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NEWS ANALYSIS

Ukrainian officials are helping Moscow destroy Kyiv Patriarchate, Filaret warns

by Paul Goble

Filaret, the Ukrainian Orthodox patriarch of Kyiv and All Rus'-Ukraine, said on December 30, 2010, that Moscow has put in place a plan to split and destroy the Kyiv Patriarchate and that it has assigned "the main role in this plan to the organs of state power in Ukraine" rather than in the past to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate.

Expressing his regret for talking about unpleasant realities on the eve of holidays, Patriarch Filaret said in his declaration that "the rapid development of events and the increase in pressure on the Kyiv Patriarchate had forced him to take this step in order to mobilize Ukrainians against its realization" (www.cerkva.info/ru/news/patriarkh/1143-zajava-patr.html).

Patriarch Filaret said that the plan to destroy the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP) had been "created in Moscow and proposed by Moscow Patriarch Kirill and his subordinates." But according to the Ukrainian Church leader, "the main role" in its implementation has been assigned to the Ukrainian government of President Viktor Yanukovich rather than to hierarchs subordinate to Moscow.

Last spring, Patriarch Filaret noted, the Moscow Patriarchate as part of its preparation for Patriarch Kirill's visit to Ukraine dispatched agents to various oblasts of Ukraine to seek allies within the hierarchy of the UOC-KP. "But this plan failed," the Kyiv patriarch said, and consequently, Moscow decided to try another approach.

Then, beginning this summer, he continued, reports came in to Kyiv that priests loyal to him had been summoned by government bureaucrats who questioned them as to why they were loyal to Patriarch Filaret rather than to Patriarch Kirill. And as of now, Patriarch Filaret said, "in some eparchies, up to 70 percent of the priests" had been subjected to such "pressure."

In a number of these cases – and he provides details on several across Ukraine – Patriarch Filaret said, the local officials were supported "from offices in the capital," a reference to the Yanukovich regime. And "in all of these cases...the representatives of the Ukrainian authorities...acted in the interests of the Moscow Patriarchate" rather than in defense of religious freedom.

That will lead to trouble, Patriarch Filaret said, although "at present" no one can say exactly where the next clashes between Ukrainian Orthodox and those who want to be subordinate to Moscow will break out. "But if the realization of the Moscow plan doesn't stop, conflicts will arise in the future."

To date, the combined Moscow Church and Ukrainian government effort has "been able to find in the Kyiv Patriarchate only a few traitors" because most of its parishioners and priesthood remain loyal to the idea of an autocephalous Ukrainian Church and do not want to be subordinate to a Church in another country.

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Moscow Patriarchate in campaign to seize control of religious sites

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Just in time for Christmas, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) has accelerated an aggressive crusade to take control of the holiest Christian sites in Ukraine, as well as valuable churches it doesn't yet own throughout the country.

Within its crosshairs in Kyiv, the nation's capital, is the site of the ruined Desiatynna Church (Church of Tithes) and

the restored St. Sophia Cathedral, both among Ukraine's oldest churches built during the peak of the Kyivan Rus' state under the patronage of Prince Volodymyr the Great.

St. Sophia Cathedral is a designated national memorial and a UNESCO World Heritage Site not controlled by any Christian confession. The site of the Desiatynna Church, located off Andriyivskiy Uzviz (Andrew's Descent), has no owner, but the Moscow Patriarchate has illegally built a chapel there.

"The Moscow Patriarchate's claims to the Desiatynna Church appear quite strange considering it was built 150 years before the first mention of Moscow as a settlement," said Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP) Bishop Yevstraty Zoria. "We believe if the church is renewed, it's supposed to belong to the Ukrainian Church."

The emergence of a pro-Russian government under the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich has given the UOC-MP unprecedented government support in a renewed expansionist drive to control Ukraine's most sacred sites and most valuable church structures.

The UOC-MP, which is controlled by the Moscow-based Russian Orthodox Church, is Ukraine's largest Church, with an estimated 11,700 parishes, according to the Religious Information Service of Ukraine. It gained its prominence during the Soviet era, during which all other Christian Churches were liquidated, and their clergy persecuted and murdered.

The Soviet government allowed limited activity for Moscow Patriarchate churches, which were infiltrated and controlled by the KGB.

The Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) and UOC-MP performed no known lustration of KGB agents after the Soviet Union's collapse, and some observers, such as Kyiv political expert Dr. Oleh Soskin, suspect they remain implanted in its leadership under the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB).

Most of Ukraine's monasteries are already under UOC-MP ownership, including key sacred sites such as the Kyivan Caves Monastery (Pecherska Lavra) and the Pochayiv Monastery in the Ternopil Oblast.

Kyivan Caves Monastery

Soon after the emergence of the pro-Russian government, the UOC-MP revealed plans to evict dozens of museums and a legendary art studio from the territory of the National Kyiv-Pechersk Historical-Cultural Reserve (Caves Monastery), also a UNESCO World

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Kyiv rings in the New Year



Andrey Skakodub/UNIAN

KYIV – Over 12,000 people participated in New Year's Eve celebrations on Independence Square (Maidan Nezalezhnosti) in the Ukrainian capital. Above, a reveler with a traditional eight-pointed Christmas star against the backdrop of the city center's buildings decked out in colorful holiday lights. Ukraine celebrates Christmas according to the Julian calendar on January 7.

ANALYSIS

More join list of former officials in trouble with law in Ukraine

by **Maryana Drach**
RFE/RL

Yurii Lutsenko went out on December 26, 2010, to walk his dog near his apartment in Kyiv.

Instead, the former Ukrainian internal affairs minister found himself bundled into a car by officers of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) and taken to jail. He faces charges of abuse of office and embezzlement of state funds and was ordered held for two months.

In comments posted on his party's website on December 26, 2010, Mr. Lutsenko called his detention further proof of "the policy of scaring Ukrainian society and political terror against opposition."

Mr. Lutsenko is the latest in a growing list of high-level members of the previous government of prime minister-turned-opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko to find themselves in trouble with the law.

The current administration of President Viktor Yanukovich, which is to mark its first year in power in February, says every public servant should be accountable for his or her actions. But opposition and human rights activists say the law is being used randomly to punish or scare opponents of the government.

The highest-profile target of the probes is Ms. Tymoshenko herself, who was charged the previous week with abuse of office.

The list also includes former Environment Minister Heorhii Filipchuk, who is under arrest on charges related to the use of money from the carbon-emission fund, and former Economy Minister Bohdan Danylyshyn, who is under arrest and accused of squandering public funds.

They were joined by a former vice-minister of justice, Yevhen Korniychuk, who was detained on charges of abuse of office.

'All are equal before the law'

President Yanukovich, in an interview with three Ukrainian television channels aired on December 24, 2010, characterized the probes as objective and said Ms. Tymoshenko had "every possibility to defend herself."

"I cannot stop these processes and say: 'You should investigate these cases and not these,'" the president added. "No way one should do it. And the head of state does not have such powers."

As an example of judicial objectivity, prosecutors point to a criminal case against the deputy head of the customs office, Viktor Bondar, who was detained on December 24, 2010.

However, he has strong links to the old government as well. Mr. Bondar is a former transport minister and a former governor of the Dnipropetrovsk region, who ahead of this year's presidential election supported Ms. Tymoshenko.

Procurator General Viktor Pshonka told a press briefing in Kyiv on December 24, 2010, that in the past year prosecutors have

launched cases against 18 current and former high-level officials accused of causing damages to state coffers of 17 billion hrv (around \$2.1 billion U.S.) and 380 million euros (\$500 million U.S.).

Mr. Pshonka said each public servant was equal before the law and, addressing the current government, noted: "If you are going to treat budget funds as easily as your predecessors – you will be questioned by the same investigators in the same offices and will sit in the same detention centers as officials of the ex-government. ... Do not touch the money of the state!"

Opposition cries foul

But critics say the investigations are politically motivated, and add that the timing of the crackdown has been chosen for maximum impact.

Ms. Tymoshenko was questioned three times in the latter half of December arriving at the prosecutor's office on one occasion directly from the hospital where her husband had just undergone heart surgery.

Mr. Korniychuk, the former vice-minister of justice, was detained in Kyiv on the day his daughter was born. And former Internal Affairs Minister Lutsenko learned about the charges against him on December 13, 2010 – one day before his birthday.

According to the influential Kyiv weekly *Dzerkalo Tyzhnia*, this is not a coincidence, but a sign that the current authorities want to make it as painful as possible for their opponents.

Ms. Tymoshenko says she believes that the current authorities are trying to prevent her from running for office again. Coming out of the prosecutor's office in Kyiv on December 24, 2010, she called the criminal investigations against her and her supporters "the revenge of the mafia."

"They are tasked with terrorizing our team and our family, me personally every day," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "I think that they understand that they have limited time. According to our information, they want to put all opposition into prison before the parliamentary elections."

Political experts in Ukraine doubt Ms. Tymoshenko – who has been ordered not to leave Kyiv – will be arrested herself, since this could boost her popularity ahead of parliamentary elections due in 2012.

But even a possible suspended sentence could affect the opposition leader's political career, since it would prevent her from running for office.

"If she gets, for instance, a five-year suspended sentence, then after this term she becomes a citizen with full rights," says Oleksander Chernenko, chairman of the Committee of Voters of Ukraine. "Before the end of the term, if the court does not change the verdict, a person has limited rights, irrespective of whether one is imprisoned or not."

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NEWSBRIEFS

Yanukovich gives New Year's speech

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich of Ukraine, wishing Ukrainians a happy New Year, expressed confidence that 2011 would be a period of laying the foundations for prosperity for every family and every person. He said the outgoing year was "difficult," but the authorities "have managed to achieve the main thing – to reverse the situation, overcome hopelessness." Now we have to build a "solid foundation of all those changes and transformations that we planned together, that we expected and sought to achieve for our common victory," he noted. The president stressed that 2011 will be an important step towards prosperity, "For our honest, hard-working people deserve a decent life. For our children deserve a happy childhood and a happy future. For our parents – older friends who were building independence, creating the wealth of our country, are entitled to spend the autumn and the winter of their lives in an atmosphere of warmth, respect and prosperity." Mr. Yanukovich noted that even on New Year's Eve he is not going to tell tales, thus he stated frankly that Ukraine and its people face a lot of work. "But we have a lot of energy and we have faith in our country, we have great hope for our strength and faith in God's help," he added. (Ukrinform)

Filaret: Moscow plots against UOC-KP

KYIV – The primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate Patriarch (UOC-KP), Patriarch Filaret, said that the Moscow Patriarchate intends to destroy the UOC-KP and warned against interconfessional fighting in the country. "I want to state that an attempt to implement the ambitious plan aimed at the collapse and destruction of the Kyiv Patriarchate is being carried out in Ukraine," Patriarch Filaret said in a statement, posted on the website of the UOC-KP on December 31, 2010. He said that the plan was set up in Moscow and suggested by Moscow Patriarch Kirill and his subordinates. "I regret to say that the representatives of local authorities [in Ukraine] are directly involved in all these events, and that the simultaneity and coherence of actions suggests that they have support from the metropolitan's offices," he

said in a statement. Patriarch Filaret also urged the authorities and President Viktor Yanukovich "to start a real and fruitful dialogue, otherwise Ukraine may return to the inter-church struggle of the early 1990s." He added, "I hope that in 2011 there will be changes for the better." (Interfax-Ukraine)

Ukraine sends uranium to Russia

KYIV – About 110 pounds of highly enriched uranium were sent on December 30, 2010, from Kharkiv, Kyiv and Sevastopol to Moscow. Nuclear materials were removed from the Sevastopol National University of Nuclear Energy and Industry, Kharkiv Physical-Technical Institute and Kyiv Institute for Nuclear Research. The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry noted that Ukraine was gradually fulfilling its April 2010 commitment to get rid of stockpiles of highly enriched uranium within two years. A memorandum on the uranium's removal was signed by Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich after a meeting with his U.S. counterpart, Barack Obama. In return, the United States will provide low enriched uranium for Ukraine's research reactors. The agreement is designed to make it harder for militants to get hold of fissile material that could be used in an atomic bomb. The United States has said it would provide financial and technical assistance to Ukraine and was likely to store some of the highly enriched material on U.S. soil. "The removal of this highly enriched uranium from Ukraine is a major milestone that brings us one step closer to achieving President Obama's goal of securing all nuclear material around the world within four years," NNSA Administrator Thomas D'Agostino said in the group's statement. (Ukrinform, Reuters)

Obama reacts to Ukraine's move

WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama on December 31, 2010, issued the following statement on the removal of highly enriched uranium from Ukraine "I congratulate President [Viktor] Yanukovich on the recent shipment of highly enriched uranium from Ukraine for secure disposal in Russia, which advances a top priority for

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U.S. government voices concern

The following statement by the U.S. government regarding the investigations of Ukrainian opposition politicians was released in Kyiv by the Embassy of the United States on December 30, 2010.

Although as a rule the U.S. government does not comment on the specifics of individual cases, we have raised with the Ukrainian government our concern

that while corruption should be pursued, prosecution should not be selective or politically motivated.

In that context, we also raised our concern that when, with few exceptions, the only senior officials being targeted are connected with the previous government, it gives the appearance of selective prosecution of political opponents.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Ukraine starts administrative reform, streamlines central government

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich has launched a reform of public administration. This is the second major reform related to the economy undertaken by his government after the tax reform, which was rubberstamped by Parliament in early December 2010. Next will be pension, housing and customs service reforms.

It is debatable whether President Yanukovich's reform drive is due to his determination to modernize Ukraine, one of Europe's poorest economies, and how much it may be driven by his team's desire to perpetuate their rule, or the requirements of international creditors like the International Monetary Fund (IMF). In any case, the fact remains that Mr. Yanukovich has started such reforms after about a decade of mere talk about reform.

On December 9, the president signed a decree on streamlining the executive branch, cutting the number of central executive bodies from 112 to 63. In particular, the number of ministries was cut by four to 16, and another four ministers lost their jobs as their ministries will now be headed by existing vice prime ministers. Also, the exotic post of minister for liaison between government agencies and for personnel matters (minister of the Cabinet of Ministers) was abolished.

First Vice Prime Minister Andriy Kliuyev will head the Economic Development and Trade Ministry, which is to replace the Economy Ministry and the Industry Ministry. The vice prime minister in charge of the Euro-2012 soccer tournament, Borys Kolesnikov, will head the Infrastructure Ministry, which replaces the Transport and Communications Ministry. Vice Prime

Minister Sergey Tipipko, as the new head of the Social Policy Ministry, will be in charge of the much needed pension reform. Finally, the fourth vice prime minister, Viktor Tikhonov, will head a new Ministry of Regional Development and Construction, merging the Construction Ministry and the Utilities Ministry. The Coal Ministry and the Family and Youth Ministry will also be disbanded.

Dozens of government agencies, committees and inspectorates, many of which duplicated each other's functions, will be axed. The number of vice ministers in each ministry will be cut to three, whereas until now some ministers had as many as eight deputies. The Cabinet's secretariat will be cut by half to 600 (www.president.gov.ua, December 9-10, 2010).

These cuts will have no effect on the state budget for 2011, according to Justice Minister Oleksander Lavrynovych, one of the reform's authors, but the government expects that administrative spending will decline by 2012 onwards as a result of the reform.

Mr. Lavrynovych said the National Security and Defense Council, an advisory body chaired by President Yanukovich, would also be trimmed. (Zerkalo Nedeli, December 11, 2010). Asked whether the reform would not repeat the fate of similar Russian reforms announced several years ago, Mr. Lavrynovych said the Russian public administration reform had remained incomplete (Inter TV, December 10, 2010).

Mr. Yanukovich, speaking in Moscow on December 10, stated that the central government cuts were only the first stage of public administration reform, as local administrations would be targeted (UNIAN, December 10, 2010).

Mr. Yanukovich's economy aide,

Iryna Akimova, did not rule out reductions in the Presidential Administration where 400 people are employed, in addition to a 20 percent staff cut earlier this year (Ukraina TV, December 10, 2010).

In the course of the reform, President Yanukovich has further strengthened his Party of Regions (PRU), granting more powers in particular to the vice prime ministers stemming from his native Donetsk Region, Messrs. Kliuyev and Kolesnikov. Meanwhile, the informal leader of the Luhansk regional group in the PRU, Mr. Tikhonov, will be tasked with launching housing reform, potentially unpopular as it may allow the authorities to evict people from their homes for failing to pay utility bills.

