues the Ukrainian economy, said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy, which is exclusively financed by Ukrainian business donations.

Born in the town of Kaluga in the Russian Federation, Mr. Azarov spent most of his life there and doesn't speak the Ukrainian language. Before entering politics, Mr. Azarov was a Moscow-educated geologist.

Vice Prime Minister for Fuel and Energy Issues Andrii Kliuyev, 42, who is also returning to the Cabinet after serving alongside Mr. Yanukovich in October 2002, is a Party of the Regions member.

During the falsified elections of 2004, Mr. Kliuyev led Mr. Yanukovich's underground election campaign, hatching fraudulent schemes and dirty tricks, Mr. Lozowy said.



AP/Efrem Lukatsky

Viktor Yanukovich enters the Verkhovna Rada in Kyiv on Friday, August 4, shortly after he was voted prime minister.

Mr. Kliuyev built his career in the mines and factories of Donetsk, where he was born and spent his whole life.

Upon Ukrainian independence, Mr. Kliuyev became president of an industrial enterprise named Promkomservis, and then general director of Ukrpidshypnyk.

Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Issues Dmytro Tabachnyk, 42, is a long-time associate and close ally of Mr. Kuchma. Mr. Tabachnyk, of the Party of the Regions, chaired the former president's 1994 presidential campaign when he was only 30 years old.

After his victory, Mr. Kuchma appointed Mr. Tabachnyk presidential administration chair, a post he held until December 1996, during which time numerous embarrassing scandals erupted. Mr. Tabachnyk was born in Kyiv.

Gains in promoting the Ukrainian language and culture made by outgoing minister Viacheslav Kyrylenko may be rolled back by Mr. Tabachnyk, who has revealed his disdain for both, Mr. Lozowy said.

Vice Prime Minister for Construction, Architecture and Residential-Communal Management Volodymyr Rybak is a Donetsk native. Rybak, 59, is a newcomer to the Cabinet of Ministers.

Mr. Rybak served as Donetsk's mayor between September 1993 and April 2002, the years during which the city's businessmen battled each other for control of the oblast's wealth.

Entering the Verkhovna Rada under the Party of the Regions ballot in 2002,

(Continued on page 10)

New government announces measures to improve relations with Russia

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Pro-Russian politicians took control of Ukraine's key government posts and announced measures to improve ties with the Russian Federation after the Verkhovna Rada voted August 4 to affirm Viktor Yanukovich as Ukraine's prime minister.

While Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has portrayed the new government as a diverse body in which political forces made compromises, Party of the Regions leaders made clear that reaffirming Ukraine's relations with the Russian Federation was a priority not up for concession.

Without doubt, Ukrainians can count on a warming of relations with the Russian Federation, said Mykola Azarov, who has returned as Ukraine's First Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

"We will have to untangle those knots which were artificially tied in the previous governments, particularly in 2005," Mr. Azarov said in an August 8 statement.

"We will begin to examine all conflict-

ing situations which emerged with Russia in the last year-and-a-half. We will examine to what extent these things are well-grounded and how much they impede our relations in general," he said.

As his symbolic first foreign trip, Mr. Yanukovich announced on August 10 that he will travel to Moscow between August 15 and August 17 to visit Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin.

Mr. Putin called Mr. Yushchenko, and then later Mr. Yanukovich, to congratulate them on their ability to find compromise and end Ukraine's political crisis.

Among Mr. Yanukovich's top priorities in Moscow will be to possibly renegotiate Ukraine's national gas agreements with Russia so that they are transparent and meet international norms, he said.

He was confident that he would obtain the "optimal price" for natural gas on behalf of Ukrainians.

"We won't be working [any]more for any nation, only Ukraine," Mr. Yanukovich said. "Our politics won't be pro-Russian, or pro-Western."

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Renowned Ukrainian dissident, activist Nadiia Svitlychna dies

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Nadiia Svitlychna, a renowned Ukrainian political activist, former Soviet political prisoner, dissident and the prominent figure in the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, died in her home in New Jersey on Monday, August 7, after a prolonged illness. She was 69.

Ms. Svitlychna was the sister of



Nadiia Svitlychna

poet, literary critic, human rights activist, dissident and literary movement leader Ivan Svitlychny, and was well-known for her involvement in the dissemination of "samvydav" literature with "Shestydesiatnyky" authors Lina Kostenko, Vasyl Stus, Vasyl Symonenko and others.

Ms. Svitlychna was the prominent figure in the Ukrainian Helsinki Group's External Representation, which published the Herald of Repression, that was distributed in Ukraine (1980-1985). She edited a pamphlet on Yuriy Lytvyn (1980), a Ukrainian political prisoner, helped publish an edition of Vasyl Stus' poetry (1986) and was a laureate of the Taras Shevchenko prize in literature. Ms. Svitlychna participated in decolonization rallies and demonstrations in the West, speaking to a crowd of over 8,000 at a 1978 rally in front of the USSR's United Nations Mission in New York. That same year she spoke at the third World Conference of Free Ukrainians on the dissident movement in Ukraine, stressing to youths and organizations the importance of unity among Ukrainians.

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ANALYSIS

Yushchenko ends crisis, but Orange legacy in doubt

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Newsline

August 3

In the early hours of August 3, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko at last put an end to the country's four-month political stalemate with a painful political concession. In a live televised address, Mr. Yushchenko named Viktor Yanukovich, the head of the pro-Russia Party of the Regions and Mr. Yushchenko's main rival in the 2004 Orange Revolution, as the country's new prime minister.

President Yushchenko kept the nation in suspense until the last moment. August 2 was the constitutional deadline for the president to endorse or reject the nomination of Mr. Yanukovich as the new prime minister. A rejection would likely have meant the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada and a call for new elections.

Following a meeting with political leaders on the day of the deadline, Mr. Yushchenko appeared to hint the impasse had left him no other options. "The leading five Ukrainian political forces did not reach an understanding on the key Ukrainian constitutional priorities, the key priorities for national development," he said. "This is the most worrying. The road map, the [Declaration of National Unity], which was envisaged as an answer to this challenge, unfortunately, was not signed."

This left Ukraine anticipating that the president would use his scheduled television address to announce his rejection of Mr. Yanukovich and the dissolution of Parliament.

Mr. Yanukovich and Oleksander Moroz, the Socialist Party leader and Verkhovna Rada chairman, came to the president for last-ditch anti-crisis talks, which continued deep into the night.

Early on August 3, two hours past the expiration of his deadline, Mr. Yushchenko announced that he had ultimately decided to endorse Mr. Yanukovich for prime minister.

"Following from what I have said, I have made the decision to put forward Viktor Yanukovich for the post of Ukraine's prime minister," the president said. "By this I want to once again stress that I understand the whole complexity in the east and the west of Ukraine, regarding this nomination for the post of prime minister. I call on the country to understand that today we have a unique chance to realize all that we talked about, and to bring the country together for a political understanding."

Mr. Yushchenko went on to say that he, Mr. Yanukovich and Mr. Moroz – together with caretaker Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov and Roman Bezsmertnyi from Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine – initiated a so-called Declaration of National Unity. He gave no details about the terms of the declaration, saying only that it preserved the essential domestic and foreign policies mapped out by his presidential election program.

Ukrainian media reported earlier that week that Our Ukraine and the Party of the Regions differed on four points in talks on the declaration: the state language, relations with NATO, relations with Russia, and the status of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Although the text of the initialed declaration had not been made known as of

writing this article, two things are already clear. First, the Communist Party of Ukraine, which proposed Mr. Yanukovich as a candidate for prime minister jointly with the Party of the Regions and the Socialist Party, refused to sign the declaration. This means the Communists will drop out of the Anti-Crisis Coalition formed last month after the Orange coalition of Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, and the Socialist Party notoriously failed to agree on a new Cabinet. Second, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, which in the past repeatedly declared it would never strike a coalition deal with Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions, will also go into opposition.

Messrs. Bezsmertnyi and Yanukovich are reported today to have initialed an agreement bringing Our Ukraine into a coalition with the Party of the Regions. The second Anti-Crisis member, the Socialists, is likely to stay in the fold as well.

Does the endorsement of Mr. Yanukovich for prime minister by President Yushchenko mean that the 2004 Orange Revolution has suffered a total disintegration? Is Ukraine about to reverse its political course? Both concerns appear to be exaggerated.

Speaking to a crowd of supporters in Kyiv on August 2, Mr. Yanukovich was forced to admit that the Orange Revolution has radically changed the country and that there can be no return to the past. "We have already come to understand that 2004, all things considered, has opened all of our eyes as to who we are, who stands by us, and what our country is," he said. "I think that this has brought us benefits and, of course, purification."

It is true that Mr. Yanukovich objects to Ukraine's membership in NATO, which is a goal fervently pursued by Mr. Yushchenko. However, Mr. Yanukovich's objection reflects the feeling of a majority of Ukrainians about the North Atlantic alliance, rather than his own deep-seated political convictions.

In 2003, during Mr. Yanukovich's previous prime ministership under then President Leonid Kuchma, Kyiv sought expanded cooperation with NATO, and declared NATO membership as a strategic goal. So, there may be room for compromise on this tricky issue between Messrs. Yanukovich and Yushchenko in 2006.

Mr. Yanukovich has also repeatedly declared that he is in favor of Ukraine joining both the World Trade Organization and the European Union, two other goals pursued by Mr. Yushchenko. Therefore, his prime ministership under President Yushchenko may eventually prove to be no less "pro-Western" than those of his two predecessors, Yulia Tymoshenko and Mr. Yuriy Yekhanurov.

However, a big setback for Ukraine's new government is the general disillusionment with political elites in the country, which was provoked by the infamous break-up of the Orange Revolution allies in 2005, the virtual lack of reforms in the country, and what is widely seen as Yushchenko's lack of political will and inability to live up to his election promises.

If the new government manages to adopt a prompt reform plan and put it into practice, President Yushchenko may get a chance "to bring the country together," as he declared while nominating Mr. Yanukovich. If not, Ukraine will most likely become even more bitterly divided and exasperated.

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukrainian premier to visit Moscow

KYIV – Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk told journalists in Kyiv on August 8 that newly appointed Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich will visit Moscow this month to meet with his Russian counterpart, Mikhail Fradkov, at a session of the intergovernmental commission for economic cooperation, Interfax-Ukraine reported. Speaking later the same day on television, Mr. Tarasyuk said Mr. Yanukovich's talks in Moscow, among other topics, will include the price of gas imported by Ukraine from Russia. Mr. Tarasyuk also revealed that Mr. Yanukovich is planning to visit Brussels in mid-September to discuss Ukraine-NATO cooperation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Party sees new government as revenge

KYIV – The Ukrainian People's Party (UNP) has called on all "patriotic" and "state-supporting" forces to unite in the face of what the party perceives as a danger arising from the recent installation of Prime Minister Yanukovich's government, UNIAN reported on August 8. "The government formed by the Verkhovna Rada is an overt act of revenge by those political forces that were removed from power by the Orange Maidan," the UNP said in a statement. "The declaration of national unity, which was drafted with allegedly good intentions, has no legal status and is only a declarative document that was utilized by the anti-Ukrainian forces led by Mr. Yanukovich, the Communists, and the Socialists to come to power." The UNP stressed that it sees "an urgent need to form a national-democratic front in order to defend the state and achievements of national democracy." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Vitrenko comments on new government

KYIV – Nataliya Vitrenko, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, told journalists in Kyiv on August 8 that the declaration of national unity signed last week has obliged its signatories to implement the pro-NATO and pro-Western political course of President Viktor

Yushchenko, UNIAN reported. Mrs. Vitrenko said the signed document is tantamount to "an act of betrayal of the Orthodox-Slavic civilization." According to Mrs. Vitrenko, even though the declaration of national unity is an unconstitutional document, it has "tied the hands" of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party, and the Communist Party, which now must do what Mr. Yushchenko wants them to do. Mrs. Vitrenko added that by signing this document, the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party, and the Communist Party have betrayed their electorates. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Presidential decree on military exercises

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has signed a decree that will allow three military exercises involving the participation of foreign troops to be held in Ukraine in 2006, Interfax-Ukraine reported. The decree follows the Verkhovna Rada's authorization on August 4 of the South 2006 maneuvers, which are to include the participation of Moldovan troops in August in Mykolayiv Oblast; the Cossack Steppe exercise involving British and Polish troops in Zhytomyr Oblast in September; and an exercise involving Slovak soldiers in Lviv Oblast in September. Originally, Kyiv was planning to hold six multinational military exercises in Ukraine, including the Sea Breeze 2006 maneuvers with a sizable NATO contingent. However, the Verkhovna Rada failed to authorize these exercises in February. Moreover, the visit of a U.S. naval ship in the Crimean port of Feodosiya in May sparked a series of anti-NATO protests in Ukraine, with several Ukrainian regions declaring themselves to be "NATO-free territories." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Bush, Putin congratulate Yushchenko

KYIV – U.S. President George W. Bush has congratulated Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on the formation of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's government, Interfax-Ukraine reported on August 7, quoting the Ukrainian presidential press service.

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U.S. State Department releases annual human rights report for 2005

by Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY – The U.S. State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor released its annual report detailing current human rights practices around the globe, including Ukraine, for the year 2005. The report indicates that there have been significant improvements in the Ukrainian government's performance regarding freedom of expression, improving prison conditions, increased accountability of police officers and freedom of assembly.

However a number of cases showed that enforcement of laws remained poor in the areas of the penal system, government monitoring of private communications and movements of individuals, human trafficking, limitations on press freedom, religious tolerance, discrimination against minorities, corruption, interference with trade unions, and violence and discrimination against women and children.

In regard to election violations, the Ministry of the Internal Affairs and the Procurator General's Office reported over 700 criminal cases involving 6,000 people, with about 250 cases being submitted to the courts by the end of the year. In most cases, the chairmen of polling stations were punished, with over 250 law enforcement officers being involved as well. Only in a handful of cases were investigations initiated into alleged violations and the then – Yanukovych opposition declared that the investigations into, and judgments on, election irregularities were politically motivated.

Another part of the report tracked the freedom of expression, freedom of the media and information in Ukraine. Infringements regarding freedom of expression fell significantly in the course of 2005, with media reflecting a wide range of opinions. The report suggests, however, that for these changes to be permanent, it will be necessary to create a legal basis for the creation of public service media and move to privatize at least some of the state-owned media.

Ukraine adopted the law "On Public Television and Radio Broadcasting in Ukraine" a few years ago, but the necessary amendments to this law were not approved by the Parliament as of the end of 2005. A closed group of individuals controlled the media due to the fact that Ukraine did not have any laws in place to impose anti-monopoly restrictions.

The adoption of amendments on July 7 to the law "On the Election of Members of Parliament" made impossible a considerable number of the violations and fraudulent acts that took place during the 2004 presidential election. These amendments also restricted political discussions in the media and restricted foreign press and mass media that operate in Ukraine from covering the election process. In December these restrictions were lifted by the Parliament, but the legislation still gave rise to concern.

Regarding access to information, the new government leadership promised to abolish the all-embracing secrecy within the government, but this was not achieved in 2005 and the presidential decrees marked "not for publication," a relic of the Soviet era, represented a grave threat to democracy and the rule of law, the State Department report noted. Ukraine did not have an efficient system of accessing information kept by government agencies and local self-governments, and authorities often disregarded their duty to provide complete information on issues of public importance at the request of individuals.

The criteria used by authorities to classify information were broad, vague and

arbitrary, and contributed to the lack of information. To correct this, President Viktor Yushchenko ordered the Ministry of Justice to prepare bills on access to information and on the openness of information of the state bodies. The report concluded that, in practice, nothing had changed as a result of these initiatives.

There were fewer reports of attacks on journalists this year, with considerable increases in freedom of speech and the removal of the practice of "temnyky" (directives from the government on how to report on important issues). While incidents involving journalists still took place, these acts were sporadic and mostly came from pressures by mass media owners, which had led to practices of self-censorship.

The Procurator General's Office declared progress in the investigation into the killing of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. In March 2005 the government announced that the killers (police officers) had been arrested, however, it is suspected that the orders to kill Gongadze came from the higher ranks of the police or the executive branch.

The independence and efficiency of the judiciary and the respect for the rule of law remained serious problems, while pressure from authorities on the courts decreased. Inadequate financing made the efficiency of the courts illusory and in many regions the lack of funding was so severe that courts were led to ask for charitable donations or funding from local authorities, thereby putting their independence seriously at risk, the report pointed out. Other setbacks included the return of the Soviet-style "general oversight" functions, which undermines the creation of a strong and independent judiciary and is a breach of Ukraine's commitments made on joining the Council of Europe in 1995.

Other concerns for the judiciary system were the non-execution of court judgments or the failure to execute them within a reasonable time, especially regarding payments from state bodies or enterprises owned even partially by the state. According to the law, the assets of such enterprises cannot be sold to cover their debts, and without money on the accounts, the judgments remained unexecuted. In 2005 the European Court on Human Rights ruled in more than 80 cases that Ukraine had violated the right to a fair trial by failing to execute court decisions. In July and September new administrative and civil procedural codes were adopted that brought Ukrainian procedural legislation up to European standards.

However, according to experts, the main disadvantage is the elimination of independent expertise for courts: now every expert needs certification from the Ministry of Justice and so potentially can be put under pressure from the executive power in cases where a state body is involved in the dispute.

The unpunished everyday practice of arbitrary arrest and detention remained a problem in Ukraine, according to the report. This is due to the vague definition of grounds for arrest without a court warrant. These kinds of arrests were constitutionally allowed only "in the event of an urgent necessity to prevent or stop a crime" (Article 29).

Furthermore, legislation allowed the investigator in charge to extend the term of detention for a period exceeding three days without addressing the court, but the Constitution stipulated that the detainee be brought before a judge within 72 hours. The report found that judges almost never ascertained whether the duration of police custody was well-founded or whether the period of custody was excessive (judges are allowed to extend the detention period to 10 days).

These uncontrolled custody situations facilitated torture and the covering up of traces of torture. Also the law and legal practices essentially hindered access to a lawyer and this right was at the discretion of the investigator in charge who could cite "special rules" for denying access on no acceptable grounds.

Conditions in prisons and detention facilities constituted a major human rights problem in Ukraine. Article 11 of the law "On Preliminary Detention" prescribes 2.5 square meter per detainee in a cell, the Ukrainian average was a mere 1.8-square-meters, with a number of institutions providing even less. Detainees increased by 10-15 percent every year with administrations of such institutions forced to announce greater capacity figures, otherwise, the traditional shortage of allocated funds for inmates' rations would become catastrophic. The budget covered only 35 to 40 percent of the real needs calculated under the existing standards and was long overdue for review.

The report noted that police abuses continued toward ethnic minorities, with the most widespread and violent types of abuse against Roma (gypsies). Racial prejudice among law enforcement officials increased the vulnerability of Roma, who were targeted solely on the basis of their ethnic background, which resulted in a lack of trust in the justice system. Other police misconduct included torture and ill-treatment in police custody, fabrication of incriminating evidence, daily harassment and intimidation by the

police and racist anti-Romani discourse.

