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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

New Jerseyans mark 20th anniversary of "The Quiet Revolution of Ukraine"

by Roma Hadzewycz

WHIPPANY, N.J. – The 20th anniversary of Rukh, "The Quiet Revolution of Ukraine," was celebrated here at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ) on Saturday, October 17. The evening included presentations by two participants of the founding congress of Rukh, Ukraine's national movement for "perebudova," held in 1989, and a video montage of the historic gathering.

The event was sponsored by the Arts, Culture and Education Committee of the UACCNJ and the Ukrainian National Association.

Dr. Taras Hunczak, professor emeritus of history at Rutgers University, spoke of the developments that led to Rukh's founding at the time of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of glasnost and perestroika (perebudova in Ukrainian). He noted that though the new policies created new possibilities to critically address societal issues, it was the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant that "shook Ukraine and made the people understand the need to defend their rights."

In short order, new organizations arose in Ukraine, Dr. Hunczak continued. Among them were: the Levy Society in Lviv, the Ukrainian Culturological Club in Kyiv, Spadschyna, Hromada, Zelenyi Svit, Noosfera, Nebaiduzhi – all of which broached issues affecting Ukrainian society, from culture and history to politics and the environment, and raised national



Dr. Taras Hunczak (left) and National Deputy of Ukraine Volodymyr Yavorivsky, two participants of the founding congress of Rukh.

awareness.

The speaker noted that a leading role in this national awakening was played by the Ukrainian Writers' Union and its newspaper, Literaturna Ukraina. At about the same time, the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian Language Society rose to the defense of the Ukrainian language that had been trampled upon for decades by Soviet authorities.

These processes in Ukraine were stimulated also by events in neighboring countries: the work of Solidarity in Poland, the founding of Sajudis in Lithuania and large public demonstrations in Latvia, Dr. Hunczak said.

All the new organizations in Ukraine,

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Rada moves toward stripping deputies, president of immunity from prosecution

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament on October 20 took the first steps toward removing national deputies' immunity from prosecution by passing the first reading of a bill, sponsored by the Party of Regions of Ukraine, that would hold not only them accountable to the law, but the Ukrainian president as well.

Yet, even the claim of bringing the country's laws into line with Western standards had its escape clauses, evident upon reading the fine print. While a national deputy can face charges in court, the legislation stipulates that he can't be arrested until a judge finds him guilty and a parliamentary majority approves.

Another version of a bill to strip immu-

nity, drafted by the Yulia Tymoshenko and Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense blocs, would have immediately taken effect and made national deputies equal to Ukrainian citizens under the law. But the majority of deputies duly ignored it.

"We can hope to remove deputies' immunity from prosecution not earlier than a year and a half from now with the bill proposed today by the Party of Regions," Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense faction leader Viacheslav Kyrylenko said from the Rada tribune. "In essence, it's putting the matter aside in a long basket."

The Constitutional Court has already reviewed the Kyrylenko bill, as required in the case of proposed changes to the

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Presidential campaign begins amid concerns about abuses

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The 2010 presidential campaign officially began on October 19 amidst sensational scandal, overturned rules and observers' concerns that the election will be mired in abuses.

Sidestepping the rules, the candidates began campaigning weeks earlier, hosting rallies, reserving radio and television ads as well as billboards. They overtly flaunted the rules on the first official day by not taking down billboards until they're officially registered as candidates, a foreshadowing of abuse.

"An analysis of the political process that preceded the campaign's official start attested to an extremely low quality of political discussion and offers a downbeat prognosis on the campaign's subsequent course," the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU), the leading domestic election monitoring organization, said in its October 19 statement.

"The CVU certifies the absence of political will among the majority of participants in the presidential race in conducting democratic, transparent and honest elections that comply with Ukrainian legislation, international standards and moral-ethical norms during the campaign," the CVU noted.

The CVU has been raising concern about the election, scheduled for January 17, 2010, (and February 7, 2010, if a second round is needed) ever since Parliament overrode a presidential veto to apply its new election rules that critics say tilt the scales firmly in favor of the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), the country's largest political forces.

After deliberating for more than a month, Ukraine's Constitutional Court on October 19 issued a ruling that validated critics' concerns, striking down five critical provisions it deemed illegal and satisfying more than half the complaints of the Presidential Secretariat, which filed the appeal.

The law, passed on August 21, can no longer forbid Ukrainians living abroad from voting, regardless of whether they're on Consulate and Embassy registers. Furthermore, candidates for district and local election commissions don't have to live in the respective geographic locations, as the law had stipulated.

The Higher Administrative Court can't leave appeals without consideration even if the two-day review period expires, as the law had stipulated. Furthermore, election commission protocols can be appealed, the court ruled, rejecting efforts to prevent that.

The court upheld the right of candidates to appeal to the Central Election Commission on election day and subsequent days.



Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko during a private meeting on October 16 at the Vatican with Pope Benedict XVI.

The Presidential Secretariat did not secure the rulings it sought on challenges to nine other provisions in the law. The court upheld a provision allowing voters to add their names to registers on election day – a practice widely criticized as conducive to election fraud. The court also upheld canceling absentee ballots, which permitted voters to cast ballots days in advance.

"The court's decision was a big step forward toward improving the law, eliminating a series of problems," said Oleksander Chernenko, board chairman of the CVU, which is financed by Western grants.

"However, those provisions the court recognized as unconstitutional don't eliminate all problems with the elections. Not all the offensive, anti-democratic conditions violate the Constitution, but they violate democratic election principles," he added.

For example, Mr. Chernenko said he's still very concerned about voters being allowed to add their names to registers on the day of the vote, arguing that this "practically paves the road to falsification."

Moreover, Ukrainian civic organizations, including the CVU, are barred from election monitoring and can only observe as journalists. (International monitors, particularly those representing the Ukrainian diaspora, will be allowed to monitor elections.)

President Viktor Yushchenko asked the Parliament on October 20 to approve legislation to amend the election rules in accordance with the Constitutional Court's ruling and to take into account the critical opinions of the Venetian Commission and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) regarding the legislation.

The next day, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn directed national deputies to prepare changes to the election rules

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ANALYSIS

Western Ukraine could decide presidential election outcome

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL

After what is widely seen as five years of missed opportunities under incumbent President Viktor Yushchenko, Ukraine's three-month election campaign has begun.

Past presidential elections in Ukraine have been a contest for control of the "swing" region of central Ukraine that Leonid Kuchma and Mr. Yushchenko won in 1994 and 2004, respectively. But to win nationwide, a candidate needs either western or eastern Ukraine as well.

Mr. Kuchma won by winning the east and the center, Mr. Yushchenko – the west and the center. The last three elections were won by slim majorities of 52 to 56 percent.

The upcoming presidential elections will be different, and the first in which western Ukraine will play a strategic role in deciding the winner. Central Ukraine continues to be dominated by Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, whereas opposition Party of Regions Chairman Viktor Yanukovich has a dominant position in eastern-southern Ukraine.

The presidential election is set for January 17, 2010; if no candidate wins outright in the first round, a runoff will take place three weeks later.

Presidential fragmentation

Western Ukraine's central role in the upcoming elections is the product of five years of infighting and fragmentation of the center-right. The Our Ukraine-People's Self Defense bloc (OU-PSD) that entered Parliament in September 2007 included nine parties that had promised to merge into a single pro-Yushchenko party that would support his bid for a second presidential term.

Instead, the nine have grown to 14, with the establishment of two new parties, led by Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko (PSD) and former chief of staff

Taras Kuzio is a senior fellow of Ukrainian studies at the University of Toronto, adjunct research professor at the Institute of European and Russian Studies at Carleton University, and editor of the bimonthly Ukraine Analyst

Viktor Baloha (United Center), plus three NGOs that are embryo parties led, respectively, by former Defense Minister Anatoliy Grytsenko (Civic Initiative), former Parliament chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk (Front for Change), and Viacheslav Kyrylenko (For Ukraine).

Of OU-PSD's 72 national deputies, approximately 40 – a slim majority – support the democratic coalition underpinning the Tymoshenko government (together with the Tymoshenko and Volodymyr Lytvyn blocs). Of the remaining 32 deputies, 17 belong to the single pro-Yushchenko group, For Ukraine, while a further 10 belong to United Center.

President Yushchenko's election campaign is hampered not only by his low popular support, which he routinely dismisses as unimportant, but also his lack of a political machine. Mr. Yushchenko is honorary chairman of the Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU) party, one of the original nine in the OU-PSD bloc, and the chief of his Presidential Secretariat, Vera Ulianchenko, is its leader. Both the OU-PU and Mr. Yushchenko personally can count on only 2-3 percent support.

The OUPU has been bankrupt since the spring, when Ukrainian businessmen withdrew their funding after it became evident that Mr. Yushchenko was a lame duck president unable to win a second term.

At least five of the figures who played key roles in the Orange Revolution will be competing for the presidency: Mr. Yushchenko, Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Yatsenyuk, Mr. Grytsenko and Yurii Kostenko, leader of the People's Party, one of the original nine in the OU-PSD bloc.

The nationalist-populist leader of the Svoboda Party (formerly called the Social-National Party), Oleh Tyahnybok, who won a majoritarian seat in the Verkhovna Rada in 2002 and joined the Our Ukraine faction (only to be expelled two years later for anti-Semitic remarks), will also be competing for the western Ukrainian votes.

Not easy breaking in

The two leading candidates in western

(Continued on page 22)

Ukrainian envoy, Pentagon deny U.S.-Kyiv talks on missile defense

RFE/RL

WASHINGTON – The Embassy of Ukraine in Washington has denied a report that U.S. and Ukrainian officials had met to discuss using radar stations in Ukraine for U.S. missile defense, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on October 16.

Western agencies cited a report from Interfax Ukraine that quoted U.S. Ambassador Oleh Shamshur as saying that preliminary talks with members of the Obama administration have taken place.

But Ruslan Nimchynski, a counselor at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, told RFE/RL on October 15 that the report is incorrect.

Mr. Nimchynski said Ambassador Shamshur told him from Kyiv that there have been "no talks whatsoever" between

the two countries on the use of Ukrainian radar.

A Pentagon official, Maj. Shawn Smith, also said the United States has not held such negotiations with Ukraine.

He added, however, that "a number of countries in Europe, including Ukraine, have indicated they may have the capability to cooperate with the United States through the use of radar stations."

Former U.S. President George W. Bush had planned to deploy interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar in the Czech Republic.

Moscow objected to the plan, complaining that Russia was the real target of the antimissile shield. Last month President Barack Obama announced he was scrapping the Bush plan in favor of a mobile, sea-based system, a decision that Moscow tentatively welcomed.

NEWSBRIEFS

Russian fleet objects to spot checks

KYIV – Russian Black Sea Fleet commanders have raised objections to spot checks of their military vehicles by Ukrainian traffic police, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on October 18. After two unsanctioned convoys carrying missiles drove through Sevastopol this summer, Ukrainian authorities began checking Russian naval convoys for proper documentation. According to Ukrainian-Russian agreements, Ukrainian authorities must be notified of all movements and maneuvers by the Russian Black Sea Fleet and show documents allowing permission for such movements. Military sources told RFE/RL that the Russians have once again recently moved a convoy of equipment without proper permission from Ukrainian authorities. In recent days the Russian fleet has built a large tent camp between two villages near Sevastopol. Ukrainian military sources say military equipment is being transported to this camp at night. The Russian Black Sea Fleet has reportedly moved 12 of its missile systems to the newly built tent camp. (RFE/RL)

PACE to assess Holodomor

KYIV – The Holodomor receives fair assessments on the international level, in particular, in decisions taken by the United Nations, UNESCO, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Parliament and the national parliaments of many countries, owing to Ukraine's efforts, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said at a meeting this week with Mevlut Cavusoglu, the PACE rapporteur for problems on the famines in the former Soviet Union. "We currently pin high hopes on the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. I'm confident that we'll get the assessment expected not only by the Ukrainian people, but also by the whole of mankind," he said. Mr. Cavusoglu visited the country in order to collect information required for him to draft a report on the need for the international recognition of the Holodomor in Ukraine in 1932-1933 and the 75th anniversary of the mass famine in the former Soviet Union. (Ukrinform)

Cabinet endorses diaspora financing

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has endorsed the procedure for using stabilization fund assets to strengthen ties with Ukrainians abroad in 2009, it was reported on October 20. The Education Ministry, as the chief manager of the money, will get 5 million hrv for the purchase of textbooks, courseware, audio and video training materials for the needs of educational establishments abroad where the Ukrainian language is taught. The manuals will be sent to educational establishments in the Commonwealth of Independent States' member-countries, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Italy, Portugal, the Czech Republic, Greece, France and Turkey. Funds were also envisaged for Internet training under the educational program of 12-year secondary school programs for students in grades 9-12 permanently or temporarily living abroad. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine extradites surgeon to Israel

KYIV – Israeli surgeon Dr. Michael Zis has been extradited from Ukraine to Israel. He is suspected in several countries of performing illegal transplants and organ trafficking. According to the Internet edition of Izrus, the Israeli citizen born in Ukraine was delivered on October 20 by plane from Kyiv accompanied by Israeli policemen. Moscow also sought his extradition, but after long-lasting trials Ukraine decided to extradite Dr. Zis to Israel. The group of persons allegedly involved in organ trafficking led by Dr. Zis comprised mainly citizens of Moldova and Ukraine, as well as Israeli Arabs and Russian-speaking Israelis. The medical operations took place in the United States, Germany, Turkey, Hungary and Ukraine. Ten accessories of Dr. Zis were arrested back in July of 2007. Dr. Zis was arrested in Donetsk in October 2007, after a joint operation of Ukrainian and Israeli law enforcement agencies. (Ukrinform)

Day of Liberation to be marked

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has introduced the Day of Liberation of Ukraine from Fascist Invaders

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Ukraine awaits a harsh winter of political and economic turmoil

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

Ukrainian intellectuals foresee an exceptionally difficult winter amidst concern the Russian Federation could take advantage or exacerbate the nation's already unstable political and economic situation. This is the second article in a two-part series examining what lies ahead.

KYIV – Much of the Orange era was characterized by a booming economy amidst destructive politics, what observers called the “Ukrainian paradox.” Construction flourished, stocks soared and asset values skyrocketed before the global financial crisis of 2008 extinguished Ukraine’s miraculous condition.

What emerged from the wreckage was grim: a hryvnia devalued by more than 60 percent, a 31 percent drop in first-half industrial production, a 49 percent decrease in exports, and a 2009 budget deficit reaching 5 percent of GDP, despite billions in Western loans.

“The first-half drop in GDP by 26 percent is simply a scary number not seen in any other country,” said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Kyiv-based Institute of Society Transformation. “The second half will be significantly more complicated, and the number could be bigger.”

Ukrainian intellectuals are concerned this economic degradation, mixed with likely election turmoil, could create instability this winter, opening a window for the government of Russian Federation Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to take long-anticipated steps to claim Crimean territory.

The Russian Duma on October 21

passed the second reading of legislation authorizing its military to repel attacks and protect Russian citizens in foreign countries, as well as assist foreign governments requesting its aid.

“The law allowing them to use their army to defend their interests on foreign territories applies to Crimea and Sevastopol,” said Dr. Volodymyr Cherniak, an economist, Rukh veteran and former Our Ukraine national deputy. “This isn’t by chance. It’s a geopolitically strategic approach to defend its interests, when chaos and disorder begin on this territory.”

The first shoots of disorder are already apparent. In the view of Dr. Soskin, Ukraine is headed toward an inevitable internal financial default, based on the economic data of the first three quarters of 2009.

“What does this mean for the average citizen? The Ukrainian state machine won’t be able to fulfill its obligations before the citizens of the Ukrainian state,” he said.

Evidence of the government failing Ukrainian citizens is already apparent. In Kyiv, three schools shut their doors on October 20 because the district council lacks funds to repair a ruptured heating pipe. Another 158 residential buildings are without hot water, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc reported.

“There are cities that are practically bankrupt and can’t make payments,” Dr. Soskin said. “Cities and villages still haven’t paid for last year’s and this year’s natural gas. There practically isn’t any money to pay for the fall 2009-winter 2010 heating season and we can expect small and middle-sized cities to be absolutely cut off, and the large ones too.”



Zenon Zawada

Ukraine is moving inevitably toward an internal financial default, said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation in Kyiv.

In the Donetsk Oblast, the Kyiv government owes \$182 million (1.5 billion hryv) in back wages, pensions and insurance payments to miners, the State Oblast Administration reported on October 19.

Meanwhile businesses are failing, dismissing employees or giving them unpaid furloughs, resulting in steep revenue declines to the State Pension Fund.

Debts from private enterprises to the Pension Fund grew 27 percent to \$183 million (1.5 billion hryv) between January 1 and June 1, Dr. Soskin reported. Debt from state-owned enterprises grew 21 percent to \$22 billion (180 million hryv) in the same period.



Institute of Society Transformation

The Russian Duma’s legislation to authorize military action in foreign countries is intended for Crimea and Sevastopol, said Dr. Volodymyr Cherniak, a former Our Ukraine national deputy.

The Pension Fund needs \$1.6 billion (13 billion hryv) from the state budget to cover its debt, which it doesn’t have, he said.

“None of these negative factors have been practically addressed to this day,” Dr. Soskin said. “The internal default has practically begun, and the direct evidence of that is the hryvnia’s dive and the doubling of prices for sugar, bread, fuel and utilities.”

Besides domestic trouble, the Ukrainian government has acquired enormous foreign debt this year, including a \$10.6 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that may grow with a fourth

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At Democracy Forum, Central/Eastern Europe slams U.S. engagement with Russia

by Claire Bigg
RFE/RL

Forum 2000 has never been a Kremlin-friendly affair.

Launched in 1997 by then-Czech President Vaclav Havel to discuss global challenges, the annual conference traditionally attracts policy-makers from former Soviet countries and rights campaigners critical of Moscow.

But participants at this year’s two-day conference, which wrapped up October 13, were particularly vocal in denouncing Russia’s increasingly assertive stance and poor human rights record – two ills that some say are being aggravated by U.S. President Barack Obama’s efforts to “reset” relations with Moscow.

