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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Changing the rules, factions form a new majority coalition

Mykola Azarov is PM in pro-Moscow Cabinet

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's pro-Russian parliamentary factions on March 11 formed a coalition government that will work in tandem with the newly elected president, Viktor Yanukovich, ignoring the widely



Prime Minister Mykola Azarov addresses the Verkhovna Rada on March 11.

held view in the Ukrainian political establishment that they've violated the country's Constitution.

National deputies of the pro-Russian forces spent the last two weeks passing legislation that allows rogue deputies – those expelled from their respective parliamentary factions – as well as defectors to help form the coalition. Only with their participation was it possible to form a majority of 235 national deputies.

Opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko and former President Viktor Yushchenko declared that the parliamentary coalition and the Cabinet of Ministers were illegal and illegitimate. "It's very shameful that Yanukovich is starting this way," said Ms. Tymoshenko.

Their claims were supported by political and legal experts, who agreed that the Constitution of Ukraine only allows parliamentary factions, not individuals, to form coalitions. President Yanukovich signed the regulation-bending legislation on March 10, the day after Parliament approved its second reading.

The first reading was approved on March 4. Party of Regions of Ukraine deputies admitted that the legislation served as a convenient avenue to avoid dealing with the Our Ukraine-People's

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Yanukovich travels to Moscow after being welcomed in Brussels



Official Website of Ukraine's President

Ukraine's newly inaugurated president, Viktor Yanukovich (left), meets with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in Moscow.

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – European leaders welcomed Viktor Yanukovich with their hands warmly extended on his first foreign visit to Brussels, but it was in Moscow four days later that the newly elected Ukrainian president demonstrated a willingness to bend over backwards.

The consensus among Ukraine's leading political experts was that Mr. Yanukovich's March 5 visit to Moscow – in which he all-but-apologized for visit-

ing Europe first and then offered generous concessions – demonstrated he's ineffective in defending Ukraine's interests before the Russian government.

"The negotiations, as well as the accompanying public messages, practically followed a Russian scenario," said Volodymyr Fesenko, an expert at the Kyiv-based Penta Center for Applied Political Research.

"To compare, recall the themes raised by [Russian President Dmitry] Medvedev

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Travel to Ukraine promoted at New York Times Travel Show

WASHINGTON – For the second consecutive year, Ukraine was represented through the Discover Ukraine exhibit at The New York Times Travel Show, the largest consumer and travel trade show produced in the United States. The convention, featuring nearly 500 exhibitors representing more than 150 countries, was held at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York on February 26-28.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation organized the Discover Ukraine exhibit and the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, the largest non-profit trade association representing the interests of U.S. businesses active in Ukraine, was the sponsor.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) is a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) non-governmental organization established in 1991 to facilitate democratic development, encourage free market reform and enhance human rights in Ukraine. The USUF is dedicated to strengthening the mutual objectives of both nations and advancing Ukraine as a

cornerstone of regional stability and as a full partner in the community of nations.

The foundation has been supporting Ukraine's travel industry since 2005, when it launched the travel site, www.traveltoukraine.org. Since then the website has become the No. 1 Google, Yahoo! and Bing "Ukraine travel" site on the Internet.

Over the past 12 months, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation has conducted a wide array of public relations activities in support of Ukraine's international image, including promoting Kyiv through "Cities: Capitals of the Mind," an international London summit and through The Communication Group's widely distributed report, "Cities: The Destination Identity."

The USUF's growing presence on the Internet, along with its business sector e-newsletter, BizLinks, distributed to 5,000 subscribers, complements its travel show efforts.

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U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

At The New York Times Travel Show (from left) are: U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Board Member Iryna Kurowyckyj, Consul General of Ukraine in New York Serhii Pohoreltsev, USUF President Nadia McConnell and USUF Program Assistant Oksana Yakovenko.

ANALYSIS

Yanukovich's election opens up Crimean separatist threat

by **Taras Kuzio**
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Viktor Yanukovich's inauguration as Ukrainian president on February 25 forced him to face the fact that the Party of Regions that he leads has re-opened the Pandora's Box of Crimean separatism. National Institute of Strategic Studies analyst Petro Burkovsky asked, "Will President Yanukovich open up the path to the separation of the Crimea?" in *Ukrayinska Pravda* before the second round of voting (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, January 26).

A similar warning was published in *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* (February 19): "The Crimea could become a major problem for the new Ukrainian president." The author pointed to the first example of this pending threat to Ukraine's territorial integrity. The Crimean Parliament voted to change its name from Crimean Supreme Rada (Ukrainian for Council) to Soviet (the Russian equivalent). "The Crimean deputies had de facto voted for the move to a Russian name of the Parliament of the autonomous [republic] by infringing on the Ukrainian Constitution" (*Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, February 19). The central authorities, in the middle of a transfer of power, did not react to this illegal move in Crimea.

The election of Mr. Yanukovich is seen in the Crimea as "opening up new possibilities for distancing the peninsula from the center" (*Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, February 19). Russian nationalists believe Mr. Yanukovich's election campaign rhetoric advocated policies that make him appear more pro-Russian than Leonid Kuchma. These included promoting a gas consortium with Russia and joining the Single Economic Space customs union of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), opposition to close cooperation with, or membership of NATO, and support for an extension of the Black Sea Fleet base beyond 2017.

President Yanukovich may ignore the illegal actions of Crimean deputies and in so doing act very differently from Mr. Kuchma, who was first elected on a more moderate "pro-Russian" platform in 1994. Mr. Yanukovich and Mr. Kuchma are very different. President Kuchma was more successful in destroying Russian separatism in Crimea in a non-violent manner than his predecessor, Leonid Kravchuk. In 1995, Mr. Kuchma banned the institution of the Crimean presidency and through economic blockades and intelligence operations undermined the separatist movement. Two other factors also worked in Mr. Kuchma's favor that are now absent: Russian passivity and internal rivalries in the separatist camp.

Russian separatists were marginalized over the following decade. Mr. Kuchma supported Ukraine's territorial integrity and made this a cornerstone of his foreign policy. The GUAM regional group, established in 1997 by Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova, had among its main aims combating separatism and promoting territorial integrity.

The GUAM members, other than Ukraine, had frozen conflicts on their territories. Since August 2008, Georgia has faced a Russian occupation of South Ossetia and Abkhazia. In 2002-2004, Prime Minister Yanukovich did not question the president's foreign policy on GUAM, arms supplies to Georgia, sending Ukrainian troops to Iraq or seeking a Membership Action Plan from NATO in

2002 and 2004.

Mr. Yanukovich's real persona became evident only after the Orange Revolution and Viktor Yushchenko's election. In 2005-2006, the Party of Regions reversed the marginalization of Russian nationalists and separatists in Crimea, in effect assisting Russian covert intelligence support for separatists on the peninsula, in Zakarpattia and in Odesa. Mr. Yanukovich said during the second round of the presidential election that "GUAM has lost its importance" (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, February 4).

The Party of Regions united with two Russian nationalist parties in the For Mr. Yanukovich bloc that won the 2006 Crimean parliamentary elections. New Crimean parliamentary elections will be held this year that will provide an opportunity for Russian nationalists to mobilize. The For Mr. Yanukovich bloc included the Party of Regions, Russian bloc and the Russian Community of Crimea (ROK). The Russian bloc is financed by Moscow's Mayor, Yuriy Luzhkov, and has close links to Russian intelligence. ROK, led by the First Vice-Chair of the Crimean Parliament, Sergei Tsekov, is the most influential Russian nationalist group on the peninsula, and is financed by Mr. Luzhkov, Konstantin Zatulin, the Russian Foreign Ministry and the Russian presidential administration.

Mr. Yanukovich's revival of Russian nationalists has had three ramifications. First, joint annual military maneuvers with NATO in Crimea were disrupted by the Party of Regions and Russian nationalist protesters. These maneuvers had been held annually under President Kuchma. The Party of Regions blocked votes in Parliament to permit the entrance of foreign military units on to Ukrainian territory (UNIAN, August 8, 2009).

Second, the Crimean Parliament voted in September 2008 to recognize the independence of South Ossetia and Abkhazia. A similar Party of Regions resolution (No. 3076-1) in the Ukrainian Parliament, denouncing Georgia and calling upon Ukraine to recognize the independence of both territories, failed. Pro-Russian leaders in the CIS refused to follow Mr. Yanukovich's pro-separatist position. Mr. Yanukovich's defense of his pro-separatist position by drawing on an analogy with Kosovo (mimicking Russia) was ridiculed.

Third, Crimea became emboldened to demand greater rights as an autonomous republic. Mr. Yanukovich's support for the extension of the Black Sea Fleet base will further embolden Crimean Russian nationalists.

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) had petitioned the justice ministry to ban three organizations "controlled from abroad" that threatened Ukraine's territorial integrity: the Donetsk Republic, Peoples Front "Sevastopol-Crimea-Russia" and pro-Russian Rusyn organizations in Zakarpattia. The Odesa prosecutor's office had opened a criminal case against the For Ukraine, Belarus and Russia (ZUBR) organization for inciting ethnic and religious hostility (*Interfax-Ukraine*, December 2, 2009).

Funding for Russian nationalist-separatists is transferred through Russian covert assistance using grants from the Rusky Mir (Russian World) government-funded foundation. Mr. Luzhkov's influence over the Moscow City Council also provided donations of \$20 million to Crimean projects and in 2010 will spend \$10 million on

(Continued on page 20)

NEWSBRIEFS

Yanukovich: no second state language

KYIV – The Ukrainian language will be the only state language in Ukraine, President Viktor Yanukovich said on March 9. "Ukraine will continue to promote the Ukrainian language as its only state language," he said at a meeting with Taras Shevchenko National Prize winners in Kyiv. He added that Ukraine would implement the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. (*Interfax-Ukraine*, *Ukrinform*)

Returned Shevchenko papers on display

KYIV – Ambassador John F. Tefft and his wife, Mariella, participated in the opening of an exhibit of returned Shevchenko papers at the National Museum of Literature of Ukraine on March 2. The Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation is helping to restore the original manuscripts, photos, rare publications and graphics of Shevchenko's collection, now on public display. The most precious part of the collection was saved during World War II by the former director of the Taras Shevchenko museum and subsequently moved from Europe to the United States in 1951. The unique collection was preserved by the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences of the U.S., and returned to Ukraine. In 2009 the U.S. government, through the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation, provided a grant to the Shevchenko Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine for the restoration and creation of a catalogue of the returned Shevchenko collection. Since its establishment in 2001, the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation has supported over 500 projects worldwide, including eight in Ukraine, the largest number of projects among European countries. The exhibit is open through April 15. (U.S. Embassy in Ukraine)

Yanukovich to reverse hero status

MOSCOW – President Viktor Yanukovich said on March 5 that he would reverse a decision by his predecessor, Viktor Yushchenko, proclaiming Stepan Bandera and Roman Shukhevych as "Heroes of Ukraine." Mr. Yanukovich, while visiting Moscow, said: "Of course, these decrees by Yushchenko have produced a resounding

effect, and they are not accepted in both Ukraine and Europe." He said that it was not by accident that the European Parliament had asked the new Ukrainian leadership to cancel President Yushchenko's decree to posthumously honor Bandera. Mr. Yanukovich added that a decision to repeal the decrees would be made before Victory Day, May 9, which marks the victory of the Soviet Union over Nazi Germany during World War II, known in Soviet parlance as the Great Patriotic War. (*Ukrinform*, Reuters)

Nationalists threaten mass rallies

KYIV – Ukraine's nationalist forces have threatened to hold mass protests if President Viktor Yanukovich annuls the decree awarding the Hero of Ukraine, the country's highest honor, to Stepan Bandera and Roman Shukhevych. "The Ukrainian president made pledges to Russia concerning the language, church, Shukhevych and Sevastopol. This is something he will run against before he learns to run the state in the interests of the state itself. What are we going to do? Definitely, we will stage serious protests," commented Ihor Mazur, leader of the Kyiv branch of the Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian Self-Defense organization, speaking at a press conference on March 9. "I think Yanukovich's mistakes will encourage differentiation between the liberals and nationalists. Nationalists remain strong enough to stage mass rallies. If the issue of Sevastopol were raised, hundreds of thousands of people would be ready to take to the streets. We could organize serious rallies in Kyiv during the week," he added. (*Interfax-Ukraine*)

Yushchenko on Europarliament's 'complex'

LVIV – The European Parliament has "a historical complex" with respect to Stepan Bandera, former President Viktor Yushchenko said at a meeting with intellectuals in Lviv on March 10. "The European Parliament has demonstrated that it has a historical complex with respect to Bandera and has not looked at history through the eyes of the present," he said. Mr. Yushchenko noted that the dialogue on this

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NEWS ANALYSIS

President Yanukovich promises 'new page' in Ukraine's ties with Russia

by Gregory Feifer
RFE/RL

Ukraine's new president, Viktor Yanukovich, on March 5 promised to restore relations with Russia during his first trip to Moscow since Ukrainians last month voted out their former pro-Western leadership that took power in the Orange Revolution.

Western countries are closely watching the March 5 visit for signs of just how far Mr. Yanukovich aims to reposition Ukraine, a strategic energy-transit route over which Russia and the West are tussling for influence.

Speaking at a chummy joint news conference after meeting Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, Mr. Yanukovich said he wants to make a "sharp turnaround" in relations after the drastic deterioration in ties that followed the Orange Revolution.

"The new authorities in Ukraine will change relations with Russia so they'll never again be what they have been for the past five years," Mr. Yanukovich said. He also praised Russia's "political stability."

A satisfied-looking Mr. Medvedev welcomed Mr. Yanukovich's words. The Russian leader said Mr. Yanukovich's election was an "indisputably positive signal" for relations, which he said would be "reborn on all levels" on the basis of "warm feelings and pragmatism." He added, "I hope the black streak that existed in relations between Ukraine and Russia will come to an end."

He singled out energy as a key sphere for cooperation, but didn't indicate whether Moscow was open to reducing its high prices for natural gas, an important issue for crisis-stricken Ukraine.

Mr. Yanukovich was set to also meet Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

More Russia-friendly

Moscow is gleeful over Mr. Yanukovich's election, which exposed a country split between its Russian-speaking east – which overwhelmingly supported him – and its European-looking west.

Moscow openly campaigned for Mr. Yanukovich during Ukraine's presidential election in 2004, when the opposition accused the Kremlin of meddling in the country's internal affairs. But Russia's bid to help elect the old pro-Moscow administration's candidate backfired after Mr. Yanukovich won an election the Supreme Court later ruled had been rigged.

Hundreds of thousands of protesters spilled out onto the streets in what became the Orange Revolution, whose pro-Western leaders came to power following a new election.

Kyiv's relations with Moscow crashed. Russia vehemently objected to Ukraine's new drive to join NATO and other policies it saw as giving the West influence over former Soviet territory in its own backyard. The Kremlin feared the Orange Revolution would provide a model to those Russians chafing under its own authoritarian rule.

Moscow temporarily shut off natural gas to Ukraine after Kyiv refused to pay many times more for supplies the Kremlin said it had provided at Soviet-era subsidized rates. A second shutoff last year lasted three weeks, disrupting deliveries to millions in other European countries.

Last year, Mr. Medvedev accused then-President Viktor Yushchenko of being "anti-Russian." He recalled Russia's ambassador to Ukraine, saying Moscow wouldn't speak to Mr. Yushchenko, who accused the Kremlin of trying to kill him in a poisoning during the 2004 presidential campaign that dramatically disfigured his face.



Official Website of Ukraine's President

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev meets with Ukraine's new president, Viktor Yanukovich, on March 5 in Moscow.

No word on gas

The latest turnaround in relations with Russia comes after Mr. Yanukovich – democratically elected this time – narrowly defeated his rival, Orange Revolution heroine Yulia Tymoshenko.

The new president has pleased Moscow by indicating he'd put an end to Ukraine's drive to join NATO.

But although Ukraine pays more for gas than most European countries, the Kremlin on March 4 appeared to preempt talk of a renegotiation, saying the latest agreement shouldn't be revised.

Mr. Yanukovich has proposed creating a consortium with Moscow and the European Union that would control Ukraine's pipeline network, which some believe would establish closer ties with Russia's Gazprom.

He could entice Moscow by offering to prolong the lease for the Russian navy's controversial Black Sea Fleet base in the Ukrainian city of Sevastopol. The current deal is set to expire in 2017, a date Yushchenko had insisted was firm, but over which Mr. Yanukovich today indicated he'd seek compromise.

"We'll very soon [reach a resolution] that will satisfy both Ukraine and Russia," the new president said.

Delicate balance

Despite tilting Ukraine back toward Moscow, Mr. Yanukovich has said he wouldn't "dramatically change" Ukraine's foreign policy. His first trip abroad as president earlier last week was to Brussels, where he said European integra-

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Brussels ready to work with Viktor Yanukovich for Ukraine

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Ukraine's newly elected President Viktor Yanukovich chose Brussels as his first destination for a working visit abroad. Inaugurated on February 25, Mr. Yanukovich held talks with European Union leaders on March 1, ahead of a March 5 visit to Moscow. This chosen sequence, as well as the tenor of Mr. Yanukovich's remarks in Brussels, contrasted with his pronounced tilt toward Russia, by which he had mobilized his electoral base in the recent presidential campaign.

Unsurprisingly, Mr. Yanukovich shifted toward a more even-handed posture between Russia and the West in the post-election period. He moved more promptly than might have been expected of him, apparently in response to EU leaders' broad overtures to Ukraine through him as the new president. These overtures apparently reflect intentions in Brussels to compete patiently with Russia for Ukraine's future (even if the EU finds it unpalatable to acknowledge the reality of competition). During this visit, EU leaders as well as Ukraine's new president decided to avoid (at least in public) those issues on which Mr. Yanukovich had promised major concessions to Moscow during the electoral campaign.

The presidents of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, EU Council, Herman van Rompuy, and

Brussels has now opened, for the first time, the prospect of Ukraine's eventual accession to the European Union.

European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek, held out to Mr. Yanukovich clear prospects for an EU-Ukraine association agreement, as well as a deep and comprehensive free trade area (DCFTA) and a visa-free travel agreement. The DCFTA would broaden the access of Ukrainian products to the European market and would encourage European investments in Ukraine. As key parts of a possible Ukraine-EU association agreement, the DCFTA and visa-free travel agreements could be signed by 2011, conditional on Ukraine's performance on internal reforms (Interfax-Ukraine, March 1, 2).

The EU leaders have already agreed to draw up a road map toward visa-free travel with Ukraine this year. The commission is also prepared to disburse 500 million Euros in assistance funds, if Ukraine meets the International Monetary Fund's macro-

economic reform criteria to qualify for such assistance.

Brussels has now opened, for the first time, the prospect of Ukraine's eventual accession to the EU. According to Mr. Barroso, "If the process [of Ukrainian reforms] advances, we see Ukraine's future very clearly as a European future, and Ukraine in the European integration process... Ukraine's possible accession to the EU has always been on the agenda," Mr. Barroso was cited as saying at the joint briefing with Mr. Yanukovich (Interfax-Ukraine, March 1).

