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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Voters in Lviv disenchanted

Many say they will vote against both candidates



Khristina Lew

Supporters of Yulia Tymoshenko gather at a rally in Lviv on January 22.

by Khristina Lew

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

LVIV – Iryna Podolyak sits at a table in her apartment in Lviv wearing a hat and gloves. The electricity in her building near the Opera House has been cut off and there is no heat in her home. She has been assured by the head of the Lviv Oblast electric company that the electricity will be quickly restored, but 24 hours later there still is no heat. “We live in an exotic place, where you pay your bills on time but get no service,” she said.

Ms. Podolyak has worked for the Office of the Mayor of Lviv for eight years, and in 2004 – when people throughout Ukraine began traveling to the capital to participate in what later became the Orange Revolution – she left her job in Lviv to volunteer for the Yushchenko campaign in Kyiv. She remained there for over three months and helped elect Viktor Yushchenko president.

On January 17 of this year Ms. Podolyak voted for Mr. Yushchenko in the first round of Ukraine's presidential election. In the second round of elections taking place on February 7, Ms. Podolyak said she will go to the polls and vote for neither candidate. She says she cannot bring herself to vote for either Yulia Tymoshenko or Viktor Yanukovich, despite the fact that in western Ukraine – where Ms. Tymoshenko won overwhelmingly – a vote against both candidates is, in reality, a vote for Mr. Yanukovich.

The idea of a protest vote is popular in western Ukraine, and in particular among 30- and 40-something year-olds. Luba Sorokina, 32, a journalist at Talan production studio, scoffs at the notion that voting against both candidates will endanger a democratic Ukraine's future. “It makes little difference who is elected president

now, because in two years' time they will change the Constitution and hold new elections anyway,” she said.

Disillusionment with the promises of the Orange Revolution and the Yushchenko presidency is apparent. “We have survived the last five years, we can survive another two,” added Iryna

(Continued on page 21)

Last-minute changes to law threaten legitimacy of runoff

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's biggest political powers rallied together in what they said was an attempt to prevent Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko from disrupting the elections, while she claimed they had ruined legitimacy of the February 7 presidential elections runoff and democracy in Ukraine as a whole.

The Party of Regions of Ukraine led a February 3 parliamentary vote to approve changes to election rules that would allow election commissions to hold meetings and count votes without a two-thirds quorum and accept same-day replacements of members appointed by local authorities.

The next day, Ms. Tymoshenko threatened mass protests if President Viktor Yushchenko signed the bill into law. He did just that, defying her threat and confirming his suspected alliance with the pro-Russian Party of Regions aimed at preventing Ms. Tymoshenko's election as president.

The sanctity and stability of the election on the eve of the February 7 vote was cast into doubt when Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU) Chair Oleksander Chernenko assured “total chaos and disorder at commissions.”

In justifying the changes, Party of Regions national deputies alleged that commissioners representing the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc had begun to abstain from participating in local election commission meetings in Donetsk and Crimea, thereby disrupting preparations by failing to provide a quorum.

“The Regions' motives are understood – a scenario of disrupting the elections at certain polling stations due to a lack of quorum was truly, seriously considered in Tymoshenko's entourage, I know this for certain,” Mr. Chernenko said. “I'm not sure this would have been massive, but the threats exist. However, combating this phenomenon with such changes to the law is like shooting sparrows with a cannon.”

The measure was approved by 233 deputies, including 172 lawmakers from the Party of Regions, 29 loyalists of the president and Viktor Baloha from the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense bloc, 27 Communists and one castaway from the Tymoshenko Bloc.

In their attempt to block the law's passage, Tymoshenko Bloc deputies introduced more than 200 amendments to the bill, all of which required a vote. Parliament rejected each of them during a

(Continued on page 5)

Sergey Tigipko: Ukraine's rising star

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau



Official Website of Sergey Tigipko
Sergey Tigipko

KYIV – Sergey Tigipko was just another face in a sea of candidates when he launched his presidential campaign last spring, commanding only a tiny fraction of the 13 percent support held by Arseniy Yatsenyuk, his former colleague at the National Bank of Ukraine who was comfortably in third place.

With his own multi-million-dollar war chest, however, Mr. Tigipko turned the tables on his younger colleague in just seven months and rocked Ukraine's political establishment, earning third place in the January 17 presidential vote with 13 percent support.

“Tigipko played the role of the acceptor of those not wanting to vote for Yanukovich and Tymoshenko,” said Mykhailo Pohrebinskyi, director of the Center for Political Research and Conflict Studies in Kyiv. “At first they were oriented towards Yatsenyuk, but then realized he was an empty shell and went over to him.”

Mr. Tigipko, who will turn 50 on February 13, is now the new star in

Ukrainian politics, his athletic build gracing the covers of Ukrainian magazines following his surprise finish.

Seeking to borrow some of his momentum, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told the public she wanted Mr. Tigipko to become her prime minister should she become president, regardless of whether he'd endorse her campaign.

“I proposed to Tigipko not only uniting programs and our view of developing Ukraine, not only being his dependable partner in this difficult but rewarding work, I offered him the position of prime minister as well,” she said on January 20.

Mr. Tigipko said he would accept any offer to become prime minister but on certain conditions, such as a clear anti-crisis program, as well as the laws and personnel necessary for its execution. The new president will also need to form a new parliamentary coalition in order for him to become prime minister, he said. (Currently a de facto coalition exists that doesn't meet legal requirements.)

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ANALYSIS

Russia backs Yanukovich in Ukraine's 2010 elections

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Russian media coverage of the 2010 Ukrainian elections from the outset portrayed it as a two-horse race between Viktor Yanukovich and Yulia Tymoshenko. In the first phase of the election campaign (October-November 2009), the Russian media did not express a preference. But, since the first round of the vote, the media and ruling Unified Russia party have endorsed Mr. Yanukovich (Rossiya 1, NTV, October 19, 24, 27, November 12, 16, 22).

A recent poll by the Russian Public Opinion Foundation found that 53 percent of Russians believe that Mr. Yanukovich will be elected as Ukraine's next president and only 14 percent expect that Ms. Tymoshenko will triumph (Kyiv Post, January 28).

While 47 percent consider that relations with Ukraine will improve if Mr. Yanukovich is elected, only 8 percent expect the same under Ms. Tymoshenko.

In the first phase of the campaign, the Russian media remained neutral towards Ms. Tymoshenko, but also ridiculed her because of her alleged obsession with her image and preference for spectacle. The gender bias was evident when the Russian media mocked her tendency to pick on what it considered as trivial matters that are presumably only of interest to women (with men presumably taking care of more substantial issues).

During the flu crisis and gas negotiations with Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, Russian media coverage shifted its emphasis on Ms. Tymoshenko towards that of a dynamic pol-

itician. It positively portrayed her pragmatism in seeking to work with Moscow on energy issues – a welcome development in Russia and the EU after two winter gas crises in 2006 and 2009. On November 22, 2009, Rossiya 1 described her in positive terms, as cultivating a breakthrough in Russian-Ukrainian energy relations and Mr. Putin's relationship with Ms. Tymoshenko as a step forward compared to President Viktor Yushchenko.

The obvious hatred that Moscow has displayed toward President Yushchenko is disingenuous in that it has downplayed the fact that Ms. Tymoshenko was a key player in the 2004 Orange Revolution, which Russia sought to halt. Ms. Tymoshenko uses Orange rhetoric in the 2010 elections and has drawn on the support of pop stars to revive the image of the 2004 "maidan," where music and carnival sustained protesters for 17 days in wintry weather.

In the second phase of the election campaign, the Russian media moved toward a far more favorable endorsement of Mr. Yanukovich, becoming Moscow's favorite as a "pro-Russian." His support for Russian foreign policy included supporting the independence of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, and Ukraine's membership institutions of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), such as the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and Single Economic Space Customs Union. Ms. Tymoshenko, on the other hand, was increasingly portrayed in negative terms or simply ignored by the Russian media.

Mr. Yanukovich emerged as the favorite

(Continued on page 17)

Yanukovich, Tymoshenko hold opposite views on Russian gas

by **Pavel Korduban**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Both Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and her opponent in the February 7 presidential election runoff, the former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, have sought Moscow's support for their campaigns. Both are expected to be rather pro-Russian compared to the outgoing pro-Western President Viktor Yushchenko, who is perceived in Moscow as a Russophobe.

However, Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich hold opposite views on the gas trade with Russia. Mr. Yanukovich wants to revise the January 2009 gas contracts with Russia and to set up an international consortium to manage Ukraine's pipelines. Ms. Tymoshenko defends the contracts and rejects the consortium.

Mr. Yanukovich who, as opinion polls predict, is more likely to be elected as the next president than Ms. Tymoshenko, called the gas contracts "enslaving," addressing his potential voters in Dnipropetrovsk, which is part of Ukraine's industrial heartland. He said the price for Ukraine should be "just"

(Ukrayinska Pravda, January 12). Speaking in the western Ukrainian city of Chernivtsi, Mr. Yanukovich said he would be ready to negotiate a revision of the contracts with Moscow immediately after his election as president (Interfax-Ukraine, January 19). Kommersant-Ukraine daily reported on January 13 that Gazprom took Mr. Yanukovich's threat seriously, so it was preparing to go to court to defend the contracts.

Parts of southeastern Europe were left to freeze in early January 2009 because of the gas price dispute between Ukraine and Russia. There were fears of a repetition of this, as the debt-ridden Naftohaz Ukrainy, the state-owned oil and gas behemoth, had no cash to pay Gazprom. However, Ukraine's central bank came to the rescue, lending to Naftohaz from its reserves. Fears about Naftohaz's ability to pay for gas will only grow as its financial condition is unlikely to improve anytime soon.

Meanwhile, the Russian gas price for Ukraine will increase by the end of 2010. The average annual price for Ukraine is expected to grow to \$280 per 1,000 cubic meters in 2010 from \$228 per 1,000 last year.

The metal and chemical industries in Mr. Yanukovich's strongholds of eastern and southern Ukraine will suffer most from the price increase, hence Mr. Yanukovich's determination to revise the contracts. Ms. Tymoshenko's electorate in the predominantly rural central and western Ukraine is less dependent on Russian gas. Similarly,

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NEWSBRIEFS

Rada amends presidential election law

KYIV – The Ukrainian Parliament on February 3 adopted a bill amending the Ukrainian law on presidential elections (regarding the organization of the work of election commissions). The passed amendments to the law were proposed by Party of Regions National Deputy and Verkhovna Rada First Vice-Chairman Oleksander Lavrynovych. The document excludes a requirement from the law that there should be a quorum of two-thirds of election commission members, who should sign protocols on the results of voting in the second round of the presidential election on February 7. The law has yet to be signed by President Viktor Yushchenko. Central Election Commission Deputy Chairman Andrii Mahera earlier slammed amendments to the law on presidential elections, because the cancellation of a compulsory quorum of two-thirds of election commission members could result in the "appearance of two commissions" at some polling stations. He said that the withdrawal of the quorum in election commissions would cause conflicts at district election commissions. Before the adoption of amendments, the staff of territorial and district election commissions for the February 7 presidential runoff vote was formed on a parity basis from the representatives of frontrunners in the election – Viktor Yanukovich and Yulia Tymoshenko. Mr. Yanukovich said these amendments to the law would help prevent the possibility of disrupting the election, because even if commission members from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc were not present at commission meetings, the results of the vote would be declared valid. The parliamentary faction of the Tymoshenko Bloc described the amendments as a way of legalizing vote-rigging, and said there was a possibility that commission members could be bribed. The Tymoshenko Bloc said it is planning to challenge the law in the courts, if it is signed by the president. However, it is clear that a court ruling will be passed after the February 7 vote. As a result, it is expected that Ukraine will most likely face the long-lasting process of announcing the results

of the presidential election, which, under the law, should be announced no later than February 17. (Ukrinform)

Tribute to Battle of Kruty heroes

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on January 29 laid flowers to the Kruty Heroes Memorial in Kyiv. The event participants held a moment of silence for the victims of the battle. In his address President Yushchenko emphasized the feat of patriots who defended Ukrainian statehood on January 29, 1918. "At the cost of their lives, they showed that love for the homeland is a powerful force that is much higher than weapons and any internal or external threats. These are living values that should consolidate all of us and indicate our common path – the path of independence, unity and democracy," he underscored. "I am sure we won the Battle of Kruty. If the fight had not taken place, if we had lost it, we would not have stayed today under the Ukrainian flag, we would not have spoken Ukrainian and we would not have represented a sovereign independent state. This is the price – unfortunately, it's too high a price – that the Ukrainian nation paid to have a free and independent state," Mr. Yushchenko said. On January 27-29, 1918, some 300 students and young soldiers died in an unequal fight near the Kruty train station trying to stop the advance of Russian Bolshevik forces headed by Mikhail Muraviov to Kyiv. They defended the government of the Central Rada and the independence of Ukraine. The volunteers succeeded in stopping the enemy's offensive for two days, but paid for this with their lives. In March 1918 the bodies of 30 Kruty heroes were buried at Askold's Mound. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko recognizes OUN and UPA

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko, speaking on January 29 at ceremonies commemorating the heroes of the Battle of Kruty in the Chernihiv region, reported that he had signed a decree on January 28 to pay tribute to the fighters for Ukraine's

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Correction

In Zenon Zawada's story "Yushchenko honors Bandera with Hero of Ukraine title" (January 31), Yuri Shukhevych was mistakenly identified as the grandson of Roman Shukhevych. He is the son of the commander-in-chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA).

Kuchma says Ukraine's political system is dysfunctional

RFE/RL

As the second round of Ukraine's presidential election approaches, former President Leonid Kuchma says the country's political system has become deeply dysfunctional and needs an infusion of fresh talent.

Speaking to Dmitry Volcheck of RFE/RL's Russian Service, Mr. Kuchma said regardless of who wins the February 7 runoff between Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich, Ukraine's political institutions will remain incapable of dealing with the country's pressing problems.

"What is clear is that we need new faces," Mr. Kuchma said. "It is also as clear as day that whatever the outcome [of the runoff election], it will not bring political stability or resolve any economic problems in the country."

Mr. Kuchma said the promise of the 2004 Orange Revolution – which saw massive public protests carry Ukraine's first pro-democracy leader, Viktor Yushchenko, to the presidency – has not been fulfilled, and that the country suffers from a deficit of public trust. He chided Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko, the Orange allies who have since become bitter rivals, for "bickering over who had more authority in the country instead of doing their work" over the past five years.

"Ukrainians should be ashamed of this situation in the country where none of the branches of power – neither the president, nor the government, nor Parliament – enjoys the respect of the people," he said.

Mr. Kuchma served as Ukrainian presi-

dent from 1994 to 2005 and is credited with implementing reforms that stabilized the country's post-Soviet economy. But his administration has also been accused of widespread corruption and stifling the nascent free press. Critics allege that he was complicit in the disappearance and killing of opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

He left office in disgrace following the 2004 Orange Revolution when Mr. Yanukovich, his chosen successor, was accused of massive vote-rigging. Mr. Yushchenko won a revote following weeks of street protests.

Accented divisions

But while the Orange Revolution briefly ushered in an era of hope that Ukraine would enact the reforms necessary to join European institutions like NATO and the European Union, it also accented the divisions between the Ukrainian-speaking western regions and the largely Russian-speaking east.

Mr. Kuchma claimed that during his presidency, those divisions were not so acute.

"[When I was president], I did not feel that Ukraine was divided into the west and the east. On the contrary, I thought we were beginning to understand each other," he said. "But that [2004] presidential election once again split the country in two. And I don't think that has changed since then. It is clear today that Ms. Tymoshenko has more support in the west and Mr. Yanukovich has more support in the east."

As president, Mr. Kuchma followed



Former President Leonid Kuchma.

what he calls a "multi-vector" foreign policy, which sought to maintain good relations with both Russia and the West.

He criticized Mr. Yushchenko for changing that course and for acting as if

"Russia does not exist for us" and that "there is only the West." Mr. Kuchma said this naturally elicited a negative response from Moscow. He added that regardless of how close Kyiv's relations become with Moscow, there is little risk that it will imitate Russia's authoritarian political model.

"I'm absolutely confident that such fears are groundless. Ukraine is really not Russia and we have a different mentality," Mr. Kuchma said. "There are three bosses for every two Ukrainians, that's true, and there is always some struggle at every level. So, I don't think such a threat exists. Moreover, our parliamentary-presidential model protects the country from dictatorship."

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Tymoshenko smells fear, Yanukovich smells victory

by Tammy Lynch

Jamestown Foundation Blog

February 2

As debates go, the Ukraine presidential debate on February 1 was lacking fireworks or drama. Of course, it's hard to have fireworks and drama when only one candidate shows up.

Presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich previously declared his intention to skip the debate – and he was a man of his word. Instead, his opponent, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, attacked, joked and generally campaigned for the full 100 minutes of national airtime. (The "debate" may be viewed on the Tymoshenko campaign's official website, <http://vybory.tymoshenko.ua/>.)

Ms. Tymoshenko, who is known for her biting remarks, didn't disappoint. During breaks from what amounted to her basic campaign stump speech, she branded Mr. Yanukovich a "coward" and a "marionette," and when looking at his empty podium, said, "I believe an empty spot is what he is." But mostly, she dripped contempt. "And although he is absent from here, I can feel his smell," she said. "This is the smell of fear."

Mr. Yanukovich, for his part, called her election campaign promises "dirt and evil" and was interviewed on a competing television network. Protecting his roughly 10-point lead by avoiding major debate gaffes seemed to be his mode of operation.

Tammy Lynch is a senior research fellow at Boston University's Institute for the Study of Conflict, Ideology and Policy.

Earlier, his representative had suggested that Mr. Yanukovich wouldn't compete "in a contest of beautiful lies."

The former prime minister provided a different – if somewhat confusing – reason for skipping the debate one month earlier, comparing Ms. Tymoshenko to a simple entertainer. He "wasn't trained as an artist," Mr. Yanukovich said, so he would not participate "as a matter of principle." Moreover, "it's not my profession."

The rancor between the two candidates isn't confined to debate-centered rhetoric. In recent days, tensions appear to have risen as both sides accuse the other of planning to use violence to steal the election.

On Sunday, Ms. Tymoshenko suggested that Mr. Yanukovich had filled Kyiv's downtown hotels with "fighters who are ready to take power using any means." She continued, "As in 2004, we are going to put [Yanukovich] in his place in a severe manner and he will never get power in Ukraine, whatever the circumstances."

In turn, Mr. Yanukovich claimed that Ms. Tymoshenko was bringing hostile Poles, Georgians and Lithuanians to Ukraine to "destabilize" the election. "It is clear they are militants," he said, and demanded "the current authorities" take action, "otherwise, there will be a call to arms to show them what the Ukrainian people are."

