



**ХРИСТОС НАРОДИВСЯ!**  
**CHRIST IS BORN!**

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Tymoshenko urges opposition forces to unite for parliamentary elections



www.tymoshenko.com.ua

Yulia Tymoshenko in a photo taken during her March visit to Brussels.

by Zenon Zawada

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Imprisoned opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko released a December 20 letter in which she called upon Ukraine's fractured opposition to unite for the sake of the 2012 parliamentary elections, proposing drastic measures such as merging into a single party. She also rejected speculation about her own party's division.

The letter came amidst growing divisiveness throughout opposition forces that will likely lead to the Party of Regions of Ukraine retaining power. That would also imply Ms. Tymoshenko staying in prison longer, hurting not only her political prospects but also those of her Batkivshchyna party, experts said.

"The government will provoke conflicts, clashes of interests and play off contradictions within the opposition," said Volodymyr Fesenko, board chairman of the Penta Center for Applied Political Research in Kyiv. "For there to be less of that, the largest opposition forces need to restrain their emotions and on many issues and consider not only their own egotistical party interests."

Lacking unity, the opposition forces to Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich grew even more divided after the parliamentary opposition voted on November 17 to support the scandalous election law, which was tailored by the parliamentary majority to keep the authoritarian government intact.

Critics said that by offering their support, the opposition deputies surrendered their moral authority in contesting or invalidating the election results, which most political experts expect will be skewed by "adminresurs" (abuse of government resources) and possibly be tainted by falsification.

"A loser psychology drives the actions of the Ukrainian opposition," declared the front page of the Ukrainian Week magazine, depicting the leaders of Batkivshchyna and the Front for Change (Front Zmin) parties as servants. (The populist Front for Change party is widely viewed as the successor to the pro-NATO, pro-EU Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense Bloc.)

Indeed it's the widely held view among pro-Western Ukrainians that the parliamentary opposition – consisting of the

(Continued on page 22)

## European Union declines to initial Association Agreement with Ukraine



UNIAN/Vladimir Gontar

President Viktor Yanukovich is flanked by Herman van Rompuy (left), president of the European Council, and Jose Manuel Barroso, president of the European Commission, during a press conference after the European Union-Ukraine Summit held in Kyiv on December 19.

by Zenon Zawada

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – It was St. Nicholas Day on December 19 but the European Union (EU) offered no presents, abstaining from initialing its Association Agreement with Ukraine – an event that had been hoped for months and whose failure was deemed by the opposition as a foreign policy catastrophe for the Ukrainian government.

Ukrainian diplomats had spent nearly

five years working on the Association Agreement, which would have been a significant step in Ukraine's EU-integration efforts. The Agreement's Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (FTA) was completed in October after almost four years of negotiations.

The politically motivated imprisonment of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko had derailed the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement, as confirmed in a communiqué issued in Brussels on December 19 by the European Council and the European Commission.

"EU leaders underline the necessity of all-encompassing reforms of Ukraine's judicial system and measures against a politically motivated and selective judiciary," the communiqué stated.

Ukrainian diplomats held out hope the pact could be initialed as early as January. Yet that's not nearly as important as getting it signed, which would require far greater concessions from the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich, namely, the release of imprisoned opposition leaders Ms. Tymoshenko and Yuriy Lutsenko, the former internal affairs minister.

In the same December 20 statement, Vice-Minister Foreign Affairs Pavlo Klimkin claimed the initialing was delayed for technical reasons and required linguistic and legal review, avoiding the primary reasons offered by the EU communiqué the prior day.

The avoidance of an initialing ceremony confirmed that EU leaders were left with a

(Continued on page 20)

## Weekly TV program in Ukraine to focus on diaspora communities

TORONTO – On December 17 in Toronto, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) signed a memorandum with Ukraine's Channel 5 TV in Ukraine and IMB+ Records in Canada to launch a new weekly television news journal, "Ukrayinska Hromada" (Ukrainian community).

The program, to be aired on Channel 5, will showcase the activities of Ukrainian communities beyond the borders of Ukraine, as well as world events directly affecting Ukrainians.

In the early stages of the project, Channel 5 will broadcast video footage under the heading "Ukrayinska Hromada" during its daily news programming courtesy of the UWC and its member-organizations. Ultimately, the intent is to produce a separate program under the same name.

(Continued on page 6)



UWC

At the signing of a memorandum about the launch of a new weekly television program called "Ukrayinska Hromada" (from left) are: Channel 5 Editor-in-Chief Volodymyr Mzhelskyi, Ukrainian World Congress President Eugene Czolij and IMB+ Records President Bohdan Mouzitchka.



## ANALYSIS

## Ukraine loses fight against corruption

by Pavel Korduban  
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has detained a fire inspector for soliciting a \$44,000 bribe from a company that was involved in the construction of a new stadium for the Euro-2012 soccer championship in Kyiv (www.ssu.gov.ua, November 24).

Just two days later the chief of the State Employment Service, Volodymyr Halytsky, and several of his subordinates were detained on suspicion of corruption. Cash and valuables totaling \$7.5 million were confiscated during a search of their offices and homes (www.zn.ua, November 26).

The two arrests have been the most recent manifestations of the scale of kleptocracy in Ukraine.

Viktor Yanukovich, upon his election as president in February 2010, like all his predecessors proclaimed the fight against corruption as one of his priorities. However, he has failed to improve the situation. Corruption permeates all walks of life, from highway policemen who openly solicit bribes for speeding to government officials who thrive on kickbacks.

The case of Mr. Halytsky is special because it shows how the corrupt system works at the very top. Under President Yanukovich, people connected to three or four of the strongest groups in the government can steal with impunity, the daily Segodnya which is linked to the ruling Party of Regions reported on November 29, quoting its sources. Mr. Halytsky, who apparently did not belong to any of these groups, had been warned that he could face problems but he just could not stop, according to the sources.

Since 2003 Mr. Halytsky had chaired the Employment Service, which pays unemployment benefits and finances companies to create jobs, with a break immediately after the Orange Revolution in 2004-2005. Thus, he worked in this position in all the governments under three Ukrainian presidents.

During this period, the service's social protection system was transformed into a system of organized plunder, according to the weekly Zerkalo Nedeli. Funds ear-

marked for retraining the unemployed have been routinely stolen. Funds disappeared last year that were intended to help Ukrainians launch their own businesses after losing their jobs, and it has been virtually impossible for companies to qualify for compensation for creating jobs without kickbacks. Mr. Halytsky has been charged with embezzling money from a fund which was set up to help companies create jobs for former coal miners. The companies in question reportedly had to pay 15 percent to 20 percent kickbacks. The newspaper alleged that Mr. Halytsky paid protection money to national deputies from the Popular Party which is part of the ruling coalition and is headed by Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn (Zerkalo Nedeli, December 2).

Several former top officials have been arrested and jailed for corruption since Mr. Yanukovich's election as president. Many of them are his political rivals, like former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, which raises legitimate doubts about their guilt both in Ukraine and internationally.

At the same time, several officials who served under Mr. Yanukovich have also been punished for corruption. Last October, former Vice-Minister of the Environment Minister Bohdan Presner was jailed for nine years (Interfax-Ukraine, October 11). Last November, the former chief price inspector, Tetyana Rud, was sentenced to five years in jail (Ukrayinska Pravda, November 18). The chairman of the state commission for financial markets, Vasyl Volha, has been in custody awaiting a court verdict since last July, when he was arrested on suspicion of bribery.

There is a perception in Ukrainian society that these arrests appear to be only the tip of the iceberg and that many officials linked to the very top go unpunished. For example, it is still not clear who owns the estate in a natural reserve area near Kyiv, where President Yanukovich established his residence (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 5).

Chornomornaftohaz, a subsidiary of the state-owned oil and gas company Naftohaz Ukrainy, reportedly overpaid millions of dollars for an oil rig to an obscure company

(Continued on page 9)

## Helsinki Commission chair notes anniversary of Belarus crackdown

WASHINGTON – U.S. Helsinki Commission Chairman Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.) released a statement noting the one-year anniversary of the bloody December 19, 2010, election-night crackdown in Belarus, which swept up more than 700 opposition supporters who dared to challenge the rule of Belarusian dictator Alyaksandr Lukashenka.

"The last year has been an awful one for the Belarusian people. The tactics employed on the infamous night of December 19, 2010, and afterwards confirm the nature of Lukashenka's rule – a dictatorship that perpetuates a pervasive climate of fear to squelch dissent. In the past year the dictator has undertaken repressive measures on a scale and of a brutality which has not been seen in Europe for more than a decade. These have included the torture of presidential candidates, such as Ales Mikhalevich, who recently testified before the Helsinki Commission, and other demo-

cratic activists. Over the past year, pressure on civil society and on the independent media has been unrelenting. Meanwhile, the economic situation has deteriorated, causing suffering for all Belarusians."

"It is high time to hold Lukashenka and his henchmen accountable for their reprehensible, despicable treatment of those who defend human rights and struggle for their country's freedom. On this sad anniversary, we reiterate our demand for the immediate and unconditional release of Andrei Sannikov, Mikalai Statkevich, Zmitser Bondarenka, Zmitser Dashkevich, Ales Bialatski and others imprisoned for exercising their fundamental rights. We call upon Mr. Lukashenka to immediately cease his campaign of repression and allow civil society to freely function, including human rights defenders, defense attorneys and independent journalists," Rep. Smith added.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Yanukovich says he wants to release Yulia

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich said on December 21 at his yearend press conference that he is interested in the release of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko like no one else. "I would not mind if Ms. Tymoshenko was released under certain conditions stipulated by law. Moreover, I would like this case to be completed as soon as possible. I'm interested as no one else. I want it to happen," Mr. Yanukovich emphasized. "I became a hostage of this situation and when the Europeans came to us – Jose Manuel Barroso and Herman van Rompuy – I said, if you know what is the way out of this situation, tell me, what is the practice, but the investigation cannot be stopped, legal proceedings cannot be stopped, they will be considered, and no one has the authority to influence them," Mr. Yanukovich said. He added that he was ready to support the decriminalization of articles on which Ms. Tymoshenko has been convicted, if the Parliament makes that decision. He said the idea was to decriminalize certain articles of the Criminal Code, including "Tymoshenko's Article 365," however, the Batkivschyna party said their leader did not need it and a "political game then began." Mr. Yanukovich has reiterated that when the investigating authorities began to probe the Tymoshenko case, he had no authority to stop it, and that a selective approach has not been applied in the case. (Ukrinform)

### Court confirms legality of Yulia's arrest

KYIV – Kyiv's Court of Appeals on December 21 upheld a ruling by the Shevchenkivskyi District Court of Kyiv regarding the arrest of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko in the case concerning United Energy Systems of Ukraine (UESU). At the beginning of the court session, presiding Judge Olha Yefimova read out an application by Ms. Tymoshenko, in which she asked the court to hold a session in her absence. Earlier, a lawyer for the former prime minister, Serhii Vlasenko, said that a ruling issued at a visiting session of the district court regarding

Ms. Tymoshenko's arrest was illegal and that it should be cancelled. "If this decision remains valid, it will be a crime," he said. A state procurator, in turn, said that, according to the current Criminal Procedure Code, it is not illegal to choose another measure of restraint for a person against whom several criminal cases were opened. On December 8 the Shevchenkivskyi District Court of Kyiv concurred with a motion by an investigator of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) to arrest Ms. Tymoshenko, who was already arrested in the gas case and has been held in prison since August 5, as part of the UESU case. (Ukrinform)

### European court to fast track Yulia's case

KYIV – The European Court of Human Rights decided on December 14 to fast track an application from Yulia Tymoshenko, former Ukrainian prime minister and Batkivschyna party leader. "The court took the decision to give priority to the case ...in view of the serious and sensitive nature of the allegations raised," reads a statement posted on the court's official website. Ms. Tymoshenko's application was lodged with the European Court of Human Rights on August 10. The applications alleges, in particular, that Ms. Tymoshenko's "criminal prosecution and detention were politically motivated, that there has been no judicial review of the lawfulness of her detention in Kyiv [Prison] No. 13, and that her detention conditions are inadequate, with no medical care provided for her numerous health problems." The court's press service also noted that Ms. Tymoshenko's application is based primarily on Article 3 (prohibition of degrading treatment or punishment), Article 5 (right to liberty and security) and Article 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) of the European Convention on Human Rights. The statement also says that notice of the application has been given to the Ukrainian government, which is requested to submit observations. The Pechersk District Court of Kyiv found Ms. Tymoshenko guilty of abuse of office when signing gas contracts with Russia in 2009

(Continued on page 14)

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NEWS ANALYSIS

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by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

On December 8, Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich signed the law on parliamentary elections, which the Verkhovna Rada passed on November 17. The new law should allow the ruling Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) to win the elections scheduled for October 2012, despite its declining popularity.