This statement entails a degree of positive reinterpretation of earlier EU positions. In fact, Brussels had traditionally stopped short of giving Kyiv the much-desired political signal that Ukraine's eventual accession figured on the EU's agenda. In their turn, Ukrainian leaders – particularly Viktor Yushchenko, the now-departed president – often solicited such political signals from the EU, to incentivize Ukrainian reforms. In the event, incentives as well as reforms fell short. The EU's Eastern Partnership program, launched in 2009 following a Swedish-Polish initiative, is starting to overcome this impasse by accelerating the negotiations toward an association agreement and opening the prospect of ultimate membership contingent on performance.

In Brussels, Mr. Yanukovich listed the foreign-policy priorities of his presidency as: "Integration with the European Union, resumption of friendly and good-neighbor-

ly relations with Russia, development of relations with other neighboring countries, and strategic partnership with the United States" – in that order. He singled out the "key priority, European integration" for involving foreign policy and internal reform strategy in equal measure. Alluding to east-west political fault lines in Ukraine, Mr. Yanukovich (the eastern candidate repositioning as president) defined European integration as a unifying factor for Ukrainian society (UNIAN, March 1).

At a minimum, such remarks demonstrate that President Yanukovich has learned to talk the talk, before walking the walk of reforms. His acknowledgments that European integration involves external and internal policy in equal measure and that it can unify society, echo almost verbatim the statements of Moldova's former President, Vladimir Voronin, another "eastern"-leaning politician repositioned as European from 2004 onward, with moderately encouraging results.

The European Parliament marked President Yanukovich's inauguration with a resolution underscoring that Ukraine is a European country that can, by adhering to principles of freedom and democracy, apply for EU membership in the future (Eurasia Daily Monitor, March 3). The resolution demonstrates that the European Parliament (now with substantially enlarged powers under the Lisbon treaty) will work with this president for Ukraine's

(Continued on page 20)

Ambassador John Tefft opens renovated American Library

by Marta Farion

KYIV – U.S. Ambassador John F. Tefft participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the re-opening of the newly-renovated American Library at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy in Kyiv on February 18.

The ceremony was hosted by university President Serhiy Kvit.

The American Library, established over 10 years ago, strives to provide current and reliable information on U.S. government, history, culture, society and values, the educational system and the economy. The library offers readers up-to-date English-language resources, free Internet access, and fun events like Friday night film showings.

Its holdings include more than 10,000 items, a multimedia collection and various Internet services, including access to more than 50,000 electronic publications. The American Library is open to the public and is a resource for all visitors, including the public at large. It currently boasts more than 4,500 members. The library is also accessible via its website.

The American Library is named in memory of Victor Kytasty, who dedicated himself to the development and growth of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NUKMA) and was instrumental in developing the American Library.

Mr. Kytasty moved to Ukraine from the United States and worked in various governmental and academic positions, among them as senior consultant to the Economics Education and Research Consortium's M.A. program in economics and as faculty member of the Department of Philology at NUKMA. He received an honorary doctorate from the university in 1998. On September 22, 2000, Victor Kytasty died of a sudden heart attack.

The American Library's renovation at the National University of Kyiv

Mohyla Academy was financed through a grant from the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine. The American Library is one of the libraries that form the Kyiv Mohyla Library network, which includes the Omeljan and Tetiana Antonovych Library, the Research Library, the Philology Library, the Library of the School of Public Health, the Library of Pre-University Studies, the Omeljan Pritsak Library and Archives of Oriental Studies, and the forthcoming Library of Fine Arts.

The Kyiv Mohyla Library collection includes over 650,000 printed books, over 50,000 electronic titles, 85 donated archival collections and over 50 private printed books collections, bearing the names of their individual donors. The library hosts approximately 1,850 visitors daily. It serves primarily the



John F. Tefft, ambassador of the United States to Ukraine, with Dr. Serhiy Kvit of President of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.



Valentina Pashkova, director of Informational Resources Center of the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine and president of Ukrainian Library Association; John F. Tefft, ambassador of the United States to Ukraine; Christopher Fitzgerald, counselor for public affairs at U.S. Embassy in Ukraine.

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OBITUARIES

Yaroslav-Miguel Flys, 81 Spanish literature expert

by John S. Kark

PHOENIX, Ariz. – Yaroslav-Miguel Flys, a specialist in contemporary Spanish literature and professor for over 50 years at various universities in the United States, died in Phoenix, Ariz., on November 9, 2009, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

He was born on February 13, 1928, in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, and began his education in that western Ukrainian city. He matriculated from the Ukrainian Real Gymnasium in Salzburg, Austria, in 1947. While at the school, he was an outstanding student, and was elected president of his class and, later, president of the entire student body.

Mr. Flys graduated from the University of Madrid in 1951 and received his Ph.D. from that university in 1954. His field of expertise was contemporary Spanish literature and he published several books on the subject.

He immigrated to the United States in 1951 and taught for over five decades at U.S. universities, including Catholic University (Washington), Loyola University (Chicago), Bowling Green University (Bowling Green, Ohio), and Arizona State University (Tempe), where he taught for 25 years.

A highly respected scholar, Prof. Flys was chairman of the Foreign Languages Department at Arizona State for eight years, until he retired in 2001. He also oversaw the Study Abroad in Spain Program.

Surviving are his wife, Felisa, and their daughter, Tamara; four children from a previous marriage, Carmen, Marisol, Ana and Carlos; nine grandchildren, Laura, Elena, Marisa, Monica, Karina, Daniel, Paul, Victoria and Natalia; as well as a cousin, Roman Flys, of Deliatyn, Ukraine.

Memorial donations may be made to: St. Joseph Foundation (Children's Health Center), 350 W. Thomas Road, Phoenix, AZ 85013.

Vera Rich, translator, journalist, poet, 73

LONDON – Vera Rich, a noted translator of Ukrainian literary works and herself a poet and journalist, died of cancer in London on December 20, 2009.

She was known also for her translations of Belarusian literature, as well as translations from the Polish, Russian, Czech, Croatian, Norwegian and Spanish languages.

As noted by Dr. Mykola Zhulynskyi, director of the Institute of Literature at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, for decades Ms. Rich functioned as a Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Great Britain. Dr. Zhulynskyi and other literature experts from Ukraine noted of Ms. Rich's passing: "Ukraine has lost its spokesman, an extraordinary ambassador of Ukraine in the world of English-language culture."

She translated the works of noted Ukrainian literary figures Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko and Pavlo Tychyna,

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	Joseph Sachno	Flushing, NY
	Eugene Sagasz	Mt. Pocono, PA
	Julie Sydorowycz	Dewitt, NY
	Bohdan Vitvitsky	Summit, NJ
	Zenon Wasyliw	Ithaca, NY
\$5.00	Bohdan Dombchewskyj	Monroe, NC
	John Dumka	Calgary, AB
	Merle and Bonnie Jurkiewicz	Toledo, OH
	H. Kowalchek	West Newton, PA
	W. Lysko	Cranbury, NJ
	Millie Pochtar	Pequannock, NJ
	Zoriana Siokalo	Newtown, PA
	Michael Solonyka	Minneapolis, MN
	Oksana Wolchuk	Cherry Hill, NJ
	Anna Zador	Las Vegas, NV

TOTAL: \$1,685.00

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Branch 13 holds yearly meeting

WATERVLIET, N.Y. – Members of St. Nicholas Brotherhood Society (Bratstvo) and Ukrainian National Association Branch 13 re-elected their officers at the yearly meeting held at the Ukrainian-American Citizens Club in Watervliet, N.Y., on Sunday, February 21.

The Bratstvo will mark its 115th year of continuous service to its members and the community on December 5, 2010. Founded in 1915, the Bratstvo is one of the oldest Ukrainian organizations in the

United States and is among the earliest brotherhoods in the country to join the Ukrainian National Association.

After the presentation of officers' annual reports and the acceptance of the Auditing Committee's proposal for a vote of confidence, Bratstvo members chose by acclamation to return the prior year's officers and committee chairs.

Returning for one more year as Bratstvo

(Continued on page 20)



At the yearly meeting of the St. Nicholas Brotherhood, President Slavko Tysiak (seated, center) is joined by several senior members who attended (seated, from left) Stephen Denish, John Zendran, John Demczar, Gregory Ilnytsky, Sam Ksenych and Stanley Mochulsky. Surrounding them are some of the new members, brotherhood officers and others in attendance.

Branch 173 holds annual meeting, elects delegate to UNA convention

by Eugene Serba

WILMINGTON, Del. – Ukrainian National Association Branch 173, also known as St. Vladimir's Society, held its annual meeting on February 21 after the 9 a.m. divine liturgy here at St. Nicholas Church. The meeting was originally scheduled for February 7, but had to be rescheduled due to snowstorms.

At St. Nicholas Church, the tradition is for parishioners to have coffee hour in the church hall as a parish family after divine liturgy. As a gesture of good will, Peter Serba, secretary of Branch 173, sponsored the coffee and Danish for all parishioners of the parish.

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m. by UNA Auditor Eugene Serba. The Rev. Volodymyr Klanichka began with an opening prayer. On behalf of the UNA, Mr. Serba officially congratulated the Rev. Klanichka on the birth of his twins in January and wished the family all the best.

Afterwards, a moment of silence was held for all members of Branch 173 who passed away during the year since the last annual meeting. The minutes from the prior year's meeting were approved.

Auditor Serba congratulated his father, Peter, for having been branch secretary since 1951 – for 59 years. By

acclamation, all in attendance commended the elder Mr. Serba.

A discussion of branch savings and an explanation of how branch funds are now on deposit with the UNA followed. Members opted to not disburse any funds at this time.

Next on the agenda was the election of delegates to the UNA Convention to be held in May. Peter Serba was elected as a delegate; Joanne Dimon was voted as an alternate delegate.

Also elected were Branch 173 officers: President Wasyl Wasylysyn, Secretary Peter Serba and Treasurer Eugene Serba.

During the discussion that followed, among the topics discussed were: UNA annuity rates; problems with postal delivery of both Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly; ideas for increasing the involvement of younger potential UNA members; and the financial status of UNA.

Thank-yous were expressed by a number of members concerning articles and or pictures that have appeared in both the Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. These included St. Nicholas Church activities, erection of a Ukrainian flag on permanent display in North Wildwood,

(Continued on page 20)

UNA SENIORS AND FRIENDS

UNA SENIORS' WEEK JUNE 13 -18, 2010, AT SOYUZIVKA

Make your reservations for the UNA Seniors' Conference which will be held at SOYUZIVKA Heritage Center starting Sunday, June 13th, with wine and cheese in the evening, through Friday, June 18th, including brunch. All inclusive 5 nights, all meals beginning with breakfast Monday, banquet, taxes and gratuities included, entertainment and special guest speakers.



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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Yanukovich's first steps

It's only two weeks into the Yanukovich presidency and already it is marked by egregious violations of the Ukrainian Constitution, political cronyism and kowtowing before the Kremlin.

The formation of the so-called Stability and Reforms Coalition blatantly violates the Constitution of Ukraine, and opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko is entirely justified in declaring the new government illegitimate. The law requires parliamentary factions, not rogue or defecting deputies, to form the coalition government. Should the Constitutional Court of Ukraine allow this misbegotten coalition to stand on appeal out of political convenience, it too will lose its legitimacy.

Viktor Yanukovich's presidency is marked by even more violations of Ukrainian law.

On February 16, the Party of Regions of Ukraine led Parliament in illegally canceling city and village council elections scheduled for May 30 without rescheduling them. Then, on March 1, Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn announced that a parliamentary majority didn't exist, relying on yet more regulation-bending legislation – approved after the presidential elections – that requires coalitions to prove their existence with signatures from all its members. It's a basic legal tenet that laws are not retroactive, yet Mr. Lytvyn applied the new procedural rules to force Ms. Tymoshenko's coalition to prove its existence. Its failure to do so gave him the opening to declare it doesn't exist.

Mr. Yanukovich flouted the law not only in Kyiv, but abroad as well.

Speaking with Russian leaders, he left the door open for the Russian Black Sea Fleet to remain in Sevastopol beyond the 2017 withdrawal deadline. That blatantly violates the intent of the Constitution of Ukraine, which is to free Ukrainian soil of foreign troops. His pursuit of non-alignment with NATO contradicts Ukrainian law, which declares Euro-Atlantic integration as a national security goal.

All that is now happening could be expected given Mr. Yanukovich's shady background.

When he became prime minister in 2006, Ms. Yanukovich did exactly what he's doing now – cobbling together an illegal coalition with the goal of usurping power. Former President Viktor Yushchenko was forced to dismiss Parliament before Mr. Yanukovich achieved his goal.

More recently, Mr. Yanukovich was accused of stealing the 350-acre Mezhyhiria complex, previously a state-owned residential estate on the outskirts of Kyiv that mysteriously fell into his family's ownership in September 2007, during his second prime ministership.

When a politician flagrantly disregards the law, breaking campaign promises is but a minor-league infraction.

Mr. Yanukovich vowed to implement reforms by choosing only the most qualified candidates for government posts. Yet, he's reportedly stacked the Procurator General's Office with his Donbas homeboys. Not by chance, those same prosecutors reached a decision on March 10 to drop all criminal charges against Vasyl Tsushko, the former police chief who led a raid on the Procurator General's Office in 2007 and allowed assaults on its employees, all before television cameras. Mr. Tsushko is now Mr. Yanukovich's economy minister. His career jump from police chief to chief economist in a three-year span doesn't inspire confidence in Mr. Yanukovich's claim that only the most qualified will serve. Furthermore, the oligarchs who made up the government of Leonid Kuchma are back. Russian-born geologist Mykola Azarov is prime minister, and the chair of the Security Service of Ukraine is mega-millionaire Valerii Khoroshkovskiy, someone with no law enforcement experience.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso was utterly mistaken when stating that the newly elected president has the legitimacy to promote stability in Ukraine. Mr. Yanukovich failed to earn 50 percent of the vote in the run-off, and he did not win a majority of the oblasts – hardly evidence to support Mr. Barroso's words. Now President Yanukovich has failed to legally form his Cabinet of Ministers. Where's the legitimacy?

The Venice Commission ought to heed Hryhorii Nemyria's call to review all the questionable legislation passed to bring these politicians into power. Western governments ought to support Ukraine's pro-Western opposition forces in defending the nation's institutions of law and order.

March
18
2008

Turning the pages back...

Two years ago, on March 18, 2008, Ukraine's Parliament approved the first draft of a bill aimed at overturning the constitutional amendments of 2006 that reduced the powers of the president and transferred these powers to the Verkhovna Rada.

The law on the Cabinet of Ministers received 246 votes in favor out of the 449 present and eligible lawmakers. The bill was supported by the Our Ukraine–People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc. The Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) and the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) abstained from voting.

The changes, originally tailored for Viktor Yanukovich when he served as prime minister, allowed the coalition to appoint the ministers of defense and foreign affairs if the president had not done so within a two-week period. Presidential nominees for Cabinet posts would be approved by the Verkhovna Rada, and proposals to dismiss the defense or foreign affairs ministers would be permitted for submission to Parliament only after the president's initial consent. The amended law gave ministers the right to nominate their deputies but would deprive the prime minister of the power to coordi-

(Continued on page 23)

WINDOW ON EURASIA

Moscow expert says international community not bound to support states' territorial integrity

by Paul Goble

Valery Tishkov, an influential Moscow specialist on ethnicity and politics, says in an interview posted online on February 23 that every government must seek to defend its country's territorial integrity because, in the wake of what he calls "the destruction" of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, the international community is not bound to do so.

Mr. Tishkov's comments come not only in the wake of Moscow's recognition of the breakaway republics of Abkhazia and South Ossetia but also at a time when ever more Russian commentators are discussing the further partition of Georgia and the possible division of Ukraine or the absorption of some or all of that country by the Russian Federation.

And, while Mr. Tishkov has many enemies because of his own longstanding commitment to civic rather than ethnic nationalism and because of his oft-expressed belief that the division of states only creates new problems, his argument is worth noting as it undoubtedly both reflects and will have an impact on discussions in the Russian policy community.

Mr. Tishkov told *Russky Zhurnal* journalist Lyubov Ulyanova that "the unity of states in the sense of assertion of territorial integrity and the solid loyalty of the population are guaranteed above all by the states themselves" rather than by support from outside forces however often it is declared (www.russ.ru/pole/Gosudarstvo-nikto-ne-obyazyvaet-bytedinyum).

According to the director of the Moscow Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, "no external imperatives for the preservation of the [territorial] integrity of states exist, especially after the destruction of the Helsinki Final Act, which called for the inviolability of the existing borders in Europe."

Despite that accord, Mr. Tishkov continues, "at the time the USSR came apart, no one opposed it – instead and even more almost every player on the international arena did everything to promote that outcome, and the USSR did not have any external argument in defense of its own integrity."

At the same time, of course, he says, "external interference in the splitting up, disintegration or seizure of state formations or parts of their territories is not recognized by international law, if again there do not exist certain internal agreements on the division and external divisions on interference at the highest level" such as decisions by the United Nations.

Paul Goble is a long-time specialist on ethnic and religious questions in Eurasia who has served in various capacities in the U.S. State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the International Broadcasting Bureau, as well as at the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He has also been director of research and publications at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, vice-dean for the social sciences and humanities at Audentes University in Tallinn and a senior research associate at the EuroCollege of the University of Tartu in Estonia. Mr. Goble writes a blog called "Window on Eurasia" (<http://windowoneurasia.blogspot.com/>). This article above is reprinted with permission.

Ever more Russian commentators are discussing the further partition of Georgia and the possible division of Ukraine or the absorption of some or all of that country by the Russian Federation.

All this permits only "one conclusion: all states, even those who have a crisis of governance – the collapse of their economies, total emigration, internal wars and chaos in civic life, the absence of central administration [and so on] must themselves guarantee their sovereignty on their own if they do not have allies who are obligated by treaty to help."

Moreover, Mr. Tishkov says, "if another state is not interested by treaty conditions or other reflections such as the security of its own border areas, historical-cultural ties of the population, economic interests, etc., in the preservation of this or that state formation, it is correct for that state to do nothing for guaranteeing" the territorial integrity of the other.

Those "realist" reflections, he says, do not mean that states should welcome the division or collapse of states because such events often "generate more problems than the improvement in [those states] of the system of administration and other positive transformations." Indeed, "division almost always leads to new minorities and new 'divided peoples.'"

Had the international community acted on the basis of the Helsinki Final Act in the early 1990s, Mr. Tishkov argues, "it would have been completely legitimate" for it to seek to maintain the unity of the USSR under Mikhail Gorbachev – and to do far more than make statements like U.S. President George H.W. Bush did in his Kyiv speech.

But having failed to do that and having in fact done just the opposite in the cases of both the USSR and Yugoslavia, the international community has taught Russia and other countries some "harsh lessons" about the need to promote their own immediate interests rather than follow any general principle.

"Russia, having put down an effort at armed secession in Chechnya and constitutionally excluded the right of departure from the [Russian] Federation," Mr. Tishkov says, nonetheless "recognized the results of session without permission (self-proclaimed independence) in Abkhazia and South Ossetia." As far as Ukraine is concerned, the Moscow scholar and political figure says, it is "in fact a two-community (Ukrainian-Russian) state with several influential minorities, very much like Canada." And "the integrity of the state can be ensured only by official bilingualism" and by the proclamation that "the nation in Ukraine includes not only ethnic Ukrainians."

