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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Sheptytsky beatification process moves forward

*Religious Information Service of Ukraine*

KYIV — The most recent session of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) reported that the beatification process for Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, head of the UGCC from 1901 to 1944, is moving forward in Rome.

Father Roman Terekhovskiy of the UGCC's Postulation Center, the vice-postulator for Metropolitan Sheptytsky's cause, commented on the latest developments, noting that Sheptytsky's cause has gone to the Vatican's Theological Commission.

UGCC Bishop Michael Hrynchyshyn, head of the Synod's Committee on Beatification and Canonization, said that this is a great step toward beatifying Metropolitan Sheptytsky. The Synod met on September 13-20 in Briukhovychi, near Lviv.

"The fact that the beatification cause of Servant of God Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky was recently passed for further work to the special Theological Commission of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome formally

means that, after appropriate positive assessment of the status of the historical credibility and authenticity of the documentary materials gathered during the long-lasting beatification process (on the basis of archival documents and eyewitness testimonies), the cause itself has passed to the competency of those holding governing positions in the Roman Congregation for the Causes of Saints, who should in an appropriate way assess also the quality of the facts gathered in this cause," said Father Terekhovskiy.

According to Father Terekhovskiy, after the commission confirms the fact of the metropolitan's heroic virtues (de heroicis virtutibus) throughout his life, his faith and service to God and neighbor, his official status will be designated "venerable," which will make possible his recognition as a "blessed" of the Catholic Church.

Father Terekhovskiy added that a documented miraculous healing performed through the metropolitan's intercession will then allow his beatification.

The beatification process for Metropolitan Sheptytsky began in 1958.

## Memorial events in Washington recall 'lonely hero' Politykovskaya

by Yaro Bihun

*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON — The "lonely hero," as Zbigniew Brzezinski called journalist Anna Politykovskaya, was honored here at two memorial events, nine days after she was murdered in Moscow on October 7.

The former national security advisor to President Jimmy Carter was among those who spoke at a memorial gathering at the National Endowment for Democracy, recall-

ing and honoring Ms. Politykovskaya and her unrelenting effort to keep the tragedy and travesty of what the Russian government of President Vladimir Putin was doing to Chechnya from being forgotten.

Later, in the evening, there was a candlelight vigil in her memory in front of the Russian Embassy.

"There is no heroism more impressive than lonely heroism," Dr. Brzezinski

(Continued on page 10)



Slain journalist Anna Politykovskaya is remembered during a candlelight vigil in front of the Russian Embassy in Washington on October 16.

Yaro Bihun

## Ukrainian Insurgent Army veterans mark anniversary of its founding



Iryna Cherepynska

UPA veterans listen to speeches delivered at St. Sophia Square on the 64th anniversary ceremony of their army's founding.

by Zenon Zawada

*Kyiv Press Bureau*

KYIV — Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) veterans and thousands of their supporters succeeded in commemorating the 64th anniversary of its founding on October 14 without interference from hundreds of violent-prone agitators, largely from the Communist and Progressive Socialist parties.

Although separate scuffles and fights broke out, more than 3,000 Kyiv police officers provided heavy security for the Ukrainian patriots, setting up metal barricades and denying the agitators any access to Independence Square, where the commemorative events began.

"Everything is in order, and there haven't been any confrontations," Oleh Tiahnybok, the event's leader, said during the commemoration. "The provocateurs were sectioned off, and possibly even barred from entering Ukraine, since we were expecting provocateurs and thugs from Russia."

Mr. Tiahnybok's All-Ukrainian Union Svoboda, the leading nationalist force in Ukraine, organized the day's events with the Kyiv Regional Brotherhood of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists-Ukrainian Insurgent Army (OUN-UPA), which was formed to fight against both the German Nazi and Soviet Russian invaders in order to secure Ukraine's independence.

Though police provided the necessary protection, the patriots had little support from the government, either on the national or the local level.

The prior day, a Kyiv district judge ruled that neither the patriots nor the pro-Soviet/pro-Russian demonstrators had the right to be on Independence Square, which had been sealed off on October 14.

The square had been the heavily publicized meeting place for the patriots who gathered there nevertheless, and riot police opted to set up a barricade sec-

tioning them off rather than evict them.

Judge Natalia Buzhak reached her decision despite the fact that the patriotic groups had submitted their request on September 13, a full month ahead of the planned commemoration, which falls on St. Mary the Protectress Day, a widely observed Ukrainian holy day.

Pro-Soviet forces submitted their request only a week prior to the date.

Although they had a pretext of commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Nuremberg trials, their lawyers stated their intent was to prevent the UPA veterans' commemoration.

The judge was merely carrying out President Viktor Yushchenko's incoherent politics, said Oleksander Bashuk, a lawyer with the Svoboda political party.

(Continued on page 4)

## U.S. government adopts 'Kyiv' spelling

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of State reported that on October 3, the Board on Geographic Names (BGN) unanimously voted to change the BGN standard transliteration of the name of the Ukrainian capital to Kyiv.

This decision affects the whole U.S. government. The State Department noted: "Although 'Kiev' remains the BGN conventional name for this city, all State Department offices and operations are requested to immediately begin using the new spelling 'Kyiv' in all written communication. The American diplomatic post there will henceforth be called Embassy Kyiv."

## ANALYSIS

## Two Viktors, but no clear winner

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report

The appointment in August of Viktor Yanukovich as Ukrainian prime minister left many speculating how he and his onetime rival, President Viktor Yushchenko, would work together. If recent developments are any indication, the relationship still needs some work.

The trouble began in earnest in September, when Mr. Yanukovich refused to implement seven presidential decrees, arguing that they were issued without his co-signature. Mr. Yanukovich, in return, demanded that President Yushchenko sack five regional governors loyal to the president.

Mr. Yushchenko later declined an invitation by Mr. Yanukovich to participate in a Cabinet of Ministers meeting. Most recently, of course, the president's Our Ukraine bloc appeared to dismiss the possibility of joining the ruling coalition led by Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions.

Both politicians have apparently entered a period of argument over who is to play the leading role in Ukraine's constitutionally remodeled political system, which went into effect this year.

The constitutional amendments were hastily adopted in December 2004 to resolve the presidential election standoff between Messrs. Yushchenko and

Yanukovich against the backdrop of the Orange Revolution. They now seem to have backfired, devolving into an institutional row between the two leaders.

The constitutional requirement that some presidential decrees should be co-signed by the prime minister and the ministers directly responsible for their implementation existed even before the 2004 reform.

But in the era of former President Leonid Kuchma, no prime minister – including both Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich – ever invoked the attendant provision to question the legality of presidential decisions.

Now, however, the situation is different.

The constitutional reform, which took effect on January 1, has shifted the center of political power from the president toward the prime minister and Parliament, making the president and the prime minister top executive officials with more or less equal authority.

President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yanukovich are from different political camps, so it is hardly surprising they are now competing for recognition as the uppermost politician in Ukraine.

But since the two politicians personify opposing sides of Ukraine's deeply felt East-West divide, their rivalry, if continued, will no doubt contribute to widening this troublesome gap.

President Yushchenko proposed a solution two months ago when he persuaded

(Continued on page 14)

## Deciphering the new gas deal between Ukraine and Russia

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report

Ukrainian Fuel and Energy Minister Yurii Boiko raised more than a few eyebrows when he told journalists in Kyiv on October 6 that Ukraine will not import Russian gas for domestic consumption next year.

His statement that "there will not be any Russian gas in Ukraine's balance" was clear enough. How he calculated that meeting Ukraine's gas needs is possible without a Russian contribution was not.

Mr. Boiko announced two days earlier that Ukraine has signed contracts to purchase 42 billion cubic meters (bcm) of Turkmen gas, 7 bcm of Uzbek gas and 8.5 bcm of Kazakh gas in 2007.

That would add up to 57.5 bcm, sufficient in Mr. Boiko's opinion to fulfill Ukraine's prodigious appetite for natural gas – a curious conclusion considering that the forecast for 2006 is 76-77 bcm and Ukraine imported 73 bcm under a gas-purchasing agreement with Russia in which it received a "mixed basket" of gas from Russia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.

That agreement, under which Ukraine

paid \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters of gas, was apparently scrapped in late September during secretive discussions with Russia on gas supplies.

Despite Mr. Boiko's statement regarding the replacement contract, it is a stretch to say that Ukraine will be free from the Russian gas yoke. After all, while it will be purchasing gas under the new contract via RosUkrEnergo and not from Gazprom directly, the Russian gas giant remains the owner of 50 percent of the shares in RosUkrEnergo.

According to the new agreement, which is to go into effect in January 2007, Gazprom will not sell Russian gas to Ukraine, but will resell the 50 bcm of gas it buys from Turkmenistan for \$100 per 1,000 cubic meters to Ukraine. This after Ukraine's failed negotiations with Turkmenistan led to Russia making a play for Turkmen gas at the \$100 rate.

Seeing that in 2006 Ukraine is paying Russia \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters of gas, the fact that Gazprom CEO Aleksei Miller announced on September 27 that that rate will stand until the end of the year could mean a loss of nearly \$400 million for Gazprom.

The exact price Ukraine will pay for its imported gas in 2007 has not yet been announced, but Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich has in recent weeks repeatedly touted a price at or around \$130 per 1,000 cubic meters.

On September 28, Mr. Yanukovich told his Cabinet that the country "will pay less for gas than its neighbors in 2007-2009." He followed up on that prediction by telling the cabinet on October 4 that "we know that the price of gas for 2007 for our neighbors – Moldova, the Baltic countries,

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### UPA veterans seek combatants' status

KYIV – A group of Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) veterans and several thousand sympathizers took to the streets in Kyiv on October 14 to mark the 64th anniversary of the founding of the UPA and demand official recognition as war combatants for UPA fighters, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. The UPA was a nationalist guerrilla force that fought the Nazis as well as Soviet and Polish troops during World War II and immediately after it. Several thousand policemen guarded the rally in Kyiv against left-wing demonstrators who unsuccessfully tried to break through police barriers and provoke clashes. President Viktor Yushchenko said the same day that he has signed a decree on "restoring historical justice" to UPA veterans, Interfax-Ukraine reported. "As a president, I do not define the [combatant] status. But I may stimulate the government and Parliament to consider this issue and take the decision. This is the purpose of the decree I signed today in the morning," Mr. Yushchenko told journalists. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Our Ukraine pledges to stay with president

KYIV – Roman Bezsmertnyi, head of the parliamentary caucus of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine bloc of six parties, said on October 12 that Our Ukraine will continue to support President Viktor Yushchenko and will press for the execution of the program with which Mr. Yushchenko won the presidential election in 2004, Interfax-Ukraine reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Rada delays hearings on WTO

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on October 17 decided to postpone until November 1 parliamentary hearings on Ukraine's prospects for and problems regarding its entry to the World Trade Organization (WTO), UNIAN reported. The hearings were originally planned for October 18. Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz said the postponement does not imply that deputies will not discuss WTO-related bills in the meantime.

Ukraine still needs to pass a dozen laws and sign a bilateral trade accord with Kyrgyzstan in order to be ready for WTO entry. Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich urged Parliament on October 16 to move quickly to pass the legislation that would enable Ukraine to join the WTO early next year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Russia checks on Ukraine's alcohol

MOSCOW – Rospotrebnadzor, Russia's consumer rights watchdog, said on October 16 that it is carrying out checks of all alcohol imports from Ukraine, looking for banned wines from Georgia and Moldova, international news agencies reported. "We have reason to believe there is some sort of agreement between these countries – including Ukraine, Belarus and Azerbaijan – to help these two countries [Georgia and Moldova] enter the Russian market," Rospotrebnadzor head Gennady Onishchenko said in a television interview. In another television interview Onishchenko said a doubling of wine imports from Ukraine is suspicious, adding that all alcohol imports, including vodka, will be probed. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### President, PM agree to continue talks

KYIV – Following a meeting with President Viktor Yushchenko, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich told journalists in Kyiv on October 10 that negotiations on the creation of an expanded ruling coalition with the participation of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine bloc will be continued, Ukrainian media reported. "We agreed to work toward forming a broad coalition. For that, we have, first and foremost, the political will of the Ukrainian president and prime minister. We believe it is our common goal to stabilize the political situation," Mr. Yanukovich said. Last week, Our Ukraine leader Roman Bezsmertnyi announced that his party was switching to the opposition and called on Our Ukraine ministers in Yanukovich's Cabinet to step down. However, Family, Youth and Sports Minister Yurii Pavlenko told journalists on October 11 that he and the three other ministers from Our Ukraine will

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## Correction

The front-page story by Zenon Zawada about the 750th anniversary celebrations of Lviv (October 8) twice referred to Old Market Square. In fact, the reference should have been to Market Square (Ploscha Rynok). It should be noted that Lviv has two distinct locations: Old Market Square and Market Square.

# UPA veterans share their experiences at press conference in Kyiv

by **Zenon Zawada**  
Kyiv Press Bureau

*KYIV – Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) veterans shared their experiences at an October 10 press conference organized by the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists, one of six political parties belonging to the Our Ukraine bloc. Following are some of their accounts of the UPA's activity.*

**Petro Balytskyi, 84, Vorobivka, Ternopil Oblast, UPA soldier:**

My group was arrested by the NKVD (People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs). They brought us to a concentration camp in Saratov (Russia), and we endured horrible torture, but I am not going to talk about it because all of us know the NKVD's methods. They tortured us, gave us salted fish, dry crusts, broke our teeth and denied us water. Try it for yourself. You will see after one week you would hang yourself. No water. You are choking. And people did commit suicide.

When we came out in the morning, we drank cow's urine on the ground. We drank dew to quench our thirst. Later,

they didn't let us sleep at night. We had to work. Then the interrogations, interrogations ... And the question was, "Do you want to fight against Hitler?" I said, "Yes, I do." So they sent me to the so-called "shtrafbat" (penalty battalion) in Eastern Prussia. Almost nobody who was with me had returned from the concentration camp.

In the fall of 1944, we carried mines in our backpacks and they told us to place them when German tanks drew close. We didn't even have any arms or anything. I took off my military clothes, changed into civilian clothes and registered myself as a Pole. I got myself jailed as a Pole, and the Soviet NKVD transferred me into the hands of the Polish NKVD and I was imprisoned in a Moldovan concentration camp. I knew how to lie and they believed I was a Pole. I learned perfect Polish.