The elections law raises the threshold parties must cross to win seats, thereby eliminating many rivals, and re-introduces a mixed system under which it should be easier for government-backed candidates to win.

The new rules should also prompt the consolidation of the fragmented opposition. The two largest opposition parties, Fatherland and the Front for Change, or Front Zmin, have started talks to agree on joint candidates for single-mandate districts.

Under the new rules, the 100 percent proportional system, where by Parliament was elected from party lists, is replaced with a mixed system, where 50 percent of national deputies will be elected from party lists according to the same proportional system, and the other 50 percent from first-past-the-post constituencies.

This is a boon for the ruling party. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, when a similar system existed in Ukraine, pro-government candidates usually defeated their rivals in the first-past-the-post constituencies, because they were supported by local mayors, council members and rich businessmen, who were, as a rule, linked to the ruling elite.

The threshold for parties is raised from 3 percent to 5 percent, and blocs of parties are not allowed to participate in elections. This complicates the task for small parties, both opposition and pro-government. Several of them are likely to disappear. One

example is the relatively new liberal party, Strong Ukraine, whose leader, Vice Prime Minister Sergey Tigipko, decided to merge the party with the PRU (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, September 20).

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn has also indicated on several occasions that his People's Party could merge with the PRU.

Mr. Lytvyn's party has been a junior partner in the pro-government coalition with the PRU and the Communist Party.

The new law was supported by the absolute majority of 366 national deputies in the 450-seat legislature, including many oppositionists who participated in drafting the bill. These included members of Batkivschyna and FZ, who explained their cooperation with the authorities by contributing provisions aimed to prevent vote-rigging. They said that, had they not backed the bill, the PRU, using its numerical strength, would have pushed through Parliament an even worse bill.

Apart from introducing the same mixed system and raising the election barrier, a bill written solely by the Party of Regions would have also provided the government with incentives to falsify election results by making it possible to vote at home without medical certificates and eliminating opposition candidates on formal grounds such as typos in income declarations (Segodnya, November 18; UNIAN, November 17).

The pro-opposition website Ukrayinska Pravda said the consensus in Parliament on the new election law was "a coup of big parties against small parties." The new rules may lead to a three-party system consisting of the PRU, Batkivschyna and FZ, the website predicted (Ukrainska Pravda, November 18).

Unsurprisingly, UDAR (Punch), a new party headed by the boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, which opinion polls show is the third most popular opposition party

but may not clear the 5 percent barrier, called the new law "a conspiracy," and said that a party whose leader was imprisoned by the authorities should not have sided with the government on election rules (www.klichko.org, November 17).

This was aimed at Batkivschyna whose leader, Yulia Tymoshenko, was sentenced in October to seven years in jail for exceeding her authority in preparing a gas deal with Russia in 2009. It is widely believed that she was punished for her opposition to Mr. Yanukovich.

FZ leader Arseniy Yatsenyuk has claimed that the new law was "a victory for the opposition," since it "will eliminate election fraud." He announced that his party would start talks to form a joint list for single-mandate districts with Batkivschyna, adding that a higher election barrier gave the opposition a chance to unite (Ukrayinska Pravda, November 18).

He urged other opposition parties to join, saying that those not siding with the Batkivschyna-FZ alliance would support the government (Channel 5, November 28). This was a change of stance, as last summer Mr. Yatsenyuk insisted it was unnecessary for opposition parties to unite ahead of the election.

Fatherland and FZ expect several smaller opposition parties to join, including the

far-right Svoboda, according to Batkivschyna Deputy Chairman Oleksander Turchynov. He said in an interview with LIGABiznesInform that it was a realistic goal to put forward joint candidates from the opposition in every single-mandate district (www.liga.net, December 6).

Meanwhile, a fresh opinion poll by the Kyiv-based pollster KMIIS has shown that trust in the mainstream parties is falling, so the well-established parties changed the rules just in time to discourage possible new challengers.

The Party of Regions is still in the lead, but support for it fell from 13.5 percent in June to 12.5 percent in November, according to the poll. The rating of Batkivschyna fell from 10.9 percent in June to 10.2 percent, and the rating of Front for Change fell from 7.7 to 7.0 percent. Yet, support for the communists rose from 4.0 to 5.1 percent, and for UDAR from 3.1 to 4.4 percent. The share of those who would vote against all, were undecided or would abstain, totaled 50 percent, rising marginally compared to June (www.zn.ua, November 29).

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission

Unification efforts of UOC-KP and UAOC fail

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

KYIV - The unification process between the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP) and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (UAOC), which began last autumn, failed, it was reported on December 14.

According to the UOC-KP, the clergymen of the UAOC are to blame for the failure of the dialogue. Representatives of the UOC-KP particularly accuse Metropolitan Mefodii and Andrii, who laid down an unacceptable condition: the resignation of Patriarch Filaret. On December 13, in Kyiv, the bishops of the UOC-KP gathered at their Synod in Kyiv passed a statement explaining their position in this regard, reported the website of UOC-KP.

The bishops noted in the document that the two Churches made repeated attempts to unite.

"The first attempt to unite was made in 2000-2001, when Symphonicon was signed at the residence of the Ecumenical Patriarch in Constantinople, and later agreements were reached at a meeting in Ternopil. However, these agreements did not result in unification as the head of UAOC, Metropolitan Mefodii and some

other bishops laid down the condition of resignation of Patriarch Filaret of Kyiv and All Rus' for the unification. This condition was also laid down during the second attempt of dialogue in autumn, 2005," reads the statement.

The bishops of the UOC-KP said they cannot accept these conditions by any means as they view Patriarch Filaret as the hierarch with the biggest experience of the bishop's ministry. In addition, they consider the dismissal of Patriarch Filaret to be "the dream of the Moscow Patriarchate of many years," which they now try to fulfill "through the mentioned representatives of UAOC."

The Synod of the UOC-KP recalled that many representatives of the higher ranks of clergy of UAOC were once part of the Kyiv Patriarchate but left that Church due to conflicts.

"Metropolitan Mefodii in 1995 was the administrator of UOC-KP, Metropolitan Andrii was a permanent member of the Holy Synod in 1992-1995. Most of the present bishops of the UAOC are former priests of the Kyiv Patriarchate who left our Church for the sake of obtaining the positions of the bishops," the Synod's statement points out.

Quotable notes

"I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Vaclav Havel, the Czech Republic's first democratically elected president and leader of the Velvet Revolution. His death is a loss for the Czech Republic and for human rights defenders around the world. He was an inspiration to me and I was proud to call him a friend. He once said that his hope was for history to remember him as having done something useful. President Havel spent his life removing chains of oppression, standing up for the downtrodden, and advancing the tenets of democracy and freedom. When communism threatened the peace and prosperity of our world and covered Eastern Europe in a cloud of hopelessness, he wrote plays so powerful they changed the course of history and created new democratic opportunities for millions. And when the people of the Czech Republic were finally allowed to express themselves freely, they overwhelmingly chose a man who never wanted to be in politics.

"He did something more than useful - he did something extraordinary, and history will remember it. Today, a black flag hangs over the Prague castle in honor of his life and commitment to a better world. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, the people of the Czech Republic, and all those who are committed to advancing human rights."

- U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in a press statement issued on December 18.

"Vaclav Havel's words of freedom resonated throughout Europe and helped us build a free continent. The Velvet Revolution he led was more than inspiring to us. It paved the way for a Europe whole and free."

- OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Lithuanian Foreign Affairs Minister Audronius

"Vaclav Havel was a true hero of the human rights movement. As a founding member and first spokesman for the Charter 77 movement, whose reports the Helsinki Commission published, he demanded his government implement the Helsinki Final Act and other human rights commitments it had freely undertaken. He remained constant to his ideals - prison and persecution notwithstanding. As a dissident, he exemplified the 'power of the powerless,' as he called it, the ability of ordinary people to live for truth and by doing so face down a regime built on lies.

"It is testimony to his enduring devotion to human rights that one of his last public messages was an expression of solidarity with political prisoners in Belarus. ..."

press release on December 19.

"Even after becoming president, Vaclav Havel continued to serve as the conscience of the continent, warning presciently in 1993 that the treatment of Roma was 'a litmus test' for post-Communist civil society. He remained a tireless defender of the unjustly persecuted whether they were Czech, Cuban, or Tibetan. And, in 2009, as a committed trans-Atlanticist, he joined other statesmen and women from Central Europe in calling for a renewal of that relationship. Vaclav Havel's leadership and integrity will be sorely missed."

mission press release on December 19.



# Canadian government honors St. Petro Mohyla Institute

by Al Kachkowski

SASKATOON, Saskatchewan – The government of Canada officially recognized the St. Petro Mohyla Institute of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan as a National Historic Site at an impressive public ceremony held at the institute on September 24.

About 150 people gathered to witness the program and the unveiling of the trilingual bronze plaque that is now mounted outdoors, near the institute's entrance. The proceedings coincided with the celebration of the 95th anniversary of the institute's founding in 1916.

The master of ceremonies for the program was Allan Duddridge, Saskatchewan member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. He introduced the Lastiwka Ukrainian Orthodox Choir, which opened the program with its trilingual rendition of "O, Canada."

Mr. Duddridge then brought greetings on behalf of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board. He pointed out that there are 2,000 commemorative plaques placed throughout Canada by the Board.

Steve Senyk, president of the Mohyla Institute's board of directors, prefaced his greetings by stating that "This is truly an exciting day." In the Ukrainian language, he welcomed all present. He paid tribute to the visionaries who founded the institute. He especially thanked Dr. Frances Swyripa, historian of the University of Alberta, for her work in preparing the application for institute to receive this award – a process that began six years ago.

Mayor Don Atchison of Saskatoon gave greetings and fondly remembered the excellent meals served at Mohyla Institute when he stayed there in the 1970s as a member of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies football team during their training camp. On a historical note, he referred to how Ukrainians were once marginalized in the community. Yet today things have changed markedly and Ukrainians have entered all facets of community life. On behalf of the citizens of Saskatoon, he congratulated the Mohyla Institute on the occasion of this designation.

Ken Krawetz, deputy premier of the Province of Saskatchewan and a Mohyla Institute alumnus, commended the early board members for providing such a place for students of Ukrainian descent and helping them to go on to achieve success in their careers.

Concluding his remarks he stated, "Memories made here are often the topic of discussion when alumni get together. May Mohyla continue for many, many more years."