Those accused of these racial actions avoided being brought to justice due to the confidence that the "system" would never fail them. In practice, the worst consequence that a police officer could expect was demotion or transfer to another police department.

Letters of concern sent to prosecutors, police chiefs and to the general prosecutor or the ombudsperson, alleging racist violence committed by police officers remained discarded. Authorities would often reply to letters of concern twice: first to inform the complainant that they had instructed the relevant (normally local) authority to undertake an investigation into the allegations; and then, a couple of weeks later, informing the complainant of the results of the investigation, stating that no unlawful actions were found and the police had acted in accordance with the law.

Other acts of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism were on the increase in 2005. Assaults were frequently carried out by groups of youth dressed in attire reminiscent of military uniforms. These sporadic outbursts gave rise to concern as Ukraine lacked national instruments for effective protection against violations motivated by racism and prejudice.

Article 161 of the Criminal Code envisages punishment "for deliberate actions designed to provoke national, racial or religious hostility..." in the form

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IN THE PRESS

Aftermath of a political crises, a president who won't listen

"Don't give up on Ukraine," commentary by Carlos Pascual, vice president of the Brookings Institution and former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, International Herald Tribune, July 3:

"... there is some good news in [Ukraine's] current political mess. Multi-party politics is alive. It can be bare-knuckled, ugly and corrupt, but it also involves real debate over how to advance Ukraine's development as a state with ties to the Euro-Atlantic community and with decent relations with Russia. For these goals to be achieved, however, Ukraine's politicians must give more weight to national interests and less to the politics of personal power. Such leadership may have emerged with the coalition forged in the early hours of Thursday. ...

"Yushchenko and Yanukovych now have an opportunity to stop the political slide. The agreement reached on Thursday gives Yushchenko the chance to champion a solid policy agenda - his ticket to restore his political relevance. Yanukovych will get another shot as prime minister - and a chance to turn his tainted legacy into one of effective governance.

"Coalitions inevitably mean imperfect compromise, but it is hard to see how any other alternative would be good for Ukraine. Any excuse to dissolve Parliament after August 2 and vote again would have violated the Constitution and surrendered the last remnant of the Orange Revolution's claim to a moral high ground.

"New elections also would have extended the crisis through 2006 ..."

"The Non-Listening President," commentary by Dr. Taras Kuzio, senior fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the U.S.A., Kyiv Post, August 3:

"One of the most surprising aspects of the Viktor Yushchenko administration has been its unwillingness, or disinterest, in public relations and public opinion, whether in Ukraine or abroad. The Yushchenko administration and Our Ukraine ignored public opinion in Ukraine among Orange Revolution supporters, and that of the U.S.A. and the West in general, which called for a revived Orange coalition following the March elections. A coalition was only put together on the eve of the June deadline, but it immediately collapsed and led to the current political crisis.

"In ignoring domestic and foreign public opinion and advice, the Yushchenko administration has boxed itself into a corner. The two choices facing President Yushchenko are both unpalatable; proposing Viktor Yanukovych as prime minister or dissolving Parliament and holding new elections. The first would be to make Yushchenko a lame duck president and the second would make Our Ukraine a lame duck political force.

"The Orange Revolution did not have to develop this way if the president and Our Ukraine had upheld one of the central ideals of the maidan. When Ukrainians went on to the streets in the Orange Revolution they sought to change their relationship with their rulers.

"... A central component was to be that the ruling elites would listen and act in line with public opinion. But Yushchenko has failed to become a listening president. ..."

Massachusetts family reaches out to Ukrainian orphans

by Peter Woloschuk

BOSTON – Chad and Deb Mills of Ayer, Mass., learned about Ukraine and Ukrainian orphans through the Internet. After their son Jason was born in 1996, the couple learned that they might not be able to have more children. The two had many discussions and finally decided they would adopt a child.

"And that's when the fun began," Mr. Miller said. "We quickly learned all about bureaucracy and red tape, and the horrors of the adoption process. We were advised to go through reputable adoption agencies and learned that it could take several years before we would receive a child and that the fees charged ranged between \$20,000 and \$30,000."

"One day, while doing some research online I discovered that Ukraine was one of the few countries in the world that didn't require an adoption agency to handle the procedure," Mr. Mills said. "Basically, an individual or family can deal with the Ukrainian authorities directly and can complete the adoption process in a fairly short amount of time with a much smaller expenditure of money."

"After talking the possibility over with my wife, we decided to press forward," Mr. Mills said. "A further search of the Internet led us to the website ukrainianangels.org, which was set up by Cathy Harris of Florida."

"Harris had adopted a Ukrainian child

herself and was so taken by the plight of Ukrainian orphans that she set up an organization to help people adopt children from Ukraine," Mr. Mills explained. "She gives advice, helps walk people through the process, and connects Americans who wish to adopt with a facilitator in Ukraine who will help them with the language and paperwork once they have arrived in Ukraine."

"Harris takes a \$500 fee for her services and the money is donated to the orphanage that took care of her child," Mr. Mills said. "She put us in touch with Dmitri Pugach in Kyiv who had formed his own charity to match up sponsors with orphans" (bigfamilycharity.org).

"We began to work with him in March 2001 and over the summer decided to go to Ukraine to explore the situation first hand," Mr. Mills said. "We were taken to an orphanage in Mariupol, eastern Ukraine, to meet a four-year-old boy by the name of Lucas."

"We walked into a room in that orphanage and knew that Lucas was our son," Mr. Mills recalled. "All the formalities were completed by November and Lucas came to join us in Ayer."

"Ironically, within a few months of our adoption of Lucas, my wife became pregnant with the twins, Jackson and Alex, who were born in January 2003," Mr. Mills said. "Even though our family was growing rapidly, my wife and I wanted to do something more for the children in the orphanages in Ukraine,



The Mills children (from left): Jason, 10, Lucas, 9, Alex, 3 1/2, Yaroslava, 16, and Jackson, 3 1/2.

and so we partnered with another couple and sponsored a young girl through Pugach's charity. We set monthly packages and money and received e-mails and photos in reply."

"Eventually the other couple decided to adopt the girl, and my wife and I decided to sponsor another child on our own," Mr. Mills said. "Again, through Pugach we were assigned 12-year-old Yaroslava at a small orphanage which houses 200 children in the village of Borzna, a three-hour drive to the northeast of Kyiv, and we began sending packages of clothes and toiletries."

"Yaroslava sent us a picture of herself holding up a pair of wool socks, like they were a gold necklace," Mr. Mills said. "As my wife and I looked at the picture it really hit us that such a small effort makes such a difference in these children's lives."

As Yaroslava approached her 14th birthday last year, the Mills knew that she would be "aged out" of the orphanage and sent to an "internat" and considered the possibility of adopting her as well.

"We know boys," Mr. Mills said, "and Deb and I looked at each other and repeatedly asked: Can we handle a 14-year-old girl?"

The Mills made their decision to adopt Yaroslava in May 2005 and Mr. Mills went to Borzna the first time in July. He returned in October, and Yaroslava, now 16, came to the United States this past March. He points out that in the last year he spent a total of 55 days in Ukraine.

Although Yaroslava had grandparents who lived only 15 minutes from the orphanage, they were too old and too poor to take Yaroslava in and so she agreed to come to the United States.

"We didn't realize the impact that we've had on Yaroslava," Mr. Mills said, "until she told us that no one cared about her as much as we did."

"Yaroslava's biggest barrier is language," Mr. Mills continued. "Fluent in Ukrainian and Russian and with some English, she is still slightly intimidated by words that she can't understand."

"Her transition period has been extremely smooth and she recently learned to ride a skateboard," Mr. Mills reported. "She has also taken her first roller coaster ride. She is homesick from time to time, especially after having a particularly good time with us. She's torn between her new life and her old life and her friends that are still there in the orphanage."

As a result of their experiences with Ukrainian orphans and with the deplorable conditions of the orphanage in Borzna, the Mills began a non-profit group, the Orphans' Hope Foundation. They applied for and got 501 (c) (3) status, and affiliated

with the National Heritage Foundation, an umbrella organization of more than 6,000 American non-profits so that they could send all of the money that they raised directly to Ukraine. By law, American foundations normally can only send a portion of their funds overseas.

The Mills were particularly concerned with the older orphans who are phased out of the system somewhere between their 14th and 16th birthdays. Many of them are left to fend for themselves on the streets and some turn to drugs, crime and prostitution. A high percentage commit suicide.

In the 11 months since the foundation's registration in August 2005, the Mills have raised almost \$50,000 from family and friends. A flat 3.5 percent fee is given to the National Heritage Foundation for administration and 3 percent is taken by the credit card companies when donations are given that way. A total of 4.5 percent of all income has gone for expenses.

Since its establishment, the foundation has hosted six children from the Borzna orphanage during the month of December 2005 with host families on Nantucket. It will host six more children during the month of August in Massachusetts and New York. It has also paid for school supplies, English lessons, flu and measles vaccines, library books, office equipment, a TV and DVD player, uniforms for the orphanage soccer team, the orphanage Christmas party, dental visits, lice treatment, classroom repairs and shoes, and sent 31 of the children to summer camp.

The goal of the Orphan's Hope Foundation is to raise awareness of the plight of the children and better their lives through improved living conditions, better health care, nutrition and education; and by letting them know that they are truly cared for; to raise funds and to collect humanitarian assistance to support the orphans; and to give the children hope.

Mr. Mills concluded by saying "It is estimated that there are currently over 100,000 orphans in Ukraine and approximately 8,000 new children enter the system each year. Sadly, they are underfunded by the Ukrainian government and living conditions are difficult at best. Help is greatly needed and that is what we're trying to do."

Mr. Mills, 37, attended the University of New Hampshire. He is the director of business development for the cardiac safety division of Covance, a company that conducts medical trials. His wife, Deb, is 35 and attended St. Anselm's College in Manchester, N.H.

For further information readers may visit www.ohfound.org and www.hearttoheartwithukraine.org.

Members of U.S. Congress taste traditional Ukrainian food

by Marta Matselioukh

WASHINGTON – The Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine, along with the Embassy of Ukraine, organized the Ukrainian Table at Taste America 2006 at the U.S. Capitol on July 27. Numerous members of Congress and their families enjoyed scrumptious traditional Ukrainian food while learning about Ukrainian history, culture, and heritage.

Taste America, now in its 15th year, is a reception hosted for members of Congress prior to their Congressional recess. The theme for this year's event was "E Pluribus Unum," which is the phrase used on the Great Seal of the United States. Other countries featured were Italy, Ireland, Japan, China,

Poland, Germany, Spain, Russia and the Organization of American States.

Members of the Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine, which helped organize the event, were SigmaBleyzer, the Ukraine-U.S. Business Council, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, the Ukrainian Federation of America, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

The Coalition for a Secure and Democratic Ukraine is the successor to the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition, and has assigned priority to promoting the U.S. Congress-Verkhovna Rada partnership, supporting Ukraine's integration into the Euro-Atlantic community, and promoting Ukraine's market reform, democratic development and energy efficiency.



U.S. Congressman William Thomas (R-CA) with Julia Godimiak and Natalka Karaman at Taste America 2006.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Annual UNA Seniors Conference held at Soyuzivka, elects leadership

by Oksana Trytjak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – On June 11, on a late Sunday afternoon, registration for the annual UNA Seniors Conference began in the library of the UNA estate, Soyuzivka, here in Kerhonkson, N.Y. Upon registration, each participant received information relating to seniors' issues, UNA products, Soyuzivka and the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation. They also received information about an upcoming UNA fund-raising cruise on the "Miracle" Carnival Cruise Lines to the Grand Cayman, Cozumel, Belize and Costa Maya from Tampa, Fla., as well as copies of the UNA publications Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.

Most participants arrived late on Sunday evening just in time to register and enjoy some wine and cheese, meet old friends and listen to light music by Stefan Ben. As everyone got reacquainted, requests to have a sing-along began. Rostyslav Wasylenko accompanied everyone on his mandolin. Marijka Pidluska, an Ellenville, N.Y., resident, joined in with her lovely voice and entertained all with her poetry and humorous anecdotes. Thus, the conference began on a light and happy note.

On Monday morning the official portion of the meeting began with 65 participants attending. Most of the attendees hailed from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. But there were some who came from as far as Florida, California and Ontario. It was a wonderful and diverse group, and many of the people spoke both Ukrainian and English. By the end of the week there were 72 attendees at the conference.

The meeting began with the participants singing the Ukrainian, Canadian and American national anthems. Oksana Trytjak, UNA Seniors president, welcomed everyone. Ihor Hayda, vice-president, was elected chairman and led the conference for the duration of the meetings.

Elections were held and the following members were elected unanimously: Ms. Trytjak, president; Mr. Hayda, vice-president; and Ija Wasylenko, treasurer. Olia Paprocki, who elected not to run, was thanked for her dedication and hard work as a treasurer for over a decade.

The week was also filled with many interesting speakers. On Monday afternoon,



Participants of the annual UNA Seniors Conference pose for a photograph at the UNA resort Soyuzivka.

the first speaker, Damian Kolodij, a young cinematographer from New Jersey, showed his movie "The Orange Chronicles," which is about the Orange Revolution. He had spent months traveling in Ukraine before, during and after the Orange Revolution and dedicated his film to the memory of his grandparents, who would have been very proud of this documentary.

On Tuesday morning, Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly, spoke about The Ukrainian Weekly and publications in general. Participants had many questions, which Ms. Hadzewycz was eager to answer.

The afternoon speaker was Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky, a prominent New Jersey lawyer, writer, teacher, lecturer and community activist. He shed light on the question "What should we think about what is going on in Ukraine? Are things going well? Or badly?" This was a subject dear to all, and Dr. Vitvitsky spent quite some time explaining and answering many questions.

Wednesday morning brought yet

another speaker Dr. Yaroslav Stawnychy, a well-known New Jersey dentist. Dr. Stawnychy talked about various aspects of dental health, from serious health concerns to the cosmetic procedures available today. These topics were particularly interesting for seniors.

Nestor Paslawsky, manager of Soyuzivka, was eager to welcome the seniors and spoke about the many projects on the premises. There were many questions regarding the estate and positive commentary on the work that was done in the last couple of years. Mr. Paslawsky answered all questions and invited all to visit the resort more often and enjoy its various amenities.

The afternoon guest speaker was

Roma Lisovich, UNA treasurer, who was re-elected to her position during the 36th UNA Convention held at Soyuzivka. She focused her presentation on the new Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation, explaining how the foundation will work and why it is important to support both the Heritage Foundation and the Ukrainian National Association.

On Thursday morning, the speaker was the vice-president of the UNA Seniors, Mr. Hayda. Drawing on his extensive background in the field of nutrition, he provided the participants with many answers to their questions about nutrition, health and diet.

(Continued on page 8)

Iraq veteran and UNA member welcomed home to New Jersey



The Ukrainian National Association welcomes home Capt. Mark D. Popowicz, a member of UNA Branch 234. Capt. Popowicz served two tours of duty in Iraq and recently returned safely to New Jersey. He is seen above while on duty in Iraq.



At the UNA Seniors Conference (seated from left) are: Luba Huraleczko, Ivanna Martynetz, Olga Trytjak, (standing) Zenowia and Myroslaw Kulynych.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Our diaspora charities

The news from the Ukrainian political front in recent months has been, sadly, disappointing. It has kept our editor in Kyiv, Zenon Zawada, very busy. But fear not, dear readers, good news is on the way from Ukraine.

Mr. Zawada is now at work reporting on a story about diaspora charities that are working hard to support some wonderful causes in Ukraine. That story is set to appear in next week's issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, but we wanted to share some of the good news with you now.

For example, there is the story of Basil Tarasko and the Ukrainian Little League. An American, Mr. Tarasko has spent 15 years traveling back and forth to Ukraine – 42 trips in all – to grow a nascent sporting program for children age 9 to 12.

"It's something I want to do to give back to the country of my ancestors," said Mr. Tarasko, who is the district administrator for the Little League in Ukraine. "The kids just want to play and I want to do it," he said, referring to the work he has done to set up baseball clinics for Ukrainian children, many of whom are orphans.

This past April, Mr. Tarasko was instrumental in sending 300 boxes of baseball equipment to Ukraine. That shipment was made with the help of the U.S. State Department and the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund. The package included over 15,000 items, much of which Mr. Tarasko sorted himself into special starter kits for Little League teams.

And then there is the story of Ukrainian Gift of Life Inc., a non-profit organization founded in 1996 by George and Kathy Kuzma to help Ukrainian children with a variety of heart problems.

Since 1998, Gift of Life has made annual shipments of \$500,000 worth of medical and technology equipment to Ukraine. In total, the organization, which is run entirely by volunteers, has raised \$15 million for medical services, hospital costs, equipment and consumables for Ukrainians.

The Gift of Life organization is aptly named, as it provides a wonderful gift to children who might otherwise have died at an early age. The organization helps families cover the exceedingly high cost of cardiac surgery and other treatments. In addition, it gives children who suffer from heart disease hope that they will be able to live a long and healthy life.

And lastly, we would like to point out the work of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, an organization with a track record of more than six decades of work in support of Ukraine. Among its extensive and impressive list of ongoing programs are educational, eyeglass, agricultural, exchange, medical and relief assistance programs.

The organization even has an Adopt-A-Grandparent Program in which benefactors can sponsor a senior in Ukraine with a sum as small as \$15 per month.

So while the political situation in Ukraine continues to be ambiguous, the social situation is not. There are a great many Ukrainians who need our help, and the good news, dear readers, is that we have capable organizations able and willing to provide that assistance.

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Turning the pages back...

Ten years ago The Ukrainian Weekly reported on the thoughts of Ukrainians in Kyiv on the 10th anniversary of independence. Halyna Tarasiuk, a prominent Ukrainian writer, Natalia Skrynnyk, director of the language programs at

the Prosvita enlightenment society, and Roxana Fortunska, a fourth-year university student and summer assistant to Ms. Skrynnyk, shared their thoughts on what this anniversary meant to them and to other Ukrainians.

In Ms. Tarasiuk's opinion, the most pressing problem was the lack of economic restructuring initiatives by the government. Ms. Tarasiuk also was troubled by the lack of cultural development in Ukraine, saying: "There are no programs for the advancement of culture, no financing arrangements for the arts and even publishing has totally fallen apart. Neither are there any laws in place which would encourage patronage of the arts. Rich people do not originate from the nationally conscious sectors of society."

Additionally, Ms. Tarasiuk spoke of the transition of the status of the Ukrainian language. In the early years of independence, she explained, no one was antagonistic toward the Ukrainian language. All sorts of people readily accepted that they were in Ukraine and, therefore, it was normal to speak Ukrainian.

At the time of the interview, Ukraine had only one Ukrainian-language television station, owned by the state, but it did not promote a Ukrainian spirit, according to Ms. Tarasiuk. She explained that "the television industry is in the hands of people who are ready enough to accept the idea of a Ukrainian territory, but not one that is really Ukrainian."