**Daria Husiak, 82, Truskavets, Lviv Oblast, Roman Shukhevych's liaison:**

Roman Shukhevych prepared a lot in 1930s. He did a lot of educational work and prepared young people for this armed struggle. At the beginning of World War II, national consciousness was so high and the desire for freedom so large that



Daria Husiak



Fotii Volodymyrskyi

the Ukrainian nation was ready for the armed struggle, not for life but to death.

You know very well what losses those fighters for Ukraine's freedom suffered. They managed to hold out a decade. And I believe the struggle of the 1940s is unique. It is unique because the Ukrainian nation and the Ukrainian people rose up with arms against two world powers. I believe there is no analogue in the world.

He was a very communicable and marvelously cheerful man. When we look at portraits with the stern appearance of Shukhevych, we can hardly imagine that he was a man with a sense of humor. He knew how to joke and understood the jokes of other people. He could sing with the boys and the boys felt very free in his company, despite the fact that he kept discipline. But all the people that surrounded him felt themselves very easy.

He was so modest that practically anyone who mentions him in their memoirs talks about this trait – his modesty. He wore clothes and ate what the UPA soldiers ate. He didn't allow any exceptions for himself, even when he was sick. One more trait of his was his diligence. In his last secret house where he actually died, in Bilohorscha, he, a sick person already, was very hard-working and he used every minute as optimally as best he could. He had rest – probably his doctor told him to have a rest – but he used every minute for work.

**Tetiana Vaida, 74, Zavorol, Rivne Oblast, UPA scout:**

I was 13 when I helped out. I was a runner and a scout. My father had a shelter, the boys asked me and I went, so it was not official. But when my brother was arrested, I stood consciously on the side of struggle. I joined the junior network of the OUN, they suggested a propaganda post to me and I spread the propaganda in schools that it was necessary to go to the army of the Ukrainian nationalists.

My father had a shelter in our yard where insurgents were hiding all the time. I communicated with them everyday. My brother was also a runner who brought weapons from Lviv to Lutsk and back. He was sentenced. Unfortunately, he became ill with tuberculosis in the mines and died. And I was sentenced for 10 years and stayed alive.

As always there were traitors, "stukachi," and they betrayed me. I was arrested and they put me in a cellar. For three months I endured 42 interrogations, and then they sentenced me to 10 years. They suggested that I collaborate and betray. I didn't go for it. I was sent to the

banks of the Pacific Ocean for lumber-jack work. I survived and I am still alive. I don't regret anything, although it was difficult. It was cold, I was hungry, and it was painful. They beat us, taunted us and tortured us.

But we knew we were for this great idea – you can take away everything from me, just don't take away this holy and saintly love for Ukraine. Let it stay. When they beat us, tortured us, they put out cigarettes on my nose, when they beat me by my feet, put me into a punishment cell, it wasn't as painful as it is now, when 24 European nations have recognized us as a resistance movement, and here in our native Ukraine they don't recognize us. That's the most painful and most horrible thing.

**Fotii Volodymyrskyi, 83, Vysheve, Ternopil Oblast, UPA soldier:**

I represent the brotherhood of OUN-UPA of the Carpathian region, the region where this struggle continued for the longest time for our Ukrainian state. In the Prykarpattia region, 16,500 fighters were killed and 650 women – the wives of our commanders and our girlfriends involved in this struggle.

When the Soviet Army stood under Moscow and the Germans were eyeing the Kremlin through their binoculars, nobody knew how the circle of history would turn. There still weren't any partisans. It was only the UPA soldiers who stood up for the defense of the fatherland.

Stepan Bandera proclaimed in 1941 the independence of our state. The occupiers, the Germans, accepted it very negatively. They forced Bandera and [Yaroslav] Stetsko to cancel that act. But they didn't want to. So Bandera and the entire leadership were arrested. Until 1944 they were imprisoned in German camps.

And it is very painful to me to hear those Communists in the Verkhovna Rada led by Petro Symonenko say that "they were German collaborators." Halychyna was occupied by the Germans, who were robbing us. I was wounded for the first time in my feet in 1943 when the Germans came to rob our village. I was 19 years old when they wounded me in the leg during a battle.

Look at all the historical facts – the issue of UPA crimes was not even in the Nuremberg trials. This issue was not even raised because we were fighting for our state and for our freedom. Our slogans were "Freedom to the nations and to man" and "The well-being of the nation is the highest law." We fought with these slogans.

## U.S.-Ukraine Foundation hosts third session of policy dialogue

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and its partners hosted the third working session of the U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue in Washington on September 25-29. Funded by the U.S. Department of State, the U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue is designed to supplement and deepen the official bilateral dialogue between Ukraine and the United States.

More than 60 policy-makers from the United States and Ukraine met to discuss U.S.-Ukraine relations through the prism of foreign policy and national security; politics and governance; media and information; and business and economics.

Program participants included deputies from Ukraine's Parliament, representatives of the U.S. Department of State, National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, the Secretariat of the President of Ukraine, Ministry of the Economy of Ukraine, U.S. and Ukrainian think-tanks, non-governmental organizations, and media and business representatives.

The opening plenary session, which was webcast live, commenced with welcoming remarks by Nadia McConnell, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation president, and Damon Wilson, the director for Central and Eastern Europe at the National Security Council.

Noting the importance of the project, Mr. Wilson stated: "I appreciate very much the role of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation supporting this policy dialogue. It is a particularly opportune moment to have it here in Washington and to be talking about U.S.-Ukraine relations. After prolonged uncertainty there is a government and we have a partner to work with in Ukraine. It is the right moment for us in Washington to be thinking through the next steps in the relationship and, therefore, the work that you will be doing in this group over the coming days I think is very useful."

"Over the years, policy dialogue has been constructive in feeding into the thinking here in Washington, and hopefully in Ukraine as well, among the policy-makers. I think this is particularly relevant right now during the stage we're

at," stated Mr. Wilson.

Throughout the week, participants were divided according to their expertise into four task forces: politics and governance; foreign policy and national security; economics and business; and media and information. Each of these task forces held numerous meetings with senior officials of the U.S. government, representatives of NGOs, congressional committees and think-tanks in Washington, which provided further insight on U.S.-Ukraine related issues.

Co-chaired by high-level American and Ukrainian experts, the task forces are managed by U.S. and Ukrainian partner organizations such as The Atlantic Council of the United States, Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Studies, International Center for Policy Studies, Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, SigmaBleyzer and Europe XXI Foundation.

The U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue concluded with a closing plenary session on September 28 at which Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Oleh Shamshur, gave closing remarks, and each task force presented its policy recommendations for the U.S. and Ukrainian governments.

Afterwards, a reception to commemorate the U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue and to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation was held at the Embassy of Ukraine.

Commenting on this special occasion, Mrs. McConnell expressed that she hopes "the foundation's next 15 years will be as enjoyable and productive as these first 15. We know this will be so if we continue to receive the kind of support that we have received thus far. In particular, we recognize our partner institutions and all of the task force members who have so generously donated their time and energy to make policy dialogue a success."

To learn more about the U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue or to view webcasts of the policy dialogue events and the 15th anniversary celebration, readers can log on to <http://www.usukraine.org/pd06videos.shtml>.

## Ukrainian Insurgent...

(Continued from page 1)

"This was a Solomon's decision, which is [emblematic of] Ukraine's multi-vector approach and decay," he said.

Judge Buzhak didn't base her decision on the law or any political motivations, Mr. Bashuk said. Instead, the decision attempted to find an administratively convenient resolution to a conflict. "Any court decision has to have a legal foundation," Mr. Bashuk said. "I'm a judge so I made this decision. It's something only Solomon could have done because he was a king."

Despite the court order, more than 300 patriots managed to secure a section of Independence Square at the arch of St.

back and knifed them," said Natalia Kuzmenko, 40, a medical worker and a Communist.

"People were trying to live a new life, and they were merciless to Komsomol members and Communists. They tormented Jews, Poles, Russians and anyone who didn't think like they did," she added.

As the agitators lost their patience with police, they began swinging their homespun weapons at them and tearing down the metal barricades. One police officer suffered injury to his eyes and nasal canal when a Progressive Socialist sprayed tear gas in an effort to break through a barricade.

Attempts to break past the police dressed in riot gear failed, however, and 56 demonstrators were arrested, mostly



**Ukrainian nationalist leader Oleh Tiahnybok speaks during the UPA anniversary commemorations at St. Sophia Square.**

Michael the Archangel after Svoboda organizers arrived at 10 p.m. the prior night to claim the space.

At about 2 a.m., the police decided to let them remain after a mild stand-off, Mr. Bashuk said. "We stood there the whole night," he added.

By sunrise, Independence Square looked like a war zone under martial law, as metal barricades lined with riot police blocked access from every major roadway.

From both ends of the Khreshchatyk, up to 1,000 pro-Russian agitators, including Communists led by Petro Symonenko and Progressive Socialists led by Natalia Vitrenko, collected at the barricades where they were blocked by police.

They gradually grew furious that they weren't allowed onto Independence Square to attack the patriots and nationalists.

Many of the agitators, particularly older women, were carrying sticks, icons or other objects that could be used as weapons. Young men donned ski masks.

"Under President Viktor Yushchenko, Ukraine has become a type of country where Banderites and fascist accomplices feel free," read one flier. "Shame and damnation to the neo-Banderites!"

Yelling "Fascists!" and waving Communist and Donetsk Republic flags, they attacked anyone they perceived to be a Ukrainian patriot or nationalist. As a result, innocent bystanders were hurt.

"I stood nearby, and when these boys attacked, I got a stick to my head," said Oleksander Zolotariov, a Kyiv resident who was at the wrong place at the wrong time.

"I went to the side. Afterwards, I saw a person lying on the asphalt being kicked, and I tried to pull him out of there. Luckily, the police had arrived," he noted.

Protesters said they were compelled to come to Independence Square to protest the presence of those who collaborated with German Nazis and committed vicious crimes against the Soviet people. This is the common view of the UPA that Soviet propaganda instilled in its citizens.

"There won't be any reconciliation because they shot their own people in the

from the pro-Russian side. Among them, 25 were arrested for anti-police actions while 31 were arrested for hooliganism.

Meanwhile, UPA veterans and their supporters gathered at St. Michael's arch, waved flags of patriotic political parties and sang war hymns, bellowing the words, "Don't cry my girl, he gave his life for Ukraine."

Just after 10 a.m. Mr. Tiahnybok addressed the supporters, urging them to sign a petition demanding that the president sign an order recognizing the UPA as a force that fought for Ukrainian independence and making St. Mary the Protectress Day the national holiday for Ukraine's armed forces.

He also urged them to refrain from reacting violently to the pro-Soviet and pro-Russian agitators. "I propose that we don't give into any provocations, and peacefully and honorably celebrate this distinct, grand holiday and honor Ukrainian heroes," Mr. Tiahnybok said.

UPA veterans alongside Orthodox and Catholic priests led a procession up Mykhailivska Street to the Holodomor monument at St. Michael Square, where they placed flowers and prayed.

Among those joining the procession were members of the Kharkiv-based Patriots of Ukraine citizens' organization, Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists paramilitary soldiers, as well as individuals wanting to express their support.

"I am a Kyivite and a Russian, but Ukraine is my land regardless of my ethnicity," said Oleksander Berendeyev, 49, a mechanic. "Ukraine is my homeland regardless if I'm Russian or Jewish. Ukraine needs to be defended, and some order needs to be implemented."

By the time the procession reached St. Sophia Square, the crowd had swelled to about 2,500 UPA supporters, including members of various Kozak organizations that took the opportunity of St. Mary the Protectress Day to bless initiates.

Father Serhii Tkachuk of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate joined Ukrainian Catholic and other Orthodox priests in leading a moleben service honoring the more than



**Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputy Lev Lukianenko addresses UPA veterans and their supporters at St. Sophia Square.**

50,000 UPA soldiers who died in the struggle for an independent Ukraine.

Leaders of patriotic and nationalistic groups criticized the government for failing to grant the UPA recognition, failing to make St. Mary the Protectress Day a national holiday and failing to take steps to educate Ukrainian schoolchildren about the role the UPA played in World War II.

National Deputy Lev Lukianenko, a former Soviet political prisoner, said the law is the basis for Ukraine's current struggle against its enemies, including the Constitution of Ukraine, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international law.

"In a peaceful way, we were able to achieve what our two armed struggles attempted throughout the 20th century," he said. "To great regret, the peaceful means of struggle didn't provide the means to destroy those who are deeply rooted enemies of the Ukrainian independent nation. And today in the 21 century, there are a lot of them in Ukraine."

An armed struggle against these enemies may or may not have been successful as the Russian Federation remained a military threat, Mr. Lukianenko said.

Therefore, patriotic forces foresaw upon Ukraine's independence that these enemies would impede the nation's rebirth, progress and development, he continued. These enemies were evident on Khreshchatyk that very day.

Mr. Lukianenko said he's been trying to pass a bill granting government recognition to all armed forces that fought for an independent Ukraine, but Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz and the Communists have acted in obstruction.

"We live in a paradoxical country: using economic and political freedoms are those very same Communists who enabled their sons to become wealthy capitalists," he said. "At the same time, the Russian empire's judgment upon an independent Ukraine lingers regarding these fighters for Ukraine. This is laughter in the face of logic and normal understanding."

Nevertheless, Ukrainians are more conscious with every passing day that the nation's future depends upon a Ukrainian Ukraine, Mr. Lukianenko said.

In his remarks to the gathering, Mr. Tiahnybok criticized the Yushchenko administration for failing to make any progress in granting government recognition to the Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

Unfortunately, those in Ukraine's government view the nation as a successor to Soviet Ukraine rather than the Ukrainian National Republic, Western Ukrainian National Republic or the Carpatho-Ukrainian state.

Mr. Yushchenko has the full right to issue a presidential order recognizing UPA as a force that fought for Ukrainian independence. "It would take the president only three seconds to take a pen and sign this

order," Mr. Tiahnybok said, holding a copy of an order prepared by the Svoboda party.