Ukrainians have expressed alarm at these statements, although most understand them as only rhetoric. It is no secret that both Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich do not shy away from confrontation, but neither has acted on similar statements they've made in the past. Still, given their current inability to communicate verbally, the tensions and heated rhetoric are a concern.

NATO lauds Ukraine's contribution, resumes military links with Russia

by Ahto Lobjakas

RFE/RL

BRUSSELS – Ukraine made history this week by becoming the first non-NATO-member state to contribute forces to the alliance's flagship NATO Response Force (NRF).

The Ukrainian contribution to the force reflects the strains operations in Afghanistan and the Balkans have put on NATO budgets and manpower. It does not represent a real advance towards formal alliance membership.

The chairman of NATO's military committee, Adm. Giampaolo Di Paola, on January 27 said Ukraine would be providing useful niche capabilities.

"Kyiv is the first – but not the only – partner which has made an offer for the NRF. [It is] a very [significant] offer because [it is] a very [specialized] offer, what we call an 'enabler,' like a CBRN [chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear] unit, like transport," Adm. Di Paola said. "Strategic transport has always been a critical capacity. We are welcoming very much that contribution."

The Ukrainian units will form part of the response force in 2010 and 2011. They will remain on standby in Ukraine.

Adm. Di Paola said the force would be capable of carrying out NATO's mutual defense commitment without recourse to the Ukrainian contribution.

NATO also revived military ties with Russia. Russian Chief of Staff General Nikolai Makarov attended the first top-level NATO-Russia military meeting since mid-2008.

Adm. Di Paola said NATO wanted to "press the practical reset button," while warning that a full resumption of ties would take time. "If you go to switch on your car after it's been in your garage for

one year, you don't go full speed, you start [by] switching [it] on, turning the key, heating up, and then you keep moving," he said. "That's where we are."

An agreement on military-to-military cooperation was signed. A "work plan" for concrete military cooperation will follow in May 2010.

Above all, what brings NATO and Russia together is Afghanistan. Russia already plays a role in the air and overland transit of NATO goods to the country. NATO is also looking for Russian help in maintaining Afghanistan's sizeable fleet of Soviet-built helicopters and fighter planes.

NATO officials quoted Gen. Makarov as saying Russia had a greater interest in Afghanistan's stability than the alliance itself.

Adm. Di Paola said only a "comprehensive" approach combining capable Afghan security forces with a competent government in Kabul could turn the country around. The international conference in London on January 28 is expected to provide guidelines for this.

But Adm. Di Paola said the five-hour discussion of Afghanistan on the morning of January 27 ended on an optimistic note. "There was a feeling in the room we are getting it right," he said. "The mood has changed, the tide has changed: we will succeed, we are convinced we will succeed."

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Quotable notes

"...it is patently clear from his own words that [Viktor] Yanukovich [sic] does not accept the legitimacy of the Orange Revolution, which means that he does not accept the bedrock principle of democracy that you cannot cheat your way to power. ..."

"It is mind-boggling that an unrepentant, twice-convicted violent felon, a man who had sought to steal a presidential election – and who advocated a violent crackdown on the men and women peacefully protesting against his electoral fraud – should be a candidate for any office, let alone the presidency of a country of nearly 50 million people. ..."

– Nina L. Khrushcheva, in her article titled "Ukrainian Democracy and Its Cynics," published on February 2 on the website of Project Syndicate (www.project-syndicate.org).

Yanukovich, Tymoshenko speak in video link-up with Davos

Ukrinform

KYIV – Viktor Yanukovich has said he is planning to seek a significant increase in trade volumes between Ukraine and Russia if he wins the Ukraine's presidential election.

"We will build all our relations on the principles of the World Trade Organization," he said in a video link-up with Davos, Switzerland, where the sixth Ukrainian lunch "Quo Vadis, Ukraine?" was held on January 29. Mr. Yanukovich said the current decline in trade with Russia was linked to incorrect policies pursued in the last few years.

Yulia Tymoshenko, the other candidate in the presidential runoff scheduled for February 7, said in the video link-up that her main task is to create a middle class in the country.

"We saw that Ukraine's unstructured

economy is living through a crisis with difficulties. Our major task is to create a middle class in Ukraine," she said.

The luncheon was sponsored by the Victor Pinchuk Foundation and the EastOne investment advisory group. It is held annually during the World Economic Forum in Davos.

Mr. Yanukovich, leader of the Party of Regions of Ukraine, also said, "Ukraine is ready to be a reliable partner in building a common economic space with Europe," he said, adding that Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan had made significant progress in creating a similar common economic space.

Speaking about the operation of Ukraine's gas transportation system, Mr. Yanukovich said that if he becomes Ukraine's president, he would immediately start talks with Russia and the



Victor Pinchuk Foundation

Boxer Vitali Klitschko with former President Aleksander Kwasniewski (right) of Poland during the Ukrainian lunch at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.



A view of the setting for the Ukrainian lunch held during the World Economic Forum. Presidential candidate Yulia Tymoshenko is seen on the screens addressing lunch participants.

Frequent changes to election rules present obstacles on election day

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

IVANO-FRANKIVSK, Ukraine – Nadiya Matafanova, 78, of Ivano-Frankivsk slowly limped up two flights of stairs with the help of a cane, and her daughter by her side, to vote in the January 17 first round of Ukraine's presidential election. She also braved the ice-caked sidewalks that authorities neglected to clean.

"Who'll come to me to vote at home? Who'll come to register me?" she asked, when told she could have written a statement to request a mobile ballot box be brought to her home.

Frequent changes to election rules, which aren't adequately publicized and are done both annually and at the last minute, remain among the biggest problems in Ukrainian elections, affecting the ability of local and district commissions to conduct them properly.

European Union (EU) standards require that lawmakers make significant changes to election laws and procedures at less than a year before the vote, said Ivan Lozowy, a Kyiv lawyer who specialized in international law at the University of Paris.

Yet, on February 3, Ukraine's Parliament led by the Party of Regions passed a law no longer requiring a two-thirds quorum at district and local election commissions in order to hold meetings, make decisions and, most importantly, count votes in the February 7 run-

off vote between Viktor Yanukovich and Yulia Tymoshenko.

Additionally, local authorities can appoint replacements for absent commissioners.

Those who supported the measure – passed just four days before election day – said they received reports that commissioners representing the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc refused to participate in local election commission meetings in Donetsk and Crimea, thereby disrupting preparations.

"The Regions' motives are understood – a scenario of disrupting the elections at certain polling stations due to a lack of quorum was truly, seriously considered in Tymoshenko's entourage, I know this for certain," said Oleksander Chernenko, chair of the Committee of Voters in Ukraine, the nation's leading election monitoring organization.

"I'm not sure this would have been massive, but the threats exist. However combating this phenomenon with such changes to the law is like shooting sparrows with a cannon," he said.

Without a doubt, the changes will lead to "total chaos and disorder in commissions," Mr. Chernenko said, urging the president to veto the law. Ms. Tymoshenko said the legislation will ruin any chance of free and fair elections that the international community recognized in the first round.

"Until the introduction of such unac-

(Continued on page 17)

European Union on the possible creation of a gas transportation consortium in order to increase the reliability of Russian gas transit to Europe.

"My point of view has not changed since 2004. I supported the creation of the gas transportation consortium, with Russia as a supplier, Europe as a consumer, and Ukraine as a transit country... I have not changed my intentions," he said.

Mr. Yanukovich also said that the past five years had shown that a lack of confidence in relations between Ukraine, Russia and the European Union had become a major reason that construction of gas pipelines bypassing Ukraine has begun.

Prime Minister Tymoshenko underscored in her presentation that "Ukraine needs modernization, starting from the strengthening of freedom of speech. We still have to do a great deal of work."

In her opinion, the political reform of 2004 and the absence of aspirations among the country's leaders are Ukraine's main problems of the last few years.

"The political reform [of 2004] had knocked the executive branch of power out of balance, while the absence of political aspirations among the country's leaders prevented [Ukraine] from overcoming old traditions and rules, and consolidating the teams," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

She also said that if she wins the election, she would be against the creation of a coalition government. "A new government should be formed on a professional basis," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

The Ukrainian lunch was addressed also by Sergey Tigipko and Arseniy Yatsenyuk, two other candidates for Ukraine's presidency who competed in the first round of the election on January 17.

CAMPAIGN WATCH

UWC addresses Ukraine's voters

TORONTO – The Ukrainian World Congress has called on all of Ukraine's voters, whether living in Ukraine or abroad, "to feel individual responsibility and take an active part in the second round of the presidential election." An appeal dated February 1 and signed by UWC President Eugene Czolij, urged Ukrainian citizens to cast their votes "for the candidate who will serve the interests of Ukraine and the Ukrainian nation, strengthen Ukraine's independence, support confirmation of the status of the Ukrainian language as the sole state language, and choose the course of continued democratization Ukrainianization and integration into European society." (Ukrainian World Congress)

PM calls for democratic unity

KYIV – Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, a presidential candidate, tried to persuade President Viktor Yushchenko at a flower-laying ceremony near the monument to the heroes of Kruty on January 29 that there is currently a risk that "an anti-Ukrainian mafia" could rise to power in Ukraine. According to Ms. Tymoshenko's official website, she also stressed the need to unite all democratic and patriotic forces in Ukraine ahead of the second round of the country's presidential election. "Democratic forces and all forces who love and protect Ukraine should currently be on the same side of the fence. If there's unity, the state has a future, but if there's no unity, the state always loses [everything]," she said. Asked what Mr. Yushchenko told her, she said: "It seems to me that he agreed with me." (Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko on 'against all' votes

KYIV – Presidential candidate Yulia Tymoshenko said that calls by some politicians for voters to go to the polls on February 7 and vote in the second round of the presidential election "against all" candidates could result in further conflicts and split the country. She said during her working visit to Ternopil on February 2 that calls to vote "against all" had been dictated by the ambitions of those politicians who still hope to remain in power. She also described as "nonsense" claims by some participants in the first round of the presidential election that there is a "complete similarity" between the remaining two presidential candidates; she said that it is on this basis that they urged a vote against both. (Ukrinform)

Justice minister: no third round

KYIV – Ukrainian Justice Minister Mykola Onishchuk said there would be no third round of the presidential election in Ukraine. In a February 2 interview with the online publication Glavred, he said the law on presidential elections does not foresee a third round. "A rerun of the vote, which was registered in 2004, won't be repeated," Mr. Onishchuk said. The minister said that the law does not stipulate a voter turnout threshold, and even if less than 50 percent of voters participate in the election, the second round would be declared legal. The candidate who receives a simple majority of the vote will become Ukraine's president, he said. Mr. Onishchuk said he did not rule out the possibility that there would be attempts to challenge the result of the presi-

(Continued on page 10)

Team Ukraine selects 47 athletes for XXI Winter Olympics

by Ihor N. Stelmach

The executive board of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine (NOCU) has approved the official list of Team Ukraine for participation in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games to take place in Vancouver, British Columbia, on February 12-28. The names of 41 athletes were announced on January 21; six more were added to the team on January 26.

The Ukrainian team will be composed of 47 athletes who will compete in nine out of 15 winter sports. They are listed below by sport. (Spellings of athletes' names used are those provided by the NOCU.)

Alpine skiing:

Rostyslav Feshchuk
Bogdana Matsotska
Anastasiya Skryabina

Biathlon:

Oleksandr Bilanenko
Vyacheslav Derkach
Andriy Deryzemiya
Oksana Khvostenko
Olena Pidhrushna
Lyudmyla Pysarenko
Serhiy Sednev
Serhiy Semenov
Valentyna Semerenko
Vita Semerenko
Lilia Vayhina-Yefremova

Cross-country skiing:

Maryna Antsybor
Kateryna Hryhorenko
Roman Leybyuk
Lada Nesterenko
Oleksandr Putsko
Valentyna Shevchenko
Vita Yakymchuk
Tetyana Zavaliy

Figure skating:

Anton Kovalevskiy
Kateryna Kostenko
Stanislav Morozov
Roman Talan
Sergiy Verbilo
Tetyana Volosozhar
Anna Zadorozhnyuk

Freestyle Skiing:

Enver Ablayev
Oleksandr Abramenko
Nadiya Didenko
Stanislav Kravchuk
Olha Polyuk
Olha Volkova

Luge:

Yuriy Hayduk
Andriy Kis
Ludan Liliya
Taras Senkiv
Nataliya Yakushenko
Roman Zakharkiv

Nordic combined:

Volodymyr Trachuk

Ski jumping:

Volodymyr Boshchuk
Oleksandr Lazarovych
Vitaliy Shumbarets

Snowboarding:

Annamari Chundak
Yosyp Penyak

NOC chairman Sergey Bubka said in late January he is hoping for some medals at the Winter Games in Vancouver. He added that although Ukraine's athletes have traditionally looked much stronger at the Summer Games, they still have chances to win medals in winter sports.

"In Lillehammer we won gold and bronze medals, at Nagano we could only earn one silver, while at Salt Lake City we failed to grab any," Mr. Bubka said, according to an Agence France-Press report from Kyiv. "Four years ago in Turin we managed to clinch two bronze medals, and I hope we increase our medal count in Vancouver. Looking at the situation impartially, I believe we have chances to win at least one medal in biathlon."

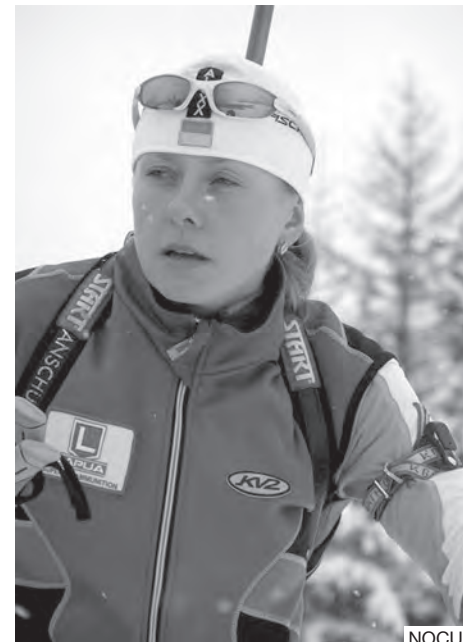
In a competition earlier in January, Ukrainian biathlete Sergei Sednev won a men's World Cup race at Anterselva, Italy. It was his first career triumph.

Mr. Bubka refused to predict any specific Ukrainian medalists, saying a medal in any Olympic discipline would be most welcome.

"We decided to send 47 athletes to compete in nine events in Vancouver. We hope



Tetyana Volosozhar and Stanislav Morozov



Oksana Khvostenko

that any of them can shine at the Olympics."

The head of Ukraine's delegation to the 2010 Games, Nina Umanets, said skier Valentyna Shevchenko was among Team Ukraine's medal favorites, adding that Ukraine has medal aspirations in luge and freestyle skiing.

Three of Ukraine's five Olympic Winter Games medal wins have been in the biathlon, the other two in figure skating. Look for potential medal performances in these two sports once again in Vancouver.

Oksana Khvostenko was one of the top biathletes at the 2008 World Championships, winning a silver medal in the 4 x 6-km relay and two individual bronze medals in the 7.5 km and 15 km. At the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy, Lilia Efremova, who had failed to finish in the top 30 in any event at the 2005 World Championships, shot perfectly and survived a relatively slow finish to earn a bronze medal in the women's sprint.

Pairs skaters Tetyana Volosozhar and Stanislav Morozov are a duo that is wowing audiences and judges in competitions. After an impressive fourth place showing at the 2007 World Championships, they dropped to ninth in 2008. They won two medals during the fall 2008 Grand Prix season, qualifying them for their first Grand Prix Final

where they placed a very respectable fourth. Pairs figure skating in 2006 saw Elena Grushina and Ruslan Goncharov, the 2005 World Championship bronze medalists, achieve the same in Turin, rallying back from a rough start to end up third over all.

A dark-horse medal candidate in cross-country skiing is Valentyna Shevchenko. Although her best Olympics finish was fifth place in 2002's 30 km, she showed more consistent performances in the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 World Cup seasons, ranking seventh and sixth overall respectively. In 2006 Shevchenko had the fastest time at the 20 km mark, but fell off the pace to finish in seventh place.

Ukraine House will be the official home of Team Ukraine for the 2010 Winter Olympics. Under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and Canadian Friends of the Ukrainian National Olympic Committee, Ukraine House will be open to the public from February 12 to February 28. Ukrainian athletes, special guests, Ukrainian youth groups from the Americas and Europe, Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainian Canadians will be on hand in Vancouver to make these Olympic Games one of the biggest Ukrainian sports and cultural events in history.

Last-minute changes...

(Continued from page 1)

five-hour span, approving the legislation in the evening.

The law will "help us prevent the possibility of falsifications in the elections or their disruption," Mr. Yanukovich told reporters before the vote. "There won't be any chances of disrupting the work of election missions anywhere - not in the west, the east or the center of Ukraine."

He dismissed Ms. Tymoshenko's threat to lead mass protests.

"Lovers of those same things which Tymoshenko loves to eat - dirt, lies, slander and deceit - are the type of people that will go," Mr. Yanukovich told a February 4 press conference in Kryvyi Rih, as reported by Interfax. "Normal people won't go."

Some observers said the legislation is designed precisely to enable the Party of Regions to commit election fraud in the oblasts where it enjoys a political monopoly, such as Donetsk and Luhansk, and possibly others.

"You can't change the rules of the game before the final contest at the whims of the sides for whom it's convenient," said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation in Kyiv, who is typically very critical of Ms. Tymoshenko but defended her position in

this instance. "These are bandit methods that are worth thwarting."

The law allows a commission dominated by Party of Regions representatives to dismiss election commission members without any formal investigation or court ruling, Ms. Tymoshenko said in her February 3 statement, in which she declared she would resort to extraordinary measures in reaction.

She said she will inform the entire diplomatic community in Kyiv that the elections are off once the president signed the law, adding that she will also turn to ambassadors of the Group of Eight countries to ask for their support.

Renate Wohlwend, co-rapporteur of the monitoring committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), said on February 7 that the new law shouldn't be applied to the February 7 vote.

She said she will try to explain to the Central Election Commission (CEC) that it's too late in the elections to apply the drastic new rules.

The CEC is dominated by commissioners loyal to the Party of Regions, while the majority of the courts are believed to be under the influence of the Tymoshenko Bloc, particularly the Supreme Court of Ukraine led by Vasyl Onopenko.

Another factor that could further destabilize the election is disagreement

between the Tymoshenko and Yanukovich campaigns on who is Ukraine's police chief.

Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko was dismissed from his post by a January 28 parliamentary vote. Party of Regions Assistant Chair Hanna Herman said her campaign believes the current police chief is First Vice-Minister Mykhailo Kliuyev.

Yet the Tymoshenko campaign insists that Mr. Lutsenko is still police chief because, within hours of his dismissal, the Cabinet of Ministers voted to reappoint him as first vice-minister and acting Minister of Internal Affairs.

Mr. Lutsenko's dismissal and the vote to eliminate commission quorums are part of a grand scheme by the Party of Regions to commit election fraud, particularly in the Donbas region, Dr. Soskin said.

"Neither Tymoshenko nor Yanukovich will definitively triumph, as much as there will be a very small gap between

them, and neither will acknowledge the other's victory," he said. "As a result, the post-election situation will be uncertain and exceptionally acute."



The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc began pitching its campaign tents this week on St. Sophia Square in Kyiv to prepare for a February 5 prayer meeting.

Zenon Zawada

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Ukraine matters

It seems the West has washed its hands of Ukraine. Indeed, many Western leaders and politicians seem to think that it really doesn't matter who is elected president. In fact, it does matter as a look at the policies espoused by the two candidates demonstrates.

Speaking with RFE/RL, Volodymyr Fesenko of the Penta center for political studies said that, although both candidates say they would seek to balance Western and Russian interests, Viktor Yanukovich will be far more "mentally and politically dependent" on Moscow. Yulia Tymoshenko, he said, "is more interested in being a European princess than a Russian one. She's more interested in being in Brussels, sitting at a table with Berlusconi, Sarkozy, Merkel and other European leaders. With [Russian Prime Minister Vladimir] Putin, she'll tackle only economic problems."

Thus, Ukraine's orientation is at stake in this election, and with it the stability of the region.

But, with Ukraine holding the presidential runoff election this Sunday, it matters little at this point how Western leaders feel about the two candidates. What matters most is that they care about Ukraine.

As noted by Matthew Kaminski, writing in the January 27 issue of The Wall Street Journal, the West's disillusionment with Ukraine – "Ukraine fatigue" – is dangerous. Citing the Ukrainian public's disenchantment with the Orange Revolution, he adds: "Before anyone rushes to declare the Orange Revolution dead and Kiev [sic] destined to return to Moscow's embrace, a distinction needs to be made. Disappointment with politicians doesn't mean Ukrainians have soured on political freedom."

Mr. Kaminski argues that Ukraine is "a genuine, if still shallow, democracy" that sits in the "inhospitable terrain" of an "authoritarian wilderness" of the east, from Belarus to the Caucasus and Central Asia. The author, a member of the Journal's editorial board, continues: "It remains strategically critical. A stable, prosperous and free Ukraine ensures Russia can't rebuild its regional empire; it'd also be a teachable counterexample to the deadening hand of Putinism for their Slavic cousins up north. The press is free and diverse and political parties vibrant. ..."

So, no matter who wins the February 7 presidential runoff, Brussels and Washington need to refocus on Ukraine.

Because of last-minute changes in Ukraine's law on presidential elections passed on February 3 by the Verkhovna Rada – due to opposing parties vying for an electoral advantage not a desire to improve the conduct of elections – the vote results, no matter who wins, are sure to be contested and certification could face extensive delays.

Renate Wohlwend, co-rapporteur of the monitoring committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) said that the new law shouldn't be applied to the February 7 vote. Some members of the European Parliament have called on the European Union to react to these developments.

Although Mr. Kaminski's commentary, "Ukraine needs the West," appeared before these latest pre-election day developments, his message now becomes all the more important: Ukraine needs Washington and Brussels to "press the reset button."

"The message of this election is that Ukrainians – like their immediate western neighbors before them – want their politicians to stop their bickering and build a properly functioning democratic state integrated with the West. We should be there to help them," Mr. Kaminski underscores.

Let's hope the West is listening.

Feb.
8
2007

Turning the pages back...

Three years ago, on February 8, 2007, President Viktor Yushchenko met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin to discuss Ukraine's Euro-integration and energy security issues.

Ms. Merkel said Ukraine and the European Union must first create conditions to liberalize visa procedures, launch scientific and cultural exchange programs, and sign a free-trade agreement.

The two leaders agreed to formulate new energy policies to ensure that European customers get oil and gas transparently and on time. Mr. Yushchenko said Ukraine would adhere to the European Energy Charter to fulfill its obligations.

"Ukraine understands its important role in the formation of Europe's energy security policy and is conscious of its responsibility. I know that last year's story perhaps wasn't always presented [in the media] with complete objectivity, but I want to stress that Ukraine fully complies with its obligations under the Energy Charter," Mr. Yushchenko said at a joint press conference with Ms. Merkel.

Ms. Merkel said her meeting with the Ukrainian president reassured her that "Ukraine is ready to take responsibility for transporting energy to Europe."

Russia's Parliament had yet to ratify the European Energy Charter and had agreed to apply the provisions of the agreement to the extent that they are consistent with Russia's Constitution, laws and regulations. In December 2006 Russia indicated that the ratification of the Energy Charter was unlikely due to the provisions requiring third-party access to Russia's pipelines.

Mr. Yushchenko was accompanied by National Security and Defense Council Secretary Vitalii Haiduk, National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Volodymyr Stelmakh, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Volodymyr Khandogiy and Presidential Secretariat Deputy Chief of Staff Oleksander Chalyi.

On February 9, 2007, Mr. Yushchenko visited the Flossenburg concentration camp, where his father, Andrii, was held during the second world war.

Mr. Yushchenko concluded his visit to Germany on February 10, 2007, with his attendance at the 43rd Munich Conference on Security Policy.

Source: "Yushchenko meets with Merkel during three-day visit to Germany," (RFE/RL), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, February 18, 2007.

ELECTION NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA

KYIV PRESS BUREAU



The campaign's final days

The state-owned First National Television network didn't let Viktor Yanukovich's refusal to debate spoil its live event scheduled for February 1.

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko arrived more than willing to make the most of the 90-minute timeslot allocated for the debate that was supposed to occur, speaking without any texts or teleprompters for much of that time as the moderator silently stood by and watched.

She outlined her five priorities for Ukraine, the first to radically change the path of Ukraine's development, remove the oligarchs and build a just and democratic country that will become a part of the European community.

Ukraine needs to achieve a higher ind-human development index, energy independence and "the most contemporary systems of medicine, science and education in Europe and the world."

Finally, she said Ukraine's membership in the European Union is a top priority.

That same evening, Mr. Yanukovich appeared on the ICTV television network and took questions from journalists, experts and celebrities loyal to the Party of Regions of Ukraine.

So whom do the also-rans in the first round of the election endorse in the February 7 runoff? President Viktor Yushchenko and National Deputy Arseniy Yatsenyuk said they'll place their checkmarks next to, "don't support any candidate."

Third-place winner Sergey Tigipko left it up to his supporters to decide for themselves, while Communist Party of Ukraine Chair Petro Symonenko said the Bloc of Leftist and Left-Centrist Forces is asking its voters to vote for Viktor Yanukovich.

As usual, the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc is hedging its bets and not endorsing neither Mr. Yanukovich nor Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

The political council of the Svoboda nationalist party, led by Oleh Tiahnybok, issued a January 22 statement conditionally supporting "the lesser of two evils," Ms. Tymoshenko. Yet it's unlikely she would fulfill Svoboda's demands, such as disclosing the entire text of the January 2009 natural gas agreement reached with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, excluding millionaire oligarchs from her political bloc and denying pensions to NKVD agents, instead awarding them to Ukrainian liberation veterans and political prisoners.

Ukrainian Catholic Church Archbishop Lubomyr Husar and Ukrainian Orthodox Church Patriarch Filaret urged their respective followers to vote in the second round runoff scheduled for February 7.

Moreover they both told their respective flocks to avoid selecting, "don't support any candidate."

"We want to see that everyone who votes truly makes a choice," Archbishop Husar said in January 28 press conference, explaining the decision reached by his Synod of Bishops. "It seems to us that not voting, or voting 'against all' is not a choice intrinsically. It's flight in a certain way, which is why we don't approve of such things."

Patriarch Filaret offered more direct words two days later. "The realization that everything is in God's hands isn't supposed to become a pretense for inactive contemplation," the patriarch said.

"Truly God leads man to what's better in this life and to salvation in eternal life. But He leads not without man's participation. We're supposed to cooperate with God both in spiritual and life matters – choose good and discard evil."

Viktor Yanukovich has a certain way with words.

The Ukrayinska Pravda website on January 28 published a list of 26 "Yanukisms," or verbal gaffes and overall blunders the opposition leader has committed during the last five years.

Among his greatest "hits" are confusing Slovenia with Slovakia, Stockholm with Helsinki and Kosovo with Montenegro.

Yet Mr. Yanukovich demonstrated he also has a way with women that is just as lacking in eloquence and sophistication.

"I'm told that it's useless to argue with a woman," Mr. Yanukovich said during a January 20 visit to Kharkiv. "That's not right. I don't agree with that. Firstly, I believe that she's the prime minister and should carry responsibility for every one of her words. And if she's a woman, then she ought to go to the kitchen and show her fancies there."

The Yanukisms can be viewed at: <http://www.pravda.com.ua/articles/2010/01/28/4676043/>

Ukrainian nationalist Oleh Tiahnybok believes he fared poorly in the January 17 vote because his potential voters gave their votes to President Viktor Yushchenko in the first round.

"In the last moment, the 'unwinnable complex' played out in Halychyna, which believed Yushchenko," he told The Weekly during a break in a January 22 political council meeting held by the Svoboda party. "People wanted to fulfill their responsibility before the president, whom they supported earlier."

Furthermore, President Yushchenko conducted much of his campaign in the Halychyna region, while Mr. Tiahnybok said he traveled throughout Ukraine.

Almost half of Svoboda's votes were gained in Ukraine's eastern and southern oblasts, tripling its results from the 2007 parliamentary elections. "No one can say anymore that we're only a regional party," Mr. Tiahnybok said. "We're a national party."

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko earned her candidate of sciences degree in economics from the Kyiv National Economics University of Ukraine, The Weekly confirmed this week with her campaign staff.

Ms. Tymoshenko's official biography, as well as numerous unofficial biographies on the Internet, neglects to mention where the presidential candidate earned her degree.

She successfully defended her thesis, "State Management with a Taxation System," on July 2, 1999.

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



The future of the past

It would be trite to begin this column with Mae West's famous dictum that nostalgia isn't what it used to be. So instead, we will point out that in fact, longing for the past has a bright future. With our aging population, nostalgia is likely to become more and more popular.

In its original meaning as a form of homesickness, and in its contemporary sense as a longing for a faraway time and place, nostalgia has been a common ailment of political exiles. After their failed revolutions of 1830 and 1863, Poles pined for home in the dismal garrets of Paris and London. Whether stranded in Belgrade or Berlin, Shanghai or Monte Carlo, White Russian émigrés dreamed of the long winters in their dear, dreary homeland. The 20th century saw the massive displacement of millions through war, famine and revolution. Ukrainians, of course, have been no exception. Nostalgia has inspired such varied poets of exile as Ovid, Dante, Mickiewicz and, of course, Taras Shevchenko.

But it also distorts our sense of reality.

First, nostalgia is often based on our earliest memories, which record a child's naive perceptions. A child can joyfully experience conditions of life that adults find onerous and depressing. Besides, children are usually shielded from life's sinister aspects, or simply do not comprehend them. Thus, we have the phenomenon of the offspring of political exiles cherishing their earliest memories of Siberia.

Second, memories of childhood or youth are often recalled in old age, when cumulative misfortunes and deepened understanding have darkened our view of the world. That augments the distortion.

And third, memory is selective. It filters out our terrors and anxieties, enhancing what remains.

Nostalgia sells. Popular films, novels and television evoke the days of their target audiences' youth. Thus, affluent baby boomers respond to 1950s, 1960s, or 1970s nostalgia. There is a perennial market for antique automobiles, retro fashion and classic rock.

Debunking the cherished past is popular too. The award-winning television series "Madmen," for example, sometimes resembles a checklist of common 1950s attitudes and practices now condemned as vices, from liquor and cigarettes to racism and sexism. But it appears to be a meticulously authentic view of Madison Avenue executive life circa 1960.

Yet it is all too easy to pass judgment on the past. For all our retrospective self-righteousness we, too, may someday incur the harsh verdict of posterity. Can we know for certain which will prove to be the sins of our age? Driving fossil-fuel vehicles, or developing nuclear energy? Eating meat, creating genetically modified crops, or keeping animals in zoos? Hoarding our wealth in a hungry world? Perhaps we should not be so hard on our forebears.

While the nostalgic idealizes the past, he demonizes the present. To him, things are always getting worse. Is this a misperception? Both human imperfection, and the ideals against which we measure it, are constant. One would thus expect human conduct to perennially fall short, with no appreciable improvement or decline. But social and cultural standards

do vary over time. And our conduct varies accordingly.

Thus, for example, 18th century licentiousness gave way to the renewed moral rectitude of the Victorians. Fluctuations in social morality can be documented, for example by records of illegitimate births, or by the nature and frequency of recorded crimes. Perhaps, then, the longing for a better past is sometimes justified. But can it ever be satisfied?

Typically, nostalgics are also traditionalists. They believe that a return to tradition will bring back the virtues of the past. And what is tradition? In a narrow sense, it is an account that has been passed down from generation to generation. In a wider sense, it is the preservation of past social, cultural or religious practices. Most broadly, tradition is the organic development of a system of ideas, values and beliefs.

The fallacies of nostalgia lead to two errors regarding tradition.

On the one hand, we expect too much of it, for we believe that preserving past practices will bring back a lost ideal. If only we could make that perfect "Sviat Vechir," we would recover the magic of a childhood Christmas and pass it on to our children.

But on the other hand, nostalgia induces us to do too little. For by seeking to "preserve" tradition, we neglect its growth. Church architecture is one example: attempting to replicate the Kozak Baroque on a smaller scale with cheap materials in an alien setting deadens a tradition instead of reviving it. Thus nostalgia, while inspiring the occasional writer or artist, can actually retard cultural development.

How, then, can we foster the organic growth of tradition, understood as a system of practices or a complex of ideas, values and beliefs? How can it develop, yet remain essentially the same? Constitutional law offers an analogy: in order to safeguard its underlying principles, one must constantly devise and apply new rules expressing those principles in changing social circumstances. Thus in our church architecture, the key is not to replicate old forms with new materials, but to create new forms which, in the given context, express a church's fundamental sacred meaning. The work of Radoslav Zuk exemplifies this approach.

Yet some traditional practices remain changeless, regardless of how society may understand them. Liturgy is a prime example. Bread and wine may be regarded differently by different societies at different times, and some societies may not know them at all. Yet as the center of the Eucharistic rite they cannot be replaced. Other practices remain unchanged despite having lost their original meaning: we offer our sword-arms in greeting, though we no longer wear swords. Yet we have largely abandoned some traditional practices that remain both outwardly comprehensible and inwardly significant: fasts and pilgrimages are but two examples.

Which traditions do we keep intact, which do we discard, and which do we modify? How well we answer these questions is a good predictor of our cultural survival.

Andrew Sorokowski can be reached at samboritanus@hotmail.com.

Detroit deteriorating

I love Detroit. It's in Michigan, my favorite state. I have pleasant memories of time spent in this once great American city.

My dad was a supreme auditor of the Ukrainian National Association and, as a kid, I often accompanied him to Detroit as he participated in various UNA functions in what was once a vibrant Ukrainian community.

I have fond memories of Dr. Ambrose Kibzey, a UNA auditor first elected to the UNA Supreme Assembly in 1937 along with my father. They were part of the ODVU (Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine) team that moved the UNA toward a more nationalistic posture during the late 1930s. This ODVU involvement was later condemned as a Nazi-inspired move by Michael Tkach, editor of The Ukrainian Daily News, a Soviet-supported Ukrainian newspaper in the United States. Mr. Tkach was exposed as a Soviet agent by Elizabeth Bentley before the House Un-American Activities Committee on May 13, 1949.

Also elected as part of the ODVU "nationalist 11" was advisor Walter Didyk, another Detroit resident who was not only active in Detroit, but across the river in Windsor, where he helped establish the second Canadian UNA branch in 1937.

It is significant to note that UNA membership soared from 30,335 in 1937 to 38,167 in 1941, due in no small measure, I believe, to the dynamic infusion of nationalist ideals. UNA growth continued until 1974, when it peaked at 89,119.

I will never forget Volodymyr Hirniak, a Windsor businessman elected UNA auditor in 1946. As a UNA organizer, he was one of the best, personally organizing 59 new members in 1966 and 71 members in 1969. He was often invited to Chicago by our local UNA district committee to motivate branch secretaries to enroll new members. He received leads from UNA secretaries and accompanied them to sign up prospective new members. Mr. Hirniak was a big part of the UNA growth spurt.

Once I became a UNA advisor and later, a UNA vice-president, I was often invited to UNA functions in Detroit – picnics, banquets, rallies, the like. Ukrainians in Detroit were a very active segment of our community, not only within the UNA but in our wider community as well. In time, however, the city began to change and the center of Ukrainian community life shifted to Warren, Mich.

Today, Detroit is a wasteland with thousands of abandoned buildings. Huge swatches of land are urban prairie, surrounded by barbed wire. Articles in The Wall Street Journal (September 26-27, December 19-20 and 22) Time (October 5, November 9), and The Week (October 15) have focused on the city's deterioration. "Once the fourth largest city, with a population of 1.85 million in 1950," The Week reported, "only 770,000 remain with an estimated 1,000 residents leaving every month." Once a multicultural city with beautifully maintained ethnic neighborhoods, Detroit today is 83 percent black. Unemployment is 29 percent. The median home price was \$7,100 last July. What went wrong?

Riots are part of the answer. Segregation and decreasing job opportunities for blacks led to an explosion in 1967. During a five-day period, accord-

ing to The Week, "rioters fanned out over the city setting hundreds of fires and looting black and white businesses. When it was all over, 43 people were dead, 1,300 buildings were destroyed, and more than 7,000 people had been arrested. The riots were a blow from which Detroit never recovered... When the Detroit Tigers won the 1984 World Series, fans celebrated with a frenzy of mindless destruction, burning cars and breaking windows." On Halloween eve, two weeks later, "Devil's Night" brought more riots and 810 fires.

Politicians were another problem. Democratic Coleman Young, Detroit's first black mayor, was elected in 1973 and, according to Time, "spent much of his 20 years in office devoting his talents to the politics of revenge. He called himself the 'MFIC,' the IC stood for 'in charge' the MF exactly what you think." He alienated what few whites remained in Detroit with an attitude "that could have been summed up in the phrase 'Now it's our turn.'" Democratic Congressman John D. Dingell, the longest serving member of the House in history, resisted all efforts by Congress to compel Detroit automakers to accept tougher safety and mileage standards and "virtually any other measure that might have forced the American automobile industry to make cars that could stand up to foreign competition."