"If Ukrainian ethnic nationalism remains

(Continued on page 24)

From a Canadian Angle

by Oksana Bashuk Hepburn



CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Moving forward with the new president

Conclusions from some 300 Canadian observers overseeing the second round of the presidential election in Ukraine were that, in general, international standards were met. They also said that it was important for observers to have been there to make sure this happened.

But does an acceptable elections process translate into good government? In Canada, citizens measure a leader's performance against election promises.

The new president's past record is mixed. Most see Viktor Yanukovich as pro-Russian, and nearly half of the population considers him a criminal. Yet this may be a fine opportunity to show that he can change. He has done so before. He recast himself from a thug into a front-line politician, and he overcame his image as a fraudster from the days of the Orange Revolution of 2004 to become president in 2010.

Now President Yanukovich needs to move forward again: he must uphold democracy, unity and independence in Ukraine.

His early steps are contradictory. In his first post-election statement in both Ukrainian and Russian – significant, as making Russian the second official language is a divisive issue – Mr. Yanukovich promised to reach out to all Ukrainians, even those who did not vote for him. This was a hopeful gesture in the best of democratic tradition.

His campaign material was conciliatory too. It avoided controversy and promised good things: an improved standard of living, social assistance, national health care. His inaugural speech committed to deal with corruption, an important matter in Ukraine. And his first foreign trip to Brussels carried an even-keeled message: good relations with both Europe and Russia.

But will fine words be transformed into action? Can Ukrainians look forward to a political maturation of their president comparable to the maturation of the election process that got him there?

Mr. Yanukovich's trip to Russia raises doubts.

Many are perturbed with his commitment to allow the Russian Black Sea Fleet to remain in Ukrainian waters after 2017 – the feeling is he was giving away too much too soon. His undertaking to withdraw Hero of Ukraine status from Stepan Bandera and Roman Shukhevych negates his offer to embrace all of Ukraine. (Such a divisive strategy was employed by former President Viktor Yushchenko in the reverse direction for unclear ends.) If President Yanukovich follows through, western Ukraine will be furious. The award so infuriated Poland – at a time when Ukraine needs all the friends it can get – that it demanded, via the EU no less, a withdrawal of the honor. Russia did likewise, precipitating a united anti-Ukraine position.

Furthermore, it did not go unnoticed to the Ukrainian World Congress, a global umbrella organization of diaspora entities, that Mr. Yanukovich is the first post-independence president of Ukraine

to receive blessings exclusively from the Moscow patriarch rather than from leaders of all Ukrainian Churches. This is the same patriarch who, while visiting Ukraine last summer, undermined the independence of the Kyiv Patriarchate and tampered with the democratic notion of separation of Church and state.

Troubling signs about the new president as the guarantor of the Constitution were in evidence in Donetsk, his home base. Observers were told that Yulia Tymoshenko's election commission members, doctors at a local psychiatric institution, were threatened with job loss for their political affiliation. Another Tymoshenko official was accused of stealing blank ballots and publicly discredited. Although cleared of wrongdoing by appropriate legal bodies, the name-calling and personal harassment from Party of Regions supporters continue, she claimed. And, a post-election story out of neighboring Dnipropetrovsk has it that several government officials were fired for speaking Ukrainian.

If Ukraine is to go forward under the new president, this must stop. National independence requires decisions motivated by a country's national interests, not those of its neighbors. Democracy demands respect for political choice, and tolerance of former opponents is proof that it works.

A Canadian approach, for instance, would be to leave divisive, no-win issues – like the revocation of honors bestowed on nationalists or official language status changes – on the back burner. Mr. Yanukovich might wish to state, at home and abroad, that his uppermost priorities are national unity and the economy. Other matters will have to wait.

A strong democracy watchdog is critical for Ukraine. Ms. Tymoshenko, poised to head the opposition, has already vowed to watch the president to ensure he is not undermining Ukraine.

Canada and others can help too. Ottawa has been supporting Ukraine's transition to democracy since 1991, devoting in 2008-2009 alone over \$20 million in technical assistance. Other democracies, especially the United States, have also been generous. Now, they need to ensure that their funding has a positive impact on Ukraine's society by calling on the president to operate in a political climate that is favorable to all citizens and to deliver on election promises. This is critical until the next parliamentary elections, when Ukrainians will directly once again decide their political fate. Their choice is clear: if they want Mr. Yanukovich to have more power, they will give the Party of Regions a majority in Parliament. However, if they are unhappy with him, they need to give Tymoshenko forces their vote.

Will there be pre-term parliamentary elections? The next few weeks may provide the answer.

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn may be contacted at oksanabh@sympatico.ca.

Moscow patriarch's 'Westpolitik'

Once again, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church has proved to be the stumbling block for relations between Rome and Moscow. Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill will only meet with Pope Benedict XVI after the issue of over 500 formerly Orthodox churches in western Ukraine now held by the Greek-Catholics is resolved, said Metropolitan Ilarion (Alfeyev) of Volokolamsk in January ("Ukraine blocking Vatican, Russian church meet," Reuters, January 12, published in the Kyiv Post, January 13).

For those who remember the Vatican Ostpolitik and Catholic-Orthodox ecumenism of the 1960s and 1970s, this sounds familiar. The issue of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, forcibly dissolved and joined to the Moscow Patriarchate in 1946, was the bane of diplomats and ecumenists alike until its legalization in 1989-1991. Now it seems that its retention of recovered parish churches stands in the way of Vatican-Moscow relations.

These relations, however, have taken a new turn. The accession to the European Union of Orthodox Romania, Bulgaria and Cyprus, as well as several other countries with large Orthodox populations, has provided Russia with a new mission.

As Paul Goble commented over five years ago, the growing influence of Orthodoxy in Europe has allowed the Russian Church to expand its activity in pursuit of both its own interests and those of the Russian state. In this, Ilarion, then bishop of Vienna and Austria and head of his Church's representation before the European institutions, has figured prominently (Paul Goble, "Eye on Eurasia: An Orthodox Christian European Union," UPI, October 5, 2004).

How does this involve the Catholic Church? The late Pope John Paul II, responding to the rapid deterioration of Western European Christianity, called for a "new evangelization" of the continent. In response, the Russian Orthodox have proposed that the two Churches work together to defeat Western post-Christian secularism. Archbishop Ilarion recently elaborated his views in his introduction to a Russian edition of Pope Benedict's speeches (SEIA Newsletter No. 171, December 2009, pp. 17-18). The revival of full diplomatic relations between Russia and the Vatican, announced last December 3, should facilitate such cooperation.

Probably no one in Russia is better positioned to promote a joint evangelization with the Roman Catholics than the current patriarch. In 1971-1974, Hieromonk Kirill (Gundyaev) represented the Moscow Patriarchate at the World Council of Churches in Geneva. As chairman of the Patriarchate's Department of External Church Relations (DECR) from 1989, he impressed Europeans with his command of languages and his familiarity with the West. After Patriarch Aleksii II (Ridiger) died on December 5, 2008, Kirill was elected patriarch of Moscow the following January 27.

Mr. Goble has characterized Kirill's general approach as "authoritarianism at home and ecumenism abroad" (Paul Goble, "New Russian Patriarch Kirill to push nationalist agenda at home, ecumenism abroad," The Ukrainian Weekly, February 22, 2009, p. 2). Logically

enough, upon Kirill's election the young, Oxford-educated Bishop Ilarion took over his post at the DECR. He was subsequently appointed archbishop of Volokolamsk, then metropolitan.

The Russian proposal of cooperation sounds reasonable. Working together, the world's two largest Churches might indeed reverse the tide of secularization; such trends, after all, are cyclical. While Rome seeks to revive Catholicism among the French, Spanish and Italians, Moscow can concentrate on Bulgaria, Romania and Greece.

True, one may ask whether the Moscow Patriarchate doesn't have enough to do evangelizing the Russians, who for all their formal allegiance have an abysmally low rate of religious practice. But that's their business.

More legitimately, one may ask by what right Moscow should be leading the Orthodox world in this effort. Why not the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople, as the Vatican's partner and equal?

There are several reasons. Unlike the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Russian Church has the support of a powerful state. It is the largest Orthodox Church. It evidently has a core of faithful ready to dedicate their best and brightest to its service. And in the view of Metropolitan Ilarion, it is supranational, being the Church not only of Russia, but also of several countries with Orthodox populations including Belarus, the Baltics – and Ukraine (SEIA No. 171, pp. 6-7).

Has the accession of a German pope improved the chances for Vatican-Russian cooperation? In a recent interview the papal nuncio to Ukraine, Archbishop Ivan Jurkovic, confirmed the common Catholic-Orthodox interest in opposing European secularism (Ukrainskyi Tyzhden, January 22). But will common goals once again be pursued at the expense of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholics? Will Moscow expect Rome to neglect Catholics in Russia, Belarus and Ukraine?

The Moscow Patriarchate follows Russian law in not recognizing Catholicism as one of the nation's traditional religions. It habitually protests Catholic inroads in Ukraine. But it reserves special enmity for the Uniates. Thus, Moscow may seek to squeeze the Russian, Belarusian and Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Churches out of existence, demanding that they choose between Latin Catholicism and Russian Orthodoxy. In this context, its perennial complaints about Orthodox churches allegedly seized by Ukrainian Greek-Catholics suggest a policy goal beyond the mere recovery of real estate.

To be sure, legal procedures must be followed in the allocation of church property. In most cases since 1989, they have been. If Ilarion is claiming that certain churches are held by the Ukrainian Catholics illegally, he should identify them and point out the illegality. Then the issue can be resolved in the courts.

Yet Moscow's real objection may lie elsewhere. The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church poses a challenge to its leadership of the new evangelization of Europe far exceeding the loss of a few hundred parishes. Stumbling blocks have a way of

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Yanukovych travels...

(Continued from page 1)

in August last year to the public messag-
es in Friday's negotiations. They practi-
cally coincided. The larger part of prob-
lems, which were raised last year, were
voiced now in a form quite favorable to
Moscow," Mr. Fesenko commented.

The Yanukovych foreign policy was
first revealed on February 24, when his
team released a draft of the parliamentary
coalition agreement calling for "securing
Ukraine's non-aligned status on a legisla-
tive level, meaning non-participation of
Ukraine in the military-political alliances
of other states."

It called for extending constructive
cooperation with NATO on all matters of
common interest and ensuring the U.S.-
Ukraine Strategic Partnership Charter, as
well as establishing relations with Russia
on the basis of strategic partnership,
friendship, good neighborliness and
mutually convenient trade cooperation.

Experts have labeled this approach as a
"multi-vector" foreign policy, similar to
what former President Leonid Kuchma
pursued, but only with a far more overt
orientation towards Russia.

"Kuchma never even dared to legally
secure Ukraine's non-aligned status,
which is what the Regions are proposing
now," said Alyona Hetmanchuk, director
of the Kyiv-based Institute of World
Policy, which advocates Ukraine's inte-
gration into Euro-Atlantic structures.

"Legally ensuring the non-aligned sta-
tus is so much the royal gift for the
Kremlin, and possibly the most desired at
the given stage, that a whole lot could
have been traded for only this single
potential possibility. The Regions aren't
stingy – they're giving away everything
left and right for free," she said.

Furthermore Mr. Yanukovych's foreign
policy contradicts itself, as non-alignment
is incompatible with ensuring the fulfill-
ment of the U.S.-Ukraine Strategic
Partnership Charter, which calls for
Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration.

Non-alignment also contradicts the
Yanukovych administration's alleged
commitment to pursue EU integration,
she said, since membership involves a
military commitment to the European
Security and Defense Policy.

First stop: Brussels

Mr. Yanukovych's first foreign visit as
president was on March 1 to Brussels,
where he and his entourage met with
European Commission President Jose
Manuel Barroso, European Parliament
President Jerzy Buzek, EU Council
President Herman van Rompuy and EU
High Representative for Foreign Affairs

and Security Policy Catherine
Ashton.

European leaders went to
great lengths to extend their
support to Mr. Yanukovych
after his election, immediately
extending an invitation for his
visit in what observers
described as attempts to estab-
lish communication and dia-
logue, and prevent his possi-
ble tendencies to recoil
towards Moscow.

Mr. Barroso warmly greeted
Mr. Yanukovych, expressing
"delight" that the new presi-
dent's first foreign visit was to
Brussels. Developing relations
with the EU isn't detrimental
to Ukraine's relations with
Russia, he stressed, encourag-
ing Mr. Yanukovych's attempts
to make amends with the
Kremlin.

In turn, the Ukrainian presi-
dent assured his European counterparts
that European integration was a top pri-
ority for him, stating his goal of concluding
the Association Agreement by the end of
the year.

As part of the Association Agreement,
a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade
Area and visa-free travel agreements
could be signed by 2011, conditional on
Ukraine's performance on internal
reforms, Interfax-Ukraine reported.

Mr. Yanukovych also asked for a road
map, setting conditions and deadlines, for
securing visa-free travel for Ukrainians to
the EU by the end of the year, as well as a
"technical assistance mission" of experts
to consider ways to streamline govern-
ment spending.

The EU is considering extending
Ukraine more than 500 million euros in
economic support should Ukraine meet
the International Monetary Fund's macro-
economic reform criteria to renew its
loans, Mr. Barroso said.

The Portuguese leader's embrace of Mr.
Yanukovych – and his statement that "we
believe he has the legitimacy now to pro-
mote stability in his country" – drew criti-
cism from many of Ukraine's leading
political experts, who doubt very much
that he was legitimately elected.

"I am utterly dumbfounded by the EU
bureaucracy," said Dr. Oleh Soskin, direc-
tor of the Institute of Society
Transformation in Kyiv. "Barroso accept-
ed on such a level a person with a crimi-
nal background, a practical KGB agent,
which is not accepted by two-thirds of
Ukraine. Their analytical centers work
poorly."

Mr. Yanukovych deserves the same



Official Website of Ukraine's President
**Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych is wel-
comed by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.**

treatment from Europe as Belarusian
President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, he
said.

"It wasn't necessary to meet with him,"
said Dr. Soskin, who served as an eco-
nomic advisor to former President Leonid
Kuchma. "The EU leadership doesn't
understand criminal logic and rules. They
need to learn the KGB code, its criminal
law. The first rule is to fool the most gull-
ible. Everyone else is a fool to be manip-
ulated. And they will be manipulated like
fools. Yanukovych fed Barroso a pack of
lies."

Yet, Ivan Lozowy, director of the
Institute of Statehood and Democracy in
Kyiv, said the Party of Regions and its
sponsoring oligarchs have genuine inten-
tions of deeper EU integration because it
will provide them with more trade for
their raw material exports, as well as
investment opportunities.

The Party of Regions' biggest financial
sponsor, Donbas industrial magnate Rinat
Akhmetov, is especially interested in
European integration for those same rea-
sons.

"Brussels was deliberate, partly as a
result of Yanukovych being passed over
the last couple of years by the Kremlin,"
Mr. Lozowy. "There's a genuine push
towards Europe because that's where peo-
ple see real progress. They go shopping
in European capitals and send their kids
to European universities. That's where
the Party of Regions is looking."

"All roads lead to Moscow"

While Europe may be on the horizon
for Ukraine's oligarchs, they still can't
shake off their Soviet mentality. Mr.
Yanukovych was almost apologetic to
Russian President Dmitry Medvedev
when Moscow reporters confronted him
about why he chose Brussels over
Moscow for his first visit.

"Dmitry Anatoliyovych views with
understanding – as a person, not just as
president – that the first days of work of a
new president of any country is always
complicated from the point of view of
where to go," he said during his March 5
joint press conference, laughing as if
there was a need to break the tension. "I
am gaining experience, but as they used
to say – all roads lead to Moscow."

That quip was part of an entire series
of flattering comments Mr. Yanukovych
made in attempts to ingratiate himself
with the Russian president, much to the
disgust of Ukraine's pro-Western political
establishment.

Mr. Yanukovych behaved like a
Russian vassal, said Oleksander Paliy, an
expert at the Institute of Foreign Policy at
the Diplomatic Academy of Ukraine.

"Even worse than a vassal, he looked
like a provisional governor, like a ser-
vant," said Dr. Soskin. "His conduct was

characteristic of a person without an
ascertained worldview or knowledge. He
didn't defend Ukrainian national interests
and we don't have any leader capable of
being a Euro-Atlantic president."

Indeed, the topics they discussed – the
Russian Black Sea Fleet, NATO, interpre-
tations of history, the Russian language –
were those hammered upon by Mr.
Medvedev in his notorious August 2009
video statement condemning President
Viktor Yushchenko's policies as an
unprecedented provocation.

Mr. Yanukovych indicated he's open to
renewing the Russian government's lease,
allowing the Russian Black Sea Fleet to
remain on Ukrainian territory beyond
2017. This violates the current
Constitution of Ukraine, which requires
that the fleet be withdrawn that year.

Another breach of Ukrainian law was
Mr. Yanukovych's assurances to Mr.
Medvedev that Ukraine would not align
itself with NATO, whereas the established
national security policy states that entry
into NATO is a goal of Ukrainian national
security.

"His statements in Russia cross out the
whole road that Ukraine underwent
towards NATO," Dr. Soskin said. "It's
unprecedented and unacceptable for a
president to say such things. He took
authority in Russia that is not granted by
the Constitution."

Mr. Yanukovych also vowed to cancel
former President Yushchenko's decree
granting the Hero of Ukraine title to
Ukrainian nationalist leader Stepan
Bandera and said he would do so in time
for the May 9 celebrations of Victory Day.

Revoking the Hero of Ukraine title
granted by a previous president would be
an unprecedented step for a Ukrainian
president, observers pointed out.

The Ukrainian and Russian presidents
agreed that Russia, Belarus and Ukraine
will jointly organize parades and festivi-
ties celebrating the victory of Soviet forc-
es against Nazi Germany.

Upon Mr. Yanukovych's suggestion to
take a "sharp turn" in Russian-Ukrainian
relations, Russian Prime Minister
Vladimir Putin extended to Ukraine an
offer to join the customs union being
formed between Russia, Belarus and
Kazakhstan.

Ukrainian priorities were "peripheral,
particularly a review of [natural] gas
agreements," Mr. Fesenko said. "Moscow
promised a review, but offered no decla-
rations in terms of deadlines, prospects
and the nature of the review. Therefore, I
consider the visit to have followed a
Muscovite script."

Mr. Lozowy wasn't as pessimistic as
other experts, believing that Mr. Yanukovych
made some general statements in Moscow,
and left certain options open, which he has
little intention to follow up on.

For example, it's impossible for
Ukraine to join the Russian-Belarus-
Kazakhstan customs union, having
already joined the World Trade
Organization.

"It's political petting for the Russians
that he knows that he doesn't have to
deliver," Mr. Lozowy said.

In discussions with Mr. Putin broadcast
on television, Mr. Yanukovych expressed
admiration for the government he has
established. He stressed the need for a
"serious revision" to Russian-Ukrainian
relations and for the removal of "artificial
barriers."

He assured Mr. Putin that he will
"establish order in the literal and figura-
tive sense" in Ukraine.

"The Russian people still don't under-
stand the price of the stability that exists
in Russia," Mr. Yanukovych said. "If you
were given a few politicians from Ukraine,
you would understand what politicking
is."