When asked why Ukrainian is rarely heard in Kyiv, Ms. Fortunska responded: "Most people do not know Ukrainian; they think in Russian. As for the young people, they think that it is prestigious to speak Russian. Ukrainian pride does manifest itself, but it's usually only when an athlete wins a medal. On a daily basis everyone just speaks Russian, you rarely hear Ukrainian music in the cafés."

To correct this attitude, Ms. Fortunska suggested that all government people, famous stars and artists, particularly young ones who are idols, would have to show pride in speaking Ukrainian. Also, the mass media would need to speak Ukrainian, she said.

However, Ms. Fortunska was not optimistic about the future of Ukraine. She felt that the only solution was to learn foreign languages and to go abroad to work. Many young people had become disenchanted with the situation and Ms. Fortunska said, "I don't have the feeling that the politicians are interested in the future of Ukraine. People don't have any sense of security. First the people need economic security, then they will be able to think about the national question."

Source: "Interviews: Ukrainians in Kyiv comment on Ukraine today," by Fran Ponomarenko, The Ukrainian Weekly, August 19, 2001.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA

KYIV PRESS BUREAU



A humiliating presidential position

KYIV – Finding himself in the most humiliating position of his political life, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko needed some spin to redeem his disaster of a presidency.

First came his August 4 Verkhovna Rada speech, in which he cast himself as a unifier of Ukraine.

"Calls to consolidate the nation are before us," Mr. Yushchenko said. "This is a task for every National Deputy. We're not only supposed to discuss our daily bread. We're supposed to have a unified nation."

Two days later, Presidential Secretariat Assistant Chair Ivan Vasiunyk appeared on the 1+1 television network with the task of portraying Mr. Yushchenko as Ukraine's Abraham Lincoln.

He read a quote someone had written about the legendary American president.

"The president is a marvelous person and quite wise, but he lacks will and yearning, and I'm afraid he doesn't have the strength to run the nation," the quote stated.

"At that time, nobody understood him," Mr. Vasiunyk said of Mr. Lincoln. "But Lincoln is now the most eminent American president."

Nice try Ivas, except the situation's a bit different.

Mr. Lincoln didn't make Confederate leader Jefferson Davis his vice president. Nor did he compromise with the Confederacy in allowing slavery to persist.

And while Mr. Lincoln wanted to free the slaves (whatever his motive might have been), the Party of the Regions will draw Ukraine closer to a Moscow government seeking to expand its cultural and economic dominance.

Let's face it – we were smitten, awestruck and mesmerized by a tall, handsome Ukrainian-speaking banker with a Ukrainian American wife from Chicago.

For the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States, Viktor Yushchenko appeared to be Ukraine's messiah – the long-awaited leader who would guide his people out of captivity.

We were desperate, and so were the Western-oriented patriots of Ukraine.

In times of desperation, many will overlook annoying facts, opting for myths instead.

But the fact is Mr. Yushchenko had spent many years in the Kuchma government: as prime minister for a year-and-a-half and National Bank chair for nearly three.

In building his banking career, Mr. Yushchenko was, in fact, an active Communist Party leader.

Mr. Yushchenko willingly signed a letter that smeared the valiant anti-Kuchma protesters of March 2001 as "fascists," and his Our Ukraine political bloc mostly refrained from supporting anti-Kuchma actions.

These aspects of Mr. Yushchenko's life reveal that he's a pragmatist more than anything else.

When Mr. Yushchenko sacked Yulia Tymoshenko in September, I asked him whether he planned on bringing former Kuchma officials back into government.

He had just appointed Yuriy Yekhanurov as prime minister, a fellow who chose, as one of his first acts, to engage in a public embrace of Mr. Kuchma in front of cameramen and photographers.

As often, Mr. Yushchenko was long-winded in his revealing response. He must have thought my question was a bit naive:

"I think that there were times when

you ran into Kuchma, were in the same room with him, looked into his eyes and asked him something. But your position and principles can remain unchanged ..., " Mr. Yushchenko said.

"Excuse me, I was prime minister under Kuchma," Mr. Yushchenko said. "That's an even greater sin! By the way, you are breathing the same air that Kuchma may have breathed. It's gotten to the point where I've had enough. Kuchma is a fact. Kuchma is a Ukrainian fact!"

Not only was Kuchma a Ukrainian fact, but thanks to Mr. Yushchenko, he remains a Ukrainian fact.

All of his top cronies, Yanukovych, Azarov, Andrii Kliuyev, Dmytro Tabachnyk, are back in Ukraine's top leadership positions.

Kuchma's politics also linger.

At his August 8 installation, Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk repeated the same foreign policy stance that he had repeated dozens of times while serving under Mr. Kuchma. (Rukh's current leader was a top Communist official too, you know.)

"Ukraine's foreign policy won't be pro-Western, won't be pro-Eastern, but pro-Ukrainian."

Confronted with the choice of having either Ms. Tymoshenko or Mr. Yanukovych as his prime minister, Mr. Yushchenko viewed the latter as the lesser of two evils.

He views Ms. Tymoshenko as a threat to Ukraine's stability, and ever since firing her, Mr. Yushchenko has referred to the need for stability more than anything else.

What the oblivious president doesn't seem to realize is that the Orange Revolution was a rejection of stability, and a demand for reform.

If Ukrainians wanted stability, they wouldn't have camped out on the streets of Kyiv when it was twenty below zero and snowing.

The Carpathian Mountains would have been more interesting.

And despite Mr. Yushchenko's attempt to paint this nightmare scenario as an attempt at national unity, Ukrainians didn't elect him to unite them with a bunch of criminals.

It is stunning that this question even has to be posed, but did Viktor Yushchenko ever even believe in the Orange Revolution?

It now appears that in his quest for the Ukrainian presidency, Mr. Yushchenko took advantage of the Orange Revolution's momentum, sluggishly attending the meetings but never becoming a card-carrying member.

One veteran Kyiv photographer observed how Ms. Tymoshenko was encouraging a rather reluctant Mr. Yushchenko throughout the revolution, pushing him to this march and prodding him to that protest.

Either Mr. Yushchenko just doesn't get it, or he doesn't care. And the first six months of his presidency serve as ample evidence of that.

The whole world was anxiously watching and waiting for Mr. Yushchenko to take full advantage of the immense political power and trust he had acquired and use it to clean up a government mired in corruption.

Month after month passed with no arrests, no prosecutions and few progressive reforms.

(Continued on page 19)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Is there a need to dub Russian language films into Ukrainian?

by Yuri Shevchuk

The January decision of the Ukrainian government to affect a gradual transition to dubbing foreign-made films into the Ukrainian language touched off a stormy debate in the media. The loudest to protest it were the vested interests, subsidiaries of the Russian film distribution monopoly, who like to call themselves Ukrainian or national distributors.

Up until now they had run their own show in Ukraine with the acquiescence of the government, making sure that no Ukrainian-made film was screened in Ukraine, and the entire film distribution was a tool of continuing Russification – uncontrolled, unchecked and typically brazen. As a result of this hard-to-believe anomaly, millions of Ukrainians were deprived of the opportunity to see Ukrainian films in their nation's theaters.

A New Yorker could see Ukrainian films at the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University, while a citizen of Kyiv had nowhere to go.

Yuri Shevchuk, the founder and director of the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University, who is also lecturer of Ukrainian language and culture with the department of Slavic languages at Columbia University, wrote an analysis of the situation surrounding foreign film dubbing for the leading Ukrainian media web publication Telekrytyka. Below is an English translation of his article prepared by Marta Olynyk.

There is a new scandal brewing in Ukraine: they're destroying Ukrainian films. In the 15th year of the country's independence, Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov's government has approved a plan to convert the dubbing of films produced overseas from Russian to Ukrainian. Twenty percent of the total number of films will be dubbed into Ukrainian by September, 50 percent by January 2007, and 70 percent by July 2007.

Why 70 percent and not 100 percent?

Because, according to the statistics, this is the portion of Ukraine's population that has declared itself Ukrainian. Thus, in addition to satisfying the cultural needs of Ukrainian-speaking citizens in their own state – which until now have been stubbornly ignored – this decision is supposed to ignite healthy market competition between Ukrainian-language and Russian-language films and, finally, to put an end to the linguistic violence being inflicted on most of the citizens of Ukraine.

But all this depends on whether the decision remains merely on paper, which is often the case.

It appears that all these potentially optimistic developments are not to the liking of those who are loudly protesting against the government's "arbitrariness." It turns out that there are more critics of the plan than supporters. This is no surprise, as Ukrainian film distributors obviously have a lot to lose: for starters, the government may actually begin implementing its own decision, and then the Ministry of Culture will stop issuing licenses to distribute Russian-language films.

Before I begin to examine the objections of critics who oppose the plan to dub films into Ukrainian, I must make one thing perfectly clear: at present Ukraine does not have its own film distribution system. No matter what film distribution offices may call themselves, all of them are, according to the logic of their business activity, branches of the Russian film distribution monopoly. Until now the logic of their activity was such that Ukrainian films were not permitted on the screens of Ukraine and are not permitted to this very day. If I am wrong about this, maybe someone will write and tell me: Where and when was a widely distributed Ukrainian film screened for at least two or three weeks, instead of the usual one-time special screening?

Just subject James Cameron's film "Titanic" to these conditions and I guarantee you that it would not make more at the box office than the unfortunate "Prayer for Hetman Mazepa," which the implacable friends of Ukrainian films always trot out with great satisfaction to bolster their thesis that Ukrainian films are not profitable.

The so-called "Ukrainian," or rather "national," film distributors (from which nation nobody knows) have nothing whatsoever to do with Ukrainian cinematography, culture and the Ukrainian state project. To them all this is just empty words and annoying chatter, which is preventing them from making money. These "national" film distributors use Russian-made copies of foreign films that are dubbed into the Russian language, thereby saving themselves a lot of money. They pay Russian

companies for the right to screen these films, and the rest, as they say, is just demand and supply – the harsh logic of capitalism in the age of primary accumulation of capital.

Too bad, they also say, that the other corollary of this situation is continuing Russification – of language, culture and mentality – our one and only priority is to make money. This kind of film distribution scheme is "cinematographic gas": films for nothing. Only a fool would refuse such a gift, or a cunning nationalist. In Moscow they pay for dubbing with money, and in Kyiv – with crippled human souls. And since souls do not have a monetary equivalent, the film distributors and their sympathizers don't even talk about them.

There is nothing strange about this type of behavior. It fits in wonderfully with the theory of rational choice, which every self-taught political scientist knows. It states that every social actor maximizes his own convenience to the degree that circumstances allow it. Russian film distribution has long reigned supreme in Ukraine, as brazenly as though it were in its own backyard. Now circumstances are showing a tendency to change in favor of limiting these entrepreneurs' freedom of activity. The backyard is rebelling.

I don't know about anyone else, but it is difficult for me to sympathize or even support the activity of such a "Ukrainian" film distribution system. When you read the wails and protests, you ask yourself: to whom are these people appealing for support and sympathy? Surely not to those whom they have been robbing for decades in broad daylight, putting on a nice face while playing a very dirty game? Or maybe to simpletons, who are supposed to swallow their inane fabrications about the government's forced Ukrainization, violence and undemocratic behavior? The "national" film distributors themselves are aware of the moral flimsiness of their situation in Ukraine; that is why there is such nervousness bordering on hysteria.

In the world's markets films are adapted to the needs of a concrete consumer: they are translated from the language of the original into the language of the consumer. This translation, depending on the particular features of the market, viewing habits and other factors, is done in the form of dubbing, subtitling, or a voice-over that

retains the original voices.

Until now Ukraine and the other former colonies of Moscow were exceptions to the rule, a cultural and intellectual anomaly. To this day Ukraine does not have its own independent film market. Thus, the government's decision on dubbing is designed to put an end to this anomaly inherited from the colonial past and to create a film market in Ukraine.

Let us pause a moment to examine the concrete objections of the government's opponents to this question. Their argument is an economic one. It turns out that film distributors are financially very weak and in no position to lay out money for dubbing. Thus, these film distributors, particularly small- and medium-sized companies, would immediately go bankrupt, leaving our viewers at the mercy of powerful American competitors, who obviously can afford to spend money. As a result, Ukrainians will be deprived of access to everything that does not fit the category of a Hollywood blockbuster, meaning independent, art house and experimental films, and generally non-American films.

I don't care who pays for Ukrainian-language copies of films – Kyiv, Moscow, Hollywood or Bombay. The main thing is that they should exist. Powerful Russian film distribution companies would also be financially capable of spending the necessary funds for dubbing if they are so interested in the Ukrainian market. But I have doubts about the nature of their interest. If there is less revenue from all the cinemas in Ukraine than from movie theaters in Moscow alone, then preserving cultural and hence political hegemony over the territory that they consider their sphere of influence is more important than the pitiful amount of several million hryvni.

The new rules of the game, which foresee the implementation of the Ukrainian Cabinet's resolution, would foster the emergence of a real market as a factor of progress complete with free competition and richness of supply. They would destroy the current monopoly, which is primitive, aggressive and lethal to all sorts of innovations. In this scenario, the selection of films for distribution would be based on the true commercial potential of

(Continued on page 22)

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: June

Amount	Name	City
\$200.00	Melania Banach	Woodbridge, N.J.
\$100.00	Wolodymyr Pylyshenko	Rochester, N.Y.
\$95.00	Oksana Krawciw	St. George, Utah
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	W. Hnatkowsky	Bayside, N.Y.
	Merle and Bonnie	Toledo, Ohio
	Jurkiewicz	
	Andrian Klufas	Bridgeport, Conn.
	O. Kowerko	Chicago, Ill.
	W. Kramarczuk	St. Anthony, Minn.
	Roksolana Lasiy	Cedar Knolls, N.J.
	Sam Liteplo	Brooklyn, N.Y.
	Lydia Pastuszek	Sudbury, Mass.
	Cannon and Marta Paul	Whiting, N.J.
	Larissa Sawka	Des Plaines, Ill.
	Natalie Skorupa	Cardington, Ohio
	Michael Solonyinka	Minneapolis, Minn.
	Gertrude Tkachyk	Tucson, Ariz.
	Roman Tresniowsky	Ann Arbor, Mich.
	Zenon Wasylkevych	Warren, Mich.
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Renowned Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 1)

Ms. Svitlychna was born on November 8, 1936, in the village of Polovynkyne, Starobilske raion, in Luhansk oblast.

From 1953-1958 she completed her degree in philology at the Kyiv State University with a concentration in Ukrainian language and literature. After completing her studies, she began working at the state-owned radio station in Kyiv. She was relieved of her position in 1968 for disobeying her superiors by attending a national rally on May 22 at the Taras Shevchenko monument on the centennial of the transfer of the bard's remains to Ukraine from Russia. Afterwards, she took a position as a librarian.

Ms. Svitlychna was arrested on April 18, 1972, for her involvement in the Ukrainian dissident literary movement and her defense of political prisoners. She was sentenced on March 23, 1973, to serve four years in a labor camp for women in the Mordovian ASSR, with an unspecified period of exile. After her release in May 1976 she returned to Kyiv where she was further persecuted and unable to find employment.

On October 12, 1978, she was the first woman Ukrainian political prisoner allowed to emigrate to the United States and arrived on November 8, (her birthday) from Rome, where she stayed for a month with her two sons, Yarema, who



Nadia Svitlychna (bottom right) and other Ukrainian "sixties" dissidents came together in 1992 in Kyiv at the funeral of her brother and fellow dissident, poet Ivan Svitlychny. Standing next to her, crying, is Ivan's widow, Leonida "Liolia" Svitlychna; between and just behind them is his mother. Seen in this photo are fellow dissidents Mykhailo Horyn (bottom left, in a dark coat with glasses), Yevhen Sverstiuk (above left, in a light coat with glasses), and Myroslav Marynovych (with dark mustache, standing directly behind Svitlychny's mother). Also seen paying his respects, head bowed in glasses, above and to the left of Myroslav Marynovych, is poet Ivan Drach.

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was nine and six month-old Ivan. At John F. Kennedy airport outside New York City, she was greeted by members of the local Ukrainian American community with the heartfelt rendition of "Mnohaya Lita" (Many Years).

On Saturday, August 12 requiem services were held at St. Andrew the First-called Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, N.J. Mrs. Svitlychna's body will be buried at the renowned Baikove Cemetery in Kyiv.

Annual UNA...

(Continued from page 5)

The afternoon speaker was Dr. Bohdar Woroch, a prominent cardiologist from New Jersey, who was invited to speak again this year by popular request. He gave a brief overview of a typical trip to the cardiologist.

His presentation, "The complete Cardiovascular Evaluation," explained many aspects of a visit that sometimes is not entirely clear to the patient. Dr. Woroch also spent time answering questions.

On Friday morning, Christine Kozak, UNA national secretary, also re-elected to her position at the 36th Convention, visited the seniors and informed the attendees about the various products the UNA has to offer.

On Thursday evening, during the traditional banquet, most participants wore Ukrainian "vyshyvky," or Ukrainian embroidered clothing, making the event very festive.

The newly re-elected UNA president, Stefan Kaczaraj, visited the seniors and welcomed everybody to the conference. The guest speaker during the banquet was Mr. Wasylenko, who entertained guests with humorous anecdotes and a wonderful recitation of a famous poem, "Kamenari," by Ivan Franko. A recipient of the prestigious title "Outstanding Artist of Ukraine," Mr. Wasylenko not only performed but also wrote and sang a special song dedicated to the UNA Seniors.

All the seniors laughed, sang, danced and enjoyed themselves that evening. A musical interlude by Olya Fryz and Andriy Stasiw brought even more joy to the evening. Ms. Fryz has performed many times on the Soyuzivka stage, entertaining both adult and young audiences. Mr. Stasiw, a gifted pianist, accompanied Ms. Fryz during the

evening. For the dancers in the crowd, Stefan Ben and his Vidlunnia Band coaxed couples to dance.

During the week there was an exhibit of Dr. Yuriy Trytjak's photographs in the Main House lobby. On Wednesday evening, participants enjoyed a Polish film "With Fire and Sword," set during the Kozak uprisings starring Ukrainian actor Bohdan Stupka. At the request of many of the conference participants, Yuriy Soltys and Nicholas Nenadkevich agreed to manage the bingo evening. It was a fun evening. During another evening, an auction was held under the direction of Dr. Soltys and his assistant, Maria Bilinsky. There were also sing-alongs during the evenings when wine and cheese was served. And last but certainly not least, there was the traditional raffle, with the first prize being a weekend at Soyuzivka, won by Geraldine Nadberezhny, a guest from California. Almost \$1,000 was raised during these events and the participants voted to donate \$1,000 to the Soyuzivka Heritage Fund.

The UNA Seniors spent a fun-filled week at Soyuzivka. The entertainment was first rate, the lectures very informative and often humorous, and the chance to meet both new and old friends was priceless. Every meal was a delight, prepared by Soyuzivka's outstanding chef, Andriy Sonevsky, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. The only complaint was that "we eat too often, and they serve us too much" (even though many of the meals were buffet style)!

The six-day stay at this beautiful Ukrainian resort (including room and board), came down to as little as \$345 for double occupancy. Everybody who could not make it to the Seniors Week this June is encouraged to make plans for next year. Next year's event will be held on June 10-15, 2007. All seniors are welcome, and groups are encouraged to attend.