Mr. Tigipko, a liberal former banker (not a member of the PRU), will be responsible for the highly unpopular pension reform, which is expected to increase the pension age for women from the current 55 to 60 years. If the reforms collapse, Messrs. Tikhonov and Tigipko may become scapegoats.

Also, the PRU's junior coalition partner, the People's Party, which is headed by Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, has lost two ministers responsible for transport and social policy.

The reform should be positively viewed in the European Union as Ukraine had the largest number of government ministers, including vice prime ministers, among all European countries: 25. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Regional Director Igor Podoliev praised the government's determination to conduct public administration reform, speaking at Ukraine Investors' Summit in Kyiv on December 14. The EBRD is one of Ukraine's main creditors along with the IMF and the World Bank. Mr. Podoliev, judging by the government's determination, suggested the reform will not be reversed.

However, Mr. Podoliev said large-scale corruption remains the main problem for Ukraine so the government's achievements would be measured by its ability to curb corruption first of all. A package of anti-corruption laws which was passed by Parliament last year is coming into effect as of January 1.

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Lithuania takes over OSCE chairmanship

OSCE

VILNIUS – Lithuania took over the Chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on January 1 with a focus on internal and external threats in the OSCE area, fostering democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, notably freedom of the media, promoting energy security in Europe and building upon synergies between regional organizations.

"We will work towards building a true security community, without dividing lines, where commitments are implemented, the use of force is unthinkable, and human rights and fundamental freedoms are fully respected," said Audronius Ažubalis, foreign minister of the Republic of Lithuania, and the new chairperson-in-office of the OSCE. "The OSCE can do more to address old and new threats and challenges in the 21st century – both internal and those stemming from outside the OSCE area."

He mentioned cyber-security, and trafficking of people and drugs as examples of transnational threats affecting all OSCE member-states.

Mr. Ažubalis stressed the Lithuanian chairmanship's intention to actively uphold human dimension principles. "In the OSCE, human rights and fundamental freedoms are at the core of security," he asserted. He also cited the crucial importance of media freedom and the security of journalists for the proper functioning of a democratic society.

"Lithuania, as a part of the Baltic Sea region and a member of the European Union and NATO, believes that a network of regional and sub-regional organizations, complementing each other's activities and those of the OSCE, will be more than the sum of its parts. Synergies between such organizations are vital for building a stronger security community," Mr. Ažubalis said.

"Regional cooperation is also vital for building long-term stability in volatile regions and may be an important contribution to addressing protracted conflicts in the OSCE area," Mr. Ažubalis said,

stressing that the advancement of the solution to protracted conflicts in Transnistria and South Caucasus, as well as the situation in Georgia, will be a priority of the Lithuanian chairmanship's agenda.

"The OSCE has an important role to play, in particular through the promotion of understanding and tolerance between the societies which are parties to the conflicts, and we would like to see a more active OSCE role here."

Mr. Ažubalis also mentioned the need to jointly develop common principles in the field of energy and said that the OSCE can promote dialogue and cooperation at the regional and cross-dimensional level in this sphere.

Mr. Ažubalis took over the chairmanship from Kazakhstan's Foreign Minister and State Secretary Kanat Saudabayev, whose country chaired the OSCE in 2010.

"I would like to express my gratitude to Foreign Minister Kanat Saudabayev for his dedicated work as the OSCE chairperson-in office towards strengthening the security in Europe as the OSCE chairperson-in office, and especially for holding the OSCE Summit in Astana, the first top-level meeting of the organization in 11 years," Mr. Ažubalis said. "I would also like to welcome Ireland and Foreign Minister Micheál Martin to the OSCE chairmanship troika."

In the Astana Commemorative Declaration, participating states have tasked the Lithuanian and subsequent chairmanships of the OSCE with "organizing a follow-up process within the existing formats, taking into consideration ideas and proposals put forward by the participating states, including in the framework of the Corfu Process."

On January 13 in Vienna the new chairperson-in-office will outline the Lithuanian chairmanship's priorities to the OSCE Permanent Council, a key decision-making body for the organization.

Medvedev and Putin plan to strengthen relations with Kyiv

Interfax-Ukraine

KYIV – Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin congratulated Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich on the upcoming holidays, the press service of the Russian Embassy in Ukraine has reported on December 30, 2010.

"Dear Viktor Fedorovich [Yanukovich], please accept my congratulations on the occasion of the New Year and Christmas holidays! The outgoing year was a period of a real strengthening of Russian-Ukrainian relations," Mr. Medvedev said in his letter.

He cited unprecedented and productive political dialogue, high growth in trade and economic cooperation, as well as the promotion of joint large-scale integration projects.

Mr. Medvedev said that a serious positive impetus had been given to inter-regional relations and contacts in the humanitarian sphere, and that the effective coordination of the two countries' approaches to urgent regional and international issues was increasing.

"Important interstate and intergovernmental agreements signed in 2010 open up new opportunities for building effective cooperation in all areas. I think that this is our common priority. A special role in its implementation belongs to the Russian-Ukrainian interstate commission,

which has already started to work in full force. At commission meetings held in Kyiv and Moscow, we outlined a strategic course for the development of our relations," he said.

The Russian president expressed confidence that in 2011 the sides would jointly produce tangible results in the implementation of their plans – "for the benefit of our brotherly peoples, united by centuries-old traditions of friendship and spiritual values."

Mr. Putin, in turn, said in his congratulatory message: "I note with satisfaction that together we managed to bring relations between Russia and Ukraine to a qualitatively new level, to restore mutual trust and partnership and to make real progress in all areas."

He said he was confident that in the coming year Ukraine and Russia would increase the dynamics of Russian-Ukrainian cooperation, creating favorable conditions for the launch of new joint projects in energy, industry, aerospace and shipbuilding, transportation and high technology.

"This certainly corresponds to the fundamental interests of the peoples of our countries, stability and security on the European continent," the Russian prime minister said.

Mr. Putin also congratulated his Ukrainian counterpart, Mykola Azarov, on the upcoming holidays.

Moscow Patriarchate...

(Continued from page 1)

Heritage Site.

What had been a cultural site drawing millions of tourists interested in Ukrainian history suddenly became the latest geopolitical battleground in Ukraine with the encouragement of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov, who in July 2010 ordered the eviction of "all institutions and organizations that don't have any relation to the reserve and monastery within a year."

He issued the order on the eve of a visit to Kyiv by the Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Kirill.

For the first time, clergy began barring people from entering the monastery's territory, namely journalists and civic activists protesting the evictions. The clergy have even hired security guards, who physically blocked television cameramen and photographers from entering the territory during a December 23, 2010, protest.

The monastery's five biggest museums holding 400,000 artifacts are targeted for eviction, including the Historical Treasures Museum, the Ukrainian Decorative Artwork Museum, the Theatrical and Musical Artwork Museum, and the Miniatures Museum.

Officials of the Ministry of Culture suggested the museums be transferred to the Mystetskyi Arsenal National Cultural-Arts Museum Complex, which has undergone a slow construction across the street from the monastery.

Other institutions, such as the Museum of Books and Printing are threatened with being re-organized under other divisions, which opponents said could be just as bad

as eviction. The clergy also want to remove the Caves Monastery Art Studios, which has thrived for more than a century and produced some of Ukraine's greatest 20th century artists, including Heorhii Yakutovych and Maria Prymachenko.

Desiatynna Church

Having already claimed what is arguably Ukraine's holiest site, the UOC-MP has already begun claiming its second holiest site – the Desiatynna Church, the first stone church of Kyivan Rus', which was completed in 996 and ruined several times since then, most recently in 1934 by the Soviet Communists.

President Yanukovich reportedly signed a decree designating land for the UOC-MP to rebuild the Desiatynna Church, Vice-Minister of Culture Tymofii Kokhan told the newspaper *Izvestiya* in November 2010.

The Weekly was unable to confirm the decree's existence with other sources, including the Presidential Administration's website.

Whether or not a presidential decree has been issued, the UOC-MP has already designated a dean for the church, Archimandrite Gedeon Kharon, who told the Religious Information Service of Ukraine that the Yanukovich administration has pledged "unlimited funds" for the church's reconstruction.

"This is a very important site," said Dr. Soskin, director of the Institute of Society Transformation in Kyiv. "There's a legend that the Kyivan Rus' empire will be renewed when the Desiatynna Church is restored, and we're witnessing practically a spiritual occupation of Ukraine by a for-

eign power."

Critics of the construction range from ethnically conscious Ukrainians who oppose the Moscow Patriarchate controlling Ukraine's holiest sites, to archaeologists who claim excavation has yet to be completed and the site is too structurally unstable to support a new church.

The UOC-MP is waiting for archaeological excavations to conclude.

"I hope all tasks will be completed next year and construction will be able to begin," Mr. Kokhan said at a press conference on November 15, 2010.

At the same event, Volodymyr Shovkoshytnyi of the Ukrainian People's Party confirmed with reporters that President Yanukovich had indeed signed a decree and that the government has earmarked \$1.7 million from the state budget not to finance the work of archaeologists, but to begin construction on the UOC-MP church. "They plan to hammer in several dozen concrete stakes upon which the church's foundation will be built," he told reporters.

National Deputy Yaroslav Kendzior of Lviv submitted a parliamentary inquiry to the president regarding what he deemed "the ruination of the church's foundation," but it was duly rejected by the pro-Russian majority and supported by only nine votes.

Deputies of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc were absent from the session in protest against an earlier bloody brawl.

St. Sophia Cathedral

The Ukrainian public was shocked when Presidential Administration Deputy Chair Hanna Herman said at the December 22, 2010, meeting of the president's Humanitarian Council that the government was considering transferring St. Sophia Cathedral to the administration of the Kyiv-Pechersk Historical-Cultural Reserve.

She said only the cathedral itself was being considered, not the entire St. Sophia Cathedral Historical-Cultural Reserve.

Her announcement wouldn't have been so scandalous had the Kyiv-Pechersk Historical-Cultural Reserve remained under the control of the Kyiv City Council.

But its deputies decided on the eve of Patriarch Kirill's July 2010 visit to transfer administration of the monastery to the Cabinet of Ministers led by Prime Minister Azarov, which has shown its willingness to let the Moscow Patriarchate administer the nation's holiest sites.

Patriarch Kirill's July visit also prompted UOC-MP Metropolitan Volodymyr to request that his church be able to celebrate daily divine liturgies at St. Sophia Cathedral, where no religious services are currently held.

The episcopate of the Ukrainian Catholic Church sent an open letter to the president on January 5 voicing its alarm and opposition to the proposal to place St. Sophia Cathedral under the aegis of the Kyiv-Pechersk Reserve, convinced that it would come under control of the UOC-MP instead of being shared by what it identified as the four branches of the Kyivan Church, which includes the UOC-MP as well as the UOC-KP and Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

St. Sophia Cathedral had a single primate for the first 600 years of its existence, under which all four branches of the Kyivan Church played an equal role in building, painting and developing it, the statement said. Following 1620, control of the cathedral was often transferred between various Churches.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church approves of the cathedral's current status, in which it's administered by the Ukrainian state. Yet it called for uniting all four branches of the Kyivan Church under a single Patriarchate, which would administer such holy sites as the St. Sophia Cathedral.

[Editor's note: The Russian Orthodox Church is firmly opposed to granting a patriarchate to any Church based in Kyiv and has used its heavy influence in both the Orthodox and Catholic Churches of the world to prevent any such attempt.]

The UOC-KP issued a similar statement the same day, asking the Yanukovich administration not to transfer jurisdiction of St. Sophia Cathedral.

St. Vladimir Cathedral in Khersones

While Prince Volodymyr had Kyivan Rus' baptized in 988, he himself is believed to have been baptized along with his wife in the ancient city of Khersones, on the outskirts of present-day Sevastopol on the Crimean peninsula.

In the first half of the 19th century, archaeologists found the remains of an ancient church in the center of the city's main square. The Russian government established the St. Vladimir Monastery at the site in 1850 and built one of the largest Orthodox churches – St. Vladimir Cathedral – by 1876.

It was destroyed during World War II and restored in the 2000s. Yet the UOC-MP didn't gain ownership of the territory, which had been designated the Khersones National Reserve and administered by the state.

Symferopol Metropolitan Lazar Shvets sent a letter to President Yanukovich requesting that the state transfer the cathedral and monastery structures to UOC-MP control, according to a report by Vladyslav Maltsev, a journalist for *Glavcom* website.

"We request your support in a delicate matter," the letter stated. "Neither the St. Vladimir Cathedral nor the Seven Khersones Holy Martyrs (Monastic) Church are the Church's property, but granted only for use. Regarding other churches, monasteries and monastic churches, they belong to the Khersones Tavriyivskyi National Reserve and aren't used for church purposes."

The UOC-MP also wants control of the reserve's museum, its administration, restoration studios and practically half the reserve's territory, the reserve's scientific secretary, Olena Klenina, told the *Komentari* weekly newspaper.

Nationwide crusade

The Moscow Patriarchate hasn't limited its crusade to Ukraine's ancient sites, attempting takeovers of churches in the Donetsk, Sumy and Kyiv oblasts in recent months.

St. Dymytrii Rostovskyi Church built by the UOC-KP in the Kyiv Oblast town of Makariv was reportedly raided by the UOC-MP in the last week of December 2010.

"The faithful and clergy of the Kyiv Patriarchate hear from one end assurances of extensive material support that can be gained when transferring to the Moscow Church, and from another end assurances that their churches will be taken even against their will," said a UOC-KP statement issued on December 27.

Bishop Serhii Horobtsov, the victim of a raid on his church in the Donetsk Oblast, said UOC-KP priests and parishes are being offered as much as \$1 million to \$2 million to convert to the UOC-MP.

Without the government or courts to protect them, the UOC-KP faithful said they are being forced to defend themselves using desperate measures.

In the city of Chernihiv, unknown suspects set ablaze on New Year's Eve a UOC-MP tent pitched adjacent to St. Catherine Church, which belongs to the UOC-KP. Parishioners referred to it as a typical UOC-MP "crusade tent" because it was established with the intent of UOC-MP faithful to take over the church.

In a statement issued on December 30, 2010, UOC-KP Patriarch Filaret called for a "true and prolific dialogue," otherwise

(Continued on page 10)



Google Maps

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate illegally established a chapel in 2007 on the site of the ancient Desiatynna Church (Church of Tithes) in central Kyiv.



Volodymyr Musyak

The chapel illegally established by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate at the site of the ancient Desiatynna Church in Kyiv has more than doubled in size since its establishment in 2007. (The photo above was taken on January 6.)



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Adrian (left) and Valentyn Kurylko, sons of Andrew and Lyudmyla Kurylko of Tyrone, Pa., are new members of UNA Branch 172. The boys were enrolled by their father.



Emilia Aleksandra Kachai, daughter of Olia and Roman Kaczaj of Pittsgrove, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 269. She was enrolled by her parents.



Maksym Michael Balaban, son of Michael and Laryssa Balaban of Glastonbury, Conn., is a new member of UNA Branch 277. He was enrolled by his grandmother Halyna Balaban.



Olena Anne Sawelenko, daughter of Natalie Sawelenko and Larry Snyder of Calabasas, Calif., is a new member of UNA Branch 257. She was enrolled by her godmother, Zoryana Keske.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

For an inclusive museum

Making major headlines in Canada in recent weeks is the proposal for exhibits at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR). It seems that, despite assurances to the contrary, the new museum – which is still under construction in Winnipeg, Manitoba – is to feature only two permanent exhibits: one about the Holocaust and the other focusing on aboriginal issues. Slated to open in 2013, the museum was originally a private initiative of media mogul Israel Asper (who has since died). In 2007, the government of Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that the CMHR would be a national museum, and committed \$100 million for its construction, plus \$22 million annually for operations.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress – which represents 1.2 million Canadians of Ukrainian descent – is now protesting quite loudly, and justifiably so, because it was led to believe that this publicly funded national museum would include major exhibits about the Holodomor, the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, as well as Canada's first national internment operations, which unjustly targeted Ukrainians and other Europeans in 1914-1920. In addition, the CMHR was to recognize that the Ukrainian people were victims of the Nazis during World War II. These promises were made in an April 2003 letter sent by the Asper Foundation to the UCC, and on that basis the UCC had publicly expressed its support for the project. However, the UCC noted, a recently released report by the CMHR's Content Advisory Committee makes only a minor reference to the internment operation and one reference to the "Holodomor" [sic].