"Send us salo [pork fat] instead," Mr.
Putin retorted.

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Unloved but unbowed, Viktor Yushchenko leaves office

by Gregory Feifer
RFE/RL

PART I

KYIV – Five years ago, hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians chanted Viktor Yushchenko's name on Kyiv's Independence Square during mass protests prompted by widespread anger over his defeat in a rigged presidential election. Braving snow and temperatures well below freezing, the demonstrators set up tents, sang and waved the orange campaign flags that gave their movement its name.

On stage, rock bands gave concerts and opposition leaders rallied the crowds. Tensions between the opposition and the authorities ran high, overshadowed by the possibility of a violent police crackdown.

Mr. Yushchenko promised to ensure the law would prevail and the election results would be overturned. As their struggle played out on television screens around the world, the protesters stayed out day after day, giving the opposition crucial momentum.

It was Mr. Yushchenko's biggest triumph. The Supreme Court annulled the victory of Viktor Yanukovich, the pro-Moscow prime minister and chosen successor of hard-line President Leonid Kuchma, under whose regime opposition figures and journalists were assassinated. Mr. Yushchenko went on to seal the Orange camp's victory by winning a new election.

But the man who overcame great odds to lead Ukraine during a pivotal time in its history leaves a deeply contradictory legacy. Mr. Yushchenko exits the presidency with Ukraine in economic crisis and paralyzed by a bitter political standoff that has Ukrainians disillusioned and wondering what the Orange Revolution was all about.

Life-and-death struggle

Mr. Yushchenko's Orange Revolution victory was a breathtaking achievement in a former Soviet republic whose neighbors had slid back toward authoritarianism. Russia had campaigned hard for Mr. Yanukovich, but the odds against pro-Western Mr. Yushchenko were far more than merely political.

He was fighting for his life and in terrible physical pain, his handsome face grotesquely disfigured by a massive dose of dioxin poison he accused Moscow-backed government agents of administering. At times, Mr. Yushchenko was able to appear in public only because Austrian doctors had threaded a tube under the skin of his back to deliver a constant flow of painkillers.

Oleh Rybachuk ran Mr. Yushchenko's campaign and later became his presidential chief of staff. He says Mr. Yushchenko's pain was "unbearable."

"He was begging doctors just to let him

die," Mr. Rybachuk says. "The doctors implanted the strongest painkiller in his back, but at some level they were hesitating. They were afraid that his heart would stop. Therefore, they were really balancing on the edge of life and death."

With Mr. Yushchenko physically unable to travel, it was his main ally, Yulia Tymoshenko, who did most of the campaigning. The fiery orator adopted her now-familiar image, dressing in glamorous white outfits and wearing her newly blonde hair in a fairy-tale braid crown. Her impassioned appearances catapulted her to political stardom, but they also helped ensure Mr. Yushchenko's victory.

The new president continued to suffer searing pain for years. Rybachuk says, in addition to the enormous damage Mr. Yushchenko's poisoning caused his nervous system, it had a tremendous psychological effect on a man with Hollywood good looks.

"He said many times in public that when he woke up in the morning, every time, for years after that," he says, "he couldn't put up with the thought that the reflection he was seeing was actually himself. For anyone – forget about a public figure or candidate for the presidency – it might totally destroy your identity, your personality. It affected him very seriously."

"First real president"

But the man whose pockmarked face became the symbol of the fight against authoritarianism wasn't always fated to become an opposition leader. As head of Ukraine's central bank in the 1990s, Mr. Yushchenko was known as a centrist – loyal to then-President Kuchma – who ushered in a national currency and other reforms that drew praise in the West. After his unexpected appointment as prime minister in 1999, the former collective-farm accountant rebuffed attempts by some of the country's fractured opposition to become their leader.

But Mr. Yushchenko changed his mind after he was removed from office amid bitter opposition to his government's reforms from powerful business oligarchs.

After winning the presidency, Mr. Yushchenko called himself Ukraine's "first real president."

"We were independent for 14 years, but not free," he said at the time.

The new leader vowed to attack rampant corruption, arrest criminals and put Ukraine on a path toward Europe. He urged Ukrainians to "roll up our sleeves and work honestly from morning until night for this country."

But Mr. Yushchenko himself spent most of his first year in office traveling around European capitals receiving awards. Warmly welcomed in the United States, which had quietly backed him during the Orange Revolution, he was given the rare honor of

addressing a joint session of Congress.

Back at home, President Yushchenko cultivated the image of a patrician, a man who dressed impeccably – his tie always matching his pocket square – but who remained connected to the land. He kept bees at his "dacha" and was known to leave ministers waiting on important matters of state while he watered the plants in his office.

Mr. Rybachuk, who later became Mr. Yushchenko's chief of staff, says the president could have used his great popularity to carry out desperately needed reforms.

"He could have done anything," Mr. Rybachuk says. "He could have changed the constitution, called for early parliamentary elections if he had used that peak of his popularity for the top priorities for the country. But what actually happened was that the best time of his presidency was almost wasted."

Tymoshenko obsession

Almost immediately after his election, Mr. Yushchenko became mired in infighting with Ms. Tymoshenko, whom he had named prime minister. He fired her in September 2005, after she had set price caps on basic goods and demanded the re-privatization of state assets, which prompted accusations of populism and authoritarianism.

The first public clash between President Yushchenko and his most important ally ushered in a bitter five-year standoff. Mr. Rybachuk says it also ended Mr. Yushchenko's vital political role of a uniter who'd brought Ukraine's fractious opposition together. No longer allied with the woman Ukrainians saw as an integral part of the Orange duo, Mr. Yushchenko saw his popularity plummet.

Mr. Rybachuk says he soon developed

an obsession with undermining Ms. Tymoshenko that bordered on the "paranoid."

"Ms. Tymoshenko became his only subject," Mr. Rybachuk says.

But Mr. Yushchenko's criticism only added to Ms. Tymoshenko's popularity. It also helped open the way for Mr. Yanukovich, the villain of the Orange Revolution, to emerge from political exile to take up the role of opposition leader.

After parliamentary elections in 2006 gave Ms. Tymoshenko's political bloc far more votes than Mr. Yushchenko's party, he restored Mr. Yanukovich as prime minister, joining forces with his old foe rather than seeing Ms. Tymoshenko return to power. That, too, backfired.

Mr. Yushchenko dismissed Mr. Yanukovich only months later, accusing him of trying to usurp power.

Ms. Tymoshenko made even greater advances in the next round of snap elections, this time leaving Mr. Yushchenko with no option but to agree to join her in a new Orange coalition. Still, he objected.

Dmitry Vydrin, then a close adviser to Ms. Tymoshenko, says Mr. Yushchenko disappeared during the negotiations.

"Ms. Tymoshenko was calling him every five minutes," Mr. Vydrin says. "It turns out he was at his dacha with his mobile phone switched off, turning over mint leaves drying in the sun. That was more important for him than the coalition."

"Mint represents the eternal for Mr. Yushchenko, the soul," Vydrin says. "The coalition was just temporary."

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

Quotable notes

"... a Yanukovich presidency is committed to the integration of European values in Ukraine. Ukraine should make use of its geopolitical advantages and become a bridge between Russia and the West. Developing a good relationship with the West and bridging the gap to Russia will help Ukraine. We should not be forced to make the false choice between the benefits of the East and those of the West. As president I will endeavor to build a bridge between both, not a one-way street in either direction. We are a nation with a European identity, but we have historic cultural and economic ties to Russia as well. The re-establishment of relations with the Russian Federation is consistent with our European ambitions. We will rebuild relations with Moscow as a strategic economic partner. There is no reason that good relations with all of our neighbors cannot be achieved.

"...my agenda – to restore economic vitality and calm the political turbulence that has plagued our nation; to enable Ukraine to take advantage of its natural positioning as a thriving bridge between Russia and the West; and finally, to prepare a free and open Ukraine, economically and politically, to join the European Union when the time comes. ..."

– President-elect Viktor Yanukovich, writing in the February 17 issue of *The Wall Street Journal, Opinion Europe*.

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Rada forms new Cabinet

After approving Mykola Azarov as prime minister of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada on March 11 appointed a new government. Ukrinform reported the following composition of the Cabinet of Ministers.

First Vice Prime Minister Andriy Kliuyev
 Vice Prime Minister Borys Kolesnikov
 Vice Prime Minister Volodymyr Semynozhenko
 Vice Prime Minister Volodymyr Sivkovich
 Vice Prime Minister Viktor Slauta
 Vice Prime Minister Sergey Tigipko
 Vice Prime Minister Viktor Tikhonov
 Environmental Protection Minister Viktor Boiko
 Fuel and Energy Minister Yuri Boiko
 Transport and Communications Minister Kostiantyn Yefimenko
 Industrial Policy Minister Dmytro Kolesnikov
 Culture and Tourism Minister Mykhailo Kuliniaka
 Justice Minister Oleksander Lavrynovych
 Health Minister Zynovii Mytnyk
 Internal Affairs Minister Anatoli Mohiliov
 Labor and Social Policy Minister Vasyl Nadraha
 Housing and Public Utilities Minister Oleksander Popov
 Agrarian Policy Minister Mykhailo Prysiazhniuk
 Minister for Families, Youth and Sports Ravil Safiullin
 Education Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk
 Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers Anatolii Tolstoukhov
 Economy Minister Vasyl Tsushko
 Finance Minister Fedir Yaroshenko
 Regional Development Minister Volodymyr Yatsuba
 Coal Industry Minister Yuri Yashchenko
 Emergencies Minister Nestor Shufrych
 Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko
 Defense Minister Mykhailo Yezhel

Changing the rules...

(Continued from page 1)

Self-Defense faction, which consists of as many as 15 groups that were negotiating separately and making their own demands.

Upon opening the March 11 parliamentary session, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn declared that the Stability and Reforms Coalition had been formed by the Party of Regions, the Communist Party of Ukraine, the Lytvyn Bloc, four rogue deputies and 17 defecting deputies from the Tymoshenko and Our Ukraine blocs.

Critics of the coalition derisively dubbed it the "Koalitsiya Tushok," or "Coalition of Animal Carcasses," referring to the rogue deputies who were tossed from their factions and, in theory at least, aren't supposed to influence events in Parliament.

With the amendment, the revised law on parliamentary rules of procedure states, "The coalition of deputies' factions in the Verkhovna Rada is formed by the election results and on the basis of agreed-upon political positions and on the basis – established by the Constitution and these rules of procedure – of unification of deputies' factions, national deputies [editor's note: the legislation inserts the words "national deputies"], into which the majority of national deputies from the Verkhovna Rada's constitutional composition enter."

Yet, Kyiv political expert and lawyer Ivan Lozowy said the law must conform to the Constitution. In this case, the law violates both its letter and its intent.

The procedural amendment of the regulations was unprecedented since the constitutional changes that took effect in January 2006, requiring factions to form coalitions. (Elected parties or blocs of parties automatically assume the status of factions, from which deputies can't leave or switch over based on an imperative mandate.)

Throughout his difficulties in dealing with the governments led by Prime Ministers Yanukovich and Tymoshenko, President Yushchenko never resorted to sidestepping the constitutionally established rules.

Outraged by the maneuver, the former president called for a national "defiance" to the coalition.

Lawyers from the Tymoshenko Bloc, as well as National Deputy Arseniy Yatsenyuk, said they will appeal the pro-

cedural changes in the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

Mr. Lozowy said the court isn't likely to overturn the legislation, regardless of how egregiously it fails to conform to the Constitution.

"The courts are like hired prostitutes, used and abused for so long that they'll agree to anything, including flagrant violations of the Constitution," he said. "They're paid well, particularly in situations like this."

After Mr. Lytvyn announced the new coalition, its members voted to approve the new Cabinet of Ministers.

They mustered 242 votes to elect as Ukraine's new prime minister Mykola Azarov, the geologist-turned-accountant who served as first vice prime minister in the 2006-2007 Cabinet led by Prime Minister Yanukovich.

He got his political debut in Kyiv serving as chair of Ukraine's State Tax Administration between 1996 and 2002, during which he drafted a notorious tax code that was used to persecute government opponents, observers said.

The phrase "Azarovschyna" emerged in early 2004 when Mr. Azarov served as first vice prime minister and finance minister to Prime Minister Yanukovich. It was coined by National Deputy Inna Bohoslovka to denote "disdain for one's own country's citizens and dislike towards Ukraine itself."

Mr. Azarov had persecuted, dismissed and ruined numerous government opponents by then, including opposition publications and politicians such as Ms. Tymoshenko, through his access to various government levers.

Ms. Tymoshenko has begun using the term "Azarovschyna" in her attacks on the Yanukovich government. "Azarovschyna is the disposal of budgetary funds as your own, with large kickbacks," Ms. Tymoshenko said in early February.

"Azarovschyna is the complete disregard for the law, including tax violations. Azarovschyna is the first time in Ukrainian history that minimum wages were lowered to the base indicators for pension payments. That's what happened in 2003 and 2004."

The third-place finisher in Ukraine's presidential election, Sergey Tigipko, agreed to become a vice prime minister in the new government.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's opposition will consist of two separate forces – those parties led by the Tymoshenko Bloc and those parties led by Mr. Yushchenko.

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The Ukrainian National Association exists:

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- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

Students from Ukraine spend two weeks in the United States

by Yulia Moroziuk

NEW YORK – Five teenagers from central and eastern Ukraine spent the first two weeks of the New Year with Ukrainian American families in the north-eastern United States thanks to a new program called SDI American Winter.

Conceived and promoted by the Social Development Institute Inc. of New York, and its president, Michael Kazarenko, a native of Donetsk in eastern Ukraine, the program enabled five students from Ukrainian schools in Kramatorsk and Kyiv to be invited to spend the first two weeks of January with Ukrainian American host families.

Sofiya Lukyanchuk, 16, Nadiya Rokytyanska, 16, and Oleksander Vasiliev, 16, from Kramatorsk participated in the program as winners of the Petro Jacyk International Ukrainian Language Competition; while the Syroduk sisters, Uliana, 17, and Natalia, 14, of Kyiv were recognized for their talents in, respectively, singing and painting.

The young Ukrainians spent their time in New York, New Jersey and the Washington area, in Falls Church and Vienna, Va., and Laurel, Md., residing with the Reuter, Olson, Graves and Brandafi families. Their travel to the U.S. was facilitated by Ukraine's Consulate General in New York, Consul General Serhiy Pohoreltsev and Consul Bohdan Movchan.

Bridging the gap

While western Ukrainians are closely acquainted with European and American lifestyles and thinking, many citizens in the central, eastern, and especially southern regions of Ukraine continue to think of the United States in terms of stereotypes promoted by various mass media. At the same time, in the most Russified territories of the east and south, western Ukrainians are often considered to be "hostile" towards the east.

Representatives of the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States suggested a new program for Ukrainian youth that was designed to help bridge the gap, counter these stereotypes and build dialogue.

"We invited a girl from eastern Ukraine not only to show her American life, but to show her the life of Ukrainians in America. Above all, we wanted her to know that there are Ukrainians outside of Ukraine who keep the traditions, language and culture even in mixed-heritage couples. My husband is American, but he learns Ukrainian, already sings our liturgy from memory, and tries to speak with our son only in Ukrainian," said Iryna Yasynska-Graves.

Nadiya Rokytyanska confessed that



Marta L. Kowalczyk-Reuter bids farewell to Sofiya Lukyanchuk from Kramatorsk, Ukraine.

before this trip she had been writing in Ukrainian for two years, but to speak in her native Ukrainian language in completely Russian-speaking surroundings seemed to her to be unrealistic. "And now in the U.S., I feel as if I visited western Ukraine. Among relatives of Mrs. Graves there were Sichovi Striltsi [Ukrainian Sich Rifleman] and soldiers of the UPA [Ukrainian Insurgent Army], about whom she told me a lot," Nadiya commented.

Program's beginnings

The genesis of this unique program can be traced to the Ukrainian American Youth Association's School of Ukrainian Studies in New York City. Five years ago the school community initiated a program for youths of Ukrainian descent to study the Ukrainian language, history and culture at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (KMA) in Ukraine. This was an intense immersion and study program, with four weeks of classroom work and multiple cultural excursions. It was also an inclusive program, open to any American, Canadian, Australian or European student of Ukrainian heritage who sought a learning-by-immersion experience.

The Social Development Institute, a not-for-profit charitable organization founded in 2007, has been collecting funds so that American students could participate in this program at reduced cost.

Last summer Mr. Kazarenko became acquainted with Marta Kowalczyk-Reuter, who along with her daughter, Melanie, attended the KMA Summer Program. Later that year, after the SDI American Winter program was established, it was necessary to locate host families willing to provide a memorable experience for the visiting students. Mrs. Reuter was particularly successful in identifying host families from the Washington area.

Mrs. Reuter was born in the United States to an ethnically mixed family long separated from the territory of present-day Ukraine. Her father was born in Krakow, Poland, into the Lemko-Ukrainian community that suffered a high degree of Polonization between the two world wars and afterwards the forced resettlement of Akcja Wisla. Her mother is German, not Ukrainian. Mrs. Reuter learned Ukrainian well enough to become a teacher of Ukrainian as a second language in the Washington-area School of Ukrainian Studies.

Mrs. Reuter's guest in January was Sofiya Lukyanchuk. "Although my father always speaks only in Ukrainian, I began to follow his example only two months before coming to the U.S., confessed Sofiya. "It seemed to me that I spoke Russian before, because I loved that language. However, when I was in the States, all the Ukrainian friends of the Reuters were surprised that in the Donbas people spoke Ukrainian so well. I understood then that, during all those years, despite having a mother tongue, I was using a foreign one. Now I do not want to be considered a Russified Ukrainian."

Each host family planned an ambitious agenda according to the preferences of their young guests. For example, Sofiya had an opportunity to study for a week at an American high school together with Melanie Reuter. The two girls are similar in age and both attend the ninth grade.

"Most children from eastern Ukraine have never been in its western regions, and vice-versa, and that is why they are afraid of each other," noted Natalya Olson, whose guest was Oleksander Vasiliev. "If only more Ukrainians saw how American people of different nationalities and religions live alongside each



Students from Ukraine (from left, beginning with second from left) Nataliya Sydoruk, Uliana Sydoruk, Oleksander Vasiliev, Nadiya Rokytyanska and Sofiya Lukyanchuk, with Natalia Brandafi (left) and Melanie Reuter (right) from their host families in the United States.

other, how they learned to respect each other, to live together, to work together."

Mrs. Olson offered Oleksander the opportunity to visit her parents, who live in Ivano-Frankivsk, western Ukraine. They will gladly show him the Carpathians during the summer. According to Mrs. Olson, "As these students share their personal experiences, they will find that this is the best way to move beyond stereotypes."

Supporters of the program

Money for airline tickets and medical insurance for the Ukrainian students was donated by Ukrainian immigrants to the U.S. Many of them came as displaced persons after World War II, while others came more recently as students or as economic refugees. Many eventually earned positions of responsibility in American corporations. "They are working, getting

used to American life, but don't forget about their motherland," Mr. Kazarenko underscored.

Almost all the donors were born in the western areas of Ukraine, and have no connections to the Donbas. What influenced them to support this project?