Dr. Swyripa, recalled that the first time that she visited Mohyla Institute was in the 1970s to evaluate the news-



A trilingual plaque is unveiled at the St. Petro Mohyla Institute in Saskatoon.

papers and periodicals collection for the purpose of microfilming rare items for the collection of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. She realized then that "everything I touched was Ukrainian Canadian history." She noted how the institute, in its early years, was part of the "bursa" movement created by the Ukrainian intelligentsia in cities and towns. She also mentioned how the Institute provided an interesting and stimulating environment in which Ukrainian women could develop their skills. She also stated that individuals surrounding Mohyla Institute provided the impetus for the formation of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada.

The dignitaries then gathered around the covered plaque and unveiled it. The trilingual plaque was then read to the assembled guests. Mr. Duddridge read the English and French, while Nadya Foty read the Ukrainian.

The inscription on the plaque reads as follows: "In 1916, the activities of a dynamic group of Ukrainian immigrants culminated in the founding of the Mohyla Institute at the first Ukrainian national convention in Saskatoon. The institute, operated as a student residence, supported higher education for Ukrainian youth while also serving as a center for cultural and religious events. In 1918, following a fractious debate, it spearheaded the formation of the Ukrainian Greek-Orthodox Church of Canada. In the ensuing decades, the institute instilled a sense of community leadership in young men and women who would go on to found a range of Ukrainian organizations."

The plaque was then blessed in a short ceremony by the Rt. Rev. Protopresbyter Victor Lakusta, chancellor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada.

The Lastiwka Choir participated in the

conclusion of the formal program with its rendering of "Otche Nash," the Lord's prayer.

Mr. Duddridge closed the program by thanking all who prepared for and attended the program. A coffee reception, visiting and viewing of displays concluded the afternoon.

The celebration of the 95th anniversary of the institute continued with an evening banquet, program and dance at the Ukrainian Orthodox Auditorium in Saskatoon.

Guests were greeted at the door with music by the Ukrainian Connection. The auditorium was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

As guests enjoyed their dessert, John Stech, a jazz pianist from New York and an alumnus of the Mohyla Ukrainian Summer School, entertained by playing a number of tunes including his well-known "Kolomeyka Fantasy." In his commentary, he recalled the time he played with the Dumka Ukrainian dance band of Edmonton, Alberta, and that one of its first gigs was in Saskatoon. At the end of his performance, Mr. Stech was accorded a standing ovation from the 200 people in attendance.

Steve Senyk, board president, greeted everyone at this 95th anniversary event and commented on how hundreds of the Mohyla Institute's alumni have gone on to become community leaders. Mr. Senyk stated that, by virtue of this prestigious designation, the Institute is now publicly welcomed to and has become a member of Canada's family of National Historic Sites, which includes places, people, and events of national historic significance.

M.C. Michayluk explained that the organizing committee had decided to honor the oldest alumni among us. He called forward those alumni who stayed at the Institute during the 1930s and 1940s for a presentation and a group photograph. Each member of the group received a Certificate of Honorary Membership in the Mohyla Institute and an acknowledgement of thanks and appreciation for their respective contributions.

The Lastiwka Ukrainian Orthodox Choir and Orchestra performed several folk songs for everyone's entertainment. Lastiwka has held its rehearsals at Mohyla Institute since the choir's inception 28 years ago.

Celebrants of Mohyla Institute's 95th anniversary then danced the night away to the musical renditions of the Ukrainian Connection.



Judy-Anne Chabun

Steve Senyk, board president of the Mohyla Institute, addresses the gathering.

## Mohyla Institute's history

The Mohyla Institute is named after Metropolitan Petro Mohyla, a leader of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church who lived in the early part of the 17th century in Ukraine. As metropolitan, the Ukrainian Encyclopedia notes, Mohyla improved the Church's organizational structure, set strict dogmatic guidelines, reformed the monastic orders and enriched the theological canon.

For most of the Mohyla Institute's history in Saskatoon, it was named the P. Mohyla Ukrainian Institute. When the new building was opened in 1965, the name was streamlined to simply Mohyla Institute. After Metropolitan Petro Mohyla was canonized in Ukraine in 1996 by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, the board of directors of the institute renamed it the St. Petro Mohyla Institute.

Over the years, the students of the institute, always a co-ed residence, benefited from an extracurricular program in Ukrainian culture. Classes and lessons were given in many areas, including Ukrainian history, language and literature, dramatic arts, Ukrainian choral singing and dancing. Culinary arts, pysanka writing, bandura (Ukraine's national instrument) and "tsymbaly" (dulcimer) paying were also offered.

All of the students belonged to the student society Kameniar, while, since 1923, the girls belonged to their own society named Mohylianky. Students left the institute with a strong sense of Ukrainian identity and an enhanced knowledge of the Ukrainian heritage.

Those who graduated as school teachers were in strong demand in the Ukrainian settlements of Saskatchewan and indeed western Canada. They were expected to conduct cultural classes and prepare Ukrainian concerts with the children after school hours. Thus the institute played a huge role in the transmission of Ukrainian culture wherever Ukrainians lived.

Many of the leaders, having received training and experience at the institute, went on to establish Ukrainian church parishes and local branches of Ukrainian organizations.

Currently, the Mohyla Institute is accepting the challenges provided by changed demographics in the rural areas and the forces of assimilation, and is engaged in preparing innovative programming to perpetuate knowledge of Ukrainian culture in accordance with its mandate.

## UUARC receives Humanitarian Award

ARLINGTON, Va. – United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) President Dr. Larissa Kyj and Administrative Liaison Motrja Watters on December 9 attended Counterpart International's and the U.S. State Department's 2011 Small/Medium Transportation Program East Coast Conference.

Represented were the Department of

State, Counterpart International, Network America Lines, International Services Corp, A.P. Inspections and 20 humanitarian aid organizations.

Several organizations were honored for their work, among them the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, which received a Humanitarian Award in recognition of "assistance to the less fortunate people of Ukraine."





# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## The Ukrainian National Association's Christmas tradition



One of the art works chosen for the UNA's Christmas card project is Jerome Kozak's "Madonna" (acrylic, 2009).

by Oksana Trytjak

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PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The art of sending personal greetings dates back to the ancient Chinese and Egyptian cultures, when people shared goodwill messages with their friends and family on slips of papyrus. In Europe, the custom of sending handwritten cards became very fashionable when paper became mass-produced and readily available. By the late 1800s, prefabricated cards started to make their appearance and sending invitations, birthday greetings and holiday wishes became the norm. Today, Christmastime is still the

most popular season to communicate with family and friends, to send pictures of an ever-growing family and in general, to spread great holiday cheer.

Unfortunately, the tradition of writing letters and sending handwritten cards is in danger of being substituted with the various high-tech options. However, it is estimated that 1.8 billion cards are sent during the holidays in the U.S. alone. Therefore, Christmas cards are going to be around for a little while longer.

The Christmas season is a time to reconnect with family and friends. It is also a wonderful opportunity to promote awareness for various charitable causes and to encourage those around us to get involved with the community and support our cultural institutions.

Over the years, the UNA has aimed to promote Ukrainian artists through its Christmas Card Project, which involves featuring their artwork on the covers of holiday greeting cards. These cards are then sent out to UNA members, who in turn share them with their friends and families.

The proceeds from this fund-raising effort support the Soyuzivka Heritage Center through the Ukrainian National Foundation (UNF), a not for profit foundation with a 501 C (3) status. All donations are tax-exempt as permitted by law.

UNA members, loyal readers of its publications Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, visitors to Soyuzivka and the community members are encouraged to participate in this year's Christmas Card project by purchasing a packet of 12 cards for \$25. All the proceeds from the sale of

these cards are designated for cultural and educational projects at Soyuzivka.

Special thanks are due to all the artists who have shared their Christmas-related artwork with us. These artists – who over the years have allowed the UNA to repro-

duce their work without financial reimbursement – have contributed their talents to support the Ukrainian National Foundation. (This year's Christmas cards reflect previously contributed works from the past several years.)

## St. Nicholas Feast Day celebrated at St. Michael's Parish in Woonsocket



WOONSOCKET, R.I. – Ukrainian National Association Branch 241 in Woonsocket, R.I., hosted its annual St. Nicholas celebration for the children of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church on Sunday, December 4. Msgr. Roman Golemba and Janet Bardell, branch secretary, greeted the youngsters. Lydia Zuk Klufas and Lydia Kusma Minyayluk planned the event with poems, songs and a short play. The parents prepared a delicious lunch. Yuriy Minyayluk and John Tkach provided the musical entertainment. Of course, the highlight of the event came when St. Nicholas presented gifts to the eager children. Above, St. Nicholas is seen with the children and organizers of the event.



The UNA wishes you and your family a very merry Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year!

To secure your family's future or ensure an income during your retirement, make a resolution to call the UNA for information and our great rates.

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2200 Rte. 10, Parsippany, NJ 07054; 800-253-9862  
www.UkrainianNationalAssociation.org



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### "From DP to DC"

The landmark exhibit "From DP to DC. Displaced Persons: A Story of Ukrainian Refugees in Europe 1945-1952," opened on November at the Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago. (It remains on view through January 31, 2012.) The exhibit demonstrated that, indeed, displaced persons "have stories that must be told," as Orest Hrynewych, first vice-president of the UNM, had stated in an article that appeared in *The Weekly*. The "From DP to DC" exhibit in Chicago must be hailed as a major step in that direction, and its organizers deserve our praise and gratitude.

This newspaper's readers first heard about the upcoming exhibit back in February, in a story headlined "Ukrainian National Museum seeks artifacts for DP exhibit." The UNM at that time was asking the Ukrainian community to support its upcoming exhibit – whose aim was "to present the broad sweep of the DP experience in an interactive setting" – by loaning DP camp artifacts to be used in the display. As Mr. Hrynewych wrote in *The Weekly*, "The objectives of this exhibit are to inform and educate the Ukrainian community, especially the Fourth Wave immigrants, the general public and the youth in our community about this chapter of post-World War II history."

The opening weekend of the exhibit on November 4-6 was particularly notable, with presentations by experts in their fields: Prof. Mark Wyman, author of "DPs: Europe's Displaced Persons, 1945-1951"; Dr. Lubomyr Y. Luciuk, author of "Searching for Place: Ukrainian Displaced Persons, Canada and the Migration of Memory"; and Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, author of "The Ukrainian Americans: Roots and Aspirations 1898-1954." Dr. Kuropas spoke on the topic "The Displaced Persons Act of 1948: It almost didn't happen." (You can read the full text of his very enlightening presentation in *The Weekly's* November 27 issue.)

A bilingual (English-Ukrainian) catalogue was published as a worthy companion to the exhibit, which was arranged chronologically and by themes, such as the diverse facets of camp life, and included a recreated DP camp room. A "Living Memory" wall was a place for former DPs to write down basic information about themselves and their experiences.

A story by William Hageman in the *Chicago Tribune* reported on this highly successful exhibit: "Some quarter-million Ukrainians were left in Germany after the war. About half ended up in the camps — converted army barracks and old warehouses and buildings mostly — rather than return to Ukraine, where they would have been at the mercy of Stalin's troops. The exhibit features an amazing collection of artifacts from the camps: embroidered blouses and shirts made from parachutes, a punch bowl that was repurposed as a sports trophy, a doctor's collection of equipment that he used to treat people in the camps. There's also a giant map noting about 100 camp locations."

The artifacts are a concrete manifestation of the highly organized community life that flourished in the DP camps in less than ideal conditions. "They said one thing they can't take away from you is what's in your mind," Mr. Hrynewych told the *Tribune*. "So they pushed education. It was their mantra. They set up grade schools, high schools, a university." The vibrancy of DP camp life and the resilience of the DPs laid the groundwork for these refugees' later success as émigrés and citizens of the countries where they ultimately settled after World War II.