Czech Sen. Alexandr Vondra, while moderating a debate on Russia’s role in global politics, put the same question to all participants: “Should we be afraid of Russia?”

The answers were not reassuring.

“Moscow is simply trying to pressure and interfere in new ways, using energy and other weapons of political pressure,” said Sandra Kalniete, a European Parliament deputy from Latvia. “It seeks to marginalize countries of Eastern Europe and the Baltic states in NATO and in the European Union.”

U.S. letdown?

Ms. Kalniete went on to condemn President Obama’s shock decision last month to scrap previous plans for a missile-defense system partly based in Poland and the Czech Republic. The proposed replacement system no longer provides for bases in those two countries, at least in the short term.

Ms. Kalniete voiced a feeling shared by a number of Central and Eastern Europeans – that the United States is walking out on Central and Eastern Europe.

“We take the withdrawal of antimissile

plans from the Czech Republic and Poland as a signal that Eastern Europeans and Poles are no longer as high on the U.S. agenda as they used to be during the Bush and Clinton eras,” she said.

Mr. Obama’s policy of engagement with Russia has angered many in Central and Eastern Europe, where resentment over decades of Soviet domination runs deep. After last year’s war between Russia and Georgia, many in the region believe Western nations should do more to protect them against potential Russian threats.

Ms. Kalniete, Mr. Vondra, and the conference’s patron, Mr. Havel, were among the 22 policy makers and intellectuals from the former Communist bloc to sign an open letter this summer warning President Obama against making concessions to Moscow – which they described as a “revisionist power pursuing a 19th-century agenda.” The letter also urged Mr. Obama to press ahead with the missile-defense shield advanced by his predecessor, George W. Bush.

Mr. Havel himself used Forum 2000 to take issue with Mr. Obama’s efforts to mend fences with Russia – and engage China.

“I think that when, for example, the freshly awarded Nobel Peace Prize winner postpones a meeting with the Dalai Lama until after he visits continental China, he makes a small, inconspicuous, little-noticed compromise – a compromise that has a certain logic,” Mr. Havel said. “Nevertheless, the question is whether big, fatal compromises do not have their origins, their first roots, in these small, inconspicuous, and more or less ‘logical’ compromises.”

The conference coincided with Hillary Clinton’s first visit to Russia as U.S. secretary of state, during which she declared feeling “very good” about Mr. Obama’s reset of relations with Moscow.

“Put Europe in order”

Paradoxically, the most sympathetic com-

ments at this year’s Forum 2000 came from veteran Russian opposition politician Grigory Yavlinsky. Mr. Yavlinsky deplored the lack of democracy in his country. But he also criticized the West’s carrot-and-stick approach to Russia as “disastrous,” calling instead for a clear, consistent stance on Russia.

Europe, he added, must clean up its act before helping put Russia on the path to democracy. “How can you help? The answer is simple: by your example,” Mr. Yavlinsky told the audience. “Please put the European Union in order, please show you can exercise the values and principles that you declare. Help the United States overcome the economic and political crisis, and we will look at your example and move much faster. All the rest we can do ourselves.”

The Czech Republic is currently the only European Union member not to have rati-

fied the EU Lisbon Treaty following Poland’s signature last week, preventing the accord from coming into force. The Czech Constitutional Court is currently studying a complaint against the treaty backed by Mr. Havel’s successor, euroskeptic Czech President Vaclav Klaus.

Seemingly unconcerned by the furor over Lisbon and anti-Russian talk at Forum 2000, Mr. Klaus traveled to Moscow on October 14 for talks with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on bilateral trade, energy cooperation and European security.

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“Hottest” head of state

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Ukraine’s Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko was ranked No. 1 among the “hottest heads of state.” The list, prepared by the website “Hottest Heads of State” (<http://hottestheadsofstate.wordpress.com/list/>) includes 172 world leaders.

Second place went to Jens Stoltenberg, prime minister of Norway, and third to Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, king of Bhutan.

According to cbsnews.com: “Though the list purports to be a ‘scientific and unbiased ranking of world leaders in order of hotness,’ there doesn’t seem to be too much scientific about it. The creators say that ‘hotness is a subjective quality; and that ‘if your make a convincing enough argument in our ‘comments’

section we will adjust the rankings.’”

U.S. President Barack Obama was 15th on the list. Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka was 12th, while Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin was 18th.

Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili was 35th; Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada was 61st; Dalia Grybauskaitė, president of Lithuania, was 79th; Polish Prime Minister Lech Kaczyński was 116th. Kim Jong-Il of North Korea was in last place (172nd).

The complete list and photos of the heads of state – including Prime Minister Tymoshenko, with long, flowing hair instead of her usual braided coif – appear on the abovementioned website.

Brzezinski: "If Georgia or Ukraine falter, Russia again becomes an empire."

Voice of America Ukrainian Service

In an interview with the Voice of America's Ukrainian Service, former U.S. National Security Adviser, currently CSIS Counselor and Trustee Zbigniew Brzezinski shares his views on the Obama administrations' initiative to "reset" relations with Russia, on dilemmas the U.S. faces in its policies toward Eastern Europe, particularly Ukraine, as well as on challenges facing Ukraine today and following the next presidential elections in January. The interview was conducted by Myroslava Gongadze.

In the process of "resetting" relations with Russia it seems that the Obama administration still has not formulated a U.S. strategy toward the region, toward Eastern Europe and particularly toward Ukraine. What do you think should be the new administration's priorities in that part of the world?

I think the Obama administration has a good slogan – "reset." But it's also very vague and a little childish. You don't "reset" a serious relationship. You try to strategically shape it. And I think the United States has essentially two seemingly contradictory goals to pursue, which, in fact, ultimately are not contradictory.

One of them is to have a more cooperative relationship with Russia. Russia is an important country. We do have some common interests, which we ought to pursue, for example, in South-Central Asia, the issue of the Iranian nuclear program, disarmament, nuclear stability in general. These are legitimate and important objectives.

But we also have another objective, namely, the consolidation of political pluralism in the space of the former Soviet Union and of the former Soviet bloc. That means, for example, and very specifically, again, that Georgia is not undermined, that Ukraine is not turned into a satellite.

Now, superficially, these two objectives may seem in conflict. But in fact they are not. Because if Georgia survives, if Ukraine prospers, the chances are, in fact, greater in the long run that Russia will become a post-imperial democratic state. If Georgia or Ukraine falter, Russia again becomes an empire, with growing ambitions, which makes a long-term profitable relationship with it more difficult. So the contradiction is in fact superficial.

In reality, we have to pursue intelligently both aspects of our relationship in a larger sense with Russia and that cannot be defined by a simple slogan such as "reset" the relationship.

Do you agree with Sen. Lugar, who said that the United States has to be more active in Ukraine, especially in this period leading up to the presidential elections?

I agree with that and I have been saying things of this sort for a long time myself. But, quite honestly, since this is addressed to a Ukrainian audience, I have to say in all frankness, that the ultimate responsibility for preserving Ukrainian independence rests on the shoulders of the Ukrainian people and of the Ukrainian elite.

And I find it depressing to look at the top-level divisions in the democratic independence camp, at the internal feuding, at the intrigues, at the opportunities for a foreign power to manipulate internal affairs in Ukraine.

And being of Polish origin I am also aware of the fact that what Ukraine is experiencing today is depressingly similar to what Poland experienced in the 18th century. At that time Poland was essentially dominated by an elite that was aristocratic, that was wealthy, that was entrenched in various interests, and was manipulated by foreign powers, such as Prussia, Austria and Russia. And the result was the loss of independence.

Today, we have an oligarchic elite in Ukraine, that is in the pay of foreign interests, that is manipulating the wealth of the country for its own benefit and is not genuinely committed to the shaping of a nationally based Ukrainian democracy, which can then be an attractive object of European expansion.

You cannot expect the Europeans west of Ukraine or people here in America to be more pro-Ukrainian than the Ukrainians. And I say this with emphasis, because Ukraine is now approaching presidential elections and these elections are going to be manipulated from the outside, for the purpose of reducing Ukrainian independence, perhaps even of turning Ukraine again into a satellite or even part of a larger imperial system, including perhaps even some loss of territory.

When you are talking about "from the outside," what do you mean?

I think most Ukrainians know what I am talking about. And if they don't know, then they are so politically uneducated after 20 years of independence that it would be almost despairing.

When there is a new president in Ukraine, what do you think should be his or her main goals in terms of

domestic policy and foreign policy?

Well, I would say it's the same thing, domestic and foreign, that is to say to really consolidate a genuinely respectable democracy in Ukraine, which makes Ukraine an attractive object of interest for the rest of Europe. Culturally, Ukraine is a part of Europe. It is important to translate that into political, socio-economic realities.

Nobody in Europe was begging Poland to be part of the European Union. The Poles became part of the European Union because they became attractive to the European Union. They showed that they're determined to be a European state in every respect. That made it possible for Poland to be what it is today.

Ukraine could be like Poland in five to 10 years, with the right leadership and with the right national orientation.

One more question – about the future of Ukraine in NATO. Some say Ukraine could have a better relationship with Russia even if it became a member of NATO or of any other security organization in Europe. Do you agree with that? Do you see Ukraine in NATO?

I think it depends again on the attitude of the Ukrainian people. If Ukraine becomes a part of NATO, as a country split within, with limited support for membership in NATO, it's not going to help Ukraine, because it will become in itself a source of division, which other powers can exploit. The point of departure for membership in NATO is a Ukrainian national identity that has a defined geopolitical outlook and on the basis of a significant national unanimity

(Continued on page 21)

FOR THE RECORD: John Tefft at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Following are excerpts from the statement of John F. Tefft, ambassador-designate to Ukraine, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on October 8.

...I have had the privilege of serving my country for nearly 38 years as a Foreign Service Officer, much of it in Eastern Europe. Twice I have served as a U.S. ambassador – most recently in Georgia, and previously in Lithuania. I have also served as deputy chief of mission in Moscow – for 10 months of my assignment I was chargé d'affaires at the Embassy. From 2004 to 2005 I was deputy assistant secretary in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs and had responsibility for overseeing our bilateral relations with Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. During this period, Ukraine experienced the Orange Revolution, which transformed the political dynamics of the country. I believe that this broad experience working in Eastern Europe, and on Ukraine in particular, has prepared me for the important task of advancing U.S. relations with Ukraine.

If confirmed, I will focus on further strengthening the already close strategic partnership between our two countries. In December 2008, the U.S.-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership, which codified the goals and plans we have jointly made with our Ukrainian partners, was signed in Washington. During the recent visit of Vice-President [Joe] Biden to Ukraine, our governments agreed to create the Strategic Partnership Commission to help implement this charter. The commission will convene here in Washington later this year. This mechanism will cover not only high-level foreign policy issues but also economic cooperation, energy security,

non-proliferation, democracy, the rule of law, and people to people exchanges.

I think Vice-President Biden summed up succinctly the approach of this administration toward Ukraine, which follows on the overall approach taken by every U.S. Administration since 1991. The United States supports Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. Our friendship is based on a shared belief that democracy is the chief guarantor of security, prosperity and freedom. Cooperation between our countries is essential to strengthen peace and security. A strong, independent and democratic Ukraine contributes to the security and prosperity not only of its people, but of a Europe whole, free and at peace. The vice-president emphasized in Kyiv in July that the United States will stand by Ukraine as it continues on the path to freedom, democracy and prosperity. The reset of our relations with Russia will not come at the expense of Ukraine; the United States does not recognize spheres of influence.

The depth of our relationship is clear from the size of our assistance program – \$120 million this year to bolster peace and security, strengthen democratic institutions, promote economic growth, and fight diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. This includes an additional \$30 million that Congress provided as part of a package designed to strengthen our relationships throughout the region in the aftermath of the conflict in Georgia. Our assistance is designed not only to advance bilateral relations, but to improve the daily lives of average Ukrainians, especially during this difficult period in which the economy has contracted significantly. We also aim to promote greater energy

efficiency and to lessen Ukraine's energy dependency on others.

Support for Ukraine serves America's interests because Ukraine has become a key component of European security. This was true even in Ukraine's early years, when it took the historic decision to transfer its nuclear weapons to Russia. As we look to the post-START era, we commend this courageous step, and we stand by the security assurances provided in 1994, assurances that will remain valid after the START Treaty expires.

Ukraine has participated in many NATO missions, including the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan and the NATO Training Mission in Iraq. Ukraine has established an Annual National Program with NATO, and we support its future membership in NATO, as it chooses. Ukraine's alliances are for Ukraine to choose. Ukraine has participated in multilateral efforts to build security by preventing the proliferation of weapons, including through its membership in the Wassenaar Arrangement, and by working against transnational crime and money laundering, through its membership in the Egmont Group.

This is a key moment in Ukraine's post-Communist history. Since gaining its independence just two decades ago, the Ukrainian people have achieved a tremendous amount – freedom of speech is respected, political competition is vibrant, and Ukrainian citizens can democratically change their government through periodic, free and fair elections. Ukraine is one of the most free and democratic nations in the post-Soviet region today. Its economic relations with the rest of the world are on sound footing, especially since Ukraine joined the World Trade

Organization in 2008.

However, as Vice President Biden emphasized in Kyiv, much of the promise of the Orange Revolution has yet to be achieved. Political infighting has stalled political and economic reforms. The Ukrainian people are suffering the effects of the world economic downturn, and assistance from international financial institutions has played a crucial role in Ukraine's ability to deal with the crisis. The United States supports the International Monetary Fund's program with Ukraine and urges the Ukrainian government to fulfill its commitments to the Fund and to other multilateral financial institutions.

Ukraine's economic prosperity depends on reform of its energy sector, an area in which both the United States and Europe are willing to help. Energy security can come only through comprehensive reform in the gas industry and through far greater efficiency in the consumption of gas. We know that these steps are difficult, but they are necessary to Ukraine's future. Energy is an area of growing U.S.-Ukraine cooperation.

If confirmed, I will encourage Ukraine's progress on the path of economic and political reform; continue our contribution to building democracy and prosperity, help in the fight against corruption; and facilitate Ukraine's participation in meeting global security challenges. I will ensure that our Embassy in Kyiv and its highly professional and motivated American and Ukrainian staff are fully engaged in building our strategic partnership with Ukraine. And if you choose to place your confidence in me as U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, I will ensure that we conduct our business in a manner that is fully consistent with American values.

Trial starts of Ukrainian activists over damage to Lenin Monument

RFE/RL

KYIV – The trial has begun of five Ukrainians who allegedly broke the nose and left arm off a statue of Vladimir Lenin in central Kyiv, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on October 16.

The men are activists of the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists and could be sent to jail for five years for the damage they reportedly did to the statue on June 30.

Such a long sentence is possibly because the statue enjoyed the status of "national significance." But after the incident, the government decided to annul that status.

A week ago, police tried to arrest the activists but failed to do so after a mass gathering of people protested their arrest

and prevented police from reaching them.

Mykola Kokhanivskyi, Andrii Tarasenko, Oleksander Zadorozhnyi, Ivan Sribnyi and Bohdan Frant are officially charged with hooliganism and damaging a monument of "national significance."

Mr. Kokhanivskyi told RFE/RL that the activists' destruction of the statue was not an act of hooliganism but an ideological protest.

He said that he and his comrades achieved their major goal – the changing of the monument's status – and the authorities have to decide whether to take down and dispose of Lenin or to spend a lot of money to repair it.

Mr. Kokhanivskyi said the best decision would be to remove the statue forever, adding that he and his fellow activists would continue to fight against the remnants of the Soviet regime in Ukraine.

CAMPAIGN WATCH

CEC to set up 225 constituencies

KYIV – The Central Election Commission on October 20 passed a resolution on the creation of 225 territorial districts for the preparation and holding of the presidential elections on January 17, 2010. The CEC established the number of election districts in Ukraine's oblast's: 22 in Donetsk, 17 in Dnipropetrovsk, 14 in Kharkiv, 12 each in Luhansk and Lviv, 11 in Odesa, 10 in Kyiv, six each in Zakarpattia, Mykolaiv, Sumy, Kherson and Chernihiv, five each in Volyn, Kirovohrad, Rivne and Ternopil, and two in the city of Sevastopol. The decision to create foreign election districts will be considered separately. (Ukrinform)

First candidate files documents

KYIV – The first presidential candidate to file documents with the Central Election Commission was self-nominee Oleh Riabokon, born in 1973, it was reported on October 21. Mr. Riabokon is a founder of the Magister & Partners law firm. (Other founders of the firm are Deputy Minister of Justice Yevhen Korniyuchuk and Serhii Vlasenko, both members of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.) The presidential election campaign officially started on October 19. The CEC and political scientists predict there will be up to 30 presidential candidates. (Ukrinform)

85.1 percent will vote in election

KYIV – Some 85.1 percent of Ukrainian citizens are planning to participate in the presidential election on January 17, 2010, shows a survey conducted by FOM-Ukraine. A total of 9.4 percent of respondents said they will not go to the polling stations, and 5.5 percent failed to answer. The poll was conducted on September 26-October 4 with 1,000 respondents. The poll's statistical error is plus/minus 4 percent. (Ukrinform)

672.7 M hrv for preparations

KYIV – The Central Election Commission (CEC) has approved an allocation of 672.725 million hrv for preparations in 2009 for the election of the Ukrainian president. The decision was taken at a meeting of the commission on October 19. CEC Vice-Chair Andrii Mahera explained that these are the funds required to hold preparations for the election this year; the financing of the election in 2010 has not yet been determined.