It called for recognizing the national liberation struggle of the OUN-UPA for Ukrainian independence; granting UPA veterans status as fighters for Ukraine's freedom; making St. Mary the Protectress Day the official holiday for Ukraine's armed forces and canceling the February 23, 1999, presidential order creating Defenders of the Motherland Day.

He called for opening Ukraine's archives and criticized the Yushchenko administration for allowing a Communist Party member, Olha Ginsburg, to become appointed as director of the State Committee on Archives.

He said he suspected this was done to destroy any remaining evidence of Communist crimes in order to prevent any future lustration of Communist Party members.

"The people need the truth," Mr. Tiahnybok said. "Schools and higher education institutions need to teach the true history of the UPA and Ukraine, not what was taught through the prism of the Kremlin."

President Yushchenko didn't attend any UPA-related events on October 14. Instead, he and his wife traveled to his home village of Khoruzhivka, where they visited a new home for orphans, placed flowers at a grave of Holodomor victims and visited the grave of Mr. Yushchenko's mother, who passed away last year.

He issued a presidential order that day insisting that the Cabinet of Ministers and the Verkhovna Rada consider rehabilitating the soldiers of the OUN-UPA. As president, he doesn't have the authority to recognize UPA, he stated.

"This conflict is caused by the perverted knowledge of history," Mr. Yushchenko said, adding that it must be resolved as soon as possible. "We must give answers to the question of historical justice and pay tribute to every fighter for this land."

In response to the attempts by Communists to interrupt the UPA commemoration events, the Svoboda party announced it has organized a procession in Kyiv on November 7 honoring victims of Communist repressions. November 7 was the Soviet holiday marking the start of the October Revolution of 1917, because it took place when Russia and Ukraine still abided by the Julian calendar.

The procession will begin at the Arsenal metro station, lead down Hrushevsky Street along the Khreshchatyk to the monument to Vladimir Lenin across from the Bessarabskyi Market.

There, a rally will be held to call for the removal of the statue of the "executioner of the Ukrainian people," Mr. Tiahnybok said.

"We will also begin measures to ban the Communist ideology in Ukraine," Mr. Tiahnybok said. "It's necessary to conduct a second Nuremberg trial against the Communists."



# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## UNA Branch 283, the Sicz Club, celebrates its 80th anniversary



Members of the local SUM branch, (from left) Sonia Dubovici, Tonjia and Larysa Drocak, and Tanya and Marika Kobylnyak, perform during the dinner.

by Stefan Lysiak

AUBURN, N.Y. – A dinner-dance on October 7 celebrated the 80th anniversary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 283, known as the Sicz Club. At the same time, the club honored those longtime members who had served the club for 25 years.

The honorees were: Michael Chalupa, Olga Chalupa, Roman Bohayets, John Koziej, Stefan Husak, Catherine Hrynyk, John Drocak, Irene Szul, Myron Szul, Walter Holak, John Hladun Jr., Walter

*Stefan Lysiak is secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 283.*

Drocak and Bohdan Drocak. All received certificates of appreciation. In addition, the men received tie clips engraved with the phrase "25 Sicz Club," while the women received necklaces.

Also honored were members of the Sicz Club who had more than 25 years of service, but had never been recognized for their many years of membership. Thus, the following five members were recognized: George Sullivan, 46 years of membership; John Latanyshyn, 42 years; Michael Drocak, 39 years; Stefan Rotko, 37 years; and Rosalie Hawryshkiw, 35 years. Each received a special certificate, plus the aforementioned gifts.



Branch 283 members with New York State Sen. Mike Nozzolio and Mayor Timothy Lattimore of Auburn, N.Y.

All 18 honorees' tickets to the dinner-dance were funded by the club as yet another expression of gratitude.

Guest speakers at the event were New York State Sen. Michael Nozzolio and Mayor Timothy Lattimore of Auburn.

Music for the occasion was provided

by Budem Razom, a Ukrainian band from Rochester, N.Y. Performing on stage were the local Ukrainian school and Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), as well as the Dunai Ukrainian folk dance troupe from Rochester.



### The Ukrainian National Association will mail Christmas greeting cards to Ukrainian American service people!

The UNA will be mailing Christmas greetings to Ukrainian American service people presently serving their country in many parts of the world.

The UNA wishes to solicit your help in getting names, addresses and ranks of any Ukrainian you may know who is serving in the armed forces. Help make this project successful!

The UNA will mail Christmas and New Year's greetings to our service people by December 25, 2006.

We wish to contact all of our service men and women. With your help we will reach most of them!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please send the information by December 2, 2006, to:  
Ukrainian National Association, Inc.  
UNA National Organizer - Oksana Trytjak  
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280  
Parsippany, N.J. 07054

Tel.: 973-292-9800 ext. 3071; e-mail: oksanauna@comcast.net

### UNA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*announces that the*

### NORTHERN NEW JERSEY AND CENTRAL NEW JERSEY FALL ORGANIZING MEETING

will be held on  
Friday, November 3, 2006, at 2:00 p.m.  
at the UNA Home Office  
2200 Rt. 10, Parsippany, NJ

Obligated to attend the organizing meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

**25, 27, 37, 42, 70, 76, 133, 134, 142, 171, 172,  
214, 234, 287, 340, 155, 269, 349, 353, 372**

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

#### MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Stefan Kaczaraj – UNA President  
Michael Koziupa – UNA 2nd Vice President  
Christine E. Kozak – UNA National Secretary  
Roma Lisovich – UNA Treasurer  
Eugene Oscislowski – UNA Advisor

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Stephan Welhasch, District Chairman, Northern New Jersey  
Yaroslav Zaviysky, District Chairman, Central New Jersey

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

# Recognizing genocide

On September 25, Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk stated in the U.N. General Assembly: "Ukraine calls upon the United Nations, as the collective voice of the international community to contribute to the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Convention [on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide] by recognizing the Holodomor as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people." He noted that 7 million to 10 million people – about 25 percent of Ukraine's population at that time – died during the Famine-Genocide. Thus, he launched Ukraine's campaign to seek U.N. recognition of the Holodomor as a genocide, hopefully in time for commemorations of the Famine's 75th anniversary. Back in 2003, Ukraine had succeeded in having 25 countries sign a statement that condemned the murderous acts of the Stalin regime, but fell short of characterizing them as a genocide.

It was also in 2003 that Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution declaring the Famine "an act of genocide against the Ukrainian nation." The resolution also stated that "in an independent Ukraine the terrible truth of those years must be publicized by the state, inasmuch as the Famine of 1932-1933 was organized by the Stalin regime and should be publicly condemned by the Ukrainian nation and the international community as one of the largest genocides in history in terms of the number of victims."

Significantly, the Rada's resolution cited the conclusion of the congressionally mandated U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine that the Famine was a genocide against the Ukrainian nation. Though the commission's report, which was released in 1988 put the U.S. government on record as calling the Famine a genocide, a stronger iteration of that position, embodied in Senate Resolution 202, never did pass as it did not make it out of the Foreign Relations Committee. That resolution clearly stated that "the man-made Ukraine Famine of 1932-1933 was an act of genocide as defined by the United Nations Genocide Convention."

Most recently, the Congress passed a bill, signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 13, which authorizes the government of Ukraine to establish in Washington a memorial "to honor the victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933." The Senate committee report on the bill noted that "26 nations, including the United States, have recognized Stalin's 'famine' as an act of genocide."

A day earlier, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko issued a presidential decree on commemorations of the Famine and political repression on a special memorial day scheduled for November 25 of this year. His decree also directed: authorities to allocate land for a memorial to victims of the Famine that is to be erected in Kyiv; the Cabinet to make provisions in the budget for 2007 to fund the memorial and research the Famine (the budget does not now provide for any such funding); and the Foreign Affairs Ministry to be more active in seeking international recognition of the Famine as a genocide, to study the possibility of erecting Famine monuments in other countries, and to organize memorial days at Ukrainian embassies.

Certainly, these are steps in the right direction. However, we strongly feel that the appeal of the World Forum of Ukrainians, issued this past August, which calls for a Holodomor memorial complex (not simply a memorial) to be built in Kyiv is worthy of serious concrete support – not merely fine words – from the Yushchenko administration, the Cabinet of Ministers and the Verkhovna Rada.

If Ukraine does not take the lead in remembering the deaths of millions of its own people and recording for posterity the history surrounding the Holodomor, then we can hardly expect other nations to recognize this genocide and to learn its all-important lessons. President Yushchenko himself said in 2005: "The world must know the truth about all crimes against humanity. Only in this way can we all be sure that indifference will never again encourage evil-doers."

Oct.  
22  
1995

## Turning the pages back...

With the U.S. State Department on October 3 adopting the Ukrainian-based spelling of Ukraine's capital, Kyiv – based on a unanimous vote by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) to change the standard transliteration of the

name of the Ukrainian capital – readers are reminded that it was 11 years ago that The Ukrainian Weekly reported that Ukraine officially agreed on its capital's spelling. Alternate spellings included the Russified "Kiev" and the awkward "Kyyiv."

The Respublika News Agency reported that on October 14, 1995, the Committee on Legal Terminology, headed by Serhiy Holovaty, then minister of justice, voted to adopt the spelling "Kyiv" for all legal and official acts of Ukraine.

The "Resolution of the Ukrainian Committee on Legal Terminology No. 5, Protocol No. 1 of October 14, 1995," explains that the legislation was based on expert analysis by the Ukrainian Language Institute under the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and recognized the need to standardize the recreation of Ukrainian proper names through Roman letters due to Ukraine's integration into the international legal realm.

Furthermore it stated: 1) that the Roman spelling of "Kiev" does not recreate the phonetic and scriptural features of the Ukrainian language geographical name; 2) that the spelling of "Kyiv" is now adopted as the standardized Roman-letter correspondence to the Ukrainian language geographical name; and 3) that the standardized Roman-letter spelling of "Kyiv" shall be mandatory for use in legislative and official acts.

Previously, in 1993, the Ukrainian Mapping Agency, the state cartographic service, had adopted the spelling of "Kyyiv." Likewise, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, the National Geographic Society, The Ukrainian Weekly and atlas makers Rand McNally and Hammond began to use this adopted spelling.

Significantly, this most recent decision by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names will probably bring the spelling "Kyiv" into use by news services like the Associated Press, by the National Geographic Society and other media that use the BGN as the source for their spellings of toponyms.

Source: "Kyiv it is," by Mary Mycio, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, October 22, 1995.

## FOR THE RECORD

# Ukrainian World Congress appeal to Yushchenko regarding the museum at Auschwitz-Birkenau

*Following is the text of an appeal to President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine from the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC). The Ukrainian-language statement was released to the press on October 2 by the UWC; an English translation was published on October 9 by Action Ukraine Report.*

Honorable Mr. President:

One of the places that with great sorrow etched itself in the memory of all of mankind is the largest of Hitler's concentration camps Auschwitz-Birkenau, where, according to unofficial data, from 1.5 million to 4 million representatives of nearly all countries of Europe were subjected to utter destruction. Every day hundreds of people of various nationalities, including youth, head to this place to learn the truth about this horrific crime against humanity and honor the innocent fallen prisoners.

As is well-known, during the post-war years a state museum "Auschwitz-Birkenau" was created on the territory of the former concentration camp that became a symbol of terrible suffering and death. In our day, the former prison barracks have been converted into museum expositions on the nationalities of various states (each of the nationalities is given one floor of a two-story barrack). Here you can see documentation including enlarged photographs and informative sketches about the fate of the sons and daughters of various nations who dwelled in the German mills of death. Today the Jews, Poles, Czechs, Slovaks, Hungarians, French, Dutch, Austrians, Yugoslavs and Roma have such expositions, and the opening of Italian and Belgian expositions is planned. One of the barracks presently under reconstruction is designated for the Soviet prisoners.

Because of the "non-governmental status" of Ukraine until recently, an exposition about the imprisoned Ukrainians, the number of which is fairly substantial, was not created at Auchwitz. Among them [the imprisoned Ukrainians] was a large number of imprisoned Soviet servicemen, over 300 members of the OUN (Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists) that were arrested after the June 30, 1941, declaration of the restoration of Ukrainian statehood, and hundreds of Ukrainians who fell into German hostili-

ty because of resistance to the inhumane actions of the Nazis. We are aware that to this time Ukraine has not appealed to the Auschwitz complex committee for the allotment of space for a Ukrainian exposition, and the [committee] recognizes only the application of individual states.

The Ukrainian World Congress is perturbed about this issue in light of the necessity to organize an exposition and also in conjunction with the fact that most of the barracks have already been given away to other nations for exhibitions. We note that the two-story 14th barrack is precisely the one in which multiple groups of Ukrainian political prisoners stayed (among them were two brothers, Vasyl and Oleksa, of the founder of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, Stepan Bandera). It is currently under reconstruction. The 14th and 17th barracks are closely tied to the fate of a large number of Ukrainians who lived their last days there, suffered inhuman torture and met with a harsh death at the hands of Nazi executioners. We are aware that even your deceased father was imprisoned at Auschwitz. This is why we believe that you personally deeply understand and share our desire to honor the memory of Ukrainian victims of the Auschwitz terror. There is no better opportunity than this for the creation of a Ukrainian exposition on the territory of the largest Nazi concentration camp.

In connection with the above, the Ukrainian World Congress asks you, Honorable Mr. President, to address the administration of the Auschwitz complex with a request to allot one of the floors of the 14th barrack for a Ukrainian exposition. The Ukrainian World Congress and the World League of Ukrainian Political Prisoners, in turn, are prepared to assist in the design of this exposition and in securing the necessary funds for this work.

We ask you also to note that it is imperative to act immediately. In the case of rejection regarding the 14th barrack, you could make inquiry regarding the 8th, 9th, 26th and 28th barracks currently unengaged in exhibits.

With respect,  
In behalf of the  
Ukrainian World Congress:  
**Askold Lozynskyj**, president

## OUR SPECIAL OFFER: \$73 for two subscriptions!

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Famine memorial's conceptual confusion

Dear Editor:

A monument is effective only if it represents a clear conception. Judging from the report on the planned Famine commemorative complex in Kyiv and Morgan Williams' comments (September 17), there is some conceptual confusion about the project. Should it focus on the victims or the perpetrators? Should it be religious or political? Is it a commemoration or a condemnation?