If Detroit's automobile tycoons were guilty, then so was the United Auto Workers (UAW) which pressed management to increase wages and benefits that eventually became unsustainable. American taxpayers helped bail out GM in 2009, and the auto-maker is still teetering.

Detroit schools are also in shambles. The current budget deficit is \$219 million. According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 69 percent of the district's fourth graders and 77 percent of the eighth graders scored below basic levels. Detroit's student scores are among the lowest on statewide tests as well. Two of every three inner-city students fail to graduate high school. School corruption is rampant, according to The Wall Street Journal. Some \$600,000 in computer equipment went missing in 2009, for example. Teacher strikes and an attitude of "us first" hasn't helped either. Six years ago the teachers' union forced the school district to reject a philanthropist's offer of \$200 million to build 15 small, independent charter schools.

Is there any hope for Detroit? Former Detroit Pistons legend and business entrepreneur Dave Bing has replaced the disgraced Kwame Kilpatrick as mayor. Praised by The Wall Street Journal for his "tough love" approach towards Detroit's "entitlement culture," Mr. Bing hopes to change the city. Current Detroit-area residents and UNA luminaries Anatole Doroshenko and Alexander Serafin are cautiously optimistic.

There is a lesson in all of this. No city is too big to fail when political checks and balances don't exist, and blind ideology, race-baiting, corporate mismanagement and union intransigence dominate the landscape.

You know the maxim, so complete the sentence: "Power corrupts and absolute power_____."

Myron Kuropas's e-mail address is kuropas@comcast.net.

UCRDC's oral history archive to be digitized thanks to Jacyk program

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – A major treasure of the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center (UCRDC) is its oral history archive – audio and video recordings of interviews, collected over more than 25 years, with people who took part in some of the most significant events in contemporary Ukrainian history.

Thanks to an agreement to organize and analyze the UCRDC oral history archive made between the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta, the Institute of Historical Research of Ivan Franko National University of Lviv and the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU), the archival project will take place over the next five-years. This is the first project of the newly established Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Modern Ukrainian History and Society. CIUS has agreed to provide a grant through the John Kolasky Memorial Endowment Fund, while the University of Lviv and UCU will provide the specialized personnel who will implement the project.

Today most libraries, archives and museums are digitizing their collections with the aim of providing wider access to them, particularly through the Internet. This is particularly important for collections recorded on magnetic tapes – audio and video – because, unlike paper records, which have a longer lifespan, analog sound and image recording media are subject to deterioration within a few decades. Until recently, audio and video archivists handled this situation by periodically re-recording on fresh tapes. However, when analog recordings are copied, there is always a loss of quality. Digital copies, how-

ever, are identical to the original, and thus digitization provides a better method for preservation of recordings.

At the end of last year, Oksana Dmyterko, a historical research scholar from the Lviv Institute of Historical Research, came to Toronto to work on the first stage of the archival project. Her assignment was to digitize its audio recordings. Ms. Dmyterko transferred to digital media almost 220 hours of recordings – about one-half of the audio archive.

The work had to proceed at its own pace because the recordings have to be transferred from tape to computer in real time. The software program used was Garage Band, which transferred the sound into MP3. The transfer was done using a professional recorder (Tascam 122mkII) and a new iMac. Technical assistance was provided by Andrij Holowatyj.

The recordings covered a wide variety of categories of interviews: members of the Galicia Division; people who had gone through displaced persons (DP) camps; ostarbeiters and who were forcibly taken to work in Germany; members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA); Ukrainians who saved Jews; and women who had lived through the occupations of Ukraine during World War II.

Ms. Dmyterko gave the following evaluation of the UCRDC oral history archive:

“In an atmosphere of doubt and the danger of the loss of historical memory of some events, their various interpretations and judgments by witnesses, the question of their preservation has become a critical problem.

“Historical memory, unfortunately, is also a field of dispute for politicians who favor particular interpretations which suit their



Oksana Zakydalsky

Oksana Dmyterko at work at the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center.

aims. Therefore, it is particularly important to preserve valuable testimony without the interference of political influence into personal testimonies. A historical researcher should stand in defence of memory, truthfully investigate life histories, demonstrate inconsistencies and try to understand them.”

She explained that “it is difficult to overestimate the value of the UCRDC archive’s oral history collection, which can become an inexhaustible source for research and interpretation of the history of Ukraine and

Ukrainians.”

It is expected that, thanks to the above-mentioned agreement, in the fall of 2010 the UCRDC will be able to engage another specialist from Lviv to work on its archives. The UCRDC spokespersons expressed gratitude to the CIUS and the John Kolasky scholarship fund, the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko, SUS Foundation and the Homenko Foundation (Maria Halkewycz) from Winnipeg, for making the archival project possible.

CIUS launches first project of new Petro Jacyk program

EDMONTON, Alberta – The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta has launched the first project of the newly established Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Modern Ukrainian History and Society.

The new CIUS project is being implemented in cooperation with Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (IFNU) and the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU). Between October and December 2009, Oksana Dmyterko of the IFNU began to digitize the audio recordings of the oral history archive at the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center (UCRDC) in Toronto, preparing the ground for future research. She came to Canada as a recipient of a grant from the John Kolasky Memorial Endowment Fund, which supports Ukrainian scholars and professionals engaged in scholarly work, research and professional development in Canada.

This project came into being in response to a growing interest in oral history among scholars in the social sciences and humanities. Oral history helps preserve aspects of historical memory and details the experience of a variety of social groups. Both Lviv institutions have been working in this field since the 1990s, focusing on personal recollections of important social and historical events of the 20th century, such as the Holodomor of 1932-1933, Ukraine during World War II, the suppression of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and the dissident movement in Soviet Ukraine. This material has given rise to new publications that reveal previously unresearched attitudes to historical events, making possible a critical evaluation of the treatment of those events in Soviet historiography.

The Lviv researchers gathered invaluable eyewitness accounts of events that could not

be discussed openly during the Soviet period: the Holodomor, exile to Siberia, arrests of nationally conscious and politically active Ukrainians, prisons and the gulag, deportation for forced labor in Germany during World War II, and flight to the West in order to escape Soviet rule.

In Toronto, similar work has been going on at the UCRDC since the 1980s, thanks to the efforts of Iroida Wynyckyj and volunteers from Canada and Ukraine. The oral history archive at the UCRDC consists of audio and video materials and related documentation. The audio collection of tapes and CDs totals approximately 430 items.

The intent is to make these materials available to a broad variety of researchers: historians, sociologists, lawyers, philologists and religious studies specialists. The Jacyk Program has therefore begun to create digitized copies of oral history records and undertaken to produce a catalogue of the digitized audio files over a three-year period. Digitized material can easily be accessed via the Internet and conforms to present-day world standards of document processing.

More information about the oral history archive at the UCRDC can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5h1W_488_U

Ms. Dmyterko is working on the first stage of the project to digitize the UCRDC’s oral history archives. She is also preparing a book and a CD under the working title “Women during World War II” for publication toward the end of 2010.

The Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Modern Ukrainian History and Society, established at CIUS in 2008, will also concentrate on the training of a new generation of professional scholars.

– Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies

CIUS supports award-winning book

EDMONTON, Alberta – A book whose publication was partly subsidized by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, “Leksykon Lvivskyi: Povazhno i Na Zhart” (Lviv Lexicon: Seriously and Frivolously) was awarded the grand prize at the 16th annual international book festival in Lviv.

The compilers are Natalia Khobzei, Ksenia Simovych, Tetiana Yastremska and Hanna Dydyk-Meush. They are all senior researchers at the Ivan Krypiakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Lviv).

While working on this project, Ms. Khobzei, its initiator and managing editor, received a grant from the Wolodymyr Dylinsky Memorial Endowment Fund at CIUS, University of Alberta. Established by Myron Dylinsky of Toronto in December 1991 and matched by Xerox Canada, the fund provides research or publication grants in Ukrainian studies to scholars affiliated with academic, cultural, and educational institutions in Lviv.

The success of the publication is due in part to the compilers’ unusual scholarly approach: as they explain, the book is not only a standard dictionary but also “a codification of speech particular to 20th century Lviv” that conjures up the city’s unique image and special atmosphere. The dictionary is based on literary publications and memoirs of local authors, as well as on the Lviv press, and features a wealth of observations by the compilers.

“Leksykon” includes words little known or not used in standard Ukrainian (e.g., dziam, boidyk, dupak, habal, lobuz) and words with distinct characteristics (such as unusual stresses in trámvai and advókat). It contains more than 12,000 entries, idiomatic phrases, proverbs and sayings that convey the inimitable linguistic flavor of Lviv (e.g., pan na tsilu hubu, propasty za shtyry greitsary). Many entries are accompanied by illustrative citations.

Toponyms specific to Lviv are also featured, and the appendix includes an index of personal names, some of them quite unusu-

al, such as Arpad, Vytovt, Diomed, Irynei and Orikh. The compilers comment on the dynamics of word use among younger, middle-aged and older speakers, taking note of street language, synonyms and archaisms that have disappeared from the contemporary language. Reproductions of prewar advertisements and unique local dish recipes appear throughout the dictionary.

This is no mere linguistic study but a captivating text that acquaints readers with the customs, traditions, memorable events and everyday life of Lviv and tells stories about local people.

“Leksykon Lvivskyi” (ISBN 978-966-02-5342-1) was published by the Krypiakevych Institute in the “Treasury of Dialectology” series, which seeks to popularize the heritage of folk speech. The compilers hope that more publications of this kind will contribute to a comprehensive dictionary of Ukrainian dialects. The book can be obtained through the German retailer Kubon & Sagner (kuna@Kubon-Sagner.de) or from the Lviv Politekhnik Press (vmr@vlp.com.ua).

Наталія Хобзей
Ксенія Сімович
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Лексикон Львівський:
поважно і на жарт

Cover of “Leksykon Lvivskyi.”

BOOK REVIEW: Eyewitness account of western Ukraine, 1918-1923

"Western Ukraine in Conflict with Poland and Bolshevism, 1918-1923," by Vasyl Kuchabsky. (Translated from the German by Gus Fagan.) Edmonton-Toronto: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, 2009. 361 pp. \$34.95 (paper), \$59.95 (cloth).

by Peter Bejger

Our story begins on the night of October 31-November 1, 1918, when a small group of Galician Ukrainian troops under the command of Maj. Dmytro Vitovsky deftly took control of the city of Lviv from Imperial Austrian authorities. This elegant overture announced the debut of Western Ukraine as an independent actor on the European stage. Five years later the international community, in the form of the Council of Allied Ambassadors in Paris representing the victorious powers of the first world war, dropped the curtain on what had become a blood-spattered drama and shattered all Western Ukrainian aspirations when they finally recognized the incorporation of Galicia into the new and triumphant Polish state.

Vasyl Kuchabsky, a Lviv University law student who became an officer of the Ukrainian Sich Rifleman during World War I, was an eyewitness and participant to the chaotic events during these five years. His book – originally published in German in Berlin in 1934 and now available in a remarkably fluid English translation by Gus Fagan, a senior lecturer in international relations at London Metropolitan University – is a fascinating and lively account of the military and diplomatic struggles for independence in both western and eastern Ukraine. This a crucial point, for Kuchabsky outlines in vivid detail how the often conflicting interests of these two very different parts of the country ultimately doomed the Ukrainian Revolution.

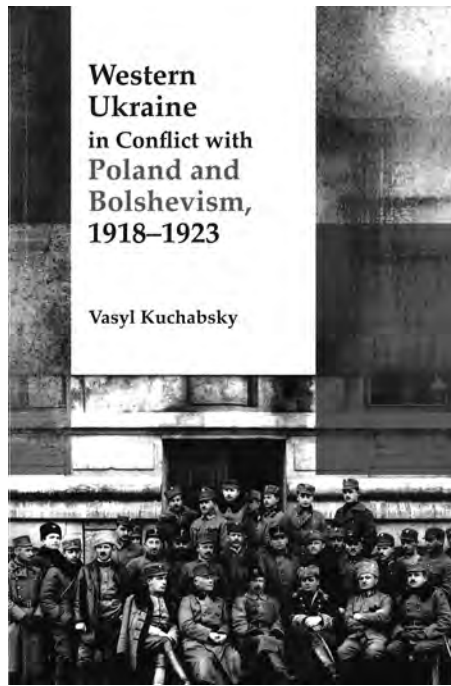
Kuchabsky's book is invaluable because it places these struggles within the broader context of European developments: the shifting play of forces between Poland and Russia, which in reality represented the emerging struggle between world capitalism and communism; the geopolitical considerations behind the Paris Peace Conference and the future role of Germany; and the individual East European policies of major Western powers, specifically France, the British Empire, and the United States.

Why did Ukraine fail to establish statehood when so many of its neighbors succeeded? Kuchabsky eschews the dire sentimentality and apologetics of many émigré memoirs and offers a ruthless analysis.

After a horrific world war, France was determined to keep Germany down and a threatening Bolshevik Russia out of an exhausted Europe reeling from social turmoil. A strong Poland was essential to fulfill these plans, and ambitious Polish leaders – confident of the full support of Paris – energetically pursued a policy where, as Kuchabsky writes, "Ukraine had to be destroyed if Poland were to be great."

The British were more sympathetic, especially when the newly proclaimed Western Ukrainian People's (National) Republic still controlled the oil fields of Boryslav and Drohobych. Once those facilities fell into Polish hands, London's calculations changed, although half-hearted efforts continued for some form of Western Ukrainian "autonomy."

San Francisco-based author and filmmaker Peter Bejger wrote the recently released documentary "A Kingdom Reborn: Treasures from Ukrainian Galicia."



Kuchabsky is cynical about the Americans and notes, "the Western Ukrainians had placed all their hopes of obtaining justice from President [Woodrow] Wilson, the prophet of 'national self-determination.'" Kuchabsky considers these hopes foolish and naïve because, as he points out in great detail, Wilson and leading U.S. government officials were already in thrall to masterful Polish lobbying and the black arts of propaganda. He caustically noted the underlining PR problem the Ukrainian cause faced in western political and military circles. "The Poles were masters of the dashing parade. Among the Western Ukrainians, however, one saw only hulking great barbarians."

Kuchabsky also dismisses Ukrainian hopes on President Wilson in terms of Realpolitik. "Powerful nations exploit weak ones because they consider it profitable to do so, not because they think the weak nation enjoys the experience. The relationship between nations has never been based on moral considerations, it has always been based on the use of various forms of power to gain an advantage."

In both the diplomatic and military arena, Kuchabsky blames the Ukrainian elite for being cautious and unimaginative. He writes, "The leadership of Western Ukraine lacked that greatness of mind without which really creative actions are impossible." This he blamed on the ossified culture of the former Habsburg Empire that produced "a stratum of small-minded pacifist philistines who understood nothing of war."

Yet within this withering litany of complaints Kuchabsky reminds us the short-lived independent Western Ukraine did occasionally rise to the challenge. Amidst conditions of rampant post-war chaos, a functioning state administration was created that successfully mobilized an army, imposed law and order, and guaranteed a free press and fractious democratic political discourse. There were even astonishing military victories when a Russian general, Aleksandr Grekov, joined the Western Ukrainian military service and launched a brilliant counteroffensive that temporarily repulsed superior Polish forces. Kuchabsky writes, "the revival gave evidence of what this peasant nation could have achieved if it had intelligent and energetic leadership."

And yet failure was inevitable. There were simply no resources to keep the fight going in face of an international blockade. The book offers an agonizing blow-by-blow account of how the Ukrainian Galician Army was finally destroyed through incessant battle, the lack of arms and supplies, and disease.

An especially helpful feature in this new edition is a series of invaluable four-color maps (re-drawn from original black-and-white maps) that provide a visual guide to the military campaigns. These maps, along with the trenchant analysis of Kuchabsky's background and organization of the book in an introduction by Oleksandr Pavlyuk, help make this volume an essential reference guide to an exceeding complex period of Ukrainian history.

And what of Kuchabsky himself? In 1922 he emigrated to Germany where he obtained a doctorate in history and Slavic philology from the University of Berlin in 1930, got married in 1932, and had a son named Leo. He pursued a scholarly career while working as a reference librarian at the Institute of World Economy in Kiel. During World War II he served as director of the Lublin state library in German-occupied Poland until the arrival of the Red Army in 1944. Kuchabsky was believed to have disappeared without a trace after the war.

Kuchabsky's son, Dr. Leo Kutschabsky, revealed hitherto unavailable information to the publishers of this translation that Vasyl Kuchabsky made a quiet life for himself in the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany. Kuchabsky worked as an interpreter and statistician and eventually became a teacher of Russian, history and Latin at a secondary school in the town of Blankenburg in the Harz Mountains, where he died in 1971.

Kuchabsky published his book when Ukrainian fortunes reached their very nadir. Communist-ruled eastern Ukraine had been ravaged by famine and purges while Western Ukrainian national life

What happened to the Ukrainian movement then was something like a natural catastrophe against which man is powerless.

– Vasyl Kuchabsky

under Polish occupation had fallen into disarray and despair.

In tracing the causes of the disaster, Kuchabsky laments, "What happened to the Ukrainian movement then was something like a natural catastrophe against which man is powerless, for reason, will, prudence and ingenuity are of no avail."

However, with a chilling prescience Kuchabsky categorized the Polish triumph over Western Ukraine as a "curse for the victor." The "deadly poison" of Polish-Ukrainian animosity was slowly killing Poland itself. His words proved prophetic when a few years later a resentful Western Ukraine greeted the conflagration to come in 1939.

The book is available at www.ciuspress.com, by calling 780-492-2973, or by writing to: CIUS Press, 430 Pembina Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, T6G 2H8, Canada.

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Campaign watch...