(Ukrinform)

Yatsenyuk files documents with CEC

KYIV – Arseniy Yatsenyuk, national deputy of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense bloc, has submitted his documents to the Central Election Commission (CEC) to be registered as a presidential candidate, the CEC press-service reported on October 21. Mr. Yatsenyuk will run for the presidency as self-nominee. According to various opinion polls, the ex-chair of the Verkhovna Rada and former foreign affairs minister is among the top three candidates for president, as 8-11 percent of voters are ready to support him. (Ukrinform)

Candidates will spend at least \$1 B

KYIV – Ukraine's presidential candidates will spend at least \$1 billion (U.S.) on the election campaign, according to the chairman of the Committee of Voters of Ukraine, Oleksander Chernenko. He said that amount would be spent during the first and second rounds of the presidential election. "If the campaign [lasts longer], this sum could be even higher," he added. "The candidates have already spent tens of millions of dollars over the last months, i.e. before the official start of the election campaign. In my opinion, the main [election] headquarters will [each] spend at least \$100,000, and probably several hundred million dollars." November 13 is the deadline set by law for the registration of presidential candidates. (Ukrinform)

Rules on political advertising

KYIV – Political advertising must be removed from the streets of Ukraine's cities as of October 19, when the official campaign began, said the deputy head of the Presidential Secretariat, Maryna Stavniychuk. Political advertising "from the moment of the start of the election process must be removed until those who provided this advertising are registered by the Central Election Commission as presidential candidates," she added. Ms. Stavniychuk commented that, from the ethical-legal and moral-legal point of view, the advertising regarding people intending to run for the presidency, which has been placed in Ukraine over the past several months, is clearly defined campaign material. She said the Central Election Commission should deal with all political advertising and should control the legislation in this field. (Ukrinform)



THE UNA FORUM



Julian Kotlar

July 4, 1924 – October 17, 2009



The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of UNA Branch 42 and to the UNA membership at large that Julian Kotlar, secretary of Branch 42 since 1988, passed away on October 17, 2009.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to his four daughters Nadia, Christina, Petrusia, Lesia and their families, his 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren and family in Ukraine. Mr. Kotlar was a long-time supporter of the UNA, participated in many UNA conventions and was extremely active in various committees and proceedings of the UNA. His loyalty and dedication to the Ukrainian National Association will not be forgotten.

Вічна Йому Пам'ять!



The UNA convention approaches

by Christine Kozak
UNA National Secretary

The 37th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association will be held May 20-23, 2010, at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center. Although May 2010 seems so far away, it will be here sooner than we all anticipate. Therefore, it is important for all of the UNA's branch secretaries to set the date for their branch's annual meeting in order to elect the delegates and alternate delegates to the 2010 Convention.

The annual branch meeting for electing convention delegates and alternates should be scheduled as soon as possible after the official convention announcement is made. The official announcement will be published in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, as required by the UNA By-Laws, the first week of January 2010. Branch meetings, therefore, should be scheduled in January, February or March at the latest.

The UNA By-Laws state: "When the Executive Committee shall issue a call for a Regular Convention, each Branch shall within 60 days from the date of call, at a regular meeting, elect the delegates and alternates to which said branch may be entitled as herein provided. Nominations shall be received from the floor and all candidates presented to the membership for a vote. The candidate or candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected delegates. Alternate delegates shall be elected by separate vote in the same manner. All tie votes involving alternates shall be immediately resolved by ballot for the candidates involved. Each member shall be entitled to one vote for each delegate and alternate authorized to the branch."

However, prior to any branch voting on its delegates and alternates to the convention, it is necessary to determine the number of delegates to which a branch is entitled. The official announcement in January will also include a list of the

branches that do not qualify for a delegate or alternate to the convention. Branches having 75 or less voting members in their branch are ineligible to be represented at the convention. These branches however, are entitled to merge temporarily with another branch to reach the minimum 75-member mark.

According to the UNA By-Laws: "Every duly established branch in good standing in the association, having 75 or more members (as members are defined in the Convention Manual) shall be entitled to representation and vote on all matters to be acted on at the convention as follows: branches having 75-149 members inclusive, one delegate; those having 150-224 members inclusive, two delegates; those having 225-299 members, inclusive, three delegates, those having 300 or more members, four delegates. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. No branch shall be entitled to more than four votes.

"A branch having less than 75 members, for the purpose of representation at the convention, may unite with another branch also having less than 75 members and if when combined, the aggregate membership of the two branches, shall be no less than 75 members, they shall have the right to elect one delegate. Unless otherwise agreed by the mutual consent of secretaries of these branches, the branches having the greater or greatest number of members shall be entitled to elect the delegate, and the branch having the lesser number of members, the alternate."



Insure and be sure.
Join the UNA!

THE UNA: 115 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO OUR COMMUNITY

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Of elections and evolution

The collusion of the Party of Regions and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc in drafting a new set of election rules and overriding the president's veto of the law revealed that Ukraine's two largest political forces aren't much interested in a fair contest.

They limited all appeals to a two-day hearing by a single Kyiv court, and only after results are announced. They raised the ante for competing in the presidential elections from 500,000 hrv (\$61,000 U.S.) to 2.5 million hrv (\$305,000). Furthermore, in their first reading of the law, before it was vetoed by the president, the scoundrels wanted to limit membership on local and district election commissions to representatives of parliamentary factions. Thankfully, that clause was dropped when deputies approved the second reading in August.

Other troubling provisions remain, however. For example, Ukrainian civic organizations are forbidden from monitoring the elections and vote count. (International observers, representing the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for instance, are welcome to observe, presumably because they wouldn't tolerate being excluded.)

As expected, the Constitutional Court of Ukraine rejected some of the more offensive provisions of the election law. Its ruling offered some relief to those Ukrainians still fighting to ensure that some measure of Western principles and standards remain in place for the 2010 presidential elections.

The Constitutional Court upheld the right to appeal election commission protocols and the right of candidates to appeal to the Central Election Commission on election day and subsequent days. The Higher Administrative Court can't leave appeals without consideration even if the two-day review period expires, as the law stipulated earlier. And, the court properly ruled that voting shouldn't be limited to those Ukrainians on Embassy/Consulate voter registers. They're inadequate and don't take into account those abroad illegally. (Yet, giving Ukrainian citizens abroad the right to vote isn't enough if the lines are so long that only a small fraction get the chance to cast their ballots. Diplomatic staff must try their best to accommodate as many voters possible.)

Now it's up to Parliament to take these legal rulings and make them law. Deputies decided on October 22 to take another week to draft amendments. In doing so, however, they shouldn't limit themselves to the Constitutional Court's opinion, but should also take into account the evaluation offered by the European Commission's Venetian Commission and the OSCE's Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, which were critical of the legislation.

It's too late to correct some other problems. Despite politicians' repeated complaints for years about the poor quality of voter registers, and the lack of a central electronic database, next to nothing has been done to improve them, reported the Committee Voters of Ukraine. As much as 30 percent of the data in the State Voter Registry is inaccurate, the CVU estimated.

But Parliament still has the opportunity to maintain Western standards in the elections by eliminating clauses that threaten the elections' legitimacy, such as allowing voters to add their names to voter registers on election day itself. These elections need as many observers as they can get, and Ukrainian civic activists and organizations must be allowed to play a role in safeguarding their nation's democratic process. Absentee voting needn't be eliminated if it's regulated properly. Extreme provisions, such as criminal penalties for commissioners who miss a commission meeting, need adjustment.

The Orange Revolution was supposed to mark the beginning of a new era for Ukraine in its transition from a post-Soviet society to a progressive country aspiring toward Western ideals. The Party of Regions and the Tymoshenko Bloc can't allow the interests of oligarchs and political careerists eager to keep their parliamentary seats at any cost to impede Ukraine's evolution into a fully functioning democracy.

Oct.
27
2008

Turning the pages back...

Last year, on October 27, 2008, 25,000 residents of the city of Odesa witnessed the unveiling of the city's Founders of Odesa monument dedicated to Empress (Tsarina) Catherine II and her four disciples, Vice-Admiral Joseph de Ribas, city planner Franz de Volant, Prince Grigori Potiomkin Tavricheskii and Prince Platon Zubov, who are credited with founding and developing the port city. (Most historians reject the notion that the latter two had anything to do with the city's founding.)

The 36-foot-tall statue ignited centuries-old tensions and 200 Odesa policemen were on hand to prevent violence. Nearly 70 members of the Khmelnytsky Union of Faithful Black Sea Kozaks formed an honor guard. The monument's history dates back to 1894, when Odesa's tsarist leadership honored the centennial of the founding of the city by laying the cornerstone for the monument. The original Founders of Odesa statue was unveiled in 1900 on the same plaza where it stands today.

The renaming of streets and the erection of monuments throughout Ukraine highlighted the divisive gap between Ukrainians who are proud of the Russian and Soviet heritage and others who want all remnants of imperialism removed from Ukraine's public sphere.

With the rise of the Bolsheviks, the statue was dismantled in 1920 as a symbol of tsarist oppression, and was replaced with a bust of Karl Marx. The bust was damaged during a storm and the plaza was bare for several decades. In 1965 the Soviet leadership erected a monument to the Potemkin Uprising of 1905, which was relocated for the erection of the new Founders of Odesa monument.

City officials claimed that the erection of the Founders of Odesa monument was

(Continued on page 10)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Clinton offers the Kremlin friendship, but gets a mixed response

by Pavel Felgenhauer

Eurasia Daily Monitor

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton traveled to Moscow last week in an effort to promote the "reset" in Russian-American relations, to secure collaboration on Afghanistan, Iran and North Korea, and offer the Kremlin ballistic missile defense cooperation and nuclear arms control agreements.

However, for the Russians the most important concession is the apparent agreement by President Barack Obama's administration to tone down criticism of the massive suppression of basic democratic and human rights by the Kremlin.

Kommersant quoted Michael McFaul (a senior adviser to Mr. Obama who co-chairs a new U.S.-Russia working group on civil society issues with first deputy chief of the Kremlin administration, Vladislav Surkov) as saying that the U.S. "will not teach Russia democracy." The newspaper interpreted this as a major change in U.S. policy (Kommersant, October 13).

The U.S. delegation reacted to the publication by using damage-control measures. An unnamed State Department official was quoted as saying that Kommersant had misquoted Dr. McFaul (Associated Press, October 13).

The Western journalists accompanying Mrs. Clinton extensively covered remarks by the secretary of state during public appearances about how good it would have been, if human rights were observed in Russia.

Speaking to students in Moscow State University Secretary Clinton said: "People must be free to take unpopular positions, disagree with conventional wisdom, know they are safe to peacefully challenge accepted practice and authority" (Reuters, October 14). "I think all of these issues – imprisonments, detentions, beatings and killings – are something that is hurtful to see from the outside," she told Ekho Moskvyy (Ekho Moskvyy, October 14).

Mrs. Clinton met privately with democracy and human rights activists. According to Western reports this "tiny community of liberal democrats" was greatly reassured by her defense of democracy and human rights (AP, October 13). However, Russian journalists quoted the same activists differently.

Lev Ponomarev, the head of the Moscow-based group For Human Rights, observed: "Her presentation was academic; there was no criticism of the authorities, only regret." The head of the Memorial Human Rights Center, Oleg Orlov, noted: "It was an exclusively protocol meeting, there was no concrete discussion of anything" (www.newsru.com October 13).

The Clinton-led team has given an impression in Moscow that human rights and democracy are something the Obama administration would like to leave for the Kremlin to decide on its own.

The timing of the secretary of state's visit was unfortunate, since it coincided with the announcement of the results of the shamelessly rigged local government elections on October 11, held in 75 regions of Russia. In these elections, opposition candidates were refused registration, while independent observers reported massive vote rigging and ballot box stuffing. There was violence in the Dagestani city of Derbent. Yet, the state-controlled electoral officials declared the

Moscow waits to see what other concessions the Obama team may offer.

elections as free and valid, with Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's ruling United Russia (UR) winning practically all the disputed seats, bringing Russia closer to a one party state (www.newsru.com October 12).

In Moscow the official results of the city Duma election gave UR 66.26 percent, the Communist Party (CP) 13.27 percent, the pro-Kremlin Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Just Russia (JR) – 6.14 percent and 5.34 percent, respectively. Liberal Yabloko (that gained more than 10 percent four years ago) secured only 4.7 percent. In the 35-member Moscow Duma, UR will have 32 seats and CP three.

Exit polls taken by the All-Russian Center for Public Opinion Studies VTsIOM on election day gave totally different figures: UR – 45.5 percent, CP – 17.7 percent, Yabloko – 13.6 percent, JR – 8.4 percent (Interfax, October 12). If the elections were not shamelessly rigged, United Russia would still have won a majority, but the Moscow Duma would have been multi-party. It seems that the present corrupt rulers of Russia do not want to even allow the semblance of democracy.

While Mrs. Clinton was still in Russia, the CP, LDP and JR opposition parties in the State Duma staged a walkout to protest against the rigging of the elections. The party leaders were demanding a meeting with President Dmitry Medvedev and the dismissal of election officials and governors that carried out the massive electoral fraud (RIA Novosti, October 14).

This demonstration of defiance is unprecedented in modern Russia. The State Duma under Mr. Putin's regime has been a rubber-stamp Parliament totally submissive to the Kremlin. LDP and JR are pro-Kremlin parties, but now they see that if the present massive rigging is repeated during the next national elections, they face political oblivion as the transformation into a one-party state is completed. In a strange coincidence, this week the pro-Kremlin LDP leader Vladimir Zhirinovskyy defended democracy in Russia with more passion than Mrs. Clinton.

Dr. McFaul's interview published by Interfax does not leave an impression that Kommersant grossly misinterpreted his words. Dr. McFaul spoke with elation on working with Mr. Surkov to promote U.S.-Russian civil society cooperation, about new understandings on Iran, North Korea and Afghanistan. He compared the Obama policy toward Russia with that of Ronald Reagan (Interfax, October 13). Mr. Surkov is known in Russia as the prime architect of the suppression of democracy. Dr. McFaul told Interfax that he shares the fears of human rights activists in Russia, but only as an individual, not as an official.

President Reagan was a shrewd politician and a winner. The present Obama

(Continued on page 20)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

About Ukrainian radio programs

Dear Editor:

I read with interest Stepha Hryckowian's letter (October 4) about Ukrainian radio programs available on Internet sites. The only problem was that she did not give the website addresses of the programs.

I would like to let all know that, in the Pittsburgh area, our beloved "Ukrainian Radio Program" has been hosted by Michael Komichak for over 59 years. His bilingual program can be received on the Internet site www.wpitam.com each Sunday from 1 to 2 p.m. Eastern time. (Then, following at 2 p.m. is Father Valarian Micklik's bilingual "Ukrainian Catholic Program.")

Neither rain, snow, sickness nor family weddings or anniversaries, whether out of state or out of country, has stopped Mr. Komichak from being there for our community each Sunday for nearly three generations.

Mr. Komichak will be honored with the "rededication" of his awards as "1974 Ukrainian of the Year" by the Ukrainian Technological Society. The black-tie dinner dance will be held at The Club at Nevillewood country Club near Carnegie, Pa., a Pittsburgh suburb, on Saturday, November 7. (Tickets can be ordered from Ukrainian Technological Society board member Nicholas Kotow at 724-337-5704. All proceeds benefit the UTS scholarship program, a program that has granted over \$150,000 in scholarships both locally and in Ukraine for 40 years.)

George "Yurko" Honchar
Carnegie, Pa.

Many thanks for series by Buryk

Dear Editor:

As a Lemko (Ukrainian) born in Buck Run/Minersville, Pa., and raised for 10 years in the Sanik area, village of Wysochany, I am very grateful to Michael Buryk and The Ukrainian Weekly for publishing Mr. Buryk's article, "To find the missing 'G.'"

Although I have traveled back to my "homeland" about every other year since 1972 – my son has even been there with me – I have never written an article such as the one written by Mr. Buryk.

Mr. Buryk and The Weekly, I thank you for taking me back to my homeland.

Alex Kachmar
Sacramento

UCCLA members deserve kudos

Dear Editor:

Re: "The redress endowment," (September 27): Thank you for the kudos, but the success of the campaign for recognition and redress was the result of educational and lobbying initiatives taken over many years by all of the members of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) and its supporters.

The settlement secured represents, insofar as I know, the most significant restitution award provided to any community in the Ukrainian emigration, ever.

Our achievement will have its greatest impact in future as this fund provides grants for researching and commemorating what happened to Ukrainians and other Europeans unjustly branded as "enemy aliens" during Canada's first national internment operations.

The lesson re-learned during our campaign is that if you want to make a difference you have to work hard, dedicate the necessary resources, think creatively and forge on despite the deniers, the doubters, the dissimulators and our own "Uncle Toms."

The late G. R. Bohdan Panchuk gave very good advice when he wrote: "My gospel? Do Something!" The UCCLA did, and it worked, the proof of which is the \$10 million endowment now bequeathed to all Canadians on behalf of the innocents interned, disenfranchised and subjected to a national humiliation nearly a century ago. No matter where they are those who "lead" the Ukrainian diaspora should take note of how things actually get done.

Lubomyr Luciuk, Ph.D.
Kingston, Ontario

The letter-writer is chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

GOP alternatives to healthcare plan

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to comments in The Ukrainian Weekly regarding healthcare. What I find most interesting is the complete lack of consideration of Ukrainian history regarding the Obama administration's proposal for a government-run health care system.

As Ukrainians we are uniquely aware of the stifling effects that a socialized government can have on individual freedoms and choices. By surrendering 18 percent of the nation's economy to an already bloated and inefficient centralized government, we are potentially witnessing the transition of our representative democratic nation to one in which a big brother will be making the most important decisions for us – in some cases literally life and death decisions.

Throughout the month of August we witnessed the greatness of our democratic system in action, as "regular folks" throughout the country spoke out against a government take-over of our healthcare system.

President Barack Obama, however, in his speech on September 9 decided to completely disregard the voice of the American people, in effect saying, "I know what's best for the health of the country." As a healthcare provider, if I were to engage in treatment decisions without considering the will of patient I would be engaging in malpractice.

The Republicans have provided numerous free-market alternatives to the Obama healthcare plan, including opening up states to all insurance providers, providing tax credits for health insurance and forming individual health savings accounts.

I think that we all are in agreement that the healthcare system is in need of reform, however, I ask that we as Ukrainians not forget the lessons of our own history with regard to the potential repressive force that large centralized government can wreak upon the free will of the people.

Dr. Michael M. Karol
Somers, N.Y.

Reflections on who we are

Dear Editor:

Rarely do we pause to consider what it means to be an American? What influences have shaped who we are? Do we like what we have become? An opportunity for such reflection crossed my path when Lyudmylia Halitsyna, the editor-in-chief of the Ukrainian magazine Educational World: Administrative Information, wrote and published her impressions of Americans formed during her visit to Rochester/Irondequoit, N.Y. earlier this year.