One of the sponsors answered: "My understanding is that a degree of Ukrainian proficiency is required of the student participants in the program. This probably puts them in a very uncomfortable position where they live. Some reward and encouragement to such students is appropriate."

Some of the financial sponsors' original donations were matched by the companies where they work. Support was also provided by the Jersey City, N.J., branch of Selfreliance Ukrainian American

(Continued on page 24)

UMANA FOUNDATION Scholarship WALTER AND OLGA PROKOPIW SCHOLARSHIP



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English version of "Bereza Kartuzka" documentary is released

MONTREAL – The English-language version of the feature documentary film "Bereza Kartuzka," by award-winning Montreal filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy, has now been completed and released on DVD.

"Bereza Kartuzka" tells the story of the infamous Polish concentration camp in which thousands of Ukrainian patriots were imprisoned between 1934 and 1939. The documentary recalls the political situation in western Ukraine under Polish occupation between the first and second world wars.

The English version is narrated by well-known Canadian filmmaker and writer Paul Almond. Voiceovers are by Canadian actor Lubomir Mykytiuk, known for his television, film and stage appearances, and writer Fran Ponomarenko.

"Bereza Kartuzka" incorporates rare footage of the concentration camp compound, unique archival film material and

commentaries by prominent historians and scholars. Some camp survivors now live in Canada and the United States. Along with other former prisoners, they speak out and many tell their story for the first time.

Upon viewing the documentary, Canadian filmmaker Alec MacLeod called it "a remarkably compelling and little-known story about the suffering by western Ukrainians at the hands of the Poles between the Wars."

Journalist Yaroslav Bihun of Washington, whose father was taken to Bereza Kartuzka, stated "Bereza is part of Ukrainian, Polish and world history, and should not be ignored or forgotten."

To arrange for a film screening readers may contact mmlinc@hotmail.com. DVDs of "Bereza Kartuzka" are available by calling 514-481-5871 or online at www.yluhovy.com. Price: \$34.95 plus shipping.



Actor Lubomir Mykytiuk (left) with film director Yuriy Luhovy preparing for the English voice-over of "Bereza Kartuzka" in the sound booth.



Volunteers and visitors at the Discover Ukraine booth at The New York Times Travel Show.

Travel to Ukraine...

(Continued from page 1)

Print materials, like the "Discover Ukraine" brochure and "Discover Ukraine Travel Guide," promote numerous travel agencies, hotels and airlines involved in Ukraine travel and are distributed to travel show attendees.

Ukrainian cultural and culinary presentations are typically included by the USUF at its travel events. Banner display stands advertise "Discover Ukraine ... the unexpected" and illustrate beautiful sights of Ukraine. Hi-tech-computer monitors also display colorful sights of Ukraine.

The New York Times Travel Show, one of North America's premier travel shows, attracting a unique global representation of the world's leading tourism markets, including Africa, Asia, Australia/the South Pacific, Canada, the Caribbean, Central America, Europe, Mexico, South America and the United States.

It is the fourth travel-related convention in which the Discover Ukraine exhibit has participated. Several weeks ago the exhibit was presented in Canada at Toronto's Ultimate Travel Show. The Canada Ukraine Foundation was the sponsoring organization at the Toronto show.

The USUF will continue its international exposure for Ukraine through upcoming travel shows, notably the JATA World Tourism Congress and Travel Fair in Tokyo during September.

For the second year at The New York Times Travel Show, the Veselka Restaurant of New York City displayed

talented dancers culinary expertise on-stage and distributed varenyky to a large crowd of attendees. Discover Ukraine's cultural program component included the talented dancers of the Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Whippany, N.J.

The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Academy was founded over 10 years ago as one of the studios of the late Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, a renowned teacher and choreographer. Iskra is currently under the artistic direction of Andriy Cybyk, and consists of over 80 students ranging in age from 6 to 21. Under Mr. Cybyk's tutelage, the students learn and perform folk dances from various areas of Ukraine, always with careful attention to ethnographic details in both costumes and choreography.

The USUF noted the interest and support of Serhii Pohoreltsev, consul general of Ukraine in New York, who visited the Discover Ukraine booth at The New York Times Travel Show.

Andriy Godovanets of the Voice of America also attended and filmed a portion of the Discover Ukraine activities.

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation staff and volunteers, including Mike Buryk, Stephan Buryk, Ken Davis, Iryna Kurowyckyj, Nadia McConnell and Oksana Yakovenko, worked the exhibit over the course of three days.

Readers who wish to learn how to participate in the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Discover Ukraine activities, may contact Ms. McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, via telephone, 202-223-2228 or e-mail, info@usukraine.org.

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The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Whippany, N.J.

A 50th birthday: Writer Yuri Andrukhovych, patriarch of Bu-Ba-Bu

by Michael M. Naydan

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. – On March 13, Yuri Andrukhovych, patriarch of Bu-Ba-Bu, turns a fabulous 50.

If you somehow happen to be unaware of the phenomenon of Bu-Ba-Bu (the first syllables of the words meaning burlesque-sideshow-buffoonery), it is the extraordinarily popular and innovative avant-garde literary performance group that Mr. Andrukhovych created in 1985 along with the poet Viktor Neborak and the comedic writer Oleksander Irvanets.

The group helped to transform the Ukrainian literary scene by attracting an entirely new generation of young and young-at-heart Ukrainians to a new Ukrainian literature that was free, inventive, wild and most of all – fun.

It was a literature that was linked to popular rock groups such as Plach Yermiyi (Jeremiah's Cry) and Mertvyi Piven (Dead Rooster), who turned works by the Bu-Ba-Bu writers into extremely popular songs, and to artists such as Yurko Kox, Volodya Kaufman and Volodymyr Kostyrko, who took part in multi-media performance-events, designed book covers, penned illustrations and created paintings in a carnivalizing style that playfully interacted with the works and irreverent attitude of Bu-Ba-Bu. It was a literature of performance for ever-increasing crowds of admirers. Bu-Ba-Bu's height of popularity culminated in the Chrysler Imperial multi-media "happening" at the Lviv Opera House in 1992 staged by Mr. Kaufman.

The essence of Bu-Ba-Bu and the Bu-Ba-Bu generation was the expression of aesthetic freedom – freedom from oppressive government controls over the arts and literature, as well as freedom from having to conform to the conservative Ukrainian literary past. The call was to reinvent, re-energize and modernize Ukrainian literature as something more universal that was attuned better to what was happening throughout the world. The call has been heeded and, in fact, has turned out to be greatly influential on other writers and the reading public in Ukraine.

This writer has known Mr. Andrukhovych for 17 years and I had read some of his works before we met. I first encountered him after a literary evening at the Lviv Philharmonic during the World Congress of Ukrainian Studies in Lviv in 1993. Oksana Zabuzhko intro-

Dr. Michael M. Naydan is Woskob Family Professor of Ukrainian Studies and professor of Slavic languages and literatures at The Pennsylvania State University.

duced me to him, as well as to the poet Mr. Neborak. I bought an autographed copy of Mr. Neborak's ground-breaking collection "The Flying Head" then, which I eventually published in English translation nearly a dozen years later.

While our first encounter was pleasant but very brief at the Philharmonic, Yuri and I were to meet in subsequent years many times both in Ukraine and in the U.S. I later was to publish several of his poems and his novel "Perverzion" in my English translations.

Yuri spent 10 months at my university (Penn State) in 2000-2001 on a Fulbright Grant with his wife, Nina, and their two then teenage children, Sophia and Taras. Sophia herself has since become a prose writer of note. Yuri was invaluable to me both as a friend and as a helpful resource for me, and I would say that on occasion he even acted as a co-conspirator in my translation of his brilliant but extremely complicated novel *Perverzion*, which came out in 2005 with Northwestern University Press. I document some of our collaboration on the translation in my 2003 article published in *Yale Journal of Criticism*, "Translating a Novel's Novelty: Yuri Andrukhovych's 'Perverzion' in English."

Together with my actor friend Michael Bernosky, Yuri and I also performed numerous bilingual public readings of excerpts from the novel and his poetry throughout the U.S. and Canada. We currently have plans to create a CD of dramatic readings from the novel in English with Yuri's authorial introductions and with improvisational musical accompaniment. This, we hope, will help serve as a kind of guide for readers to show them how to read the novel as a performative text.

Mr. Andrukhovych has always promoted a Western, European orientation for Ukrainian literature, and has been an extraordinary ambassador for Ukrainian culture, traveling throughout Europe and becoming particularly popular in neighboring Poland and the German-speaking countries. His excellent speaking skills in Polish, German, Russian and English allow him to communicate directly with diverse audiences. Many of his writings have been translated into English, German, French, Italian, Czech, Russian, Polish, Serbian, Bulgarian, Finnish and other languages.

The positive reception of Yuri and his works can be attested to by his frequent invitations to be a writer in residence in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, as well as by his numerous European literary prizes, including the Herder Prize (2001), the Erich Maria Remarque Prize (2005), the Leipzig Book Fair Prize for European Understanding (2006) and the Angelus Prize (2006). Mr. Andrukhovych twice has



Yuri Andrukhovych in his home in Ivano-Frankivsk in March 2007.

delivered invited lectures to the European Parliament and continues to be a thoughtful and articulate voice for the Ukrainian nation, although he would be the first to insist on his right to aesthetic freedom and to express what he feels he must write and say, to be a citizen of the world.

While some of the more conservative elements in Ukrainian culture have criticized Mr. Andrukhovych for his use of scatological language and candid depictions of sex in his works, he has been able to help reinvigorate the Ukrainian literary language and to draw an extraordinary amount of attention to Ukrainian literature and to bring it into dialogue with the contemporary world. As many writers, Yuri began as a poet. His poetry collections include "The Sky and City Squares" (1985), "Downtown" (1989), "Exotic Birds and Plants" (1991), "Exotic Birds and Plants with 'India' Added" (1997) with imaginative illustrations by Yurko Izdryk, and "Songs for a Dead Rooster" (2004). Many of his poems are even more popular as songs, such as "The Griffin" and "The Viper" by Plach Yermiyi.

He also has translated into Ukrainian the poems of American Beat and New York School poets that came out in the volume "The Day Lady Day Died" (2006). (Lady Day was the nickname for the prominent jazz singer Billie Holliday). He also translated Shakespeare's *Hamlet* into Ukrainian, which had great success on the Ukrainian stage and was published in 2008.

Mr. Andrukhovych is perhaps best known as a prose writer and novelist. His first prose publications included a cycle of realistic short stories on Soviet military life, "To the Left Where the Heart Is" (1989), which was followed by "Recreations" (1992), "The Moscoviad"

(1993), "Perverzion" (1996), "Twelve Rings" (2003) and the largely autobiographical "A Mystery: Instead of a Novel" (2007). ("Recreations" is available in Mark Pavlyshyn's translation, "The Moscoviad" in Vitaly Chernetsky's, and "Perverzion" in my translation.

"The Moscoviad" is a biting satire of the last throes of the crumbling Soviet empire as experienced by the Ukrainian poet Otto von F. in its Moscow capital. "Perverzion" to my mind remains the most imaginative and brilliantly written of his novels, though it is not particularly easy for the casual reader. It is also the most playful of his works, though it does deal with quite serious philosophical questions such as good vs. evil, mortality and immortality, and love. When I teach the novel to students, I often compare its inherent complexity and multiplicity of narrative voices to James Joyce's "Ulysses."

Yuri invariably links his transition from poetry to prose by always depicting poets as the main heroes of his novels. Bohdan Ihor Antonych, for example, provides the model for "Twelve Rings." At times Mr. Andrukhovych even includes poems in his prose texts. The style of his writing is elegant and often times poetic. He has a penchant for using a great amount of irony, parody, wit and verbal play in his writings. These all comprise common characteristics of post-modernist writing.

Mr. Andrukhovych has also made enormous contributions to Ukrainian culture in the genre of the essay, focusing in large part on Halychyna and the Austro-Hungarian Empire, as well as on the return of Ukraine back to its European roots. His collections of essays include

(Continued on page 18)



On the streets of Lviv spring 1999 (from left): Viktor Neborak, Volodya Kaufman and Yuri Andrukhovych.



Yuri Andrukhovych with the members of Mertvyi Piven just before a book presentation and performance at Hnat Khotkevych Palace of Culture in Lviv in April 2007.

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Dumka Chorus prepares to celebrate its 60th anniversary

by Helen Smindak

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

NEW YORK – The sound of a mixed chorus singing a capella in Old Church Slavonic swelled to a crescendo, hushed to a whisper, then rose again, carrying the glorious notes of a sacred concerto by Dmytro Bortniansky through the lower halls of St. George Church in the East Village.

Conductor Vasyl Hrechynsky lowered his hands, and the men and women of the 50-voice Dumka Chorus sat back in their chairs, enjoying a few moments of conversation before the conductor's brisk handclap called them back to rehearsal mode. "Now let's try [Andriy] Hnatyshyn's kolomyika," he called out. With tenors Oleh Kukil and Borys Kekish as soloists, the ensemble swung into the exuberant dance music of the Carpathian Mountains' Hutsul region.

It was a wintry Sunday afternoon, a time when most people were enjoying a quiet family gathering, watching televised Olympic Games, or clearing snow-laden walks and driveways. For the members of New York's Ukrainian Chorus Dumka, it was a four-hour span of practicing Ukrainian folk songs, sacred music and excerpts from operatic works, honing their voices in preparation for a milestone event – Dumka's 60th anniversary concert, scheduled for March 28 at the prestigious Merkin Hall on the periphery of Lincoln Center.

Preparing for this significant occasion, two branches of the chorus came together to blend voices as a single unit. New Jersey members, who meet for Wednesday night rehearsals at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Center in South Bound Brook, N.J., joined the main force, which gathers for rehearsals on Friday evenings at the spacious Dumka quarters in the St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church complex.

Music and camaraderie

As singers mingled around a food-laden buffet table during a refreshing luncheon break, brothers Ronald and Paul Liteplo said that a gratifying combination of music and camaraderie has kept them in Dumka's ranks for over 20 years – and they don't plan to retire just yet.

Baritone Volodymyr Kornaha, a member of the choir of Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church in Astoria, Queens, declared "I absolutely love singing," to explain why he's been attending Dumka rehearsals and performances without pause, also for more than 20 years, like 18 other chorus members who have dedicated more than two decades of service to Dumka.

"Most of our members sing in church choirs," said Ihor Jadrlicky, former Dumka president. "The men and women who belong to our chorus come from New York City's five boroughs, from towns in New Jersey, and even from as far away as Yonkers and Tarrytown north of New York, as well as Connecticut. Many of them spend countless hours to get to a rehearsal, and just as long to return home – but their commitment to Dumka is unshakeable."

He said some of Dumka's male members gained their early vocal training with the Young Dumka Chorus, which was active in the 1950s.

Mr. Hrechynsky, who has served as Dumka's conductor and music director for 19 years, is seen as the linchpin that keeps the chorus on track and in perfect pitch. A quiet-mannered man who (according to his flock) turns into a "very demanding conductor because his standards are extremely high," he is greatly admired by the choristers for his professionalism and deep commitment to Ukrainian music.

Before coming to New York in 1991, Mr. Hrechynsky was choirmaster of the Lviv Theater of Opera and Ballet, conductor of several Lviv choirs, and an instructor of conducting at Lviv Conservatory, from



The Dumka Chorus of New York.

Rehearsal for March 28 concert

which he received a degree in choral conducting and choral music. He completed advanced studies in conducting at Moscow Conservatory and holds a master of music degree from Rider University's Westminster Choir College in New Jersey.

Mr. Hrechynsky continues a tradition of illustrious conductors who have served the company from the time of its founding as a male chorus in 1949 to the present: Leonty Krushelnicky, Alexander Bernyk, Oleksander Mykytiuk, Ihor Sonevytsky, Ivan Zadorozny, Ivan Zukowsky and Semen Komirny. (Mr. Komirny led the chorus for 17 years.)

An impressive record

Since its transformation to a mixed chorus in 1959, Dumka has racked up a highly impressive performance record, including appearances at New York City's venerable St. Patrick's Cathedral and Carnegie Hall, the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, and the Garden State Arts Center in New Jersey. The chorus has also performed in Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia, Toronto and Montreal.

Observing its 35th anniversary with a European concert tour in 1985, Dumka gave performances in England, Austria, Germany and France. Three years later, for the celebration of the Millennium of Ukrainian Christianity, the chorus presented concerts of Ukrainian religious music in leading cities in England, Germany and France.

Dumka's crowning achievement came in 1990, when the chorus gave its first performances in Ukraine, appearing before cheering audiences in Kyiv, Lviv and Poltava.

The chorus performs at summer festivals at the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka resort, and presents Christmas concerts in January at Ukrainian churches in the Greater New York and New Jersey area.

The march-tempo "Battle Hymn of the Republic" received a stirring rendition as the practice session continued, contrasting vividly with the reverential tones of "Ave Maria," beautifully sung by soprano Tamara Vashchenko with violin accompaniment by Mr. Kukil.

During a short break, Mr. Hrechynsky chatted with me about the concert program, which will spotlight various facets of Ukrainian culture, including folk songs like Stanislav Liudkevych's "As the Night Embraces Me" and Mykola Leontovych's "Oh, Grey Cuckoo," a work to be offered by the women's chorus. The cherished poetry of Ukraine's national bard, Taras Shevchenko, will be heard in two selections: his exalted "Dumy Moyi," with music by Mykola Kolessa, and "The Dnipro River Roars," set to music by Denys Sichynsky.

"We're also doing the unforgettable 'Va Pensiero,' the chorus of the Hebrew slaves from Verdi's opera 'Nabucco,'" he said, "and the finale from Lysenko's Cantata 'Rejoice, Ye Unwatered Field.'"

Folk songs will include Anatol Kos-Anatolsky's "Oh, My Beloved," set to the poetry of Ivan Franko, and two works of Yevhen Kozak – his exciting "Fantasy on Ukrainian Folk songs" and the enchanting song "The Shepherd."

"Nineteen years is a significant portion of Dumka's history," Mr. Hrechynsky said. "Those years have been filled with different repertoires and programs. What's most important are the members, who decided to cultivate Ukrainian music in the U.S."

Mr. Kekish, who heads the chorus's executive board, said Dumka's founders were intent on preserving and cultivating Ukraine's rich secular and religious musi-

cal heritage. "We try to hold to that purpose; sometimes we test our mettle on other music as well," he noted.

Besides Messrs. Kekish and Kukil and Ms. Vashchenko, soloists include Sviatoslava Kaczaraj, Ronald Liteplo, Mykola Lutsak and Ihor Stasiuk. Concertmasters Larisa Gutnikevich and Natalia Vashchenko, both of whom studied in Lviv, will provide piano accompaniment.

Appearing as guest artists, Lviv-born violinist Iryna Kit and pianist Sviatoslav Demochko, a native of Zbarazh, Ukraine, will perform the composition "Melody" from the movie "The High Pass," a Soviet film about Ukrainians fighting for Ukraine's independence who are portrayed as bandits.

Ms. Kit, 19, a senior at LaGuardia High School of Music, Art and Performing Arts and a member of Kaufman Center's Young Artist Program, often appears as soloist with New York City chamber groups. Mr. Demochko, 15, also a member of the Young Artist Program, who has appeared at Merkin Hall, the Ann Goodman Recital and other venues, will give a solo performance of "Dumka-Shumka," Lysenko's second rhapsody on Ukrainian themes.