A report the UCC sent to the prime minister, the minister of Canadian heritage and the minister of citizenship, immigration and multiculturalism underscored that "Ukrainian Canadians have a particular interest in the stories that will be presented" in the museum, and explained: "These stories are not yet widely known or understood, in part because Ukraine was not free until 1991 and because, here in Canada, a focus on the discrimination experienced by 'visible minorities' and indigenous peoples has often obfuscated the fact that Ukrainians and other Eastern European communities were also targets of racist, xenophobic and prejudicial sentiments, in the media, government and throughout the public arena."

The UCC also argued that the boards and advisory bodies of the CMHR need to be reconstituted to be representative of all Canadians and to ensure their objectivity. Their lack of objectivity is clearly seen in the above referenced report by the Content Advisory Committee.

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) has also protested that the Canadian Museum of Human Rights is not turning out to be what its name suggests.

Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, director of research for the UCCLA, put it clearly and succinctly in a January 5 post on the CBC Radio Manitoba website: "We are calling for the creation of inclusive, comparative and thematic galleries in this publicly funded national museum because such exhibits (e.g., on themes like 'internment operations in Canada' or 'genocide') would have greater pedagogical value than 'single issue' displays and because we do not believe that the suffering of any one community should be elevated above that of all others."

The crux of the matter is that a publicly supported institution like the Canadian Museum of Human Rights must be truly inclusive. And it should not fall short of its promise to tell various groups' stories about human rights – stories that cry out to be shared, studied and understood – and will truly serve to enlighten the public.

Jan.
9
2008

Turning the pages back...

Three years ago, on January 9, 2008, Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement critical of Ukraine's decision to screen all films distributed on its territory in the Ukrainian language.

Ukraine's Constitutional Court ruled on December 24, 2007, that all movie theaters in the country must show both foreign and domestic films with subtitles, voiceovers or dubbing only in Ukrainian.

The Russian statement accused the Ukrainian government of "refusing yet again to fulfill its international responsibilities." Ukraine's cinematic policies, the statement continued, "do not adhere to the European Charter on Regional Languages or Languages of Minorities, which, under the aegis of the government, foresees the development of cinematic production in the languages of minorities."

"In my opinion," said Yuri Karmazin of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc, "the diplomatic branch in Russia has not helped [President Vladimir] Putin, but in fact has set him up. This is an internal matter of a sovereign and independent country. How can the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of a foreign country review and assess the decision of the highest constitutional branch of an independent state?"

"By quoting the European Charter on Regional Languages," said Hanna Chmil, spokesperson for the State Film Service of Ukraine, "the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is playing an artificial game, because although the Parliament of Ukraine ratified his charter, the charter takes upon itself the responsibility to uphold the rights of those languages that are on the verge of extinction. There is no way one can say this about the Russian language."

Ms. Chmil noted that this issue is a financial one, as Russian film distributors would have to dub everything into Ukrainian.

The following day, on January 10, 2008, Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs responded to the Russian statement, accusing Russia of artificially attempting to increase tensions and destabilize relations by playing the language game. "Of course, such a campaign aims to disorient the international community with respect to the guaranteed status of national minorities' rights in our country, as well as to introduce

(Continued on page 10)

FOR THE RECORD

Priorities in U.S.-Ukraine trade relations

Following are excerpts of opening remarks by Ambassador Miriam Sapiro, deputy U.S. trade representative, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), Executive Office of the President. Her remarks were delivered at the U.S.-Ukraine Business Forum in Kyiv on October 14. The text was provided by the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council.

...Let me begin by affirming the Obama administration's continued commitment to a trade policy that embraces open markets and seeks to leverage the power of trade to create greater economic prosperity and employment opportunities. History has demonstrated the great harm that protectionism can cause to the world's economies.

Trade agreements have been one of the principal U.S. tools for expanding trade with a wide range of countries. U.S. trade agreements – bilateral, regional and multilateral – provide stable frameworks of obligations that private enterprises in the United States and our trading partners can rely upon in their efforts to establish new commercial ties with each other.

At the same time, the administration supports a trade policy that is consistent with values that are widely shared internationally, including the rights of workers, environmental sustainability, and political accountability. It is in that spirit that we seek to intensify our economic engagement with the world and to implement a trade policy that benefits not only Americans, but all our trading partners. ...

Now let me highlight several specific priorities for our policy agenda.

First, we are pursuing several initiatives to expand trade and investment among the United States and several of its Asia-Pacific trading partners. ...

Second, we are sharpening our focus on non-tariff barriers, seeking transparency and due process in our partners' trading practices, from government procurement to market regulation. ...

Third, the president has asked us to strengthen our efforts to enforce U.S. rights in the rules-based trading system. We are doing that by improving our monitoring and trade enforcement efforts, including bringing new cases at the WTO [World Trade Organization] as necessary.

Fourth we continue to press for strong protections for intellectual property, a topic to which I'll return in a moment. Notably, we have nearly concluded with the EU [European Union] and several other partners an Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) that will strengthen global enforcement of the trademarks and copyrights that are essential to the success of so many of our industries.

Fifth, we are increasing our support for small and medium-sized enterprises in their efforts to participate in international commerce. We will strengthen our international trade promotion programs and increase the number of our foreign trade missions. ...

Finally, we are using trade policy to promote progress on national energy and environmental goals. ...

Of course, these continue to be challenging economic times for the United States, Ukraine, and many other countries. In response to the financial crisis, many governments are pursuing aggressive efforts to spur economic growth and put people back to work. To get our economies back on track, we must create new jobs. Increasing exports is one way to achieve greater job growth. And as long as we're all growing, we can all increase job-creating exports at the same time:

nobody's exports need come at the expense of anybody else's.

We all know that many of the greatest growth opportunities lie with the world's emerging and developing economies, which will offer significant commercial opportunities in the years to come. As Ukraine continues to undertake systemic economic and commercial reforms, I am certain that it too can benefit from increased export and trade opportunities commensurate with its great potential, particularly in the areas of agriculture, steel, chemicals and machinery. These reforms are essential to achieving that vision.

Let me now turn to the some of the specific priorities in U.S.-Ukraine trade relations.

As you know, in April Presidents Obama and Yanukovich reaffirmed the important strategic partnership between our countries. They also expressed their commitment to seeing the relationship realize its full potential. The economic dimension is a crucial piece of these discussions, and the United States is committed to an ongoing dialogue to make this venture an engine of mutual prosperity. These efforts include encouraging reforms in Ukraine that support the rule of law, advance predictability and enhance transparency – all with the goal of boosting trade and investment not just with the United States, but with all of Ukraine's trading partners.

I am thus pleased to report that we had a productive session yesterday in our third meeting of the U.S.-Ukraine Trade and Investment Council meeting. ...Our work under this framework is an important part of our overall strategic partnership, as it gives us an opportunity to introduce and develop policies to deepen our economic ties.

In keeping with our overall U.S. trade policy, we want to expand our trade and investment with Ukraine. Bilateral trade grew from 2006-2008, exceeding \$4 billion in 2008. With the global economic crisis in 2009, our bilateral trade declined to just over \$1.3 billion. But our \$4 billion in trade in 2008 demonstrates what our presidents said when they met in April of this year – that there is clearly significant potential in our trading relationship we have not yet tapped.

An important element of increasing trade between our countries is to improve the logistics of trading. Yesterday we discussed the importance of customs facilitation. One key benefit will be to make it easier for Ukrainian companies to import the equipment that you use to increase productivity, employ Ukrainians citizens and boost exports. We agreed to establish a working group to focus just on this issue.

We also talked about reducing trade barriers on exports. The agriculture industry is a bright spot in Ukraine's economy. But the introduction of export restrictions and export quotas on grain in the absence of a grain shortage not only harms the agriculture industry, but the reputation of Ukraine as a reliable supplier on a broader scale. According to the Global Competitiveness Index, for Ukraine, the number one problem cited was "policy instability." Mother Nature can introduce enough instability; the government should not.

In addition, we discussed ways to facilitate foreign investment, a priority for President Yanukovich. The United States currently accounts for only 3 percent of all foreign direct investment in

(Continued on page 10)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What was Peres thinking?

Dear Editor:

Sadly, Israeli President Shimon Peres (during a recent November visit to Ukraine) advised Ukrainians “to forget about history, history is not at all important” (Newsbriefs, “Peres advises Ukrainians to forget history,” December 5).

Yet, Jews would never have survived or retained their identity as a people for over 5,000 years were it not for their love, respect and knowledge of their history and traditions.

Surely Ukrainians need to know about the Holodomor just as much as Jews need to know about Babyn Yar and the Holocaust. What was President Peres thinking?

Andrew M. Senkowsky, D.D.S.
Van Etten, N.Y.

Tragic events in Ukraine

Dear Editor:

Tragic events continue in Ukraine. The May 2010 “election” is an example. How can 13 million pro-Russians “outvote” 32 million Ukrainians? It isn’t possible. The fraud, deceit, blackmail, buy-outs, etc., is evident. Russians are experts at it.

Also a tragedy is a Russian naval base on Ukrainian soil. This is a violation of the Constitution of Ukraine.

Ukrainian democratic forces (Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Svoboda, Our Ukraine, Pora, etc.) must educate the younger electorate during elections. Many younger people are not familiar with the brutal past history of the Russian occupiers, and the fact that dictator Joseph Stalin forcibly settled Russians in eastern Ukraine.

Also, the Ukrainian World Congress must establish a firm and strong base in Kyiv to guide and lobby some of the Ukrainian democratic candidates and elected deputies. Ukrainian politicians appear to be amateurs facing Russian professionals. We in Canada have experience in democracy in Ukraine they don’t.

Finally, will the next “election” be properly supervised and run by the United Nations or the European Union? Let’s hope it isn’t influenced by Moscow again. The Russians must be told to stop interfering in Ukraine’s elections. Ukraine isn’t for sale.

E. Storziuk
Winnipeg, Manitoba

About 10 million and genocide

Dear Editors:

Re: “Snyder speaks in Washington about his book on victims of Hitler and Stalin,” (November 28, 2010).

The figure of 10 million dead was asserted by Joseph Stalin, the perpetrator of the 1933 Ukrainian genocide; by Walter Duranty, the leader of the cover-up of the genocide; and the German Embassy, an observer of the genocide. That figure was cited at the time the genocide took place.

The Soviet Russian government lied about anything and everything for 84 years. The Russians destroyed records, falsified records, altered photographs, including an instruction in 1965 from Moscow to the genocide areas to review their records and destroy any information on the genocide that might have survived the destruction of records in 1933.

Was it genocide? Prof. Raphael Lemkin, the man revered as the leader in the recognition of genocide, thought so. Perhaps the naysayers should take the trouble to find out what the definition of genocide is by reading the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide.

J. B. Gregorovich
Mount Forest, Ontario

Establish basis for dialogue

Dear Editor:

In Yaro Bihun’s article in the December 19, 2010, issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, Ambassador Olexander Motsyk praises the Ukrainian American community and asks for further support for Ukraine’s government, specifically in the form of investments and the U.S. government’s political support.

In the Newsbriefs section of that issue, the Ukrainian judiciary system is described as the most corrupt in the world. It does not take a genius to see why U.S. investment and political support for Ukraine have declined.

The editorial in the same issue states that the funding and design of the Holodomor monument to be built in Washington has been shrouded in secrecy by the Ukrainian government. The construction’s timing is critical; the lack of clear information and transparency is distressing, the editorial notes.

It’s time for our community leaders to realize that conferences and dialogue between them and Ukraine’s representatives does not lead to anything constructive, except maybe a free dinner hosted by the ambassador.

As a way to establish a basis for support from our community, Ukraine’s government and its ambassador must be clear on the status of the construction of the Holodomor memorial. Now that would be a good start!

Jerry Zinycz
Venice, Fla.

We welcome your opinion

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

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

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

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Two mid-winter oases

The first thing you may notice when you enter The Ukrainian Museum’s exhibit “Invitation to a Wedding: Ukrainian Wedding Textiles and Traditions,” which runs through September 18, is the hope chest, where a village girl would collect ornaments and apparel for her wedding. It may arouse ambivalent feelings.

On the one hand, feminist sensibilities may be offended by the notion that a young woman should devote so much hope and expectation to an institution designed to keep her in abject slavery to some boorish dolt of a husband.

After all, in the bad old days of patriarchal society, the men got to do the fun stuff – like pushing a plough or swinging a scythe, or getting drafted into the army and being blown to bits on some distant battlefield. The woman, on the other hand, would face a life of monotony and hardship, her natural talents stunted by what Marx called the “idiocy of rural life.” Depending on the season, she might spend her days spinning, weaving, dyeing, embroidering, tending to farm animals, gardening, churning butter, making cheese, baking bread, pickling vegetables, smoking meat, drying fruit, cooking or baking. She would bear and bring up numerous children, who would learn to produce their own food and master a variety of skills and crafts.

In our more enlightened times, by contrast, she spends 40 to 60 hours a week staring at a computer screen, month after month, year after year, for the benefit of some faceless corporation or government agency, so that she can afford her usually empty six-bedroom house for her three-person family which she only sees at night and on weekends, plus expensive lessons or a nanny to occupy her bored and lonely child.

On the other hand, as you proceed past the headdresses, necklaces, embroidery, ritual cloths (rushnyky) and ritual breads (korovayi), you will be struck by the importance that our ancestors attributed to the wedding and, by implication, to marriage. You will also see an array of vintage photographs of village men and women adorned with these exquisite artifacts, which attest to the richness of Ukrainian village culture.

As a friend of mine observed, these same individuals may have died of hunger in the 1930s. This reminds us that the Holodomor was not only a “war against the peasants,” but a war against an entire indigenous culture. It was a war against the whole of Ukrainian culture – “high” and “low,” urban and rural, spiritual as well as secular. And that points to genocide.

As you walk past the modern wedding dresses at the end of the exhibit, you can evaluate designers’ adaptations of folk tradition to a modern aesthetic. But is this even possible, given the radically different parameters of those two cultural worlds? Yet, admirable attempts have been made to bridge the gap between the village and our post-industrial urban environment.

At a time when marriage itself seems doomed, do weddings have a future? Perhaps we should take our society’s down-to-earth pragmatism and cult of convenience to their logical conclusion by being born, breeding, and dying without the encumbrances of ritual or cere-

mony. Some day, having convinced ourselves that none of these life events has any transcendent meaning, we may look back on weddings as the relics of a superstitious age. But we may feel a twinge of regret.

As the newlyweds arrive at a traditional wedding reception, they are presented with icons, which will find a place in their home. Unless you live in Washington, D.C., you may have missed “The Glory of Ukraine: Sacred Images from the 11th to the 19th Centuries,” an exhibit of icons and other artifacts at the Meridian International Center, closing January 16. Organized by the Foundation for International Arts and Education of Bethesda, Md., it includes items from the Kyiv-Pecherska Lavra, the Lviv National Museum and the PlaTar Museum of National Cultural Heritage.

Like wedding costumes, these icons remind us of the richness and variety of Ukrainian culture. For example, entire schools of iconography developed in Volyn and Halychyna. One may be surprised that the icons from the Kyivan Caves Monastery (Pecherska Lavra) show a stronger Western influence – perhaps due to the city’s international contacts.

As Linette Martin points out in “Sacred Doorways: A Beginner’s Guide to Icons” (Brewster, Mass.: Paraclete Press, 2002), icons challenge our conventional assumptions about time and space. A single icon may depict events taking place at different times, ignore perspective, or distort the natural hierarchy of scale (Id., pp. 140-143). This is because icons do not seek to depict material reality, but rather to convey spiritual truth. In this they foreshadow modern expressionism.

The “icon-writer” is not, however, an “artist” aspiring to express individual feelings in an original manner, but a craftsman who humbly submits to tradition in order to create a medium between the material and spiritual worlds. “The icon is a door,” wrote St. Stephen the Younger, which permits the worshiper to communicate with the person depicted. Icons cannot be understood without reference to liturgical or private prayer in church or at home.