Underlying these uncertainties there is, I think, a deep ambivalence. On the one hand, we want to build a monument that will symbolize the suffering, death and resurrection of the Famine victims of 1932-1933. This calls for a mood of compassion and contemplation. On the other hand, we want to condemn the genocidal policies of the Soviet Communist state. That requires a bold political indictment.

Can a single monument do both? Can we reconcile mourning with outrage? Or does spirituality mute the impulse to political action? And does the triumphant narrative of resurrection blunt the tragedy of death? If we cannot answer these questions, we cannot create a conceptually coherent monument to the Famine.

Yet we can answer these questions. Just as faith and joy in the Resurrection hardly diminish our horror at Christ's torments, so our prayers for the Famine victims need not deter us from condemning the crimes of its perpetrators. Nor should anything hold us back from exposing the nihilistic ideology which, with inexorable logic, led to a policy of annihilation.

But how can we embody such a complex conception in a concrete memorial? As described, the monument will have a binary symbolism, tracing a path downward to death, then upward to renewed life – a universal narrative (and, incidentally, not an exclusively Christian one).

The facilities for the study of the historical Famine – the narrative of death – would belong to the first part. They should include the museum, library, archive, genealogical and research center. The chapel would naturally belong to the second part – the narrative of resurrection.

Of course, many visitors might simply walk through the complex without pausing. There must be some way to convey the message to them. Here, as Mr. Williams suggests, the Holocaust Museum in Washington could provide some guidance. Perhaps engraving the walls with the names of depopulated villages, together with their death tolls, would be a fitting way to touch even the most casual visitor.

But these are matters for the planners and architects to decide. I am confident that Mr. Haidamaka and his associates will do so with feeling and imagination.

Andrew Sorokowski  
Rockville, Md.

### About Ukraine's right to be part of Europe

Dear Editor:

The Ukrainian Weekly on September 3 printed "Europe – my neurosis," the acceptance speech of Ukrainian writer Yurii Andrukhovych for this year's Leipzig Book Prize for European

Understanding, which was delivered on March 15. The book is Mr. Andrukhovych's novel "Twelve Rings," which was published in German translation. It deals with what the title of the Leipzig Book Prize addresses, namely "European Understanding."

After expressing his gratitude to the jury for awarding him the prize, thanking his friends and readers of his book, Mr. Andrukhovych turned his attention and speech to the relevant matter, which was the statement of Guenter Verheugen on February 20 published in the popular German newspaper Die Welt. Mr. Verheugen, who is one of the commissioners of the European Union, and who is described as "superofficial superperson" when asked by a journalist about the future of United Europe stated: "In 20 years all European states will be members of the EU, with the exception of the successor states to the Soviet Union that are not yet part of the EU."

Most of us sympathize with Mr. Andrukhovych and share his neurosis concerning the place of Ukraine among EU nations, especially since the Orange Revolution. Mr. Andrukhovych, when addressing the European Parliament in Strasbourg in December 2004, was appealing for a chance for Ukraine to join the EU and quoted Ivan Franko: "We too are in Europe."

In addition, in his March 15 speech, Mr. Andrukhovych charges the EU for its attitude towards Ukraine, singling it out by disguising it in general terms: "the successor states to the Soviet Union." Mr. Andrukhovych writes: "In the former USSR there is only one country with a European dream" – Ukraine. He also mentions the fact that not a single German intellectual or any other member of Germany's elite questioned the validity of Mr. Verheugen's statement.

It is also ironic that the pronouncement that Ukraine is not eligible to join the EU was made by Mr. Verheugen, a German whose compatriots during World War II on one side and Soviet Communists on the other side were responsible for the death of millions of Ukrainian people and the horrible devastation of their country. One would rather expect a helping hand on the part of Germans to bring Ukraine into the EU as a moral obligation.

Kudos to Mr. Andrukhovych, who represents the finest of the new generation of writers in present-day Ukraine for his impassioned involvement and his defense of the right of Ukraine to be in Europe.

Myroslaw Burbelo, M.D.  
Westerly, R.I.

### We welcome your opinion

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Letters should be typed and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at [staff@ukrweekly.com](mailto:staff@ukrweekly.com). The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.

Please note: THE LENGTH OF LETTERS CANNOT EXCEED 500 WORDS.

## Double Exposure

by Khristina Lew

### Old-fashioned love song

Being Ukrainian is its own sort of calling card. You can visit any city in the world that has a Ukrainian population and find a friendly face. (Ask anyone who was in Germany for this year's World Cup.)

For many of us, finding a Ukrainian spouse or partner is important. (Certainly our mothers find it so.) But my own informal survey has found that eligible Ukrainians are in short supply and that many Ukrainian singles have changed the way they look for one another.

The methods are definitely generational. Ask 20-somethings how they meet single Ukrainians and they'll tell you, "On line." Ask 30-somethings (O.K., 40-somethings) how they meet available Ukrainians and they'll say "I drove up to Toronto for the Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival."

There are many online Ukrainian dating services. In fact, if you Google "Ukrainian dating service" you will get 4,720,000 hits. There are websites that call themselves "marriage agencies," "dating services" and "mail order brides." They will provide you with pictures of your intended or make arrangements for you to travel to Ukraine (this service includes a tour of Kyiv).

There is also something called [stirka.com](http://stirka.com), a site that since its launch in April 2005 has attracted 689 members. "Stirka," or arrow, "is simply another tool in your toolbox" for meeting single Ukrainians, said William Szuch, who designed and maintains the site's content.

Stirka.com is run out of Toronto by Mr. Szuch and sisters Natalia Nemyliwska and Maria Koszarny. The trio feels strongly about creating an open and transparent space for single Ukrainians on the web and has put pictures of themselves and personal data on the site. "We wanted to inspire confidence and trust in [stirka.com](http://stirka.com), so we put ourselves out there," said Mr. Szuch.

Stirka allows you to e-mail, IM or chat with other Ukrainians in the Ukrainian, English, Russian or Polish languages after creating your personal profile and setting preferences for the type of person you'd like to meet. Stirka members are Ukrainian-Polish, Ukrainian-Russian, Ukrainian-Jewish, Ukrainian-Brazilian, Ukrainian-French, Ukrainian-Italian, Ukrainian-Greek, Ukrainian-Portuguese, Ukrainian Mulatto and Ukrainian American. They live in six Canadian provinces, 19 U.S. states, 10 Ukrainian

oblasts and in over a dozen countries.

There's no cost to join [stirka.com](http://stirka.com), but after one month of free messaging fees apply: \$4.99 for one month, \$9.99 for three months or \$19.99 for 12 months. A year and a half after its launch, [stirka.com](http://stirka.com) pays for itself through its subscriptions.

Stirka and other sites like it are certainly busy, but online dating is not for everybody. One Ukrainian single in New York told me that meeting people online was not his thing. "I'm not on Multiply. I'm 38, not 22," he said. He has a more traditional approach – going to "Soyuzivka, Karpaty pub, zabavas, debs."

Another single Ukrainian New Yorker (both asked not to be identified) said that, as you get older, finding a Ukrainian mate becomes more tricky. "Going to Soyuzivka is not what it used to be. There are fewer singles. But it's a role of the dice – you never know when that person who's been hiding in Texas for the past six years will show up."

She said that careers often pull people out of the social calendar and can limit exposure to other Ukrainians, but that events like art exhibits and the "Yalynka" at the Ukrainian Institute of America are good places to meet singles.

She has tried Ukrainian dating online but says it's a bit embarrassing. "There's a kind of stigma to it – as if someone were saying 'What – you can't find anyone so you're going online?'"

Mr. Szuch concedes that people are hesitant to admit to using [stirka.com](http://stirka.com), which is why if you go on the site you won't find any success stories listed there. He too cites the Ukrainian shame factor, but says that he has heard through word of mouth that some half-dozen people have "met up" on Stirka. "I'm not surprised [by the lack of success stories]. You're dealing with people's hearts and emotions – I don't know of a more delicate part of the human condition," he said.

Yet Ukrainians somehow manage to find each other all over the world, and success stories do happen. Look at my friends Lida and Nestor. Both American-born, they met on the maidan in Kyiv during the Orange Revolution of 2004 and just got engaged. Congratulations to them. And, to single New Yorkers: the Yalynka is right around the corner.

### To The Weekly Contributors:

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

- Persons who submit any materials must provide a complete mailing address and daytime phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

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# NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

decide whether to quit the government only after “the talks on the formation of a coalition of national unity are finally concluded.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

## President less optimistic about coalition

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on October 11 said he still hopes that the Our Ukraine bloc will be able to strike a coalition deal with the ruling alliance of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party, Interfax-Ukraine reported. “Breaking up is not an original idea, but the risk that this will happen is very high. Earlier I was an optimist in this issue. Now I’m less optimistic,” Mr. Yushchenko told journalists in Chernihiv. Answering a question about what will happen with Our Ukraine’s four ministers in Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich’s Cabinet if the bloc fails to reach a formal coalition accord, Mr. Yushchenko said the ministers will have

to step down. “There cannot be a place for ministers from Our Ukraine in a government that does not share provisions included in the declaration of national unity,” Mr. Yushchenko added. Regarding the fate of the defense and foreign ministers, who are appointed by the president, Mr. Yushchenko said he will decide on whether to dismiss them depending on “the current political situation.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

## PM to ministers: business as usual

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich on October 17 called on members of the Cabinet of Ministers to work as a team despite the recent switch of the Our Ukraine bloc to the opposition, Interfax-Ukraine reported. “We should remain calm and work as we have worked,” Mr. Yanukovich said at a Cabinet meeting. “I wish us to continue cooperating, and let nothing change in connection with the processes under way in the country. The attitude of ministers to business must be the same as always,”

he added. Our Ukraine has delegated five ministers to the Yanukovich Cabinet. Our Ukraine leader Roman Bezsmertnyi said on October 17 that the bloc is withdrawing its ministers from the government but was unable to predict when they will officially step down. “[The issue] is to be decided in the ongoing dialogue with the president of Ukraine and the parties of our bloc,” he told journalists. (RFE/RL Newsline)

## Tymoshenko Bloc invites Our Ukraine

KYIV – Oleksander Turchynov, deputy head of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) parliamentary caucus, told journalists on October 17 that the YTB expects to coordinate opposition activities with Our Ukraine, Interfax-Ukraine reported. “We hope that the decision of Our Ukraine to join the opposition will not be abandoned tomorrow,” Mr. Turchynov said, adding that the withdrawal of Our Ukraine ministers from Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich’s Cabinet could pave the way for a cooperation agreement

between the YTB and Our Ukraine and the subsequent formation of a shadow Cabinet. (RFE/RL Newsline)

## PRU proposes to restore roundtable

KYIV – Yuriy Miroshnichenko, a lawmaker from the ruling Party of the Regions, said in the Verkhovna Rada on October 17 that his party is proposing to reinstate the roundtable talks that the president conducted with representatives of major political forces in Ukraine in July and August, UNIAN reported. According to Mr. Miroshnichenko, the roundtable should work out a “consensus vision” of the government under the existing circumstances of a parliamentary-presidential political system in Ukraine and put an end to “conflicts in the lobbies” between the president and the prime minister. Mr. Miroshnichenko vowed that the ruling coalition led by the Party of the Regions is ready for cooperation with President Yushchenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

## Traders says wheat exports are blocked

KYIV – Ukrainian grain traders on October 11 accused the government of blocking wheat exports by hastily introducing export licenses and imposing limits on grain export volumes, the Associated Press reported. “The government’s decision effectively blocked Ukrainian export of bread wheat and fodder wheat,” said Volodymyr Klimenko, president of the Ukrainian Grain Association, which groups more than 60 local and international companies. The government introduced a new licensing system in grain trade in late September, arguing that it must first ensure that the country has enough wheat to supply Ukrainians with bread. The Agriculture Ministry forecast wheat yield this year at 14.4 million tons, down from 18.7 million tons in 2005. (RFE/RL Newsline)

## UGCC opens Chaplaincy Department

KYIV – On October 3 the presentation of the Department for the Military Forces, a newly created structure within the Patriarchal Curia of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC), took place in Kyiv. The key objectives of the new unit are to coordinate the pastoral care of Ukraine’s armed forces and the penitentiary system by the UGCC, as well as to establish cooperation between the UGCC and the armed forces regarding the pastoral care of the military and prisoners. At the beginning of the meeting, in which representatives of Ukraine’s Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Defense and those responsible for the chaplaincy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate participated, Bishop Bohdan Dziurakh, auxiliary of the UGCC Archeparchy of Kyiv and Vyshhorod, said that, in keeping with a decision of the UGCC Synod of Bishops, Bishop Mykhail Koltun of Sokal was appointed head of the Department for the Military Forces of the Patriarchal Curia of the UGCC. Bishop Koltun introduced his colleagues, Father Lubomyr Yaworski, appointed assistant for the military chaplaincy, and Deacon Kostiantyn Pantelei, assistant for the prison chaplaincy. The military representatives expressed their ideas on the current situation and the development of pastoral care at the armed forces and the penitentiary system. A suggestion was made to create a coordinating council, which would consist of representatives of military structures and Churches, which would be aimed at helping to solve issues of proper spiritual care of military workers and prisoners according to their denomination. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

# Environmental groups outline how U.S. can help Ukraine

KYIV – In a letter delivered last week to U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William B. Taylor, representatives of 12 leading Ukrainian environmental groups outlined recommendations for how the U.S. government could help mitigate the energy crisis in Ukraine, as well as develop its energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors. The letter was sent as a follow-

## World Bank ranks countries on governance

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The World Bank recently released a report titled: “Governance Matters V: Aggregate and Individual Governance Indicators for 1996-2005” that profiled 213 countries and territories from 1996 to 2005.