Dumka executive members see the young artists as the future of Ukrainian music who will continue to preserve the Ukrainian musical heritage.

The 60th anniversary celebration is organized by Ronald and Paul Liteplo and Mr. Jadrlicky, assisted by Mr. Kekish and executive board members Alexandra Jablonskyj, Larissa Lawrynenko, Svitlana Makhno, Roxolana Podpirka, George Semeniuk and Mr. Kornaha.

Concert tickets may be purchased in advance exclusively through Merkin Hall at 212-501-3330, or at the box office on the day of the performance.



Violinist Iryna Kit.



Pianist Sviatoslav Demochko.



Conductor Vasyl Hrechynsky.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

issue "was only starting" for the European Parliament, and he thanked the regional councils of Ukraine's western regions, which asked the European Parliament to cancel a clause of its resolution on Bandera. He added said that, in passing such a clause of the resolution on the situation in Ukraine, there was "an active side that initiated and [provoked] them [members of the European Parliament] in every way possible," but he declined to specify who that was. Mr. Yushchenko described his decision to award the Hero of Ukraine title to Bandera as a

conscious one, and said that Bandera and Roman Shukhevych had brought Ukraine closer to its independence, so, in his opinion, they were heroes. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Rada OKs new way to form coalition

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on March 9 amended Article 61 of Ukraine's Law on the Regulations of the Verkhovna Rada, giving the go-ahead to the formation of a coalition by not only factions, but also by individual national deputies. A total of 235 deputies voted in favor of the change. According to the amendment, a coalition is "a union of deputies' factions, national deputies formed on the basis of election returns and common

political grounds with a majority of national deputies of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada." At the same time, a motion concerning the formation of a coalition with deputies' factions was removed from the Verkhovna Rada regulations. A coalition agreement on the creation of the parliamentary majority will be attached with a list of national deputies who enter the coalition. The time periods for the formation of a coalition remain unchanged: a coalition must be formed within a month after the day of the first meeting of the newly elected Verkhovna Rada, or within a month after the day of the break-up of a previous coalition. It is foreseen that the Party of Regions intends to form a coalition with the Communist Party of Ukraine and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc. (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich signs Rada regulations law

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich met leaders of the parliamentary factions on March 10, the presidential press service reported. He stated: "It is necessary to find a political will to create a majority in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. And the Ukrainian community and our world partners expect political stability in our state. That is why I ask you to decide." After the discussion, which also involved Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, the president signed the Law on Regulations of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and reiterated the importance of early formation of a parliamentary majority and effective government. (Ukrinform)

Tigipko comments on rules change

KYIV – Changing the way a parliamentary coalition is formed is a political raider attack, said Sergei Tigipko, who came in third in the first round of the presidential elections. Speaking in a March 5 interview with the TBI channel, he was commenting on the adoption in its first reading of the amendments to the Verkhovna Rada's regulations. "This is going to be a colossal mistake of Yanukovich, too, should he sign this law, as well as of the majority and the Party of Regions, if they resort to this, because this is a direct violation of the Constitution," Mr. Tigipko said. "Not a single fair person will support this authority, which means no real changes will be made, because reforms take the support of the public. And if they [politicians] do so, they will immediately lose the support of the West, Western investors. I mean the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and then we will have a weak hryvnia and other aftereffects," he added. "This will practically be a political raider attack." Mr. Tigipko predicted a powerful consolidation of democratic forces against President Yanukovich, the Party of Regions and the majority coalition in the Verkhovna Rada. The way out of the situation, he suggested, are early parliamentary elections and a new Parliament, "which will create a legitimate coalition and will not be afraid of making unpopular reforms." He added, "A stable majority is possible only through new parliamentary elections." (Ukrinform)

Yanukovich meets G-8, EU ambassadors

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich on March 10 met with ambassadors to Ukraine from the Group of Eight and the European Union in order to inform them about the process of forming a parliamentary coalition and a new government, as well as share his vision of possible scenarios of political developments in Ukraine. In turn, the ambassadors disclosed their views on recent developments in Ukraine. The diplomats welcomed the fact that President Yanukovich met with them before signing the amended Law on Regulations of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. They also stressed the importance of Mr. Yanukovich's decision to go to the Constitutional Court asking it

to consider and produce a verdict on the legality of the coalition and government, being formed amid new conditions, as soon as possible. The ambassadors also pointed out that Ukraine's partners need stability; President Yanukovich emphasized the Ukrainian nation also needs stability. That, he said, is the main prerequisite for successful introduction of changes and reforms. Therefore, he stressed, it is important to quickly form an effective and professional government. The foreign diplomats said the international community is ready to cooperate with Ukraine's new leadership in order to achieve stability and implementation of reforms. (Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko declared opposition leader

KYIV – The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, (YTB), the People's Movement of Ukraine (Rukh), the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), the Party of the Defenders of the Fatherland (PDF) and the public movement People's Self-Defense (PSD) formed an opposition at a March 9 rally in Kyiv. Participants in the meeting dedicated to the 196th anniversary of Taras Shevchenko's birth elected Yulia Tymoshenko a leader of the united democratic opposition. (Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko on partnership with U.S.

KYIV – Meeting on February 25 with Gen. James L. Jones, national security advisor to U.S. President Barack Obama, Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said she will maintain the strategic partnership with the United States irrespective of her further political activity – either as a government official or as an oppositionist. Gen. Jones was in Kyiv to attend President Viktor Yanukovich's swearing-in ceremony. "I would like all achievements between our states to be continued regardless of whether I and my team are in office or in opposition. We will always maintain the strategic partnership," Ms. Tymoshenko stated, adding that the Ukraine-U.S. Strategic Partnership Charter and the Road Map for Cooperation are key instruments for efficient cooperation. (Ukrinform)

Azarov is acting head of PRU faction

KYIV – Party of Regions National Deputy Mykola Azarov was appointed acting chairman of the party faction in the Parliament, Oleksander Yefremov, the deputy head of the PRU faction, said on March 1. "As Viktor Yanukovich took office, he is not entitled to combine jobs, so Mykola Azarov will hold this post until the party rally," Mr. Yefremov explained. Mr. Yefremov also added that the Party of Regions had not yet decided on the date of the rally, which is to elect a party leader and head of the party faction. (Ukrinform)

Lytvyn: Rada will back consortium

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said he is confident that all political forces will support the creation of a gas transit consortium involving Ukraine, Russia and Europe on a parity basis. Speaking live on the Inter TV Channel on March 9, he said: "If the matter concerns a gas transit consortium,... so that resources of every state are invested proportionally, I am sure that both Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and all other political forces will back such an approach. Moreover, Ukrainian society will accept this easily." He said that, when such a consortium is set up, Ukraine must get access to the development and use of gas fields in Russia, as well as financial and technological support from the European Union. According to Mr. Lytvyn, if such an agreement includes those provisions, its creation would not face criticism in Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

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Obituaries...

(Continued from page 4)

among others – 47 Ukrainian writers in all, according to the Financial Times.

Ms. Rich was the also author of several collections of her own poetry, most notably "Outlines" (1960) and "Portents and Images" (1964).

She was born on April 24, 1936, in London as Faith Elizabeth Joan. An obituary in the Financial Times reported that she came into contact with post-World War II Ukrainian refugees who settled in Britain through her mother's work with the Red Cross. From a young age, she translated Ukrainian and Belarusian works into English.

She studied at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, in 1955-1957 and then at Bedford College in London in 1958-1961.

Her first published translation, in 1957, was of the prologue to Franko's poem "Moses." In 1997, on the 40th anniversary of that publication, she was honored by the Ukrainian Writers Union with the Ivan Franko Prize.

She was best known for "Song Out of Darkness," a collection of her translations of Shevchenko's most significant poems that was released in London in 1961 on the occasion of the centennial of the poet's death.

It is an excerpt from Ms. Rich's translation of "The Caucasus" that appears on the monument to Shevchenko erected in Washington in 1964.

Ms. Rich was known also as a human right activist who supported the activity of Solidarity in Poland and wrote about Soviet abuse of psychiatry, including the case of Ukrainian political prisoner Leonid Plyushch.

After Ukraine re-established its independence, Ms. Rich traveled there regularly. In 2007 she was awarded the state Order of Princess Olha for her contributions to Ukrainian culture.

Since 2006, Ms. Rich was a contributor to *Ukrainska Dumka/Ukrainian Thought*, a newspaper serving the

Ukrainian community of the United Kingdom.

In 2007, with the support of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, a volume of Ms. Rich's translation of selected Shevchenko works (with a foreword by Ivan Dzyuba), was published in Ukraine.

As noted in the Financial Times, at the time of her death Ms. Rich was working on completing a translation of Shevchenko's "Kobzar" in time for the 150th anniversary of the poet's death, which will be marked in 2011.

Victor Pedenko, 72, officer of Ukrainian World Congress

LONDON, Ontario – Victor Pedenko, former general secretary of the Ukrainian World Congress, died on November 29, 2009. He was 72.

He was born in 1937 in the Donetsk region of Ukraine.

In Canada, he was active in diverse Ukrainian community organizations, and he held leadership positions in the Ukrainian Youth Association of Canada, the Organization of Democratic Ukrainian Youth of London, Ontario, and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Toronto branch.

Mr. Pedenko began his work with the Ukrainian World Congress (then known as the World Congress of Free Ukrainians) in 1976 as a member of its plenum and on the World Educational Coordinating Council. In

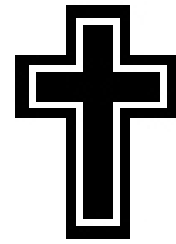
1998 he was elected general secretary of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC).

As a UWC officer, from 1998 through 2008 he visited Ukrainian communities around the globe and participated in numerous international forums and conferences. He was the UWC representative to the Kyiv-based Ukrainian World Coordinating Council and he headed a mission of election observers in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian World Congress noted that Mr. Pedenko "worked tirelessly throughout his life for the good of Ukraine and all things Ukrainian." In recognition of his work, he was received many awards.

In August 2009, the Ukrainian World Congress honored Mr. Pedenko for his many years of exemplary service by presenting him its highest honor: the Medal of St. Volodymyr the Great. Mr. Pedenko was also honored by Ukraine, receiving the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise (third degree); by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, being awarded the Order of Prince Volodymyr the Great (third degree); and by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, which awarded him the Taras Shevchenko Medal.

Surviving are Mr. Pedenko's wife, Halyna, as well as their children and grandchildren.



Fifth Anniversary

Dr Wasyl Kostrubiak departed to God March 15 of 2005.

He will be always remembered dearly by his wife, Regina.

Prayers for the rest of his soul, are requested by his family members in Ukraine, the United States and Spain.

The mass for the eternal rest of his soul will be celebrated at the Church of St. John the Baptist in Oviedo (Spain), on Sunday, March 14, 2010.



З глибоким смутком ділимося сумною вісткою, що в понеділок, 22-го лютого 2010 р. на 59-му році життя відійшла у вічність наша найдорожча дружина, мама, доня, сестра і тета

СВ. П.

Марта Костик Зарицька



Народилася 9 листопада 1951 року в Зальцбургу, Австрія. Закінчила вищі студії в Brooklyn College, де отримала титул магістра з творчого мистецтва. Вона була доволі довголітньою виховницею СУМ-у в Нью-Йорку та на зимових таборах у 1980-их роках. Марта була активним членом Організації Українських Націоналістів та в 1987, 1989 і 1990 роках подорожувала в Україну як кур'єр від Головного Проводу ОУН. В тих часах під патронатом УЦІС вона редагувала і розповсюджувала відео історію "Жива Історія України", яка висвітлювала поточні події в Україні.

Разом з мужем Володимиром останніх десять років організувала круглі столи т. з. "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood" та численні конференції, пов'язані з побудовою Української Держави.

Похоронні відправи і Панахида відбулися в церкві св. Юра в Нью-Йорку, а похована на цвинтарі св. Духа в Гемптонбургу, Н. Й.

Залишилися в глибокому смутку:

- Муж – д-р. Володимир Зарицький
- Доня – Зоряна
- Мама – Людмила Костик
- Сестри – Дарія Томашоска з мужем Генєм і дітьми: Генєм мол. з дружиною Христею і донею Валею, Ляриса з мужем Стівен і дітьми Колею та Ізабелою і Павло (Папі) – Ніна Костик та доні Ванеса і Таня
- Двоюродна – Зеня Бенюк з сином Тарасом Випринюком з дружиною Христиною і сином Николасом
- Швагер – Богдан Зарицький з дружиною Пам і дітьми Богданом з дружиною Пат з донею Кейлі та Трой і Автом

Вічна їй пам'ять!

Замість квітів просимо складати пожертви на:
Marta Kostyk Memorial Fund, AFPC/CUSUR
309 Rain Water Way, Suite 303, Glen Burnie, MD 21060.

У 10 дуже болючу і невіджалувану річницю смерти мого найдорожчого і незабутнього МУЖА, БАТЬКА, ДІДА І БРАТА

СВ. П.

д-ра ЮРІЯ ДИЦЬО

а також

У річницю смерти моїх родичів

бл. п.

о. крилошанина

ВАСИЛЯ І ОЛЕНИ ТАНЧАК

а також

У річницю загибелі мого брата

старшини Української Дивізії

СВ. П.

МИРОНА ТАНЧАКА

СВЯТІ СЛУЖБИ БОЖІ

будуть відправлені у таких церквах:

- Входу в Храм Пресвятої Богородиці, Норт Порт, Фла.;
- В приватній каплиці, Норт Порт, Фла.;
- Св. Тройці, Люїстон, Мейн;
- В Бразилії.

Про молитви за їх душі просить д-р Марія Дицьо з родиною.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline: Tuesday noon before the newspaper's date of issue.
Rate: \$7.50 per column-inch.
Telephone 973-292-9800, ext. 3040; e-mail, adsukrpubl@att.net.
Please include the daytime phone number of a contact person.

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

“Ridna Shkola” in Houston honors Taras Shevchenko

HOUSTON – Houston’s School of Ukrainian Studies (“Ridna Shkola”) and the Ukrainian community in Houston, honored Ukraine’s national bard, Taras Shevchenko, with a short program on Sunday, March 7, at the Protection of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church’s parish hall in Houston. The director of Ridna Shkola, Vasyl Dijak, opened the program with a brief history about Taras Shevchenko and presented a slide show of Shevchenko’s art. Students (seen on the right) took turns reciting poetry written by the revered bard. Guitarist Roman Cherwonogrodsky performed four songs written to words by Shevchenko and the program closed with the Rev. Mykola Dovzhuk commenting on the many talents of Shevchenko and his recognition around the world. A pot luck luncheon followed and was enjoyed by all in attendance.

– Martha Noukas



A 50th birthday...

(Continued from page 13)

“Disorientation in Locality” (1999), “My Europe” (with Polish writer Andrzej Stasiuk; 2001) and “The Devil is Hiding in the Cheese” (2006). I published an English translation of one of his quite thought-provoking longer philosophical essays under the title “Within Time, Down a River” in issue No. 52 of the literary journal AGNI when it was under

Askold Melnyczyuk’s editorship.

A selected works edition of Mr. Andrukhovych’s early works was recently published by Piramida Publishers in Lviv under the title “My Final Territory. Selected Works: Poetry, Prose and Essays” (2009). Mr. Andrukhovych is currently working on a book-length collection of his essays on 111 cities of the world.

In addition to these aforementioned literary activities, he edits the Internet journal of literature and ideas Train-76 ([http://](http://www.potyah76.org.ua)

www.potyah76.org.ua), writes countless articles for the Ukrainian and European press, and at times performs live with the Wroclaw-based experimental jazz band Karbido. One of his most recent multimedia releases is a CD titled “Criminal Sonnets” (2008), which consists of Mr. Andrukhovych reading poems accompanied by Mertvyi Piven with its lead singer, Mykhailo Barbara, as lead vocal.

Yuri Andrukhovych has done much to transform the image of the Ukrainian writer and intellectual into someone cool and hip, someone who experiences life to the fullest, someone who can be emulated and respected, someone who represents an articulate voice on an equal footing with any other intellectual voices in the world community. He is also incredibly

generous and a promoter of other younger Ukrainian authors who seek out his counsel. He and the other writers of his generation who have learned the languages of Europe have become great emissaries for Ukraine and its culture, much more so than any of Ukraine’s insular politicians.

He is truly the phenomenon of Stanislaviv (the older name of his home town of Ivano-Frankivsk) and, of course, the central figure in the so-designated Stanislaviv Phenomenon, the group of truly outstanding writers, who have emerged from that particular hotbed of creativity in Ukraine. On his 50th birthday we wish him continued great success and inspiration. May the Muses always be kind to him, and may he repay them with many more of his fine works.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



UKRAINIAN SELFRELIANCE
Federal Credit Union
Philadelphia, PA

will hold its Annual Meeting on
Sunday, March 28, 2010
at 2:00 PM

The Gallery
Ukrainian Educational & Cultural Center
700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA

Registration of members starts
at 1:00 PM

Please remember to bring your passbook.

Notice to publishers and authors

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

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: Editorial Staff, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

To The Weekly Contributors:

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

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

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E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS: Materials may be sent to The Weekly also via e-mail to the address staff@ukrweekly.com.

Please call or send query via e-mail before electronically sending anything other than Word documents. This applies especially to photos, as they must be scanned according to our specifications in order to be properly reproduced in our newspaper.

Any questions? Call 973-292-9800.

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

St. Nicholas open house attracts new families

CHICAGO – It was Open House day at St. Nicholas Cathedral School in Chicago on Sunday, January 31.

A lot of effort had been made by parents and students to let family and friends know about the success of this community jewel. Postcards were distributed in churches promoting the academic success of the school, its excellent record in graduate acceptances at top local high schools, its dedication to the Byzantine Catholic tradition, and

its disciplined, focused environment.

Many local families arrived for the open house, speaking with teachers, touring classrooms and seeing the work of the students, including submissions to the recent Science Fair. They also heard the school's talented choir perform Christmas carols in several languages.

Visitors commented on the knowledge and manners of the students and the enthusiasm and dedication of the faculty.



Kindergarten teacher Christine DiCosola explains her program.



The school choir performs for open house attendees.



A view of the Science Fair projects.

Winter events at Philadelphia area's UECC

by Andrea Zharovsky

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, along with co-sponsor New Ukrainian Wave (NUW), invited the community on January 24 to celebrate one of the most interesting Ukrainian holy days – the night before the old New Year. This celebration comes from ancient, pre-Christian customs and pays homage to St. Melania in particular.

On this night in Ukraine, carolers traditionally went from house to house playing pranks or acting out a small play, with a bachelor dressed in women's clothing leading the troupe.

The event at the UECC began with a blessing by the Rev. Volodymyr Kostyuk of St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church and a community meal featuring the main dishes at Christmastime in Ukraine: borsch, varenyky, holubtsi, mushroom gravy, uzvar and kutia. Guests began the meal with a sip of blessed water.

After the meal, guests were invited to a traditional Ukrainian home. The stage was transformed into that home with decorative kylims, an old wood stove and embroidered ritual cloths. The theatrical performance, titled "Z Novym Rokom, Z Novym Schastiam..." (With the New Year, New Fortune...), featured humorous interpretative skits about St. Melania, the New Year and Schedryi Vechir.