In that case, should icons be kept in museums? While the church or the home is their natural environment, the placement of icons in galleries or museums does allow them to speak to new audiences (Martin, pp. 211-213). “In their stillness,” writes Ms. Martin, “icons call into question our self-important bustle, our inner lack of integration and central calm.” (Id., p. 216). “To the disoriented world,” remarks Leonid Ouspensky, “the icon brings a testimony of authenticity, of the reality of another way of life...” (“Theology of the Icon” (1978), quoted in Martin, p. 218)

These two museum exhibits provide an occasion to reflect not only on the past, but on the future of two features of our tradition. For a museum is not a mausoleum. It is an oasis for the caravan of culture, where it may rest, recollect, reconsider – and gather its forces for the next stage of the journey.

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

Boston commemorates anniversary of the Holodomor with four events



Vsevolod Petriv

Parishioners of Christ the King Church gathered to mark the 77th anniversary of the Holodomor.

by Peter T. Woloschuk

The 77th anniversary of the Holodomor was commemorated in Boston over a three-week period with events from Sunday, November 21, through Sunday, December 5, 2010. All of the ceremonies were sponsored by Ukrainian Congress Committee of America – Boston Branch (UCCA) and were supported by the branch president, Vsevolod Petriv, the English-language secretary, Maria Fedynshyn Saxe, and the board of directors of the branch.

The solemn observances began with a showing of the documentary film “Okradena Zemya” at the parish house of Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church. UCCA-Boston Vice-President Paul Rabchenuk facilitated and coordinated this event, which was also a fundraiser to help the producer-director, Yuriy Luhovy, raise enough money to master an English-language version of the work. The film was shown after the solemn sung liturgies at both Ukrainian parishes and drew some 70 people.

Following the film screening, Mr. Luhovy shared insights on the reasons for the film, the documentary evidence that he found, and the people that he interviewed.

On the Sunday after Thanksgiving, the Rev. Yaroslav Nalysnyk of Christ the King Parish offered the Ukrainian liturgy for the victims of the Holodomor, preached a powerful sermon about the senselessness of the tragedy, and concluded with a “panakhyda” (memorial service) and the lighting of candles by all in attendance, and, finally, a procession (obkhyd) of the church.

In his sermon, the Rev. Nalysnyk recalled that “the Holodomor – the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 was hidden from sight for more than 70 years.”

“The 1932-1933 Ukrainian Famine is

certainly one of the greatest tragedies of the 20th century,” the Rev. Nalysnyk said. “More than 10 million people, or one quarter of the population, starved on the fertile lands of Ukraine. At the height of the Famine, 17 people died every minute, 1,000 an hour, 25,000 a day. The genocide against the Ukrainian people was a crime against humanity. Even though justice cannot be served to those who were responsible for this crime, at least the truth about this unspeakable tragedy will not be forgotten.”

“It is important for all of us to speak up and spread awareness globally of what happened in Ukraine in the 1930s so that mankind might never witness a similar tragedy again,” Father Nalysnyk said. “It is my deepest wish that this dark moment in human history not be denied or forgotten. Only by facing the truth can we build a better world.”

After the liturgy, UCCA-Boston Vice-President Zenoviy Prots led members of the branch and spent the afternoon at one of the main public transportation terminals of the city where the UCCA undertook informational leafleting to raise consciousness and visibility of the Holodomor among the general public. The material distributed included a three-fold flyer that highlighted material from the UCCA headquarters in New York.

On Sunday, December 5, the Rev. Roman Tarnavsky, pastor of St. Andrew the First Called Ukrainian Orthodox Church, brought the commemorations to a close with a commemorative liturgy and a final panakhyda with the lighting of candles by the entire congregation. The service was attended by at least three seniors who witnessed and survived the Holodomor as children.

Speaking in English, the Rev. Tarnavsky stressed the contrast between

(Continued on page 10)



The procession at Christ the King Church.



The leafleting effort at Forest Hills MBTA Station.



The audience at the presentation of “Okradena Zemlya,” which kicked off the Holodomor commemorations.



The Holodomor “panakhyda” at St Andrew’s.

Volodymyr Viatrovych lectures at CIUS on SBU Archives

EDMONTON, Alberta – Volodymyr Viatrovych, a historian from Ukraine, lectured on “Declassifying Documents from the SBU Archives: Achievements and Further Prospects” at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, on November 7, 2010.

A former director of the Sectoral State Archive of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), he is one of the most authoritative specialists on the subject and has made considerable efforts to declassify previously secret KGB documents, especially those pertaining to mass political repressions, the Holodomor, and the suppression of the liberation movement in Ukraine.

In his lecture at CIUS Mr. Viatrovych called the SBU archives the “functional core of the totalitarian mechanism” that was intended to maintain the vitality of the Soviet regime. One of the regime’s salient characteristics was the desire of its political leadership to control every sphere of human life. This entailed the collection of enormous quantities of testimony, surveillance data, secret reports, and compromising information about oppositional organizations and individuals targeted by the secret police.

All this information was concentrated in special archival repositories with highly limited access. In contrast to ideologically “purged” archives of the Communist Party, the security-service archives provided more accurate information that the authorities could use for practical purposes, noted Mr. Viatrovych.

In Ukraine, the largest collection of such documents was inherited from the KGB and is now preserved in the Sectoral State Archive of the SBU. This differs fundamentally from the situation in Poland, the Czech Republic and the Baltic states, where such documents have been transferred to special archives or to institutes of national memory.

Because the issue is highly politicized in Ukraine, it was not settled even in the period most conducive to its resolution (2005-2010). That is why documents whose interest is now strictly historical still remain under the jurisdiction of the SBU, which deals with them as it sees fit, often ignoring current legislation and exploiting documentary evidence for political purposes, the speaker explained.

Chronologically speaking, the holdings of the Sectoral State Archive of the SBU cover the period from 1918 (when the notorious Cheka was created) to the last days of the Soviet Union (1991). Through the prism of these documents the whole Soviet period of Ukrainian history may be observed “from the inside,” and researchers can find answers to hundreds of questions about the past that are still hotly debated today.

The SBU’s vast holdings of historical documents – amounting to more than 800,000 files, some of which run to dozens of volumes – are divided into particular collection, or “fond,” classified by type and topic. The largest fond is that of criminal cases – hundreds of thousands of testimonies gathered from victims of political repression between the 1920s and the 1950s, as well as in the next terror campaign against dissidents from the 1960s to the 1980s. These files contain huge quantities of confiscated documents of organizations and individuals opposed to the regime, beginning with materials of guerrilla detachments that operated in central and southern Ukraine in the 1920s and ending with documents of the Popular Movement of Ukraine in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

They include a unique collection of documents of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army. This great cache of documents – more than 240 volumes – is perhaps the best evidence of the large scale of the anti-Soviet opposition and of the fact that throughout its existence the Soviet regime maintained itself by means of violence against its citizens.

Information about the day-to-day activities of the Soviet-era security services appears in thousands of documents concerning normative practices and specific directives, as well as in analytical reports prepared for the top political echelons. They contain general data about government and politics, socio-economic conditions, and cultural and spiritual life in Ukraine, the social and political activities of Ukrainians abroad, and statistical reports about the results of repressive measures.

This group of documents includes espionage files with information about individuals who collaborated with the Soviet security services, Mr. Viatrovych said. There are also operational files concerning investigations of individuals or groups targeted by the KGB. These documents are the best proof of the security services’ brutal intrusion into the private lives of citizens and the physical and psychological pressure that they exerted through wiretapping, surveillance, denunciations, mail censorship and the like.

Mr. Viatrovych noted that secret agents spied not only on their own citizens but also on Ukrainians in the West in an attempt to undermine their organized activities. In Canada, for instance, they resorted to outright provocations intended to discredit the local diaspora, which had significant connections with the Canadian political establishment.

The lecturer gave examples of faked letters allegedly written on behalf of local Ukrainian organizations, measures intended

Yavorsky and Yevhen Zakharov said: “The procurator general stated immediately after his appointment that he would implement any order of the president. A member of the [ruling] Party of the Regions has been appointed head of the High Court on Civil and Criminal Cases, while his deputy is the procurator general’s brother. All of this gives rise to well-founded doubts that the court proceedings in these political cases will be run in keeping with the standards of the right to a fair trial.”

Other critics in Ukraine suggest that the recent campaign against former officials is diverting attention from recent cases where allies of the president have been installed in prominent positions.

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Volodymyr Viatrovych presents his lecture at a seminar of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

to “refute the fabrications of OUN followers” about the Holodomor, attempts to influence the Western press, the dissemination of false information and even threats of terrorist actions.

“However, the archives were not only the place where documents were hidden from outside observers but also the place where they were destroyed,” noted Viatrovych. Extensive purges of the archives intended to wipe out the traces of the regime’s crimes took place in 1944, 1953, 1954 and, finally, in 1990.

The purge of 1990 concentrated on the destruction of documents dating from the 1960s to the 1980s that were liable to contain compromising information about KGB agents. It was at this time that the multivolume operational and investigative files on “Operation Block” against Ukrainian dissidents were destroyed. The only remaining archival evidence of that operation consists of reports prepared on the basis of the files and submitted to Volodymyr Shcherbytsky, then first secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Viatrovych and his colleagues, many documents have been published in documentary collections and in the specialized journal *Z Arkhiviv*

VUCHK-HPU-NKVD-MHB-KHB (From the Archives of the VUCHK-GPU-NKVD-MGB-KGB) and have been posted on the Internet.

The years 2008-2010 saw the establishment of cooperation with similar archives in Eastern Europe: agreements were signed with the Polish Institute of National Memory and the Research Institute on the Totalitarian Regime in the Czech Republic.

In 2009 the archives issued a unique publication, *Putivnyk po Fondakh Arkhivu SBU* (The Collections of the SBU Archives: A Guide), describing their structure and principal collections. Centers with electronic access to the archives were established in all 25 oblast capitals of Ukraine. The launch of a special website for these materials was also planned.

Commenting on recent achievements in making secret archives open to the public, Mr. Viatrovych pointed out the efforts of the new authorities to copy Russian measures intended to restrict access to these unique documents. Such efforts, however, have already aroused strong objections in Ukraine and elsewhere.

Mr. Viatrovych noted that such public reaction is extremely important not only for defending the right to know the truth about the past but also for the assertion of democratic principles today. Only a full disclosure of the crimes of the past will make it possible for Ukrainian society to repudiate them completely in moral and legal terms, thereby ensuring that they will not be repeated.

Mr. Viatrovych is the founder and head of the scholarly council of the Center for Research on the Liberation Movement. He is the author of numerous publications, including the monographs “Reidy UPA Terenamy Chekhoslovachchyny” (UPA Raids on the Territory of Czechoslovakia, 2001) and “Stavlenia OUN do Yevreyiv. Formuvannia Pozytsiyi na Tli Katastrofy” (The OUN’s Attitude toward Jews: The Formulation of a Position against the Background of a Catastrophe, 2007). He is now a visiting scholar at the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University.

In Edmonton, Mr. Viatrovych also participated in the XXIII Congress of Ukrainian Canadians and gave interviews to the local Ukrainian radio program and the Edmonton Journal.

Anne Applebaum comments on new film about Soviet gulag

When it comes to the Soviet gulag, the silver screen has long been blank – until last month, with the premiere of Peter Weir’s “The Way Back.” The film, starring Colin Farrell, is loosely based on a memoir by former Polish soldier Slawomir Rawicz, depicting his imprisonment in Siberia, escape, and subsequent 6,000-kilometer walk to freedom in India.

Journalist and writer Anne Applebaum, author of the Pulitzer-prize winning book “Gulag: A History,” served as a consultant on the project. She spoke to RFE/RL correspondent Jeremy Bransten about the movie.

Below is a brief excerpt from that interview. (To read the complete interview, readers can log on to http://www.rferl.org/content/interview_anne_applebaum_on_the_way_back/2258699.html.)

RFE/RL: As a test, I did a search for “Holocaust films” on Google. As expected, the offerings were rich – from Hollywood blockbusters like “Sophie’s Choice” and “Schindler’s List” to smaller gems like “Europa Europa.” When I typed in “gulag films,” Google didn’t come up with

much. Why this striking imbalance, in your opinion?

Anne Applebaum: I think the difference in the making of the films reflects a difference in cultural understanding of these two events. Until very recently, there were no [accessible] archives on the gulag, there was very little information about it. Only in recent years have historians begun to excavate the Soviet archives and produce really good descriptions of what happened.

I think there is also a lack of understanding in the West. People talk about a “left-wing bias” and how the left didn’t want to talk about the gulag.

But I think it’s even more complicated than that. The fact is that, certainly in the United States, Britain and France, we have the sense that we won the war and we won the war in alliance with Russia, with the Soviet Union. Stalin was our ally and it’s very difficult for us – even now – to think about Stalin also being a genocidal dictator and also somebody who committed crimes against humanity. Thus, people have been less enthusiastic about portraying [the gulag] in films and in novels.

More join list...

(Continued from page 2)
Distracting attention?

Ukrainian analysts say that the government is trying to boost its anticorruption credentials and divert attention from unpopular initiatives, such as raising gas tariffs and an upcoming rise in the retirement age.

Ukraine ranks 134th out 178 countries in Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index this year, alongside Nigeria and Zimbabwe. Human rights activists say they also doubt that current authorities are sincerely aiming to stop graft.

The Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights and Kharkiv Human Rights Group issued a joint statement calling on the government to end “selective” criminal prosecutions. They say that due to recent legislative changes, judges have become more dependent on politicians.

In a statement, prominent Ukrainian human rights activists Volodymyr

Work begins on Basilian Sisters' centennial documentary film

NEW YORK – On January 16 parishioners and guests will have an opportunity to renew friendships and relive memories at the “Prospora” (Christmastime repast) of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York City.

On that day Mykola Yaremko, cinematographer at Red Eft Media, and Sister Ann Laszok (a.k.a. Sister Anthony), in preparation for the Basilian Sisters' centennial documentary, will be interviewing and filming people who were taught by the sisters.

Anyone who would like to share their memories on camera (or off) is invited to come after each Sunday lit-

urgy to St. George School. Persons who have any memorable photos are asked to bring these as well. They will be scanned and returned immediately. Old movies (any 16mm or 8 mm format) would be priceless and will be digitized.

Several Sisters of St. Basil will be coming to the Prospora also. The Sisters of St. Basil are celebrating 100 years in America as a praying, healing and life-giving presence.

For further information readers may call or e-mail Sister Ann Laszok at sranl@aol.com or 412-260-1607. For tickets to the Prospora readers may call 212-674-1615.

Boston commemorates...

(Continued from page 8)

the recent Thanksgiving Day holiday celebrated in a bountiful country where religious freedom is permitted and the horror of the Holodomor, the condemnation of millions to starvation was used as a tool of political repression.

“We need to remember that just 79 short years ago many of our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, did not have the things we take for granted today,” Father Tarnavsky said, “They were not able to worship in their faith, they were not able to sit down with their family members because many of them were in jail, and they were not even able to eat together because their food, their very substance, their bread was taken

away from them by the Communist regime.”

In his Ukrainian remarks, the pastor recalled the words of the prophet Jeremiah: “death from hunger is a terrible and painful death, but the death of those who perpetrate this evil is even worse because they die a little each time they witness the results of their deeds.”

Finally, Maria Walzer, who over many years has been instrumental in getting educators in eastern New England to include the Holodomor in their discussions of genocide, has spearheaded a drive to have the Massachusetts legislature officially incorporate the Ukrainian genocide in the curriculum of the state's public schools. The issue will be taken up during the body's new session in early 2011.

Priorities...

(Continued from page 6)

Ukraine. We would like to see this figure increase.

But increasing investment is not just a matter of the U.S. government telling U.S. businesses that they should invest in Ukraine. There are many markets around the world where businesses can invest. It is imperative for the Ukrainian government, and Ukrainian businesses, to convince investors that they should invest here. I can't emphasize enough the important role Ukrainian companies will play in this regard. You know what is good for your businesses – what works and what does not.

To that end, a major focus of our discussions yesterday was on ways to improve the business and investment climate in Ukraine. The President's Program of Economic Reforms, 2010-2014, calls for strategic transformations in a number of key areas. It is essential for these to be matched by concrete actions.

Improving the Tax Code will be one important step forward to enhancing the business environment. Some specific items we discussed yesterday were reforms to broaden the tax base, correct the non-deductibility of royalties and not increase the tax liability for certain entrepreneurs involved in direct sales.