The DP story is a proud one that deserves to be shared. We sincerely hope that the Chicago organizers of "From DP to DC" take this exhibit on the road to other major cities where it can educate even more segments of the public about this important historical episode.

Dec.  
30  
1956

### Turning the pages back...

Fifty-five years ago, on December 30, 1956, approximately 3,000 protesters gathered at Manhattan Center in New York to protest the Soviet occupation of Ukraine. Organized by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the protest featured addresses by U.S. Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell, U.S. Senator-elect Jacob K. Javits (D-N.Y.), U.S. Rep. Michael Feighan (D-Ohio);

and a statement by incumbent Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D-N.Y.) was read by Stephen Jarema, UCCA executive secretary.

Mr. Mitchell, in his address, said: "Recently two highly significant documents found their way to the free world, disclosing the most appalling conditions in forced labor camps. These documents were written by two Ukrainian political prisoners at the gigantic Soviet forced labor camp complex located in Mordovia, about 400 miles southeast of Moscow.

"The original Ukrainian texts, dated September and October 1955, are painstakingly written on pieces of linen cloth that may have been torn from the lining of coats. Bit by bit, through secret means, they have found their way to the free world. These documents are particularly significant because they show that despite the promised elimination of forced labor camps after the death of Stalin (forced labor camps which incidentally had never been acknowledged to exist); despite this promise, these documents show that the concentration camp system still remains a basic institution in the Soviet economy."

Michael Piznak, master of ceremonies and UCCA executive treasurer, noted that the fight for Ukraine's freedom from the Soviets continues, as it did with the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), the Ukrainian underground, and the partisans and students whose rebellion in Kyiv incited Moscow to send in and fire tanks on the protesters.

Dmytro Halychyn, president of the Ukrainian National Association and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, stated that reports from Ukraine showed that UPA fighting units, in their fight against Soviet Russian troop and MVD detachments, were able to derail Soviet troop trains and blow up bridges used by the Soviets to quell the Hungarian uprising, and pointed to the fact that Ukrainians, proud and unconquerable in spirit,

(Continued on page 22)

## IN MEMORIAM: Jerome Shestack dedicated champion of human rights



At a White House meeting (from left) are: Vice-President Walter Mondale, Ulana Mazurkevich, Jerome Shestack, Orysia Hewka, Chrystia Senyk, Sam Dash and Vera Andryczyk.

by Ulana Baluch Mazurkevich

Ukrainians have lost a great friend. Philadelphia has lost a great man, a man who demonstrated that the law and the pursuit of human rights were not mutually exclusive. A man blessed with unlimited humanity, a man blessed with boundless compassion. Jerome Shestack (1923-2011) was a leading human rights activist. He was ambassador to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, president of the International League for Human Rights and president of the American Bar Association. He passed away on August 18.

I met Jerome Shestack at the Sakharov hearings in Washington. This was during the heyday of the Soviet Union, when the gulags were filled with poets, writers and dissidents of all stripes. The only "crime" committed by these brave men and women was demanding their basic human rights. Mr. Shestack spoke passionately and eloquently on their behalf.

When Mr. Shestack became ambassador to the Commission on Human Rights at the United Nations, he was one of the first to raise names of the imprisoned with Soviet officials. Prior to that, no public official ever raised a specific name of a political prisoner. This was the first time that Ukrainian political prisoners were named. Among those mentioned were Mykola Rudenko and Levko Lukianenko.

Mr. Shestack spoke for the poets, for the writers, for all those who were silenced by the brutal regime. He was their voice. He gave them a face. He gave them a name. And, above all, he gave them hope. They were not forgotten.

The Ukrainian Human Rights Committee worked with Mr. Shestack on many projects. His office and his home were always open to us. Through him we met many important dignitaries who would work with us in raising awareness of the situation in Ukraine. Mr. Shestack and I would write op-ed pieces for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, to give light to the thousands languishing in labor camps. He decried those who remained silent in the face of atrocities.

Every year without fail Jerome Shestack would join the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee in commemorating January 12 as the Day of Solidarity with Ukrainian Political Prisoners. Anytime a human rights activist was sentenced to a labor camp or "psychiatric hospital," Mr. Shestack would join the committee in demonstration, always to raise awareness of what was going on in the Soviet Union. He was passionately committed to the defense of human rights and to human freedoms.

Mr. Shestack wanted the White House to be informed of the Soviet Union's denial of human rights in Ukraine, and to that end he organized a meeting of the Ukrainian Human Rights Committee with Vice-President Walter Mondale at the White House. At this meeting the vice-president was informed about the situation in Ukraine and the arrest of Mr. Lukianenko. When the nuclear accident occurred at Chernobyl, Mr. Shestack joined the committee in protesting the nuclear disaster; each year he would join us in observing this anniversary date.

Mr. Shestack continued to be a good friend to Ukraine. After Ukraine's independence and the Orange Revolution, Mr. Shestack and I spoke about honoring President Viktor Yushchenko with the Philadelphia Liberty Medal. As a highly respected member of the board of the Philadelphia Liberty Medal Committee, Mr. Shestack persuaded the board to award the Liberty Medal to Mr. Yushchenko, contrary to the wishes of some on the board who wanted the medal to be presented to Bill Clinton. The following year, former Presidents Bill Clinton and George Bush shared the Philadelphia Liberty Medal.

Mr. Shestack's commitment to Ukrainian causes will be greatly missed, as will his steadfast dedication to the cause that all human beings have God-given rights that no power on earth could be permitted to take away.

I will always remember Jerome Shestack as the epitome of the tireless and passionate champion of universal human rights who once said, in speaking of the denial of human rights, "It is only a short step from silence to complicity."

## Weekly TV program...

(Continued from page 1)

The memorandum was signed by UWC President Eugene Czolij, Channel 5 Editor-in-Chief Volodymyr Mzhelskyi and IMB+ Records President Bohdan Mouzitchka in the presence of representatives of all

three organizations.

"This memorandum is an important step in informing Ukrainians living in Ukraine and beyond its borders about the social, national-cultural, educational and informational activities of the over 20-million-strong Ukrainian diaspora and the Ukrainian World Congress," stated UWC President Czolij.



## IN THE PRESS: Havel, Putin and Yanukovich

**"Vaclav Havel, living in truth," editorial, The Washington Post, December 19:**

"... [Vaclav] Havel pioneered an entirely new form of political revolution — one that is as relevant in the tumultuous year of 2011 as it was when he first spelled it out in the mid-1970s. His simple but extraordinary idea was that the most effective way to defeat a totalitarian regime was for citizens to reject its lies and 'live in truth.' That meant, first of all, telling the truth in answer to official propaganda, but also behaving as if fundamental human rights — which most dictatorships claim to respect — could be taken for granted.

"This was a peaceful strategy but also one that required enormous courage. After writing his seminal essay 'Power of the Powerless' in 1978, Mr. Havel spent nearly five years in prison, where his health was badly damaged. For 16 years afterward he suffered incessant monitoring and harassment from the secret police of Czechoslovakia, the most coldly repressive regime of the Soviet bloc. ...

"The stunning success of the 1989

Czechoslovak 'Velvet Revolution,' when the sight of massive crowds gathered in Prague's Wenceslas Square prompted a rotting Communist bureaucracy to collapse, proved that Mr. Havel's strategy could work. It also helped to establish a model that has spread around the world — to Serbia and Ukraine, Lebanon and Kyrgyzstan, and now — in another landmark year of revolution — Tunisia and Egypt. ..."

**"Putin's Black Eye and Yanukovich's Beauty Sleep," by Alexander J. Motyl on his blog, "Ukraine's Orange Blues," on the World Affairs website, December 16:**

"Regardless of how the current post-election protests in Russia turn out, the many thousands of ordinary Russians who took to the streets to demand their rights deserve three big cheers. Their courageous behavior has dispelled a few myths about Russia and sent a powerful signal to all post-Soviet dictators.

"... The mostly young and middle-class demonstrators have effectively squashed

(Continued on page 19)

## Kremlin leaves Havel tributes to others

by Heather Maher

RFE/RL

Leaders from all corners of the world have paid tribute to Vaclav Havel — dissident, revolutionary, playwright, and the first president of the Czech Republic — who died on December 18.

But from the Kremlin there has been only silence.

Neither President Dmitry Medvedev, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, nor Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has publicly commented on Mr. Havel's death. Mr. Medvedev did, however, offer a swift reaction to the passing of North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il, who died one day earlier but whose death was announced one day later. The Russian president sent his condolences to Pyongyang almost immediately.

As reported by website Czechposition.com, the Russian Embassy in Prague told the CTK news agency on December 20 that it had sent an official letter of condolence in the name of the "Russian leadership" to Czech President Vaclav Klaus. (It was reported on December 21 that Russia will send Vladimir Lukin, the country's ombudsman, to the funeral on December 23.)

Mr. Havel's hatred of communism and symbol as a democratic reformer put him at odds with Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union, and he was especially critical of Putin.

But news of Mr. Havel's death propelled many ordinary Russians out of their warm apartments and houses and through the cold Moscow streets to the Czech Embassy, where a book of condolence had been set out. Radio station Ekho Moskvy reported that a steady stream of people was still arriving at closing time on December 19.

In the face of the Kremlin's silence, hundreds of Russians have found their own ways to express their feelings. A website has been set up in Mr. Havel's memory, [www.havelinmemorial.ru](http://www.havelinmemorial.ru), and the text, written in both Czech and Russian, reads:

"Vaclav Havel, a man who embodied the strength of personality and talent in the face of totalitarianism... was a rare model of politics in which consistent defense of, and loyalty to, principles and ideals is above all else. Havel will remain forever in our memory as a brave and uncompromising fighter under a totalitarian regime, against which he was able to build honesty and human dignity.

"Unfortunately, the president of the Russian Federation Dmitry Medvedev has found it unnecessary to express condolences to the Czech nation. More important for the Kremlin was the death of DPRK leader Kim Jong Il.

"We understand that mutual relations between Russia and the Czech Republic were sometimes strained, but that does not apply to relations between our nations...

"We share the grief of loss that the Czech Republic is currently experiencing, and we express our deep condolences to the relatives of the Czech nation and of Vaclav Havel."

It ends with several hundred signatures and an invitation to readers to add their own thoughts of sympathy.

Mr. Havel wrote his last commentary for Novaya Gazeta, on December 9, about the disputed Russian parliamentary elections days earlier. "There can be no talk of democracy as long as the leaders of the state insult the dignity of citizens, control the judiciary, the mass media and manipulate election results," he wrote.

On December 19, Deputy Editor Vitaly Yaroshevsky wrote in praise of Mr. Havel's unflagging concern for Russian freedom: "The passing of Vaclav Havel is not just a loss for Czechs. It's a loss for us all, because now it will be much harder for us to struggle with the complex circumstances within our country."

«... [Vaclav] Havel pioneered an entirely new form of political revolution...»  
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Washington DC 20036 (see <http://www.rferl.org/articleprintview/24429114.html>).

## CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

### Our Arab brethren

Actually, they are not just Arabs. They include Persians, Egyptians, Ethiopians, Greeks and other peoples in the Middle East and Northeast Africa. And in this instance I am not speaking of the Muslims. Rather, I have in mind the millions of Eastern Christians in troubled countries like Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Ethiopia. Most Christians in those countries are either Orthodox or Eastern-rite Catholic. They are thus the brethren of Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholics in a special sense, and despite differences of geography, language and culture.

In the political turmoil that has shaken the predominantly Muslim countries they inhabit, these Christians often end up as victims.