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Glaucoma Center of San Francisco celebrates successful first year

by Margaret Perrone

SAN FRANCISCO – San Francisco has long been the quintessential melting pot. People from around the world come and find acceptance and success. Celebrating its first anniversary, the Glaucoma Center of San Francisco could be thought of as a microcosm of the city itself.

Glaucoma is most common in those age 55 or older, but can strike at any age – affecting even children and newborns. Several of the Glaucoma Center's doctors are world-renowned educators and researchers. Doctors and their staff at the center speak Ukrainian, Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese and Cantonese, as well as English, to serve a vast population, many of whom fly in from around the country and around the world for their care.

"We have quite a few Ukrainian patients. We attract them, since three of us on staff speak the language," said Dr. Martha Klufas, an optometrist at the Glaucoma Center. She adds, "Eastern Europeans have an increased incidence of a certain type of glaucoma," making care by a glaucomatologist, who specializes in this difficult disease, desirable.

"Pseudoexfoliative glaucoma is endemic in Ukrainians," added Dr. Andrew Iwach, an expert in treating these conditions.

Bearing in mind the diversity of their patients, the Glaucoma Center lobby can be transformed from a showcase for classic movies that put an older clientele at ease to programming for children or non-English speakers utilizing flat-screen televisions. Exam rooms are large enough to accommodate patients with mobility limitations, such as those in wheelchairs, and examination equipment is adaptable so that these patients do not need to leave their chairs for the duration of the appointment.

Designed down to the smallest detail to maximize patient comfort and convenience, the Glaucoma Center has melded the best of 1900s San Francisco architecture with today's technological innovation. Entertainment and business opportunities abound in the newly revitalized South of Market area, and the Glaucoma Center adds another dimension by including a stop for eye health care.

Dr. Iwach, who serves as executive director of the Glaucoma Center, states, "Everything, including the location of the building itself, was chosen and designed with a lot of patient input and with patient needs in mind."

Easily accessible for anyone coming into downtown by car, rail, bus or ferry, the Glaucoma Center is located on a small, quiet street tucked in the heart of the South of Market district. "Our patients love the fact that everything they need is in one building and it's easy to get to," said Dr. Klufas.

Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness in North America, afflicting an estimated 3 million in the United States alone. Large banners in high-contrast black and white for easy visibility

announce the Glaucoma Center from the street. For those who have lost their sight and others fighting to keep theirs, the talking elevator lets them know they have arrived.

The historical charm of the center's three story, 5,400-square-foot facility was preserved by retaining the original wood window frames and exposed brick in each room. Built in 1911 as a varnish warehouse, the building's old simplicity is complemented by modern details, such as state-of-the-art electronics throughout, steel door frames and post-modern lighting.

Black and white prints from woodcuts by the Ukrainian-born artist Jacques Hnizdovsky adorn the walls. "I was captivated by this particular artist because each piece is a symphony. The woodcuts that the prints are made from require work of the most delicate, detailed, meticulous, and innovative nature," explained Dr. Iwach.

"They require an eye surgeon's planning and dexterity. Really, the art is a metaphor for eye surgery. On so many levels this collection resonates with the qualities of the surgeon and this center," Dr. Iwach noted.

"But beyond that, the high-contrast original prints have intricate detail contained within larger shapes and context," said Dr. Iwach. "So each piece can be enjoyed by individuals with either good or poor sight." That the award-winning art in the clinic reflects the Ukrainian influence of some of the staff was a bonus, he said.

Currently the Glaucoma Center has seven glaucoma specialists and one optometrist in private practice. This is the largest number of glaucoma specialists in private practice in North America. Four of the glaucomatologists work on any given day in eight exam rooms to minimize patient waiting time.

The third floor of the center is dedicated to research and administration. All of the doctors at the Glaucoma Center conduct clinical research, so the convenience of having an on-site research facility promises to enhance data collection and analysis toward finding a cure for this blinding disease. The doctors are also renowned consultants, offering their expertise to industry leaders in the areas of ophthalmic diagnosis, medicine and surgery.

As an adjunct to research, the Glaucoma Center is home to an international training program in glaucoma. This fellowship is a post-doctoral program for ophthalmologists from other countries who are interested in specializing in glaucoma. In the past year fellows from as far as Turkey, China, and Venezuela have trained side-by-side with the center's glaucomatologists to hone their diagnostic, surgical, and clinical management skills. They then return home to become experts in their own countries.

"The fellowship program certainly adds to our diversity," said Dr. Klufas.

Dr. Iwach concluded, "The multicultural environment means two things real-



Dr. Andrew Iwach and Dr. Martha Klufas in the visual testing area of the Glaucoma Center of San Francisco, with one of the over 30 Hnizdovsky prints in the background.

ly. It means we have assembled a staff from all over that is professional and provides the best in glaucoma care. And, it means our patients are almost immediately at ease, despite their apprehension about having glaucoma, because they are comforted knowing we speak the language and, often, we have come from the same place."

The Glaucoma Center brings together all of these elements to provide an accessible, pleasant environment to help people cope with this dreaded disease. To learn more about glaucoma or the Glaucoma Center of San Francisco, call 415-981-2020, fax 415- 981-2019, or visit the website at www.glaucomasf.com. Art tours can be arranged by appointment.

Philadelphia Celebrates the 15th Anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2006

6:00 p.m.

"Voloshky" Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

"STEPPE"

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With a guest appearance by master violinist Vasyl Popadiuk
KIMMEL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

1420 Locust Street

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For tickets call 215-893-1999 or visit www.kimmelcenter.org

For more information email steppes@voloshky.com

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2006

12:00 noon

Ukrainian-American Sport Center "Tryzub"

FESTIVAL

"Voloshky" Dance Ensemble o Folk Singers "Yedneest" & "Svitannia"
"Promin" Chorus o Sisters Oros o Bandurists Oleh Sozansky & Taras Lazurkevych
Music and Dancing to "Karpaty" and "Harmonia"

Authentic Ukrainian Food & Picnic Fare, Cool Drinks & Refreshments,
Free Moon Walk & Fun Slide for Children, Exhibition Soccer Match

"TRYZUB" UKRAINIAN-AMERICAN SPORT CENTER

County Line Road & Lower State Road

Horsham, PA

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2006

7:00 p.m.

Philadelphia Ukrainian Community Committee

INDEPENDENCE CONCERT

Keynote Speaker: Editor Osip Rozhka o "Voloshky" Dance Ensemble
"Prometheus" Chorus o "Ukraine" Chorus o Soprano Lidia Bychkova

UKRAINIAN EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER

700 Cedar Road

Jenkintown, PA

215-663-1166

An open invitation to local community activists

Would you like fellow Ukrainians to know about events in your community?
Would you like to become one of The Ukrainian Weekly's correspondents?
Then what are you waiting for?

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes submissions from local community activists. You may reach The Weekly by phone, (973) 292-9800; fax, (973) 644-9510; e-mail, staff@ukrweekly.com; or mail, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Prime Minister...

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Rybak served on its delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Minister of Fuel and Energy Yuriy Boyko will assume the reins of one of Ukraine's most powerful ministries. Boyko, 47, ran Naftohaz for more than two years.

Mr. Boyko built his career as a chemist before taking leadership positions in Ukrainian companies dealing in oil.

He abandoned the Ukrainian Republican Party during the 2006 parliamentary elections to join Leonid Kravchuk's Ne Tak! bloc. He was born in the city of Horlivka in the Donetsk Oblast.

Minister of Justice Roman Zvarych has returned to Ukraine's Cabinet after causing the first embarrassing scandal for the administration of President Viktor Yushchenko. Mr. Zvarych, 52, was born in Yonkers, N.Y., to Ukrainian-born parents.

Mr. Zvarych has no formal legal education but has served on various high-profile committees in the Verkhovna Rada as a National Deputy. He has also

led the Our Ukraine bloc's legal department through the 2006 parliamentary elections.

In April 2005, Mr. Zvarych acknowledged to The Ukrainian Weekly that he never completed his master's degree at Columbia University, despite claiming so for eight years.

Minister of Internal Affairs Yuriy Lutsenko is among the Orange Revolution's field commanders and veteran anti-Kuchma protestor. Lutsenko, 41, announced on August 7 he would serve in Mr. Yanukovich's Cabinet.

Among only a handful of Cabinet members to remain in place since the Revolution, Mr. Lutsenko is popular for trying to prosecute Ukraine's high-profile criminals and remove corruption from Ukraine's police force

Considered among the few untarnished and uncorrupted politicians in the Ukrainian government, Mr. Lutsenko was aggressively courted by the Party of the Regions for the polished image his presence would bring to the new government.

Born in the city of Rivne, the Minister of Internal Affairs isn't allowed to belong to a party. He has close links with the Socialists.

Minister of Family, Youth and Sports Yuriy Pavlenko is a close Yushchenko associate. Pavlenko, 31, has also managed to remain in the Cabinet since the Revolution.

The history major and career politician is regarded as among the rising talents in Ukrainian politics largely due to his contacts within the Our Ukraine ranks.

Born in Kyiv, Mr. Pavlenko selected Mr. Kuchma as godfather for his elder son, and Kateryna Yushchenko as godmother for the younger one.

Minister of Transport and Communication Mykola Rudkovskyi is a member of the Socialist Party of Ukraine. Rudkovskyi takes the leadership of one of Ukraine's most corrupt ministries.

After winning the Chernihiv mayoral elections, he abandoned the post to serve in the Verkhovna Rada instead. His flip-flop cost the city government \$100,000 to hold new elections. The so-called Socialist is also known for his taste in luxury sports cars and yachts.

The remaining members of the new government are:

Minister of Foreign Affairs – Borys Tarasiuk, 57, People's Rukh of Ukraine, born in the town of Dzerzhynsk in the

Zhytomyr Oblast.

Minister of Defense – Anatolii Hrytsenko, 48, no party affiliation, born in the village of Bahachivka in the Cherkasy Oblast.

Ministers of Economics – Volodymyr Makukha.

Minister of Culture and Tourism – Ihor Likhovyi.

Minister of Health – Yuriy Poliachenko, 46, party affiliation unconfirmed, born in Kyiv.

Minister of Industrial Policy – Anatolii Holovko, 55, Our Ukraine bloc, born in the city of Drohobych in the Lviv Oblast.

Minister of Agro-Industrial Complex – Yuriy Melnyk, 44, Ukrainian People's Party, born in the town of Verkhniachka in the Cherkasy Oblast.

Minister of Education – Stanislav Nikolayenko, 50, Socialist Party of Ukraine, born in the village of Bohdanivka in the Kirovohrad Oblast.

Minister of Emergency Situations – Viktor Baloha, 43, Our Ukraine bloc, born in the village of Zavydove in the Zakarpattia Oblast.

Minister of Coal Industry – Serhii Tulub, 53, Party of the Regions, born in the city of Donetsk.

Minister of Verkhovna Rada Relations – Ivan Tkalenko, 51, Party of the Regions, born in the village of Fursy in the Kyiv Oblast.

Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers – Anatolii Tolstoukhov, 50, Party of the Regions, born in the town of Khartsyzk in the Donetsk Oblast.

Minister of Work and Social Policy – Mykhailo Papiyev, 45, Ne Tak! Bloc, born in the city of Zaporizhzhia.

Minister of Environmental Defense – Vasyl Dzharty, 48, Party of the Regions, born in the village of Rozdolne in the Donetsk Oblast.

U.S. State...

(Continued from page 3)

of fines, corrective work, or incarceration for up to five years. However, it was nearly impossible to get anybody actually convicted of this crime because the crime involved direct intent, with the particular aim of stirring up ethnic hostility in the country or in a specific region, of denigrating the honor and dignity of representatives of particular ethnic groups.

In practice this meant that in court the author of a provocative article had to state that he or she intended to stir up ethnic hostility. But admission of guilt by the accused could not be the sole proof in a criminal case, there needed to be additional proof such as a note in the accused's own handwriting clearly indicating such intent.

Article 18 of the law "On Printed Mass Communication Media in Ukraine" allowed for the suspension of publication print media by a court in cases "for stirring up racial, ethnic or religious hostility." Lawyers argued if "suspension of an issue of the print media" denoted the suspension of the publication as a whole, or just prohibition on publishing one specific issue of it. The State Committee for Nationality and Migration Affairs demanded that the courts suspend issues of Idealist, Personnel and Personnel Plus.

Examples of these offenses included an excerpt from the Idealist, which wrote, "Power to God, Ukraine for Ukrainians, Israel for the Jews..." and Krymksaya Pravda, which wrote, "Mejlis terrorists are committing atrocities while the Crimean authorities do nothing ... People have no on to protect them."

The U.S. State Department's 2005 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices were released in March of this year. They may be found at <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2005/index.htm>.

Scholars comment on the 15th anniversary of Ukraine's independence

It has been 15 years since Ukraine declared its independence on August 24, 1991. In that time, Ukraine has followed a difficult path along the road of its democratic evolution. There have been setbacks as well as accomplishments for the nascent country.

The Orange Revolution of 2004 echoed a popular desire for change and, to a large degree, the people's commitment to democratic ideals. However, two years after the revolution, the government appears unable to live up to those high standards.

If anything can be learned from events in Ukraine over the past 15 years, it is that predicting its evolution as a democracy is no easy task. What lies ahead in the next 15 years for Ukraine? It is with exactly this in mind that The Ukrainian Weekly recently questioned Ukrainian scholars and experts.

What follows is the first of a two-part series in which scholars evaluated just how far Ukraine has come on issues of Ukraine's integration with Europe, its development of national identity, and the most recent developments in the government and Verkhovna Rada.

Prof. Paul D'Anieri is the associate dean at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas. He is also an associate professor in the university's department of political science.

EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Given Ukraine's past statements on joining European institutions, and since then its lack of movement in that direction, is there a future for Ukraine in Europe? Can Ukraine be taken seriously by Western European institutions? What steps must Ukraine take to be accepted by these institutions? What progress has been made?

There is a future for Ukraine in Europe, but only if Ukraine chooses that future, and makes the tough decisions needed to grasp that future. EU [European Union] membership is a distant possibility at best. But Ukraine can become a member of Europe in the broader sense by adopting the economic and political norms that are now taken for granted in Europe. Adopting much of the *acquis communautaire* [the entire body of European laws] would be hugely beneficial to Ukraine whether it led to EU membership or not. Ukraine will be taken seriously by Western institutions only when Ukraine itself makes an irrevocable commitment.

Clearly, much of Europe is more skeptical about Ukraine's "Europeanness" than that of other countries, and, therefore, has not made the kind of promises to Ukraine that it made to others. Ukraine needs to stop complaining about this, and instead commit itself to going the extra mile. Not much progress has been made. After the Orange Revolution, Europe was ready to be won over by Ukraine, but that opportunity has been thoroughly squandered.

NATIONAL IDENTITY

The language issue: How important is it for Ukraine to find consensus on the issue of a national language? The use of language – Ukrainian versus Russian, whether in schools, textbooks, the government, etc. – has been and surely will continue to be a hot topic in Ukraine. Is resolving this issue critical for Ukraine? Can Ukraine develop a strong national identity while, at the same time, maintaining both the Russian and Ukrainian languages?

Ukraine does not need a consensus on

national language, if by consensus we mean agreement on a single predominant language. Rather, it needs a consensus that tolerance of multiple languages and ethnicities is acceptable as long as there is commitment to the territorial integrity of the state.

I don't think that government policies intended to substantially change language use are likely to proceed. The tsars and then the Soviets used measures to suppress Ukrainian that were much more brutal than today's government will use to suppress Russian – and yet Ukrainian survived. My impression is that Ukrainianization programs have tended to backfire by increasing people's desire to continue using Russian.

Many countries have developed strong national identities with multiple languages, and while the challenges are not trivial, it appears that such a development is possible in Ukraine. Indeed, I would contend that a lot of progress has been made since 1991. The country is still regionally divided (as is the U.S.) but people across regions clearly view themselves as Ukrainians.

GOVERNMENT

It has been said that the people of former Soviet republics – Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, for example – would be best suited and governed by an authoritarian ruler. Considering that democrats and reformers, such as Viktor Yushchenko, have been unable to move Ukraine forward, while more revolutionary figures, such as Yulia Tymoshenko, have captured people's attention, but have also been unable to make political progress, can the current presidential-parliamentary system work in Ukraine? Or are events in the Rada over the past five months indicative of what lies ahead for Ukraine over the next 15 years?

I have real concerns about the constitutional arrangements agreed to in 2004, and I have expressed these long before the most recent crisis. One problem is that the executive is almost bound to be divided by conflict between president and prime minister. A second problem is that the basis for a strong united Parliament is still very shaky. The system is likely to function only when president and Parliament are controlled by the same party. But I don't see anything in recent events to indicate that democracy cannot succeed in Ukraine. Ukraine needs more democracy, not less.

THE MOST RECENT POLITICAL EVENTS

What does it mean for Ukraine to have Viktor Yanukovich as prime minister? What does this bode for Ukraine's domestic and foreign policies? What does Yanukovich's return to the position of prime minister mean to the political futures of Viktor Yushchenko and Yulia Tymoshenko?

I don't know anyone outside of Ukraine who is enthusiastic about Yanukovich as prime minister. But it's too early to know what will result from his prime ministership. As PM, he and the coalition he leads will have to try to work with a president from an opposing party. Yanukovich will either have to make some compromises with Yushchenko, or fight a long series of battles with him. This might well result in stalemate, which is not what Ukraine needs, but that is not the same as Yanukovich being in total control, either.

Some have speculated that in certain areas of domestic economics and free trade, the Party of the Regions might pro-

mote liberalization. Similarly, we tend to assume that this coalition will be pro-Russian, but it's not clear exactly what their interests are in this area. The Party of the Regions voted unanimously for a bill on NATO exercises in Ukraine. If this new coalition can consistently pass legislation, it will be a major advance for Ukraine. The fear, of course, is that the Party of the Regions will use its influence to undermine the democratic progress that allowed its resurgence in 2006. This is a real possibility, especially if pro-democracy forces continue to be divided and inept.

The events of the past month seem to have buried Yushchenko politically – but, of course, Yanukovich himself seemed buried 18 months ago. Rarely has anyone squandered political capital as quickly as Yushchenko has.

Tymoshenko now may be in a position to unite the orange forces under her leadership. By leading the opposition, she may be able to put herself in a favorable position for a future election. The current problems in Ukraine are not due to a lack of democracy, or even to malicious forces, but rather to the divisiveness of the reform movement.

Marta Dyczok is associate professor at the departments of history and political science at the University of Western Ontario and fellow at the Center of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies at the University of Toronto. She is the author of two books, "The Grand Alliance and Ukrainian Refugees" and "Ukraine: Change Without Movement, Movement Without Change," and numerous articles. In 1991-1996 she lived in Ukraine working as a journalist and university lecturer, and returned in 2004 for her sabbatical, serving as an OSCE election observer and living through the Orange Revolution. Currently she is working on a book on mass media in contemporary Ukraine.

EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

I would re-phrase the question, "Is there a future for Ukraine in Europe?" since Ukraine is in Europe geographically, historically, in terms of culture, religion. The issue facing Ukraine's political and economic elites is how to integrate with institutions created by European Union members over the last few decades. Here I think the central issue is that relations between the EU and Ukraine have been largely declarative for the past 15 years, with both sides making polite statements but without much substance.

The EU has never really held out prospects for membership to Ukraine the way it did, for example, to Hungary and, in response, Ukraine has never seriously begun taking the necessary steps to meet the criteria in the *acquis communautaire*. There is a lot of public support for EU membership in Ukraine, but without any clear signals from Brussels. Ukraine's elites have not bothered to take the difficult steps towards integration.

This may change now that the EU has accepted formerly Communist countries into its midst, since the new EU states are much more interested in Ukraine than are the founding EU members. It was Poland and Lithuania that pushed the EU to mediate in Ukraine during the Orange Revolution, not France or Germany. If the hesitation over further enlargement can be overcome within the EU, the new configuration of membership might create the conditions for a more substantive dialogue.

NATIONAL IDENTITY

Ukraine's leaders have been very good at maintaining stability in a diverse society going through fundamental transfor-

mations over the past 15 years. What they have been less good at is forging a political identity which would unify all people living in Ukraine. Instead of building a democratic and political system where all citizens are equal before the law and rights are respected, a country where civic participation is encouraged and the decision-making process transparent, Ukraine's leaders created a corrupt oligarchic system where most Ukrainians feel alienated, even ashamed of their country. Some analysts have suggested that this was done deliberately, to keep society fragmented, divided and thus easier to control.

Within this context, the complex language issue is easily manipulated by cynical politicians. How can one know what [Leonid] Kuchma's views on the language question really are? He said one thing before being elected in 1994, and then did another. What does Yevhen Kushnariov really believe? He led the separatists in Severo-Donetsk during the Orange Revolution, yet a year and a half later began declaring that the only state language in Ukraine should be Ukrainian.

Politicians in all countries are cynical and manipulative, and former Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien has gone down in history for saying, "only naïve people believe election promises." In some ways Ukrainian politicians are just behaving like politicians when they play the language card once again. Having traveled through most regions of Ukraine over the last 15 years, my very strong impression is that the language issue is much less divisive than these periods of tension would suggest.

GOVERNMENT

I'm afraid I would not agree that former Soviet citizens are more interested in authoritarian rulers – after all, not so long ago Ukrainians caught the world's attention by standing up against an authoritarian power grab during a presidential election. I would also question the rationale of using the countries which emerged from the USSR as a useful comparative framework. Estonia is very different from Uzbekistan, Ukraine is very different from Russia. They all share the Soviet legacy, but each has a different pre-Soviet history, and rather diverse political cultures.

For example, in Russia political technologists Gleb Pavlovskiy and Marat Gelman have been successful in shaping public opinion to elect certain candidates, such as [Vladimir] Putin in 2000, while in Ukraine the very same spin doctors have failed in two consecutive elections. By 2006 Ukrainian politicians turned to American PR companies.

It also seems an exaggeration to counter-pose Yushchenko the democrat with Tymoshenko the revolutionary – they both have democratic credentials and rather checkered pasts. Let's not forget which position Yushchenko held during the "Ukraine Without Kuchma" protests in 2000-2001.

I don't feel that the presidential-parliamentary system is inherently unstable. Rather, the difficulties in forming a stable parliamentary coalition in 2006 are the consequence of the divisiveness of the 2004 presidential election, and the failure of the Yushchenko team to reach out to the Yanukovich voters and re-unite the country after the dramatic events of the Orange Revolution.

Roman Solchanyk, Ph.D., is a former senior research analyst at the RAND Corp., where he worked as specialist on Ukraine and post-Soviet security issues.

(Continued on page 12)

New government...

(Continued from page 1)

Employing the same refrain just days earlier was Borys Tarasyuk, who has remained Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs in Mr. Yanukovich's government.

During an August 8 press conference, Mr. Tarasyuk was careful to stress that the Ukrainian government would not be favoring Europe or the Russian Federation in its foreign policy.

Reflecting the National Unity Declaration signed August 3, Mr. Tarasyuk said Ukraine's foreign policy has remain unchanged, and that it will continue to pursue integration with both the Brussels-based European Union and the Moscow-centered Single Economic Space.

Mr. Yanukovich raised eyebrows when mentioning that Ukraine may not achieve World Trade Organization (WTO) membership until 2007, a position contrary to Mr. Tarasyuk's goal of entering the organization this year.

The prime minister's statement may be an attempt to placate the Russian Federation, which has explicitly stated it wants to enter the WTO simultaneous and alongside Ukraine, a position which has recently won the support of the U.S. government.

The emphasis on Ukrainian-Russian relations was inevitable after Donetsk politicians managed to recapture control of the Ukrainian government following their successful forming of the Anti-Crisis Coalition consisting of the Party of the Regions, Communists and Socialists.

Mr. Yanukovich officially became prime minister at an August 4 evening vote in the Verkhovna Rada, in which 271 National Deputies affirmed his nomination as prime minister.

Among them were 30 National Deputies from the Our Ukraine bloc who



First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov

took Mr. Yushchenko's lead, as well as six from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, who abandoned their leader's stance.

Party of the Regions, Socialist and Communist National Deputies were virtually unanimous in their support of Mr. Yanukovich.

After a standing ovation and receiving a bouquet of roses, Mr. Yanukovich immediately presented a list of the nominations for the 24-member Cabinet of Ministers, which the parliament approved with 269 National Deputies voting in favor.

Among them, at least eight are Party of the Regions members, at least five belong to the Our Ukraine bloc and two represent the Socialist Party of Ukraine.

Among Mr. Yanukovich's circle of Donetsk insiders returning to govern-

ment were Vice Prime Minister for Fuel and Energy Issues Andrii Kliuyev, Vice Prime Minister for Construction, Architecture and Residential-Communal Management Volodymyr Rybak and Minister of Coal Industry Serhii Tulub.

Another Donetsk native but member of the Ne Tak! Bloc, Yuri Boyko, became Minister of Fuel and Energy.

Although Mr. Yushchenko said the National Unity Coalition would end any discussion of federalism in Ukraine, Mr. Rybak began advocating what he called "budgetary federalism" in his first press conference as minister.

Mr. Rybak called for de-centralizing budgetary financing and administration in Ukrainian government, and increasing federal financing of city budgets from 40 percent to 50 percent.

"Above all, I support regional politics," Mr. Rybak said. "And we should understand that Ukraine will improve through its regions. The faster people in regions feel a better life, the wealthier Ukraine will become."

Among the more surprising names to emerge in Mr. Yanukovich's Cabinet of Ministers is Roman Zvarych, who has returned as Ukraine's Minister of Justice a year after an embarrassing scandal that revealed he grossly exaggerated his resume.

Mr. Zvarych was born in Yonkers, New York, in 1953 to Ukrainian immigrant parents.

He was active in the Ukrainian-American community before immigrating to Ukraine and successfully running for office in the Ukrainian parliament.

"I hope that Zvarych, as an expert with definite global experience, will direct the Ministry (of Justice) towards cooperation with the government and other branches of power," Mr. Yanukovich said.

Mr. Zvarych told reporters that the Ministry of Justice's work under his leadership will be irrefragable.

Though Mr. Yushchenko managed to convince 30 National Deputies of his Our Ukraine bloc to vote for Mr. Yanukovich, including Mr. Zvarych, 50 didn't vote in favor, revealing the first cracks in what political observers believe will be the inevitable demise of that political force.

The Christian-Democratic Union, one of six political parties that formed the Our Ukraine bloc, announced August 8 that it would not join any coalition government that includes Communists and Socialists.

"Christian Democrats can't join with Communists out of principal ideological understandings, and the betraying position of the Socialists, which led to the democratic coalition's collapse, closes the road to cooperation between our political forces," the party's leadership announced in an August 8 statement.

After Mr. Yanukovich's confirmation as prime minister, Ms. Tymoshenko said she was confident the National Unity Coalition wouldn't hold together and Mr. Yushchenko would hold pre-term parliamentary elections.

Yurii Kostenko, leader of the Ukrainian People's Party, declared the formation of a "Patriotic Front" against the Yanukovich government that would unite all political forces in support of a "Ukrainian Ukraine."

Following the new Cabinet's formation, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor visited Makiyivka in the Donetsk Oblast as part of a humanitarian outreach.

"It was very pleasant to follow that process which recently took place in Ukraine, which was achieved by the nation and its people," Mr. Taylor said.

"Of course, these are very interested and compelling times in Kyiv from a political point of view. And Donetsk now will play a very important role in the politics of the nation and Kyiv."

Scholars comment...

(Continued from page 11)

His new book, titled *"The New Eastern Europe: Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova,"* will be published early next year.

EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

With regard to the first question, well I would think that there should be a European future for Ukraine. Whether there will be in our lifetime, or in my lifetime, is really quite questionable. I think the main problem is the attitude of what used to be known as Western Europe, the West European countries. Not only is it a question of so-called enlargement fatigue on the part of the European Union.

I think that there is a subjective element in all of this. Namely, that, obviously with the exception of the Baltic states and certainly Poland, I think there is a very strong, subjective trend in Europe today against the former Soviet republics, including Ukraine. I am convinced that the leadership of "old Europe" really views the former Soviet states as somehow illegitimate to the extent that they are not Europeans, that they have been perverted in some sense

by the Soviet experience.

Ukraine should pursue the kind of legislation that would bring it nearer to European standards. And, obviously, they've got a long, long road ahead. On the one hand, yes, Ukraine should pursue those objectives, but maybe more important than the objective of adoption of a law that corresponds to European standards is to somehow overcome that discriminatory attitude against Ukraine in Western Europe.

NATIONAL IDENTITY

The language issue from my standpoint is a very complex and strange issue. On the one hand, if you look at public opinion polls in Ukraine you will learn that for a majority of people language issues are not important. They routinely fall at the bottom of a scale of things that are of concern to Ukrainians, and by Ukrainians I mean people living in Ukraine regardless of nationality. The problem with the language issue in Ukraine is that it has been highly politicized.

I don't think there is an easy solution to the language problem. It is not a question of passing a law. In fact, we already have a law that was adopted in 1989, but it has never really been enforced. There is a fissure, or rupture, in society that overlaps with regional attitudes, and

there is a rather high correlation between language and those fissures. But a law, a better law, a more wide-ranging law, on language is not going to solve that problem. The problem has, unfortunately, been politicized.

I think, to some extent, we here in the diaspora put too much credence, too much importance on the language question, which does not correspond to the situation on the ground in Ukraine.

GOVERNMENT

I think that the idea that certain societies are more governable with a strong hand is extremely subjective. I think that the real problem is the continuing lack of development of normal state institutions in Ukraine. A concrete example is developing right now. There were amendments that were adopted to the existing Constitution – adopted in December 2004 – as a way of reaching compromise during the presidential elections. But there is complete disagreement among some political forces about what these amendments actually mean.

So, in spite of the fact that you have a Constitution, in spite of the fact that you have various laws, and so on, what you also have is a struggle between the executive branch versus the legislative branch, and that's played out in what we're seeing right now. It's an ongoing story in Ukraine about how institutions have not been optimized to the point where everyone agrees that, yes, this is what the president does, this is what Parliament does and this is what the judicial branch does.

THE MOST RECENT POLITICAL EVENTS

In some sense that's sort of speculative. If you remember, during the presi-

dential campaign in 2004, the programs of Yushchenko and Yanukovich quite often overlapped to some extent. It was only toward the very end – right on the eve of the election – that Yanukovich suddenly introduced these sensitive issues of language and dual citizenship, very divisive planks in his platform.

So, on the one hand, I think there would be general agreement here in the West that Mr. Yanukovich is an odious figure, and not only because of his prior convictions and felonious behavior, so to speak. But what's interesting to me when one talks about Mr. Yanukovich is that he actually represents a large segment of Ukrainian public opinion, attitudes, beliefs and so on. I think it has often been neglected that he in fact did gain 44 percent of the vote in the repeat election. That is a considerable figure.

A second point that needs to be made is how the so-called Orange Revolution actually mobilized Yanukovich's supporters. It mobilized them in the sense that the events of November-December 2004 also consolidated – and this is obviously an ongoing process – that segment of Ukrainian society that shares Mr. Yanukovich's views.

And as far as the most recent developments are concerned – that is, the confirmation of Mr. Yanukovich as prime minister – observers and analysts appear to be seriously split as to whether this is "good" or "bad" for Ukraine. Clearly, we will have to wait and see how things play out. Personally, I have serious doubts that a document called the "Universal of National Unity" will produce the desired results. The driving force behind politics in Ukraine is power and money, which go together, not lofty ideals.

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BOOK NOTES

A tale of a simpler time in Ukraine examines the Orange Revolution

"An Orange Revolution: A Personal Journey Through Ukrainian History" by Askold Krushelnysky. London: Harvill Secker Publishers, ISBN: 0436206234. Paperback, 368 pp. \$17.03 US or 8.99 GBP.

by Marta Kolomayets

At a time when the political situation in Ukraine is both incomprehensible and chaotic, this writer recommends that people still interested in Ukraine pick up Askold Krushelnysky's book, "An Orange Revolution: A Personal Journey Through Ukrainian History," published in March.

It is a tale of a simpler time, a time when good and evil were clearly defined for most Ukrainian citizens as they changed the course of Ukraine's history by becoming active participants in the peaceful revolution of the winter of 2004.

It was November 2004 and all the world watched as up to a million people gathered in the center of the capital city to overthrow the corrupt government of President Leonid Kuchma and challenge the dishonest campaign and election methods of his prime minister and Party of the Regions presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovych.

Among those carefully watching was British journalist Askold Krushelnysky, who spent most of the fall of 2004 on the campaign trail with such leaders of the Orange Revolution as presidential candi-



Askold Krushelnysky

date Viktor Yushchenko and the maidan's Joan of Arc, Yulia Tymoshenko.

Mr. Krushelnysky's book is not the only English-language book chronicling



the events that led up to and became part of the Orange Revolution – British lecturer Andrew Wilson produced a book titled "Ukraine's Orange Revolution" (Yale University Press) and U.S.-based scholars Anders Aslund and Michael McFaul edited a book called "Revolution in Orange: The Origins of Ukraine's Democratic Breakthrough" (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace). However, what makes Mr. Krushelnysky's book a good read is his style, which intertwines his family's 20th century history – and the history of Ukraine – spanning many centuries.

The book is well-researched and heartfelt; the reader feels Mr. Krushelnysky's passion about his Ukrainian roots and his family history.

And, of course, it is a good story, as it outlines the struggle between right and wrong. It tells of ordinary people who had the courage to stand up for their rights and refuse to be oppressed. It relates the plight of ordinary people and modern-day heroes with wit and spirit.

Mr. Krushelnysky has reported for more than 25 years for such publications as The Independent, the Sunday Times and the Herald Tribune. He was a war correspondent in Afghanistan in the 1980s and has been a keen observer of Ukrainian politics since the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, spending weeks at a time writing about Ukraine's patchy and difficult road to democracy.

Mr. Krushelnysky wrote the book in nine short months, but he continues to be interested in the subject of Ukraine and ponders its future. On the eve of his book's release, which coincided with Ukraine's parliamentary elections, he was interviewed for www.opendemocracy.net by free-lance journalist Toby Saul. The burning question was whether Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko would be able to overcome their differences:

"My personal feeling is that they will because, however egotistic[al] they are, they must understand that on their own they're going to be destroyed," Mr. Krushelnysky replied. "And if they're tempted to make an alliance with Yanukovych, he's going to discard them at the earliest opportunity. Logically, it's a no-brainer for them. They've got to work together and come to some kind of accommodation. Otherwise, it will be a disaster for Ukraine."

"An Orange Revolution" is available at amazon.com.

Batkiv church appeals for aid

by Natalie Temnycky

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The villagers of Batkiv, in western Ukraine, need financial assistance to finish building St. John the Baptist Church. About 80 percent of the church has been completed. However, it stands unfinished due to a lack of funds.

Yaroslava Dytiuk, who is leading the fund-raising effort from Batkiv, commented on the project: "The economy [of Ukraine] is weak and villagers don't have enough money." Her family members in the United States are helping Ms. Dytiuk publicize the project.

Her cousin John Dytiuk of Wethersfield, Conn., explained that Batkiv residents attended liturgy in their church, which was built after World War I, until the Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate took over the building in 1946. Since then, they have been holding liturgies in their own homes,

where traveling priests conduct services.

After Ukraine regained independence in 1991, the villagers had hoped to regain control of their church, but they did not. Thus, they decided to build a new church, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

Funds for the church have been contributed mainly by families of Batkiv residents and members of the Selfreliance Federal Credit Union in Baltimore, Md. The credit union formed an account a couple of years ago for donations toward the project.

An appeal for financial support has been issued to the Ukrainian American community by Mr. Dytiuk and Dmytro Woch of East Hanover, N.J., who both are originally from the village of Batkiv.

Donations, with the notation "A/C 52379 Batkiv Church," may be sent to: Selfreliance FCU, 2345 Eastern Ave., Baltimore, MD 21224.



St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, which is under construction in Batkiv, Ukraine.

Ethnic sports encyclopedia chronicles pros and amateurs

"Encyclopedia of Ethnicity and Sports in the United States," George B. Kirsch, et al., editors. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2000. 530 pp. \$157.95 (hardcover).

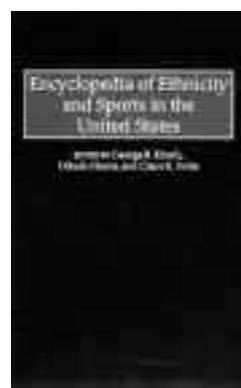
This book offers a well-rounded and informative look at ethnic groups in sports, including the Ukrainian American experience, with a brief outline by Metodij Boretsky, detailing its early beginnings to the sports climate at the time of the book's publication.

Along with other notables in the book, sportsmen of Ukrainian descent such as Chuck Bednarik, Bronko Nagurski, Mike Ditka and Zenon Snylyk are highlighted and each outline offers readers a glimpse of their lives and their contributions to sports.

An entire section dedicated to soccer describes the rise of ethnic sports clubs like the Ukrainian Nationals of Philadelphia and relates the Ukrainian experience to that of other ethnic groups, such as the Greeks, Hispanics and Scots. Also in this section it is pointed out how few foreign-born Americans made a splash as players on the college sports scene, but many did as coaches, among them Walter Chyzowycz, who coached at the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science and at Wake Forest University.

The section also commends foreign-born, and second- and third-generation immigrant parents for encouraging their children to play sports, resulting in higher quality talent on American soccer teams and offering an opportunity for a college education to many immigrant families.

Readers can obtain copies of this book by contacting the publisher at:



Greenwood Heinemann, P.O. Box 6926, Portsmouth, NH 03802-6926; telephone, 800-225-5800; fax, 603-431-2214; or via www.greenwood.com or www.amazon.com.