Another important step will be the payment of VAT arrears, and the introduction of a transparent system for future VAT refunds. The government has pledged to establish, by January 2011, a system for the automatic refunds of VAT. Our Department of Treasury has offered assistance on this issue and I encourage the Ukrainian government to work with them.

Finally, I want to return to a topic I mentioned earlier, which also greatly affects the business and investment climate – intellectual property rights (IPR) protection.

...Innovative industries are being harmed everywhere by piracy, counterfeiting, and other kinds of intellectual property theft. This issue takes on larger significance when we think of the consequences for our economies, and for our workers and their families, if people start to feel that the risks of investing in innovation and creativity outweigh the benefits.

Put simply, protecting intellectual property rights is essential to our ability to harness the creativity and ingenuity of our researchers, scientists, engineers, and manufacturing workers, who are at the forefront of technological developments and innovative solutions. ...

The protection of intellectual property rights protection continues to be an important component of the U.S.-Ukrainian trade relationship. Visible progress will be a tangible step towards improving the business climate here. This

is not about just the U.S. economy. The adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights is critically important for the competitiveness of the Ukrainian economy in a more integrated world because of the link to innovation – the engine of future economic growth and another key priority identified by President Yanukovich.

Over the past five years, the government of Ukraine has made substantial progress in improving its IPR regime, in part to meet the requirements for accession to the WTO. However, significant problems persist: enforcement efforts remain weak and piracy and counterfeiting are widespread. As a result, Ukraine remained on the annual Special 301 Watch List this year.

But that can change. I am particularly pleased to report that yesterday the Minister and I announced the adoption of an action plan to improve Ukraine's protection of intellectual property rights. ...

Some of the goals include increased public awareness of the importance of intellectual property rights; improved enforcement; and a commitment by the government to allocate the necessary funds to transition its ministries to licensed software. The Plan further envisions the allocation of additional resources to the IPR units of the Economic Police Departments and the State Department of Intellectual Property, and addressing irregularities in the registration and permit-issuance process for pharmaceutical products entering Ukraine. ...

Let me finish with a promise. I came not simply to discuss problems, but to find solutions. And I firmly believe in the notion that a rising tide raises all boats. We stand ready to work with Ukraine to achieve the goals we discussed yesterday in order to deepen and improve our bilateral trading relationship to the benefit of both our countries. We look forward to continued collaboration as we seek to advance our work on the basis of our common economic interests and shared values. ...

* * *

USUBC NOTE: The Ministry of the Economy of Ukraine, in cooperation with the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC), the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine, the National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce, the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs sponsored the Ukraine-U.S. Business Forum in Kyiv on October 14 in conjunction with the third annual government to government bilateral trade and investment meetings (October 13) which were established by the U.S.-Ukraine Trade and Investment Cooperation Agreement (TICA) on April 1, 2008.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

the element of instability between ethnic relations within Ukraine,” the statement noted. The statement also defended the decisions of the Constitutional Court and declared that the development of Ukrainian cinema and the nurturing of the Ukrainian language are internal matters.

Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Volodymyr Ohryzko met with his

Russian counterpart, Viktor Chernomyrdin, on January 10, 2008, and suggested that “the tone of the latest claims by the Russian Ministry regarding Ukraine's history, its language policy and its guarantee of the rights of national minorities may damage Ukrainian-Russian relations.”

Source: “Russian statement criticizes Ukraine on language policy,” by Illya M. Labunka, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, January 20, 2008.

Moscow Patriarchate...

(Continued from page 4)

Ukraine “risks returning to the violent inter-confessional struggle of the early 1990s.”

The crusades have even extended as far as Khoruzhivka, the native village of former President Viktor Yushchenko, a devoted follower of the UOC-KP. Liturgies there are conducted in the Ukrainian language.

Local UOC-MP faithful have repeatedly asked to celebrate their divine liturgies – in the Church Slavonic language – at the village's UOC-KP church, which was completed by the former president in 2007, under the direction of his elder brother, Petro Yushchenko.

Sumy UOC-MP Bishop Yevholii recently had a meeting with Petro Yushchenko requesting that local parishioners gain ownership of a church altar, a request that was categorically refused by the national deputy, who's familiar with the usurpation tactics of the UOC-MP.

The most common strategy of the Moscow Patriarchate is to begin building a small chapel, or pitching a tent, at a site without obtaining either a deed or a building permit. Then it expands upon the small structure or territory.

The chapel at the Desiatynna Church site has doubled in size since it was first erected in 2007. That was done without government permission, confirmed Vasyl Prysiazhniuk, the former director of the Main Administration of City Planning, Architecture and Design.

Once a site is occupied by crusaders, politicians grant the Moscow Patriarchate all the building permits it needs. Authorities allow the Moscow Patriarchate to engage in such aggressive activity, and not only because many of them are former Communists with Ukrainophobe views, experts said.

Corrupt politicians could be using the UOC-MP as a means of stealing money from the state budget, hinted Serhii Krolevets, who served as director of the Kyiv-Pechersk National-Cultural Reserve for 15 years before his ouster in 2010. Both state and local government officials allocate large sums, often millions of dollars, in their annual budgets for renovating and

maintaining structures of the UOC-MP, which isn't required by law to produce any accounting reports, he told *The Weekly* in an August 2010 interview.

So, while the churches of the Pechersk-Lavra Reserve got earmarks of \$6 million between 2007 and 2009 for construction and restoration, the reserve's administration led by Mr. Krolevets – which has to provide accounting reports – received nothing from the state budget during those years, he said.

“Why is the Culture Ministry's money allocated directly to the Church?” he asked rhetorically. “[Culture Minister Oksana] Bilozir first signed this decree in 2005. The first \$2 million went directly to the church under Yushchenko and Bilozir for performing restoration work, and this work is being done without documentation, without authorization and without reporting.”

Recently UOC-KP Bishop Yevstratii called for creating a State Committee on Religion, which he said is an anachronism for Europe but a necessity for a nation like Ukraine where the government has failed to offer professional, secure policy on religious matters.

“With responsibility I declare there's an attempt to implement a wide-scale plan for the collapse and destruction of the Kyiv Patriarchate,” UOC-KP Patriarch Filaret said in his December 30 statement. “This plan was created in Moscow and proposed by Moscow Patriarch Kirill and his subordinates for fulfillment in Ukraine. State organs have been given the main role in this plan.”

The Kyiv Patriarchate first received reports in the summer of how priests and parishioners were being pressured to convert to the Moscow Patriarchate by local government officials and business sponsors, Patriarch Filaret said.

“Representatives of local state organs are directly involved in these actions, and their simultaneousness and coordination shows they have support also from the capital's [Kyiv's] offices. This work only intensified in recent months as 70 percent of priests in some eparchies underwent similar interrogations. I am convinced that the further fulfillment of Moscow's plans threatens Ukrainian society with strong conflicts.”

Boston College Ukrainian club hosts Victor Malarek

by Andrew Klokiw

CHESTNUT Hill, Mass. – At an event hosted by the Boston College Ukrainian Student Society (BCUSS) on Sunday, December 5, 2010, nearly 60 people came to hear Canadian journalist and author Victor Malarek speak on the horrific sex trade that has taken root throughout Ukraine, as well as in much of the rest of Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa.

BCUSS President, Andrea Dzwynyk said, “Our society believes that we have a responsibility to host events such as this to call attention to major problems, such as human trafficking, confronting Ukraine and is grateful to have had the privilege of hosting Mr. Malarek, who is such a prominent activist for this global issue.”

Andrew Klokiw is from Rye, N.Y. He is a sophomore and an international studies major at Boston College.

Mr. Malarek, 62, is a senior reporter for CTV Television’s “W5” newsmagazine television series, the longest-running news magazine/documentary program in North America and the most-watched program of its type in Canada.

However he is perhaps best known for his writing, including six books on the subject of human trafficking. The two most well-known of his works are “The Johns: Sex For Sale and the Men Who Buy It” (2009) and “The Natashas: Inside the Global Sex Trade” (2003).

“John” is the name given to customers of prostitutes, those who, according to Mr. Malarek, “are the true men behind the subjugation of these poor women.” It is thought that term originated in England and North America where customers would frequently give their name as simply “John,” in order to maintain anonymity. Additionally, “Natasha” is a common name given to Eastern European prostitutes who are sub-

jected to truly horrendous conditions.

When talking about the roles of the governments in preventing the international sex trade and crimes against women, Mr. Malarek condemned all of them, including the Ukrainian government, for not doing more to prevent the trafficking of their citizens.

However, he specifically cited the 2002 Swedish law – which prohibits trafficking for both sexual exploitation and forced labor, and prescribes penalties of two to 10 years’ imprisonment – as a prime example of a proactive government that was making a difference in the lives of trafficked women. “Until more governments follow the Swedish example,” Mr. Malarek told his audience, “the sex trade will continue to prosper.”

Mr. Malarek continued, “In Sweden, ‘the Johns’ that buy sex are criminalized, rather than the helpless women who are trapped.”

Using vivid images and strong invective,

Mr. Malarek exposed the seedy underbelly of the sex trafficking trade, putting the blame not only on the traffickers themselves, but also on the governments and customers who enable the trade to flourish. He questioned the validity of prosecuting the prostituted women themselves as many governments do, when it is the men who are committing the act and paying to “rape” these women. He also talked about the violence in the industry, the fact that many women are regularly beaten and that a good percentage are ultimately maimed or even killed.

To Mr. Malarek, this \$32 billion-per-year industry is the modern equivalent of slavery. He dissected the profiles of both the women who are trafficked and the men who purchase their services, and pointed to the “simple economics” driving the industry. Lamenting the fact that the demand for

(Continued on page 13)

Boston College Ukrainian students gather for end-of-semester liturgy

by Marko Liber

CHESTNUT HILL, Mass. – Boston College Ukrainian students and local residents alike gathered at the beautifully decorated St. William’s Chapel on Boston College’s Brighton Campus on Wednesday, December 8, 2010, for a wonderful evening of worship and bandura music.

The liturgy was co-sponsored by the university’s Ukrainian Students Society, the

Marko Liber is a Chicago native and a sophomore biology major, Hispanic studies minor and a member of the pre-medical program at Boston College.

Department of Slavic and Eastern Languages and Literatures, and the School of Theology and Ministry.

It was concelebrated by the Rev. Michael Moisin of the Romanian Catholic mission of greater Boston; the Rev. James Morris, pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Salem, Mass.; and the Rev. Deacon Michael Connolly, a professor at Boston College. Second-year law student Taylor Black of Washington State (a Ruthenian rite Catholic) acted as reader.

The celebration blended the traditional style and decoration of Ukrainian liturgies with the English language.

Ihor Kowal, choir director of Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church of Boston, sang the responses during the liturgy and serenaded everyone with a selection of Ukrainian Christmas carols (koliady) and bandura music following the conclusion of the worship.

“The Ukrainian Society is tremendously grateful to have this opportunity. While BC is a Jesuit university, we don’t often have the chance to worship in our own Byzantine Ukrainian tradition, which we’ve all grown up with,” said BC Ukrainian Students Society president Andrea Dzwynyk following the celebration. “We are hoping to have many more opportuni-

ties like this to showcase our rite and culture at this American Roman Catholic university.”

At the conclusion of the evening there was a discussion of holding regular Ukrainian liturgies on campus at least once a month, and a schedule is being put together for the spring semester. Depending on interest and attendance, liturgies will be offered more frequently and it is hoped eventually to hold them on a weekly basis. Again, depending on response, there are also plans to ask the school to adapt one of the existing chapels for regular Eastern rite

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The Ukrainian Museum presents Christmas traditions of the Carpathians

by Ihor Slabicky

NEW YORK – Saturday, December 11, 2010, was certainly a good day to be at The Ukrainian Museum.

There was the Christmas bazaar, where one could buy a variety of art works, books and, of course, tasty goodies from a huge selection of “smachne pechyvo.”

The Christmas baking workshop was in full swing, filling the air with the wonderful smells of traditional Christmas breads.

And, the “Invitation to a Wedding” exhibit, which had opened a couple weeks before, was there for the viewing.

That should have been enough, right? Oh, so wrong! The special delight was that evening’s “Koliada and the Music of the Carpathians” concert produced by Virlana Tkacz and the Yara Arts Group. The concert featured artists from Ukraine: “koliadnyky” (carolers) Ivan Zelenchuk and Mykola Zelenchuk, both from Kryvorivnia, and troista musicians Mykola Ilyuk (violin), Vasyl Tymchuk (tsymbaly) and Ostap Kostyuk (duda, telynka and flutes). Joining them were Valeriy Zhmud on violin and famed bandurist Julian Kytasty.

This was not the first time that the koliadnyky have performed in New York. They had most recently performed here in 2008, and had appeared in the previous years. To many audience members, this evening’s performance was a long anticipated return visit, much like the koliadnyky who visit our own homes every year.

With the audience seated, the filled to capacity room was darkened and a bell rang brightly. The seating in the gallery was arranged in long rows running the length of the room, giving one an intimate feeling of sitting along one side of a long table, awaiting the koliadnyky that would soon enter into our house and sit on the other side of the table. Projected scenes of snowy villages reinforced this with the sensation that one was at home, looking out through a window at the majestic Carpathian Mountains in the distance.

The trembity sounded three times, each time closer as the koliadnyky came up the stairs and into the second floor gallery of the museum, where this traditional koliada was presented.

With their arrival, the koliadnyky first performed a “Plies,” a winter dance outside the home, followed by “Tsy Doma, Doma, Tsey Pan Hospodar,” inquiring if the master of the house was within. Mr. Kostyuk then performed an intriguing instrumental on the duda. The koliadnyky performed the “Trypotinnia,” a dance specifically meant to shake off the snow before they enter the house.

Ivan Zelenchuk, as the “bereza,” asked if the hospodar was in the house, to which Prof. Jaroslav Leshko, chairman of The Ukrainian Museum’s board of trustees, warmly responded. The koliadnyky proceeded to sing “V Nashoho Pana,” in which they praise the richness of the master of the household.

A floyara instrumental solo by Mr. Kostyuk followed, and the bereza then suggested that the koliadnyky sing a koliada to the hospodynia of the house. Turning to Maria Shust, the director of The Ukrainian Museum, they sang “V Nedilyu Rano,” which praises the graces and organizational skills of the mistress of the house. Considering the myriad tasks that Maria Shust performs at the museum, it was most appropriate that this be sung to her.

The troista musicians then per-



Ostap Kostyuk (telynka), Vasyl Tymchuk (tsymbaly), Mykola Ilyuk (tsymbaly), Mykola Zelenchuk and Ivan Zelenchuk perform on December 11, 2010, at The Ukrainian Museum.

formed a wonderful instrumental on the telynka, tsymbaly and violin. The koliadnyky followed that with “Teche Richka,” a “spivanka” (rhyming song) and the “Plies z Dzinkamy” (a dance with hand bells). The ensemble finished with an instrumental played on the drymba (jaw harp).

Mr. Zhmud joined the group, performing “Verkhovyno” with Mr. Ilyuk, the piece allowing the two violinists to try and out-do each other, ending with a furiously fast display of their bowing skills. The ensemble sang “Dobriy Vechir Tobi, Pane Hospodariu,” which was followed by “Fantazia Terpoliuka,” an instrumental featuring the two violinists and Mr. Tymchuk on tsymbaly. The koliadnyky then performed “Iz Za Hory,” a koliada to a young man, which was directed, in this case, to Mr. Zhmud.

Mr. Kytasty, the renowned bandurist,



Julian Kytasty performs during the concert “Koliada and the Music of the Carpathians.”

joined the group, singing “Kraseniu Iasniy,” a koliada to a young man from Slobozhanshchyna. Mr. Tymchuk then joined him on the tsymbaly, and with the other musicians, they performed a lively instrumental piece, demonstrating both the unique musical qualities of the bandura and the tsymbaly and just how well they sound together. As that ended, Mr. Kytasty segued into “Ishly Molodsti,” a koliada to a young man.

The ensemble, with the audience joining them, sang the traditional church carol “Nova Radist Stala.”