On October 31, 2010, for example, 42 Christians, two of them priests, were fatally shot by terrorist gunmen in Our Lady of Salvation Cathedral in Baghdad. Last January 1, as parishioners of the Coptic Church of the Two Saints in Alexandria, Egypt, were leaving a New Year's Eve mass shortly after midnight, a bomb planted in a car parked at the church entrance exploded, killing at least 21 people. (Touchstone, March/April 2011, p. 10). Last March, thousands of Islamic extremists set fire to 59 churches and at least 28 homes in and around Asendabo in western Ethiopia, killing at least one person believed to belong to the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. Over 4,000 people were displaced in the violence, after Muslims accused a Christian of desecrating the Qur'an. (Touchstone, May/June 2011, p. 10). Just last October 9, police and armed forces at Maspero in Cairo attacked demonstrators protesting the burning of churches. Twenty-seven people, most of them Christians, were killed. Anxious about their future in a post-Mubarak Egypt where the Muslim Brotherhood may gain control, many Coptic families are emigrating. (David Ignatius, "Cairo's Christians Worry about Egypt's Next Chapter," The Washington Post, November 8, 2011).

But why, aside from ordinary compassion and (in some cases) common faith, should Ukrainians take a special interest in the fate of these Eastern Christians?

First, we have common problems and experiences. Many of these Churches' histories resemble ours, marked by foreign conquest, schism, decline, reunion and revival. Some have experienced the pressures of Latinization. Like Ukrainians after World War II, many Northeast African and Middle Eastern Christians have been driven from their homelands by hostile regimes, war and revolution. Thus, for example, while in 1932, one in five Iraqis was Christian, today it is one in 33. Moreover, Middle Eastern émigré churches face the same challenges of cultural and spiritual survival as ours. In some North American cities like Detroit, we are neighbors.

In addition, familiarity with the Christian experience in these lands can help us better understand their politics, and the effects of our nation's policies. Has our military presence in Iraq upset the delicate inter-religious balance? Can it bring stability and toleration?

And finally, it is in the Middle East and Northeast Africa today that the Church is most threatened — and most alive. For martyrdom is not just something that happened in ancient Rome. It is happening today in the streets and squares of

Baghdad and Cairo, Alexandria and Mosul.

So what are these Eastern Christian Churches? Their number and variety are bewildering. They fall into several ritual traditions: besides the Byzantine rite with which we are familiar, there are the Armenian, Chaldean (or East Syrian), Antiochian (or West Syrian), Coptic and Ethiopian rites. Most of their followers inhabit lands that were Christian before the Arab and Turkish conquests.

The Orthodox Patriarchate of Constantinople is based in officially secular but overwhelmingly Muslim Turkey, where Christians number less than 0.2 percent of the population. The largest Christian community in the Middle East, on the other hand, is in Egypt, with more than 10 percent of the population. Of these, about 95 percent are Coptic Orthodox. To the south, Ethiopia, the world's oldest Christian state after Armenia, experienced the anti-religious policies of the Marxist Derg regime between 1974 and 1991. Today, Orthodox Christians make up 43 percent of the population. About 10 percent of the inhabitants of Syria, or 2 million people, are Christian, of which about half belong to the Antiochian Orthodox Church. In Lebanon, the Maronite Catholic minority, with over a million and a half faithful, retains its historic influence. A mix of Christians, mostly Greek Orthodox, officially constitutes 6 percent of Jordan's population. In Iraq, dictatorship and war have contributed to the steep decline of the Christian community. Since the Iranian revolution of 1979, most of Iran's Christians have emigrated to the West. Israel's Christian minority numbered nearly 20 percent at the creation of the Jewish state. Over a third was lost when the Palestinians fled in 1948-1949. Today, Arab Christians — predominantly Melkite Greek-Catholics — constitute some 2 percent of Israel's population. Further emigration could eliminate the Palestinian Christian presence in the Holy Land. While Saudi Christians officially do not exist, the king recognizes that many expatriates in Saudi Arabia are Christian. ("Christians in the Middle East," cited below.)

From a theological perspective, the picture is complex. The Assyrian Church of the East goes back to the 5th century, when it rejected the Council of Ephesus of 431. The Oriental Orthodox Churches arose from disagreement with the Council of Chalcedon of 451. More familiar to Ukrainians are the Eastern Orthodox Churches. Several of the Orthodox Churches have Uniate counterparts which, like the Ukrainian Catholic Church, represent Orthodox who at some point re-united with Rome. The Lebanese-based Maronite Catholic Church, however, has no Orthodox counterpart.

So when we sit down to Christmas Eve supper, let us remember our fellow Eastern Christians in the Middle East and Northeast Africa. Many of them are giving their lives for their faith. Perhaps connecting with these present-day martyrs will give our own flagging faith a reanimating jolt.

Further reading: Ronald G. Roberson, CSP. The Eastern Christian Churches: A Brief Survey (7th edition). Washington, DC: USCCB, 2011. "Christians in the Middle East" (Special Edition), One (New York: CNEWA), Vol. 36, No. 5 (September 2010).

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by Alexander Motyl

## PART I

Back on November 25, 2010, while on a state visit to Kyiv, Israel's President Shimon Peres noted: "If Ukrainians were to ask me for advice, I would say: forget history." I confess to having been, and still being, stunned, intrigued and perplexed by Peres's comment – so much so that I would like today to look more closely at the notion of "forgetting history" and try to determine whether and under which conditions such a thing might be possible or desirable, in general and in the case of Ukraine in particular.

Let us start by engaging in two thought experiments. Let us imagine what a society that forgets all history would look like. Then, let us imagine the opposite – a society that remembers all history.

A society that forgets all history would be even more nightmarish than George Orwell's. Remember: Orwell's state needed history. It manipulated history, by continually rewriting it to meet the political needs of Big Brother. A society that forgets history would have to destroy every single book, journal, article, blog, recording, film and artwork no later than one day after it appeared. In effect, such a society would live exclusively in the moment and be engaged in an unceasing attempt to obliterate everything that could serve as memory.

And since anything can serve as memory, it would have to destroy everything – starting with all religions, all commemorations, and all distinctive buildings and ending with years, months, days and possibly, even numbers. The past and future tenses would also have to be banned, the former for obvious reasons, the latter for implying that the present is the past in relation to the future. Indeed, semantic change would have to go and the meaning of words would have to be fixed forever.

A society that remembers all history would be equally dystopian. This society would not only preserve every single text – whether written, painted, filmed, or recorded – but it would have to record every conversation, every whisper and every thought. No less important, it would have to incorporate every single recorded text into a continually evolving grand historical narrative.

A society such as this would actually resemble Orwell's – not because it wants to distort history, but because it needs both obsessively to rewrite history every hour of every day and ceaselessly to propagate a maximally comprehensive narrative served up in its most up-to-date version.

Let us ask a few more questions about these dreadful societies.

First, is either society possible in today's world? The answer, fortunately, is no.

An utterly forgetful society would require such a massive concentration of totalitarian power as to make Orwell's state – or North Korea – seem liberal by comparison. I do not see how such a system could emerge at a time of mass communications, market economics, mass diversity, mass education and the like.

At first glance, an utterly remembering society seems more possible, inasmuch as the Internet is creating a permanent record of every electronic communication. On closer inspection, however, it is clear that, since the amounts of data such a society must collect would be infinitely large, a comprehensive and grand histori-

cal narrative could never be attained.

Second, can we, living human beings, actually follow President Peres's advice and, in the absence of a mega-totalitarian state, forget history of our own volition? I do not see how.

For one thing, we would have to forget how to remember – not to remember accurately, but just to remember. That seems logically impossible.

For another, most people in most countries of the world today live in societies that involve some form of public contention – and every form of public contention always draws on memories, histories and some record of some past.

Thirdly, we live in an age in which all people everywhere have some kind of collective identity with some sense of what the group's boundaries are and of where it came from. For better or for worse, identity presupposes memory or history, or some combination of the two.

Finally, even if some society decided to forget history, it could succeed only if every other society were to forget history. Since non-forgetters could manipulate forgetters, however, there would be little incentive for potential forgetters to follow in the footsteps of the first forgetter.

In that sense, forgetfulness resembles disarmament. Who would do it first, knowing that historical disarmament would encourage others to retain their arsenals of history? And just as it is extremely difficult to get countries with huge nuclear stockpiles to disarm, so too it would be extremely difficult to get countries with huge stockpiles of memory – such as all of Ukraine's neighbors – to forget history.

There is another barrier to forgetfulness, one specific to Ukrainians and other post-colonial nations.

In order to forget history, one must first remember it. And in order to remember history, one must first have a history – a recorded narrative relating the nation's development over time. Call that a national history or narrative. Like any historical narrative, a national narrative is perfectly compatible with all norms, ideologies and values that do not explicitly deny the very possibility of national narratives. Liberals, conservatives, nationalists, feminists, socialists, fascists, Catholics, Protestants, Orthodox, Muslims, Buddhists and Jews can all produce equally good national narratives if they do their homework, write with integrity and arrange genuine facts in logically coherent chronological narratives.

There is no necessary reason to write national narratives – one can, after all, write the history of salt, sex, celebrities, codfish, textile workers, rock music, and so on – but for better or for worse many, if not most, histories are written in this manner.

And, as we know from Frantz Fanon, newly independent nations and states have a proclivity for these types of narratives, as independence creates a particular vantage point for history writing, demands that national narratives emerge to provide legitimacy for the new nations and states, and enables formerly oppressed peoples or groups to find their voices and recover their memories.

There are three possible types of national narratives. Consider a newly independent state called Slobbovia. First, one can write a history of the Slobbovian state. That would entail tracing all the political formations that contributed to the emergence and consolidation of the administrative and coercive apparatus

known as the State of Slobbovia. Second, one can write a history of the Slobbovian people, or nation. That would entail tracing all the social, economic, political and cultural developments that led to the emergence and consolidation of a self-conscious ethno-cultural community called the Slobbovians. Third, one can write a history of the territory of Slobbovia. That would entail tracing all the relationships between and among all the people and peoples inhabiting the territory of Slobbovia.

Which of these national narratives is better or best? The answer is that, other things being equal, they are all equally good or all equally bad as historical narratives. If the historians do their homework, write with integrity, and arrange genuine facts in logically coherent chronological narratives, then each resulting narrative is valid.

Fair enough, one might say, but is not the very notion of national narratives passé? Should not truly serious historians develop non-national or post-national narratives that boldly venture into borderlands and other marginal spaces outside the state and the nation? Is not that kind of history intrinsically better history?

The answer is no. As we shall see, there are excellent theoretical reasons for writing national narratives.

I adopt the view of history developed by the philosopher Arthur Danto in "Narration and Knowledge." Danto engages in a thought experiment and asks whether an "ideal chronicle" consisting of every single historical fact would amount to a genuine history. His answer is that an infinitely large collection of facts would not and could not be a usable or even adequate historical narrative. Why not? For the simple, if somewhat counterintuitive, reason that complete comprehensiveness is antithetical to history. In reality, every history is and has to be partial, every history is and has to be "slanted," and every history is and has to be a story. And stories, as you know, are always stories, never of everything, but always of something with a beginning, middle and end.

As a result, all historians always and everywhere, intentionally and purposefully, write intrinsically imperfect and incomplete narratives that make perfect sense for the historians writing from particular vantage points reflective of their place in time. Every history is thus a never-ending work in progress, because the vantage point of the historian can never be frozen in time.

Although Danto's view of history may

appear to coincide with post-modernist claims about indeterminacy, meaninglessness, subjectivism and relativism, it is actually rooted in fairly traditional understandings of history. Facts exist in Danto's reading, and historians are able to determine what they are. Historians must therefore pay obeisance to chronological time, they must produce coherent narratives, and they must demonstrate that the facts they claim as facts are indeed facts – that is, that they are statements about reality that, by virtue of their being supported by persuasive evidence, actually correspond to reality.