(Continued from page 4)

dential election in the courts. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich sees possible snap elections

KYIV – Party of Regions presidential nominee Viktor Yanukovich said he is not ruling out pre-term parliamentary elections in Ukraine. “I don’t rule out early parliamentary elections in Ukraine even this May if it is unable to work effectively,” Mr. Yanukovich said on Crimea State Television Company on January 28. Political scientists believe that the Party of Regions, which has the largest representation in the Verkhovna Rada with 172 national deputies, theoretically does not need pre-term elections. However, Mr. Yanukovich will face the problem of creating a new coalition if he wins the presidential race, since the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc has 153 mandates, the Our Ukraine-People’s Self-Defense bloc has 71 and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc has 20. The Communist Party, with 27 national deputies, has already decided to support Mr. Yanukovich in the runoff election. (Ukrinform)

Lytvyn: no grounds for Rada dissolution

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said on February 1 that there would be no legal grounds to dissolve the Ukrainian Parliament after the country’s presidential election. “I see no chance [of dissolving the Parliament after the election]. There’s no legal mechanism for this. The coalition formally exists, and it’s unclear why the Verkhovna Rada could be dissolved,” he said, while commenting on Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich’s statement that the Rada could be disbanded if he is elected Ukraine’s president. Mr. Lytvyn also focused attention on the political aspect of

this issue, particularly the absence of reviewed electoral legislation. In his opinion, before dissolving the Verkhovna Rada, it is necessary to clarify what electoral laws will be used to elect a new staff of Parliament. He also called on national deputies to adopt a new law on elections on a majority basis and under open lists. Then, in his opinion, “the desire to hold elections will disappear.” (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich ties win to turnout

KYIV – Viktor Yanukovich says his biggest danger in the runoff of the presidential election is low turnout. He expressed this fear during a press conference in his native town of Yenakieve in the Donetsk region on February 2. The turnout in the first round of the presidential elections on January 17 was 66.72 percent. “I believe our biggest risk is if our voters decide we have already won,” he noted. Mr. Yanukovich called on all of his supporters to come to the polls on February 7 and guarantee the victory of the opposition. The Party of Regions leader also said that his parliamentary faction was demanding an extraordinary meeting of the Verkhovna Rada on February 3 to adopt final amendments to the law on presidential elections and thus prevent vote rigging and frustration. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich discloses first steps if elected

KYIV – Viktor Yanukovich said that, if he is elected president of Ukraine, he will first take steps to overcome the economic crisis. Speaking live for ICTV on February 1, he said the economic downturn could be overcome soon if a powerful team is created to work in sync – the Cabinet of Ministers, the Verkhovna Rada and the president. The second and the most important thing to do is to finally elaborate the country’s development strategy through the year 2020. Mr. Yanukovich said the development will proceed when the tax system

provides for favorable conditions of economic growth, when every region has its regional program, when social problems are solved. According to the opposition leader, one more crucial task is overcoming poverty. Yanukovich says it is necessary to reduce poverty and promote middle class. “A model of Ukraine’s modernization should be innovative investment. This also means that our partners worldwide – potential investors – must have confidence in us. And we, in turn, should create favorable conditions for them,” Mr. Yanukovich said. (Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko cites priorities

KYIV – Presidential contender Yulia Tymoshenko on February 2 named her priorities if she wins the presidential election. Her first priority, she said, is “a transfer to a way of creating a new state.” She said she wants Ukraine to move up from 85th place on the human development index developed by the United Nations Development Program to the top 30. “We are among the 30 world countries having the best intellectual and educational level,” she has said. Her second priority is to secure Ukraine’s first place among East European countries in the development of education, medicine and high technologies. Speaking about the development of small and medium-sized business, Ms. Tymoshenko noted that, in order to provide business with credits, it is necessary to replace the property or money security with insurance. It is also necessary to change the monetary and credit policy according to world standards. Ms. Tymoshenko emphasized that it is necessary to “systemically and deeply examine the value-added tax,” which “does not work in Ukraine.” Development of a scheme for purchase of housing by young families is also possible, she added. “We will pass laws on a system of extending credits without the first payment. The State Mortgage Institution will extend credits for housing for 30 years, and a system for making credits cheaper will be set on this basis,” Ms. Tymoshenko said. (Ukrinform)

CEC registers international observers

KYIV – As of February 1, the Central Election Commission had registered 3,780 international observers for the presidential election. Among them are observers from Moldova, the United States, Canada, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance and the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe. (Ukrinform)

No numbers on home voting

KYIV – The Central Election Commission is not able to determine the number of voters who actually cast their ballots at home during the first round of the presidential election on January 17, CEC Deputy Chairman Andrii Mahera told the Dzerkalo Tyzhnia newspaper. He explained that the existing law on presidential elections does not provide for determining this figure in the commission reports. He said that, unlike the parliamentary elections law, the presidential elections law does not envisage a separate column in the report for the number of electors who vote at home. (Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko on constitutional reform

KYIV – Presidential candidate and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko insists on amending the Constitution immediately. Speaking at a news conference on January 20, she emphasized that amendments made in 2004 to the Constitution have destroyed the system of state administration. “The country is traveling without a rudder and sails due to amendments hastily made to please [President Leonid] Kuchma,” the prime minister noted. She says it is expedient to conduct a poll or referendum on what form of government the citizens sup-

port – presidential or parliamentary. She also there is no need to dissolve the Parliament after the presidential election. She said a “stable democratic majority” would be formed in the Verkhovna Rada right after the election that will be able to implement the program of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and its leader. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko not giving up politics

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko, who came in fifth in the first round of Ukraine’s presidential election, is not going to give up politics and will not support any of the runoff candidates, it was reported on January 20. “The second round of the election is ahead. An election without choice is waiting for us. For both candidates national, democratic, European values are alien, distant,” he said. At the same time Mr. Yushchenko noted that national and state commitments do not allow him to give up politics. “Only democracy has a future prospect. I remain a guarantor of the Constitution and promise the runoff will be held fairly and transparently,” the president emphasized. He also said he accepts the choice of the Ukrainian people. “The main point is that the election was held at a high level that was proved by international observers. We showed a positive example for the entire post-Soviet space,” Mr. Yushchenko underscored. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich blames Yushchenko

KYIV – Presidential candidate and Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich said during his visit to Kherson on January 22 that Unity Day is currently extremely important. The front-runner in the presidential election said that one of his major tasks is the unification of various Ukrainian regions. In this connection, he blamed President Viktor Yushchenko for conferring the title Hero of Ukraine on Stepan Bandera, the leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN). A statement posted on the Party of Regions website says that conferring the title to Bandera on Unity Day “will not help unite Ukraine.” It noted: “This is a step to a greater split in the country. The Party of Regions demands that the award policy of the Ukrainian president be changed.” (Ukrinform)

Candidates’ spending on polls

KYIV – In the course of the election campaign, presidential candidates ordered over 50 public opinion polls, which cost them \$1 million to \$2 million (U.S.), the newspaper Delo calculated. Over the active phase of the election campaign, September 1, 2009, through January 20, 2010, sociological services published the results of 35 studies with data about presidential candidates’ ratings. As for closed monitoring, conducted by several known sociology companies but not divulged at customers’ wishes, the total number of polls may be 50 or even 100, it was reported on January 20. (Ukrinform)

Court extends ban on rallies

KYIV – The Kyiv District Administrative Court has extended until March 1 the effect of its previous ruling banning the holding of mass events on Kyiv’s Independence Square, the main domestic policy department of Kyiv City State Administration reported on February 1. The court had banned the holding of mass events on the city’s main square from January 9 to February 5, at the city administration’s request. The city administration said that the request to the court was triggered by the need to avoid clashes between the supporters of different parties and blocs that submitted to the city administration applications for holding mass events on Independence Square (known as the “maidan”). (Ukrinform)

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Edited and compiled by Matthew Dubas and Yarema Belej

Hammer and sickle T-shirt choice draws criticism from Ukrainian student

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – A T-shirt design for juniors at Irvington High School in Irvington, N.Y., that featured a hammer and sickle on the front and the phrase “Isn’t it time you joined the party?” on the back, was originally chosen for the school’s annual Color Wars in February, which mark the end of mid-term exams. But the decision was rescinded.

“I just thought it was very inappropriate and offensive,” said Michael Schur, a senior at the school, whose relatives died in Ukraine under Stalin’s rule and whose mother, Sonya, complained to the school’s principal, Scott Mosenthal.

As a replacement, the students chose the video game character Mario, the mustachioed plumber.

Isabel Garcia, the class president, who came up with the idea, explained, “We wanted to do something that was a little bit witty, smart humor. We thought we were being original.”

The previous year, Mr. Schur’s class picked up on the Communist connection as well, but the idea was immediately rejected.

Mr. Schur’s family escaped from Ukraine in the 1930s during Stalin’s forced collectivization policies that resulted in the mass starvation of millions of Ukrainians, known as the Holodomor.

In speaking with LoHud.com’s Noreen O’Donnell, Ms. Schur asked, would Jews find anything about a swastika to be funny?

“If it’s disrespectful to people in the community, that’s a much bigger issue than some kids not liking the idea,” Ms. Garcia said.

Mr. Schur challenged the trend that Communist images including red stars, and images of Mao and Che Guevara should be viewed as chic, radical or otherwise, but in their historical context. “In the end I really don’t think I made my point,” he told LoHud.com. “I just aggravated a bunch of people.”



The proposed T-shirt design for Irvington High School juniors.

Klun receives Grammy nomination for Best Engineered Album

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Roman Klun, a producer, mix engineer and songwriter, was nominated for a 2010 Grammy Award for the “Best Engineered Album” for his collaborative work on “Swan Feathers,” featuring singer Leslie Mendelson, available on Rykodisc Records.

The 52nd annual Grammy Awards ceremony was held on Sunday, January 31, at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. Other songs nominated in the same category included “Gossip in The Grain,” “My One And Only Thrill,” “Safe Trip Home” and “Ellipse” (the winner).

This was Mr. Klun’s first nomination for a Grammy. The nomination was shared by engineers Richard Alderson, Chris Allen, Lanwrence Manchester, Rob Mounsey, Jay Newland, Gene Paul, Jamie Polanski and Gordie Sampson. Mr. Klun is also the recipient of a Genie Award, (the Canadian version of the Academy Awards), has worked on several Juno award-winning albums and was honored by the Audio Engineering Society for his work in 5.1 surround sound.

Mr. Klun has produced and engineered many records with the Ukrainian Canadian Capella, bass-baritone Pavlo Hunka, the Ukrainian Vanguard Band, Ron Cahute and Burya, and was also the director and producer of “Fest Ukraine”



Roman Klun

at Paramount Parks Wonderland.

Mr. Klun lives with his wife, Maria, in New York City and maintains a home-based recording studio in Union Square with Aaron Comess of the band “Spin Doctors.” For more information about Roman Klun and his work, readers may visit www.romanklun.com.

VIII World Druzhynnyk Zlet attracts international participants for Olympics

by Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Fifty-six members of the Ukrainian Youth Association (UYA) from Canada, the United States, Australia and Germany, will converge in Vancouver, British Columbia, on February 12-21 for the VIII World Druzhynnyk Zlet at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

The itinerary of events will include viewing the opening ceremonies, tourism outings, attending Olympic sporting events (hockey, skeleton and freestyle skiing), community gatherings and group discussions.

Scheduled tourism destinations include downtown Vancouver, Whistler Mountain, the Olympic Village’s Ukraine House, Grandville Island and Cypress Mountain.

The group discussions will provide an opportunity for members from other countries to meet and offer an exchange of ideas

for the future development of the Druzhynnyky – both worldwide and by country.

This year’s Zlet was proposed and approved during a meeting of the World UYA Executive in Kyiv in August 2008. An organizing committee was formed from the members of the World UYA Executive, the World Druzhynnyk Committee and the National UYA Executive in Canada.

Other World Druzhynnyk Zlet locations have included: Atlanta, Ga. (1996); Sydney, Australia (2000); and Salt Lake City, Utah (2002).

Druzhynnyky comprise UYA members between the ages of 18 and 50, and are represented in their respective countries on national executive boards and worldwide. For more information, readers may contact UYA Druzhynnyk representatives by visiting www.cym.org.

The Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF) and The Ukrainian American Cultural Center of NJ (UACCNJ) Present a hockey fundraising event

New Jersey Devils Alumni VS **The NY Ukrainian Kozaks**

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Grand Total			

Reservations with payment must be received by February 23, 2010
 All tickets nonrefundable

Attention, Students!

Throughout the year Ukrainian student clubs plan and hold activities. The Ukrainian Weekly urges students to let us and the Ukrainian community know about upcoming events.

The Weekly will be happy to help you publicize them. We will also be glad to print timely news stories about events that have already taken place. Photos also will be accepted.

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New legislation, the Worker, Homeownership and Business Assistance Act of 2009, which was signed into law on November 6, 2009, extends and expands the first-time homebuyer credit allowed by previous acts. Complete information on how the first-time homebuyer tax credit works, including eligibility requirements, is available on the IRS website at: www.irs.gov, "Tax Benefits of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009".

Hamtramck parish celebrates its 95th anniversary

by Father Superior Daniel Schaicoski

HAMTRAMCK, Mich. – Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Parish celebrated its 95th anniversary on December 6, 2009.

Ninety-five years ago, new Ukrainian immigrants in America felt a spiritual need. They understood and were aware that as immigrants who desired to preserve their national identity and faith it is essential to have their own parish, church and school. In order to fulfill this spiritual longing, in 1914 under the leadership of Pastor Eugene Bartosh, the community founded the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Parish.

Over the course of nearly a century, many of the pastors and co-workers were exemplary representatives of the Church. Imbued with spiritual conviction and evangelical enthusiasm, they were faithful sons of their Ukrainian Catholic Church and nation. Among them are: the Rev. S. Kociszko (who later became a bishop of the Carpathian-Ukrainian Church), the Rev. Jaroslav Gabro (who later became bishop of the Chicago Eparchy), the Rev. Joseph Schmondiuk (who later became metropolitan for the Ukrainian Catholics in America), the Rev. Myroslav Ivan Lubachivskyj (who later became Cardinal Lubachivskyj, the head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church), and the Rev. Innocent Lotocky OSBM (who later became bishop of the St Nicholas Eparchy of Chicago).

It is specifically due to their tireless efforts, dedication and sacrifices that parishioners today are able to celebrate this 95th anniversary. Over the course of many years, the parish has maintained its educational ministry – the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Schools. In these schools, many generation were able to develop their Ukrainian identity, love for their Church and traditions, language and culture, and to learn the national history of Ukraine.

The parish has a wonderful choir, the prayer group Youth for Christ and the Ladies' Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary as well as an active Parish Committee, Executive Council and financial-stewardship team.

In 1962 the Basilian Fathers established the "Ukrainian Catholic Radio Hour" that continues to operate its weekly broadcasts every Monday under the direction of the Very Rev. Daniel Schaicoski, OSBM.

In observance of the parish anniversary



Father Superior Daniel Schaicoski, OSBM, addresses the anniversary gathering.



A view of the interior of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hamtramck, Mich.

the Rev. Schaicoski concelebrated a special liturgy with the Revs. Roman Hykavy, OSBM, and Andriy Burda. In his homily, the Rev. Schaicoski stressed the importance of the parish and its mission that it is carrying out in the life of each Christian. In recalling the exemplary service of the late Maria Derkacz, he also expressed his deep gratitude to all parishioners for their loyalty to the church and IC schools, and for staying true to Ukrainian religious traditions.

In addition, the pastor acknowledged the Rev. Hykavy, on the 15th anniversary of his pastoral service.

Following the liturgy, the parishioners gathered at the church banquet. Master of ceremonies Zenon Chornij made clear how the Immaculate Conception Parish and schools are "a stronghold and the cornerstones of our Ukrainian community, and are the means by which we are able to preserve our unique Ukrainian culture and traditions."

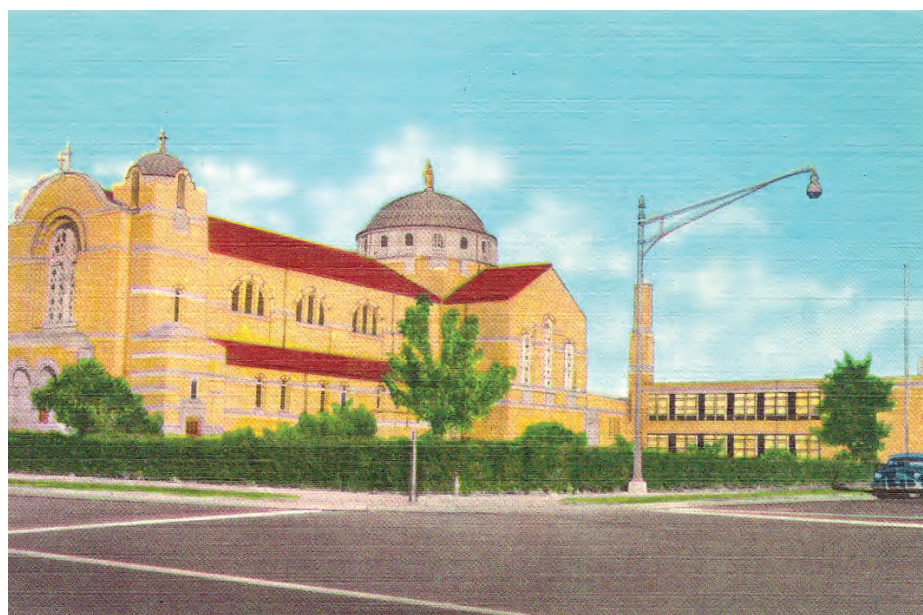
These are not merely flattering words as the parish and its Immaculate Conception Schools raised and educated many of the children of the community. It was here, for example, that Bishop Hlib Lonchyna of Great Britain began his journey towards the priesthood. Students of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Schools greeted the Rev. Hykavy on the 15th anniversary of his pastoral service that he began and continues in the Ukrainian community of Michigan.

The Rev. Mario Dachyshyn, OSBM, pastor of the St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic parish in Warren, Mich., also greeted the Rev. Hykavy, referring to his calling as a priest and monk: "God. God calls, the person listens, accepts, answers, dedicates, promises and fulfills. Thus, the calling to the priesthood is a gift from God and an obligation before the Church, the order and the nation, to which Father Roman has dedicated his life to serve."

In closing, the superior of the Monastery of the Basilian Fathers in Hamtramck, the Rev. Schaicoski thanked everyone for their support, generosity and heartfelt dedication to God and the Virgin Mary.



Concelebrating the liturgy (from left) are: the Revs. Andriy Burda, Daniel Schaicoski and Roman Hykavy.



Artist's rendering of the church complex.