The author of the encyclopedia's chapter on "Ukrainian Sport in the United States", Mr. Boretsky is press coordinator for the Regional Ukrainian Olympic Committee of Philadelphia. He has published extensively on the Ukrainian American community and Ukrainian sports.

Ukrainian opera star featured in "God Bless America – A Musical Salute"

GLENDAL, Calif. – The Ukrainian Choir Kobzar of Los Angeles and The Pasadena Community Orchestra presented a patriotic tribute on June 23 titled "God Bless America – A Musical Salute" here at The Alex Theater.

Famed Irish tenor Anthony Kearns was the featured performer, along with one of America's leading opera artists, Stefan Szkafarowsky of New York, and the television/film actor George Dzundza as master of ceremonies.

The benefit concert was sponsored by the Ukrainian Culture Center of Los Angeles. Anna Krawczuk, national commander of the Ukrainian American Veteran's, traveled from New Jersey to

attend the concert and present an award to the Ukrainian Culture Center for its tribute and support of American veterans. The award was received by Mr. Bohdan Shpak, president of the Ukrainian Culture Center.

The proceeds from this event will benefit the children of our fallen heroes through the Freedom Alliance.

The following review by Lynette Crouse appears on Mr. Kearns' website, www.anthonyearns.tripod.com. (It is reprinted here with permission.)

* * *

"An excellent group of performers shared the stage and delivered an exciting

and passionate concert. Kobzar is made up of strong and talented voices under the direction of Greg Hallick. The Pasadena Community Orchestra, directed by Wayne Reinecke, is a fine ensemble and one of which the city of Pasadena should be proud. Mr. Hallick had the vision to invite Irish tenor Anthony Kearns as the featured artist, and was lucky enough to garner the support of Bass Stefan Szkafarowsky, as well.

From the moment they met at the hours-long rehearsal on June 22, respect and enjoyment took root between the performers and shone forth the next evening. Kearns remarked during the concert, "Everyone on this stage has a connection



Stefan Szkafarowsky

with Ukraine, with a Paddy stuck in the middle!" A Ukrainian Paddy, to be sure; at the end of the performance Mr. Kearns was presented with an Honorary Son of Ukraine Award by Bohdan Knianicky, president of the Kobzar Choir, which he received graciously: "Thank you very much, indeed." (In Irish, of course!)

His solo presentations ran the gamut from cute Irish ditty into sweeping tenor arias, carrying his delighted audience along with him through each and every genre: 17 solo pieces in all, besides the several he sang with the choir. Mr. Kearns

(Continued on page 23)



The Ukrainian Choir Kobzar of Los Angeles and The Pasadena Community Orchestra perform at The Alex Theater in California.

Ukrainian avant-garde in classical music applauded in Chicago

by Maria Kulczycky

CHICAGO – Ukraine's rich musical heritage is being shared with wider audiences in Chicago.

Last October, the festival of Kyivan Liturgical Music brought musicologists, choristers and the public to a two-day celebration of a musical tradition threatened with neglect.

Another venerable tradition – modern Ukrainian classical music – is being promoted by an American group, MAVERICK Ensemble, artists-in-residence at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art in Chicago, through a series of concerts around the city.

The latest MAVERICK Ensemble program was held July 31 at the Chicago Cultural Center, overlooking Millennium Park, a major tourist magnet in the center of the city. The program took place in conjunction with the center's exhibition "Modernism in Ukraine, 1910-1930," a landmark exhibit of Ukrainian avant-garde artists. Both were presented by the city's Department of Cultural Affairs.

The concert echoed the modern theme of the exhibition. Works of Borys Liatoshynsky, a contemporary of the original modernists, and Valentin Silvestrov and Virko Baley, both composing currently, were presented.

For the past three years MAVERICK Ensemble has been researching, studying and performing works of modernist Ukrainian composers, providing many with their U.S. premiers. The ensemble, consisting of 10 musicians, also promotes the works of cutting-edge composers such as John Cage, Christian Wolff and Morton Feldman.

There is no way of knowing if Liatoshynsky's Trio No. 1, Op 7 (1922) has been performed here before. Called the first

great trio by a Ukrainian composer, it has a lovely and vibrant melodic line. At turns lyrical and explosive, it evolves through three movements in a continuous rhythmic drive to a triumphant conclusion. The three artists – William Jason Raynovich, ensemble director, violoncello; Soo Young Lee, piano; and Elizabeth Brausa Brathwaite, violin – performed this challenging piece with grace and verve.

Liatoshynsky (1895-1968) studied and lived in Kyiv, but traveled widely

in the West and taught in Moscow. A member of the post-World War I musical renaissance in Kyiv, he initiated the modern movement in Ukraine with works that originally reflected expressionism. He is a composer who deserves a greater reputation, which could grow with greater exposure in the West.

Messrs. Baley and Silvestrov represent a younger generation, having been born just before World War II. Mr. Baley, born in Ukraine, has spent his creative life in the U.S. Multi-lin-

gual and multi-disciplinary, he is a conductor and music director of the Nevada Symphony Orchestra in Las Vegas and distinguished professor of music and composer in residence at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He infuses his music with contemporary and traditional motifs.

"... a trois" (1998), the Baley piece performed at the Cultural Center, was written to honor the death of Liatoshynsky, as well as the 60th birthday of Mr. Baley's friend, Mr. Silvestrov. The work is a fragment of an imaginary piece. The piano reiterates a motif reminiscent of Proust's "Madeleine." The final melody was composed when Mr. Baley was 13, bravely attempting to write a symphony.

Mr. Silvestrov, born in Kyiv and a student of Liatoshynsky, continues to live and work in Kyiv. While lyrical and melodic, his work embraces free serialism, as well as aleatory and textural explorations. "Postludium No. 3" (1981/2), his work played at the concert, represents a period when, as Mr. Silvestrov explained, he explored "poetry in music. The postlude can be compared to a collection of resonances. A form in which one suspects the existence of a certain imaginary text connected to the real, given text." This metaphorical style preoccupies Mr. Silvestrov to the present.

"Postludium No. 3," a conversation between the piano and the cello, is a meditative, slow exchange the performers instilled with deep emotion and simplicity.

The audience in the spacious marble and Tiffany-glass hall burst into generous applause at the conclusion of the concert, demonstrating their appreciation for both music and performers. Predominantly non-Ukrainian, the audience nevertheless included several members of the Ukrainian community, among them were Ukraine's Consul General Vasyl Korzachenko and members of his staff.



MAVERICK Ensemble members (from left) Elizabeth Brausa Brathwaite, violin; Soo Young Lee, piano, and William Jason Raynovich, violoncello and ensemble director perform Ukrainian modern classical music in Chicago.

Long-awaited Ukrainian modernism exhibit stirs Chicago audience

by Marta Farion

CHICAGO – The long-awaited exhibition of early 20th century Ukrainian art made a dramatic American debut on July 20 when approximately 300 persons attended the exhibit's opening reception at the Chicago Cultural Center. Titled "Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine, 1910-1930," the unique collection of more than 70 works assembled from both museum and private holdings will remain in Chicago until it resumes its national tour in October when it moves to The Ukrainian Museum in New York City.



Minister of Culture, Ihor Likhovij; Marta Farion, and director of the National Art Museum of Ukraine, Anatoly Melnyk.

The international avant-garde movement that reached its peak during the first three decades of the 20th century included many influential and innovative artists from Ukraine. As elsewhere in the former Soviet Union, these artists were often persecuted and executed in the 1930s and their works were banned or destroyed. According to local experts, nearly 2,000 of these works were confiscated by the government during the late 1930s, and only 300 remain today. This exhibition presents the best of these works, many of which have only recently been viewed outside of Ukraine.

Opening ceremonies

Chicago's commissioner of cultural affairs, the legendary Lois Weisberg, addressed the opening ceremony and stated, "I am delighted to see the works of these world-renowned artists in Chicago. It is the first time that these works appear in the United States. These works are masterpieces of 20th century art. Every person who visits this exhibit will see the grandeur of Ukrainian culture."

Deputy Chicago commissioner of Visual Arts, Gregory Knight, of the city's Department of Cultural Affairs also addressed the exhibit's opening and thanked those who initiated, organized, managed and financed it.

"This exhibit of modern art from Ukraine opens the door to the art treasures of Ukraine which were banned and hidden all these years and to the Ukrainian artists whose names we have known and others whom we learn about for the first time. Crossroads explores the role of Ukraine in the development of the avant-garde movement," said Mr. Knight.

"This exhibit includes works by well-known artists like Kazimir Malevich, Alexandra Exter, Anatoly Petrytsky, Mykhailo Boichuk and David Burliuk, and introduces American audiences to previously unknown Ukrainian artists including Yasyr Yermilov and Oleksander Bohomazov," he added.

Attending the Chicago opening was Ukrainian

Minister of Culture Ihor Likhovij, who introduced the exhibit with a letter of greetings from Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko. President Yushchenko wrote: "The mutual efforts of many individuals in Ukraine and the United States will allow thousands of viewers in the United States to familiarize themselves with another aspect of the art of Ukraine. This exhibit marks the beginning of a new era of cultural exchanges between Ukraine and the United States."

Minister Likhovij added: "The artists who created these works represent a very difficult and sad era when Soviet repression resulted in their persecution, and often death. It is difficult for us now to understand that art was the target of political repression, but these artists refused to cave in to pressure and left the world a significant contribution in the arts. I am grateful to the organizers who made this exhibit possible and to Mayor Richard and Mrs. Maggie Daley, who visited Kyiv last year and supported the project in Chicago."

Other guests from Ukraine

Accompanying Minister Likhovij from Kyiv to Chicago was Anatoly Melnyk, director of the National Art Museum of Ukraine; Ludmyla Kovalska, deputy director; as well as the museum's restorers Tamara Gerzhan and Iryna Demydchuk.

Also present at the opening ceremony were respected art historians Dmytro Horbachov and Prince Nikita Lobanov-Rostovsky, who co-curated and assembled the unique exhibit from the holdings of the National Art Museum of Ukraine, the Theater Museum, the Museum of Folk Art of the Ukraine, the Art Museum of Dnipropetrovsk and from private collections. Doug Robinson provided restoration and installation expertise.

Other guests at the Chicago opening included Ukraine's diplomats, Ambassador to the United Nations Valeriy Kuchinsky and Ukrainian Consul General in Chicago Vasyl Korzachenko. Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Shamshur, who supported the exhibit in its various aspects, was unable to attend because of airport weather conditions in Chicago.

Mr. Melnyk noted the exhibit's impressive presentation and said, "It is an honor to present these masterpieces of avant-garde art to the public in the United States. It is time for the world to recognize Ukraine's contribution to contemporary art."

Organizers and sponsors

The exhibition's American tour was organized by the National Art Museum of Ukraine and the Foundation for International Arts and Education, whose president, Gregory Guroff, poured energy, experience and dedication into the project. It took years to find, identify, restore and gather these works.

In Chicago, the exhibit was presented by the city's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Kyiv Committee of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program.

Marta Farion, chairman of the Chicago Kyiv Sister Cities Committee, who served as the co-host of the opening with Gregory Knight, emphasized the historical significance of bringing these works to the United States. She noted the substantial contributions and support of numerous individuals among the professional staff and the significant resources of the Department of

Cultural Affairs. "The 16 years of exchanges and cooperation between Chicago and Kyiv made this opening possible," Ms. Farion stated.

The Chicago exhibition and opening were sponsored with the generous support of the Chicago Department of



Vsevolod Maksymovych, "A Kiss." 1913. Oil on canvas. 100x100.

Cultural Affairs, the Chicago Sister Cities International Program, UA-TV, LLC as principal sponsor and Hyatt International Corp. as principal co-sponsor. Additional support came from Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, Heritage Foundation of First Security Federal Savings Bank and an anonymous donor.

The exhibit's national tour in the United States is sponsored by The Boeing Company, The Trust for Mutual Understanding, Nour USA Ltd., Konstantin Grigorishin and Aerosvit Airlines. Additional financial support was provided by Oleksander Tabalov, Mykola M. Shymone, Dean Buntrock and Chadbourne & Parke, LLP. Other support was provided by the Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations, the Embassy of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Consulate General of Chicago.

The exhibit in print

Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs published colorful brochures for distribution to all visitors for the duration of the show. Some 40,000 visitors are expected at the exhibit's premier venue, located in Chicago's loop next to Millennium Park. Exhibit catalogues, published in Ukraine, contain color reproductions and a collection of essays in Ukrainian and English and are on sale for \$50 at the Cultural Center's gift shop or are available to order online at <http://www.chicagostore.com/>.

In the exhibition catalogue, Prince Lobanov-Rostovsky writes: "This exhibit is designed to show an American audience the talent and unique nature of Ukrainian avant-garde art and to help understand that the artists are, indeed, Ukrainian, not Russian, a difference not always appreciated in the West. Moreover, the

(Continued on page 23)



Organizers and sponsors of the exhibit, "Crossroads: Modernism in Ukraine, 1910-1930".

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Mr. Bush reportedly pledged in his mes-
sage that the United States will continue
to help Ukraine strengthen its sovereign-
ty, democracy, and prosperity. Russian
President Vladimir Putin telephoned Mr.
Yushchenko on August 7 to congratulate
him on the settlement of the political cri-
sis in Ukraine with the formation of Mr.
Yanukovich's cabinet. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada confirms Yanukovich

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on
August 4 endorsed Party of the Regions
leader Viktor Yanukovich as Ukraine's
new prime minister with 271 votes in
favor, Ukrainian media reported. Mr.
Yanukovich was confirmed mainly by
lawmakers from his party, the Socialist
Party, and the Communist Party, as well as
by 30 deputies from Our Ukraine and six
deputies from the Yuliya Tymoshenko
Bloc. "[My priorities include] economic
growth, the solution of social problems. An
efficient economy will open the way for
solving a great number of social prob-
lems," Mr. Yanukovich told journalists
after the confirmation vote. "Our country
will be attractive for investment only when
the situation in the country is stable. We
will do everything to make sure the situa-
tion is stable, both politically and economi-
cally," he added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada approves new cabinet

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on
August 4 also approved the composition
of a new Cabinet of Ministers, Ukrainian
media reported. The Party of the
Regions' people in the cabinet are First
Deputy Prime Minister and Finance
Minister Mykola Azarov, Deputy Prime
Minister Andriy Klyuyev, Deputy Prime
Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk, Deputy
Prime Minister and Construction
Minister Volodymyr Rybak, Minister for
Ties with the Verkhovna Rada Ivan
Tkalenko, Labor Minister Mykhaylo
Papiyev, Environment Minister Vasyl
Dzharty, Coal Industry Minister Serhiy
Tulub, Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy
Boyko, Economy Minister Volodymyr
Makukha, and Minister of the Cabinet of
Ministers Anatoliy Tolstoukhov. The
presidential quota in the Cabinet of
Ministers is made up of Foreign Minister
Borys Tarasyuk, Defense Minister
Anatoliy Hrytsenko, Justice Minister
Roman Zvarych, Family and Sports
Minister Yuriy Pavlenko, Emergency
Situations Minister Viktor Baloha,
Culture Minister Ihor Likhovyy, Health
Minister Yuriy Polyachenko, and Interior
Minister Yuriy Lutsenko. The Socialist
Party has Education Minister Stanislav
Nikolayenko and Transport Minister
Mykola Rudkovskyy, while the

Communist Party has Agroindustrial
Complex Minister Yuriy Melnyk and
Industrial Policy Minister Anatoliy
Holovko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Constitutional Court vested with authority

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on
August 4 elected five judges of the
Constitutional Court, Ukrainian media
reported. The same day, 13 Constitutional
Court judges - the five elected by the
Verkhovna Rada on August 4 as well as
five elected by the Congress of Judges
and three elected by President Viktor
Yushchenko in November 2005 - took the
oath of office, thus unblocking the work
of the court. The Constitutional Court
remained inoperative since October 2005,
when the term of nine former judges
expired. The Verkhovna Rada refused to
elect and swear in new judges over fears
that Mr. Yushchenko might use the
Constitutional Court to overturn the con-
stitutional reform adopted in December
2004. The Constitutional Court is com-
posed of 18 judges; at least 12 judges are
necessary to make it functional. (RFE/RL
Newsline)

Rada prohibits review of reforms

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on
August 4 amended a law on the
Constitutional Court, prohibiting the
court from revising changes to the consti-
tution adopted in December 2004,
Ukrainian media reported. The measure
was supported by 274 lawmakers. The
political reform of December 2004 limit-
ed powers of the presidency in Ukraine
in favor of the parliament and prime min-
ister. President Yushchenko has repeated-
ly indicated in the past that he is unhappy
with the reform and would like to ques-
tion its adoption in the Constitutional
Court. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Socialists join new coalition

KYIV – The Socialist Party of
Ukraine has signed a memorandum on
the formation of a ruling coalition in a
new format, the UNIAN news service
reported on August 4, quoting Socialist
Party National Deputy Ivan Boky. A
similar memorandum on the creation of a
National Unity Coalition was signed by
the Party of the Regions and Our Ukraine
on August 3, following the endorsement
of Viktor Yanukovich as a candidate for
prime minister by President Viktor
Yushchenko. Mr. Yanukovich was pro-
posed for the post of prime minister last
month by the Anti-Crisis Coalition
encompassing the Party of the Regions,
the Socialist Party and the Communist
Party. It is not clear whether the
Communist Party will agree to reformat-
ting the Anti-Crisis Coalition into a new
one to include Our Ukraine. Communist

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 16)

Party activist Leonid Hrach told UNIAN that the Communist Party had already signed the agreement on the formation of the Anti-Crisis Coalition with the Party of the Regions and the Socialists. "If anyone wants to join [this coalition], they should sign the memorandum, but we do not need to," Mr. Hrach added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko Bloc in opposition

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, head of the eponymous political bloc, said after the signing of the Declaration of National Unity in Kyiv on August 3 by the Party of the Regions, Our Ukraine, the Socialist Party, the Communist Party and President Yushchenko that her force will remain in an "uncompromising opposition" to the ruling coalition, Ukrainian media reported. "For me, the declaration of principles, whatever has been written there, is a capitulation in front of forces that have been allowed to come back and date back to the time of [former] President [Leonid] Kuchma," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "I believe that this absurdity will not survive for long, and that we will be an uncompromising opposition." (RFE/RL Newsline)

President pleased with roundtable

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on August 3 that he was pleased with the results of that day's roundtable discussion among Ukraine's political leaders. He congratulated those present on signing the Declaration of National Unity, thanking the political leaders for "making much progress" during their discussions. "This path was not smooth, and those nights and days we spent composing this document show we did not take this path in vain," he said. The president also thanked those who had meticulously edited the agreement: "All revisions concerned the most controversial points..." Mr. Yushchenko said there were "things that will always be above postulates of

any party program. In my opinion, these things are: the Ukrainian state, sovereignty, faith, patriotism, unitary form of government and safety. These concepts always form a basis for constitutional priorities of any nation. Whatever party programs say, these key values make us Ukrainians." He urged politicians to always put national interests first when discussing such "cornerstones." Mr. Yushchenko then said it is expedient to continue such discussions in the future. "I believe this is only the beginning of our cooperation at a roundtable. I really want the political forces to support my idea of regularly holding roundtables to discuss controversial issues," he said. (Press Office of the President of Ukraine)

UOC-MP has new bishop for Chernivtsi

KYIV – Metropolitan Volodymyr Sabodan, head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP), presided at the episcopal ordination of Archimandrite Meletii Yehorenko as bishop of Khotyn and vicar of the UOC-MP eparchy in Chernivtsi. The ceremony was held at the Monastery of the Caves in Kyiv, according to pravoslavie.org.ua, which posted the news on July 31. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

No communion for non-Orthodox

OTTAWA – Archbishop-Metropolitan John Stinka, head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada (UOCC), has released an encyclical against the practice of "communion with non-Orthodox," which certain priests and parishes of his Church have allowed. He said that, inasmuch as the teaching of the Orthodox Church does not allow this, it will no longer be allowed in the UOCC. interfax-religion.ru posted the news on July 31. The document particularly notes that this "refers also to Catholics of the Eastern rite, regardless of any contrary statements." This year's sobor (assembly) of the UOCC noted a substantial decrease in the Church's membership: in 1961 there were 119,000 members, and in 2004 there

were 11,000. In 1990, the UOCC became, as Interfax puts it, "a Church body under the mantle of the Ecumenical Patriarchate" of Constantinople. Before that, it was out of communion with canonical Orthodox Churches. The UOCC considers one of its important tasks to be "support of the hopes of the people of Ukraine to have a free and autocephalous Ukrainian Orthodox Church." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Radio station asks for probe into attack

KYIV – Nashe Radio (Our Radio) has appealed to President Viktor Yushchenko, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko and Prosecutor-General Oleksandr Medvedko to take under personal control the investigation into an attack against three Nashe

Radio employees, UNIAN reported on August 10. Nashe Radio Director Bohdan Bolkhovetskyi told journalists on August 10 that unidentified assailants, following a collision between their car and that of the Nashe Radio employees on a street in Kyiv on August 8, abducted the broadcasters and took them out of town. "The assailants demanded the return of a briefcase about which none of the kidnapped knew anything," Mr. Bolkhovetskyi said. "[The assailants] interrogated our men for four hours, got information about their relatives, and threatened to make short work of them. They beat one of our men, made him kneel down, and shot repeatedly over his head. Then they took [our men's] money and mobile phones and released them." (RFE/RL Newsline)



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It is with great sorrow that we announce the death
of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

Walter Walchuk

on Thursday, August 3, 2006, at the age of 83.