Histories can therefore be "objective" accounts of what happened, but they can never be full or final accounts produced from some transcendental vantage point. Multiple incomplete histories of anything are as inevitable and unavoidable as multiple lines intersecting some one point. A feminist history can therefore be as good or as bad, as a historical narrative, as an anti- or non-feminist history. A nationalist or national history can, by the same logic, be as good or as bad, as a historical narrative, as an anti-nationalist or non-national history.

It follows that dominant – or hegemonic – historical narratives need not actually be better as coherently organized chronological arrangements of facts. They only appear to be better because we – or, more precisely, historians and reading publics – deem them better. Other things being equal, certain histories strike us as better than others because they are more relevant to present-day concerns or more reflective of present-day views or norms. Thus, a feminist history may strike us as a better reading than a non-feminist history, but that is so, not because, to quote Leopold von Ranke, "wie es eigentlich gewesen sei" is demonstrably feminist, but because, inspired by feminism, we look for, and find, feminist facts in "as it really was."

By the same token, the current infatuation with borderlands is right to treat borderlands as a legitimate way of engaging history, but it is wrong to suggest that borderland approaches are intrinsically superior to national narratives. They are not. They just happen to be different, but it is a difference that, today, strikes us as better – and that, tomorrow, when our vantage point changes, could just as easily strike us as worse.

*Above is the text of the Wolodymyr ... science at Rutgers University-Newark on May 6 at the University of Toronto.*

## I \_fUJbY`cgYg..

(Continued from page 2)

registered in Latvia which had won an apparently fake tender, while Energy Minister Yuriy Boyko asked the SBU to find out who was behind the reports about the deal (Zerkalo Nedeli, May 27, June 4).

A survey conducted by the International Finance Corporation last year revealed chilling figures: an average Ukrainian company spends some 10 percent of its annual turnover on corruption, and the share of those businesses which used unofficial ways of solving problems with state officials rose from 35 percent in 2008 to 46 percent in 2010 (Kommersant-Ukraine, November 2).

Unsurprisingly, Ukraine slipped 18 positions in the Corruption Perceptions Index

for 2011, which was released by Transparency International on December 1. Ukraine now shares position 152 out of 183 with Tajikistan. This is the lowest position for the country ever, and Ukraine is lower on the list than all of its peers in the Central and Eastern Europe region including Russia. It scored only 2.3 on a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 indicating the highest level of corruption, down from 2.4 last year.

At the same time, Ukraine has failed to establish an independent anti-corruption body by the December 1 deadline set by the European Union. This has been one of the EU's requirements for visa liberalization (Kommersant-Ukraine, December 6).

*The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission ...*



# U. of Ottawa hosts Danyliw Seminar on Contemporary Ukrainian Studies

by Oksana Zakydalsky

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

OTTAWA – Sixteen presentations and 27 scholars and doctoral students from Ukraine, Western Europe, the United States and Canada comprised the program of the 2011 Danyliw Research Seminar on Contemporary Ukrainian Studies.

Held on October 20-22 at the University of Ottawa, under the auspices of its Chair of Ukrainian Studies and sponsored by the Wolodymyr George Danyliw Foundation, this was the seventh annual seminar organized by Prof. Dominique Arel, who holds the Ukrainian Studies Chair.

The papers presented were gathered under four themes: "Ukraine and Politics," "World War II and Memory," "Education and Identity," and "Holodomor and Gender." (The full program of the seminar is available at [www.ukrainianstudies.uottawa.ca](http://www.ukrainianstudies.uottawa.ca).)

The largest number of papers – six – were presented under the theme of "World War II and Memory." Some of the papers challenged accepted views and raised contentious issues which have resulted in "contested memories" of the war period.

John-Paul Himka (University of Alberta) presented a paper titled "The Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, the Ukrainian Police and the Holocaust," which sought to show the connections between the Ukrainian police, the OUN and its role in the Holocaust. Prof. Himka set out to explain the role of the OUN in the formation of the Ukrainian police. "But although OUN members did not join the police to kill Jews, they joined a force that played a major role in the Holocaust in western Ukraine," he claimed.

Kimberley Partee (Strassler Centre for Holocaust Studies, U.S.) focused on the concept of collaboration and showed how the legal imperatives generated by the trials of the "Trawniki men" (Trawniki was a training camp for guards used in implementation of the Final Solution) influenced the perception of collaboration.

The trials relied on legal codes, whose conventions misrepresented and distorted history, for example, in equating anti-Semitism with Nazism. She pointed out that collaboration during a time of terror and brutal occupation is a difficult activity to define and publicly condemn.

Serhiy Kudelia (George Washington University) dealt with the causes of the defeat of the post-war insurgency in western Ukraine. He explained that it was not, as has been widely believed, that it failed because the Soviets built a wide intelligence network within the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA). It was collectivization that helped the Soviets defeat the

nationalist underground.

Prior to the onset of collectivization in 1947, the UPA had used strategic violence (violence against identifiable groups). As collectivization proceeded, it became harder to differentiate between those who joined the collectives voluntarily and those who were coerced. The UPA turned from strategic to indiscriminate violence, which led to the collapse of the cooperative bargain between the insurgents and the locals, and the insurgency was left without resources to continue its operations.

Aleksandra Melnyk (University of Toronto) analyzed in detail, through Soviet documents, the investigation of a case of anti-Jewish violence in Kyiv's Podil district, perpetrated on September 30, 1941, which resulted in the hanging of three local people three years later.

Myroslav Shkandrij (University of Manitoba) spoke on nationalism and literature in the Inter-war period. He claimed that interwar Ukrainian nationalism was not only a political and ideological phenomenon but also a literary current. Seven prominent writers most often associated with the nationalist literature of the OUN are Yevhen Malaniuk, Olena Teliha, Leonid Mosendz, Oleh Olzhych, Yurii Lypa, Ulas Samchuk and Yuri Klen.

Although they were influenced by Dmytro Dontsov's writings (the dichotomous structures – friend or foe, the West or Russia; the need for a total severing from the past; the justification for violence, amorality and passion), they did not accept them uncritically. They gave literary expression to the ideology and helped to forge the new mentality and sense of political community.

Orest Zakydalsky (Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center, Toronto) described one of the oral history projects of the Center – interviews with Ukrainians who rescued Jews during the Holocaust in Ukraine. The first section of the paper, where evidence was drawn from interviews with survivors and aid givers, dealt with the complexities surrounding rescue and aid. The second section was focused on the role of rescue in the politics of memory of the Holocaust in Ukraine.

His central point was that neither the Holocaust nor rescue and aid during the Holocaust are integral parts of the discussion and remembrance of the German occupation of Ukraine.

There were three papers under the theme "Ukraine and Politics. Stephen Shulman and Stephen Bloom (both of Southern Illinois University) asked the question "does nation-building increase the strength of citizen loyalty in Ukraine?" and provided a theoretically grounded



Oksana Zakydalsky

A view of the presenters at the Danyliw Seminar.

account with statistical analysis of the data from a survey done in May 2011 for why nationhood might not, in fact, boost civic loyalty.

Anton Shekhovtsov (George Bell Institute Kreiser-Fellow, Crimea) spoke on "The Rise of the Ukrainian Far Right." He highlighted the paradox that the presence of far right parties is an indication of the democratic nature of Ukraine while, at the same time, it poses a threat to the developing democracy.

The rise of the Svoboda party has been successful due to efficient strategies and organization, and the growing legitimacy of the far right. He also drew attention to the fact that, although it is not in the Verkhovna Rada, there has been a disproportionately high presence of Svoboda on two main Ukrainian political talk-shows: Yevhen Kyselyov's "Velyka Polityka" and Savik Shuster's "Shuster Live." Associates of party leader Oleh Tiahnybok have been invited to every second program of each show.

Iryna Solonenko (International Renaissance Foundation, Kyiv) examined the role of the European Union as an actor in Ukraine's transformation. The paper explained why and under what circumstances the EU was able to push for improvements in some areas, while it failed in others, by examining two case studies: public procurement legislation and judicial reform. The first was a success, but not the second.

The theme of education was considered through three prisms: disadvantaged youth, citizenship identity and the question of historical guilt. Alla Korzh (Columbia University) examined how Ukrainian youth – alumni of orphanages – envisage the role of education in their lives. Her methodology included interviews and focus groups. Her conclusions were not very promising for the disadvantaged youth: vocational education is still producing factory workers with manual skills demanded in the Soviet centrally planned economy, while education fails to provide full-time employment opportunities to university graduates.

Antonina Tereshchenko (University of Porto, Portugal) inquired about ways young people in Ukraine understand and construct their citizenship identities. Analyzing this question was complicated by the fact that citizenship is a contested concept in Ukraine. Her discussion was a comparative study in two borderland regions of Ukraine – Donetsk and Lviv. The findings suggested that there was a need for curriculum reform in citizenship education which would refocus on accommodating within-nation diversity.

Tetyana Kloubert (University of Jena, Germany) presented the results of a research project that investigated the question of coming to terms with the past and focused on the issue of historical guilt as taught in adult education. The empirical data was gathered in 2009 through conversational interviewing and the guiding research question posed to teachers in adult education was: "Is the problem of guilt and responsibility with regard to the Ukrainian past discussed in Ukrainian educational institutions?"

Tatyana Zhurzhenko (University of Vienna) spoke on the contested meaning of Holodomor memorials in Ukraine. Using two examples, the Kyiv memorial "Candle of Memory" and the Kharkiv memorial to the victims of the Holodomor, the paper analyzed public debate and political conflict around both projects. The international recognition of the Holodomor as genocide became a top priority of Ukrainian foreign policy while rituals of collective mourning become part of nation-building. Yet, three years after their official inauguration, the new Holodomor memorials remain politicized.

Oksana Kis (Institute of Ethnology, Lviv) observed that "both scholarly and popular writings on this subject [Holodomor] tend to visualize the horrors of starvation primarily with heartbreaking pictures of desperate women.... Constructing the historical image of a Ukrainian woman as an eternal helpless victim of historical processes ultimately dislodges the very possibility of recognizing and exploring women's agency in history." Her study focused on patterns of women's survival strategies, forms of resistance and modes of accommodation to the structural restrictions through which women managed to support their families during the Famine.

Maryna Bazylevych (Luther College, U.S.) examined the meaning of the high percentage of women in the medical profession in the USSR and, subsequently, in Ukraine, from the standpoint of the understanding of feminism. She concluded that women's experiences of post-socialist transformations have not been universally negative or disadvantaging. Many women have been able to benefit from these changes.

A special lecture was delivered by Maria (Masha) Lipman (Carnegie Moscow Center, Russia) speaking on the issue of Ukraine under President Viktor Yanukovich and Russia's Ukraine policy. Ms. Lipman is an author and the editor of the Pro et Contra journal published by Carnegie Moscow Center. She has had a monthly op-ed column in *The Washington Post* since 2001.



Dominique Arel



Serhiy Kudelia



# Winnipeg holds conference on Ukrainians in Canada during WWII

CIUS

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – A group of scholars met in Winnipeg on November 11-12 to examine issues related to Ukrainian Canadians and the second world war. The gathering was a joint initiative of the Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Centre at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba, and the Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center in Winnipeg.

Additional financial support was provided by the Wasyl Topolnicki Memorial Fund and the University of Manitoba Department of German and Slavic Studies.

The well-attended event featured 10 presenters from various parts of Canada who addressed a wide range of topics that stimulated lively discussion, engaging the audience and session chairs alike.

The conference was introduced by Jars Balan (CIUS Kule Center) with a recitation of a 1903 poem by the pioneer-era community activist Michael Gowda, who argued in his work that Ukrainian immigrants would only be recognized as fully “Canadian” once they had fought and shown readiness to die for their adopted country. It was this notion of the need to make a “blood sacrifice” that partly inspired the title of the conference: “Becoming Canadian: Ukrainian Canadians and the Second World War.”