Starting with the melody of “Oi Syvaya

Zozulenka,” Messrs. Kytasty and Zhmud proceeded to trading phrases and then the smallest snatches of melody on their bandura and violin. They completely deconstructed the song, magically returning to the melody in the closing bars – a simply wonderful version of this song. As the last notes hung in the air, the tsymbaly introduced a lively “Hutsulka” in which everyone joined in.

The koliadnyky performed the “Kruhliak,” a round dance for the bees so that they would be fruitful and produce much honey in the coming year. They then

(Continued on page 17)

Ukrainian officials...

(Continued from page 1)

Patriarch Filaret added that he was sure that this effort by Moscow in alliance with Ukrainian officials will generate “strong anger” among Ukrainians, a development that the UOC-KP hopes can be avoided. But “in response to all our appeals to the authorities, we do not hear anything” except empty declarations about equal protection of all Churches.

What is happening, the Kyiv patriarch warned, could reignite the Church conflicts that marked the first decade of Ukraine’s post-Soviet existence, including the kind of violence that took place on July 18, 1995, when the Ukrainian militia beat those who were taking part in the funeral of the late Patriarch Volodymyr of the UOC-KP, an event known as “bloody Tuesday” in Ukraine.

“We are not afraid of new persecutions,” Patriarch Filaret said. Nonetheless, he called on “all parishioners” to show “vigilance” and not allow the Moscow Patriarchate working together with Ukrainian officials to shift their congregations to the Russian Church without the explicit consent of the members of these churches.

Patriarch Filaret also called on “society and the international community [as well as journalists in Ukraine and abroad] to focus attention on [this latest] violation of the rights of the believers of the Kyiv Patriarchate and to the increase of pressure on our Church. Your voice must be raised in defense of the truth!”

The Moscow Patriarchate has three rea-

sons for seeking to gain control of parishes and even entire eparchies of the Kyiv Patriarchate. First of all, Patriarch Kirill and the hierarchy oppose any autocephaly for the Ukrainian Church. Second, nearly half of all the eparchies of the Moscow Patriarchate are in Ukraine. And third, the Russian Church has ties with business groups there.

Consequently, it is no surprise that the Moscow Patriarchate is continuing to put pressure on Patriarch Filaret’s Church. But what is disturbing is that the Yanukovich administration, apparently in its effort to curry favor with Moscow, appears to be working hand in glove with the Russian Church against Ukrainian believers.

Such a combination is certain to disturb not only Patriarch Filaret and his Church but all Ukrainians who value the independence of their state and all people of good will who support the principles of freedom of religion. Clearly, President Yanukovich needs to consider whether he wants to continue to offend both groups.

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. Mr. Goble writes a blog called “Window on Eurasia” (<http://windowoneurasia.blogspot.com/>). This article above is reprinted with permission.

Palatine's UAYA hosts youth hockey team from Ukraine



The Druzhba 78 team meets members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association of Palatine, Ill.

PALATINE, Ill. – The Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) in Palatine, Ill., unexpectedly found itself the host of Druzhba 78, a youth hockey team from Kharkiv, Ukraine, in early November of last year.

A world-renowned hockey club, Druzhba 78, travels to the United States every year to participate in hockey tournaments and to conduct clinics for U.S. hockey clubs. The team is part of a larger Druzhba 78 sports school consisting of about 200 children in Kharkiv. The head coach and founder of Druzhba 78 is Ivan Pravilov, who is known around the globe for his hockey coaching and training expertise.

In 2010 Druzhba was invited to participate in the prestigious Bauer International Invite in the Chicago area, but found itself in Chicago with accommodations not yet solidified. The team relies solely on the generosity of host families and donations for their room and board, therefore the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) Illinois Branch turned to the UAYA branch in Palatine to inquire about the possibility of allowing the team to stay

in the association's new facility during their time in Chicago.

Although at first skeptical of the request the UAYA quickly agreed after learning the hockey team consisted of 12- and 13-year-old boys. Within a few hours the UAYA board mobilized its members, who brought in cots, sleeping bags and groceries. Over the course of seven days, UAYA members took turns tending to all of the team's needs. Homemade meals were cooked; bottles of water, snacks and baked goods were donated; sandwiches were made for long days at the rink; and a local Ukrainian business owner even donated funds for ice time at a local rink so the team could practice.

UAYA members, as well as others in the Chicago Ukrainian community, became "groupies" of the team, attending their games not only at the Bauer invite but following them to other friendly games throughout greater Chicago which Coach Pravilov was able to set up – always armed with Ukrainian flags and banners to cheer on the boys they had grown to know. Everyone – spectators, opponents and other coaches – marveled at the boys' skill and expertise on the ice.



The Druzhba 78 team members meet with star defender Duncan Keith of the Chicago Blackhawks. (Photo courtesy of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union)

During their rare downtime, the Druzhba boys enjoyed relaxing in the UAYA facility. They played soccer and ping-pong in the center's new gym; watched professional hockey on TV; and Skyped their families back home. One evening they were special guests at the branch's previously scheduled assembly held in honor of St. Michael the Archangel, patron of the worldwide Ukrainian Youth Association; and Dmytro Vitovsky, who was a colonel and organizer of numerous Ukrainian Sich groups and is the patron of the Palatine branch. The boys listened intently to the discussion about the patrons and eagerly participated in singing the Ukrainian national anthem.

Also during their stay in Chicago, Druzhba team members attended a Chicago Blackhawks training session, where they met with star defender Duncan Keith. After that they visited Chicago's Ukrainian Village neighborhood and stopped in at Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union for lunch and to meet with members of the board of directors. Selfreliance, as well as the UCCA Illinois Branch, provided financial support for Druzhba's trip to Chicago.

Because Druzhba 78 is normally hosted by non-Ukrainian U.S. hockey families, it was apparent to members of the UAYA that the boys were surprised and clearly touched to meet Ukrainian Americans. They appreciated the Ukrainian hospitality and the Ukrainian home-cooked meals, they marveled that everyone spoke Ukrainian to them, and they were curious about the UAYA and what the organization was all about.

Ukrainian community members learned that back home in Kharkiv the Druzhba 78

sports school is subjected to ongoing sabotage by local authorities. Donated and much-needed equipment which they bring back from the United States is often stolen or damaged; photos of their travels, which hang in the ice arena, disappear; and their coaches and parents have been victims of violence.

For this reason, as well as the fact that the 18 Druzhba boys were so well-behaved, polite and appreciative, Palatine's UAYA was honored to help them out. As the team prepared to leave Chicago and head to Detroit, more sandwiches were donated and hugs were exchanged. The boys will surely take back with them the knowledge that in faraway America, Ukrainians have held onto their heritage and are willing to do whatever they can to assist the country that their parents and grandparents had to leave but never forgot.

* * *

The Ukrainian American Youth Association, Palatine branch is located in the northwest suburbs of Chicago and is one of two active UAYA branches in the area. In the fall of 2009 the Palatine branch completed an 18,000-square-foot renovation and expansion of its facility to meet the needs of the growing Ukrainian population in the suburbs. On a weekly basis more than 200 children participate in activities sponsored by Palatine's UAYA. The organization continues its fund-raising campaign to pay down the mortgage on the new facility. Donations may be sent to: UAYA, P.O. Box 1185, Palatine, IL 60076-1185.

Boston College...

(Continued from page 11)

forced sex has increased dramatically, Mr. Malarek listed the ills associated with the trade, most important among them: "drug addiction, deadly diseases, murder and physical injury."

Mr. Malarek then discussed the economic conditions that these women face at home, particularly in Ukraine, and also talked about the fact that many of them were raised in orphanages and were turned out onto the

streets when they turned 18 without any skills and with no place to go.

He then concluded his presentation by asking, "Does anyone really believe that women want to be a part of this?"

After the lecture, BCUSS Treasurer Mark Liber commented, "Mr. Malarek employed his obvious passion for the subject to deliver an informative presentation on the trafficking of innocent women. The sex trade is one the lesser publicized issues facing Ukraine and the world, and his presentation opened my eyes to one of the bigger social issues facing global society today."

Boston College...

(Continued from page 11)

liturgies by installing an iconostas.

"Given the attendance this past Wednesday, it is obvious that we succeeded in showing the community a little bit of our culture and religious practices," commented the club's secretary Andriy Klokiw. "The chances of more regular Byzantine worship are looking pretty good right now – and we have the support of Prof. Connolly, who is the chairman of the Slavic Department as well."

Since its founding in 1969, the department is a unique one not only at the university but also in the academic community as a whole. It offers everything ranging from classical Armenian and Irish language to M.A. courses in Russian. While the depart-

ment's name suggests that it deals mostly with Eastern Europe, students can take courses such as "Pan-Arabianism and Nationalism in the Near East" and "Early Chinese Culture."

The liturgy was attended by 45 people, ranging from some of Prof. Connolly's students to local residents whose interest was piqued by the flyers that club members posted on campus and in the surrounding area.

"We as a club were very pleased with the turnout for the liturgy," concluded Ms. Dzwinyk, "because we believe that it shows there is interest in our Ukrainian liturgy and traditions within the Boston College student body as well as in the wider community. We look forward to hosting more of these types of events in the near future."

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

my administration and for global security. This action brings us all one step closer to securing all vulnerable nuclear materials, as President Yanukovich and I and 45 other world leaders pledged to do this April at the Nuclear Security Summit. The low enriched uranium and nuclear safety equipment provided to Ukraine in connection with this shipment will support Ukraine's development of safe and secure nuclear energy. These actions represent continued Ukrainian leadership in making sure that nuclear weapons never fall into the hands of a terrorist, and working toward a world without nuclear weapons." (White House, Office of the Press Secretary)

Ukrainian library in Moscow closed

KYIV – The Library of Ukrainian Literature in Moscow has been closed after a second search of its premises on December 25, 2010. The police seized computer hard drives and library cards, and the library itself was sealed, an Ukrinform correspondent in Russia reported on December 27, 2010, citing the library's director, Natalia Sharina. She said that the search was conducted by investi-

gators from the Department for Combating Extremism of the Russian Internal Affairs Ministry's Central Administrative District in Moscow. At the same time, Ms. Sharina said that Russian Internal Affairs Ministry officials tried to secretly leave certain materials in the library, but library workers noticed this. According to the library's director, this fact was recorded in a protocol. The library's director also stated that investigators had threatened her. Ms. Sharina said actions by Russian law enforcement officers with respect to the Library of Ukrainian Literature were linked to an order by the Russian leadership to fight extremism in connection with the recent national unrest in the Russian capital. On December 23, 2010, the Russian Internal Affairs Ministry's department for Combating Extremism seized over 50 books from the Library of Ukrainian Literature in Moscow in order to conduct a psycho-linguistic examination. These included books about Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, the activities of the Pora movement, as well as the copies of newspapers Natsiya i Derzhava, Shliakh Peremohy and Ukrainske Slovo. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine's Culture Ministry reacts

KYIV – The Ministry of Culture of Ukraine said it cannot remain indifferent to what is happening regarding the only Library of Ukrainian Literature located in Russia and has asked the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation to help minimize damage to its reputation, as well as resolve the situation. Ukraine's Minister of Culture Mykhailo Kulyniak on December 29, 2010, addressed Ukraine's concerns to his Russian counterpart, Alexander Avdeev. On December 18, 2010 the Moscow city procurator's office had launched criminal proceedings in relation to the spread of literature marked by ethnic enmity in the grounds of the library in 2008-2010. A study conducted by the Institute of Linguists of the Russian Academy of Sciences had recognized that publications incited national enmity and hatred. The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry said it is closely monitoring developments involving the Library of Ukrainian Literature. Ukraine considers it a priority to preserve and develop the library as an important cell of culture and education life of the 200,000-strong Ukrainian community in Moscow. The Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine also said it expects that, in their actions concerning the library, Russian authorities at all levels will be guided by the need to meet the high-quality educational and cultural needs of ethnic Ukrainians living in Russia. The Embassy of Ukraine in Russia is maintaining contact with the leadership of the library and the Russian authorities involved in this case. (Ukrinform, Interfax-Ukraine)

Ukrainian group eliminated in Russia

KYIV – Reacting to the elimination of the Federal National Cultural Autonomy of Ukrainians in Russia, Ukraine Ambassador to the Russian Federation Volodymyr Yelchenko said on December 23, 2010, that the Ukrainian diaspora in Russia needs to organize itself. Speaking at a news conference in Moscow, he said the elimination of the autonomy is a "sensitive topic," adding, "Unfortunately, the leadership of the organization had some problems, which led to this result. I think that the people who lead [the organization] should organize themselves, and not just file appeals." Mr. Yelchenko noted that to resolve the situation the Ukrainian diaspora in Russia is considering the options of re-registering the organization or making changes to its charter. "We welcome this process and are ready to assist it," the diplomat said, adding that the Embassy is maintaining a dialogue with the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry on this subject. In addition, the Embassy of Ukraine in the near future plans to meet with all leaders of Ukrainian affinity groups. "I want to openly ask them the same questions and inquire about their opportunities for self-organization," the ambassador said. (Ukrinform)

Lviv wants Russian consul ousted

KYIV – The Lviv City Council has asked the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry to take steps to terminate the powers of Russian Consul General in Lviv Yevgeny Guzev. Lviv deputies expressed indignation at remarks made by Mr. Guzev on December 16, 2010, that the Bolsheviks brought the Ukrainian language to Lviv from Ukraine's eastern regions and that the Ukrainian state was formed by the Austrians in order to separate the Ukrainian people from Russia. "We consider such rude provocations to be incompatible with the status of consul general, as they deliberately insult the honor and dignity of the Ukrainian people, incite ethnic hatred and contain elements of interference in the internal affairs of Ukraine," Lviv City Council deputies said in a statement to the leadership of the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry. (Ukrinform)

Tigipko on unpopular reforms

KYIV – Unpopular reforms in Ukraine

may continue for another three to five months, Vice Prime Minister of Social Policy Sergey Tigipko said in an interview with Channel 5 television. Then, he added, in some four to six months, it will be necessary to modify some aspects of the new tax legislation. There will be some positive developments that improve the situation for businesses, Mr. Tigipko said according to January 4 press reports. He added that he was continuing to supervise the block of economic issues in the government, and that he intends to complete work on tax legislation, all that relates to deregulation, and to lay the basis for tariff legislation. And then, Mr. Tigipko said, he will give over these "difficult questions" to the vice prime minister and ministers in charge. (Ukrinform)

Stalin statue destroyed

KYIV – Members of the Communist Party in Ukraine say assailants have blown up a controversial monument to Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, calling the move an "act of terror." The bust, located outside the party's headquarters in the southeastern city of Zaporizhia, was destroyed late on New Year's Eve when an explosive charge was detonated. The party building sustained serious damage, but no casualties were reported. The same statue had been damaged the previous week in an explosion claimed by a Ukrainian nationalist group, Tryzub, which denounced Stalin as "the executioner of the Ukrainian people and an international terrorist." Stalin is a deeply divisive figure in Ukraine, which is sharply split between its nationalist west and pro-Russian supporters in the east who take a fonder view of the Soviet past. (RFE/RL with agency reports)

Svoboda denies involvement

ZAPORIZHIA – Two activists of Zaporizhia regional branch of the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union were detained by the police on suspicion of blasting a monument to Stalin in Zaporizhia. The lawyer of the detainees, Serhii Haiduk, told Interfax-Ukraine on January 2 that the head of the regional branch of Svoboda, Vitalii Podlobnikov, and his deputy, Yurii Hudymenko, were detained and brought to the Zhovtnevyi District police department of the city, but the police did not allow the lawyer to meet with them. "Hudenko has been kept inside the district police department for about 12 hours already. We cannot get in touch with him. At 9 a.m., the head of the regional branch of Svoboda, Vitalii Podlobnikov, was detained. I do not know in what status they were detained: as witnesses, suspects or defendants. They are facing up to 12 years of imprisonment," Mr. Haiduk said. Activists of Zaporizhia branch of the Svoboda union, who have gathered outside the Zhovtnevyi police department, claim that their organization has nothing to do with the explosion of the monument. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Svoboda leaders released

KYIV – Police have released Vitalii Podlobnikov, chairman of Zaporizhia's chapter of the Svoboda union, Yurii Hudymenko, deputy chairman of the chapter for youth affairs, as well as a representative of youth organization Nebo, detained in the destruction of a monument to Stalin in Zaporizhia, Svoboda's press service reported on January 3. The detainees were urged to confess to blowing up the monument, though the organization continues to assert that it is not involved in the events of December 31, 2010, near the regional committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine. The Svoboda press service underscored that Svoboda is not implicated in the explosion of the monument to Stalin; at the same time it opposes the establishment of monuments to leaders of totalitarian regimes. Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko accused "neo-nationalists" of a "vile crime"

(Continued on page 15)

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MEETINGS

Annual Meeting
of UNA Branch 175
will be held on 1/23/2011
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586-757-8130



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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

in Zaporizhia, and demanded that the authorities "in the strongest way stop the terrorism of nationalist gangs." Damage to the monument, which was unveiled in May 2010, was assessed at 270,000 hrv. Zaporizhia's Internal Affairs Department said that the monument was probably destroyed by an improvised explosive device. (Ukrinform)

IMF approves \$1.5 B for Ukraine

WASHINGTON – The executive board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on December 22, 2010, completed the first review of Ukraine's economic performance under the program supported by a stand-by arrangement (SBA). The completion of the review enables the immediate disbursement of 1 billion in special drawing rights (SDR) – about \$1.5 billion U.S. Drawing the full amount would bring total disbursements under the program to about \$3.4 billion U.S.