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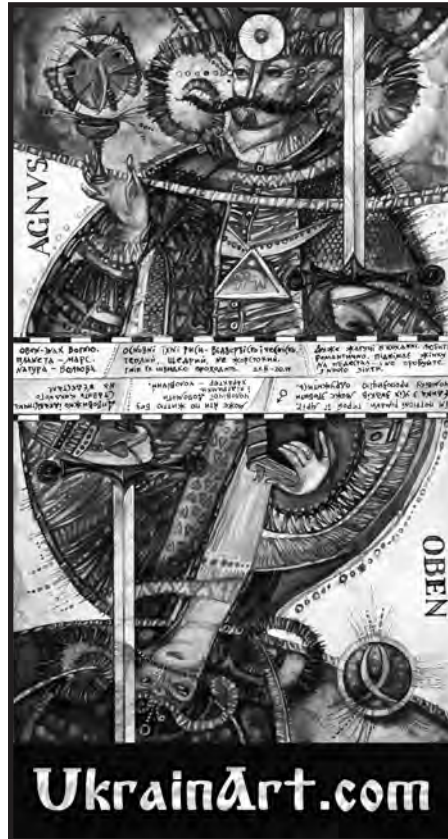
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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

independence in the 20th century. The decree recognizes the members of the Ukrainian Central Rada, Ukrainian National Republic, Western Ukrainian National Republic, Ukrainian Hetman State, Ukrainian Military Organization, Carpathian Sich, Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council and other military formations as fighters for Ukraine's independence. The president said he has ordered the Cabinet of Ministers to work out and submit to the Parliament a bill defining the legal status of the participants in the liberation movement. (Ukrinform)

Cabinet reappoints Lutsenko

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers on January 28 reappointed Yurii Lutsenko as Ukraine's internal affairs minister, thereby making him the acting first vice-minister. Earlier that day the Verkhovna Rada, gathered at a special session, had voted to dismiss Minister Lutsenko. The dismissal was the initiative of the Party of Regions and was backed by the Communists, the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc and the pro-presidential Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense bloc. Mr. Lutsenko stressed at a news conference that he accepts his dismissal by the Parliament, but that he also accepts the Cabinet's decision to introduce the post of acting first vice-minister. "I am a caretaker minister and I will do my best to secure law and order in a run-

(Continued on page 15)



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що в
четвер, 14 січня 2010 р. на 83 році
трудолюбного родинного та
громадського життя відійшла у
Господню вічність наша дорога
МАМА І БАБУСЯ

СВ. П.

КАТЕРИНА ВІТКО-СТАХ „ЗОЗУЛЯ“



Народилася покійна Катерина 16 листопада
1926 р. в селі Ушківцях Любачівського повіту в родині Марії та Йосифа
Вітків. Родина була побожною і національно свідомою, але найбільший
вплив на покійної Катерини участь у визвольній боротьбі за Українську
державу мала її старша сестра Марія „Рома“. Сестра загинула на засідці
в бою з НКВД у травні 1945 року.

Вступаючи в ряди УПА, Катерина придбала псевдонім „Зозуля“. Пра-
цювала санітаркою та зв'язковою УПА на терені Любачівщини. Після лі-
квідації жіночої сітки ОУН, за дорученням організації, виїхала до Крако-
ва, а згодом до села Чарне, Члухівського повіту, куди виселено її рідню.

Арештована 20 лютого 1948 року, перейшла слідство та допити на УБ,
та була засуджена на 10 років ув'язнення. Присуд відбула в тюрмах Тар-
нова, Фордону і Грудзьондза, де зустріла свою маму, Марію Вітко, та-
кож засуджену в 1948 році. Звільнена в 1954 році, замешкала разом з ма-
мою в Чарному, де працювала книговодом.

В 1962 році виїхала до Манчестеру, Англія де одружилася з Іваном
Стахом, колишнім вояком Дивізії „Галичина“. Покійна віддано працюва-
ла в українській громаді та ОУЖ. Виховала в національно-християнсько-
му дусі доні Адріану та Лесю, котрі також вирости в рядах СУМ та покін-
чали вищі студії.

Після смерті чоловіка в 1996 році, виїхала до Америки, де проживала
недалеко Чикаго, поблизу доньок і онуків, котрими дуже тишилася.

Вічна її пам'ять!

Залишила у смутку:

доньку - д-р Адріану з мужем д-ром Мироном та онуків – Катрису,
Наталю та Александра;

доньку - д-р Лесю з мужем Михайлом та онуків – Андрійка і Данилка;

брата - Владислава з дружиною і донею Катериною та синами -
Іваном і Кришком в Польщі;

сваху - Богдану Боднар;

сваху - Марію Клиш;

усіх друзів з підпілля УПА, знайомих, близьких і рідних Покійної в
Англії, США, Канаді, Польщі та Україні.

Спомини Покійної знаходяться в книжці „Віра, надія, любов“,
вид. Укр. Архів, Варшава, 2001.

Остап Лапський

ЗОЗУЛЯ

Катерині Вітко-Стах:
непереборній бандерівці!

Маярї увіковічать

Катеринин лик

у блимах свічечки

перед:

пониклим катом?!

В зозулю обернулась,
щоб Невмерлій
в лісі: віку накувати!

Ти мені іконною

з обличчя постаєш:

мадонна з ласочкою?!

1-го серпня 2001, Варшава.

Про Зозулю писати надихнула мене кни-
жка Марії Паньків „Віра, надія, любов“,
надхнення подужчало від свята варшав-
ських повстанців: благородне і надпрір-
вою (по)ручкається!

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)
off," he stated. (Ukrinform)

Bonuses for Olympic medals increased

KYIV – Bonuses for the 2010 Winter Olympics medals have been increased for Ukrainian athletes, the president of the

National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, Sergey Bubka, said. According to media reports of February 2, Ukrainian athletes would get \$100,000 (U.S.) for gold medals, \$70,000 for silver medals and \$50,000 for bronze medals. Mr. Bubka noted that the amount of bonuses for coaches who trained Olympic medalists had yet to be determined. (Ukrinform)



With deep sorrow I regret to inform that

ROMAN GEORGE KUPCHINSKY

passed away on Tuesday, January 19, 2010.

Son - Markian

Funeral services:

February 11, 2010

6:00 PM to 9:00 PM Public viewing
7:30 PM Parastas (Ukrainian Religious Ceremony)
At the Arlington Funeral Home, Arlington, VA, (703) 522-1441

February 12, 2010

9:00 AM Interment at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA
Mourners should arrive at the Cemetery Administration Building 30 minutes before the service. They will be escorted together to the gravesite.
10:45 AM - 2:00 PM The Funeral Repast (Tryzna) will be at the Marriott Key Bridge Hotel, 1401 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA.
Tel.: 703-524-6400; a block of rooms has been set aside at the rate of \$109 per night for Thursday and Friday nights for those who wish to attend the funeral ceremonies for Roman.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to UNWLA publication "Our Life," The Ukrainian Museum in New York, The Ukrainian Weekly or the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund.

May he rest in peace



З глибоким жалем повідомляємо,
що 6 січня 2010 р.
відійшов у вічність

СВ. П.

Д-р медицини ЯРОСЛАВ БАНДЕРА

нар. 14 листопада 1928 р. в Стрию, Україна.

У глибокому смутку залишилися:

- син – Йосиф
сестра – Ірена Бандера-Чайковська і діти:
Марта з мужем Франком,
Галя з мужем Марком і донечкою Стефою,
Андрій з дружиною Карол та дітьми:
Степаном і Кейт
брат – проф. Володимир Бандера з дружиною Ніною і діти:
Марко з дружиною Марґаретою і сином Павлусем,
д-р Петро,
д-р Христина з мужем д-ром Седриком

та ближча і дальша родина в Америці, Канаді й Україні.

Вічна Йому пам'ять!



В глибокому смутку повідомляємо, що 12 січня 2010 р.,
приймавши Найсвятіші Тайни, відійшла
від нас у життя вічне
ДРУЖИНА, МАМА і БАБУНЯ

СВ. П.

АННА КРАВЧУК з дому БОЙКО

нар. 10 липня 1921 р. в Липиці Долишній, Рогатинського району,
Західня Україна.

Залишені у глибокому смутку:

- муж – інж. ЕВСТАХІЙ КРАВЧУК
сини – ВОЛОДИМИР
– ТАРАС ЧАЙКОВСЬКИЙ з дружиною ШЕЛІ
внук – СТЕФАН

ПАНАХИДУ і ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відслужив парох Української Католицької Церкви в Норт Порті, Фла. о. д-р Северин Ковалишин.

Після похоронних відправ домовину перевезено до Денверу, Кольорадо, де покійна спочила побіч своєї донці Лесі на католицькому цвинтарі Mount Olivet.

Вічна їй пам'ять!



В глибокому смутку повідомляємо родину, приятелів і
знайомих, що дня 27 січня 2010 р. відійшов у Божу
вічність наш найдорожчий
МУЖ, БАТЬКО, і ДІДО

СВ. П.

ОЛЕКСАНДЕР ТРАСКА

нар. 22 квітня 1940 в Україні

Залишились у смутку:

- дружина - Ірка
сини - Роман і дружина Лара
- Ярема і дружина Діана
внуки - Стефан, Максим, Клавдія і Софія

Похорон відбувся в понеділок 1 лютого з церкви св. Михаїла в Балтімор, Мд.

Вічна йому пам'ять!

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Whippany, NJ 07981-1030



Ділимося сумною вісткою з Рідними, Приятелями
і Знайомими, що в п'ятницю, 26 грудня 2009 р.
відійшов у вічність на 83-му році життя
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Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 2)

Ms. Tymoshenko does not want to spoil her good relations with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, so she defends the contracts according to which Ukraine pays a higher price for gas than most of its neighbors.

However, while the contracts brokered by Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Putin were based on market principles, Mr. Yanukovych essentially suggests returning to the era of former President Leonid Kuchma (1994-2004), when Russia sold cheap gas to Ukraine in exchange for political and other concessions.

One concession Mr. Yanukovych is ready to make is establishing a consortium with Russia to run Ukraine's gas transit network. Mr. Yanukovych announced that if he won the election he would initiate setting up an international consortium to manage Ukraine's gas pipelines. He said this should help increase their throughput capacity. In exchange for the consortium, Ukraine should receive a "just" price for its gas from Russia, Mr. Yanukovych said.

Gazprom reportedly hailed Mr. Yanukovych's initiative, saying that the "Belarusian option" may be applied to Ukraine. Belarus sold 50 percent of its gas transit network to Gazprom in 2006 in exchange for cheap gas. However, discounts for Belarus are only temporary (Kommersant-Ukraine, January 22).

Ms. Tymoshenko lambasted Mr. Yanukovych for his statements on the consortium. Addressing local officials in the Kyiv region, which is her stronghold, she said that the consortium's creation would be tantamount to "stealing the gas pipeline from Ukraine and full liquidation of the transit network." Ms. Tymoshenko said that she would not allow such a consortium, adding that the gas transit network would remain state-owned. She estimated the value

of the network at "hundreds of billions of dollars," which was probably an exaggeration. Ms. Tymoshenko said that when she replaced Mr. Yanukovych as prime minister in 2007, she thwarted his plans to lease Ukraine's gas transit network to Russia (UNIAN, January 23).

Mr. Yanukovych also suggested that Ukraine should participate in the Russian Nord Stream and South Stream gas pipeline projects, which are aimed at decreasing Russia's dependence on the Ukrainian transit route. Mr. Yanukovych suggested this could compensate Ukraine for losses from a decrease in gas transit due to the imminent launch of the two pipelines (Ukrainski Novyny, January 20). In this case, Mr. Yanukovych apparently lobbies for the interests of his crony, the steel tycoon Rinat Akhmetov, whose Khartsyzk Pipe Plant could supply large-diameter pipes for the Russian projects.

It is interesting that the former chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine, Sergey Tigipko, to whom Ms. Tymoshenko promised the post of prime minister if she were elected president, is on Mr. Yanukovych's side as far as the gas trade is concerned. Mr. Tigipko, like Messrs. Yanukovych and Yushchenko, believes that the gas contracts should be revised and that Russia should obtain a share in Ukraine's gas pipelines (Ukraina TV, January 13).

Speaking after the first round of the presidential election in which he came in third with 13 percent after Mr. Yanukovych and Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Tigipko suggested that 25 percent of the shares in a consortium to manage the pipelines should belong to Gazprom, 25 percent to investors from the European Union, and the rest to Ukraine (1+1 TV, January 17).

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Frequent changes...

(Continued from page 4)

ceptable changes, all commissions were formed equally – half by Yanukovich, half by me,” Ms. Tymoshenko said in a February 3 statement, adding, “This equality in controlling the elections is fully ruined. Now an election commission member can be thrown out without a court ruling or investigation on the basis of this law, and an election commission can be formed solely on the basis of the representatives of a single candidate.”

The first round didn't have as big a controversy, but confusion erupted after last-minute court rulings, allegedly obtained on order from Tymoshenko Bloc officials, suddenly required home voters to submit medical records to prove their disability.

A Kyiv district court issued a ruling late Saturday night, on the eve of the January 17 vote, which blocked a single voter from voting without proving disability with medical records. (In Ukraine's Byzantine legal system, a court ruling in a single district court has been applied as law to the entire nation.)

Ms. Tymoshenko's campaigners then tried to apply that ruling to all of Ukraine, which failed once the Central Election Commission (CEC), controlled by the Party of Regions, told voters on the morning of the election to ignore the instructions to adhere to the district court decision.

The requirement of medical evidence is a flashback from the third round of the presidential election in 2004, when the

rules were amended to prevent the falsified home-voting and massive fraud conducted by the Yanukovich campaign in the first two rounds, Mr. Chernenko said.

This requirement remained in place for the parliamentary elections of 2006 and 2007, but was dropped in the election rules legislation approved by the Verkhovna Rada in the summer of 2009, which renewed most of the election rules that prevailed in the first two rounds of the 2004 presidential elections.

The rules for home voting were unclear even before the medical records confusion.

The Weekly visited 10 polling stations in Ivano-Frankivsk on January 17, discovering that half of them required all home voters to submit handwritten requests in the weeks prior to election day, while the other half allowed as many as 30 home voters to cast ballots without the handwritten notice.

The local election commissions based their decision on voter registers received from their district election commission, which designated certain voters under the category, “Incapable of Independent Mobility.” Those with the designation didn't need to submit handwritten notices, they told The Weekly.

Submitting a handwritten statement to vote at home has always been the rule in Ukraine's elections, one election commissioner said. Once voters were on the registers, they didn't need to write a new statement for each new election. However, the CEC ruled in December that new statements were necessary.

Yet, for the January 17 first round, the CEC resolution was not binding because

Tymoshenko was depicted as “unpredictable” (Rossiya 1, January 21).

The “Judge for Yourself” talk show on Rossiya 1, in which Russian and Ukrainian politicians and experts participate, quoted the Russian political scientist Vyacheslav Nikonov as supporting Yanukovich because, “There are certain preferences: Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said that the Unified Russia party has enjoyed closer cooperation with the Party of Regions,” and therefore cooperation with its leader would be more straightforward (Rossiya 1, January 21).

Mr. Nikonov observed, “They have the same mindset. They are capable of reaching agreements. There is readiness to resolve the issue of the status of the Russian language, for instance.” In addition, Mr. Yanukovich has close ties to big business which have strong links with Russia. Other Russian politicians in the television program emphasized Mr. Yanukovich's support for Russian to become a second state language.

Ms. Tymoshenko was described on the program as likely to follow Mr. Yushchenko as a “puppet of the West.” It was noted that she opposed elevating the Russian language and her anti-Russian credentials were proven by her 2007 Foreign Affairs article titled “Containing Russia.” Unified Russia member and Kremlin spin doctor Sergei Markov said, “There is a fear that Ms. Tymoshenko would not express the people's will, but become a marionette of the external forces that use Ukraine as a tool to do harm to Russia” (Rossiya 1, January 21).

By the first round, Russian politicians and media had endorsed Mr. Yanukovich as someone who would do Moscow's bidding. In contrast, Ms. Tymoshenko was not viewed in such a manner. This conclusion undermines Mr. Yushchenko's claim that Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich are the same, as both are “Moscow projects.” This claim shows the degree to which Mr. Yushchenko's presidency has elevated personal issues above politics.

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Zenon Zawada

Maria Andreychuk, 76, casts her ballot in a mobile box at her Ivano-Frankivsk apartment on January 17. Last-minute attempts to change election rules caused confusion regarding home-voting in the first round of the presidential election.

it hadn't become law, Mr. Chernenko said, hence some commissions required new handwritten statements, while others did not.

“That's why every commission decided for itself whether to require these statements, or simply visiting these voters with mobile ballot boxes automatically on the basis that they were listed as incapable of mobility,” he said.

“The problem is not with [election] commissions, but the [election] law which does not clearly answer questions on problems with the resolutions of the CEC, which very often exceeds its authority by replacing the law with its resolutions,” he said.

The Ukrainian observation mission of the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations (ENEMO) declined to comment on the state of Ukraine's election laws and regulations,

when contacted by The Weekly in Kyiv on February 4.

Elma Sehalic, the media analyst for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, declined to comment as well.

Ukraine's progress towards improving election conditions is moving at a glacial-like pace, Mr. Lozowy said. Laws are often poorly written and hastily passed, causing much of the confusion. The mentality of the Soviet Union, in which the Communist Party ruled the country without a rule of law that was equally applied, remains embedded in society, particularly among the ruling oligarchs.

“The election commission usually isn't the problem,” he said. “The problem is candidates vying for power who are trying to come up with illegal ways to steal the results.”

Russia backs...

(Continued from page 2)

candidate on the eve of the first round on the Rossiya 1 channel, where he was featured in 11 of the 13 reports and shown speaking on 10 programs. In all cases he was identified as the frontrunner and the likely winner of Ukraine's presidential election.

This move to endorse Mr. Yanukovich was accompanied by the growing portrayal of the Party of Regions of Ukraine as a positive political force and Mr. Yanukovich as a decisive leader who would “take the situation in hand and bring order to the country” (Rossiya 1, December 30).

These reports also showed lengthy clips of Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kiril's July 2009 visit to Ukraine where he was escorted by Mr. Yanukovich. Russian media coverage presented a glowing picture of Mr. Yanukovich's support for Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's proposal for a new European security architecture and Ukraine's membership in the Single Economic Space customs union.

The media also endorsed Mr. Yanukovich as better placed to implement policies that are favorable to Russian interests on NATO, the Black Sea Fleet and the Russian language (Rossiya 1, January 10, 12). However, its coverage largely ignored Ms. Tymoshenko during the last phase of the first-round campaign, focusing instead on Mr. Yanukovich and Sergey Tigipko, who were shown more favorably. Ms. Tymoshenko was also contrasted with these candidates by her support for the 2004 Orange Revolution (Rossiya 1, NTV, January 10, 12).

In the run up to the first round the Russian media characterized Messrs. Yanukovich and Tigipko as the “pro-Russian” candidates who were most favorable to Russian interests. Ms. Tymoshenko was either ignored or mocked with the only favorable coverage being her pragmatism on energy relations. Mr. Yanukovich, in contrast to Ms. Tymoshenko, was seen as somebody who would be a better partner for Russia and more reliable, while Ms.



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Sergey Tigipko...

(Continued from page 1)

Following in the footsteps of Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Tigipko is the latest mega-millionaire who successfully engineered an image makeover. Rather than Ms. Tymoshenko's image of a patriotic Ukrainian revolutionary, he cast himself as a pragmatic, technocrat reformer.