Ranking criteria were based on six dimensions of governance:

- voice and accountability – the freedom of a country’s citizens to choose a government, freedom of expression, freedom of association and freedom of the press;
- political stability and absence of violence – perceptions of the likelihood of government destabilization from unconstitutional or violent means;
- government effectiveness – the quality of public and civil services, its level of independence from political pressures, the quality of policy formulation and implementation, and the credibility of the government’s commitment to those policies;
- regulatory quality – the government’s ability to formulate and implement policies that promote development in the private sector;
- rule of law – the extent that agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, the quality of enforcement, the police, the judiciary, and the likelihood of crime and violence; and
- control of corruption – the level of public power used for private gain, both in petty and grand forms, as well as “capture” of the state by elites and private interests.

In comparison with other former Soviet republics 1996, Ukraine was significantly ahead of others in all areas, including Russia, which ranked 151st overall out of 208 countries, as reported by The Moscow Times. Based on an average of the rankings in each category, Ukraine ranked approximately 129th out of the 208 countries.

The report further showed Ukraine was ranked higher than Russia in all areas of governance. In particular, Ukraine was significantly better in the areas of political stability, rule of law, and voice and accountability.

According to a comparative graph by year (in which countries’ ratings were given as percentiles reflecting their performance) major areas of improvement have been in the areas of government effectiveness from the 18th percentile to the 40th, as Ukraine ranked with the Niue Island [in free association with New Zealand] and Sri Lanka; and in regulatory quality from the 24th percentile to the 47th, where Ukraine was listed with Guatemala and Gabon. In areas of the rule of law, Ukraine improved from 21st percentile to 34th and compared with Zambia and Moldova. Control of corruption improved from a low at the 10th percentile to a high of 34th, comparable to Yemen and Nicaragua.

The report further detailed that Ukraine hit its peak of political stability in 2002 at the 41st percentile and has continued to decline to the 32nd, and is currently compared to Morocco and Guyana.

The World Bank’s report was released on September 15.

up to a meeting the groups had with the Ambassador on September 11.

Among the groups’ proposals were the following:

- The U.S. Embassy in Ukraine should urge the U.S. Agency for International Development to give much higher priority to funding energy efficiency projects.
- Many of the educational and technical materials on energy efficiency produced by the U.S. government should be translated into Ukrainian so they could be replicated and used in Ukraine.
- Members of the Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Caucuses in the U.S. Congress, who also have an interest in Ukraine, should be encouraged and helped to meet with their counterparts in the Verkhovna Rada; the specific focus of the ensuing dialogue would be strategies for developing and implementing effective energy policy legislation based on the best of American experience.
- The U.S. government should encourage its Department of Commerce to give

greater emphasis to reaching out to American firms working on energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and encourage them to invest in Ukraine and/or partner with Ukrainian firms in these fields.

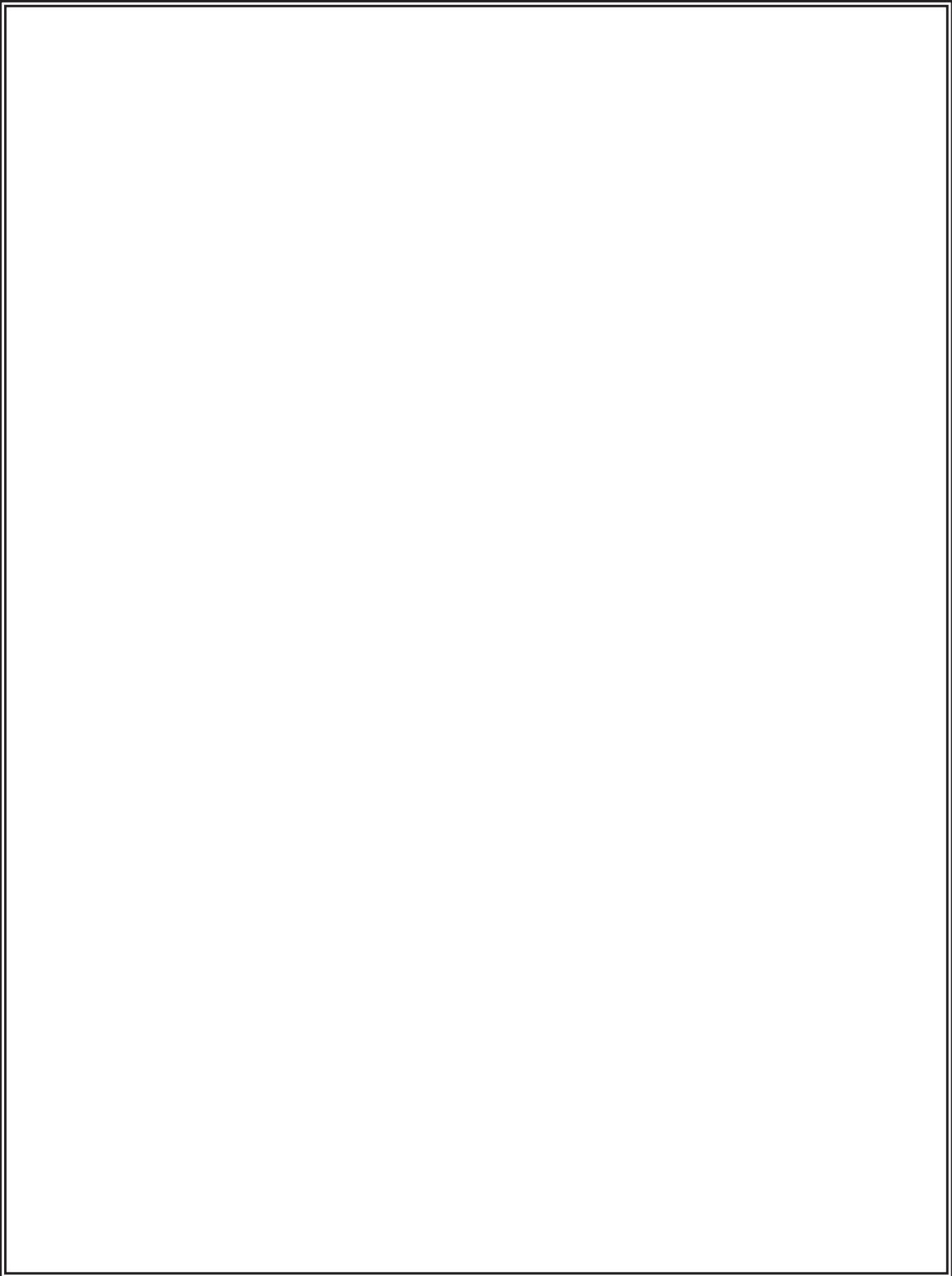
- U.S. exchange programs, such as the FSA-FLEX, Muskie and Fulbright programs, should give higher priority to recruiting and placing Ukrainian students, teachers and scholars interested in energy and related environmental issues at U.S. educational institutions.
- The U.S. Embassy in Ukraine should facilitate having U.S. officials who work on U.S. government energy efficiency programs, such as the Energy Star program, the Federal Energy Management Program, the federal Weatherization Program, the government energy efficiency procurement program and the federal energy efficiency research and development program, come to Ukraine to provide training for Ukrainian officials (or, alternatively, to have Ukrainian officials come to the U.S. to meet with their

American counterparts).

The groups noted in their letter to Ambassador Taylor that they hoped that the September 11 meeting would “lay the foundation for an ongoing dialogue with you and members of the U.S. Embassy on not only energy issues but also a range of other environmental concerns that might be more effectively addressed through Ukraine-U.S. cooperation.”

\* \* \*

The Ukrainian American Environmental Association is a private, non-governmental organization founded in 2004 and chartered in both the United States and Ukraine. It is a network of more than 750 Ukrainian and American NGOs, academic researchers, businesses and government officials to facilitate the exchange of information on a broad array of environmental issues including, but not limited to, energy policy, climate change, air and water pollution, toxic wastes, soil conservation, sustainable agriculture, and wildlife and wilderness protection.



# U.S.-Ukraine Foundation launches webcasts

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation launched its first webcast as part of a series of events to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the foundation. These webcasts allow individuals interested in U.S.-Ukraine relations to “virtually attend” presentations and even ask questions of the speakers from the convenience of their computer.

Commenting on this new capability, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Vice-President John Kun said: “The mission of this organization is to promote democratic institutions in Ukraine and one of the ways that we achieve this is by distributing information. Our new webcasting feature helps us achieve this goal. I should note that this would not be possible without the donors and supporters of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. Their contributions make this webcast possible, and I personally want to thank them on behalf of the Foundation.”

To date, three webcasts have been aired: Natalie Jaresko’s presentation at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation on “Investment

Prospects in Ukraine,” Ambassador Steven Pifer’s talk on the “Current Developments in Ukraine”; and the plenary sessions of the U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue. Numerous viewers from throughout the United States, Canada, and Ukraine logged on to [www.usukraine.org](http://www.usukraine.org) to watch and interact with the speakers.

The managing partner of Horizon Capital, and with over 16 years of experience in Ukraine and the Newly Independent States, Ms. Jaresko gave a presentation on the “Investment Prospects in Ukraine.” Among other topics of discussion, Ms. Jaresko focused on the transformation of the banking system and foreign direct investment in Ukraine.

“From 1992 to today the country has changed dramatically ... the changes are permanent. I find with each and every day that this is a more friendly environment for foreign investment. Over time, Ukraine will become known for a variety of its characteristics: natural and agricultural resources, extraordinarily talented and well educated population – which is

the base for any business. No business can be successful without a talented team, and a very strategic location which makes it an excellent place to base a business when you want to deal with both east, west, north and south,” explained Ms. Jaresko.

Recently returned from a trip to Ukraine, Ambassador Pifer spoke about the “Current Developments in Ukraine” by focusing on the Yushchenko-Yanukovich “cohabitation;” judicial and economic reforms; the need to adopt energy efficiency measures; and Ukraine’s foreign policy orientation.

The policy dialogue webcasts zoomed in on the opening and closing plenary remarks of prominent Ukrainian and American policy-makers who were in Washington, as part of the third working session of the U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue.

To view archived webcasts of the above-mentioned events, or to sign up for future webcasts, readers can visit [www.usukraine.org](http://www.usukraine.org).

# Memorial events...

(Continued from page 1)

said, speaking to a gathering of some 200 of her friends, colleagues and admirers who came to honor her memory.

“To stand for something transcendental, to stand for something utterly good amidst silence, indifference, hostility, cowardice, opportunism — that is heroism,” he said. “That is very special heroism.”

Dr. Brzezinski chastised America for demonstrating a “moral indifference” to what has been happening in Chechnya and, thereby, being complicit to its tragedy. He pointed out that since 1995 neither President Bill Clinton nor President George W. Bush has “explicitly condemned the crimes committed in Chechnya. Instead, he said, the United States has “increasingly fuzzed over the Chechen issue with the war on terror, making it easier for Mr. Putin to say what he’s been saying and worse, to do what he has been doing.”

Also honoring Ms. Politkovskaya at the memorial was U.S. Undersecretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky, who called her “one of the bravest and most respected investigative journalists in Russia.”

“She embodied fully the role of the journalist in a free society: to bring the truth, especially about difficult issues, to the citizens of her country,” Dr. Dobriansky said.

She noted that Ms. Politkovskaya was not the first or only Russian journalist to be killed in “contract-style murders” in Russia. Twelve others preceded her, which has had a “chilling effect” on media freedom in Russia, she said.

“For the sake of Russia and freedom in Russia, I hope that Anna Politkovskaya’s death – and the memory of all that she achieved in her short but extremely accomplished life will not have been in vain,” Dr. Dobriansky underscored.

A few days after Ms. Politkovskaya was gunned down in her Moscow apartment building, the newspaper for which she worked, Novaya Gazeta, published portions of the next report she was working on. It included excerpts from a letter written by a Beslan Gadayev, a Chechen nationalist detained in August in Crimea and handed over to Russia, which turned him over to the pro-Russian regime in Grozny, where he was tortured.

Mariana Katzarova, who had worked with Ms. Politkovskaya in investigating incidents of torture in Chechnya, mentioned the Gadayev torture letter in her remarks. She also noted that her killers helped achieve one of Anna Politkovskaya’s goals.

“Chechnya is back in the news around the world these days. It took the killing of Anna to break the silence over Chechnya,” she said. “But how long will that last?”

Also speaking at the memorial were NED President Carl Gershman, Don Jensen of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Andrei Piontkovsky and David Satter of the Hudson Institute, Susan Glasser of the Washington Post, former world chess champion Garry Kasparov and Ilyas Akhmadov, the former foreign minister of Chechnya.

The memorial program included the showing of a video interview with Ms. Politkovskaya taken a few months earlier. It will be part of a PBS documentary, “Democracy on Deadline,” about journalists working in dangerous places around the world. It is scheduled to air on the “Independent Lens” program on November 21.

The evening candlelight vigil, which brought together more than 100 people in front of the Russian Embassy’s main gate, was organized by the International Center for Journalists, Amnesty International and other groups.

Ms. Politkovskaya was born in 1958 in New York to a family of Soviet Ukrainian diplomats at the republic’s mission to the United Nations.

# Rep. Curt Weldon honored at Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center

by Andrea Porytko-Zharovsky

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – U.S. Rep. Curt Weldon (R-Pa.), a long-time advocate of Ukraine and a friend of the Ukrainian American community, was honored at a reception on Saturday, October 7, here in the main hall of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center.

Representing the 7th Congressional District in Pennsylvania and currently serving his 10th term, Congressman Weldon has been a leader on committees ranging from national security to the environment, in addition to serving as co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, vice-chair of the House Armed Services Committee, and vice-chair of the House Homeland Security Committee.

As co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Rep. Weldon is the voice of Ukraine in Congress and has personally worked on improving relations between the United States and Ukraine, successfully restoring the presence of pro-democracy organizations in Ukraine such as the International Republican Institute and the National Democratic Institute, developing a working relationship between the members of the U.S. Congress and the Verkhovna Rada in the Rada Exchange Program, and recognizing the 1932-1933 Genocide in Ukraine. Rep. Weldon was recently instrumental in the passage of legislation to graduate Ukraine from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

A candidate in the U.S. general election on November 7, Rep. Weldon spoke at the reception enthusiastically about the

issues that have united him with the Ukrainian diaspora and how he got involved with the Ukrainian American community. He voiced his regrets that he did not spend enough time on Ukraine's development in the early 1990s and mid 1990s, and stated that the American response to the Orange Revolution was not quick enough. "Unfortunately, we did not take those steps. We did not act quickly enough on Jackson-Vanik. We should have given Yushchenko Jackson-Vanik on his first visit to America," he said.