Thirty members of NUW's Philadelphia branch, dressed in colorful costumes from every region of Ukraine, took part in the performance on stage.

Many talented people were responsible for the performance's success including Vira Hubitska (scriptwriter), Oksana Hladio (director) and Maria Kaminska (musical director).

The Philadelphia branch of New Ukrainian Wave, founded in November 2008, became a member of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in February 2009. Nadya Petrik, president of the Philadelphia branch, announced that members of NUW had decided to form a small drama troupe and that the first official performance of the group would be during the Taras Shevchenko concert to be held in March at the UECC.

In December 2009, the UECC had welcomed winter and its beautiful Ukrainian Christmas traditions, as a group of UECC volunteers found time to make the Christmas season special for the Ukrainian community.

The UECC physically was transformed through decorations, as the Beautification Committee, chaired by Laryssa

Krywusha, organized a group of volunteers who decorated every possible corner of the UECC.

The annual Christmas Bazaar was held on Saturday, December 12, 2009. Guests couldn't help wandering into the food court area off the main hall and sitting down to eat – the space was filled with smells of borsch, varenyky, holubtsi, potato pancakes, kovbasa and kapusta. The upstairs "Khatynka" in the gallery had a small kitchen, reinvented as a typical Ukrainian village home and decorated to invoke memories of another time. As the head "hospodynia," Ms. Krywusha tempted all with handmade canapés, pickled herring and shots of horilka.

The bazaar featured 35 vendors with wares ranging from holiday crafts, jewelry, pysanky, Ukrainian holiday cards, fine art and hand-embroidered items to clothing, scarves, t-shirts, DVDs, CDs and books. Western Union supported the bazaar with a raffle and prizes for UECC guests.

Western Union also presented a check to the UECC for \$5,000 for its English Language Program. This money funds the free English as a Second Language Program (Levels I and II), which currently has 47 students and meets on Monday and Tuesday nights.

Guests to the bazaar were entertained with a program that included the children's choir of the Ukrainian Heritage School, the Vyshyvanka Quintet, the children of Svitlychka, members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, the children's choir of the Ukrainian Music Institute and a special appearance by St. Nicholas. There were also raffles by Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and MB Financial.

The UECC greeted New Year's on Thursday, December 31, 2009, in the main hall with 200 guests dancing to the music of Fata Morgana. With the hall elegantly dressed and sparkling with lights,

(Continued on page 24)



The New Ukrainian Wave Theater Ensemble with Borys Pawluk (far right), president of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center.

President...

(Continued from page 3)

tion would remain a priority.

"Our priorities will include integration into the European Union," he said, "bringing up friendly and constructive relations with the Russian Federation, developing friendly relations with the neighboring partners, and strategic partners like the United States of America, and getting back on track our relations with the International Monetary Fund and other international financial organizations."

Mr. Yankovych's most pressing task remains at home: to pull Ukraine out of

its devastating economic crisis. He's keen to restart talks with the International Monetary Fund, which last year froze a \$16.4 billion bailout.

But as he also recalibrates Kyiv's foreign policy, both Russia and the West are waiting to find out just how far east he believes the balance lies for Ukraine's national interests.

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Branch 13...

(Continued from page 5)

officers are: President Slavko Tysiak, Alternate President Peter Urban, Secretary Taras Myshchuk, Alternate John Zdran, Treasurer John Suchowacki, Alternate Treasurer Michael Zaviscky, Visitation Committee member: Andrij Demczar, Bohdan Bilica, Sam Ksenych and Stefan Gebuza, Auditing Committee members: John Urusky, Andrij Demczar and Oleksander Serdyuk, along with UNA Branch 13 Secretary Mykola Fil.

One of the highlights of the yearly meeting was the acceptance of five new members into the Bratstvo. They are: Peter Fil, John Fil Jr., Roman Povoroznyk, Boris Matviyiv and Victor Holovashchenko. The Bratstvo now totals

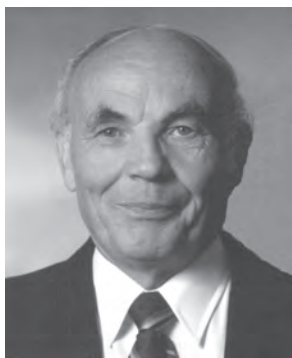
50 members.

Bratstvo President Tysiak welcomed the new members as part of a broader effort to grow membership and revise the organization's mission and by-laws to reflect contemporary values. Vasyl Hayvanovych, who is steering the By-laws Revision Committee, said he expects that very important project to be completed in the coming year.

In addition, at the yearly meeting of Branch 13, eligible UNA members elected Mr. Suchowacki as a delegate and Mr. Myshchuk as an alternate to the 37th UNA Convention to be held at Soyuzivka on May 20-23.

Bratstvo President Tysiak, who serves as chairman of UNA's Auditing Committee, and UNA Branch 13 Secretary Fil, who is a UNA advisor, will also be attending the UNA Convention.

The family of Julian Kotlar would like to thank everyone for their generous donation
In Memory of Julian "Levko" Kotlar



Born on July 4, 1924 in Dudynce, Lemkivschyna, Julian "Levko" Kotlar died on October 17, 2009 in Clifton, New Jersey, USA. He was a soldier in the Ukrainian Insurgent Army – UPA, Tactical Sector "Danyliv" under Commander Volodymyr Sorochak "Voron"-"Berkut" and in recent years was head of the Former Members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (OKV-UPA) in the United States and Canada, head of publishing for the Litopys UPA (Chronicles of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army) and member of various Ukrainian community organizations such as the UNA, Branch 42, Passaic, NJ, Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna, Self Reliance Federal Credit Union, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic.

He was interred at the UPA memorial section in St. Andrew's Ukrainian Cemetery, South Bound Brook, NJ.

Litopys UPA

\$1000 Daughters of Julian Kotlar: Nadia Dubanowitz & Family, Christina Kotlar, Petrusia Paslawsky & Family, Lesia Kozicky & Family

\$500 Ukrainian National Home, Passaic, NJ

\$200 Michael Kowalczyk, Self Reliance Federal Credit Union of New Jersey and Self Reliance Federal Credit Union Clifton, NJ Branch

\$125 Natalie and Frank Salek

\$100 Volodymyr Sorochak, Michael and Anna Migus, Roman and Anna Bajlak, Walter and Anna Kozicky, Dr. Peter and Lilia Kozicky, Dr. Orest and Maria Kozicky, Organization for the Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine, Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna Branch 3, Passaic, NJ; Lemko Research Foundation, Orest and Daria Temnycky, Mary Romancio, Roman Yasinsky, James Russo, Lida Prokop, Anna Orzynskyj and Jurij Rybak, Eugene and Natalia Luciw, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Lewko, Bohdan and Lida Kramarchuk, Andriy and Daria Horbachevsky, Larysa Dyrszka, Dr. George and Christine Demidowich, John Olijarczyk, Natalie Newmerzhychyk

\$60 Tom Kotlar

\$50 Dmitriy and Maria Wozniak, Stephan Welhasch and Maria Proskurenko, Robert and Marta Torielli, Volodymyr and Melania Temnycky, Maria Szpynda and Nancy Zakotiria, Roman and Joanna Swyntuch, Neonila Sochan, Ihor Shevchuk, Marta and Andy Shevchik, Lubko and Lesia Shchur, Ron Doll and Irene Sawchyn, Russ and Karen Chelak, Robert and Maria Sawchuk, Myron and Slawka Perich, Vera Mykolenko, Michael Mulyk, Teodor and Erika Moskal, Michael Mimeli, Diana Mandicz, Roman Mac, Zinaida Lewycky, William Lewycky, Lydia Lewycky, Myron and Tracey Kuzemczak, Janyk and Basia Kuzemczak, Roman and Maria Kudela, Jan and Marta Krzywucki, Tatiana Yasinsky, Bohdan Kowalyk, Irene Kotlar, Ihor and Antonina Kotlar, George and Wieslawa Kotlar, Peter and Oksana Korduba, Jaroslaw Kiciuk, Myroslaw and Martha Kachala, Camilla Huk, Oksana Hnatczuk, Kenneth Graves and Iryna Yasinska Graves, Steven and Maria Duplak, Oleh and Anna Denysyk, Tom and Olia Debruin, John and Lisa Bybel, Andrew and Valerie Burachinsky, Eugene and Zenia Brozyna, Wolodymyr and Maria Uzdejczuk, Myron Daszko

\$40 Markian Kolinsky, Theodore Kutzy, Brian and Irene Hreyo, Andriy and Dzvinka Burchak,

\$30 Oksana Trytjak

\$25 Myron and Larissa Prawak, Bill and Chris Szpynda, Bohdan and Lida Moczula, Maruszczak Family, Teodor and Oksana Bodnar, Lesia Yaworski, Tom and Cathy Kanarsky, Michael and Oksana Tomaszewsky, Kateryna Laluk, Osyp Nazarenko, Olia Chervinsky, Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Adamczuk, Mrs. Lyko

\$20 Kateryna Seweryn, Alexander and Nadia Seweryn, Elaine Puzio, Walter and Lecia Peltyszyn, Charles and Elaine Parodi, Antin and Irene Mykych, Mary Marsch, Cathy Kotlar and Mark Rutella, John Kosciolk, Mr. and Mrs. Karlicki, Peter Hula, Mr. and Mrs. Rostyslaw Halaburda, Walter Hac, Helen Fedoriw, Maria Danylchuk, Irena Bilewicz, Olia Zahniynj, Mrs. Nahorna, Mr. and Mrs. Teodor Kowalyk, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Gres

Friends of UPA

\$50 Paul and Olga Moncavage, Charles and Gail Dombeck

\$30 John and Helen Henkel

\$20 Nicholas and Jaroslawa Hordynsky, Roberta Holmes, Emil and Barbara Andrusko

Ukrainian Museum

\$100 Taras and Olga Hunczak

LEMKIVSCHYNA Quarterly Journal Press Fund

\$50 Stefan Howansky, Ivan Zawada, Maria and Stefan Duplak

\$25 Zenon Halkowycz, Myron Mycio, Stefan Maczuszak

\$20 Zenon Wojtowycz, Wolodymyr Blazejowskyj, Wasyl Harhaj, Teodor and Maria Pyz, Pavlo Hura, Petro Wislocki, Anna Wojtowycz, Stefan Kosciolk

\$10 Wasyl Panchak, Petro Lukachyn

Brussels ready...

(Continued from page 3)

future. Significantly, European Parliament members who had earlier invested high hopes in the Orange project are ready to work with Mr. Yanukovych after the final Orange collapse.

Mr. Yanukovych told Brussels that he would adhere to the March 2009 agreement with the EU on modernizing Ukraine's gas transit system (EUObserver, March 1). The outgoing government under Yulia Tymoshenko had entered into that agreement. By contrast, Mr. Yanukovych campaigned on a promise to include Russia's Gazprom in a consortium to operate Ukraine's system. He seemed noncommittal about this issue while in Brussels.

Regarding NATO, Mr. Yanukovych merely stated that he would continue the existing programs, without expanding these, at least for the time being (UNIAN, March 1). That current level, however, compares unfavorably with the pre-Orange years.

Ambassador...

(Continued from page 4)

members of the university, but the university allows all visitors to use the collections.

The Kyiv Mohyla Library is acknowledged as the country's leader in library reforms, introducing contemporary library management systems and the "novel" principle of information-sharing that is inclusive in contrast to the traditional Soviet orientation of information-guarding. With the leadership of library director and university Vice-President Tetiana Yaroshenko, university librarians participate in international conferences and lead continuous training seminars and conferences for all the universities of Ukraine.

Branch 173...

(Continued from page 5)

N.J., and the construction of a church in Ukraine – all actions sponsored by members of UNA Branch 173. A specific

Yanukovych's...

(Continued from page 2)

supporting the Russian "diaspora" in the former Soviet Union.

President Yanukovych has a constitutional right to recognize foreign territories and, therefore, could follow through on his party's support in 2008 for South Ossetian and Abkhazian independence. Before taking this step, Mr. Yanukovych should be made aware that Russian parliamentary

Russia's shadow did not loom over Mr. Yanukovych's Brussels visit. The EU takes the position that the resumption of Ukrainian-Russian partner relations (as Mr. Yanukovych formulates this goal) is also in the EU's interest. Mr. Yanukovych welcomes this thesis because it does not require Ukraine to make stark choices between Moscow and Brussels.

Such flexibility, however, will only be sustainable if Russia does not make excessive demands on Ukraine (or Kyiv does not offer pre-emptive concessions to Moscow, as Mr. Yanukovych signaled from electoral calculations during the campaign). If Moscow does, however, start posing major demands, the new Ukrainian president and his Party of Regions will need to make some stark choices; and the EU will need to support European choices in Kyiv.

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In addition to the university libraries, Kyiv Mohyla Academy initiated the nationwide Electronic Library of Ukraine project (ELibUkr), which includes infrastructure and access to many of the world's academic databases for Ukraine's universities – a project that, it is hoped, the government of Ukraine will finance for the good of the country, as governments of other countries do.

To date the E-Library project has established the technical and management infrastructure and services Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, the national universities of Kharkiv, Chernivtsi, Volyn, Donetsk, Sumy and the Sumy National Academy of Banking. The E-Library consortium of universities is expanding and all universities are welcomed to join.

request was made that activities in and around Wilmington, Del., continue to be publicized in both publications.

The meeting was concluded in a very positive manner, with the realization that the UNA is in a better position financially than a number of other fraternal.

resolutions adopted in 1992-1993 remain in place. These annulled the 1954 transfer of Crimea from the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic to the Ukrainian SSR and questioned the "legality" of Ukrainian sovereignty over Sevastopol (Ukrayinska Pravda, January 26).

The article above is reprinted from *Eurasia Daily Monitor* with permission from its publisher, the *Jamestown Foundation*, www.jamestown.org.

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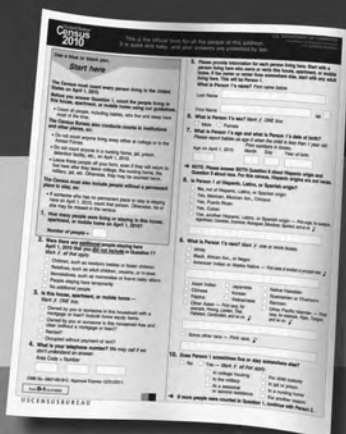
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ПЕРЕПИС 2010 РОКУ – КРАЩЕ МАЙБУТНЄ У НАШИХ РУКАХ!

Kinderhook is back

Band to perform at UACCNJ, Soyuzivka

by Christina Kotlar

WHIPPANY, N.J. – After twenty-seven years, Kinderhook is back. The New Jersey band that was instrumental in changing local live bar band music into a rocking New Jersey club scene with appearances at some of the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area's biggest live performance venues is back with original band members for a solid country-flavored and highly infectious music set on Sunday, March 14, at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany and at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center in Kerhonkson, N.Y., in July.

Originally called Kinderhook Creek, but later shortened to Kinderhook, a Dutch word for "children on a hill," the band began as a country quartet in 1973 at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. The initial members were Jerry (Yaropolk) Kopychuk, banjo, guitar, lead vocals; Yuri Turchyn, guitar, violin, vocals; Andy Fediw, bass guitar, vocals; and Stan Taylor, pedal steel guitar. After a year, the band added Craig Barry as its drummer to fill out the sound. Joe Breitenbach joined the band in 1975 as lead guitarist.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Kinderhook had the ability not only to draw a full-house crowd but to move it to Southern rock acoustic sound with three-part harmonies. Kinderhook's country music brought out the crowds and the music industry suddenly became caught up in the same type of sound.

At its highpoint, Kinderhook was the top-

drawing band in the state, bringing sometimes as many as 2,000 people to clubs and performing six times a week.

The band played original music at a time when no other club band was doing anything but cover tunes. As Kinderhook's original music progressed, the band began opening for national recording acts. The first was Conway Twitty, then came David Bromberg, Commander Cody, Poco and a host of others. By 1982, Kinderhook remained the only unrecorded act to play the Central Park Schaefer Music Festival (1975), opening before 25,000 people.

On Sunday, March 14, Kinderhook will be the opening act before New Riders of the Purple Sage at the UACCNJ of Whippany, N.J.

Opening show running time at the UACCNJ is 45 minutes, starting at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. The Hoverlia Social Club will be open during the show and afterwards. To reserve tickets for March 14, readers may e-mail splatterconcerts@yahoo.com; for more information call the UACCNJ, 973-585-7175. The UACCNJ is located at 60 North Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981.

The band is scheduled to perform at the Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y. on Saturday, July 17, and at Tim McLoone's Supper Club in Asbury Park, N.J., on Friday, August 6.

More about Kinderhook can be found on Facebook – Kinderhook TwentyTen – including rehearsal videos, photos and comments from fans far and wide, past and present.



Kinderhook (from left): John Greenaway, Jerry Kopychuk, Yuri Turchyn, Craig Barry, Andy Fediw.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

nate the activities of various ministries and other executive institutions. The Cabinet would need to comply with the decisions of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, which are confirmed by presidential decrees.

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's support of the bill came with the conditions that Parliament schedule a review of a report by an ad-hoc commission on the privatization activities of Kyiv Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi, and that the OU-PSD would support a bill calling for the mayor's dismissal. "No authority and power have any value if we keep corruption intact in the capital," underscored Ms. Tymoshenko.

The Cabinet bill failed to reach the final reading after opposition forces pledged to draft their own amendments to the bill following its initial reading and vote. Verkhovna Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk sent the draft law to be

reviewed by a parliamentary committee for two weeks before being reintroduced on the floor.

On March 18, 2008, the Parliament by a vote of 246-5 approved a resolution ordering pre-term mayoral and local elections in Kyiv, setting an important precedent that could decide the fate of all municipal governments across Ukraine. Passed with the support of the Lytvyn Bloc, the vote was the first time that the Verkhovna Rada had successfully voted to remove an entire municipal administration from office.

Although the YTB had a strong popularity in Kyiv, it was unable to remove Mayor Chernovetskyi from office in elections held 70 days after the resolution took effect on May 25, 2008. Only 53.39 percent of the city's electorate cast their ballots, and Mr. Chernovetskyi won 37.72 percent of the votes.

Source: "Rada approves draft law on Cabinet and bill on pre-term elections in Kyiv," by Illya M. Labunka, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 23, 2008.

Annual SUSTA conference to be in Boston on March 20-21

by Bohdan Pechenyak

PHILADELPHIA – The executive board of SUSTA – the Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations in America – and the Boston College Ukrainian Society invite all interested parties to participate in the annual SUSTA conference, which will take place on March 20-21 under the theme of "Ukrainian Youth and Education."

Organizers believe the theme of education to be of utmost importance to Ukraine and its students both at home and abroad. Ukraine's and the world's future depends on the ability to provide an adequate and well-rounded education that can help foster independent, critically minded thinkers and leaders in various fields of life. Such education is crucial for developing deep respect for intellectual excellence and theoretically grounded practice, and for future leaders' ability to understand both the context and

the long-term consequences of their actions.

With this in mind, organizers have invited distinguished speakers to talk about the educational reforms in Ukraine over the past several years and to share experiences of studying in Ukraine, Western Europe and the United States.