The first session opened with a presentation by Orest Zakydalsky from the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center, who discussed oral interviews with Ukrainian-Canadian



Dr. Jody Perrun (Royal Military College) speaks about Ukrainian Canadian nationalists and communists in Winnipeg during World War II.

service personnel held by the UCRDC in Toronto. Although the collection is small (37 interviews) and not wholly representative, it nonetheless provides some revealing insights into the motives and experiences of those who joined the Canadian Armed Forces.

Dr. Serge Cipko (CIUS Kule Center) followed with a look at wartime coverage of Ukrainian Canadians in the Edmonton Journal and the Edmonton Bulletin, noting that two organizations in particular – the Ukrainian Labor-Farmer Temple Association and the Ukrainian Canadian Committee – received considerable attention from the mainstream press. Other articles of interest included death notices, obituaries and wedding announcements

(among them reports of local Ukrainian women marrying Americans stationed or working in the Edmonton area during the war years), as well as accounts of the involvement of Ukrainians in all aspects of the war effort.

A short Remembrance Day ceremony was held at 11 a.m., hosted by Borys Gengalo, a former major in the Canadian Militia. The commemoration featured a video presentation about the participation of Canadian forces in conflicts and peacekeeping duties since World War I; a reading of a memoiristic sketch describing the experiences of a Winnipeg veteran named Joseph Malyna, who sought unsuccessfully to join the elite “Devil’s Brigade”; and the recitation of a special prayer composed for Ukrainian Canadian troops by the Rev. Semen Sawchuk, while he served as a chaplain in the Canadian Army.

The second session of the day dealt with “the war before the war.” Dr. Myroslav Shkandrij (University of Manitoba) examined events in Carpatho-Ukraine in 1938-1939. He noted the huge expectations of Ukrainians in Canada and elsewhere in the diaspora that this tiny territory would serve as the nucleus of a future Ukrainian state, as well as the general willingness of Western politicians and pundits to accept the legitimacy of this fledgling autonomous territory before it was militarily suppressed.

Jars Balan then discussed how the image of the Soviet Union evolved in the course of the 1930s from that of “Red Scare” to the friendly “embrace of the Russian Bear.” Using stories drawn from the English-Canadian press, he showed how with the help of skillful propaganda



Peter Melnycky (Alberta Culture and Community Services) reveals little-known facts about Alberta Ukrainians in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

and because of the growing threat posed by Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, the image of Joseph Stalin and his Bolshevik regime gradually turned from that of a menace to Western democracies into that of a lesser evil, setting the stage for the view of the Kremlin as a trusted ally during World War II.

The third session put a distinctly human face on the war. Suzanne Holyck-Hunchuck (independent scholar, Ottawa) spoke about “Three Brothers in Service,” basing her presentation on her own family history, supplemented with contextual research.

Peter Melnycky (Alberta Culture and Community Services) then focused on Alberta Ukrainians decorated for distinguished service in the Royal Canadian Air Force. His talk included the story of Russell Bannock (born Slawko Bahniuk in Edmonton in 1919), one of Canada’s most decorated but largely unrecognized wartime pilots. He also shared excerpts from the poignant correspondence between another Alberta airman and his parents back home, in which the former made a conscious effort to write in Ukrainian even though his grasp of the language was imperfect.

At the last session of the first day, Andrij Makuch (CIUS Kule Center) spoke about the effect of the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, which forced the Ukrainian Canadian pro-Communist Left to do a complete about-face from the “United Front” against fascism that it had been promoting since the mid-1930s. Needless to say, this put Soviet supporters in an incredibly awkward and dangerous position.

(Continued on page 22)



Dr. Roman Yereniuk (Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, University of Manitoba) talks to a recent immigrant from Ukraine, now serving in the Canadian Militia, during the Remembrance Day commemoration.

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## St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Montreal celebrates centennial



Danylo Bobyk

Parishioners and clergy at the centennial celebration of St. Michael's Parish.

by Roman Golash

MONTREAL – St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Montreal celebrated its 100th anniversary on Saturday, October 29, with a banquet that was attended by 500 guests.

During the ceremonies, a special surprise guest, Yosyph Nahorniak (who is 100 years young) received a certificate from Bishop Stephen Chmilar recognizing him as being one of the original parishioners.

Local Ukrainian performers entertained guests during the festive dinner that evening at the Le Rizz reception hall. Many of the out-of-town guests were able to catch up with old acquaintances. Not only was the event a reunion for people who moved from Montreal, but it was also a chance to remember the life events

that they attended at St. Michael's.

On Sunday, October 30, a pontifical liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Chmilar and invited clergy. A special blessing took place of two: the icon of the Blessed Mykhailo Charnetsky was donated by Eugene Struminsky and a stained glass Icon of St. Michael the Archangel was commissioned and donated by Bohdan and Danna Lozynsky for the centennial celebration.

The unveiling of a memorial plaque also took place outside the church, after which all participants gathered by a group photograph.

The celebration of this special event included many preparatory projects initiated during the year, with the publication of the commemorative book and displays of archival material.

St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Parish

of Montreal was established as a result of the spiritual needs of the first Ukrainian immigrants to Canada. These needs were perceived through the pastoral wisdom of the great metropolitan Servant of God Andrey Sheptytsky, when he visited Montreal in 1910.

The centennial history of St. Michael's parish is the story of each individual parishioner, as well as the story of the development of the entire Ukrainian community in Montreal.

On the pages of this history one finds such illustrious names as Metropolitan Sheptytsky, Hetmanych Danylo Skoropadsky, the Rev. Julian Katriy, OSBM, the Rev. Josaphat Jean, OSBM, Patriarch Josyf Slipyj, Major Archbishop and Cardinal Lubomyr Husar and others.

This history was written by the lives of the first wave of Ukrainian immi-

grants, to be later interwoven with the fate of families of internees during the war years of 1914-1918. It evolved with the second wave of immigrants, whose lot was to arrive during the years of the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The history of the parish was expanded with the arrival of the third wave of settlers, who came to Canada as refugees, driven from their homeland due to military conflicts of the second world war.

To remember, honor and further develop the pages of this history is now the obligation of those who belong to the most recent wave of immigrants, as well as of those who for generations have deep-seated roots in Canada.

Readers may visit the webpage <http://www.ukemonde.com/stmichael/> to view photos and video of the celebrations.

## St. Mary Church celebrates 105 years

MCKEES ROCKS, Pa. – A hierarchical divine liturgy marking the 105th anniversary of the parish of St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church was concelebrated on November 27 by Metropolitan Constantine and Bishop Daniel of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

The Rev. Timothy Tomson, pastor, was joined by Ukrainian Orthodox clergy from the Pittsburgh metropolitan area: the Very Rev. Stephen Ripa, the Very Rev. Roman Yatskiw, the Rev. Paisius McGrath, the Rev. Mark Swindel and the Rev. Deacon Dennis Lapushansky. The Rev. Michael Zak, pastor of St. John the Baptist Carpatho-Rusyn Orthodox parish, also joined in the celebration.

Metropolitan Constantine thanked the parish choir for singing during the service, as well as the assisting clergy and faithful for their dedication to the ministry of the parish and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

The Rev. Tomson thanked the parishioners, guests and visitors to the church for their presence and expressed his hope that the 105th anniversary celebration of the church's ministry will give birth to a more dedicated and fruitful ministry for the years to come.

A luncheon was held after the liturgy, with parishioners recalling the history of St. Mary's Parish. Some recalled raising money when the "new" church was being built – for the iconography, the stained-glass windows and the pews.

"This is my home, my heart. These are my people and I love every single person in this church," said an elderly parishioner. "This is the same with everyone. We are one big family. We are one. It is amazing." She then recalled how several parishioners had moved out of town, but returned for the anniversary celebration. "McKees Rocks is still their home," she added.



Bishop Daniel, (seated, left) with Metropolitan Constantine, joined by Pittsburgh area clergy, including: (from left) the Very Rev. Stephen Ripa, the Rev. Deacon Dennis Lapushansky, the Very Rev. Roman Yatskiw, the Rev. Mark Swindel, the Rev. Timothy Tomson, the Rev. Michael Zak, and the Rev. Paisius McGrath, as well as altar servers and sub-deacons.



## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

and sentenced her to seven years in prison, with no right to hold public office for three years after that. (Ukrinform)

### Klitschko ready to sacrifice sports career

KYIV – WBC world heavyweight champion and leader of the UDAR Party Vitali Klitschko has said that he is ready to retire as a boxer for the sake of political activities in Ukraine, the party's press service reported on December 20. "It is a big challenge to build European and democratic standards here in Ukraine. But I know that if you don't fight you won't win. If it is necessary for me to quit my boxing career to win this fight for Ukraine's future, I will do it," Mr. Klitschko said in an interview with the British newspaper The Financial Times. "Of course, people know me first as a boxer. But is there a school that produces politicians? Anyone who has the honest desire to do good for their people and country can and should be a politician," the boxer said. Mr. Klitschko said his focus now is on defending Ukraine's democracy and European Union membership hopes. "Many of Ukraine's politicians talked of European values but lived in ways that contradicted them. In spending much time abroad during my sports career in Europe and the U.S., I have seen and experienced the values and living standards that exist there. My countrymen deserve to live this way too," he said. (Ukrinform)

### Bethlehem Peace Light in Ukraine

LVIV – On December 20, Lviv Plast members received the Bethlehem Peace Light from Polish scouts at the Rava-Ruska Customs point. Afterwards it was to be passed to the Cathedral of St. George, where it will be kept. On January 3, it will be passed to children's homes, orphanages and boarding schools. On January 3-6, the Bethlehem Peace Light will be passed to all the churches of Lviv. According to representatives of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, the main purpose of passing along the flame is to spread peace, light and good will to each home. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

### UCU sends Vatican 43 fir trees

KYIV – The Ukrainian Catholic University has sent 43 fir trees to the Vatican. They will be used to decorate St. Peter's Square and the Apostolic Palace on Christmas. The trees were sent by UCU on November 30, upon request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. "In this way, the university contributes to the organization of Ukrainian Christmas at the Vatican. A part of Ukraine will remain in the Vatican even after Christmas, as the young trees will be planted there and will grow in the Italian soil," said UCU's vice-rector for administration and 5. UCU sent to the Vatican five- to -10-meter-high fir trees from tree farms in the Lviv Oblast. The university is also sending to the

Vatican 257 wooden Christmas tree ornaments made by folk art craftsmen and about 2,000 glass folk art ornaments. A large fir tree for St. Peter's Square was cut down on November 18 in the Zakarpattia Oblast. It is 30 meters high, weighs 4 tons and its trunk has a diameter of more than half a meter. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

### Ukrainian Christmas tree at Vatican

THE VATICAN – On December 16, the lights were turned on on the Christmas tree that had been transported from Ukraine to the Vatican. Earlier that day, Pope Benedict XVI received a Ukrainian delegation. The audience was held in St. Clement's Hall at the Vatican, reported the Information Department of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) on December 19. Patriarch Sviatoslav, head of the UGCC, said, "The Christmas tree which Ukraine presents today to the holy father is a symbol of unity and Christmas peace. First of all, it is a symbol of unity of the Ukrainian land as this is a beautiful tree, brought from the beautiful region of Zakarpattia, and it represents all of the regions of Ukraine and all the nationalities living in it. This Christmas tree is a symbol of unity and peace within the Catholic Church in Ukraine, whose existence in the form of the two rites (Byzantine and Latin) is a vivid sign of unity and brotherly cooperation between local Catholic Churches in Ukraine to the world and a visible testimony of the communion and filial respect of Ukrainian Catholics for the successor of St. Peter, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. The tree is a symbol of cooperation between the Catholic Church and Orthodox Church in Ukraine, as shown by the presence of the representatives of our Orthodox brethren here today at this ancient Square of St. Peter." He added, "As we inaugurate this Christmas tree, we would like to address the whole world with a call to unity and peace, since unity and peace are necessary values to build a prosperous and safe common future." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