Rep. Weldon said he believes that the Ukrainian diaspora is a critical component in allowing Ukraine to unleash its potential and its power, and pledged when re-elected that he will continue to work and push issues dear to the Ukrainian diaspora.

"The Ukrainian-American relationship is one of the most important strategic relationships in the world. We must stay the course, as Ukraine changes its leaders, we must not waiver from our support to the Ukrainian people. There is no nation with the potential in the world that Ukraine has – the breadbasket of the world," he said.

Friends of Congressman Curt Weldon, with the participation of the Heritage Action Council, formed to involve Ukrainian Americans in the American



Rep. Curt Weldon is greeted by constituents during a reception at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pa.

political process, raised over \$10,000, in a two-week period, from sponsors in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia and Delaware. This was a true bipartisan effort with recent U.S. citizens originally from Ukraine actively participating, in support of a friend to Ukraine

and a friend to the Ukrainian American community, who has a record of introducing legislation and policy beneficial to Ukrainian Americans and Ukraine.

The evening concluded with a musical interlude by Kalynonka, a bandura duet of Halyna Bodnar and Lada Pastushak.

## Wrzesnewskyj condemns cuts at Kyiv Embassy

OTTAWA – Liberal M.P. Borys Wrzesnewskyj on October 5 condemned Conservative cuts to the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv. Since July of this year, the Conservative government of Stephen Harper has cut three positions at the immigration section of Canada's Embassy in Kyiv, Mr. Wrzesnewskyj pointed out.

"This summer I was receiving increasing numbers of calls and e-mails from frustrated constituents and Canadians across the country who were unable to get their relatives and friends to come to Canada for family visits, weddings, christenings and, regrettably, even funerals," the member of Parliament said. "It turns out that this is a consequence of aggressive cuts to the staff at Canada's Embassy in Ukraine by Stephen Harper's Conservative government. In July and September 2006, three positions, or 30 percent of the immigration section in Kyiv have been eliminated, leaving a skeletal staff of seven.

"With tens of thousands of family ties between our two countries this creates unnecessary aggravations. At a time when Portugal has accepted over 250,000 hard-working immigrants from Ukraine, the cutting of three immigration officers further demonstrates Immigration Minister Solberg's attitude when it comes to potential immigration from Ukraine," stated Wrzesnewskyj.

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4:00 p.m. – Dedication and Grand Opening  
5:00 p.m. – Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)  
6:00 p.m. – Banquet  
8:30 p.m. – Grand Ball

and to the

## BLESSING OF THE NEW TEMPORARY SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

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9:00 a.m. – Final Service at the old Church  
9:30 a.m. – Procession to the new Church  
10:00 a.m. – Blessing of the new temporary Church  
10:30 a.m. – Pontifical Divine Liturgy  
12:30 p.m. – Banquet

Tickets for Saturday only – \$100; Tickets for Sunday only – \$50;  
Tickets for both events – \$125; Students – \$50  
For information and reservations, please phone 973-887-3616.

*This ad was paid for by The Ukrainian National Association.*

# Moving to Ukraine: a personal narrative of a dream fulfilled

by Bohdan Hodiak

## Part I

Returning to Ukraine has been the dream of many immigrants, but very few have actually done it. We did, and I hope some of our impressions and experiences will be of interest to others – especially the many baby boomers who will soon be retiring and wondering what to do next.

We had many reasons for moving to Ukraine. My wife was raised and educated there and missed Ukraine. After I retired, I became increasingly annoyed at the high cost of living in the Washington, D.C., area. Both of us wanted, also, to do our little bit toward the renaissance of Ukraine.



An elderly villager sells horseradish and homemade “khrin” on a street in Kyiv

In the past 15 years I had made several trips to Ukraine and this time I was impressed with the efficiency at Boryspil International Airport. Our luggage arrived quickly; we were processed efficiently. One of our suitcases was

*Bohdan Hodiak was born in Slovakia and arrived in the United States with his parents when he was a pre-teen. He attended Stuyvesant High School in New York City and the City College of New York. For most of his professional life Mr. Hodiak was a reporter and an editor at The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in Pennsylvania. He also worked for the Associated Press; was the editor-in-chief of two weeklies in Miami and was senior editor at a boating magazine in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.*

missing, but a clerk took down all the information and the next day the suitcase was delivered to our residence.

In fact, during our first few weeks in Kyiv we saw that store clerks had actually been taught that their job is to serve customers, and bureaucrats taught that their job is to serve citizens. That was quite a change from a dozen years ago.

The first thing I wanted to do was to walk and ride all over Kyiv, to soak in the city and its people. I noticed that my reaction this time was quite different from my visits as a tourist. I was now a resident – someone who had burned his bridges and would most likely spend the rest of his life here. A tourist is more accepting; a resident is more possessive.

I was eager to see something Ukrainian in the people. I wanted to feel I was in Ukraine, not just any country. I wanted to see this away from the well-trod tourist circuit.

To my disappointment, this eluded me. I was being painfully weaned from my “diasporan” fantasies.

Now I realized that my wish was a little naïve. I had barely dipped my toe in Ukraine. Certainly I wasn’t asking that people walk around in embroidered shirts or play the bandura on the street. My mind understood that, but my heart did not.

I did not grow up in Ukraine, and my parents came to America when I was 9. So, to me, Ukraine was a land of myths and dreams, of stories and songs. In the land of my forefathers, I wanted to see something Ukrainian. I wanted to connect with my myths.

It would have helped if I was surrounded by the Ukrainian language but I heard mostly Russian. It would have helped if my little part of Kyiv was more a “normal European city” as many Kyivans fervently hope it will become. As I walked through the shopping area near the Darnytsia metro stop – scores of little stalls selling things to eat, for the home and the kitchen, to wear and to enjoy – I was reminded of a poor Mexican village.

But that was deceiving because 50 meters away was City.Com, an electronics store that had the latest cell-phones, digital cameras and computer equipment, and near that a dozen shops that sold everything a child might need or want, including loads of toys. Nearby was a busy McDonald’s restaurant and not far from that was a large supermarket that was as good as the better supermarkets in the states. It had food items from all over Europe and, to my wife’s delight, tofu and soy milk.

So someone visiting Kyiv for the first time since independence will be in shock. A dozen years ago I was unable to buy a light bulb or a shirt, but today you can buy almost everything.

The sad thing about all this bounty is that so many Ukrainians can’t participate in it.

Throughout Kyiv you can find forlorn old ladies, hunched over with age, often holding out a paper cup and begging on the street. Just as sad are the old ladies who come to the city with a few meager vegetables or flowers to sell from their gardens and stand on the street waiting for customers. Their retirement pay is generally a couple of dollars a day. The mother of a friend of ours was a teacher all her life; now, in her old age, she gets a pension of \$18 a week.

I still remember one of these ladies to whom I gave 2 hryvnia – about 40 cents. She blessed me and thanked me

so warmly as I was walking away that I went back and gave her 5 hryvnia more. Readers of The Weekly know of the tens of thousands of orphans and runaway and abandoned children in Ukraine. This also is today’s Ukraine.

My wife had made an exploratory trip to Ukraine two months before we moved, and her priority was to find a good school for our 10-year-old son and scout out pos-



A condominium under construction in Kyiv. The sign advertises jobs paying up to \$400 per month.

sible rental apartments.

Since independence, more than a score of private schools have sprung up in Kyiv and this one, called Harmonia, seemed to have the best of old and modern teaching. It respected the children, respected the humanities (not just the “hard” subjects), taught most courses in Ukrainian, and had class sizes of about 17. Teachers were not restricted to set time periods. There were no bells in the school. If a class in a particular subject was going well and the children were excited, it could be prolonged. If it was going poorly, or everything had been covered, the class could be cut short. They even taught aikido in the school, my favorite martial art. We don’t know yet if the school is as good as advertised, but we are hoping for the best.

After our son was accepted at the school we decided to look for an apartment near it. This restricted our options a lot, but it was also a benefit because rentals are highest in the center of Kyiv. It is now a seller’s market in Kyiv, with more demand for decent apartments than supply.

The agencies that aim their advertising at foreigners seem to think that rentals for two-bedroom apartments in Kyiv begin at \$2,500 a month. What you get is a “Euro-remont” apartment, meaning the owners redid the rooms, the toilet, bathroom and kitchen and then tripled the rent. I can’t imagine an average Westerner, who plans to stay for years, willing to pay such prices. But the alternatives can be grim.

The problem is that most, though not all, of the apartment complexes in Kyiv have no maintenance. It was like that 20 years ago, and it is like that today. So you will walk by apartment buildings that have loads of green space, grassy fields, a lot of trees and shrubbery (it could be very pleasant), but the fields will have discarded bottles and litter, the grass will be uncut, the shrubbery untouched. The apartment entrances are generally crumbling, and filthy and dark. The elevators look 1930-ish and the hallways stink. As I was told, the residents consider everything outside their apartments as having nothing to do with them. You would think that 70 years of communism would have created some communal ethic, some “we’re all in this together” kind of feeling. But it did just the opposite. So, when you go apartment hunting to the more reasonably priced places, you feel like an archeologist entering ruined and abandoned territory. Yet, with care and love and community effort, these could be decent places to live. Currently there are many condominium buildings under construction in Kyiv, and I think the residents here will demand maintenance.

Two of the apartments we went to turned our stom-



Two students in front of a modern wall sculpture in a recently constructed school in Kyiv.

Lada Bondarenko

(Continued on page 20)

## Museum conference focuses on Ukrainian folk life and "culture keepers"

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – Who devotes more attention to the preservation of Ukrainian folk art, folklore and folk life? Ukrainians in the old country or Ukrainians in the diaspora?

The answer's easy, you say – Ukrainians in Ukraine. Their ancestors began age-old rituals and customs, the decorating of colorful Easter eggs, the welcoming of honored guests with bread and salt on an embroidered ritual cloth, the summer festival of Ivan Kupalo, etc.

That answer will not earn an A – or even a B – from Ukrainian folklore expert Natalie Kononenko. Speaking at a daylong conference at The Ukrainian Museum last month, she said that both groups have tradition keepers – she prefers to call them "culture keepers" – who lead the way in preserving traditions and rituals for the collective whole.

Once considered to be a group product, where everyone knew songs, rituals, embroidery patterns and pysanka designs, folklore is now understood to be a phenomenon where by a group enjoys and appreciates the folklore but not everyone is equally adept at its production. In this setting, says Prof. Kononenko, traditions are carried on by special, active individuals – tradition bearers, or culture keepers – who produce for others.

Prof. Kononenko, professor and Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, was the keynote speaker at the museum's "Ukrainian Living Heritage" conference, held in conjunction with a yearlong exhibit featuring symbolic motifs in Ukrainian folk art.

During the day, participants were given the opportunity to try their hand at Ukrainian folk crafts, from the making of ritual bread ornaments to pysanka decorating and weaving. They also had a chance to view the folk art exhibit, as well as an exhibit of woodcuts and paintings by distinguished artist Jacques Hnizdovsky.

Prof. Kononenko believes the term "culture keepers" is especially appropriate for the Ukrainian situation. When Ukrainian culture is under assault – be it from a system that seeks to annihilate it, like Soviet rule, or pressure from living as a minority within a very powerful dominant mass culture, as is true of America – there are always individuals who are determined to preserve their culture, she said.

This category might include an embroidery master whose work other

people will copy or a person at a traditional wedding who knows what to do next and how to do it. "Certain people are more zealous about a tradition; they maintain knowledge and are sought out for their knowledge, and receive honors and other rewards for what they do," Prof. Kononenko explained.

In Ukraine, Oksana Fedorivna Kryvorih (known to other villagers as Baba Sianka) is a culture bearer who "maintained a lovely home and garden, executed exquisite embroidery, was a wonderful singer and a great teller of folk tales and legends."

Prof. Kononenko called attention to several other examples in her slides-and-commentary presentation, among them Motria Perepechai, an expert embroiderer and song preservationist, and school-teacher Mykhailo Koval, who started and ran a school choir and later a village choir, played bandura and accordion, made straw hats, embroidered, and revived the art of woven belts and other types of weaving.

"Pretty well everywhere you go (in Ukraine), people know who the culture keepers are and will assemble them for the folklorist," she said. Prof. Kononenko has traveled to Ukraine several times to research Ukrainian folklore.

She noted that rituals, in particular, require the help of culture keepers, since "not everyone knows instinctively what to do and how to do it." At weddings, culture keepers guide the proceedings, prepare the "korovai," (traditional wedding bread) negotiate at the door of the bride's home and perform other functions. The role of culture keepers is especially clear at funerals and baptisms. At a funeral, for instance, they perform an important role of speaking on behalf of the deceased, and sing psalms while individuals sing the lament.

Prof. Kononenko said that culture keepers resisted Russification and extreme Soviet guidelines (which outlined specific ways to do things, including how to fold a wedding invitation) by preserving traditional customs. They held secret baptisms and shifted the age of baptism, used hidden crosses, kept icons in their homes and maintained the "klub" (village social club) so that young people had a safe place to socialize.

### Facing many challenges

While the advent of Ukrainian independence brought a tremendous religious revival, with rebuilding of churches, singing and other religious activities, and the return of folk activities like pysanka-decorating, embroidery and Ivan Kupalo



Anna Revchoun

Seated at her loom, Vira Nakonechna points out the intricacies of weaving to an interested observer.

festivities, folklore in Ukraine is faced with many challenges: the maintenance or restoration of culture in the special post-Soviet situation, the threat of increasing globalization and the incursion of global pop culture. "We can find a Barbie Doll clone in every village now," said Prof. Kononenko.

The preservation of culture in the diaspora, specifically the Ukrainian diaspora in North America, has also been faced with challenges, particularly that of assimilation. While the first generation, the immigrants, continued old ways, the second generation rejected traditions in its desire to assimilate. Language was lost, people changed names and intermarried with people from other ethnic groups or the dominant culture. However, the second generation, Prof. Kononenko stressed, managed to found museums and collect materials from the old country, as well as new items produced by Ukrainians in North America.