Ukraine's 29-month SBA was approved on July 28, 2010, in the amount of \$15.3 billion in support of the authorities' economic adjustment and reform program. The SBA entails exceptional access to IMF resources, amounting to 728.9 percent of Ukraine's quota in the fund. Following the executive board's discussion of Ukraine, John Lipsky, first deputy managing director and acting chair, released a statement, in which he said, in part: "Ukraine's satisfactory performance under the economic program supported by the stand-by arrangement, along with strong policy commitments for the coming year, are supporting a steady recovery in confidence and broadening of economic activity. The authorities remain committed to timely implementation of fiscal, energy and financial sector reforms that are essential to achieve program objectives. Sustained implementation of reforms will help entrench macroeconomic stability, boost confidence, facilitate access to capital markets, and promote more balanced and robust growth." (International Monetary Fund)



В ПЕРШУ БОЛЮЧУ РІЧНИЦЮ СМЕРТИ

СВ. П.

ТАМАРИ ВІТКОВИЦЬКОЇ з БАЧИНСЬКИХ

були відправлені Літургія та Панахида

3-го січня 2011 р.

в Українському католицькому соборі Пресвятої Родини
у Вашингтоні, Д.К.

У глибокому смутку: Ігор Вітковицький – муж
Дана Вітковицька – дочка
Христина і Аманда – внучки з родинами
ближча і дальша родина

Вічна їй пам'ять!



With great sadness we want to share that on December 12, 2010,
surrounded by her family, our wife, mother,
grandmother and great-grandmother

Bohdanna (Danyliw) Berezansky

passed away at the age of 87.

Funeral was held on December 16, 2010 at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Watervliet, NY.

In deep sorrow:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| husband | - Michael |
| daughters | - Eugenia Drocak with husband John of Auburn, NY |
| | - Luba Morin with husband Rich of Charlotte, NC |
| sons | - Stephen Berezansky with wife Irene of Lakeland, FL. |
| | - Bohdan Berezansky with wife Roxolana of Melrose, NY |
| grandchildren | - Taras and Tania Drocak, Jonathan and Stephanie Whiteley, Michael and Adrian Berezansky, Joshua Berezansky with wife Meagan, Corporal USMC Jennifer Berezansky |
| great-grandchildren | - Aidan, Adrianna and Teagan Berezansky, Tyler Whiteley |
| sister | - Luba Mokey ow Watervliet, NY |
| brother | - Myron Danyliw with wife Jadwiga of Poland |

May she rest in peace

Contributions in memory of Bohdanna Berezansky can be made to Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund, or to a charity of choice.



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що в неділю, 2 січня 2011 р.
відійшла у вічність наша найдорожча
МАМА, БАБЦЯ, ПРАБАБЦЯ І СЕСТРА

СВ. П.

ТАНЯ ПАШ з дому ХУХРА

нар. 30 січня 1930 р. у Волчищовичах, Україна.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися 5 січня 2011 р. в Українській католицькій церкві Пресвятої Трійці в Кергонксоні, а відтак на цвинтарі св. Андрія у Boundbrook, NJ.

В глибокому смутку залишилися:

- | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| дочки | - ЗІНЯ СТЕЦИК з мужем ОЛЕГОМ |
| | - МАРТА ЦЮВАНИК з мужем ЮРІЄМ |
| внуки | - СОФІЙКА КРОЗІЄР з мужем ДЖАНОМ |
| | - ОЛЕСЬ СТЕЦИК |
| | - РОМАН СТЕЦИК |
| | - ХРИСТЯ ЦЮВАНИК |
| | - НАТАЛЯ ЦЮВАНИК |
| правнуки | - АЛЕКСАНДЕР КРОЗІЄР |
| | - МАРКІЯН КРОЗІЄР |
| сестра | - ІРЕНА СОЛЬЧАНИК |
| брат | - ЮРІЙ ХУХРА з дружиною ІРЕНОЮ |

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

Вічна їй пам'ять!



It is with great sadness that we share the news that on December 4, 2010, in her 86th year, surrounded by her family, in Randolph, NJ, departed into eternity our beloved Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother

Maria Ivanna Wirszczuk

The daughter of Stefania and Ivan Powalachek, Maria was born and educated in Stryj, western Ukraine. In the closing years of World War II, the family emigrated to Germany and thereafter to the United States. She and her husband, veterinarian Dr. Volodymyr Wirszczuk lived with their family in Minnesota, New Jersey, Chicago, and Dresher, Pennsylvania. After the death of her husband in 2003, she lived near her granddaughter in Randolph, NJ. Maria was a devoted mother, wife, daughter and a loving grandmother to her two grandchildren, whom she helped raise following the death of her daughter Olenka Leskiw Savyckyj in 1982. Gracious, generous and kind, she enjoyed the love and admiration of those whose lives she touched.

A parastas was held on Thursday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Lytwyn & Lytwyn Funeral Home in Union, NJ. Funeral services were held on Friday, Dec. 10 at 9:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, NJ, with the Rev. Taras Svirchuk officiating. Burial was at St. Andrew's Cemetery in S. Bound Brook, NJ.

She leaves in sorrow:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| daughter | Irene Wirszczuk |
| grandson | Danylo Savyckyj |
| granddaughter | Christine Hladky with husband Alexander |
| great-granddaughters | Olenka and Roma Hladky |
| sister-in-law | Katalin Mak and family |
| relatives | Dr. Jurij Savyckyj |
| | Mary (née Leskiw) and Arnold Rudakewych with daughters Lesia, Vera and Irene and their families |
| | Roma and Orest Hladky with children Eric and Areta and their families |
| | Dr. Irene Komarynsky |
| | Handzia (née Sawyckyj) and George Mycak with son Maksym |
| | Oksana Dragan with daughters Myrosia, Laryssa, and Tanya and their families |
- and family and friends in the USA and Ukraine.

Vichnaya pamyat'! Eternal Memory!

Instead of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. 6th St., New York, NY 10003, Memo: Olenka Wirszczuk Savyckyj Memorial Fund. <http://www.ukrainianmuseum.org/donationform.html>

Kule Folklore Center welcomes renowned speakers

EDMONTON, Alberta – The Kule Folklore Centre welcomed Dr. Robert Klymasz, a premier Ukrainian Canadian folklorist, and Myron Momryk, who recently retired from his position as archivist at the Library and Archives of Canada (LAC), to speak on their fields of expertise. Their presentation took place on November 8, 2010, at the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives.

Mr. Momryk, whose position with LAC incorporated the former National Archives of Canada, spoke to the packed room about his critical role in obtaining and organizing many of LAC's major Ukrainian collections. These archival resources have played in the development of the writing of Ukrainian Canadian history since the 1970s and Mr. Momryk was a key figure in helping ensure that multicultural archives survive and thrive.

Dr. Klymasz, who has taught folklore at several North American universities

and traversed the Canadian prairies recording folksongs and gathering other materials concerning the early pioneer Ukrainian immigration to Canada, discussed the crucial aspects of Ukrainian Canadian folklore today.

Dr. Klymasz was a Ukrainianist at the Museum of Civilization and is responsible for the many Ukrainian items housed in this national repository of Canadian Culture. During his illustrious career Dr. Klymasz constructed a portrait of rural Ukrainian Canadian folk culture across the prairies and this information is preserved in archives across the West, as a valuable resource for contemporary Folklorists.

Students in the Ukrainian Folklore Program at the University of Alberta also had an opportunity to meet with Dr. Klymasz and Mr. Momryk to ask them questions regarding their fields that may benefit future careers as folklorists and archivists.



At the University of Alberta (from left) are: Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky, Dr. Natalie Kononenko, Myron Momryk, Dr. Robert Klymasz, Dr. Micah True and Dr. Bohdan Medwidsky.



Myron Momryk (left) and Dr. Robert Klymasz.

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Ukrainian Week held at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul



Ukraine's Ambassador to Korea Volodymyr Belashov at the opening of the Ukrainian Library, Ukrainian Department, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.



At Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul (from left) are: Dr. Sogu Hong, Hankuk University; Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky, University of Alberta and Korean students in Hankuk University's Ukrainian Department.

EDMONTON, Alberta – Sogu Hong, Ph.D. alumnus of the Ukrainian Folklore Program at the University of Alberta has become the first Ukrainian professor in South Korea. After finishing his doctoral dissertation on contemporary Ukrainian wedding traditions in Alberta, Dr. Hong now serves as professor in the newly formed Ukrainian Department in Hankuk University for Foreign Studies, Seoul.

In order to celebrate his achievement, the Kule Folklore Center at the University of Alberta, in partnership with the University of Alberta International Department and the Ukrainian Pioneer's Association of Alberta donated 1,000 books to help him establish a special Ukrainian library.

Andriy Nahachewsky, Dr. Sogu's former supervisor and director of the Kule Folklore Center, traveled to South Korea on October 26, 2010, to join the festivities of Ukrainian Week there, as well as the official opening of the library.

The first-and second-year students in the Ukrainian program dressed in newly acquired Ukrainian clothing, sang three songs as part of the official ceremonies. Guests, including Ukraine's Ambassador to Korea Volodymyr Belashov, attended the unveiling of a plaque for the Ukrainian Library and a beautiful photo exhibit of scenes from Ukrainian folklore and contemporary culture created by Myeong-Jae Lee.

The dean of the College of Central and East European Studies, Dr. Mun Suh Lee, praised the energy and creativity shown by Dr. Hong and his staff, as the new department has achieved many milestones quickly. The students in the Ukrainian program demonstrated their knowledge of the language at the first Ukrainian speech competition.

Twenty students are accepted into the program each year, and graduates look forward to careers in international business,

government, tourism, academics, and diplomacy.

Dr. Nahachewsky noted that South Korea

is among the East Asian leaders in engagement with Ukraine. He visited a folk museum and several historic sites during the trip,

"It's great to see how the Korean people are proud of their culture, and interested in the culture of others as well," he commended.

The Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 12)

performed another "Plies," this time a departing song. The trembity sounded again, this time signaling that the koliadnyky were leaving, wishing us a heartfelt "Dai Vam Bozhe."

As the koliadnyky left the room, the audience rose, calling them back with a standing ovation. They returned to perform a lively "Arkan," for which the audience again rewarded them with a standing ovation.

To say that this production by Ms. Tkacz was enjoyable would be an understatement. As one attendee, Anisa Mycak, said afterwards at the reception: "This was not an event, it was an experience." Truer words could not have been spoken.



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Ukrainian pro hockey update: vintage hockey

by Ihor Stelmach

Dave Babych, ultimate defenseman

Dave Babych's lengthy time in the National Hockey League was composed of two distinct periods. Being a defenseman, his career had a rather unique evolution. Normally a blueliner will either have a flair for offensive tendencies or tend toward a more conservative, stay-at-home, protect-the-zone defensive mentality. Through the course of his 19 seasons, the skilled and intelligent Ukrainian adeptly fulfilled both roles.

The young Dave Babych entered the league as the second overall selection of his draft, a high-scoring defenseman in juniors. The mature, second incarnation of Dave Babych was a more defensive-minded rear-guard who cleared the crease and muscled the opposition's top scoring line.

His thick bushy moustache was as well-known as the number 44 he wore on his jersey. The 1980 NHL Entry Draft had him rated as the top defenseman in the class.

Scouting services had him rated as the No. 2 overall prospect, behind the top-rated Canadian Major Junior Hockey League player of the year Doug Wickenheiser.

Retrospectively, many hockey pundits surmise Denis Savard should have been 1980s top draft pick, while Paul Coffey and Larry Murphy were better defensemen. All three of them were elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame. When it came time for the Winnipeg Jets to make the second selection in the draft, they believed the 6-foot-3, 215-pound Babych was the best player for their team.

Growing up in Edmonton, Alberta, Dave and brother Wayne always had a dream of playing together in the NHL. The older Babych would go on to be a dominant defenseman with the Western League's Portland Winter Hawks, where he could score and play solid defense. He had terrific all-round skills as a solid skat-

er and strong puck-mover to go with his rugged build.

It was a challenging rookie season for the 19-year-old Dave Babych when he joined the Jets in 1980. His team was the worst in the league and much pressure was put on the top draft pick's broad shoulders. All things considered, he did quite well, scoring 44 points and earning a spot in the All-Star game as Winnipeg's sole representative. He quickly showed he was Winnipeg's best player. His productivity remained consistent when he went four consecutive seasons scoring at least 57 points, including a career high 13 goals and 61 assists for 74 points in 1982-83, his third year in the league.

Playing in a small-town market like Winnipeg in western Canada, Babych was a well-kept secret to most of the league despite his personal achievements. The Jets improved as a team, but never made any great inroads in their division. Babych's solid scoring totals from the blueline didn't compare to the numbers put up by guys like

Ray Bourque, Mark Howe, Murphy and Coffey. After five plus years, the Winnipeg organization got impatient and decided to trade Babych. The Jets sent their defensive stalwart east to the Hartford Whalers in a swap for rugged winger Ray Neufeld.

Talk about a small market team and some serious anonymity, it was déjà vu all over again for Dave Babych. Five and a half seasons in Hartford saw his scoring totals drop because of the more defensive, lower scoring type of hockey played in the Adams Division. To this day, however, Whalers fans place him very high on the list of the defunct franchise's top defensemen. He made many new friends during his stay in Hartford after visiting the city's Ukrainian National Home and buying a few rounds in the downstairs bar.

A serious wrist injury in 1990 threatened his hockey career to the point where the 10-year veteran opted for a risky wrist fusion surgery. For a while it looked like he'd never be strong enough to shoot another puck. Hartford bailed on its big defender and Babych was left looking for a new lease on his hockey life.

The interest was in Vancouver when head coach Pat Quinn and his Canucks offered Babych an opportunity to prolong his pro hockey career. He transitioned perfectly into a key role in Vancouver, playing seven productive seasons on defense, providing veteran leadership on and off the ice. Focusing more on his own end, his annual scoring totals peaked at 32 points.

Paired with a reliable partner in Gerald Diduck, Babych's 32-point total in the 1993-1994 campaign proved to be the highlight of his long NHL career. The duo spearheaded the Canucks to reach the Stanley Cup finals, coming within a goal post in Game 7 of winning the cherished cup. He was so close!

Babych is forever grateful to Quinn for offering him the chance to revive his career and allow him to play almost 10 additional seasons during the sport's big money era.

"Luckily, Pat Quinn took a chance on me," Babych told Jeff Rud in the book "Canucks Legends," noting, "After the wrist surgery, you couldn't stickhandle the same way, you couldn't move the puck the same way, and you couldn't shoot the same way. So you knew if you didn't change your game you were kind of hooped."

"Pat basically told me: 'Babs, I don't care if you get a point or score a goal. I really don't care. I just want you to play solid hockey,'" he recalled.

Babych enjoyed Vancouver life for seven years until he was dispatched by new owner John McGraw and his new coach Mike Keenan. Coach Quinn and many other Canucks were also victims of this purge.

Babych surfaced in Philadelphia, where he would play parts of two more seasons before a broken foot proved to be his final undoing. In spite of his advanced years, the Flyers were eager for Babych to miss little or no time hurt, so they rushed him back to active status, misdiagnosing the severity of the foot injury. Babych spent years in litigation, eventually proving the misdiagnoses ended his hockey career before its time. In a civil lawsuit against the Flyers Babych was awarded \$1.37 million in damages.