Ms. Halitsyna's trip was sponsored by the Open World Leadership Center and was hosted by the Irondequoit/Poltava Sister Cities Committee. Along with Ms. Halitsyna who comes from Brovary, Kyiv Oblast, other members of the delegation included: Natalya Dida, the head of the Information Department Luhansk Regional Scientific Library; Yaroslava Khimich, doctoral student, State Academy for Cultural and Arts Executives in Kyiv; Olena Turkina, Window on America Information Center, Poltava Oblast Library; Valentyna Volynets, assistant director, the National Technical University, Kyiv Polytechnical Institute Scientific and Technical Library; and Krystyna Dobrovolsky, facilitator and marketing consultant, Dobrovolsky Private Enterprises, Kharkiv.

Ms. Halitsyna cited 10 characteristics which, in her opinion, comprise the American persona. First she was impressed with how Americans endeavor to control their circumstances and environment. Americans believe that change is good because it leads to progress and is focused on the future. Informality is cultivated in behavior and actions. Americans are self-reliant, individualistic and jealously protect the privacy of their personal lives. For Americans time is of the essence. Competition and free-enterprise serve as motivators for work which is deemed redeeming. Practicality and inventiveness keep workers grounded. Materialism is a product of effort and is richly valued. Finally, a belief in equality permeates the American society.

Much of what Ms. Halitsyna describes as American values appear to be rooted in the Protestant work ethic. Diligence, prudence, productivity, these qualities drive Americans to new industry and prosperity. Missing from her list are spirituality and benevolence, qualities that smooth the counters of a fast-paced information society in which we live, work and play.

How accurate are these descriptors. How do Ukrainians differ from Americans? Should Ukrainians change? Should Americans change? If so, How and why should they change? And the discourse continues.

Christine Hoshowsky, Ph.D.
Rochester, N.Y.

People of Ukraine and Lenin statue

Dear Editor:

The author of a commentary in the October 4 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly took to task your editorial criticizing recent assaults on Soviet-era monuments still standing in free Ukraine. As the author is Yevhen Sverstiuk of samvydav fame, the literary critic who ended up in

the Soviet gulag, I must preface my response with the wish that my words not be construed in any way as disrespectful of this man's countless contributions to Ukraine.

Mr. Sverstiuk's reading of that editorial is accurate when he says, "The Ukrainian Weekly called for the supremacy of legal methods, and sharply rebuked the actions of Mykola Kokhanivsky." But, in his peroration, he drives off the road. He says "condemning activists" makes little sense, but your editorial did not condemn activists.

Yes, The Weekly did enumerate various alternatives for dealing with this problem – methods that are natural in a modern democracy. One of Mr. Sverstiuk's translators, in a separate letter to the editor in the same issue, would like to think the Kokhanivskyi approach might have a place in a democratic state by calling it "civil disobedience." Calling Stalin "Uncle Joe" didn't make him more tender. Anyone who calmly reviews the celebrated instances of civil disobedience in human history will find Mr. Kokhanivskyi's rampage with hammers and chisels won't fit.

Besides issues of legality, another point in this matter has to do with who the Ukrainian people are these days. Mr. Sverstiuk says, "It was one thing when Lenin's statue stood because people believed in his righteousness, but quite another when everyone became aware of what he really was: a murderer, ... an executioner of peasants and the clergy." But everyone is not aware of that. And it's an unknown how long it will take those facts to reach the minds of the masses.

I can easily imagine that the people Mr. Sverstiuk routinely associates with are certainly aware, but are we to say all those who remain in the dark, willfully or not, are not to be counted as Ukrainians? Mr. Sverstiuk recommends going out and meeting with "the hotheads" to learn what little luck they had in earlier attempts at legal protest. I would respectfully ask: Is Ukraine's patriotic elite in touch with the masses of truly ordinary folks to learn why it is they might be offended by hotheads vandalizing familiar sites?

If it turns out one day that these monuments just continue in their places, what's to say Ukrainian patriots might learn to live with them as part of their history much as many African Americans have come to relate to granite figures in southern cities of Lee and Davis et alii, slave-owners all, who had little regard for people of color. Oh, I can hear the cry: "There's no comparison!" Ah, but there is.

Matthew-Daniel Stremba
Baltimore

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. 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.

Ukraine awaits...

(Continued from page 3)

tranche by the year's end.

"The IMF never directly lent money to a government but it's been financing Ukraine's budget deficit, which is unprecedented in the IMF's history," Borys Kushniruk, a banker and independent economist, said at an October 21 press conference.

On October 1 the Ukrainian government suffered its first external default when Naftohaz Ukrainy, the state-owned natural gas distribution monopoly, failed to pay a \$500 million Eurobond loan owed to three Western banks.

By October 20 the loan was restructured, but at an enormous cost of an additional \$700 million (of a total \$1.7 billion debt restructuring) to Ukrainians, as estimated by Serhii Tihipko, a presidential candidate and former chair of the National Bank of Ukraine.

These bankers will earn an extra 2 to 5 percent in interest on top of the loan's original 8.1 percent interest.

"The requirement to pay every month exorbitantly expensive Russian natural gas doesn't offer Naftohaz the possibility to cover other obligations," Mr. Tihipko said in an October 20 statement. "Formerly cheap loans become an excessive burden for the country as a result."

Such accumulating debt will cost the average Ukraine about \$700 next year alone, Mr. Tihipko noted.

Meanwhile Ukraine's foreign debt grew by \$2 billion to \$35 billion in September. "In taking loans, Ukraine is financing foreign government and institutions," Dr. Soskin pointed out.

Another destabilizing factor surfaced when Gazprom Board Chairman Aleksey Miller announced on October 7 that the Russian state-owned company, which is

fueling Russia's foreign policy, would not allow Ukraine to reduce its natural gas purchases to save money.

The next day Ms. Tymoshenko said she would reduce purchases by as much as \$5 billion to \$6 billion – an option the contract allows. Responding days later, Russian Natural Gas Association President Valeriy Yasiev said Gazprom's contract with Ukraine allows for penalties for any reduction in purchases.

Such sanctions could cost Ukraine at least \$5.9 billion for the first three quarters of 2009, said Bohdan Sokolovskiy, the president's international energy security representative.

"It will be very difficult for Gazprom to find arguments not to apply fines against Ukraine," said Mr. Kushniruk, an independent economist. "It's obvious they won't change the contract on their own. The issue is what interests Ukraine will sacrifice to avoid sanctions."

Yet, while the majority of Ukrainian experts give poor marks to Ms. Tymoshenko for her January agreement on natural gas, they view Ukraine's domestic politics and economic policy as larger threats to Ukrainian stability than any pressure Russia could apply come election-time.

Furthermore, Russia is unlikely to engage in its New Year's ritual of shutting natural gas flows, even if a potential tinderbox emerges with the elections, several economists said at an October 21 press conference in Kyiv.

Russia may be counting on conditions in Ukraine to worsen following the elections, said Ildar Gazizullin, senior economist at the International Centre for Policy Studies in Kyiv.

"I don't think Russia is interested in escalating the conflict in January," he said. "After all, who will Russia argue with when it's unclear who's truly the president or who controls the situation? Russia could calmly wait a few months when its finan-

cial levers of influence over Ukraine will increase. Naftohaz debt before Gazprom will grow even further."

Mr. Kushniruk agreed that Russia is not interested in military maneuvers this winter for numerous reasons, including the likelihood that a post-election mess could drag for several months. That scenario won't allow the Russians to appear as if they're protecting its citizens and allies from a particular candidate.

"Even if they tell the electorate that [Viktor] Yanukovich is their candidate, although Russia has invested more in Tymoshenko, the problem in that case is how to convince the Crimean people before the election's conclusion that they're in a horrible position?" he said. "On what basis? There's no argumentation to prove that to the electorate."

Roman Kupchinsky, a Washington-based journalist and expert on Ukraine's energy sector, said another New Year's conflict between Russia and Ukraine would hurt Ms. Tymoshenko's standing among voters.

Unlike the 2004 presidential election, however, Russia hasn't placed its chips on any particular candidate, observers agree.

In September former National Security and Defense Council Chair Volodymyr Horbulin and Dr. Oleksander Lytvynenko, a political scientist, published their view that a "Kyiv offensive will unfold in the nearest future and it will be decisive and ruthless."

The Russian government realizes that its "window of opportunity" to reclaim not only Crimea, but the southeastern regions of Ukraine, will expire sometime after 2015, they wrote, demanding action before then. This could involve partitioning Ukraine and incorporating southeastern Ukraine into the Russian Federation.

Their call for holding an international conference was echoed by 27 Ukrainian intellectuals, who signed a September appeal asking the U.S., Great Britain,

France and China to reaffirm their commitment to the 1994 Budapest Memorandum in which they agreed to ensure Ukraine's safety in exchange for surrendering its nuclear arsenal.

Opinions are diverse among Ukraine's political observers on Russia's plans for Crimea. Prof. Olexiy Haran of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy said the Russian government is more interested in Crimea and other regions being a part of Ukraine for political leverage.

"The situation is that Crimea can be used as a 'push button' to pressure Ukraine and use it as a card in the domestic political fight," Prof. Haran said. "They'll create instability in Crimea to gain concessions from the government or candidates."

Yet, Ivan Lozowy, president of the Institute of Statehood and Democracy, agrees with the assessment that Russia will sooner or later attempt to permanently claim Sevastopol and its Black Sea Fleet bases, at minimum.

Meanwhile the financial crisis has hit the Ukrainian military hard.

In one of his countless attacks against the Tymoshenko Cabinet, President Viktor Yushchenko estimated in early October that 25 military residences lack 24-hour electricity, 40 percent of military hardware and artillery aren't combat-ready, and only 62 percent of the military's minimal needs are being financed.

"Who needs this kind of an army?" he asked rhetorically before Crimean reporters on October 8.

Just how Russia will respond to Ukraine's exceptional vulnerability this winter remains to be seen, yet preparations have been under way for years to capitalize on an opportune moment.

"There isn't a political force today that can pull Ukraine from economic collapse, and that's the worst situation since the time Ukraine renewed its independence," Dr. Soskin said.

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U.S. UKRAINIANS IN NUMBERS

Geographical dispersion of Ukrainians in the U.S.: 1990-2006

by Oleh Wolowyna

With this article we begin a series of demographic and socio-economic analyses of Ukrainians in the United States, based on the integrated databases made available by the Research Center for the Study of the Ukrainian Diaspora in the United States at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York. Details about the center can be found on the center's website: <http://inform-decisions.com/ukrstat/>.

Historically Ukrainians in the United States tended to settle mainly in a few states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern Central areas of the country. States like New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan and Ohio accounted for the great majority of Ukrainians in the United States.

Changes in these settlement pattern begun in the 1970s and 1980s, when some Ukrainians started migrating to California and Florida. In the last 20-30 years Ukrainians have been engaged in a redistribution process that has changed significantly their settlement patterns in the country. States with large numbers of Ukrainians have been experiencing significant out migration to southeastern and south-central states, as part of the general trend of changing economic opportunities in the country.

Starting in the late 1980s, this process has been reinforced by the so called Fourth Wave of migration from Ukraine. Although many of these new immigrants settled in states with large Ukrainian communities, a significant number chose to settle in states with few Ukrainians and no organized Ukrainian communities.

These geographical changes have significant implications for the Ukrainian community in the United States.

Table 1 documents this extraordinary geographical shift between 1990 and 2006. Among the nine geographical divisions defined by the Bureau of the Census, three divisions accounted for 73 percent of all Ukrainians in 1990; 44 percent lived in the Middle Atlantic Division (New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania), 19 percent in the East North Central Division (mainly Illinois, Michigan and Ohio) and 10 percent lived in the Pacific Division (mainly California).

Although all nine divisions experienced increases in their number of Ukrainians between 1990 and 2006, three divisions experienced losses in their shares of Ukrainians, while six divisions experienced increases in their shares.

The percent living in the Middle Atlantic Division dropped from 44 percent in 1990 to 35 percent in 2006 – a 20 percent decrease – and the percent in the East North Central Division dropped from 19 percent in 1990 to 16 percent in 2006 (a 15 percent decrease). Also, the share of Ukrainians living in New England was reduced by 13 percent during this period, although this share has been relatively small (6.6 percent in 1990 and 5.7 percent in 2006).

Between 1990 and 2006, five Divisions experienced large increases in their shares of Ukrainians. The share in the Pacific Division increased by 67 percent, the share in the East South Central Division increased by 60 percent, and the shares in the South Atlantic, West South Central and Mountain Divisions increased between 20 percent and 38 percent.

Among these five divisions the most important ones are the Pacific and South Atlantic Divisions, as the other three divisions have relatively few Ukrainians. The number of Ukrainians in the Pacific Division increased from 77,000 in 1990 to 158,000 in 2006 and the South Atlantic Division had an increase from 79,000 to 133,000.

In sum, although all divisions experienced increases during this period in their number of Ukrainians, Eastern and North-East Central states had much larger gains than north-eastern and North Midwestern states. As we shall see below, actually some Northeastern and North Midwestern

(Continued on page 20)

Oleh Wolowyna is a demographer and sociologist, and owner of the consulting firm Informed Decisions in Chapel Hill, NC. He is a research fellow at the Center for Slavic, Eurasian and Eastern European Studies, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and full member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, U.S.A. His main areas of research are: demography and sociology of Ukrainians in the United States and Canada, and demography of Ukraine and the Holodomor. He is currently a Fulbright research scholar in Ukraine and founder of the Research Center for the Study of the Ukrainian Diaspora in the United States, which was recently established at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, U.S.A.

In the last 20 to 30 years Ukrainians have been engaged in a redistribution process that has changed significantly their settlement patterns in the country. The search for economic opportunities and the influx of Fourth Wave immigrants from Ukraine have resulted in large Ukrainian settlements in a number of new states, while several traditional states have experienced losses. These geographical changes have significant implications for the Ukrainian community in the United States

Table 1.- Distribution of Ukrainians by Geographical Divisions: United States, 1990 and 2006

Geographical Divisions	Number		Percent		Change in % distribution
	1990	2006	1990	2006	
New England Division	47,410	53,390	6.6%	5.7%	-13.2%
Middle Atlantic Division	316,926	328,419	43.9%	35.1%	-20.1%
East North Central Div.	136,713	150,093	18.9%	16.0%	-15.4%
West North Central Div.	23,305	33,537	3.2%	3.6%	10.9%
South Atlantic Division	79,334	133,494	11.0%	14.3%	29.7%
East South Central Div.	5,793	12,033	0.8%	1.3%	60.1%
West South Central Div.	16,368	25,552	2.3%	2.7%	20.3%
Mountain Division	23,652	42,267	3.3%	4.5%	37.8%
Pacific Division	72,621	157,988	10.1%	16.9%	67.7%
Total	722,122	936,773	100.0%	100.0%	NA

New England Div.: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, R. Island, Vermont

Middle Atlantic Division: New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

East North Central Div.: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin

West North Central Div.: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, N. Dakota, S. Dakota

S. Atlantic Div.: Delaware, D. C., Florida, Georgia, Maryland, N. Carolina, S. Carolina,

Virginia, W. Virginia

East South Central Div.: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee

West South Central Div.: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

Mountain Division: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, N. Mexico, Utah, Wyoming

Pacific Division: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington

Table 2.- Selected States with more than 100% Increase in the Number of Ukrainians between 1990 and 2006

State	Number		Relative. % 2006-1990
	1990	2006	
South Carolina	1,881	8,228	337.4%
Washington	10,500	43,058	310.1%
Oregon	5,847	18,060	208.9%
North Carolina	4,788	14,126	195.0%
Tennessee	2,013	5,785	187.4%
Georgia	4,958	13,699	176.3%
D. of Columbia	777	1,799	131.5%

Table 3.- 1990 - 2006 Change in the Number of Ukrainians for States with more than 12,000 Ukrainians in 1990

State	Number		Relative % 2006-1990
	1990	2006	
Connecticut	24,686	21,939	-11.1%
Pennsylvania	127,892	117,061	-8.5%
Michigan	44,050	42,479	-3.6%
New Jersey	72,816	71,380	-2.0%
Ohio	42,911	43,430	1.2%
New York	116,218	139,978	20.4%
Illinois	37,404	45,923	22.8%
Maryland	15,204	21,056	38.5%
Minnesota	10,809	15,186	40.5%
Florida	32,848	46,794	42.5%
Massachusetts	15,621	22,904	46.6%
Texas	12,482	18,523	48.4%
Virginia	12,252	18,937	54.6%
California	54,141	94,044	73.7%

Presidential campaign...

(Continued from page 1)

law so that it conforms to the Constitutional Court's ruling and can be approved next week.

Overshadowing the ruling and most other political events was a racy scandal that imploded just in time for the start of the campaign season, which will last 90 days as compared to the standard 120 days in previous years.

Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko confirmed on October 14 that three employees of the Artek International Children's Center in Crimea are accused of sexually abusing two children, a 12-year-old boy and a nine-year-old girl adopted by Dmytro and Olena Poliukhovych, who are in the middle of a nasty divorce.

Ms. Poliukhovych alleges that Mr. Poliukhovych, a former television journalist, abused the children in Crimea as well as a Kyiv apartment, where pornographic orgies were allegedly held involving three national deputies of the Tymoshenko Bloc.

Mr. Poliukhovych is a long-time acquaintance of one the accused Tymoshenko Bloc deputies, Viktor Ukolov, who said he'd refrain from politics until the elections were over.

Meanwhile Tymoshenko Bloc Deputy Hryhorii Omelchenko resigned in disgust from the party following the sexual abuse allegations.

While Ms. Poliukhovych brought the allegations against Artek employees in the spring, accusations against the politicians surfaced only this month, raising skepticism among officials and observers about the timing.

"To be honest, I personally have doubts about this whole incident considering we've investigated the matter for seven months, arrested one and have three people who will likely be held liable," Minister Lutsenko said at an October 14 press conference. Ukraine's top law enforcement official has close ties to Ms. Tymoshenko.