Prof. Kononenko said that interest in ethnic heritage was rekindled by the third generation, which led the process of revival, and has continued through subsequent generations, often due to the efforts of culture keepers. With a new outlook, the third generation adapted to the lack of Ukrainian language skills, employing new technologies and appeals to those outside the Ukrainian community in order to present a positive image of Ukrainians to the dominant culture.

Traditions that can be understood by everyone – folk dancing, pysanka decorating and embroidery, the use of the korovai and rushnyk in wedding celebrations – are used to appeal to Ukrainians who do not know the language and to non-Ukrainians.

Prof. Kononenko pointed out that various ways are used in the diaspora to reach out beyond the Ukrainian community – staging public events, utilizing

high-tech methods such as the craft lathe, using pysanka stands and electric needles (for pysanka decorating), sanctioning such new cultural expressions as the blessing of Easter baskets inside the church rather than on the church lawn, and offering instruction and literature on Ukrainian crafts.

She noted that Chester Kuc, whose collection of Easter eggs was recently exhibited at the Alberta Provincial Museum, is one of many Canadian culture keepers. Instrumental in founding the Shumka dance group (later the Cheremosh dance group) in Edmonton, Mr. Kuc also embroiders and collects embroidery designs, which he charts and sells.

A break in tradition usually causes radical changes and initiates new needs, as seen in ritual cloths (rushnyky) used in weddings in Ukraine, Prof. Kononenko noted. Women in Ukraine now use DMC thread to produce bright, geometric designs on rushnyky that contrast dramatically with traditional towels.

Another innovation is "text" ritual cloths that employ words to duplicate the meaning of ornamental motifs for anyone who cannot "read" motifs and needs words to be able to understand. Analogous to the books of symbols and patterns produced in North America, text rushnyky are a folk way to provide information, in the same way that books of pysanka and embroidery symbols and motifs, produced by the elite in Ukraine, serve urban dwellers.

While text rushnyky and other new customs may not be welcome to diaspora Ukrainians, who want to preserve traditional folk ways for succeeding generations, "we can't change what's happening over there," Prof. Kononenko asserted.

Conference organizer Lubow



Larysa Zielyk (right) forms tiny dough birds and pine cones (symbol of fertility) for a ritual wedding bread, or "korovai."

(Continued on page 14)

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## Two Viktors...

(Continued from page 2)

the Our Ukraine bloc to enter a government run by Prime Minister Yanukovich's Party of the Regions jointly with the Socialist and Communist parties.

Even more significantly, Mr. Yushchenko succeeded in convincing all major political parties – except for the Communists – to sign the so-called Universal of National Unity on basic foreign and domestic policies. With that, the signatories pledged to continue Ukraine's course toward integration with NATO and the European Union.

This solution, however, proved to be short-lived.

Last month in Brussels, much to Mr. Yushchenko's surprise and chagrin, Mr. Yanukovich announced that Ukraine was not ready to join NATO's Membership Action Plan because of low public support for NATO entry.

Mr. Yushchenko condemned this announcement as "wrong" and being at variance with national interests.

And on October 4, following a failed round of talks on a new coalition agreement, Our Ukraine leader Roman Bezsmertnyi announced the bloc was switching to the opposition and asking its ministers to quit the Yanukovich Cabinet or to renounce their party affiliations if they want to stay.

"Today the negotiating process was concluded," he said. "I don't know whether it is a happy or unhappy piece of news, but – thank God – all participants in this dialogue have made a decision. There is a government coalition, and there is Our Ukraine, which is in opposition to the government coalition."

Our Ukraine has four ministers in the current Cabinet: Justice Minister Roman Zvarych, Family, Youth and Sports Minister Yurii Pavlenko, Culture Minister Ihor Likhovi, and Health Minister Yurii Poliachenko. If they resign, President Yushchenko will lose further control of a government that has already started to oppose his policies.

And there may be even more unpleasant developments in store for the president.

Apart from the Our Ukraine ministers, two other Yushchenko men are in the Yanukovich Cabinet – Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk and Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko. The president is legally required to appoint both those posts.

But with Our Ukraine bloc members joining the opposition – including the People's Rukh of Ukraine, which is headed by Mr. Tarasyuk – it stands to reason that Mr. Tarasyuk may quit the Cabinet.

## Museum conference...

(Continued from page 13)

Wolynetz, the museum's curator of folk art, introduced participating folk artists Larysa Zielyk (ritual baking) and Sofiyya Zielyk (pysanka artist, ceramicist), both of New York, and Philadelphia area residents Evdokia Sorokhaniuk (weaver, embroiderer), Olha Kolodij (collector, instructor and specialist in gerdany – seeded bead necklaces), Vira Nakonechna (weaver, embroiderer), and Marichka Panczak (embroiderer, folk costume specialist).

In concluding remarks, Ms. Wolynetz pointed out that, just as there are special individuals in society who assume the role and burden of culture keepers, an institution such as a museum is a culture keeper in a wider sense – it not only collects and preserves culture in the form of cultural artifacts but also exhibits and interprets, sparks interest, teaches something new and deepens knowledge of something known.

That would be a major loss for President Yushchenko; Mr. Tarasyuk is a staunch promoter of Ukraine's integration with Europe.

Mr. Hrytsenko, who has no formal party affiliation, is likely to retain his job.

Our Ukraine's failure to strike a deal on a grand coalition could potentially turn into a serious setback for President Yushchenko's policy of rapprochement with the West.

But Prime Minister Yanukovich also has reason to be concerned. His Cabinet is critically dependent on the parliamentary support of Marxist-oriented Socialists and Communists. They may ultimately force the prime minister to make his agenda "more leftist," abandon his liberal economic course and slow down pro-market transformations in the country – policies that Our Ukraine, by contrast, might be likely to support.

That is perhaps why Mr. Yanukovich tried to play down the failure of the grand coalition talks and suggested that not everything had been lost in this regard.

"I'm sure that we have not yet completed this process" of building a broader coalition, Mr. Yanukovich said on October 5. "President Yushchenko, with whom we reached agreements, remains and will continue to be Our Ukraine's leader, and the de facto representatives of Our Ukraine in the government are working in accordance with our agreements."

The same day, in a press release, Mr. Yushchenko met Mr. Yanukovich halfway, emphasizing his belief that participants in the grand coalition talks "still have a chance of reaching agreement on key issues."

It seems, therefore, that despite their evident rivalry, Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich will be forced to cooperate with each other in the future, regardless of what happens with the current ministers from Our Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko possesses the power of veto over legislation, while the Yanukovich-led coalition falls 60 votes short of the 300 votes required to override it.

On the other hand, Mr. Yushchenko cannot take any meaningful steps toward bringing Ukraine closer to the EU and NATO without the consent of Mr. Yanukovich's Party of the Regions.

For purely practical reasons, such a situation should push both politicians toward forging a modus vivendi based on political compromise. Otherwise, Ukraine will be left with two sets of policies and two separate centers of authority – one applauded in the west of Ukraine, the other in the east.

Early in the day, Olha Hnateyko, president of The Ukrainian Museum's board of trustees, welcomed participants, and Museum Director Maria Shust spoke to the gathering. In presenting the conference, Ms. Shust said, the museum paid tribute to "all those who have been the keepers and preservers of Ukrainian culture for thousands of years; in preserving our culture, they have also preserved the Ukrainian identity as a nation that has its own rich heritage."

Ms. Shust said the museum was grateful to generations of members of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, who purchased the first folk art collection and eventually founded the museum, and to individual donors "who have entrusted cherished artifacts to the museum's care."

She said the conference was funded in part through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal grant-making agency dedicated to helping libraries and museums serve their communities.

## Deciphering...

(Continued from page 2)

Georgia and Azerbaijan – is already about \$200 [per 1,000 cubic meters]. In October, we will see what price Ukraine will have to pay. We expect, and we have reasons for this, that the price will be about \$130.”

Meanwhile, the 2007 draft budget prepared by the Yanukovich government factored in the new price for gas to be \$135 and allocated ample funding to account for increased gas expenses, while also lowering the gas price for the public.

The new arrangement apparently caught the Ukrainian government off guard. As late as September 22, Mr. Boiko told the media that beginning in January 2007 through the end of 2009, Ukraine will buy an annual total of 62 bcm of gas from Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and “partially from Russia.” Again, Mr. Boiko said that amount would be “fully sufficient to meet Ukraine’s gas needs.”

Five days later, Gazprom CEO Miller and Mr. Boiko announced that Ukraine would only be buying 55 bcm of gas per year beginning in 2007 through 2009 – again saying that despite the 18 bcm difference compared to 2006, the gas would “fully meet Ukraine’s needs.”

It is difficult to account for the vast

discrepancy in the volume of gas purchased by Ukraine in 2006 and the new amount for 2007. The oft-cited decrease of around 18 bcm would be enough gas to meet the demands of a medium-size country. Has Ukraine’s consumption of gas declined so drastically in one year?

Ukraine currently ranks sixth in the world in terms of gas usage – burning more gas than Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia combined. It produces approximately 20 bcm of its own gas and in 2005 sold 5 bcm abroad. Thus, it is feasible that imports of 55 or 57.5 bcm might be sufficient to meet Ukraine’s needs in 2007, although that would also mark the end of profitable sales of gas abroad.

In the weeks preceding the Ukrainian-Russian negotiations, numerous Russian officials – among them Anatoliy Chubais, the head of Unified Energy Systems, the electricity-generating monopoly; Andrey Kiriienko, the head of the Atomic Energy Agency; and German Gref, the economic development and trade minister – all warned that Russian gas production will not be able to keep up with domestic demand by 2007.

This means that the fall in Ukrainian gas imports is likely not by preference – but can rather be directly traced to Russia’s own rapidly rising domestic demand.



Ділимося сумною вісткою з родиною, приятелями і знайомими, що 10 вересня 2006 р. упокоїлася в Бозі на 97-му році життя, наша дорога МАМА, БАБУНЯ, ПРАБАБУНЯ, СЕСТРА і ТІТКА

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The “Ti, Scho Hrebli Rvut” Sororities of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization announce, in deep sorrow, to the Ukrainian community and Plast members the passing on October 11, 2006, in Sarcelles, France, of

## SOFIA (née Moiseiovych) JANIW

born on November 14, 1908 in Lviv.

The daughter of a highly respected Lviv lawyer and civil activist, at a very early age she worked with him in defense of Ukrainian prisoners of conscience in Galicia under Polish rule in the interwar period, serving as his secretary and note-taker at the sham political trials of the time. She organized a system of preparation and distribution of daily hot meals for these prisoners. Involved very early in the activities of Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, she became a member of its Home Executive; she was imprisoned for the first time at age 19 by the Polish authorities, and twice subsequently. She was one of the founding members of the “Ti, Scho Hrebli Rvut” sorority of Plast, founded in Lviv in 1926.

Sofia Janiw began working with Prof. Volodymyr Kubijovyc as secretary of the editorial board of Entsyklopedia Ukrayinoznavstva (Encyclopedia of Ukraine), both the first thematic encyclopedia (Munich, 1949), and subsequently the alphabetic encyclopedia (Sarcelles, France, 1955-1990). She was also personally responsible for articles in the fields of art history, music and dance, as well as the correspondence and photo archives for the whole encyclopedia.

Sofia Janiw was the first director of the museum of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Rome (1963-1972) and a corresponding member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh). The wife of the late Wolodymyr Janiw, rector of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, she was the last of the founding generation of the Sarcelles encyclopedic team.

Funeral services were offered on October 20 in St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Catholic Church in Paris; interment was at the NTSh burial site in Sarcelles.

*Vichnaya Pamiat – Eternal Memory*

– The leaders and members of the “Ti, Scho Hrebli Rvut” sororities of young adult and senior Plast members in the United States, Canada, Ukraine and Australia



З глибоким смутком і з невимовним почуванням втрати повідомляємо родину, знайомих і громаду, що в четвер, 12 жовтня 2006 р. відійшов у вічність наш найдорожчий і ніколи незабутній ЧОЛОВІК, БАТЬКО і БРАТ

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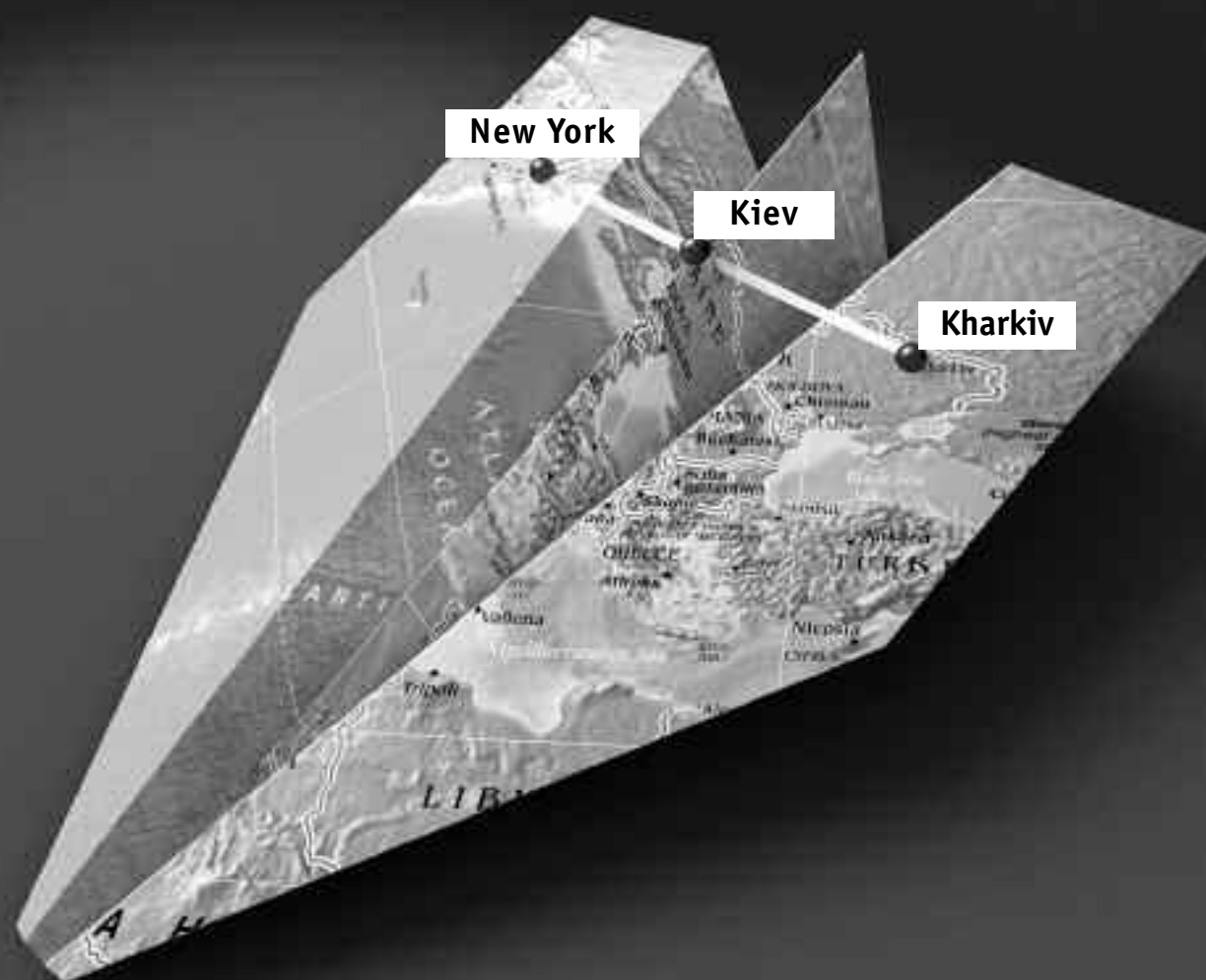
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# ODFFU and LUC leaders meet to discuss cooperation, projects