Babych enjoyed a long and prosperous 19-year career in the National Hockey League: in 1,195 regular season games played he tallied 142 goals, assisted on 581 others for 723 points and 970 penalty minutes. In an additional 114 playoff games, his point totals (21 goals, 41 assists, 62 points) were additionally productive.

In the annals of hockey history, Dave Babych is a true Ukrainian hockey legend.

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Marijka Helbig

Tour name	Dates	Itinerary
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Mini Ukraine I 12 Days	May 11 - 22 \$3200	Kyiv, Lviv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilskyi <i>plus:</i> Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zaryanytsia
Podolanka I 12 Days Hosted by: Dr. Walter Karpinich	May 13 - 24 \$3150	Lviv, Music Festival , Krakow and Budapest <i>plus:</i> Wieliczka Salt Mines, Auschwitz, Szentandre Artisan Village
Slidamy Mazepy 11 Days In cooperation with the Ukrainian Museum of NYC Participating curator: Dr. Yuriy Savchuk, Senior Research Ass. Inst. of History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine	June 24-July 04 \$3990	Kyiv, Cherkasy, Poltava, Nizhyn, Chernyiv, Lviv <i>plus:</i> Pereyaslav Khmelnytskyi, Kaniv, Chyhyryn, Subotiv, Kholodnyi Yar, Opishnia, Myrhorod, Lubny, Pryluky and Baturyn
Dnipro Cruise 13 Days	June 16 - 28 \$2950	Kyiv, Zaporizhia, Kherson, Sevastopol, Vilkovo, Odessa <i>MS Dnipro Princess - Main deck</i>
Two Capitals II 9 days	June 29 - July 7 \$2950	Kyiv and Lviv
Mini Ukraine II 12 Days	June 29 - July 10 \$3600	Kyiv, Lviv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilskyi <i>plus:</i> Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zaryanytsia
Podolanka II 12 Days	July 01 - 12 \$3550	Lviv, Krakow and Budapest <i>plus:</i> Wieliczka Salt Mines, Auschwitz, Szentandre Artisan Village
Best of Ukraine 16 Days	July 24 - Aug 07 \$4600	Crimea: Yalta, Bakhchysarai, Chersonesus, Sevastopol, Kyiv, Lviv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilskyi, <i>plus:</i> Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zaryanytsia
Two Capitals III 9 days	July 27 - Aug 4 \$2950	Kyiv and Lviv
Mini Ukraine III 12 Days	July 27 - Aug 07 \$3600	Kyiv, Lviv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilskyi <i>plus:</i> Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zaryanytsia
Ukraine Festival Tour 15 Days	Aug 16 - 30 \$3950	Kyiv, Poltava - Sorochynskyi Yarmarok , Lviv, Yaremche, Kosiv - Independence Day Celebrations and Hutsul Festival <i>plus:</i> Opishnia, Reshetylivka, Iv. Frankivsk, Kolomyia, Bukovel, Chernivtsi and Zaryanytsia
Two Capitals IV 9 days	Sep 14 - 22 \$2500	Kyiv and Lviv
Mini Ukraine IV 12 Days	Sep 14 - 25 \$3200	Kyiv, Lviv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilskyi <i>plus:</i> Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zaryanytsia
Podolanka III 12 Days	Sep 16 - 27 \$3000	Lviv, Krakow and Budapest <i>plus:</i> Wieliczka Salt Mines, Auschwitz, Szentandre Artisan Village
Bulgaria (Opera Tour) 13 Days Hosted by: Marijka Helbig	Sep 18 - 30 \$3000	Romania - Bucharest George Enescu Music Festival Rami Kalif (Piano) and Romeo and Juliet (Opera by Gounod) Bulgaria: Veliko Tarnovo, Sozopol (Black Sea Beach Resort), Plovdiv, Sofia <i>plus:</i> Laskovets, Arbanassi, Ethura, Shipka, Nessebar and Rila Monastery

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OUT AND ABOUT

- January 13
Stanford, CA Lecture by Olenka Pevny, "Dethroning the Prince: Princely Benefaction and Female Patronage in Medieval Kyiv," Stanford University, ljarboe@stanford.edu or 650-725-2563
- January 15
Wilmington, DE Malanka, featuring music by The Shoreliners, Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 302-798-4455 or 302-594-0715
- January 15
Carnegie, PA Malanka, featuring music by Fred Yasnowsky, Ukrainian American Citizen's Club, 412-429-1536 or 412-882-4465
- January 15
Baltimore, MD Malanka Disco Night, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church parish center, 410-675-7557
- January 16
New York Performance, "Baba Liuba and Spider Spiridon," featuring the Shepko-Hamilton family, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
- January 22
Montreal Malanka, featuring music by Veselka and DJ Evhen, Ukrainian Youth Association and Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Ukrainian Youth Home, 514-984-8821 or www.cym.org
- January 22
Philadelphia Malanka, featuring music by Hrim, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 267-736-5336 or 215-870-3408
- January 29
New Britain, CT Malanka, featuring music by Zolota Bulava and Hrim, St. George Greek Hall, 860-452-4023
- January 29
Whippany, NJ Debutante ball, featuring music by Tempo, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization - Newark Branch Parents' Committee, Marriott Hotel, 908-464-4830 or newarkdeb2011@comcast.net

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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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Seattle Plast youths craft Christmas ornaments of straw

by Marko Hnateyko

SEATTLE – On November 21, 2010, our Plast group was fortunate enough to have a visit from Oleksandra Pryveda, a renowned Ukrainian artist who specializes in pysanka writing, silk art, etching granite, straw weaving, and tapestries.

During her visit with our Plast group, she shared with us the Ukrainian tradition of weaving Christmas ornaments out of straw.

She arrived early in order to prepare. With the help of some of the older girls, she clipped the straw into workable pieces and soaked it in order to make it more malleable. The younger scouts braided the straw and then formed the braid into heart-shaped ornaments. The older group wove a more intricate star-shaped ornaments, while some of the parents went on to make complicated mobiles.



Plast members work on traditional Christmas ornaments made of straw.

The workshop was interesting to me personally because I already make pysanky every Easter and this was a fascinating Ukrainian tradition that I had not yet been exposed to. All of the scouts benefited from Ms. Pryveda's visit because now they have been introduced to this

unique Ukrainian Holiday tradition. The workshop was organized by Julia Ellings as a project for her Plast Eagle Scout designation.

Ms. Pryveda graduated from Lviv College of Applied Arts in 1974 and the Lviv State Institute of



Oleksandra Pryveda teaches the craft.

Applied and Decorative Arts in 1982. She has participated in national and international exhibitions; her work is also shown in private collections all over the world.

Musical play "Prayer of St. Nicholas" presented in Warren, Mich.

WARREN, Mich. – Every year on the eve of St. Nicholas, eighth grade students of the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic School, perform a play that is created by their Ukrainian language teachers.

This year's musical play, called "Prayer to St. Nicholas, or How the Kozaky Rescued the Captive Maidens," was held at the school auditorium on December 17, 2010.

The play is sourced in the 16th-17th century Ukraine, when Ukrainians were under constant threat from the Tatars. The play depicted daily Ukrainian life, lyrical and popular songs, and dances of the times. It also made use of contemporary popular culture and modern dance styles, as well as music of Ukraine and America.

Dr. Sergey Pasechnik offered technical and theatrical assistance. Costumes for the main characters were made by Marichka Nykyforyak Nona. Musical themes and performances were prepared by Olga Novatchynski and Roma Tobianska. Live accompaniment on the piano was provided by Iryna Svatko, IC

Schools Ukrainian language teacher.

The musical had five acts. The story opens in late autumn when three girls are talking about their dreams and the fun they hope to experience at Marusia's upcoming wedding reception. Vasyliana and Yaryna are going to be bridesmaids and they hope that their favorite Kozaks will get back in time for the wedding. In the meantime, evil-doers force the girls into Turkish captivity.

Meanwhile, a teacher at the Kozak Sich school is teaching young Kozaks the tactics of battle. Suddenly the school chef appears and tells the teacher about the abduction of the girls. The teacher and his students pray to St. Nicholas and to the protector of all Ukrainian warriors, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Next, the Kozak boyfriends of the abducted girls go to the open-air market to buy provisions for their next military campaign. An angel appears and shares with them important information about the girls and points the way to them.

The next act transpires on the



Immaculate Conception Schools Grade 8 students present the musical play "Prayer to St. Nicholas" or "How the Kozaky Rescued the Captive Maidens."

Turkish brigantine "Shykydym," where the girls are being held captive by three Turkish pirates. St. Nicholas and the messenger angel lead the Kozaks to liberate the girls.

At the end of the play, St. Nicholas informs the children at the Sich school that their sincere

prayers have reached the Heavenly Creator and he rewards them with gifts.

In creating this musical play, Mrs. Novatchynski beautifully depicted the ideals of the Kozak

(Continued on page 22)

Hillside, N.J., parish children learn about Christmas spirit



St. Nicholas poses with the children and assistant pastor, the Rev. Vasyl Vladyka.



Parish youth from Hillside, N.J., carol in Ukrainian and English for retired Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy and clergy in Watchung, N.J.

HILLSIDE, N.J. – On Sunday, December 3, 2010, St. Nicholas visited the children and parishioners of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hillside, N.J.

St. Nicholas was treated to a bilingual holiday entertainment program. Performances included the singing of “Pharaoh, Pharaoh” by the Parish Children’s Choir, a hip hop dance to “Jingle Bells,” carols played on keyboards, violin and harp, Christmas caroling and a Christmas skit.

Mike Szpyhulsky served as emcee. Russ Pencak served as liaison to St. Nicholas. Hillside’s assistant pastor, Father Vasyl Vladyka, led the group in prayer and “koliady.”

After digging out of 32 inches of snow two days earlier, on December 29, 2010, the parish children sang beautiful Christmas carols in Ukrainian and English to the retired Sisters of Mercy and clergy of McAuley Hall Center in Watchung, N.J., located on the campus of Mount St. Mary Academy.

The Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy and retired priests were very pleased to have the children visit them. One of the audience members, a retired Monsignor, captivated the children while speaking about special events from the past.

The parish children received a very special gift from this very special group of sisters and clergy – the gift of the Christmas spirit!

Passaic Plast branch holds annual “Mykolaiko” celebration



PASSAIC, N.J. – On December 7, 2010, Passaic Plast celebrated its annual “Mykolaiko” in celebration of the feast day of St. Nicholas, or Sviaty Mykolai. Counselors of the younger children (novatstvo) performed the play “Zoloty Pavuchok” by Ivan Malkovych, and afterwards all were visited by St. Nicholas himself. Instead of receiving gifts, the children brought gift-wrapped Christmas presents and gave them to St. Nicholas so that he could deliver them to less fortunate children in Ukraine. St. Nicholas rewarded the children for their good deed with stockings full of sweets.

– Natalka Doblosky

Mishanyna

This month’s Mishanyna focuses on the carols (“koliady”) you probably heard during Ukrainian Christmas celebrations. Also included is the name of the most popular Ukrainian “schedrivka” – known in English as the “Carol of the Bells” – “Schedryk” by Mykola Leontovych. Search the Mishanyna grid to find the words capitalized below.

BOH PREDVICHNYI	NA NEBI ZIRKA	SCHEDRYK
BOH SIA RAZHDAYE	NEBO I ZEMLIA	SVIATA NICH
Dobryi VECHIR Tobi	Nova RADIST STALA	Vo VYFLEYEMI
DYVNAYA Novyna	Po VSIOMU SVITU	VOZVESELIMSIA

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

Musical play...

(Continued from page 21)

liberators, their colorful lifestyle and love of their people.

Mrs. Novatchinski showed great ingenuity in creating the imagery necessary to bring the characters to life by combining history and modern aspects of society in the music, dialogue and themes of the musical play.

The audience loved the musical because it exemplified Ukraine’s resilience and included many folk songs and dances. The heroes in the musical were funny, inventive and rich with the inner glow of good people.

At the Afterglow, the school administrator, the Rev. Daniel Schaicoski, OSBM, expressed praise and gratitude first and foremost to Mrs. Novatchinski and Mrs. Tobiansky, sponsors, students, parents and the whole community that contributed to the growth and success of the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Schools. He noted that our schools preserve and protect Ukrainian culture and traditions by teaching the children of our community their Catholic faith and Ukrainian heritage. He concluded by wishing everyone God’s blessings during Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky dance school now in Passaic



PASSAIC, N.J. – In the fall of 2010, the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Foundation started offering children’s Ukrainian dance lessons in Passaic, N.J. The instructors are Orlando Pagan and his wife, Larisa, who are seen above with the young dancers of the new group. Mr. Pagan is a much sought-after teacher and choreographer, who is instrumental in the success of the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky school and the summertime Ukrainian Dance Camp held at Soyuzivka. Ms. Pagan is an accomplished dance instructor with other Roma Pryma Bohachevsky schools in the tri-state area. Classes are held every Tuesday at the St. Nicholas Ukrainian School and Church auditorium, at 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Children age 5 and up may join. For more information readers may contact odulakfamily@optonline.net or onris@msn.com.

– Natalka Doblosky

UAYA youths collect toys for kids in Ukraine




IRVINGTON, N.J – Members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association chapter in Irvington, N.J. , and their counterparts in Hartford, Conn., collected funds for toys before the feast day of St. Nicholas to share with children in Ukraine’s orphanages. Several large packages of the gifts were sent by the shipping companies Meest, Dnipro and Roksolana to Ukraine in time for the holidays. Seen above are members of the Irvington UAYA with toys destined for Ukraine.

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The next edition of Ukelodeon will be published on February 13. Please send in your submissions by February 4 to staff@ukrweekly.com.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 16

NEW YORK, NY: "Baba Liuba and Spider Spiridon," an extraordinary musical winter tale performed by the Shepko-Hamilton family with marionettes they made using clay from their own land and wool from their sheep. Fun for the entire family, the show also involves a hands-on activity and a tasting of traditional Ukrainian Christmas dishes. The event begins at 2 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. Admission (includes refreshments): \$15; \$10 for museum members and seniors; \$5 for students. Tickets may be purchased online at www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Saturday, January 22

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association is holding a fun-filled "Malanka," a traditional Ukrainian New Year welcoming dance featuring the popular "zabava" band Hrim from New England in the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road. Starting time is 9 p.m. Admission is \$40 for adults in advance; \$45 at the door; \$30 for students and seniors. Admission includes delicious hot catered buffet. Champagne will be provided at midnight. For information and advance tickets call Roman, 215-870-3408, or Teresa, 267-736-5336. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and have a good time at this traditional Ukrainian New Year welcoming dance.

CARTERET, N.J.: St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church are co-

sponsoring a Malanka, which will be held at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681 Roosevelt Ave. Entertainment will be provided by Fata Morgana. Tickets are \$60, which includes admission, choice of sirloin beef or chicken capon dinner, open bar and a midnight champagne toast. The St. Demetrius Center is located just blocks from Exit 12 of the New Jersey Turnpike. There is a Holiday Inn right off the exit. Cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres begins at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and the music starts at 8 p.m. For table and ticket reservations contact Peter Prociuk, 609-655-4468 or pprociuk@aol.com. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Outside liquor is prohibited. Deadline for tickets is January 16. For more information visit www.stdemetriusuoc.org.

Saturday, January 29

NEW YORK: The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, The Ukrainian Museum and New York Bandura Ensemble/Bandura Downtown present "Invitation to a Wedding," at the museum, 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues). Ukrainian American singer Nadia Tarnawsky leads the Ukrainian Women's Voices Collective and other special guests in an evening of Ukrainian wedding songs, sung in traditional village singing style and Ukrainian folk polyphony. The concert begins at 7 p.m. with a reception to follow. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for museum members and seniors; \$5 for students). To purchase tickets in advance online go to www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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.**

Being Ukrainian means:

- Two New Year's Days in January.
- Deb in February.
- Two Easters in springtime.
- "Zlet" and "Sviato Vesny" in May.
- Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival in July.
- "Uke Week" at Wildwood in August.
- Back to Ukrainian school in September.
- "Morska Zabava" in New Jersey in November.
- "Koliada" in December and January.
- A subscription to The Ukrainian Weekly
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