"But for seven months we didn't hear from the mother, the children or deputies, who wrote inquiries, that deputies are involved. And here, in the seventh month, the children recall events of three years ago in which the deputies allegedly did something," he commented.

While her deputies were defending themselves against the allegations, Prime Minister Tymoshenko prepared for her grueling campaign with a spiritual and political journey.

She flew to Rome on October 16, where

she met with Pope Benedict XVI for 50 minutes in the private papal library and gave him a laser copy of the Khrystonopil Epistle manuscript, written in the 12th century in Church Slavonic with early traces of the Ukrainian language.

The original was preserved for centuries in the Khrystonopil Monastery in Chervonohrad, Lviv Oblast, and is currently held at the Lviv Historical Museum.

The prime minister flew on October 17 and 18 to Jerusalem, where Orthodox Patriarch Theophilos III bestowed upon her the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, the highest honor of the Jerusalem Orthodox Church. She invited the patriarch of Jerusalem to visit Ukraine.

Ms. Tymoshenko described the trip as a private journey, covered at her own financial expense.

"As a faithful Orthodox person, before such difficult challenges as the presidential campaign – and most importantly establishing order in the country after the presidential elections – I want to visit all the holy sites, important sacred Orthodox places," Ms. Tymoshenko explained.

The Tymoshenko campaign is planning a massive public meeting on the evening of October 24 on Kyiv's Independence Square (the "maidan"), at which the public will join Tymoshenko Bloc delegates in officially nominating the prime minister as their presidential candidate.

Meanwhile Viktor Yanukovych, leader of the Party of Regions, will lead his party's 12th congress on October 23 at Kyiv's International Exhibition Center, where he will be officially nominated for the Ukrainian presidency.

The PRU's principle campaign highlight so far, besides billboards urging voters to call a hotline and voice their concerns, was the successful legislative effort to boost minimum wages and pensions, a measure approved in its second reading on October 20.

"It shouldn't be that we have to try for half a year to resolve this matter," Mr. Yanukovych told reporters that day. "There is a law on social security, and the Cabinet of Ministers is required to initiate this issue amidst conditions of enormous price increases on everything – medicine, everyday items and utilities."

The Lytvyn Bloc held a congress on October 21 to nominate its leader, a Zhytomyr Oblast native, who made all the evening news channels when he broke down crying at the start of his campaign speech. Mr. Lytvyn said later that his emotions were triggered upon receiving an embroidered ritual cloth, sewn by his moth-



Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovych during an October 15 briefing on his "I Hear Everyone" program.

er, from one of his childhood classmates.

Meanwhile Arseniy Yatsenyuk, considered to be the third most popular candidate, was the target of anti-Jewish egg hurlers during a campaign stop in Zakarpattia town of Berehovo on October 16, attended by 5,000 locals.

More than 300 skinheads also whistled and held anti-Jewish placards, reported the press service of the Front of Change, Mr. Yatsenyuk's civic organization.

Rabbi Yaakov Don Bleich, the chief rabbi of Ukraine, recently told the Ha'aretz newspaper, Israel's largest, that Mr. Yatsenyuk isn't Jewish. Meanwhile, Mr. Yatsenyuk hasn't confirmed or denied his Jewish religion or ethnicity, but appears in public wearing a cross around his neck.

"Forgive those people who whistle

because they received 50 hrv," Mr. Yatsenyuk told the crowd. "We are high-minded and therefore will stand above what's happening."

Politicians will find diverse methods to buy voters, reported Opora, a Western-financed civic network actively monitoring the elections.

Vote-buying will be a significant factor because Ukrainians don't see a direct relationship between who becomes president and their economic status, Opora reported. Voters are generally apathetic and don't believe in today's political elite. And they need money amidst the economic crisis.

"Perceiving this election as trite voting, a significant portion of citizens could agree to sell their votes under an organized mass purchase," Opora noted on October 19.

Rada moves...

(Continued from page 1)

Constitution of Ukraine, which is why it was ready to take effect immediately and allow for any national deputy to be arrested and prosecuted.

The Party of Regions (PRU) bill, which gained 390 votes and support from all five parliamentary factions (except those loyal to President Viktor Yushchenko), had yet to undergo review. That process will take at least a year, and probably longer.

In his other criticism of the legislation, Mr. Kyrylenko explained it would leave Ukraine's judges with the same level of immunity they currently enjoy. The bill also allows for the arrest of the Ukrainian president with simply a judgment from a district court, a very affordable scenario

for a wealthy deputy. That provision contradicts the special impeachment procedure for the president, he said.

Yet, in declaring their support for the PRU version of the bill, deputies insisted on the need to apply the law equally to the president, as well as themselves. Such attempts drew derision from the president's loyalists.

"There's light in the session hall and above its cupola," commented Lilia Hryhorovych, an Our Ukraine deputy. "Yet I have the impression that we're all looking for a cat in a dark room in such a way as to not find it at all."

Any legislation to remove provisions on immunity from prosecution will eventually require 301 votes in a third round of parliamentary voting, as required for any amendment to the Ukrainian Constitution.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

meant to restore the city's historical heritage. Critics believed that the Odesa statue was a subtle way for Russophiles within government to strengthen the influence of Russian culture and identity and stunt the development of Ukrainian consciousness and identity. One of the major financiers of the monument was Ruslan Tarpan, a member of the Progressive Socialist Party on the Odesa City Council.

As the dedication event drew to its culmination, more than 200 Ukrainian patriots and nationalists (mostly Odesa residents), including members of the Ukrainian People's Party, the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union and approximately 50 uniformed Kozaks of the Black Sea Haidamak Union (200 other plainclothes Kozaks were among the crowd), shouted protests of "Shame," "Glory to Ukraine"

and "Glory to the Heroes." The protesters were directed away from the plaza and they filled downtown Odesa for several hours, singing Ukrainian songs and shouting slogans. Meanwhile, Russophiles at the dedication ceremony waved Romanov dynasty and Russian Federation tri-color flags; not a single Ukrainian flag was reported among them.

Although altercations between the two sides were brief and not widespread, the protesters provided a bitter backdrop with their shouts of "Catherine – Torturer of Ukraine."

"If our country were truly independent, and if Ukrainians were truly masters in their country, then we wouldn't be erecting monuments to occupiers who destroyed Ukraine," said Valentyna Tovstan, an Odesa native.

Source: "Monument to Russian empress in Odesa ignites conflict over past," by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, November 4, 2008.



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Ukrainian pro soccer update

by Ihor Stelmach

Andriy Shevchenko moves back to Kyiv Dynamo

Some refer to it as a sports soap opera. Others have gone the cartoonish route with their own take-off on Waldo, called "Where's Sheva?" Serious European football experts simply point to a 30-ish superstar looking for the right situation to kick-start a stellar soccer career. Just when most were convinced it would be one last go in Chelsea, Andriy Shevchenko decided to leave England's Premier League for his native land of Ukraine – back to where it all began a decade ago, when at the age of 22 Shevchenko first began netting goals by the bunches.

Chelsea nightmare ends

The final cost per goal for Chelsea was 3.4 million pounds. Shevchenko scored a mere nine goals in his total of 48 top-flight match appearances over the course of three disappointing seasons after his arrival from AC Milan in 2006. Chelsea's record 30.8 million-pound investment proved to be a major bust, and Shevchenko finally called time on his career at Stamford Bridge.

When he found out he was demoted to the far fringes of Chelsea's active roster, Sheva entered negotiations with his debut club, Dynamo Kyiv, over an offer to return as player-coach.

Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich's favorite player never came close to matching the reputation he earned playing in Italy. Indeed, many described the recent Shevchenko – the third-highest scorer in Champions League history – as an enigma who left some of his skills in Milan.

Any bright spots on the field were few and far in between at Chelsea, the result of back and leg injuries plus ongoing disagreements with his first coach, Jose Mourinho. Abramovich's hiring of Shevchenko's old AC Milan coach, Carlo Ancelotti, was thought to be a way of tapping back into the Ukrainian's offensive potential. But Ancelotti, the manager during Shevchenko's glory years, and the man who welcomed him back to Milan on loan last season, didn't see it happening any more.

Seeing the writing on the wall, Shevchenko set out in search of a team offering a starting opportunity. The soon to be 33-year-old with a year remaining on his Chelsea contract understood his possible destinations were limited. Saving some 120,000 pounds per week in payroll, Chelsea did not put up a fight. After all, coach Ancelotti had given the Ukrainian a

mere four minutes of substitute playing time in a match versus Sunderland in this young season.

In a chat with United Kingdom Daily Mail online columnist Leo Spall, Ancelotti had the following to say about his one-time super striker. "He had a problem, a physical problem. He lost some reactivity in the play. I spoke with Sheva and he would like to play with continuity. But here it's difficult. I have a very good relationship with him, but he wanted one thing that I cannot give him. I think he is making a good decision, to play on another team, to have a possibility to show his quality."

Shevchenko entertained an offer to join the Turkish club Fenerbahce, then really was intrigued by the player-coach offer from Dynamo Kyiv in late August. His career with Chelsea ended abruptly when he did not dress in a potential farewell appearance against Burnley on August 28. There was practically no hope in the world that Sheva would have been prominently featured in coach Ancelotti's 2009 plans.

In late August Shevchenko had discussions with Chelsea owner Abramovich, the result of which was the mutual understanding that a parting of the ways would be the best solution to the unfortunate situation. Abramovich willingly released his Ukrainian striker from the 11 months left on his Chelsea contract.

Shevchenko's official press conference announcing his return to Ukraine took place on August 30, with FC Dynamo Kyiv President Igor Surkis and coach Valery Gazzayev at the forefront of the ceremonies, welcoming back their favorite native son. Sheva returned with a two-year contract, following his unsuccessful three-year stay with Chelsea. The former European footballer of the year was back where his pro soccer career began 10 years after he left to join AC Milan.

As productive as the move to AC Milan was, the opposite held true for Shevchenko's foray to the Premier League. Despite the club-record 30 million-pound transfer fee, Sheva failed to make an impact in British soccer. When Chelsea inked Shevchenko to a deal, it had won the Premier League championship two years running. His contribution of only four goals in 30 Premier League matches had something to do with Chelsea losing to Liverpool in the semi-finals while Manchester United regained the title in 2007.

Happy to be back

Shevchenko was delighted to be back with Dynamo Kyiv. "First of all, I would like to thank Roman Abramovich and Igor Surkis for making the transfer possible," Shevchenko said, according to UEFA's official website. "I also want to thank coach Valery Gazzayev, whom I am really happy to have the chance to work with. I've had 10 years abroad, but now it's time to return. I want to honor the club and make the fans happy. I'm really pleased to be back."

Playing with Dynamo Kyiv allows the Ukrainian star to participate in European soccer's most illustrious competition, with regular matches featuring elite opponents like Barcelona, Inter and Rubin Kazan.

Shevchenko was very aware of the future challenges and was ready to tackle them head on. "We have a very tough group, but that's even better for Dynamo," he added, according to UEFA's website. "We respect our opponents, and we expect them to adopt the same attitude towards us. Everybody should respect, even fear, this club."

It didn't take very long for the Ukrainian goal scorer to strike. In his very first game back with Dynamo Kyiv, Shevchenko scored a goal in a 3-1 victory over Metallurg Donetsk. His was the final tally – a last-minute penalty kick following earlier tallies by teammates Milos Ninkovic and Andriy Yarmolenko. The win allowed Sheva's new club to stay atop the Superliga

standings, just ahead of champion Shakhtar Donetsk.

Soccer pundits all over the world were quick to react. Most of the early feedback was positive. Many agreed Coach Mourinho never gave him a fair shot at the Bridge. Several experts predicted goals by the hatful in his return to Dynamo, his original proving ground. Bloggers wrote about this Ukrainian who was a great player for a long time, deserving of such an opportunity.

Making news headlines in Kyiv the first week of September was the house-hunting expedition of Shevchenko's wife, Kristen Pazik. She and their two sons were staying at the Hyatt Hotel, while the footballer was temporarily living in a room at FC Dynamo's headquarters. The 31-year-old model decided to scout potential apartments and houses on her own, while her husband trained with his new club. She met with realtors and viewed several residences in downtown Kyiv. Her real estate-seeking mission included an entourage of both boys, a nanny and personal assistants.

Soon thereafter, the UNIAN news service reported that Shevchenko and his wife have made it a priority for their two young boys to learn to speak Ukrainian. It appeared the apartment hunt was successfully completed, but the Shevchenkos were in no hurry to enroll their boys in school because they did not yet know Ukrainian; there was talk of private language lessons for the boys.

Ukraine advances in soccer playoffs

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – On October 19 Ukraine (ranked 22nd) drew a playoff spot against Greece (ranked 16th) to be played on November 14 (away) and 18 (home) to determine which team will advance to the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

The winner of the two-day playoffs will be determined by aggregate goals, with away goals worth double points. If the teams are even on away goals, or if both matches are goalless, two 15-minute periods of extra time will be played at the end of the second match. After that, if the score remains tied, the winner will be determined by penalty kicks.

Ukraine's performance in the qualifying rounds has been marked by steady progress, as the team won three of its last four matches. During its last four matches Ukraine defeated England 1-0, bested

Andorra twice (6-0, 5-0) and drew a tie against Belarus. Ukraine eliminated Croatia and came in second place behind England in their group.

British journalists reported that Ukraine's performance during their match in Dnipropetrovsk against England on October 10 was marred by soccer hooliganism. Many of the agitators threw lit flares onto the soccer field, endangering the players as well as the officials. English newspapers and tabloids also reported "racist chants" against the black players, but contradictory comments from players, such as England's Carlton Cole (who is black), indicates this scandal appears to be an attempt at sensationalism by the British press.

Nonetheless, the Dnipropetrovsk incident does not bode well for the future hosts of the Euro-2012 championships in the eyes of Western tourists.

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The Recovery Act also provides a deduction for State and Local sales and excise taxes paid on the purchase of new cars, light trucks, motor homes and motorcycles through 2009. Complete information, including eligibility requirements can be found at: www.irs.gov.

Concert by harpist Odarka Polanskyj Stockert launches TWG music series

by Lesia Bihun

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Odarka Polanskyj Stockert, an accomplished musician and vocalist from Millburn, N.J., launched The Washington Group Cultural Fund's 2009-2010 Sunday concert series on September 27, introducing two solo instruments not heard before in this annual series – the classical and Celtic harps.

Ms. Stockert delighted the eager audience not only with her musicality, but also with the exposure and artistry of the instrument, her "stories behind the strings," and the rich background of her national and family ancestry.

The appreciative members of the audience experienced a cultural feast from the first pluck of the strings to the last sip of wine at the reception.

The first part of her program, performed at the historic Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria, Va., featured works by C.P.E. Bach, Jules Massenet and other composers arranged for the classical pedal harp.

More than half of the selections were either compositions or expert arrangements by Carlos Salzedo, who, as Ms. Stockert underscored, was "the teacher of my teacher," and a long-term professor of the instrument at Julliard. To this array she also inserted a Ukrainian dance, "Choboty."

One of the more delightful pieces was

the harp Sonata in C, long-attributed to Czech composer Jan Dussek, but, as Ms. Stockert explained, recently discovered to have been actually composed by his wife, Sophia, from Scotland – thus the haunting Celtic strains.

Following intermission, Ms. Stockert brought out the Celtic harp – and her voice – to play and sing a collection of Irish, English, Scottish and American traditional songs, as well as a Ukrainian Lemko song, "Zrodylysia Terky," and one of her own compositions, "Love in the Mist."

Ms. Stockert started singing just four years ago as a requirement for one of her competitions, and the addition of her voice to the harp created a perfect complement thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. The Lemko song was brought to her attention by none other than a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer stationed in Ukraine recently



Andrew Bihun

Odarka Polanskyj Stockert, with the classical and Celtic harps she played at the opening performance of The Washington Group Cultural Fund's 2009-2010 Sunday Concert Series.

– U.S. public diplomacy truly in cultural action.

A student of the late Leone Paulson, a celebrated concert harpist from South Orange, N.J., Ms. Stockert has performed as a member of the Paulson Harp Ensemble and has spent several summers in Ireland, studying, participating in and winning awards at the O'Carolan Irish Harp and Granard Harp competitions.

She has been associated with the Yara Arts Group in New York, performing in many of its events and productions, and is a founding member of Glendalough's Muse, a Celtic flute and harp duo, and Suenos del Alma, a Latin-inspired harp and violin duo.

As a historical side note, members of Ms. Stockert's family attending the concert mentioned that her grand uncle Dr. Yuriy Polanskyj served as mayor of Lviv in the early 1940s and later became one of the most noted geologists/academicians in subsequent decades in Argentina.

The Cultural Fund, now directed by Chrystyna Kinal, was organized 15 years ago as part of The Washington Group, a Ukrainian American professionals' organization, to acquaint the Washington area with the culture of Ukraine. Many of its concerts, recitals, art exhibits and other cultural programs are conducted in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine.

Ukrainian Sacred Music Course held in Emlenton, Pa.

EMLENTON, Pa. – The third Ukrainian Sacred Music Seminar and Workshop was held from Wednesday, August 12, through Sunday, August 16, at All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church Camp in Emlenton, Pa. The course was sponsored by the Ukrainian Bandura Chorus and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and was held in conjunction with the Annual Bandura Camp – Kobzarska Sich.

This year 16 attendees, ranging from high school students to pensioners participated. Many of the participants were cantors and church choir conductors of Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic parishes, and some were simply enthusiasts interested in learning more about Ukrainian sacred music and singing quality church music.

The course was facilitated and led by Oleh Mahlay, former conductor of the Ukrainian Bandura Chorus, the Rev. Deacon Dr. Ihor Mahlay of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and seminarian Andriy Matlak, a graduate of the Cantors/Conducors School in Ukraine. The administrator of the course was Anatoly Murha.

Core material for the course focused on the rich history of Ukrainian church music and analysis with singing of a wide repertoire of church music, normally not possible in the average parish setting. In addition to the basic curriculum, time was devoted to basic chanting technique, and an opportunity given for some conducting. Lectures were given on the topics of liturgical structure, place and beauty of the sacred arts, and instruction with practicum of choir leading.