The funeral services were held on Monday, August 7, at Holy Trinity
Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson, NY, followed by interment
at St. Andrew's Cemetery in S. Bound Brook, NJ

In profound sorrow are:

Wife, Katherine
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In lieu of flowers, contributions in Walters's memory may be made to:
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DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The Board of Directors of the
Ukrainian Institute of America regrets to
announce to its members and general public
that our former Board member
and Corporate Secretary



Maria Daria Harasymowycz Honczarenko

died Thursday, August 2, 2006, in New Jersey. Wakes were held in
Clifton, NJ and Philadelphia, PA. The funeral liturgy took place in
Philadelphia on Saturday, August 12, and was followed by interment
at Fox Chase Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery in Philadelphia, where
Mrs. Honcharenko's family is buried.

The Board wishes to convey its sincere sympathy to
her husband George and the family.

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- New dual air conditioning/heating system for Veselka
- Additional new mattresses
- New curtains in Main House rooms

A humiliating...

(Continued from page 6)

(Sorry Viktor, but eliminating the national traffic police isn't what Ukrainians stood on the maidan for.)

Mr. Yushchenko's rise to power is a historical accident, in the view of Ivan Lozowy, a Ukrainian political expert and New York University Law School graduate.

Mr. Kuchma plucked him out of the National Bank and installed him as prime minister because he was largely a weak, disassociated and detached politician, he said.

That hasn't changed a bit.

When she saw Mr. Yushchenko recently, Orange Revolution hero Praskovya Koroliuk told me Mr. Yushchenko appeared a changed man.

But perhaps it's not Mr. Yushchenko who has changed, but instead our perceptions have deepened regarding a man who hasn't changed much at all.

A tall, handsome, devout Orthodox Christian makes for good television footage, but there's got to be some substance there.

Mr. Yushchenko was at the right place, at the right time, but the wrong man.

And while he blew it (and boy did he blow it), the Party of the Regions have shown they are the sharpest, most effective political force in Ukraine.

Hiring the top K Street U.S. public relations firm Davis Manafort was among the smartest things they did.

Politicians synonymous with crime, deceit and violence were given a makeover.

Baby-faced Akhmetov got up in front of a Donetsk audience to share his tear-jerking experience of poverty, describing how he slept on folding beds as a boy in a home without plumbing.

In his own image makeover, Mr. Yanukovych began to speak of the

Orange Revolution as if he supported it!

"It's very important that in 2004, people came out on squares, and we, with you all, weren't only witnesses, but also participants," Mr. Yanukovych said before signing the National Unity Declaration.

"People spoke of justice, people spoke of a better life, people spoke of freedom, and so forth. These are all things that we hoped for and hope for in our lives. We want to build a just nation, we want to build an independent nation, we want to build a democratic nation."

All emotions aside, Mr. Yushchenko really did sell out the Orange Revolution, simply by giving his former enemy the right to refer to it in his speeches as if it's something he fought for.

To set the record straight, the Orange Revolution took place because people were absolutely terrified of a Viktor Yanukovych presidency.

Mr. Yanukovych's attempt to re-write history, and the spineless Ukrainian president allowing him to do it, is outrageous.

The good news is that barring a miracle, Mr. Yushchenko will not be re-elected.

His presidency may one day be remembered as a pathetic accident.

But then where can the average, patriotic-minded Ukrainian voter turn to for a legitimate political force to vote for?

Oleksandr Moroz? Let's hope the March 2006 elections were also his swan song.

The Tymoshenko Bloc has a solid future, but its structure is very similar to Our Ukraine.

Aside for a handful of patriots and nationalists who are trotted off before television cameras, the Tymoshenko Bloc consists of many shady millionaires who are former associates of Mr. Kuchma and Kyiv clan boss Viktor Medvedchuk.

The Tymoshenko Bloc's illustrious ranks include Kostiantyn Zhevago, a notorious

32-year-old billionaire who got his start through connections in the Kyiv mafia.

Other Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputies with ties to corrupt businessmen include Oleksander Abdulin and Kharkiv magnate Oleksandr Feldman.

Back in March, if I were a Ukrainian citizen, I said I would have cast my vote for Our Ukraine because I thought (get this) that it was the best choice to prevent the Party of the Regions from coming to power.

I also criticized Yurii Kostenko for forming the Kostenko-Plusch Bloc as a national-democratic force because it would siphon votes away from Our Ukraine.

However, it's now apparent that Mr. Kostenko was aware of something that many refused to see until now – that Our Ukraine is a pragmatic business clan.

As one veteran reporter told me, the main difference between Our Ukraine and the Party of the Regions is the latter doesn't shy away from aggression or violence.

Instead, Our Ukraine members masquerade in embroidered shirts and use the Ukrainian language publicly.

Petro Poroshenko and Yevhen Chervonenko don't speak Ukrainian when the cameras are turned off, and Oleksiy Ivchenko seems to think that being a nationalist means buying a new Mercedes every two years at the people's expense.

Like many, I wish I could take back my (symbolic) vote for Our Ukraine.

Rather than separating business from politics, Mr. Yushchenko's presidency has ensured that business clans will continue to have a lock on Ukrainian government.

Behind the scenes, it certainly appears that the "revolution" was in fact a battle between millionaires and billionaires, as long suspected.

The events of November and December

2004 were essentially a rock festival in the snow, cynics are starting to say.

Perhaps the worst thing Mr. Yushchenko has done is to devastate the hopes and moral grounding of average, decent-minded, hard-working Ukrainians looking for a better life in their own country so they won't have to go abroad to work as construction workers, cleaning ladies or prostitutes.

For these people, the near-term outlook is grim. Presidential elections won't roll around for another three years.

(Yes, it's shaping up to be a battle between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovych).

Admittedly, Ukrainian consciousness is slowly evolving. Enough Ukrainians have been to Europe and have seen how a civilized society operates. Movies are being dubbed into Ukrainian, and more music on the radio is in Ukrainian.

But the Ukrainian language isn't going to ease the burden of the average Ukrainian who is struggling to survive in a faltering, inflationary economy.

Though Mr. Yushchenko seems to have done everything to wreck the Orange Revolution, he can never change the fact that millions of Ukrainians came to their capital city demanding that their government be held accountable to the people.

Ukrainians demonstrated to Europe that they hold Western values – democracy, rule of law, pluralism, tolerance, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly.

In addressing the Verkhovna Rada on August 4, Mr. Yushchenko mocked the idea of a second maidan, calling it a myth and a legend.

Perhaps that's his fear. Come sooner or later, however, his government will need to deliver the demands made on the maidan.

Otherwise, the real Ukrainian revolution may be yet to come.

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IDU NA WY

Olha Herasymyuk, Eduard Lozovyy and Vyacheslav Pihowskyk touch the most sensitive issues of modern times, issues that worry millions of Ukrainians.

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Who won the elections to the Supreme Council and why? Who and what coalition will rule the country? The most up-to-date information about what is happening in Ukraine and the world.



TASTY COUNTRY

Knowing how to cook is a talent. Knowing how to cook a delicious meal is the real art! Oleksander Ponomaryov offers his tips on how to cook in Ukrainian style.

NO TABU

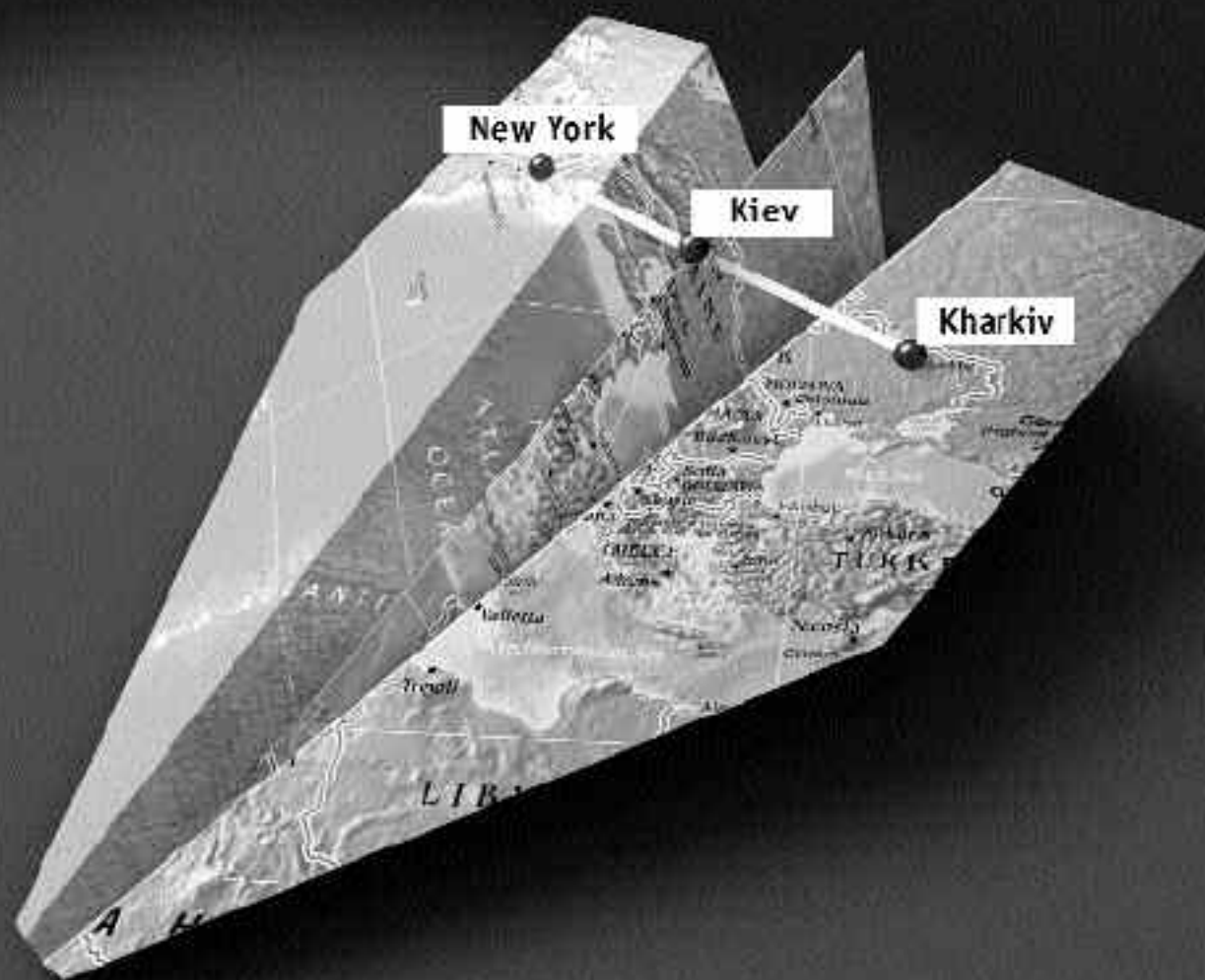
Strange, almost unbelievable, but real stories about everything. Olha Herasymyuk talks about things you would have never discussed with anyone else.



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House of Ukraine to sponsor annual Ukrainian festival in California

SAN DIEGO – House of Ukraine Inc., located in Balboa Park, will sponsor its annual Ukrainian Festival during Labor Day weekend, Friday through Sunday, September 1-3.

The House of Ukraine is one of 32 nationalities that make up the House of Pacific Relations in Balboa Park, San Diego. The khatka (cottage) has been the focus of the San Diego Ukrainian community since its inception in 1961; the cottage is open to visitors and tourists every Sunday afternoon and serves as an information center about Ukraine and Ukrainians.

The annual Ukrainian Festival has brought together Ukrainians and their friends from across the U.S. and western Canada for the past 31 years.

Festivities start on Friday with a welcome get-together in the sand near Lifeguard Station 13 located just south of “The Giant Dipper Roller Coaster” in Mission Beach.

The annual concert begins on Saturday evening and features Volya Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Edmonton. The performance will be held at the Kroc Performing Arts Center, 6845 University Ave., San Diego.

Volya returns the next day along with Lviv Muzyky from northern California to the House of Pacific Relations International Cottages Lawn Stage, located in front of the House of Ukraine in Balboa Park, for a short program of Ukrainian entertainment from 2-3 p.m. Ukrainian ethnic food and refreshments will be available for purchase from noon to 3 p.m.

Festivities conclude on Sunday night with a dinner and zabava (dance) at 6 p.m. at the Handlery Hotel and Resort in



Volya Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Edmonton.

Hotel Circle. This year’s zabava showcases Lviv Muzyky from northern California who will play traditional and

contemporary Ukrainian dance music.

To place an ad in the Saturday night program book, for tickets and for informa-

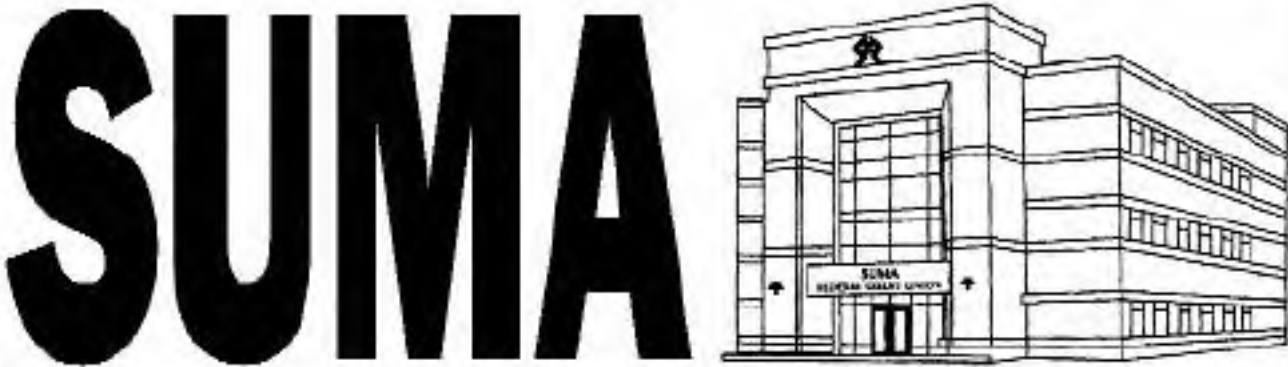
tion on the House of Ukraine’s Festival call 619-460-5733, e-mail housandien-go@aol.com or visit houseofukraine.com.

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

News items sent without a copy of the new release will not be published.

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Is there a need...

(Continued from page 7)

a film and its ability to attract the widest possible number of viewers – and not just with the fact that a film, no matter how dubious its quality, is ready for distribution just because it is in Russian.

Then more British, Spanish, Polish, French and Czech films would appear on the market, and viewers would have the chance to watch international films not reflected through the distorted lens of the Russian film distribution industry. How is this not an argument in favor of those who worry so touchingly about the high artistic quality of the film repertoire and support the principles of free competition and market?

There is another interesting economic argument. It turns out that the lion's share of revenues from films distributed in Ukraine comes from the predominantly Russian-speaking eastern and southern regions. Thanks to them the "Ukrainian" film distribution industry is keeping its head above water. I assume that many film lovers don't go to the movies simply because they do not want to watch American, French, and Italian films in Russian. (It's hard to keep from laughing

when you hear Robert de Niro, Dustin Hoffman, Alain Delon, Catherine Deneuve or Carmen Maura speaking Russian without blinking an eye. This is as funny as Alla Demidova, Renata Litvinova or Nikita Mikhalkov speaking English, French or Italian.)

The advent of Ukrainian-language dubbing may give a huge impetus to movie theater-going in Ukraine's western, central and even eastern regions. Proponents of the argument about the unprofitability of films in western Ukraine are not relying on some sort of sociological research on the consumer potential of the Ukrainian-speaking parts of Ukraine. Meanwhile, this potential may turn out to be a large one.

Particularly significant is the psychological argument that says that viewers themselves do not like films in the Ukrainian language. They find them unnatural, laughable, ridiculous or something along those lines. The people who say this are transferring their own Ukrainophobia and antipathy to the Ukrainian language to all moviegoers in Ukraine.

Thank you for your frankness, ladies and gentlemen, I get it. But I have news for you. In democratic societies people who advance the superiority of one cul-

ture over another are simply subjected to social ostracism and are isolated like an infectious disease. In this sense Ukraine is still far from being a democratic society. And, as for the supposed rejection of the Ukrainian language by film audiences, one should not rush to any conclusions. Instead, we first need to see how audiences will respond in the next two or three years to high-quality Ukrainian dubbing.

A long time ago the fine translation of American television series into Ukrainian persuasively corrected the fabrication about the alleged linguistic Ukrainophobia of the domestic film audience. The Ukrainophobes are not moviegoers but those who represent them in this manner.