In addition, the conference program provides for a number of workshops focused on organizational and individual development, and time has been set aside for recreation, meeting other participants, sightseeing in Boston, as well as a performance by the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble.

Early registration (\$20) is now open at www.susta2010.org, and will be available until March 16, after which a full ticket price of \$25 will become effective. Registration includes breakfast and lunch on Saturday, March 20. For further information, readers may e-mail mail@susta2010.org.



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.....

..... Підпис батька або матері

Students from Ukraine...

(Continued from page 11)

Federal Credit Union and the New York office of AeroSvit airlines.

The organizers of the SDI American Winter program plan to continue to provide this unique opportunity for eastern Ukrainian teenagers between the ages of 14 and 18. They will work with local schools to identify students who study in Ukrainian schools or in Ukrainian classes at Russian schools and who show outstanding promise by becoming winners of a city or regional level of the Petro Jacyk International Ukrainian Language Competition. In order to be considered, students need to apply to the Social Development Institute through their local Prosvita organization.

The program also claims to establish Ukrainian American youth clubs in towns where former participants live. In Kramatorsk such a club already exists due to the efforts of the head of the local Prosvita organization, Mykola Konobrytsky.

He is a former director of the Ukrainian Lyceum and currently a teacher of history. He established a local branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, educated young people in his lyceum as Ukrainian patriots, and initiated a tradition for high school students to start classes with the raising of the Ukrainian flag and the singing of the national anthem each morning. Unfortunately, as a result of his patriotic work, he has suffered subtle, and not so subtle, persecution by the local authorities.

The Social Development Institute welcomes financial support, equipment and computers for the Ukrainian-American Youth Club in Kramatorsk in order to organize Internet-bridges between Ukrainian students and their American peers, as well as teachers and well-known social and cultural figures in the U.S. (For

information readers may log on to www.sdoinstitute.org.)

An introduction to America

Of the SDI American Winter program, Nadiya Rokytyansklea wrote:

"Having had the chance to be introduced to America, none of us sat idly during those two weeks. Each of us now knows Washington, the political and cultural center of the United States, as we know the five fingers on our hand. The staggering beauty and grandeur of the Lincoln, Jefferson and Washington memorials, the White House, Capitol, Library of Congress, National Gallery of Art, National Archives, as well as tens of other memorials and buildings in the capital, will remain in our hearts forever as well as in the countless number of photographs we took during this trip.

"We were lucky also to have a few days to walk around New York – a city of skyscrapers, offices of world-renowned corporations, chic hotels and some of the world's largest stores. We will be glad for a long time that we saw Times Square, Rockefeller Center, the Statue of Liberty, and Broadway and Fifth Avenue."

Nadiya added, "As difficult as it was to return, we are now home with our parents, and we infinitely thank all those wonderful people who gave us such an opportunity to see another world and to meet such nice people."

Mr. Kazarenko underlined: "We hope that SDI American Winter will help to break the Soviet views of people in Ukraine and to destroy the psychology of fear and separation. And our hopes are supported by the words of Nadiya and Sofiya who reported, after coming back to Ukraine, that Ukrainian families in the United States helped them to feel that they are Ukrainians. And to be Ukrainians means not just to be selected; it means to be yourself."

Moscow expert...

(Continued from page 6)

at the foundation of statehood," Mr. Tishkov says, "then this country can split apart without any external interference or become a federative formation on the basis of the Canadian formula of 'multiculturalism on a bilingual basis.'" That saved Canada, and it could in principle save Ukraine.

Asked by his interviewer whether the international community is "obligated" to support the territorial integrity of Ukraine, Mr. Tishkov responded bluntly: "the

international community' owes nothing to Ukraine, except those of its members who have treaties with it in which such obligations are written."

"The preservation of integrity is above all an internal affair of Ukraine itself – that is, of its population, which must have all the possibilities for expressing its views and for a legitimate administration." If the people living there agree on how to live together, then they will; if they don't, then it is possible Ukraine will come apart – without regard to what outsiders prefer.

Moscow patriarch's...

(Continued from page 7)

becoming cornerstones. Patriarch Lubomyr Husar's vision of a Kyivan Patriarchate uniting Greek-Catholics and Orthodox, in communion with both Rome and Constantinople, would not only sideline Russia's professional ecumenists. By uniting Eastern and Western traditions, it

would offer Europe the most convincing example of a revitalized Christianity.

But Moscow need not fear the specter of a united Kyivan Catholic-Orthodox Patriarchate. As long as Ukrainian Christians are weak and divided, this will remain a pipe dream.

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

Winter events...

(Continued from page 19)

guests ate, drank and danced the night away, bidding farewell to 2009 and welcoming in 2010. The New Year's Eve Committee led by Marusia Shwed was responsible for this fabulous fund-raiser for the UECC.

The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center prides itself on giving back to its community through language courses, social services, programs and cultural events. None of these events could be possible without Natalka Firko, UECC vice-president of programs and events.

Asked about the last few months, she stated, "From the day we start planning for our winter events to the day we stop, there is much hustle-bustle, many hours of planning, excitement in decorating and preparing. ... I like to see the community come together, like a family does, for all of these events that we plan for them."

The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, founded in 1980, is a non-profit organization whose objective is to preserve and promote awareness of the Ukrainian heritage throughout the Philadelphia community. The UECC is located at 700 Cedar Road in Jenkintown, PA 19046 and can be reached at 215-663-1166 or contact@ueccphila.org; website: www.ueccphila.org.



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OUT AND ABOUT

March 18 Washington	Book discussion by Serhii Plokyh, "Yalta: The Price of Peace," Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 202-691-4000	Toronto	Hyphenated Ukrainian" by Walter Kish, Ukrainian National Federation hall, 416-960-3424 or 416-925-2770
March 20 Lehigh, PA	Pysanka workshop, Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621	March 27 New York	Ukrainian Easter Traditions Workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 or edu@ukrainianmuseum.org
March 20 McKees Rocks, PA	Pysanka workshop, Ukrainian Community of Western Pennsylvania, St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 412-364-0968 or www.uowpa.org	March 27 New York	Concert featuring pianist Angelina Gadeliya and the Lviv Duo of violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv and pianist Marianna Humetska, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660
March 20 Piscataway, NJ	Pysanka workshop with Olga Kobryn, Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission with the Folklife Program for New Jersey, East Jersey Olde Towne Village, 732-745-4489	March 27 Montreal	Fund-raiser, "Hip-Hop Hopak," Concordia Ukrainian Students' Union and the McGill Ukrainian Students' Association, Ukrainian National Federation hall, Cusu.mtl@gmail.com
March 20-21 Boston	Conference, Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America, Boston College, www.ukrainianstudents.net	March 28 Baltimore, MD	Easter Bazaar, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-870-1720
March 21 Parma, OH	Spring Sale of Attic Treasures, Ukrainian National Women's League of America - Branch 12, St. Josaphat Astrodome, 440-887-1201	March 28 Lehigh, PA	Easter Bazaar, Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621
March 21 Washington	Pysanka workshop and Easter bazaar, Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine, 202-526-3737	March 28 Montreal	Lecture by Prof. Radoslav Zuk, "Key Characteristics of Ukrainian Church Architecture of the Mazepa Period and Their Sources," Ukrainian Youth Center, 514-481-5871
March 21 Toronto	Easter Bazaar and Concert, featuring the Levada Choir Ukrainian Youth Ensembles, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 416-233-9700	March 28 New York	60th anniversary concert, Dumka Chorus of New York, Merkin Concert Hall, 212-501-3330
March 22 Washington	Lecture by Nadia Diuk, "Democracy in Ukraine: Are We There Yet?" Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 202-691-4000	March 29 Cambridge, MA	Seminar by Oksana Kis, "Women's Participation in the National Liberation Movement in Western Ukraine Region in the 1930s-1950s," Harvard University, 617-495-4053
March 23 New York	Lecture by Ihor Poshyvailo, "The Ecology of the Museum Sphere in Ukraine," Columbia University, 212-854-4697 or ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu		
March 24	Book launch, "Here and There - Reflections of a		

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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FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Plast scout recognized by Red Cross of Northern N.J.

CHESTER, N.J. – Thomas (Toma) Mandicz, 17, of Chester, N.J., was presented with a certificate of appreciation from the American Red Cross of Northern New Jersey in recognition of his donation of more than 350 hats, gloves, mittens and scarves.

A junior at West Morris Mendham High School, Toma has been an active member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization since age 7 and is currently the leader (kurinniy) of Troop 5 of the Newark Plast branch. He is working toward achieving Plast's eagle scout rank, which requires the completion of nine separate projects based on specific themes of Ukrainian scouting.

For the community service theme, Toma opted to help the American Red Cross of Northern New Jersey, which responds to disasters such as residential fires, floods, extreme temperatures, transportation accidents, hazardous material incidents and community emergencies in Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic and

Warren counties.

Toma commented: "I thought it would be useful for the Red Cross workers and volunteers who arrive at the scene of an emergency to have packaged sets of warm hats, gloves and scarves to give to the victims during the cold weather."

During the fall of 2009, Toma contacted the American Red Cross of Northern New Jersey to get approval for his idea; requested permission from several sites to hold his collection of new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves; and advertised the project via posters, fliers and e-mail. He then sorted and packaged the gathered items into individual sets ready for distribution to the needy and delivered the items to the American Red Cross.

Arthur Samaras, director of emergency services for the American Red Cross of Northern New Jersey, said, "We are very grateful for the initiative Toma has taken in organizing this clothing drive. On average, across our region our volun-



Toma Mandicz receives a certificate of appreciation from Charles Maltbie, response manager and disaster services HR coordinator for the American Red Cross of Northern New Jersey.

teers respond to one disaster each day. These items will be given directly to victims of disaster locally. Toma should be proud of his accomplishments."

Toma's collection sites were the West Morris Area YMCA in Randolph, West Morris Mendham

High School in Mendham, the United Healthcare Office Complex in Basking Ridge, and the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany. In addition, he obtained a donation towards the collection from Walmart of Ledgewood.

Cleveland high schooler excels in academics and the arts

by Maria Flynn

CLEVELAND – Sixteen-year-old Alexandra (Geega) Kwit excels in all she does. In October 2009, she was inducted into the National Honor Society at her school, Walsh Jesuit High School. She also received an award for coming in third in her school for the highest grade point average. She also excels in the arts and is a youth counselor for Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Alexandra has danced with the Kashtan Dance Ensemble, and every summer attended the Voloshky Dance Camp. She also takes voice, piano, violin and ballet lessons. Her passion however, is the theater. She prefers musicals, since she loves to sing and dance. While in junior high, she landed the role of "Dinah" in the play "High Society," and also the lead role of Marian the Librarian, in the musical "The Music Man." Currently she is preparing for the role of Glinda the Good Witch, in the "Wizard of Oz," a musical that will premier in March.

Last year in June, Alexandra earned first place at "Vyshkil Novatskykh



Alexandra Kwit

Vporiadnykiv," a camp for future counselors of Plast cub scouts ("novatstvo" – children age 6-11), which was held at the Cleveland-area Pysanyi Kamin camp. Fifty boys and girls, mostly from the eastern and Midwestern states, attended the 10-day camp, at which they learned how to prepare programs for their meetings, organize various activities

and work with young children.

Alexandra is now a counselor for the youngest girls ("novachky") in the Cleveland Plast branch who belong to the group called Dolphins.

Asked about her future plans,

Alexandra says she would like to be a pediatrician. However, because of her strong love for the arts, she would still like to be involved in music and theater. She has set her sights on attending Harvard.

Soccer player in national championships

DU BOIS, Pa. – Sixteen-year-old soccer player Gabriel Hrecznych, a sophomore at Du Bois Area High School in Du Bois, Pa., will be playing for the Region 1 Champions in the Olympic Development Program National Championships in Phoenix, Ariz., on March 11-14.

Gabriel has attended summer camps at Soyuzivka and has played in the Ukrainian Nationals Tournament in the past. This past summer and fall he was with the Eurosoccer Academy of the U.S.A. in Romania, Spain and Portugal. He plans to travel to Ukraine and Poland to see the Euro-2012 soccer championship.

He is the son of Bohdan and Lorian Hrecznych. The Hrecznych fam-



Gabriel Hrecznych

ily attends St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh.

Youngsters learn to be savers, thanks to Selfreliance

CHICAGO – To promote good savings habits among the young generation, Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union (SUAFUCU) started the SuperSavers Club that is open to any SUAFUCU member under age 18. Among those members are students of Chicago and New Jersey area schools of Ukrainian studies who have savings accounts at the credit union.

St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral’s School of Ukrainian Studies in Chicago, which is attended by over 150 students, is one of five schools in the Chicago area that participate in the SuperSavers program. The school encourages students to

participate in the program and at year’s end receives a “reward” from Selfreliance for its work in promoting good savings habits.

Selfreliance staffers meet with the students to explain the concepts of thrift, ownership, responsibility and the need to save for the future. Several times each year Selfreliance holds drawings for mp3 players or other awards for qualifying members of the SuperSaver Club who have made a deposit during the designated time period.

For information readers may contact their Ukrainian school director or SUAFUCU staff at any branch office, or e-mail students@selfreliance.com.



Students of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral’s School of Ukrainian Studies in Chicago school show off their SuperSavers Club gifts from Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union.

Krylati’s young soccer players are undefeated champions

by Matthew Tomaszewsky

YONKERS, N.Y. – The Krylati soccer team in Yonkers, N.Y., had a very successful season this year. From September to November 2009, the team members played games on Saturday afternoons, including two tournaments along the way. They played in the McGrail Youth Soccer Tournament at Tibbets Park and the Bryn Mawr Thanksgiving Tournament at Welty Park – and won both tournaments.

The team is full of skilled players who show up to every game ready to compete and, hopefully, win. The team roster for most of the season was as follows: Mykola Duda, Taras Halva, Michael (Myshka) Kuzemczak, Nazariy Miniv, Stefan Palylyk, Matthew Tomaszewsky, Andrey Shmotolocha, Mykola Swyntuch, Igor Pidhimy, Visar Hoxhal, Marko Shmotolocha, Danylko Sidor, Matthew Mazzola, Martin Dedvukaj, Edward Fay, Inna Lemyzhanska and Vladyk Deputat.

Matthew Tomaszewsky, 12, is a member of the Krylati youth soccer team.

A team is only as good as their coaches, and Krylati had two this year: Michael Tomaszewsky and Jay Palylyk. These two coaches have been with the team for three years now, and they are loved by all the players.

During the season, Krylati won every game they played, giving them a perfect 7-0-0 record. The squad played its games at Emerson Field, off of Odell Avenue in Yonkers. Team members always played with heart, and they were happy after winning each and every game they played.

Krylati played three games in the McGrail Tournament. They won their first game, beating South Yonkers Team One 7-0; they tied their second game 2-2 against South Yonkers Team Two; and they won their final game against Richards 2-1. They were thrilled to take home the McGrail Cup and individual medals in their first year at the tournament. The cup will be displayed at the Ukrainian Youth Center on Palisades Avenue in Yonkers.

In the Bryn Mawr Boys and Girls Club Tournament, they won their first game against Bryn Mawr 1-0, beat Hillcrest 4-0, and won their final

game against Richards 2-0. They received a trophy to display at the Ukrainian Youth Center, as well as individual medals for the players.

The undefeated Krylati team practices at St. Michael’s Ukrainian Catholic Church and at the Ukrainian Center in Yonkers, and is sponsored by the Yonkers branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association. Team members expressed thanks to Father Phil and

UAYA Yonkers for making it possible for them to play a sport they love and proudly represent the Yonkers Ukrainian community.

From now on, when the Krylati players and coaches go to the Ukrainian Youth Center, they will see their two trophies displayed with all the others in the glass cabinets. They will remember the tournaments and the undefeated season they are so very proud of.

Mishanyna

This month, we challenge UKELODEON readers and Mishanyna fans to find the names of the capitals of 13 of Ukraine’s 24 oblasts, which are hidden in the Mishanyna grid.

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|
| CHERNIHIV | IVANO-FRANKIVSK | KIROVOHRAD |
| CHERNIVTSI | KHARKIV | KYIV |
| CHERKASY | KHERSON | LUHANSK |
| DNIPROPETROVSK | KHMELNYTSKYI | LUTSK |
| DONETSK | | |



The Krylati youth soccer team.

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



THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Easter Greetings 2010

Continue your tradition.

Send best wishes to your family and friends, colleagues and clients on the occasion of Easter with a greeting in The Ukrainian Weekly.

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Advertising Deadline

March 28

March 19

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Being Ukrainian means:

- Two Easters in springtime, sometimes together.
 - "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.
 - Christmas in December.
 - Christmas in January.
 - Deb in February.
- A subscription to The Ukrainian Weekly
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, March 27

NEW YORK: Music at the Institute will present Angelina Gadeliya, pianist, and the Lviv Duo – Solomiya Ivakhiv, violinist, and Marianna Humetska, pianist. Ms. Gadeliya will perform solo piano works by Brahms, Carter, Revutsky, Schumann and Scriabin. The Lviv Duo will perform works by Bartok, Kosenko and Ravel. The concert begins at 8 p.m. and will be followed by a reception at the Ukrainian Institute of America, located at 2 E. 79th St., corner of Fifth Avenue. General admission is \$30; UIA members and seniors, \$25; students, \$20. Advance tickets may be purchased by sending a check payable to UIA-MATI, or by calling 212-288-8660 with a credit card.

MONTREAL: The Concordia Ukrainian Students' Union (CUSU) and the McGill Ukrainian Students' Association with the Ukrainian National Youth Federation is organizing for the first time ever "Hip Hop Hopak" – a Ukrainian dance versus Breakdancing competition and fund-raiser

for Help Us Help the Children. Proceeds will go towards helping orphaned children in Ukraine. Featured will be the Syzokryli Dance Ensemble from New York and Montreal's Bboy crew. Prizes will be awarded. The event will be held at the Ukrainian National Federation hall, 405 Fairmount, beginning 8 p.m., with a wine and cheese reception from 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10. For advance tickets and further information contact cusu.mtl@gmail.com.

Sunday, March 28-Sunday, April 4

APOPKA, Fla: Holy Week and Easter services in Central Florida will be held at St. Mary Protectress Ukrainian Catholic Church, Apopka, Fla. (near Orlando) as follows: Sunday, March 28, 11 a.m., Palm Sunday liturgy and willow blessing; Thursday, April 1, 10 a.m., divine liturgy, and 5 p.m., reading of 12 Gospels; Friday, April 2, 10 a.m. Holy Sepulcher Service; Saturday, April 3, 10 a.m. divine liturgy; Sunday, April 4, 10 a.m. Paschal Matins and 11 a.m. Easter divine liturgy. St. Mary Protectress is located at 245 Lake McCoy Drive.

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.**

"What's past is prologue."

— William Shakespeare
(carved on the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C.)

1933



2010

Take a look at the past:

- Read The Weekly's special section about the Great Famine, or Holodomor, of 1932-1933.
- Peruse our special issues section, including The Weekly's inaugural issue of October 6, 1933.
- Enjoy our "Year in Review" issues published annually since 1976.
- Enter your search terms and find information previously accessible only in hard copy.

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