A special focus for this year's course was on the "para-liturgical" musical tradition of the Ukrainian Church which included canticles and religious melodies not official in the liturgical structure of the services. One such musical composition presented, sung and recorded was composed by the 17th century bishop, writer, composer and saint Dimitry (Typtalo) of Rostov. Music by the lesser known composer of the early 20th century Yakiv Yatsinewych was introduced to the participants.



Clergy, lecturers and participants of the Ukrainian Sacred Music Course following the concluding liturgy.

The quiet and rustic setting in the mountains of western Pennsylvania, conducive facilities and the beauty of a traditional Carpathian wooden chapel provided a perfect setting for such a course.

The course concluded with a divine liturgy served by Father Paisius McGrath and Protodeacon Mahlay at St. Thomas Chapel with the participants singing and conducting the combined choir participants of the sacred music and bandura courses.

For further information and dates for future courses visit www.bandura.org or e-mail imahlay@yahoo.com.



Participants during the rehearsal and lectures in St. Thomas Chapel.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

to be marked on October 28. The move was called to honor the heroic deeds and victims of the Ukrainian people during World War II. October 28, 1944, was the end of the fascist invasion of Ukraine, President Yushchenko noted. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine's population: 46.016 M

KYIV – Ukraine's population dropped by 6,100 or 0.001 percent from July to August to a total of 46.022 million, the State Statistics Committee said on October 16.

The urban population shrank by 0.02 percent or 6,500 as of September 1, to 31.6 million, while the rural population rose by 0.003 percent or 400 people to 14.506 million. In 2008 Ukraine's population fell by 0.5 percent or 229,000. According to the population census conducted in Ukraine in December 2001, some 48.416 million people lived in Ukraine, including 32.538 million in cities and 15.878 million in villages. (Ukrinform)

H1N1 vaccine expected in Ukraine

KYIV – A vaccine against the H1N1 flu will appear in Ukraine before the end of 2009, Oleksander Hrynevych, director of

the Ukrainian Flu Center, told a press conference on October 16. "Before the end of the year, Ukraine will have a vaccine against pandemic influenza A (H1N1). As known, the European Union has already registered three vaccines of this kind, and now several Western European and Russian companies are planning to register the vaccine in Ukraine," he said. Mr. Hrynevych emphasized that the number of seasonal flu patients is growing in Ukraine week after week by approximately 5 percent, having reached 40,000 by late September. Currently there are two H1N1 flu patients in Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

UWC president addresses Rada

KYIV – The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) is calling on the Verkhovna Rada to recognize the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army as participants of the struggle for the independence of Ukraine and provide them with appropriate benefits. UWC President Eugene Czolij addressed parliamentary hearings on October 14 on "Foreign Ukrainians: The Current State and Cooperation Prospects," in which more than 80 foreign Ukrainians from 26 countries participated. On behalf of the UWC he also called on the Verkhovna Rada to pass laws "intended to dismantle monuments symbolizing the totalitarian communist regime"; "harmonize parliamentary immunity with European standards"; hold annual parliamentary hearings on December 10, Human Rights Day, to discuss Ukrainian minority rights in various countries; and hold annual parliamentary hearings on February 21, Native Language Day, on the current state and perspectives of the Ukrainian language. (Ukrinform)

U.S. will help law enforcers

KYIV – Ukraine reached agreement with the United States on the allocation of \$4.4 million (U.S.) in additional technical aid for the reform of Ukraine's law enforcement sphere, the press service of the U.S. Embassy to Ukraine reported on October 21. The agreement was signed by the U.S. Embassy and the Internal Affairs Ministry of Ukraine. The projects to be financed will help Ukraine bring its criminal justice and law enforcement systems in line with European norms and standards. The agreement is part of the long-term program for the strengthening of law enforcement bodies within the framework of Ukraine's commitments to the Council of Europe. (Ukrinform)

A Consulate General in Edmonton

KYIV – Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash said on October 15 that the idea of optimizing the work of embassies is timely. However, he said he expected the country's new foreign affairs minister, Petro Poroshenko, "to increase [Ukraine's] diplomatic presence in Canada, because we're entering relations of a strategic partnership with this country." Mr. Ostash said that Ukraine is planning to soon open another diplomatic office in Canada – a Consulate General in Edmonton, Alberta. The ambassador said that Edmonton is not only the industrial capital of Canada, but also the city with the greatest number of Ukrainians living in it. He noted that Premier of Alberta Ed Stelmakh is Ukrainian. (Ukrinform)

President believes in patriots

KYIV – "The political forces that today are represented in the Parliament and the government are unable to tackle the vital problems our state is facing. So, when we speak about political stabilization, I'm deeply convinced that it is necessary to place stakes on patriotic people, patriotic forces who care about Ukraine," President Viktor Yushchenko told a gathering held on the occasion of the 67th anniversary of the establishment of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA). Mr. Yushchenko underlined

that all citizens should consider in what system of values they want to live and what kind of further development of the state they want to see. He noted that he continues to believe in the irreversibility of Ukraine's Euro-integration path and that Ukraine needs a collective security model that the world's leading states have chosen for themselves. News of his comments was reported on October 15. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv may seek OSCE security guarantees

KYIV – Ukraine's Permanent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna, Volodymyr Yelchenko, said on October 14 that he is convinced Ukraine can fulfill President Viktor Yushchenko's task to ensure national interests and security outside the country through the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The foreign ministers of the 56 participating states of the OSCE will meet in December to review and assess the OSCE's activities and define principles for revision of the Budapest Memorandum of 1994. Mr. Yelchenko noted that the diplomats would make every effort to ensure that Ukraine's security interests are fully taken into account in the OSCE's new document. "Ukraine belongs to a small residual group of states that today are not covered by any 'security umbrella.' We are neither in NATO, nor in the EU, nor the Tashkent Treaty. This is a matter of principle for Ukraine, Moldova, Transcaucasian countries and some Balkan states: how and who can guarantee security for us," the Ukrainian diplomat underlined. He said an additional guarantee of Ukraine's security could come from approval of the OSCE Charter that would clearly denote the organization's functions and the commitments of member-states. Russia and the United States oppose this document. But in 2013 Ukraine will hold the OSCE presidency and then, Mr. Yelchenko said, the situation could be changed. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine, Canada may ease visa rules

KYIV – Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash told the MFA press club meeting on October 14 that in 2010 Canada would conduct a study on the presence of Ukrainians there. The outcome of this study may provide an impetus for the liberalization of visa regulations for Ukrainian citizens, especially since Canadians have long been entering Ukraine visa-free for terms of up to 90 days. Mr. Ostash also said the two countries are close to signing an agreement on the mobility of youth. This agreement would make it possible for young people under age 35 to travel, work and study without any restrictions in both countries. The number of Ukrainians in Canada continues to increase and has reached 800,000, the ambassador said. (Ukrinform)

Scandal at Artek children's camp

KYIV – National Deputy Vadym Kolesnichenko of the Party of Region of Ukraine has claimed that children were raped at the International Children's Center Artek by "high-ranking officials," and noted that the arrest of these officials is impossible without the Verkhovna Rada's consent. Some media reports later named three national deputies. Police are investigating the case. Artek officials denied all statements made by Mr. Kolesnichenko, saying that Artek has nothing to do with the matter. Meanwhile, Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko said at a press conference on October 14 that investigators still have no proof of the national deputies' complicity in the abuse of children at Artek. On October 20 the Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution establishing a parliamentary provisional investigatory commission to study the case. The Rada did so after hearing reports by Procurator General Oleksander Medvedko, Internal Affairs Minister Lutsenko and Ombudsperson Nina Karpachova. A total of

(Continued on page 15)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

418 national deputies backed the decision. (Ukrinform)

Listing of largest bribes in Ukraine

KYIV – The Internal Affairs Ministry has published a list of the top bribes in Ukraine, it was reported on October 5. The information is available on the ministry's website. At the top of the list is the leader of the Berezan district, Mykolayiv region, who demanded 8.5 million hrv and got 1 million hrv. The case is being reviewed by a court. Second place went to the head of one of Crimea's village councils who wanted \$1.1 million (U.S.) and managed to get \$750,000. The investigation is under way. The chair of the Selichivka Village Council, in the Baryshivka district of the Kyiv region, was in third with a bribe of 3.95 million hrv. The case is being considered in court. (Ukrinform)

Fewer tourists in Crimea this year

KYIV – The number of tourists traveling to Crimea declined further in 2009, it was reported on October 5. The Crimean Ministry of Resorts and Tourism said that since the beginning of the year 4.8 million people vacationed on the peninsula, compared to 5.5 million last year. (Ukrinform)

Euro-2012 transport concept approved

KYIV – The Transport and Communications Ministry of Ukraine has approved the concept of public transport and traffic control for the 2012 European soccer finals. The concept provides for transport support to the teams and official representatives of the Union of European Football Associations and other international organizations, as well as VIPs, fans and tourists. In keeping with the state tar-

get program, the lion's share of the project financing was entrusted to local budgets, which have to find over 4.1 billion hrv for implementation of the concept; 1.5 billion hrv will be allocated from the national budget. The remainder of financing will come from investors. Funding for roads is expected to require 6 billion hrv. In addition, venue cities will also need charter buses to carry visitors from the airport to the stadium and the central part of the city, from buffer zones to the centers of municipal transport interchange. In the first nine months of this year Ukraine's Transport Ministry has spent 2.35 billion hrv to prepare infrastructure for the Euro-2012. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine 85th in development index

KYIV – Norway enjoys the world's highest quality of life, while Niger suffers the lowest, and Ukraine is ranked 85th, according to the United Nations Human Development Index. The 2009 Human Development Report highlights wide disparities in well-being between rich and poor countries. The annual HDI takes into account life expectancy, literacy, school enrollment and per capita gross domestic product in 182 countries. However, in producing the 2009 ranking, the U.N. used data from 2007 – before the start of the global economic turmoil. (Ukrinform)

Shevchenko's 'Kobzar' in Turkish

KYIV – Taras Shevchenko's "Kobzar" has been translated into the Turkish language for the first time. A presentation of the publication took place on October 7 at the National Taras Shevchenko Museum, the museum press service informed. The book includes 40 poems by Shevchenko translated by Associate Prof. Dora Arnaut of the chair of Turkish language study at the Kyiv Taras Shevchenko National State University. (Ukrinform)

With Gratitude, Love and Memory Eternal



Very Rev. Dr. Wolodymyr Lewytzkyj

1898-1969

40 years ago, on September 30th, the Ukrainian community in the Diaspora lost yet another son, scholar, writer, dedicated priest and patriot.

Very Rev. Dr. Wolodymyr Lewytzkyj was a man whose actions and words united his deep faith in God with his energetic, unwavering love, support and belief in a free and reborn Ukraine.

Wolodymyr Lewytzkyj was born in Western Ukraine into a dynasty of Ukrainian priests and bishops. Upon graduation from the Kolomya Gymnasium, he entered the Lviv Faculty of Philosophy only to be interrupted by the fight for Independence, where he served as Colonel in the Ukrainian Galician Army and later in the Ukrainian National Republican Army.

Following the war, Wolodymyr Lewytzkyj resumed his studies earning a Doctorate of Theology from Lviv Theological Seminary and a Doctorate in Philosophy from the University of Vienna.

In 1930, Dr. Lewytzkyj was ordained into the priesthood making him 10th generation within his family. He began his ministry in Podillia where he strongly promoted the Ukrainian language and culture despite reprisals from the occupation. With the outbreak of war in 1939, he was forced to flee to Lemkivschyna, where he served as Director of the Lemkivschyna School System.

Rev. Wolodymyr later ministered in the Cholm region and served as Vice President of the Ukrainian Central Organization. With the outbreak of WW II, Rev. Lewytzkyj joined the Ukrainian underground and later served as General Secretary of the Ukrainian Central Organization (UNO) in Berlin where he provided much needed support for many Ukrainians fleeing their war-torn country.

Rev. Lewytzkyj emigrated to the U.S. in 1949 to assume the positions of personal secretary to + Archbishop Ioan Teodorovych and Editor of "Dnipro", the official Ukrainian Orthodox Church newspaper.

While in Philadelphia, Rev. Lewytzkyj ministered to many Orthodox Churches, and founded St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Washington DC. Assignment to St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Allentown, PA, followed, during which time he served as Editor for the "Ukrainian Herald".

In 1956, Rev. Lewytzkyj moved to St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Minneapolis, MN starting yet another successful chapter in his life. He founded the Twin Cities Orthodox Clergy Association which resulted in a period of rich social and religious exchange among Orthodox communities.

He was an initiator of Ukrainian Orthodox Day, was instrumental in acquiring the land where St. Michael's parish center stands, re-vitalized a strong Ukrainian school organization, served as spiritual advisor to the Ukrainian Orthodox League, and served as Dean of the Midwestern Ukrainian Orthodox Diocese.

Rev. Lewytzkyj was an active participant in all Ukrainian community activities, regardless of political or religious persuasion, earning the respect of political and fraternal organizations community-wide. He actively promoted Church and community unification during his 39 years of priesthood in the U.S, paving the way for improved cooperation, a closer kindred spirit and a sense of community in the Twin Cities, for which he is still remembered.

He was well known for, and highly regarded, as an orator, writer and historian, and many still remember his direct, forthright and honest opinions on various subjects. Most notable in his writing, lectures and sermons was his dedication to the Ukrainian Orthodox faith, his beloved Ukraine, his culture and heritage.

Rev. Lewytzkyj is survived by daughters Luba and Oksana, grandchildren Maria, Wolodymyr, Myroslav and Bohdan, and family in Lviv and Chernivtsi. As a father, he along with his Pani Matka Halyna (+2003), bestowed upon their children many treasures – a deep belief in, and love of, God, our ancient and rich culture whose traditions beautify our daily lives, binding us to the past, to the future, and forever together. We thank God for their parental love, patience and guidance which provided the stepping stones to our future.

With gratitude, Love and Memory Eternal. Luba Lewytzkyj / Oksana-Lewytzkyj Billy

A memorial service, luncheon and slide show will take place on Sunday, October 25, at 11:30 AM at St. Katherine UOC, Arden Hills, MN. If you are unable to attend, please remember Rev. Lewytzkyj and Pani Matka Halyna in your prayers.



With great sadness, we share our sorrow that our most cherished father, brother, grandfather and great-grandfather

Julian Kotlar "Levko"

died peacefully at his home on Saturday, October 17, 2009. Born on July 4, 1924, in Dudyni, Sanok province, Lemkivschyna, he emigrated to the United States in 1950. He was married to Johanna Shepski, who predeceased him in 1998. He was an active member of various Ukrainian veterans' and community organizations; president of the Former Members of Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) USA and Canada; executive publisher of Litopys UPA; past president of the Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna; parishioner of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church and its Senior Citizens Club; member of the Ukrainian Center and the Ukrainian National Home; and longtime activist and branch secretary of the Ukrainian National Association.

He is survived by his four daughters, Nadia (Joseph) Dubanowitz, Christina Kotlar, Petrusia (Nestor) Paslawsky and Lesia (Roman) Kozicky; ten grandchildren, Christopher (Jeannine), Alex, Stephanie, Natalie, Alia, Danylo, Mykola, Juliana, Roman and Michael; two great-grandchildren Nate and Payton; a sister, Maria Kopyk of Ukraine; and friend, Mary Romancio.

The funeral liturgy was held on Wednesday, October 21, at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, NJ. Interment followed at St. Andrew's Cemetery, 135 Davidson Ave., South Bound Brook, NJ. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Litopys UPA, 105 Francisco Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070

Вічна Йому Пам'ять!

New Jerseyans...

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. Hunczak said, were forerunners of Rukh, which became the central organization in Ukraine.

Next on the program was the presentation of a video-montage of footage from the founding congress of Rukh prepared by Mykola Darmochwal.

The footage showed key moments from the congress, including speeches by writer Volodymyr Yavorivsky, chair of the congress organizing committee; writer Ivan Drach, who was elected to head Rukh; Mykhailo Horyn, a human and national rights activist and former Soviet political prisoner who was elected to chair the Rukh Secretariat; Leonid Kravchuk, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet (Council); and Vilen Martyrosian, an ethnic Armenian, a member of Ukraine's delegation to the Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR and a colonel in the Soviet army, who became a member of Rukh's Nationalities Council. (An English-language handout translating key remarks by these leaders was provided to audience members.)

The powerful video showed Mr. Horyn underscoring to the more than 1,100 congress delegates, who represented 280,000 Rukh members nationwide: "There is one undeniable fact: only a sovereign Ukrainian state can hasten and protect national rights, about which we have spoken here. ... Our task – the task of Rukh – is to attain a dignified life for the Ukrainian people in a free Ukrainian state."

Col. Martyrosian, who would later be promoted to the rank of general in independent Ukraine's army, was seen telling the delegates that the army "is for the people and will always defend the interests of our people." He pledged: "As long

as in the armed forces there are commanders like me – and there are many like me – we will never turn those under our command against our own people."

Dr. Marta Lopatynsky, chair of the Arts, Cultural and Education Committee, then introduced Mr. Yavorivsky, today a national deputy of the Verkhovna Rada, who spoke about the milieu into which Rukh was born.

He cited the differences between, on the one hand, the national movements in Poland, which had its own government and national identity, and Lithuania, which had been under Soviet rule only since 1940, and, on the other hand, Ukraine, most of which had been under Soviet domination for seven decades at the time that Rukh emerged.

"Rukh arose at a time when many thought the Ukrainian nation no longer existed," Mr. Yavorivsky stated. "It arose from the enduring power of the national idea."

Most significant was the fact that Rukh encompassed other nationalities living in Ukraine, not only Ukrainians, he said.

He then proceeded to relate some of the difficulties related to convening the inaugural congress of Rukh. Mr. Yavorivsky explained that, given those uncertain times, there was a Plan B: the Rukh conference would have been held in Lithuania if it could not take place in Ukraine.

He also noted that he and another congress organizer, Petro Talanchuk, were called in by the KGB and told that in no case should the Ukrainian blue-and-yellow flag appear at the congress. What happened, of course, was the exact opposite, as scores of blue-and-yellow flags of independent Ukraine were seen in the session hall.