Prior to his own election success, Mr. Tigipko was most known for being the campaign manager of Viktor Yanukovich's 2004 election debacle and for calling for his inauguration as quick as possible.

He jumped ship once protesters filled the streets of Kyiv after the second-round fraud, claiming to have taken a 10-day skiing vacation in the Carpathian Mountains while the Orange Revolution was roaring. He denied rumors that he left the country.

"He did a vanishing act and was nowhere to be seen when things got hot, certainly after November 21," said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Institute of Statehood and Democracy in Kyiv. "It conforms to his character – he's been floating like a butterfly above the fray, and it's helped him."

Mr. Yanukovich doesn't hold a grudge, at least in public.

"Regarding Tigipko, I respect this person and know him well," Mr. Yanukovich said on January 20. "That he wasn't in politics for the last five years and left immediately after the elections in 2004 and we didn't see him, that was his personal matter and my relations with him haven't changed."

Mr. Tigipko responded similarly, stating he met with Mr. Yanukovich two or three times in recent months and their relations are "absolutely normal." He didn't address what happened during the 2004 campaign. "To the end nobody understands what happened in 2004 and we kept silent," he said about his meeting with Mr. Yanukovich in a January 30 interview with a Russian radio station.

Mr. Tigipko was born in a Moldovan village, which his website stresses was populated by Ukrainians, indicating that Mr. Tigipko claims Ukrainian ethnicity. He graduated from the Dnipropetrovsk Metallurgical Institute in 1982.

Mr. Tigipko owes much of his success in business to his relations within the Communist nomenklatura of Dnipropetrovsk, earned through his service as the first secretary of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Committee of the Communist Youth League (Komsomol) between 1989 and 1991.

As Komsomol leader, he worked with Oleksander Turchynov, the current first vice-prime minister and righthand man to Ms. Tymoshenko. He said he frequently met with former President Leonid Kuchma, who led the YuzhMash factory in the late 1980s and supported the Komsomol's youth projects.

By the early 1990s, Mr. Tigipko had close relations with Dnipropetrovsk's most influential people, including soon-to-be billionaire Victor Pinchuk and Privat Group billionaires Igor Kolomoisky and Gennady Bogolyubov.

He was among the founders of Privat Bank in 1992 and became wealthy after his partners, including Messrs. Kolomoisky and Bogolyubov, bought out his shares in

2000. He invested those millions to buy numerous banks, insurance companies and industrial assets, including steel factories.

Mr. Kuchma tapped Mr. Tigipko as a monetary policy advisor in 1994, after which he served in various government posts. He became chair of the National Bank of Ukraine in 2002.

As his biggest deal, Mr. Tigipko sold TAS-InvestBank and TAS-KomertsBank in 2007 to the Swedish SwedBank for \$735 million, when their equity was an estimated \$161 million.

Mr. Tigipko's business empire was estimated at \$345 million following the financial crash of 2008, according to the annual Dragon Capital survey of Ukraine's wealthiest businessmen published in 2009 by Korrespondent magazine, the Russian-language weekly based in Kyiv.

He declared only 20 million hrv (\$2.5 million) gross income in 2008 for his campaign declarations, mentioning no automobiles or industrial assets. His income was 3.8 million hrv (\$474,000) and savings totaled 4.3 million hrv (\$531,000). He declared ownership of 406,000 square feet (9.3 acres) of land, a 13,476-square-foot residence, and a 4,510-square-foot apartment.

He reappeared on the political scene only in March 2008 to become an internal advisor to the Tymoshenko government and co-chair of the Cabinet's Investors Council.

He resigned the following spring to pursue his presidential campaign, leading Mr. Lozowy, a Kyiv political insider, to believe his campaign involved some coordination with the Tymoshenko team.

If that was their strategy, it was effective.

Mr. Yanukovich fared worse in almost all the oblasts he won in the first round of 2010, compared with 2004. He earned 51 percent in the Odesa Oblast, compared with 53 percent in 2004; 50 percent in Kharkiv compared with 57 percent in 2004; 76 percent in Donetsk compared with 87 percent; 71 percent in Luhansk compared with 80 percent; 42 percent in Dnipropetrovsk, compared with 50 percent.

Mr. Tigipko was a significant factor in these declines, observers said. The bulk of his electorate was composed of young, educated Ukrainians who reside in the nation's Russian-speaking "milyonyky" (cities with populations of a million and more) who couldn't bring themselves to vote for Mr. Yanukovich or Ms. Tymoshenko.

"This is an electorate that's looking for an alternative to today's political leaders," said Volodymyr Fesenko, board chairman of the Penta Center for Applied Political Research in Kyiv. "He's not tied to the conflict of the last five years, between the Orangists and anti-Orangists. He doesn't carry with him the problems which Ukrainian voters saw the last five years. A portion of Ukrainian voters simply want to avoid the conflict of the last five years."

It was in Dnipropetrovsk that Mr. Tigipko posted the best result, finishing in second place with 22 percent, or 412,000 votes. He also placed second in the Odesa, Zaporizhia, Luhansk, Donetsk and Kharkiv oblasts in Russophile eastern and southern Ukraine, as well as the Volyn Oblast on the Polish border, demonstrating his widespread appeal. He almost finished second in the Kyiv Oblast.

After the vote, Mr. Tigipko explained the secret to his success: devoting his campaign almost entirely to economic issues, and avoiding divisive cultural issues and foreign policy.

"I believe that society is ready for changes and wants changes, and that prevails over other problems – the east-west divide, language problems and so forth," he said in a January 24 interview with Ukrainian television journalist Mustafa Nayem. "And it seems to me I recognized this wave and people believed in me a

bit."

Observers agree that Mr. Tigipko effectively targeted the protest vote through his image as a strong, pragmatic technocrat, conveyed through magazine ads, billboards, street posters and television ads. He credits French public relations guru Jacques Seguela with helping to devise the successful strategy.

His team employed simple slogans that drew upon his image of a confident leader – "Strong President, Strong Country" – and used the simple, appealing colors of red, white and blue, in contrast to the bizarre juxtaposition of neon colors against army camouflage used in Mr. Yatsenyuk's campaign.

In June, Mr. Tigipko bared his muscular chest when doing pull-ups, push-ups and dips at Odesa's Health Alley, a public park on the seafront where athletes train. The photographs of his training session spread through the Internet. He developed this virile image by appearing on the cover of the December issue of Men's Health.

Mr. Tigipko's ads accurately reflected the candidate's image, unlike those of his competitors, observers said.

For example, Mr. Yatsenyuk's ads portrayed him as an aggressive, militaristic leader "going to the front of changes" to "save the country" (as the slogans declared), in sharp contrast to his previous image as a sensible, reasonable pragmatist.

"Tigipko's ads worked totally," Mr. Fesenko said. "There wasn't any dissonance of images in the ads and voters' expectations that was evident in other candidates. And to realistically compete for a high post in elections, you need to conduct a wide-scale advertising campaign, without which you won't be among the favorites."

By December, Mr. Tigipko built his support to about 10 percent, yet he succeeded in attracting a significant number of undecided voters during the campaign's final weeks, he said.

He gained the additional 3 percent in the campaign's final weeks when voters in large cities such as Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa and Kyiv cast their ballots for Mr. Tigipko instead of the leading candidates, Mr. Fesenko said.

Many of these voters could have remained with the 35-year-old Mr. Yatsenyuk, or swung towards him, Mr. Pohrebinskyi said, but he began behaving "absolutely inadequately" during the campaign.

"He was young with a boorish tone," he said. "People were already fed up with a similar tone from [President Viktor] Yushchenko, who spent the last five years teaching us. And here came another young man who's also teaching everyone. He's so wise and will teach everyone what to do. He had a chance and lost it."

Throughout the campaign, Mr. Tigipko never hid the fact that his roots are in the Communist nomenklatura, and became fabulously wealthy as a result. He invited television crews into his home, revealing

his luxurious amenities such as a personal gym with more than a dozen treadmills and exercise machines.

"He's a mirror of the current state of mass political thought of Ukrainian society that wants renewal but isn't ready to back away from the same old politicians," Mr. Fesenko said. "He's not absolutely new, because people weren't quite ready to vote for new figures. Our electorate is a little fearful of them. Tigipko is a well-known politician and has significant government experience."

Mr. Tigipko estimated that he spent \$12 million of his own money, which accounted for 90 percent of the campaign expenses, yet presidential campaigns typically cost more and he's likely underestimating, observers said.

His success has created numerous political opportunities.

Mr. Tigipko is planning for his party, Strong Ukraine, to compete in the May elections for oblast and city councils, and his colleagues are urging him to consider competing for the Kyiv mayoral seat, as many Ukrainians are desperate to unseat the current mayor, Leonid Chernovetskyi, who is widely viewed as incompetent.

Mr. Tigipko also expects his party to qualify for a parliamentary faction should the new Ukrainian president call pre-term elections.

Yet observers said he's unlikely to become prime minister under Mr. Yanukovich, whose decision not to offer Mr. Tigipko the post hints at the Donbas leader's true opinion of his former staffer who abandoned him in 2004.

Ms. Tymoshenko's offer is equally unlikely to materialize, observers said. "He worked as her advisor and they're both from Dnipropetrovsk, so he knows Ms. Tymoshenko well and knows that she always lies," said Dr. Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation in Kyiv.

"Tymoshenko can't guarantee him any posts as much as she doesn't have a majority in the Verkhovna Rada and isn't a legitimate prime minister herself. She wouldn't be in her position, if not for her 'doormat' Yushchenko," Dr. Soskin added.

Unlike Mr. Yatsenyuk, who instructed his supporters to cast their ballots for "don't support anyone" in the second round, Mr. Tigipko advised his electorate to decide for themselves.

No matter who wins, he will be an influential voice of pragmatism in Ukrainian politics, observers said. In foreign policy, he's adopted a neutral, multi-vector approach of former President Kuchma. Domestically, he said Ukraine's regions should be free to determine language policy.

"He's a pragmatic, non-ideological alternative," said Mr. Fesenko. "There's a tendency of the centrist niche expanding within the Ukrainian electorate that wants to avoid this conflict between two Ukrainians and two ideological camps."

UCCA to monitor Ukraine's presidential election

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) will once again be actively participating in Ukraine's electoral process by hosting a delegation of international election observers to monitor the February 7 presidential runoff.

Having registered 115 observers with the Central Election Commission, the UCCA team held a pre-election briefing before deploying monitors to various regions throughout Ukraine. The observer mission will be monitoring the runoff in Chernihiv, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Luhansk,

Zhytomyr and Zakarpattia oblasts, as well as Crimea. Additionally, UCCA observers will monitor the elections in polling sites within the United States, specifically Ukraine's Embassy in Washington and Ukraine's Consulates in New York City, Chicago and San Francisco.

The UCCA observer mission, led by its President Tamara Olexy, will coordinate its activities with several other election observer groups, including the Canada Ukraine Foundation, in partnership with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and the Ukrainian World Congress.

A NOTE ON TRANSLITERATION:

Although his name in Ukrainian is Serhii Tihipko (and therefore that was the transliterated spelling that was widely used in the English language), the spelling that appears on his official website and in English-language materials in his press kit is Sergey Tigipko. Therefore, The Ukrainian Weekly will now use the official spelling of the former presidential candidate's first and last names.

Oral history is focus of scholarly conference in Kharkiv

EDMONTON, Alberta – An international scholarly conference titled “In Search of One’s Own Voice: Oral History as Theory, Method and Source,” was held in Kharkiv on December 11-12, 2009. It was jointly organized by the Kowalsky Eastern Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Ukrainian Oral History Association, the Prairie Center for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage at St. Thomas More College (University of Saskatchewan), and the Vasyl Karazin National University of Kharkiv.

Specialists in various fields of social studies and humanities from Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Finland and Poland, who actively apply the oral history method in their research work took part in the conference.

Issues pertaining to oral history as a research method, the analysis and interpretation of interviews and the use of oral sources were discussed, and results of scholarly projects were presented. A session on “Relationships and Convergences: Oral History and Its Subject” addressed the problem of identifying the creators of oral narratives, which involves individuals, society and its metanarratives. Some participants in this session discussed practical aspects of oral history in post-totalitarian countries, where the problem of subject and subjectivity is complicated by specific conditions.

The session on “Aspects and Dichotomies: Oral History and Power Relationships” focused on power relationships at the micro-level and in everyday interactions. There was particularly heated debate with regard to the gender issue and prospects of integrating gender studies with oral history. Aside from the question of power hierarchies in society, participants considered the problem of hierarchies in the researcher’s attitude to his subject. This problem may arise not only during

interviewing but also in the course of subsequent analysis and the writing and publication of papers.

A session on “Oral and Historical Projects: Organizational Experience and Implementation” examined various aspects of large-scale research projects, from seeking institutional and financial support and developing research methodology to the presentation of results.

The first day of the conference ended with a roundtable devoted to oral history as a method and source of research. The most intense debates concerned the interdisciplinarity of oral history, its advantages and implicit drawbacks. Most participants accepted interdisciplinarity as a desired and even inevitable aspect of oral history, but many questions about the forms and methods of its implementation remained open.

These questions were further discussed on the second day of the conference at sessions devoted to “Institutionalization of Oral and Historical Research” and “Overcoming Barriers: Oral History at the Crossroads of Research Practice.” Presentations and discussions concentrated on the comparatively weak institutional basis for oral history in post-Soviet countries, as well as on regional aspects of its development.

Relations between the individual and the collective (especially when applying the category of “memory”) were a major concern at the session on “The Issue of Memory in Historical Research.” The conference ended with presentations by young scholars at a session on “Interview, Interpretation and History – Research Practice and the Responsibility of Scholars.”

The Kowalsky Eastern Ukrainian Institute, directed by Volodymyr Kravchenko, was established at the Karazin National University in 2000 under the aegis of the



Volodymyr Kravchenko

Participants of the conference on oral history held in Kharkiv, Ukraine.

Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta. The Zaporizhia branch of the Kowalsky Institute, directed by Anatolii Boiko, came into being soon thereafter to focus on the study of southern Ukraine.

The program also undertakes other schol-

arly projects concerned with reviving Ukrainian studies in russified regions of eastern and southern Ukraine. The most significant of these is the Baturyn Project for the reconstruction of the historic capital of the Kozak Hetmanate, which has won international recognition and received state support in Ukraine.

BRANCHES 37 AND 214 UNA ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, February 13, 2010

Branches 37 and 214 of the UNA Inc. will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, February 13, 2010, at 12:00 noon at the Ukrainian-American Cultural Center in the Chornomorska Sitch room, 60-C North Jefferson Rd., Whippany, NJ.

On the agenda: 1) election of delegates to the 37th UNA Convention, 2) Branch business.

For more information please call Oksana Stanko, Branch Secretary, at 908-766-9644 or 800-253-9862 ext. 3039.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 340

Please be advised that Branch 340 has merged with Branch 133 as of February 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mr. Michael W. Bohdan.

Mr. Michael W. Bohdan
1027 Falls Terrace
Union, NJ 07083
(908) 964-8831

TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 217

Please be advised that Branch 217 has merged with Branch 367 as of February 1, 2010. All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Christine Dziuba.

Mrs. Christine Dziuba
36 Cloverdale Road
Rochester, NY 14616
(585) 621-5230

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BRANCH 88

in Kerhonkson, NY,
will be held on
Thursday, Feb. 18, 2010,
at 5:30 P.M.
at Soyuzivka.

On the agenda will be election of delegates to the 37th UNA Convention. For further info call Stephanie Hawryluk at 845-687-7033.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BRANCH 240

will be held
Sat., Feb. 13, 2010, at 10 A.M.
at
5907 State Rd.
Parma, Ohio 44134

Bohdan Samokyszyn, Secretary.

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(this will help expedite the registration process)**

Contemporary Ukraine is focus of spring semester at Columbia University

NEW YORK – The spring semester at Columbia University will feature six courses in Ukrainian studies and a series of stimulating events on Ukrainian topics. The courses and events to be offered for this semester focus on contemporary Ukraine, providing analyses of different aspects of the country's existence today.

Continuing its tradition of attracting the world's top scholars studying Ukraine, the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia's Harriman Institute will be hosting historian and anthropologist Dr. Oksana Kis for this upcoming semester.

Dr. Kis is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Ethnology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Lviv. She graduated in 1992 from Lviv State University and completed her Ph.D. in 2002 at the Ivan Krypnyakivich Institute of Ukrainian Studies, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

She is currently the director of the research center Woman and Society, an NGO based in Lviv. Since 1994 Dr. Kis has been studying women's and gender issues in the history and anthropology of Ukrainians; she has published over 50 academic articles on related topics and has presented her research at numerous forums in Ukraine and abroad. Her monograph "Women in Ukrainian Traditional Culture in the Second Half of the 19th and Early 20th Centuries" was published in Lviv in 2008.

In the capacity of a visiting professor, she teaches gender studies and oral history. She also lectures at Ivan Franko National University and at the Ukrainian Catholic University, both in Lviv. Presently, she is leading the research project "20th Century Ukraine in Women's Memories" based upon the recording and analysis of oral autobiographies of

Ukrainian women.

At Columbia, Dr. Kis will be teaching the new course "Women in Post-Socialist Transformations: Ukraine, Russia, Poland" (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30-11:50 a.m.). The course examines the complex impact of radical political, social, economic and cultural changes on women's lives. Exploring challenges women faced in transition from state socialism to market economy and democracy, women will be analyzed as both targets and agents of change. Special attention will be given to the problems of female migrant workers and the trafficking of women from Ukraine.

Later in the semester, Dr. Kis will present a special lecture open to the public titled "Beauty Will Save the World! Normative Femininity as a Political Strategy: The Case of Yulia Tymoshenko," a most timely topic coinciding with the 2010 presidential election in Ukraine.

Another course presented for the first time at Columbia will be "Brand NEW: Creating Identity in Contemporary Ukrainian Culture." Taught at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures by Dr. Mark Andryczyk, the course presents and examines post-Soviet Ukrainian culture. Students will learn about the significant achievements, names, events, scandals and polemics in contemporary Ukrainian culture and will see how they have contributed to Ukraine's post-Soviet identity. Centered on the most important successes in literature, the course will also explore the key developments in music and visual art in this period. Students will look at what images have come to represent Ukraine and how they were created. This course will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:10-2:25 p.m.



Oksana Kis, visiting scholar at Columbia University.

The current political situation in Ukraine will be addressed in a course titled "Today's Ukraine: Power, Politics, Diplomacy" (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.). Delivered by a career diplomat, Ambassador Valeriy Kuchynsky, this new course will examine the evolution of Ukraine's politics since independence and will analyze the causes of current domestic problems. The results of the 2010 presidential election and Ukraine's relations with its major partners will also thoroughly be discussed.