NEW YORK – The executive of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (ODFFU) met on October 5 with the president of the League of Ukrainian Canadians (LUC) in the building of the Conference of Ukrainian National Organizations (known in Ukrainian as the “Derzhavnytskyi Front”) at 136 Second Ave. in New York City to discuss common issues, share organizational experiences, and formulate plans for future cooperation and joint projects beneficial to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities, as well as Ukraine. Pictured (from left) are: Zenon Halkowycz, third vice-president of ODFFU; Halyna Turyk, treasurer of the Ukrainian American Freedom Foundation; Michael Koziupa, president of ODFFU; Oleh Romanyshyn, president of LUC; Ivan Burtyk, first vice-president of ODFFU; Bohdan Harhaj, president of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM); and Marko Suprun, board member of ODFFU.

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File No. 988-06

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To: Walter Verheles, Katherine Verheles, Paul Zitko, Natalia Zitko, Tanya Zitko, Larissa Volosyena, Svetlana Kornienko, Walter Luhova, Tamara Luhova and Katherine Oleniak, whose whereabouts are unknown, and if deceased, to all the unknown distributees, heirs at law and next of kin, of Barbara Pregon, their guardians, committees, conservators or assignees, and if any of them survived the decedent but have since died or become incompetent, their successors in interest, executors, administrators, legal representatives, devisees, legatees, spouses, distributees, heirs at law, next of kin, committees, conservators, guardians or any person having any claim or interest through them by purchase, inheritance or otherwise.

A petition having been duly filed by Russell Kantor, who is domiciled at 188 Rockne Road, Yonkers, NY 10701.

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Surrogate John W. Kelly, Chief Clerk

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# PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

undertaken at the federal level to protect the public's health in the event of a pandemic. He will explore the cornerstones of pandemic preparedness, which include the development of vaccines, the use of antivirals and general community public health measures. The luncheon and conference will take place in The Signature Room at the 95th of The John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Ave., at 2 p.m. Reservations are required; call UMANA headquarters, 773-278-6262.

**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.

## PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

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

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; all submissions are subject to editing.

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



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- 1. ТАБІР ДЛЯ ЮНАКІВ І ЮНАЧОК
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Moving to Ukraine...

(Continued from page 12)

achs, but we were in luck with the third. The owner told us the building had been constructed for high government officials and, because her husband worked for one of these officials, they were able to become owners of the apartment during the privatization period. The entrance, the hallways and the elevator looked like those in a poor low-rent building in the States. The toilet and bathroom was the usual sorry Soviet model. Half the electric outlets didn't work.

But there were major differences. The rooms were large and there were four of them, nicely furnished – the equivalent of a three-bedroom apartment, which is a rarity in Kyiv. The ceilings were high, and the floors were of parquet. The windows were large, and there were large balconies. There were even two large closets. Most Kyiv apartments have no closets. And, it also had something that made my wife jump up and down: a washing machine. Laundromats in Kyiv are rare.

The building was by the lovely and huge Victory Park. At the entrance to the park are seven plaques commemorating the "Great Patriotic War." This busy park was well maintained, perhaps because it was built to honor the sacrifice and struggle of World War II. In a number of park areas there were beautiful flower patterns consisting of thousands of flowers. What pleased me most was that the people who used the park did not steal these flowers but left them for everyone to enjoy. In one section of the park was an artesian underground fountain and people came from all over to fill their jugs with good-tasting water.

Our apartment was a few minutes walk to the metro and a few minutes walk to our son's school. Because there was no "Euro-

remont" and the apartment was miles from Kyiv's center, the rent was \$1,000 a month. I had asked a native Kyivian who works for a Japanese company, and is the No. 2 man in his office, what would be considered a really really good salary in Kyiv and he said \$1,000 a month. So, I guess you have to do a lot better than that to afford a decent apartment.


Our general impression of Kyiv was that things have become better in almost every way, if you put the political situation into a separate category. Although my wife is fluent in Russian, she always talks to everyone in Ukrainian, even when addressed in Russian. Ten years ago, she said, she would sometimes get angry or indignant looks, but not today. Ukrainian is accepted even though most people in Kyiv speak Russian.

Making Ukrainian the official language of Ukraine was a godsend, for it legitimized the Ukrainian language in Ukraine. Just after Viktor Yanukovych was named prime minister he addressed Parliament in Ukrainian. That means it must be politically advantageous for a national politician to speak in Ukrainian, at least part of the time.

During my many encounters with people in Kyiv more than three-quarters of the Russian speakers switched to Ukrainian once they understood I wouldn't or couldn't speak Russian. Ukrainian was the language of their childhood, their mother tongue. I still remember a clerk in an appliance store who switched to Ukrainian with us and said somewhat shamefaced: "Why did I give up Ukrainian? I'm glad you are willing to speak my language."

For myself, I cannot imagine that the soul of Ukraine can survive if the Ukrainian language dies. Vitaly Korotych, the former editor of the important journal "Ogonyok," could write Russian as well as anyone. Yet, he confessed that he could write poetry only in Ukrainian.

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## Assistant surgeon general to be keynote speaker at UMANA gathering

CHICAGO – Dr. Boris D. Lushniak, rear admiral and assistant surgeon general in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, will be guest speaker at a regular meeting of the Illinois Branch of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) on Sunday, November 5.

UMANA Illinois Branch President George Kuritza, M.D., said members, colleagues and the general public are invited to hear and meet Dr. Lushniak. "Dr. Lushniak will be visiting his childhood home, and is looking forward to seeing his friends, acquaintances as well as the sights," Dr. Kuritza added.

The meeting will be held at 2 p.m. in The Signature Room at the 95th at the John Hancock Center on Chicago's trendy North Michigan Avenue.

Chicago's Ukrainian American medical community is vibrant and growing – nearly 200 active, retired and student UMANA Illinois Branch members form a key chapter in the North American association. Under the capable leadership of Dr. Kuritza and his administrative team, UMANA-Illinois Branch members meet regularly to expand their medical knowledge directly from experts like Dr. Lushniak.

In a new development, the Illinois Branch has spearheaded a medical mission to Ukraine involving a number of branch members donating supplies and time to the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Hospital.

Newly arrived Fourth Wave physicians are joining UMANA and many are certifying their medical credentials to become active members in the Ukrainian American medical community.

Dr. Lushniak, a physician who also holds a master's degree in public health, will speak to his colleagues on "Pandemic Influenza – Preparing for the Unknown." Previous outbreaks of pandemic influenza have shown that pandemics are unpredictable and inevitable.

Dr. Lushniak will review the basic biology of influenza, the conditions necessary for a pandemic and the preparedness planning that is being undertaken at the federal level to protect the public's health in the event of a pandemic. He will explore the cornerstones of pandemic preparedness, which include the development of vaccines, the use of antivirals and general community public health measures.

In conjunction with this event, the board of directors of UMANA, as well as the board of directors of the UMANA Foundation, will hold meetings on Saturday morning, November 4, at the national office in the Ukrainian Village. With many guests and UMANA members from across North America coming to Chicago to celebrate the centennial of St. Nicholas Cathedral Parish with a gala banquet and dance on Saturday evening, as well as a pontifical divine liturgy on Sunday morning, the weekend will be a busy and informative one.

Further information is available from the UMANA office, 773-278-6262.

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## OUT AND ABOUT

October 24 Film screening, "The Undefeated," Ukrainian Film Club, New York Columbia University, 212-854-4697

October 26 Photographic exhibit opening reception, "Gulag: Soviet Forced Labor Camps and the Struggle for Freedom," Boston Boston University, 617-358-0922

October 28 SUM World Congress banquet, 60th anniversary of SUM in the diaspora, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 416-537-2007

October 29 "The Sounds of Ukraine," Kyiv Chamber Choir performance Kitchener, ON St. Mary Roman Catholic Church, 416-292-3407

October 29 Concert "...Iz Syrom Pyrohy" featuring the Akord Ukrainian Men's Choir, St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall, 613-728-0856

October 30 "The Sounds of Ukraine," Kyiv Chamber Choir performance, London, ON First St. Andrew's United Church, 416-292-3407

November 1 "The Sounds of Ukraine," Kyiv Chamber Choir performance, Montreal St. Andrew - St. Paul United Church, 416-292-3407

November 2 "The Sounds of Ukraine," Kyiv Chamber Choir performance, Ottawa Christ Church Anglican Cathedral, 416-292-3407

November 2 Film premier, "Ex-mas Eve," written, produced and directed by Vsevolod Horodyskyj, Mazza Galleria AMC Theater, www.silveredgefilms.com/exmaseve.htm

November 3 "The Sounds of Ukraine," Kyiv Chamber Choir performance, Toronto The George Weston Recital Hall, 416-292-3407

November 3-5 Art exhibit, Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 12, St. Andrew Ukrainian Church hall, 440-230-2296

November 4 Masquerade, sponsored by the Chortopolokhy Plast Sorority, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-684-3548

November 4 "The Sounds of Ukraine," Kyiv Chamber Choir performance, Vancouver, BC Ryerson United Church, 416-292-3407

November 4 Graduation Ball, Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies, 440-886-3223

November 4 Ukrainian Harvest Festival, St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 860-229-3833

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**Saturday, 10/28/06**

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Club Suzie-Q Fall Weekend

**November 4, 2006**  
Wedding

**November 10-12, 2006**  
Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization “Orlykiada”

**November 19, 2006**  
Family Reunion  
Ellenville Co-op Nursery School Fund-Raising Auction
- November 22-26, 2006**  
Family Reunion

**November 23, 2006**  
Thanksgiving Feast

**November 25, 2006**  
90th Birthday Party

**December 1-3, 2006**  
Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization “KPS Vidprava Stanychnykh”

**December 24, 2006**  
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve Supper

**December 31, 2006**  
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 22

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in New York is sponsoring a lecture by Dr. George G. Grabowicz, Dmytro Cyzevskyi Professor of Ukrainian Literature at Harvard University, on the subject “Franko's Reception of Shevchenko.” The lecture will take place at 2 p.m. in the academy's building, 206 W. 100th St. For information call 212-222-1866. The Ukrainian public, especially students, is cordially invited.

Saturday, October 28

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) invites all to a lecture by Andriy Chemerynsky, a historian from Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, who will present the results of his research into "The History of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America." There will be an introduction by Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych, ex-president of NTSh. The program will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

Monday, October 30

**WASHINGTON:** The Washington Group Business Development Forum roundtable on "Trade and Investment in Ukraine: Current Prospects and Challenges – Viewpoints from the United States and Canada" will be held at Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, 1619 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Rome Auditorium, at 7-9 p.m. Roundtable topics are expected to include: priority sectors, legislative obstacles (e.g., related to WTO accession), trade promotion efforts (missions and exhibitions), investment facilitation mechanisms, anti-corruption campaigns, dealing with central and local governments, growth of trade associations in Ukraine, civil vs. commercial code problems, and sufficiency and effectiveness of business-related foreign technical assistance. For information contact Andrew

Bihun, director, Business Development Forum of The Washington Group, 301-873-2035 or mybihuny@aol.com; or Adrian Pidlusky, TWG president, 240-381-0993 or president@thewashington-group.org.

Saturday, November 4

**PHILADELPHIA:** The Chortopolokhy Plast sorority invite all to a “Maskarada” (costume party) and dance at the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia located at 800 N. 23rd St. Doors open at 7 p.m. with live music provided by The Wave band. Prizes will be awarded for best original costumes. Admission: \$10. For more information call Nusia Pohorylo at 302-239-2952 or e-mail horeczak@hotmail.com.

**NEW BRITAIN, Conn.:** A Ukrainian Harvest Festival will take place 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 54 Winter St. (behind Newbrite Plaza). For cookbook lovers and collectors, the festival will feature hundreds of new and slightly used cookbooks. Also featured will be a tag and Christmas item sale, a large collection of costume jewelry, Ukrainian breads, a raffle, a cake and dessert table, as well as a Ukrainian kitchen. Parking is available behind the church. For further information call 860-229-3833.

Sunday, November 5

**CHICAGO:** The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America – Illinois Chapter cordially invites its members, families and guests to attend the fall educational conference and luncheon, featuring keynote speaker Rear Adm. Boris D. Lushniak, M.D., assistant surgeon general in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service. Dr. Lushniak will present a lecture on “Pandemic Influenza – Preparing for the Unknown.” He will review the basic biology of influenza, the conditions necessary for a pandemic and the preparedness planning that is being

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