The Rukh congress, he stated, "was an act whereby we shed all our fears, ... it was an extraordinary event that changed

the fate of Ukraine."

"We were accused of being romantics, but without those romantics today we would still be debating the fate of Ukraine," he continued. "However, we thought Ukraine would rise from its knees much sooner – but that is the result of 350 years of servitude."

"Ukraine exists. It remains for us to set it on its feet," concluded Mr. Yavorivsky.

The program that evening was opened with poetry recitations by Mr. Yavorivsky's wife, Halyna Danylova. It

also featured a performance by the Dumka Chorus of New York, directed by Vasyl Hrechynsky. A cocktail reception followed the presentations and performances.

Similar programs were held in New York City on October 18 and Philadelphia on October 20. Hennadii Udovenko, who served as Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations at the time of Rukh's founding and Ukraine's proclamation of independence in 1991, was added to the roster of speakers at the event in New York.

Max van der Stoel award presented to Ukrainian NGO

THE HAGUE – The Dutch Minister for European affairs, Frans Timmermans, on October 14 presented the 2009 Max van der Stoel Award to the Integration and Development Center for Information and Research (IDC), a non-governmental organization from Crimea, Ukraine.

An international jury led by the high commissioner on national minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Knut Vollebaek, recognized the IDC for "its efforts to promote tolerance and understanding among the multi-ethnic population of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula and to facilitate genuine integration and participation of all ethnic communities."

"The relationship between ethnic groups in Crimea is fraught with stereotypes, prejudices and historical woes. Furthering tolerant interethnic coexistence on the peninsula is therefore a priority. The IDC does precisely that – it is a builder of bridges in a divided society," Mr. Vollebaek said.

Since its founding in 1997, the IDC has trained government officials and members of the police service in diversity management, monitored the media for hate speech,

assisted formerly deported peoples and engaged in local conflict prevention. In 2006 the IDC introduced a course titled "Culture of Good Neighborhood" in Crimean schools.

"Those who prevent conflict do not always get the recognition they deserve," said Mr. Timmermans. "The IDC does that, and its work is tremendously valuable."

Oleg Smirnov, director of the IDC, said, "We are concerned with changing the majority's attitude to minorities. From the very outset, the activity of the IDC has not only been educational in character, but has been aimed at all sections of the population."

The Max van der Stoel Award is presented every second year in recognition of "extraordinary and outstanding achievements aimed at improving the position of national minorities in the OSCE participating states."

The 50,000 euro prize was established by the Dutch Foreign Ministry in 2001 and honors the man who served as the first OSCE high commissioner on national minorities between 1993 and 2001. This year's award was the fourth presented.

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St. Vladimir Cathedral parishioners pay a visit to their first church

PARMA, Ohio – On Saturday, September 26, the parish clergy of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral led 70 parishioners on a walk down memory lane when they visited their first church building on West 11th Street in Cleveland, as the parish prepares to celebrate its 85th anniversary.

At 1:30 that afternoon, the faithful traveled from Parma on Lolly the Trolley, a bus sponsored by the generosity of parishioners Michael and Tanya Dobronos.

At the old church, the clergy placed flowers in the front of the church where the altar once stood. The church is now used by a Spanish Assembly of God congregation. Everyone then sang “The

Lord’s Prayer” in both Ukrainian and English. This was followed by the singing of “Vichnaya Pamiat” – Memory Eternal – for all deceased pastors and parishioners.

Emil Pavlyshyn, whose father was the first president of the board of trustees of St. Vladimir and who himself is a past president of the board, presented a most interesting talk on the beginning years of the parish. He highlighted the love and dedication of the pioneers in building a church during the Great Depression. It was a moving presentation, with many people asking questions and others sharing their own memories of the parish’s first church on West 11th Street.

Dareen Jogan, current president of the

board of trustees, spoke of her memories and presented a gift of appreciation to the Spanish church.

Between speakers, the clergy invited everyone to close their eyes and remember the times when their parents and grandparents were active in the parish and where they used to sit. Although it is September, the clergy led the gathering in singing Christmas carols and Easter songs, bringing tears and fond memories of departed parents and friends.

The visit concluded with refreshments, sponsored by the Senior Ukrainian Orthodox League Chapter, served in the parish hall.

In the hall, parishioners spoke of the post-World War II immigration, remembering how 14 families lived in the hall at one time, slept on cots and ate together until they obtained employment and found apartments. Many reminisced about the plays and concerts in which they participated in.

In the 1950s, the parish purchased 10



Taken in the 1930s, this photograph shows the original St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Cleveland.



Clergy and parishioners of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, during a visit to their original church.

acres of land in Parma and built a new church, school and cultural center in 1967.



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UUARC supports children's summer camps in Ukraine

by the Rev. Ihor Kozankevych,
Vira Prinko and Larissa Kyj

PHILADELPHIA – Thanks to the generosity of the Ukrainian American community, the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) was able to allocate \$14,000 for children's camps in Ukraine. This summer's traditional UUARC project, named "Know Your Native Land," involved orphaned children, as well as children from poor families and those with many children, from both the eastern and western regions of Ukraine.

Through the efforts of the UUARC Office in Kyiv, four groups of children enjoyed 12 days of camping in "Soniachnyi" (Sunny) camp in the city of Skadovsk by the Black Sea. Each group comprised 15 children, for a total of 60. The cost of camping ranged from \$75 per child in late spring to \$102 in the summertime.

Vira Prinko, the UUARC Kyiv Office representative, chose Skadovsk because in the distant past this city was the destination of children inclined to suffer from lung and endocrinological diseases. The sea is shallow for quite a distance there, the children can bask in the sun, and the water in the estuary is enriched with iodine hydrophytes. In western Ukraine, children suffer from illnesses of the thyroid gland, while lung diseases are prevalent in the mining region of Luhansk, eastern Ukraine.

During their stay at the shore, sick children not only recuperated physically but also had a chance to learn about the historical and cultural treasures of the Tavia region. They hiked, learned how to put up tents, studied Ukrainian folk songs, and participated in various contests involving comical sketches, poets from

different literary periods and even their own writing skills. In 12 days, the children improved physically, while also experiencing a growth in their spiritual and national awareness.

The UUARC Office in Lviv covered the camping costs for the Charitas Charity Fund of the Sambir-Drohobych Eparchy, \$2,500 for the Lviv regional administration, and \$1,000 each to the Skoliv and Turkiv educational administrations. The Skoliv educational district sent children from poor multi-children families to the "Kazka" (Story) healing camp in the village of Korostiv, while the Turkiv district sent them to the permanent healing camp "Dzherelo Karpat" (Carpathian Wellspring) located in the village of Rozluchchia.

Because of the obtained funding, the Charitas Charity Fund of the Sambir-Drohobych Eparchy had the opportunity to organize and run three summer resort camps for children. These camps provided 54 children with a wonderful chance to relax and to spend their time in interesting and beneficial surroundings.

The first camp took place in July for 10 days in the village of Derezhychi in the Drohobych district of the Lviv region. Its participants were 34 children from poor, troubled and multi-children families. The village is known for its lovely scenery and unique historical structures. The campers also took an interesting side trip to the village of Nahuyevychi, the birthplace and childhood home of the great Ukrainian poet Ivan Franko. They visited the Ivan Franko Museum, became acquainted with the place where the famous Ukrainian poet and writer was raised, and learned about his life. Every day the children were involved in national-patriotic competitions and also in English-language classes.



Children from the camp held in the Drohobych region during a hike.

The second and third camps took place in August and were also of 10 days' duration. Their participants were children in need of welfare, specifically orphans from the Oranta children's home located in the city of Drohobych. The camp site was the village Dovhe Hirske in the Drohobych district of the Lviv region. The Stryi River flows through this village noted for its colorful scenery and two ancient churches. The campers were most interested in seeing these old church structures and the iconostasis; they also learned about Kyrylo Ustianovych, the creator of these icons who brought fame to this village. Volunteers from Charitas joined in helping with the camp, which was conducive to its success.

The children went swimming in the river, grilled hot dogs around a campfire,

played various sports and sang songs. Volunteers provided instructions on everyday useful knowledge, for example, how to orient oneself in new surroundings, how to differentiate between poisonous and non-poisonous mushrooms and berries, etc.

The Charitas Charity Fund of the Sambir-Drohobych Eparchy sent a letter of gratitude to the UUARC Office, expressing thanks to all the generous donors to the UUARC.

For further information, readers may contact the UUARC headquarters at 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111; phone, number is 215-728-1630; e-mail, uuarc@verizon.net; website, www.uuarc.org.

– Translated by Leo Iwaskiw



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Maria Burmaka to perform at celebration of Detroit Plast's 60th anniversary

by Irene Stadnyk

DETROIT – Maria Burmaka, recently honored by President Viktor Yushchenko with the title of National Artist of Ukraine, will perform at the 60th anniversary celebration of the Detroit Branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization on November 14, in Warren, Mich.

A native of Kharkiv, Ukraine, Ms. Burmaka started writing songs while studying guitar in music school. She also studied philology at Vasyl Karazin Kharkiv National University. Ukrainian poetry, both folk and contemporary, inspired her.

According to Adriana Helbig, assistant professor of ethnomusicology at the University of Pittsburgh, Ms. Burmaka expresses her love for Ukraine by performing her songs in Ukrainian even though she was raised in a city where Russian was dominant.

Ms. Burmaka said: "I compose and sing only about what moves me. And because I do this in the Ukrainian language, I wish for people to find Ukraine in my songs, not necessarily a country filled with patriotic slogans, but a land that is a place for love."

In addition to writing popular songs in Ukrainian, Ms. Burmaka has also contributed to Ukraine's popular culture by focusing attention on acoustic performance.

Her vocal and acoustic guitar performances have earned her many honors and awards. In 1989 Ms. Burmaka won an award in the category of songwriting at the Chervona Ruta Festival in Chernivtsi, Ukraine. She also received the state award Order of Princess Olha, third class, in 2007.

Ms. Burmaka has continued to write popular songs of hope, life and love, expressing the inner thoughts and emotions of her generation during Ukraine's national rebirth in the 1990s and in the new millennium. In 2004 her song, "We're Going" (My Demo), which contains the line "And ahead there's fire," was sung by a crowd marching to block the presidential administration building during the Orange Revolution at Kyiv's Independence Square.

She has performed at numerous festivals and concerts in Ukraine and throughout the world. Most recently she appeared at the Chervona Ruta Festival in



Maria Burmaka

September. She recently released her CD "Soundtracks" (Saundtreky), which includes a remix of her popular song "Don't Be Afraid to Live" (Ne Bysia

Zhyty), which is sung by Plast scouts at summer camp.

For her the performance in Detroit, Ms. Burmaka will perform songs with her acoustic guitar around the celebration's theme, "Vatra" (Bonfire).

The Plast's Detroit branch was founded in August 1949 in order to support the Ukrainian community in raising and educating Ukrainian youth. The branch purchased a meeting house in 1951 and a campground in 1954 called Green Valley (Zelenyi Yar). These continue to be used by each new generation of Ukrainian scouts in Detroit as Plast activity continues to flourish. For more information about Plast in the United States, please visit www.plastusa.org.

The Detroit branch of Plast invites its members, past and present, as well as the entire Ukrainian community to attend its 60th anniversary banquet and concert. The concert will be followed by a "vechirka" (dance). Information about Plast activities, including summer camps, will be available throughout the evening.

For tickets and information readers may contact Marta Tatarsky at 586-558-8904.

Virsky troupe to perform in Morristown

MORRISTOWN, N.J. – The rich tapestry of lively, passionate and colorful folk dance of Ukraine will be presented by the Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company here at The Community Theater at Mayo Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday, November 19, at 8 pm. Tickets are \$32-47.

This renowned folk dance ensemble, named after Pavlo Virsky, is famous for its bright colors, the unity of content and form, and the vivid embodiment of its stage concept. This magnificent artistic group has embraced the beauty of its native Ukraine, the wisdom of its people as well as the folk tradition of humor and optimism.

The history of the ensemble goes back to 1937 when Pavlo Virsky and Mykola Bolotov, well-known Ukrainian balletmasters, brought together a group of folk dancers. From 1955 to 1975, Virsky headed the ensemble. It was under his guidance that the ensemble matured into a highly professional dance company.

Myroslav Vantukh, Pavlo Virsky's disciple and great expert in folk traditions and ethnography, has been in charge of the ensemble since 1980. His main objective and continuing creative quest is the careful preservation and development of folk choreographic art.

Tickets – at \$32 to \$47 – may be purchased online (www.mayoarts.org), at The Community Theater box office, located at 100 South St. in Morristown, or by calling 973-539-8008. Box office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

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Geographical dispersion...

(Continued from page 9)

states experienced losses in the number of Ukrainians during this period.

As shown in Table 2, in some states the number of Ukrainians increased dramatically between 1990 and 2006. South Carolina had an increase of 337 percent, North Carolina 195 percent, Tennessee 187 percent and Georgia 176 percent. The main engine of growth in these states has been migration from Northeastern and North Midwestern states with large Ukrainian communities. However, the contribution to this growth by Fourth Wave immigrants has also been substantial; in 2006 around 20 percent of all Ukrainians in these states were Fourth Wave immigrants.

The dynamics of growth in Washington State and Oregon, with 1990-2006 increases of 310 percent and 209 percent, respectively, was somewhat different. Here the contribution of Fourth Wave immigrants was much more substantial. Almost 45 percent of all Ukrainians in Washington State in 2006 were Fourth Wave immigrants, and this percentage was 37 percent in Oregon.

(It should be noted that the contribution

of Fourth Wave immigrants to the growth in all states was likely higher. Due to data limitations, our definition of Fourth Wave immigrants is all persons born in Ukraine and arriving in the United States between 1991 and 2007. Thus these figures do not include ethnic Ukrainians who were born in other countries of the former Soviet Union, as well as children of these immigrants who were born in the United States after their arrival.)

Given its political importance, we include in Table 2 the District of Columbia, which experienced a 132 percent increase in the number of Ukrainians residing in the district. Some states, like Utah, Idaho or Iowa, also experienced very large increases in the number of Ukrainians during this period, but the number of Ukrainians in these states was relatively small.

(You can see the full list of states with their number of Ukrainians in 1990, 2000 and 2006, as well as their relative increases (or decreases) during these periods, at the website of the Research Center: <http://inform-decisions.com/ukrstat/>. Go to Interactive Tables and click on the table PUA by State: U.S., 1990 – 2000 – 2006*. Once the table is open you can sort it by any column and export the table into Excel on your computer.)

In Table 3 we present information about the 14 states with more than 12,000 Ukrainians in 1990. One can see that between 1990 and 2006 four states experienced net losses in their number of Ukrainians; Connecticut lost 11 percent, Pennsylvania 8.5 percent, Michigan 4 percent and New Jersey 2 percent. Ohio had basically no change (only 1 percent increase), New York and Illinois had modest increases of around 20 percent, while the other states, with the exception of California with an increase of 74 percent, had increases in the 39 percent-55 percent range.

Due to the outmigration of Ukrainians to other states, some of the states with large numbers of Ukrainians have been experiencing losses and in many states increases have been relatively modest.

Actually the demographic situation in these states would have been quite different had there been no Fourth Wave migration. Given the fact that large numbers of Fourth Wave immigrants settled in these states, this has reduced the effect of out migration from these states. In the case of states that experienced a net loss of Ukrainians during this period, the losses would have been much larger without the Fourth Wave immigrants.

Connecticut, with a current net loss of

3,000, would have lost almost 5,000 between 1990 and 2006; Pennsylvania, with a current net loss of 10,000, would have lost 17,000; Michigan, with a current net loss of close to 2,000, would have lost more than 4,000; New Jersey, with a current net loss of 1,400, would have lost 7,500.

Some of the states that experienced net gains during this period would have actually experienced losses had they not received large numbers of Fourth Wave immigrants.

For example, out of the 140,000 Ukrainians counted in New York State in 2006, about 30,000 were Fourth Wave immigrants. This means that without these Fourth Wave immigrants, New York State's net gain of 24,000 between 1990 and 2006 would have become a loss of close to 10,000. Similarly, in Illinois the net gain of 8,600 would have become a net loss of close to 3,000, and in Ohio a net gain of close to 1,400 would have become a net loss of close to 5,000.

The combined effects of significant out migration of Ukrainians from the original settlement states to states with no organized Ukrainian communities, and of the specific settlement patterns of the Fourth Wave immigrants, present challenges and opportunities to our community leaders.

First, it is important to be aware of these processes and be able to quantify their dimensions; the databases constructed at the Center for the Study of Ukrainians in the United States at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York provide this information.

Second, on the one hand these processes are likely to have negative effects on well-organized communities in some states; the available data allows one to quantify to some degree these effects.

Third, the significant increase of Ukrainians in some states provides opportunities for strengthening existing organizations and/or creating new organized communities. The demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of Ukrainians in these states can be analyzed with the existing data, and provide a solid basis for planning the development of new Ukrainian communities in these States.

Next month: The geographical dispersion of Ukrainians in the United States will be analyzed from the Metropolitan Area and city perspectives.

Clinton offers...

(Continued from page 6)

policy toward Russia is more reminiscent of the cynical realpolitik of Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger that eventually ended in failure – as did the Clinton visit (today Dr. Kissinger is a friend of Mr. Putin).

During Secretary Clinton's visit Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov insisted that any talk of sanctions against Iran at this stage is counterproductive (RIA Novosti, October 13). At the same time, a U.S. official told reporters that Mr. Medvedev expected Iran to implement its promises on its nuclear program and if it did not "there should be sanctions" and that this was "reassuring" (Reuters, October 13). Mr. Lavrov in most cases knows better than President Medvedev, since the future Russian foreign policy is decided by Prime Minister Putin – whom Secretary Clinton did not meet.

While giving noncommittal reassurances, Moscow will be waiting to see what other concessions the Obama team may offer.

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Brzezinski...

(Continued from page 4)

then desires to be part of NATO.

Look again at the experience of Poland. Poland did not become a member of NATO with only 30 percent of the people favoring membership in NATO. It was the overwhelming desire of the people to be in NATO that convinced NATO that the addition of Poland would be a source of greater stability in Central Europe, and would in fact enhance the NATO alliance and make the European situation more stable. If Poland was not a member of NATO, but divided within, Poland could today be in the same situation as Georgia. That is not the option that the Ukrainians should entertain.