Aesthetic concerns are also expressed. You see, right now in Ukraine there are no good actors, and the few that exist rarely speak Ukrainian well. So dubbing that would be done with their own resources would make a horse laugh. This is undeniable. The general culture of language among actors is catastrophically low, and mastery of the language is not considered the first obvious requirement of an actor's professionalism, as it is in other cultures.

If you don't believe me, then just go to the Molodizhnyi (Youth) Theater on Prorizna Street in Kyiv, or the Academic (sic!) Ukrainian Drama, where you will certainly hear so many Russian phonetic features littering the language spoken on stage there that you could easily imagine you are anywhere but in a Ukrainian theater.

This problem also exists in films. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism requires that the film projects it finances are in Ukrainian, but our film people are unable to speak Ukrainian well, so they use either bad Ukrainian or they make increasingly more "silent" films in which you won't hear any sort of language at all.

The requirement to dub films into Ukrainian, under the conditions of its consistent and inexorable implementation, will create overnight a serious demand for talent – Ukrainian-speaking talent – and dozens if not hundreds of jobs. The fact that today it is difficult to find professional actors in Ukraine does not mean that we don't have talented people who could quickly master the necessary profession. Overnight demand will create supply.

The vacuum that is being artificially maintained by the situation that has existed since 1991 – in fact, since 1896 – and not because of the "elemental market force" but because of the brutal and con-

tinuous policy of Russification, will be very quickly filled up with new talent. This will happen not through the government's administration but a change in those very market conditions and the liquidation of the grotesque anomaly whereby the cultural needs of 70 percent of the population are insolently ignored.

There is nothing comparable in other European film markets. Dubbing films into Ukrainian is a step toward European democratic values. This is a sign of respect for the cultural needs of millions of Ukrainians. In the Spanish province of Catalonia, whose population is less than 7 million, no one questions the advisability of releasing films in the Catalan language and subtitled foreign films in Catalan. But that is a province of Spain, and we're talking about independent Ukraine. How can you compare the two?

Ukrainian-language dubbing will quickly create not just demand but supply. Finally, in universities where specialists in cinematography – directors, screenwriters, actors, etc. – are being trained, they will seriously begin teaching the Ukrainian language, and students will realize that mastering this language opens up career opportunities in Ukraine. Isn't this what is frightening those who, contrary to all the demands of political correctness, cannot stop themselves from making faces whenever they demonstrate their idea of what Ukrainian-language dubbing should sound like?

It is strange that in discussions of the government's decision almost no mention is made of another, significantly cheaper, alternative for resolving this question: foreign films, with the exception of Russian ones, can be subtitled. Everyone knows that this is done in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Spain and Poland, and even more often in France, whose film policies Moscow liked to copy at one time. One could hardly expect cinemaphiles to watch films by Fellini, Almodovar, Godard or Woody Allen in a dubbed version. Even the highest-quality dubbing is not capable of conveying the luxuriant cultural flavor of these artists. Ukrainians read no worse than other nations.

However, I am not proposing to substitute subtitles everywhere for dubbing. Dubbing is a wonderful way of affirming the Ukrainian language, and under no circumstances should this method be rejected, all the more so as our viewers are very much accustomed to it. But for art house productions, experimental, low-budget and non-Hollywood films, subtitles are the optimal method not only from the economic but aesthetic-creative standpoint.

It is difficult not to agree with those who are calling on the government to go beyond administrative measures and materially demonstrate the seriousness of its intentions. The government should allocate funds to create Ukraine's own powerful resources for dubbing and subtitled films – foreign films into Ukrainian and Ukrainian films into English, French, Spanish and other world languages – and, of course, into Russian for the Russian market.

It would be ideal if these steps were taken not by the government but Ukrainian industrialists or, let's say, the newly created Association of Film Producers of Ukraine, which has a vision, a sense of obligation to its own people, and a mission that will benefit future generations.

The transition to Ukrainian dubbing will become a paradigmatic change for cinematography and generally for Ukrainian culture. This will create favorable market conditions for the emergence and development of the Ukrainian film market, and a bountiful spiritual milieu for creativity on the screen and in literature.

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Росію, Білорусь,
Молдову, Чехію
і Словачію



Ukrainian opera...

(Continued from page 14)

paid a high tribute to his hosts: he learned a verse in Ukrainian to sing with the choir in his first appearance on stage for the evening: “O Lord, Thine is the Greatness,” arranged by Hallick for this concert.

Mr. Szkafarowsky, a bass who has performed not only at the Met, but on many other opera stages worldwide, was a welcome addition to the program this evening. He sang two amazing Ukrainian pieces, and accompanied the choir for

two others. He has an impressive range; [he is] a deep bass who can sing toward the higher baritone.

Mr. Szkafarowsky joined Mr. Kearns and the choir for “God Bless America.” These two men were simpatico from the outset. Two powerful, trained, accomplished musicians so obviously enjoying the experience of singing together created magic!

This concert was the realization of a dream for concert promoter, choir director and arranger Greg Hallick. Through his perseverance and dedication, his

choir hosted a stirring and patriotic evening; an evening quite rare and one which all in attendance felt genuinely honored to have attended.

Love of country, which some may call hackneyed, was dignified and glorious in this program. From the opening strains of “The Star Spangled Banner” clear through the encore of “God Bless America,” these Ukrainian descendants’ pride in America was lovingly expressed.

To end the first half, Mr. Hallick’s dramatic arrangement of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” sung by his choir and Mr. Kearns, and preceded by George Dzundza’s passionate recitation of “The Gettysburg Address,” brought the house down.

Toward the end of the show, “The Stars and Stripes Forever” was played, along with a medley of songs celebrating each branch of the armed services. Members and previous members of each branch were asked to rise when their song was played and it created an intensely moving tribute.

This concert was a celebration of freedom, to say “thank you” to all serving

and who have served, and to honor those who never came home. It was a celebration of the greatness of our great country narrated beautifully and dramatically by Mr. Dzundza during a moving rendition of the Gettysburg Address and the Emma Lazarus poem “New Colossus.” A great lover of good music and a patriot at heart, he became quite swept away with the evening, calling for extra encores, and through his exuberance, receiving them!

Mairead Hurley superbly accompanied Mr. Kearns this evening. She was the repetiteur for “Faust” this past spring in Dublin in which Mr. Kearns sang the lead, and is a very talented and respected woman in the music world of Ireland. Accompanying Mr. Szkafarowsky’s solo pieces was Matthew Bergey, nephew of Greg Hallick, and an accomplished pianist and piano instructor in the Midwest.

It would not surprise me in the least if one day in the near future we would again be treated to the dynamic combination of Kobzar, Kearns and Szkafarowsky, for such magic was created on that stage, it would be a tragedy indeed to never experience it again.

Long-awaited...

(Continued from page 15)

exhibition is equally important because it will also help Ukrainians acquaint themselves with their own cultural heritage.”

During the exhibit’s first week, the Ukrainian collection received significant coverage in Chicago’s newspapers.

The Chicago Tribune’s art critic Alan G. Artner wrote:

“The Orange Revolution of 2004 not only focused attention on contemporary politics and art in Ukraine but also prompted a look at the early decades of the 20th Century when the capital city Kiev [sic] had an art scene as progressive as almost any in the world and several of its artists were leaders in the international avant-garde ... What they created was in the forefront of the most radical art produced anywhere, and for the first time in memory it is discussed (in superb catalogue essays) in relation to the history and traditions of Ukraine as well as such Western art movements as Cubism and Futurism.”

Chicago Sun-Times art critic Kevin Nance wrote:

“What might not occur to many

Americans – for reasons having to do with the country’s reluctant mingling with Russia and, later, the Soviet Union – is Ukraine’s contribution to the modern art movements that percolated throughout Europe and the United States in the early 20th century.

“A casual walk through of the exhibit – the first of its kind in the United States – can tend to leave you with the impression of a polyglot, aggressively cosmopolitan art that lacked easily discernible national characteristics. Those trendy Ukrainians! They dipped their brushes into virtually every paint can of the avant garde, from Cubism and Futurism to (belatedly) Art Nouveau and (early on) Constructivism. That last movement, widely considered a Russian phenomenon, was actually pioneered in part by a cadre of native or adopted Ukrainians. ...

“There’s a distinctly Ukrainian lushness that adheres to even the most severe compositions here – such as Kazimir Malevich’s ‘suprematist’ images, with their subtle use of Christian symbols – and deepens into outright decadence in the overheated canvases of Vsevolod Maksymovych.”

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OUT AND ABOUT

August 17 Liberty, NY	Voloshky Dancers, Sullivan County Community College, 845-434-5750, ext. 4303 or kbirkett@sullivan.suny.edu	August 24 Scranton, PA	Ukrainian Independence Day ceremony, Court House Square, luncheon at Radisson Hotel, sponsored by Ukrainian Heritage Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, pavloosh@adelphia.net
August 18 Edmonton	Friends of the Ukrainian Village Society Golf Tournament, Broadmoor Public Golf Course, 780-662-3640	August 24 Sacramento, CA	Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, State Capitol Building, 916-482-4706 or 916-726-5205
August 18-20 Jewett, NY	"And the Ship Sails On: Ukrainian Cinema Today," three-part film series, Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479	August 24-27 Warren, MI	Ukrainian Sunflower Festival and Orange Gala, The Ukrainian Cultural Center, 586-582-9057
August 19-20 Chicago	Ukrainian Days Festival, UCCA of Illinois, Smith Park, 773-252-1228	August 25 Regina, SK	Ukrainian Canadian Professional Business Association Golf Tournament, Avonlea, 306-791-7666
August 19-20 Lehighton, PA	Ukrainian Folk Festival, Ukrainian Homestead, 215- 235-3709 or 610-377-4621	August 25-27 Toronto	Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival, 416-410-9965
August 20 Horsham, PA	Ukrainian Independence Festival, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412	August 26 Saskatoon, SK	Ukraine Day in the Park, Kiwanis Park, 306-374-7675
August 20 Norfolk, VA	Ukrainian Independence Day picnic, Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association, Norfolk Botanical Gardens, 757-441-5830	August 26 Sacramento, CA	Ukrainian festival, Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California, 916-482-4706 or 916-649-2122
August 21 East Meadow, NY	Free concert featuring the Syzokryli dancers and the band The Wave, Eisenhower Park, 718-347-0013 or 516-572-0200	August 27 Edmonton	Ukrainian Music Festival, featuring local Ukrainian folk musicians, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, 780-662-3855 ext. 1104
August 24 Bolton, ON	Ukrainian Independence Golf Tournament, Clublink's Caledon Woods Golf Course, 416-322-9902 or 905-338-5885 or 416-933-6908	August 27 Parma, OH	Ukrainian independence celebration, St. Mary Protectress Parish hall, 216-524-6870
August 24 Oakville, ON	St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Independence Day celebration, St. Volodymyr Cultural Center, 416-323-4772	August 27 San Francisco, CA	Ukrainian Day, Golden Gate Park, 650-363-1476
August 24 Jenkintown, PA	Independence day concert, sponsored by the Philadelphia Ukrainian Community Committee and the UECC, 215-663-1166	August 28 Silver Spring, MD	Ukrainian Independence Day picnic, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 301-384-9192

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. Please send e-mail to staff@ukr-weekly.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.

UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Plast campers send greetings to The Weekly



Youths from across North America attended Plast Ukrainian Scouting camps during the month of July. Fifteen camps sent greetings signed by the campers and their counselors; a few are seen above: (top row, from left) the camp for novachky at Novyi Sokil in Buffalo, N.Y.; the camp for yunatstvo at Novyi Sokil; the camp for yunachky at Pysanij Kamin in Middlefield, Ohio; the camp for older yunatstvo at Vovcha Tropa in East Chatham, N.Y.; (bottom row) the camp for preschoolers at Vovcha Tropa and the camp for yunaky at Pysanij Kamin.

OUR NEXT ISSUE: UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated September 10, please send in your materials by September 1.

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.)

Mishanyna

To solve this month’s Mishanyna, find the words that are capitalized

On August 27 we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the BIRTH of Ivan Franko, a great Ukrainian poet and nationalist.

Born in Drohobych county, IVAN FRANKO contributed to Ukrainian culture as a PLAYWRIGHT, publisher, critic, POET, translator and TEACHER.

Franko studied Ukrainian language and philology at Lviv University, where his first works were published in “DRUH,” a students’ magazine. He continued his studies at Chernivtsi and Vienna universities. Later, in 1894, he was appointed LECTURER of Ukrainian history at Lviv University. He studied many languages and throughout his career translated numerous works by many famous AUTHORS such as Homer and Shakespeare.

His works of PROSE comprise over 100 short stories and many novels. His greatest poem, “Moisei,” (MOSES, 1905) based on autobiographical material, addressed the relationship between a leader and his people. One of Franko’s best known works is “Lys Mykyta,” a book of children’s fables about a sly FOX.

As a result of his political activism, Franko was arrested three times. “Kamienari” (The Stone People), “Vichnyi revoliutsioner” (The Eternal Revolutionary) and “Ne PORA” (This is Not the Time), were used as patriotic ANTHEMS. His political efforts include co-founding the Ruthenian-Ukrainian RADICAL Party and running as the the Radical Party’s candidate for the Austrian Parliament. Franko concluded his political career in 1904, after he joined the Populists and helped to form the National-Democratic Party.

Perhaps the Encyclopedia of Ukraine summarized Ivan Franko best, saying: “With his many gifts, encyclopedic knowledge, and uncommon

capacity for work, Franko made outstanding contributions to many areas of Ukrainian CULTURE.”

Source: Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Volume I, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1984.

W	E	R	U	T	L	U	C	H	E	A	M	F	P	J
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Soyuzivka's Datebook

Through August 28, 2006
Every Monday: Steak Night with music by Soyuzivka's House Band

Through August 30, 2006
Every Wednesday: Hutsul Night with music by Soyuzivka's House Band

Through September 1, 2006
Every Friday: Odesa Seafood Night with music by Soyuzivka's House Band

August 18, 2006 "Pete and Vlod – unplugged" perform at the Tiki Bar, 10 p.m.	September 29-October 1, 2006 KLK Weekend, General Meeting and Banquet
August 19, 2006 Dance Camp performance followed by zabava with Fata Morgana	September 30-October 1, 2006 Grace Church Women's Retreat
August 26, 2006 Zabava with Vidlunnia Christening luncheon	October 7, 2006 Wedding
September 1-3, 2006 Labor Day Weekend September 1, Zahrava band performs at Tiki Bar, 10 p.m.	October 8, 2006 90th Birthday Party
September 2, Afternoon performance by Hrim band; performance by Yavir School of Ukrainian Dance, 8 p.m.; zabavas with Luna and Zahrava, 10 p.m.	October 13-15, 2006 Plast Sorority "Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut" Annual Meeting and 80th Anniversary UNA Secretarial Courses
September 3, performance by Yavir School of Ukrainian Dance, 1 p.m.; zabava with band Zahrava, 10 p.m.	October 14, 2006 Road Rally
September 9, 2006 Wedding	October 15, 2006 Christening luncheon
September 11-14, 2006 Regensburg and Berchtesgaden Reunion	October 21, 2006 Wedding
September 12-15, 2006 Landshut Reunion	October 27-29, 2006 Halloween Weekend with children's costume parade, haunted house, costume zabava and more
September 15-17, 2006 UNA General Assembly Meeting	November 3-5, 2006 Grace Church Couples Retreat
September 16-18, 2006 Mittenwald Reunion	November 4, 2006 Wedding
September 23, 2006 Wedding	November 10-12, 2006 Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization Orlykiada
September 29-30, 2006 Plast Sorority "Spartanky" Annual Meeting	November 22-26, 2006 Family Reunion
	November 24, 2006 Thanksgiving Feast

To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
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E-mail: Soyuzivka@aol.com
Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday-Sunday, August 19-20

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Illinois Division, is sponsoring Ukrainian Fest 2006 in Chicago's Smith Park, 2500 W. Grand Ave. (corner of North Campbell Street) from noon to 10 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. The festivities will feature Ukrainian food, crafts, music, lotteries and much more. Pony rides and children's attractions will add to the entertainment for the whole family. Dance groups will perform on Sunday afternoon. A celebration of Ukraine's Declaration of Independence will begin on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. For more information contact Pavlo T. Bandriwsky, 773-772-4500.

Sunday, August 20

HORSHAM, Pa.: The 15th annual Ukrainian Folk Festival, celebrating Ukraine's Independence Day will be held at the Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, County Line and Lower State roads, beginning at noon. The festival stage show will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will feature the following headliners: the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble (Philadelphia); Bandurna Rozmov, the bandurist duo of Oleh Sozhansky and Taras Lazurkevich (Lviv); Svitanya Eastern European Women's Folk Ensemble (Philadelphia); Sisters Oros (New York); Jednist Folk Ensemble (Lansdale, Pa.); and the Promin chorus (New York). The Voloshky Dance Academy will present a dance recital after completing an intensive dance camp under the direction of professional dance masters and soloists from Kyiv. There will be a polka dance at 4:30-9 p.m. featuring the Harmonia Orchestra (New York). The center's Majors Division Ukrainian Nationals will also play an exhibition soccer match against a select opponent. Delicious Ukrainian foods (such as varenyky, holubtsi and kovbasa), baked goods, picnic fare and cool refreshments will be plentiful. An arts and crafts bazaar and a children's fun area will be open all day. Proceeds of the festival benefit cultural programming and youth soccer. For more information call, 215-343-5412.

Saturday, September 3

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: The 50th annual swimming championships of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) will take place at Soyuzivka. The warm-up is at 9 a.m.; the meet begins at 10 a.m. Prizes include awards for first, second and third place and team trophies funded by the Ukrainian National Association. Registration fee of \$10 per swimmer (includes commemorative T-shirt) is due by August 20; there will be no pool-side registration. Please make checks payable to "Ukrainian Sports Federation" and mail to: Marika Bokalo, 641 Evergreen Parkway, Union, NJ 07083. For more information call Mrs. Bokalo, 908-851-0617 or log on to www.soyuzivka.com.

Friday-Sunday, September 15-17

ROCK HALL, Md.: The Ukrainian American Nautical Association Inc. (UANAI) will have a three-day Chesapeake Sail on September 15-17. We'd love to have you join us. No sailing experience necessary. A few crew spots are available. Cost is \$275 per person. For further details contact Natalka, 215-947-0423 or check www.uanai.com.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday, November 5

NEW YORK: A benefit luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University featuring Father Borys Gudziak, Ph.D., rector, will be held at the Ukrainian National Home, 140 Second Ave. For more information call the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 773-235-8462.

Sunday, November 12

CHICAGO: A benefit luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University, featuring Father Borys Gudziak, Ph.D., rector, will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. For more information call the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 773-235-8462.

Sunday, December 3

WARREN, Mich.: A benefit luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University featuring Myroslav Marynovych, senior vice-rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan Road. For more information call the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 773-235-8462.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

Listings of **no more than 100 words** (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent a week prior to desired date of publication to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510.

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

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