Dr. Yuri Shevchuk of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures will continue to teach three levels of Ukrainian language at Columbia this spring: Elementary Ukrainian (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:10-10:25

a.m.), Intermediate Ukrainian (Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:35-11:50 a.m.) and Advanced Ukrainian (Mondays and Wednesday, 1:10 a.m.-2:25 p.m.).

Courses at Columbia are open to students from other universities in the New York metropolitan area seeking credit, as well as to outside individuals interested in non-credit continuing studies. Additionally, through the Lifelong Learners program, individuals over 65 years of age who are interested in auditing courses may enroll at a discount rate.

Many events have already been planned for the Spring semester. Among them are the following February events, all of which are free and open to the public.

On February 10 Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev will deliver a presentation titled "Archeological and Historical Research of Baturyn, the Capital of the Ukrainian Kozak State." The presentation will be based on Canada-Ukraine excavations that were conducted in Baturyn 2001-2009, which unearthed much new archaeological materials for the study of hitherto little-known history and culture of the Kozak capital as well as its destruction and massacre of the population by the Russian army in 1708.

February 16 will feature the latest installment in the three-year old Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series. On that day, one of Ukraine's top writers, Taras Prokhasko, will read and discuss his works and meet with his fans. The event will also feature the premier of new, English-language translations of essays from Mr. Prokhasko book "FM Halychyna." The series is cosponsored by the Kennan Institute in Washington where

(Continued on page 21)

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OPENING NIGHT

Thursday Feb 25, 7pm

"Reminiscences of a Journey to Lithuania"

Guest presenter: Jonas Mekas, founder of Anthology Film Archives

Friday Feb 26, 7pm | "The Fourth Wave" (Ukraine)

Guest presenter: Prof. Yuri Shevchuk, Columbia University

Saturday Feb 27, 5pm | Short Films by Young Ukrainian Filmmakers

Guest presenter: Bohdana Smyrnova, filmmaker

Saturday Feb 27, 8pm | "Power Trip" (Georgia)

Guest presenter: Paul Devlin, filmmaker

Sunday Feb 28, 2pm | "solidarity." and "A Lesson of Belorussian" (Poland)

Presenter: Damian Kolodiy, festival program director

Sunday Feb 28, 5pm | "Pictograph" (Ukraine)

"I Am a Monument to Myself" (Ukraine)

"Parched Land" (Ukraine)

Guest presenter: Prof. Alexander Motyl,
Rutgers University



The Ukrainian Museum
222 East 6th St.
New York, NY 10003
Tel: 212.228.0110
Fax: 212.228.1947
info@ukrainianmuseum.org
www.ukrainianmuseum.org



The Ukrainian Museum's film series is funded in part by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Ukraine's interns meet in Washington

WASHINGTON – On February 12-13 close to 40 graduates of the House of Commons Internship program will meet at the Elliott School of International Affairs of George Washington University in Washington in the first of three conferences, called “Washington Model Ukraine Conference.”

Group members will map out a new model of governance for Ukraine based on their experience in the House of Commons and their studies and observance of civil society in the West. The Washington Conference will focus on the individual citizen, his rights and responsibilities in a new model of governance.

The Ottawa Model Ukraine Conference will take place in October and will focus on the state. One of the topics of discussion will be the return to the first-past-the-post method of parliamentary election to overcome the crippling effects of the election by slate or list currently in use.

A third conference, the Kyiv Model Ukraine Conference, will take place in 2011 in Kyiv.

The first conference in Washington will bring together 40 House of Commons interns who are doing graduate work at U.S. universities courtesy of Fulbright and Muskie scholarships. They will come from universities on both coasts, from the University of Southern Maine to the University of California (Berkeley) and places in between, such as Brandeis, Harvard, Boston, George Washington, Georgetown, Kansas, Old Dominion, Ohio, Michigan, Arkansas and Texas universities. Canadian-based interns will come from the universities of Calgary, Western Ontario, Ottawa and Toronto.

Voters in Lviv...

(Continued from page 1)

Sandulyak, 34, the owner of a new radio station in Lviv. She, too, says she will go to the polls and vote for neither candidate.

In the first round of the election, 2.2 percent of voters voted against all candidates. If the disenchanted truly go to the polls and vote for neither candidate on February 7, that number will be significantly higher.

When she cast her vote for President Yushchenko in the first round, Ms. Podolyak said she voted for the only candidate who could build a Ukraine with a Ukrainian spirit. Despite the bravado of her initial intent – to vote for neither candidate in the second round – she concedes that she will choose between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yanukovich.

“I will decide in the polling booth. They are both bad, but I will ask myself who is the better one,” she said.

Contemporary...

(Continued from page 20)

Mr. Prokhasko will appear on February 18. This semester's subsequent event in the series is scheduled for April.

The Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University will continue screening new films from its growing collection. All films will have English subtitles. Screenings will take place at least once a month, and are free and open to the public.

For more information about courses, events and the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, readers may contact Dr. Mark Andryczyk at ukrainian-studies@columbia.edu or 212-854-4697.

SELF RELIANCE NEW YORK FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

59th Annual Membership Meeting

Will take place on

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2010, AT 2:00 P.M.

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

Proposed Agenda:

1. Opening remarks
2. Verification of minutes of the previous Annual Meeting
3. Reports: Management
Credit Committee
Supervisory Committee
4. Discussion and approval of reports
5. Election of three members to the Board of Directors
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

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Attn: Nominating Committee

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Husar, Kulyk-Keefer to launch book at New York's Ukrainian Museum

NEW YORK – Rodovid Press of Kyiv and The Ukrainian Museum of New York will present "Blood in the Borshch," an illustrated talk on contemporary Ukraine by Natalka Husar and Janice Kulyk-Keefer, at The Ukrainian Museum on Friday, February 19, at 7 p.m.

In 2005, Ms. Kulyk-Keefer, a writer, and Ms. Husar, an artist, were awarded a prestigious grant from the Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada to work on a project exploring the reality of post-Orange Revolution Ukraine.

The "road trip" led to the creation of the book they will be launching at The Ukrainian Museum, "Burden of Innocence/Foreign Relations," which offers a bridge between Ukraine and North America, between problematic homeland and diasporic home, and between the arts of painting and poetry, as well.

Impassioned and irreverent, this one-of-a-kind volume, which won best design award at the 2009 Lviv publishers forum,

is a "Siamese twin": two books joined at the spine soldered together by the cover image of that indispensable item of Soviet-era automobile travel: a white-plastic first-aid kit (aptechka) stamped with a crimson cross.

Ms. Husar is a prominent Canadian artist who has exhibited extensively across Canada and is represented in major public collections including the National Gallery of Canada. Her exhibition "Burden of Innocence," currently at the Macdonald Stewart Art Center in Guelph is on a six-venue national tour through 2011.

Ms. Kulyk-Keefer, a professor of English at the University of Guelph, is an award-winning author of some 15 works of poetry, prose and literary criticism. In 2008 she won the Kobzar Literary Award for her novel "The Ladies Lending Library."

For further information about the presentation readers may log on to www.ukrainianmuseum.org or call The Ukrainian Museum at 212-228-0110.



Writer Janice Kulyk-Keefer



Artist Natalka Husar

Admission (includes reception) is \$15, \$10 for members and seniors, and for students: \$5. Reservations are recommend-

ed; RSVP by calling the museum or e-mailing info@ukrainianmuseum.org. The museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St.

To subscribe to The Ukrainian Weekly,
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Replica of Shroud of Turin to be on view in Philadelphia

by Msgr. Peter D. Waslo

PHILADELPHIA – The Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will host an exhibition of a replica of the Shroud of Turin. This is the ninth replica of the Turin Shroud sanctioned by the Vatican.

Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia for Ukrainians Catholics has been able to procure this relic for exhibition on February 21 through June 29, at the Ukrainian Catholic cathedral in Philadelphia.

The official beginning of the exhibit will be celebrated at a vespers prayer service on February 21, at 5 p.m. with Archbishop Soroka and dignitaries presiding.

The Shroud of Turin is the most analyzed artifact in the world, yet remains a mystery. The 14-foot-long linen cloth that has been in Turin, Italy, for over 400 years and bears the faint front and back image of a 5-foot-10 bearded, crucified man with apparent wounds and blood-stains that match the crucifixion account as recorded in the Bible. Millions of people over the centuries have believed it to be the actual burial shroud of Jesus of Nazareth.

The historical trail of the shroud trails back through Italy, France and Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey), and may have originated in the Middle East according to botanical evidence.

A team of 24 scientists in 1981 concluded that it was not the work of an artist. They found no visible trace of pig-

ment, paint or dye or other artistic substances on the cloth. Other discoveries have defied explanation, such as why the image shows up as a positive image in a photographic negative. The image also contains 3-D or distance information indicating the cloth must have wrapped a human form at the time the image was created. The blood is AB positive with human DNA.

Skeptics have mounted numerous attempts to show how a medieval artist could have produced the image but all have been inadequate to fully explain how the mysterious image was formed. The image is so superficial it only penetrates the top micro-fibers to the depth of a single bacterium. In addition there is no image under the blood, meaning the blood was on the cloth before the image. No attempt at replicating the image has resolved these two key attributes. If the cloth indeed wrapped a corpse, there are no stains of decomposition.

On April 9-10, The Shroud of Turin Mystery Tour will be coming to the Ukrainian Catholic cathedral at 7 p.m. This highly acclaimed multi-media presentation is a production of Shroud of Turin Education Project Inc. and will be presented by Russ Breault of Peachtree City, Ga., president and founder. The presentation is a 90-minute, fast-moving, big screen experience using over 150 images covering all aspects of research. There is limited seating, and readers are advised to contact Archbishop Daniel Troyan at the shroud office at 215-922-2917 for more information; or to visit the website www.philashroud.org.

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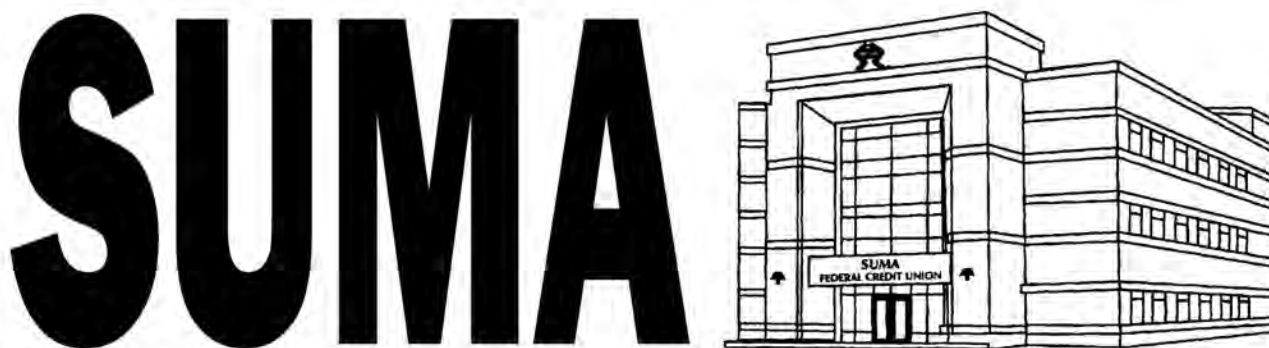
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OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| February 11
New York | Presentation by Volodymyr Mezentsev, "Archeological and Historical Research of Baturyn, the Capital of the Ukrainian Kozak State," Columbia University, 212-854-4697 | February 14
Oshawa, Ontario | Branch 56, Plantation Country Club, 941-445-5746
Film screening, "Bereza Kartuzka" by Yuriy Luhovy, Ukrainian Cultural Center Dnipro, www.yluhovy.com |
| February 12
New York | Concert, "Night Songs from a Neighboring Village," Bandura Downtown, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 or 212-571-1555 ext. 35 | February 16
New York | Literary evening with Taras Prokhasko, "FM Galicia," Columbia University, 212-854-4697 |
| February 13
Washington | Debutante Ball, The Washington Group and the Washington School of Ukrainian Studies, L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, zabavadc@gmail.com or 800-635-5056 | February 19
New York | Presentation by Nataalka Husar and Janice Kulyk-Keefer, "Blood in the Borshch," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 |
| February 13
Washington | Conference, "Ukrainian Presidency - Post-Election Review," The Washington Group, L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, MyBihuny@aol.com | February 20
Phoenix, AZ | Kaktus Kolomyika Zabava, featuring music by Svitank, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Country Inn and Suites, 480-991-4656 or chrystia@cox.net |
| February 13
Pearl River, NY | Debutante Ball, "Chervona Kalyna," Hilton Hotel, 718-291-4166 | February 20
Phoenix, AZ | Wild West Ukie Fest, featuring the Zorianka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Edmonton, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Pinnacle High School Auditorium, 480-991-4656 or chrystia@cox.net |
| February 13
Colebrook, CT | Winterfest ice skating, Bobrivka, 860-883-1391 or 203-932-4376 or www.bobrivka.org | February 21
New York | Concert, "Ukraine Rain," featuring Julian Kytasty, poet Bob Holman, and the Radio Banduristan Song and Dance Ensemble, Bowery Poetry Club, 212-614-0505 |
| February 13
Warren, MI | Debutante Ball, Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America - Detroit Branch, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 734-717-0695 | February 25
Washington | Lecture by Taras Prokhasko, "FM Galicia" Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 202-691-4000 |
| February 13
Marina Del Rey, CA | Debutante Ball and Silent Auction, featuring music by Zakhid, California Association to Aid Ukraine, Marriott Hotel, 800-228-9290 | February 25
Washington | Concert, featuring baritone Oleksandr Pushniak and pianist Oksana Skidan, Embassy of Ukraine, 202-364-3888 |
| February 13
Pittsburgh, PA | Winter Dance, featuring music by Chervona Kalyna and Ostap Stakhiv Ensemble, Ukrainian Community of Western Pennsylvania, Best Western Parkway Center Inn, 412-481-1865 or www.ucowpa.org | | |
| February 13
Toronto | Valentine's Day Dance, featuring Klooch, Kavalery and Bajda, Trident Banquet Hall, 416-566-2664 | | |
| February 14
Venice, FL | Dinner and dance, featuring music by Melodia, Ukrainian National Women's League of America - | | |

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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Attention Debutante Ball Organizers!



As in the past,
The Ukrainian Weekly
will publish a special section
devoted to the Ukrainian
community's debutantes.
The 2010 debutante ball section
will be published on March 21.
The deadline for submission of
stories and photos is March 8.

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Advance tickets may be purchased by sending a check made to
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- Deb in February.
- Two Easters in springtime.
- "Zlet" and "Sviato Vesny" in May.
- Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival in July.
- "Uke Week" at Wildwood in August.
- Back to Ukrainian school in September.
- "Morskyi Bal" in New Jersey in November.
- "Koliada" in December.
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, February 11

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University will host a presentation by Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev titled "Archaeological and Historical Research of Baturyn, the Capital of the Ukrainian Kozak State." Dr. Mezentsev is a specialist in medieval and modern Ukrainian and Byzantine archaeology, history, architecture and art. Presently, he is a Research Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), Edmonton and Toronto, and Executive Director of the Canada-Ukraine Baturyn Archaeological Project, sponsored by CIUS (2001-present). The lecture will be held at 12PM in Rm. #1219, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St. The event is free and open to the public. For additional information, please call 212-854-4697.

Friday, February 12

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum, Center for Traditional Music and Dance, and New York Bandura Ensemble/Bandura Downtown present "Night Songs from a Neighboring Village," an evening of East European Jewish and Ukrainian music and song, presented comparatively by Yiddish singer/klezmer multi-instrumentalist Michael Alpert and Ukrainian-American singer/bandurist Julian Kytasty. The concert takes place at 7 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues). Tickets: \$15; senior/member discounts available. For further information call 212-571-1555, ext. 35.

Saturday, February 13

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a presentation by Oksana Dray-Khmara Asher of her book "My Diary" (New York, 2009). The presentation will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Avenue (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

YONKERS, N.Y.: Branch 2 of Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine invites All to a Valentine's Dance at 9 p.m. at the Ukrainian Youth Center 301 Palisade Ave., Yonkers, NY 10703. Music will be by Na Zdorov'ya. Tickets: \$25 for adults; free for children up to age 14 (accompanied by parents). Buffet-style food and bar drinks will be available for cash purchase. Coffee and home-baked pastries will be provided free. There will be a raffle and surprises. For table reservations call Steven Howansky, 203-762-5912; Darko Dzwonczyk, 914-424-4583; or Mark Gazda, 914-760-0815.

Friday, February 19

NEW YORK: "Blood in the Borsch," an

illustrated talk on contemporary Ukraine by Natalka Husar and Janice Kulyk-Keefer, and the book launch of their double album: "Burden of Innocence," illustrated with works by Ms. Husar, and "Foreign Relations," poetry by Ms. Kulyk-Keefer (2009, Rodovid, Ukraine) will take place at 7 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. Admission (includes reception): \$15; members, seniors, \$10; students, \$5. RSVP by calling 212-228-0110 or e-mailing info@ukrainianmuseum.org. Reservations are recommended.

Thursday, February 25

WASHINGTON: The Embassy of Ukraine and The Washington Group Cultural Fund will present a unique concert featuring Oleksandr Pushniak, baritone, and Oksana Skidan, piano. Mr. Pushniak was a 2007 semi-finalist in the Placido Domingo "Operalia" competition in Paris. He is presently in his second season as a Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist with the Washington National Opera. Mr. Pushniak will perform selections from international classical operas, as well as Ukrainian opera arias and folk songs. The concert is at 6:30 p.m. at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW. Ticket price is \$30; please mail checks to: Rosalie Norair, 9311 Persimmon Tree Road, Potomac, MD 20854-4327. Seats will be confirmed upon receipt of check. Please include e-mail address for confirmation of reservation. No tickets will be sold at the door. For information call 202-364-3888.

Saturday, February 27

WEST ORANGE, N.J.: The Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund in conjunction with the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey will host a New Jersey Devils Alumni vs. NY Ukrainian Kozaks hockey fund-raiser game at 2 p.m. at the Richard J. Codey Arena, Northfield Avenue, West Orange, N.J. The fun begins with an open skate for all ticket holders at 12:30 p.m. Come meet The New Jersey Devil, bid on autographed memorabilia from your favorite athletes and purchase commemorative pucks. Tickets are \$50 for gold seating, which includes a meet and greet with all players; \$25 for silver reserved seating; and \$20 for bronze general admission seats. PayPal is accepted for online ticket orders. For more information call 973-867-8855 or visit the website at www.hockeyfundraiser.org. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Eugene Kinasevich Fund, which provides financial assistance to needy and worthy students from Ukraine, Canada, the United States and elsewhere.

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.**