It's about time that the political elite of Ukraine and the new generation of Ukrainians, in a calm and rational fashion, consider how best to structure their relationship with Europe, and with Russia, in such a way that Ukraine is a viable, secure, independent state. And that does not mean antagonism towards Russia. It doesn't mean moving to NATO in order to be anti-Russian. It means creating a wider system of European stability and cooperation, in which Ukraine, a country of 45 million people, potentially a wealthy country, could play a very important role, thereby also encouraging Russia to move more to the West.

I think Ukraine, in a way, can help to shape the future of Russia, and to give Russia greater security and a role to play in the world. Because, otherwise, a Russia between a billion and a half Chinese, 550 million Europeans – much wealthier than the Russians – will be an empty space with a declining population. So, in many respects, if Ukraine evolves constructively, it can help assure Russia a much more promising future.

The interview above was posted on the Voice of America website on October 13.

NOTES ON PEOPLE

Abstract artist's works on exhibit

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Abstract artist Patricia Zalisko has her works on display at a few galleries at the same time.

"Abstracted Women," an exhibit featuring the works of Ms. Zalisko, along with two other area artists, will be on display until December 16 at the Peabody Auditorium's Rose Room Gallery, located in Daytona Beach, Fla. This is the first locally held joint exhibition of these three artists who reside in Florida's eastern Volusia County. A panel discussion with the three artists, moderated by art historian Louise Lieber, will be conducted on November 21 at 3-5 p.m. at the gallery.

"The extent to which my art consistently captures a slice of magic and mystery of life determines whether it can be shared with others," Ms. Zalisko stated.

Curator Mary McBride stated that the works by the three artists comes together as a strong statement of women's work, as evidenced by the bold brushstrokes and use of color. Viewers are taken to their own places of discovery without ever leaving the room or being forced to see the world as the artists do.

The Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company will be performing on November 28 at the Peabody Auditorium and the exhibit will be open for viewing at that time.

The Rose Room Gallery is open to the public and admission is free. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information readers may visit www.peabodyauditorium.org or con-



"Storm Warning" by Pat Zalisko.

tact Ms. McBride by e-mail, marymcbridearts@gmail.com, or by telephone, 386-212-5777.

Ms. Zalisko also participated in a juried paint-out with six artists at the City Arts Factory in Orlando, Fla., on October 6-13. The event was sponsored by the Limner Society, a faith-based organization that promotes worthy causes through artists who are their residents or invited artists who are juried into exhibitions (as is the case with Ms. Zalisko). The resulting works from the paint-out, which had the six artists creating simultaneously in the same room, are featured in an exhibit titled "The Art of Enduring." A silent auction was held on October 15 and the proceeds of the artwork sales supported Harvest Food and Outreach Center, Evoke Ministries, ArmourArts and the Limner Society. The exhibit is open and free to the public at the City Arts Factory until November 15.

artwork "Storm Warning," an acrylic and mixed media work. The exhibit ended on September 27.

Ms. Zalisko resides in Port Orange, Fla., and on her website (www.pkzart.com) recalls memories of writing pysanky in the Ukrainian tradition. Ms. Zalisko retired early from her legal career to focus on her desire to paint, studying under Harold Garde and Steven Aimone.

Ms. Zalisko is the recipient of numerous awards and this year she was named the artist of the month for April 2009 at the Orlando Museum of Art's Museum Shop Gallery. She also won second place at this year's The Artists' Magazine International Student Art Competition (abstract/experimental art), and second place in the Maitland Art Center, Members' Show.

Readers can stay informed about Ms. Zalisko's work by subscribing to her blog at www.pkzart.blogspot.com.

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NCUA

Harvard Conference to revisit Battle of Poltava on 300th anniversary

by Olesia Plokhii

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – Despite the passing of three centuries since Russia's Peter I defeated Sweden's Charles XII in the 1709 Battle of Poltava, the historical memory of the event has until now remained a sensitive subject dictated by divergent national discourses – largely because the outcome of the battle crushed Kozak Hetman Ivan Mazepa's ambitions for an independent Ukrainian state.

On November 10-11 the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI), in association with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta and the Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, will host "Poltava 1709: Revisiting a Turning Point in European History," a first-of-its-kind multi-disciplinary conference featuring an international roster of leading scholars in many fields.

Prof. Brian Boeck of Chicago's DePaul University, an expert in problems of ethnicity and empire in Ukraine and Russia, said the conference presents a once-in-a-generation chance to achieve scholarly dialogue about a controversial event that shaped the fates of many European states.

"I've been looking forward to this conference for months," said Prof. Boeck, who will be one of 25 academics presenting a paper at the conference. "This is an opportunity for scholars from many countries to meet on neutral ground and discuss the Poltava battle from multiple perspectives and draw on insights from multiple disciplines."

In addition to marking the 300th anniversary of the pivotal battle that served as the most decisive of the Great Northern War and gave impetus to the geopolitical

shift in European politics, the conference will examine the personality and legacy of Hetman Mazepa to mark the anniversary of his passing in October 1709.

The director of CIUS's Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research and head of the CIUS office in Toronto, Frank Sysyn said disintegration of the Soviet Union has made it possible for scholars from Eastern Europe to engage in free discussion on the Battle of Poltava at an international conference at a renowned academic institution. "Having this conference at Harvard will stimulate interest in this momentous event in world history and further international cooperation in researching Ukrainian/Russian relations and the figures of Ivan Mazepa, Charles XII and Peter I," said Dr. Sysyn, currently a visiting professor at Columbia.

The leader of Ukraine since the late 1680s until his death following the defeat at Poltava, Mazepa simultaneously became hero to Ukrainians and villain to Russians after he led his troops to ally with the Swedes against the Russian army before the crucial battle in an attempt to gain Ukrainian sovereignty from Russia.

"After Hetman Mazepa sided with the Swedes, Peter I ordered the destruction of the Hetmanate capital, Baturyn, and conducted a campaign to label Mazepa an infamous traitor and deprive Ukraine of its autonomy," he explained. "In the 19th century the term 'Mazepist' was applied by Russian authorities to anyone who supported Ukrainian aspirations. Hence, Mazepa and the term, 'Mazepists,' were regarded very positively by the modern Ukrainian national movement."

"The ramifications of the centuries-old battle still affect Ukrainian-Russian relations," Dr. Sysyn noted, "with more positive interpretations of Mazepa beginning

to emerge only since the break-up of the Soviet Union. In Russian historical memory, the battle was a great victory and marked the rise of Russia as a great power. In contrast, in much of Ukrainian historical memory, Poltava is associated as the last real attempt to gain independence for the Kozak Hetmanate."

Joining Profs. Boeck and Sysyn at the conference will be scholars from Ukraine, Russia, Austria, Sweden, Canada, Germany, Scotland, Italy and the United States. The conference will feature scholarly presentations and discussions of the Battle of Poltava in the Ukrainian,

Russian and European contexts; the historical memory, myth and fact surrounding the event; and a probing look at Mazepa in all his facets – man, warrior, lover, national hero and European cultural inspiration – including an auditory and visual analysis of architecture, music and literature in his era.

HURI invites the academic community and the general public to attend the conference free of charge. To register and learn more about the event and its participants readers many, visit the website of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute at www.huri.harvard.edu.

Western Ukraine...

(Continued from page 2)

Ukraine are Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yatsenyuk. Yatsenyuk leads among younger and educated voters in the three oblasts of the Halychyna region, while Ms. Tymoshenko leads in the remaining four oblasts of western Ukraine. Overall, Ms. Tymoshenko has a 6-7 percentage-point lead over Mr. Yatsenyuk throughout western Ukraine.

Mr. Yatsenyuk's popularity has catapulted him to third place in national opinion polls, but this should not make him overly self-confident, and his ratings have dropped by a third since the summer. His popularity is being squeezed from four directions: Ms. Tymoshenko, Ukraine's best election campaigner and most charismatic politician; the incumbent, who has the same voter base as Mr. Yatsenyuk; Mr. Grytsenko; and Serhii Tihipko.

In addition to Mr. Yatsenyuk, Messrs. Grytsenko and Tihipko also figure within the "second tier" of candidates. Mr. Tihipko has roots in the Dnipropetrovsk clan's Labor Ukraine Party, but is increasingly challenging Mr. Yatsenyuk for the position of the "new face in politics" among disillusioned voters.

Mr. Yatsenyuk's western Ukrainian voters could also turn away from him over his inconsistency on issues that they consider crucial to Ukraine's national identity. Although elected to Parliament in the OU-PSD bloc, Mr. Yatsenyuk has de facto ditched key elements in its platform, such as abolition of parliamentary immunity; legal recognition of Ukrainian nationalist partisans who fought against the Nazis and Soviets in the 1940s; NATO membership; and energy independence (Mr. Yatsenyuk supports a gas consortium with Russia).

He has also recently become skeptical of European Union membership and withdrew his signature from a January 2008 letter to NATO's Bucharest summit (which he signed together with Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yushchenko) seeking a Membership Action Plan.

These are all issues on which Mr. Yushchenko (and to some degree Ms. Tymoshenko) are challenging Mr. Yatsenyuk. Ironically, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's bitterly critical August letter to Mr. Yushchenko will only have served to improve his ratings in western Ukraine and therefore eaten into Mr. Yatsenyuk's popularity.

Touted last year as representing the younger generation of Ukrainian politicians and, therefore, by implication as "pro-Western," Mr. Yatsenyuk looked decidedly less so at the September sum-

mit of the Yalta European Strategy (YES).

YES, an NGO established five years ago by oligarch Victor Pinchuk, invited Mr. Yanukovich, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yatsenyuk to present their platforms to a special "Freedom of Speech" ICTV live program and to European guests. (ICTV is one of four television channels owned by Mr. Pinchuk.) Of the three, Mr. Yatsenyuk, according to Ukrainian media reports, was the most disappointing and vacuous.

Tymoshenko stands up

Ms. Tymoshenko's campaign team has realized the strategic importance of western Ukraine and reached out to the North American diaspora, which retains its influence over the region. Addressing the annual meeting of the board of directors of the Ukrainian World Congress in Lviv on August 21-22, on the eve of Ukraine's Independence Day, Ms. Tymoshenko stressed her support for Ukrainian remaining the only state language – an issue of particular concern to western Ukrainians and the Ukrainian diaspora.

On October 13 the Tymoshenko bloc organized a parliamentary hearing on links with the Ukrainian diaspora. Ms. Tymoshenko's reaffirmation of support for the Ukrainian language forced Yanukovich to announce prematurely that, if re-elected president, he would elevate Russian to the status of the second state language. This policy, which figured in his 2004 campaign program, will ruin his chances completely in western Ukraine, and to some degree in the central region as well.

The January elections are likely to require a runoff, as in 2004, but this time between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich. But unlike five years ago, when Mr. Yushchenko ran as the united opposition candidate, this time around the former Orange Revolution parties and leaders are fragmented.

Ukrainian intellectual groups are increasingly calling on the Orange camp to unite around Ms. Tymoshenko, as they had united around Mr. Yushchenko. That lack of Orange unity, in turn, improves Mr. Yanukovich's chances, so it is likely that this time the bitter second round will pit him against Ms. Tymoshenko.

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OUT AND ABOUT

Through December 16 Daytona Beach, FL	Art exhibit, "Abstracted Women," featuring works by Patricia Zalisko, Peabody Auditorium's Rose Room Gallery, 386-671-3462	November 7 Ottawa	Ukrainian Night dinner and dance, St. Vladimir the Great Knights of Columbus, St. John the Baptist Shrine, 613-830-7787
Through November 7 Winnipeg, MB	Art Exhibit, featuring woodcuts by Jacques Hnizdovsky, Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, www.oseredok.org	November 7 Chicago	Film screening, "Folk!" with Roxy Toporowych, Ukrainian National Museum, 312-421-8020
Through November 15 Orlando, FL	Art exhibit and silent auction, "Art of Enduring," featuring works by Patricia Zalisko, City Arts Factory, 407-491-4663	November 7 Montreal	Trembita zabava, featuring music by Hrim, Trembita Wind Esemble, Ukrainian Youth Center, 514-791-8437
Through December 18 Hartford, CT	Exhibit, "The Holodomor: Famine and Fiction," University of Connecticut, 860-646-2227 or www.lib.uconn.edu/about/exhibits/holodomor2/index.html	November 7 Paducah, KY	Film screening, "Folk!" by Roxy Toporowych, Rivers Edge International Film Festival, riversedge.bside.com/2009/films/folk_riversedge2009
October 31 Yonkers, NY	Halloween dance, featuring music by Vox Ethnica, Branch 2 of the Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine, Ukrainian Youth Center, 203-762-5912 or 914-478-0498	November 8 Minneapolis	Film screening, "Okradena Zemlya" by Yuriy Luhovy, Ukrainian Events Center, 612-379-1956
November 1 Somerset, NJ	Ukrainian Fall Festival, United Ukrainian Orthodox Sisterhoods of the U.S.A., Ukrainian Cultural Center, 973-992-6479	November 8 through January 17 Chicago	Retrospective exhibit featuring works by Andriy Kovalenko, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522
November 1 Warren, MI	70th anniversary banquet, Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit and Windsor, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 313-278-7682 or 586-264-9261	November 9 New York	Conference marking the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-228-6840
November 2 Cambridge, MA	Lecture by Iryna Vushko, "The Politics of Cultural Retreat: Absolutism, Enlightenment and Bureaucracy in Habsburg Galicia, 1772-1815," Harvard University, 617-495-4053	November 10 Ottawa	Presentation by Maj. Michael Baran, "The Ukrainian Canadian Experience in Afghanistan," Ukrainian Canadian Professionals and Businesspersons Association, Beechwood Cemetery National Memorial Center, vkarpik@rogers.com
November 5 New York	Film screening, "Comeback" by Serhiy Tsymbal, Volodymyr Arieiev and Natalka Fitsych, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, 212-228-6840		
November 7 Fairfax, VA	Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company, George Mason University, www.gmu.edu/cfa/calendar/169		

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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UNA and the community:
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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, October 31

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Hennadiy Druzhenko, a 2009-2010 Fulbright Fellow, on the subject "Religious Freedom and the Problem of Fragmentation of the Ukrainian Orthodoxy." Mr. Druzhenko was an assistant to Patriarch Volodymyr (Romaniuk) of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyiv Patriarchate in the years 1993-1995, and the director of the European and Contemporary Legal Center at the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in 2001-2004. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

Sunday, November 1

SOMERSET/SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NJ: A Ukrainian Fall Festival will be held at 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave. There will be music and performances by the Iskra Ukrainian Dancers and the Barvinok Dance Group; children's activities; a marketplace featuring jewelry, Ukrainian embroidery, ceramics, pysanky, scarves, Ukrainian crafts and souvenirs, CDs, DVDs, videos and paintings; a food court; a raffle; and museum tours. Get your Christmas shopping done early. Visit our marketplace for unique gifts. Admission is \$5 for adults; free for children. For more information contact Olha Krywolap, 401-744-0168 or gnkrywolap@hotmail.com.

NEW YORK: The New York Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to an informational presentation, "UCU Today and Tomorrow." Enjoy a complimentary luncheon as speakers from the Ukrainian Catholic University – Senior Vice-Rector Dr. Taras Dobko, a rising figure in Ukrainian academia, and Andriy Kurochka, an UCU alumnus who will also share his accomplished singing talent with the audience – update and thank the community for its ongoing support of UCU. Also included will be a video presentation and photo exhibit. The event takes place at the Ukrainian National Home, 140 Second Ave., beginning at 2 p.m. Space is limited and RSVP is required by October 28. Contact Oksana Lopatynska, 212-777-1336, or Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

Saturday, November 7

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa.: The Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University, the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics U.S.A. and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to attend the event "UCU Today and Tomorrow." Enjoy a convivial and informative experience as speak-

ers from the Ukrainian Catholic University – Senior Vice-Rector Dr. Taras Dobko, a rising figure in Ukrainian academia, and Andriy Kurochka, an UCU alumnus who will also share his accomplished singing talent with the audience – update and thank the community for its continued support of UCU and the university's efforts to educate and form young Ukrainians. The event takes place at the Basilian Spirituality Center, 710 Fox Chase Road at 1-3 p.m. For details contact Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

Sunday, November 8

CHICAGO: The Chicago Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to the presentation and reception "UCU Today and Tomorrow." Enjoy a luncheon and presentation as speakers from the Ukrainian Catholic University – Senior Vice-Rector Dr. Taras Dobko, a rising figure in Ukrainian academia, and Andriy Kurochka, an UCU alumnus who will also share his accomplished singing talent with the audience – update and thank the community for its continued support of UCU. The event takes place at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., beginning at 1 p.m. For details contact Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

Saturday, November 14

WARREN, Mich.: Plast Detroit Branch is inviting the Ukrainian community to celebrate its 60th anniversary with a banquet beginning at 6 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, followed by a concert by Maria Burmaka, National Artist of Ukraine, at 8 p.m. A "vechirka" (dance) will follow at 9 p.m. Advance ticket purchases are recommended. For tickets and information contact Marta Tatarsky at 586-558-8904. Tickets are also available at the Ukrainian Self-Reliance and Future credit unions in Warren, Mich. Plast Detroit Branch has been offering Ukrainian scouting activities for the Detroit Ukrainian community since 1949 and welcomes new members. For more information about Plast, please visit www.plastusa.org.

Sunday, November 22

PHILADELPHIA: This magnificent Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company's debut performance in Philadelphia's prestigious new Kimmel Center will take place at 3 p.m. A wide selection of tickets may be purchased at reduced prices (discounts of 15 percent and more) only until November 16 at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046. Buses to the performance will leave the center at 1:30 p.m., at a cost of \$10 per person. Readers may call 484-904-6759 or 215-663-1166 to order tickets for the performance and for the bus. The Kimmel Center is located at Broad and Spruce streets in Philadelphia.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

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**; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

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 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent to: preview@ukrweekly.com or Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510. **NB: If e-mailing, please do not send items as attachments; simply type the text into the body of the e-mail message.**