### Pope Benedict XVI invited to visit Lviv

LVIV – Mayor Andrii Sadovy of Lviv has invited Pope Benedict XVI to visit Lviv, the mayor said on December 17. "During a solemn audience, Lviv Mayor Andrii Sadovy invited the pope to visit Lviv and asked for a blessing for all residents of the city of Lviv," the statement read. On the evening of December 16 a Christmas tree brought from the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains was installed on St. Peter's Square in Rome. Prior to this, the Ukrainian delegation, led by the Vice Prime Minister and Infrastructure Minister Borys Kolesnikov, was received at a papal audience. (Interfax-Ukraine)

### Barroso on relations with Ukraine

KYIV – Further relations between Ukraine and the European Union are in the hands of the Ukrainian authorities and will be determined by political developments in the country, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said at a press conference as part of the Ukraine-European Union Summit in Kyiv on December 19. Mr. Barroso emphasized that having reached this important point, the political events in Ukraine that will now shape the pace of subsequent events and the key to strengthening relations between Ukraine and the EU is in the hands of the Ukrainian government. He added that, first and foremost, the European side is concerned about the application of selective justice towards some former members of the Ukrainian government, as well as reforms, in particular, constitutional and judicial reforms. Mr. Barroso said relations with Ukraine are extremely important for Europe, but noted that the values on which these relationships are based must be fully

supported by the Ukrainian side. He added that now, while Ukraine and the EU are trying to build strong long-term relationships, Ukraine has to show its commitment to democratic principles, rule of law, good governance and fundamental freedoms. President Viktor Yanukovich earlier that day said Ukraine and the EU are close to the completion of work on the text of the Association Agreement and the transition to preparations for the signing and implementation of the document. (Ukrinform)

### Moody's downgrades Ukraine ratings

KYIV – Moody's Investors Service has revised its B2 outlook for the ratings of the Ukrainian government's debt commitments in the national and foreign currency from stable to negative. The agency noted that the outlook downgrade is due to risks in Ukraine's budget financing and external liquidity income, as well as the downside risks to economic growth and political stability. The negative outlook also applies to Ukraine's country ceiling rating of B1 and a ceiling of B3 on deposits in foreign currency. (Ukrinform)

### Expert: borrowing to be more expensive

KYIV – The worsening of Ukraine's ratings by Moody's at the B2 level in national and foreign currencies from "stable" to "negative" will consequently make it more expensive for the government to borrow from all creditors, except for the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The head of the analytical department of the group Investment Capital of Ukraine (ICU), Oleksander Valchysheh, on December 19 commented on the consequences of Moody's decision. "The downgrading of the outlook was preceded by a number of well-known reasons: problems of fulfilling the budget, the worsening of the balance of payments, the absence of access to creditors, stagnation in the IMF program and a negative political background in light of the imprisonment of the former prime minister," he noted. A specialist at Dragon Capital's department for international sale of debt stocks, Olha Slyvynska, noted that "the market mostly follows and responds to the news on development of gas talks and general macroeconomic statistics, whereas the downgrading, as a consequence of those events, has no impact on the market." Analysts of the Sokrat investment group, in turn, said that worsening of the outlook on the long-term sovereign rating of Ukraine has already had a negative impact on the moods of investors in the national stock market. (Ukrinform)

### Tymoshenko pushes for with EU Agreement

KYIV – During a meeting with European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy Stefan Fule, former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko called for the rapid conclusion of the European Union-Ukraine Association Agreement, as reported by the commissioner's press service on December 13. During a meeting with Ms. Tymoshenko that took place late on December 12 in a Kyiv detention center, the European commissioner assured the ex-prime minister that EU officials were closely following her case and would insist on the observance of all her rights and on a fair appeal process. "I was glad for the opportunity to have a private conversation with Yulia Tymoshenko, and to talk to her about her health condition and about the developments in her case. I informed her about the EU's concerns regarding this process and assured her that we would continue to follow closely her appeal, and would insist upon the need for her to benefit from all her rights to defend herself in a fair process," the press service quoted the commissioner as saying. Mr. Fule and Ms. Tymoshenko also discussed the prospects for a long-term political associa-

(Continued on page 15)

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

tion with Ukraine and concluded that a strong consensus among all Ukrainians is needed for it. (Interfax-Ukraine)

### Yanukovich, Fule talk for three hours

KYIV – A meeting between Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich and High Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy Stefan Fule lasted over three hours on December 13. The administration of the president of Ukraine did not give any details of the conversation. “The meeting was held tête-à-tête,” a source from the presidential administration told reporters. (Interfax-Ukraine)

### Ukraine may send peacekeepers to Congo

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on December 19 registered bill No. 9604, which proposes sending up to 200 Ukrainian peacekeepers to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). According to the draft law, the

domestic political situation in the DRC is characterized by latent tension. The author of the bill is Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich. The financing of costs related to Ukraine’s participation in the peacekeeping mission is to be covered from the state budget, with their further reimbursement by the United Nations. An annex to the draft law states that large-scale social and political protests and actions of discontent with the interim election results, which were organized by opposition movements and parties, have not stopped in the country since December 10. “The situation in the country is described as tense and is characterized by prolonged confrontation between the armed forces of the DRC and illegal armed groups. At this time, the armed forces of the DRC cannot maintain control over large parts of the northeastern region of the country,” reads an explanatory note to the document. Servicemen of the Ukrainian armed forces have been actively participating in peacekeeping missions since 1992. Over this period, about 37,000 members of Ukraine’s military have participated in international peacekeeping operations. (Ukrinform)



Remembering  
Aerospace Engineer

**Augustin J. Rudnyk,**  
dead of cancer at 84



On October 15, 2011, the Ukrainian community lost war hero, space pioneer, accomplished musician, and much-loved father Augustin J. Rudnyk. Mr. Rudnyk passed away in his home in Los Angeles, California, surrounded by his family, after a long battle with cancer. He had just turned 84 several weeks ago.

Born on September 18, 1927, in Lviv, Ukraine, Augustin Rudnyk showed an immediate propensity for both languages and music. By the time he was a teenager he had mastered seven languages and was studying at the famous Music Conservatory of Lviv under renowned Professor Yuri Krych. By the tender age of only 14, Rudnyk was playing as First Chair Violinist and had become the youngest violinist to ever play in the Lviv Opera House Orchestra.

As the violence of World War II swept through Europe, young Rudnyk’s language skills had endeared him to the advancing American forces and he was recruited to work as one of the youngest operatives with U.S. Army’s elite Counter Intelligence Corps (C.I.C. – precursor to today’s C.I.A.). After the war his C.I.C. work continued in concert with the Allied post-war agency U.N.R.R.A. (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) where his jobs included ferreting out runaway Nazi war criminals, Soviet defectors, Soviet moles, and spies.

Later, reuniting with the remnants of his dislocated family, he immigrated to the United States where he made the unlikely transition from concert violinist to aerospace engineer - working at the Dzus Fastener Corporation for his uncle William (Volodymyr) Dzus (the company’s renowned founder). He married Romana Ludkewycz (related to famous Ukrainian composer Stanislav Ludkewycz) in New York in 1958, and several years later the young couple moved to Southern California where Augustin Rudnyk established a long and distinguished career as an aerospace engineer. His work included being part of the team that developed and built the communication systems for the Apollo moon missions’ Lunar Modules (LEM’s) that safely landed the first men on the moon. When NASA’s Apollo program ended, he worked on the engineering recording systems for NASA’s Space Shuttles, as well numerous U.S. military space projects. His department was later bought out by Kodak, where he would later retire as part of their DataTape Division.

Throughout his lengthy and intense career, Mr. Rudnyk still managed to make ‘family’ his priority. He found time to play an active role in U.N.A. (Ukrainian National Association), Ukrainian Engineers’ Society, Ukrainian Culture Center of Los Angeles, as well as participate in his children’s school PTA activities, Plast (Ukrainian scouting), and Ridna Shkola (Ukrainian Saturday school for kids) - where he even served as a teacher for some time.

Augustin Rudnyk is survived by his wife of over 50 years, 4 children, and one grandson. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, people contribute to their local cancer research center in his name.

(Marian Rudnyk/ Hollywood, California ©2011MarianRudnyk.All Rights Reserved.)



With deepest sorrow  
we share with our family and  
friends that on Sunday,  
December 11, 2011  
passed peacefully at home into  
eternity our dearest, beloved  
and unforgettable  
wife, mother and grandmother



**Sonia Kuncio**  
née Krehovets

born on October 26, 1922 in Remyzivtsi, Ukraine

Panakhuda was celebrated on December 20th at Thomas M. Quinn & Sons Funeral Home, Astoria, NY. A Holy Mass was celebrated on December 21st at the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church, Astoria, NY, followed by burial at the Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery at Campbell Hall, NY.

In deep sorrow:

husband	Mykola
children	Lubomyra with husband Stephen Stephen with wife Cecilia Lesia with husband Ted
grandchildren	Daniel Kuncio Taissa Kuncio Michael Rapawy

Eternal memory.

Родина повідомляє приятелів, знайомих  
та всю українську громаду, що  
в 10 річницю відходу у вічність

СВ. П.

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- в Соборі св. Юра у Львові, Україна;
- в приватній каплиці резиденції Владика Михайла Гринчишина - Віченсе / Париж, Франція;
- в Українському Католицькому Університеті (УКУ) - відправить похресник, о. д-р Борис Гудзяк, Львів, Україна.

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сини	– БОГДАР з дружиною МАРТОЮ – СВЯТОСЛАВ з дружиною ЛЮБОЮ – РОМАН з дружиною ОКСАНОЮ
дочка	– РОСАННА
12 внуків	
9 правнуків.	





Roman Rozumnyj

Myroslav Petriw (left), president of the Vancouver branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, with filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy and Daria McMorrnan at the Vancouver premiere of "Genocide Revealed."



Roman Rozumnyj

Filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy discusses "Genocide Revealed" with Walter Zavadell (left) at the Vancouver film premiere.

## Î; YbcVXYF Yj YU'YXI' gWYybYX'UhJUbWi j Yf: J`a 'GWcc`

MONTREAL - The feature documentary "Genocide Revealed" was recently screened to students at the Vancouver Film School (VFS), a leading center for training and higher learning in all areas related to media and entertainment production in Canada.

The VFS has 13 different programs related to the entertainment arts, including film production, with a limited yearly student enrollment. This was the first Ukrainian film to be screened at the school.

Present at the VFS screening was the producer-director of "Genocide Revealed," Yuriy Luhovy, who answered questions about the process of putting together a film, the difficulty of making an independent production and how one goes about to begin to search for and obtain the rights to use documents, photos and archival film footage in a film.

Also speaking at the screening on September 22 was his daughter, a VFS student, Adriana Luhovy, who was the main cameraperson on "Genocide Revealed." She spoke of how difficult it was for her to listen to the testimonies of survivors and how she tried to cope with filming them during very sensitive, traumatic moments when the survivors opened up

and were talking for the first time about what they and their family endured during the Stalinist period.

She said she was torn between keeping this a very private, non-obtrusive moment, or recording it, thereby giving their stories life and exposure, so others would finally understand what happened to them during the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. This was the first time VFS screened a film on a Ukrainian topic.

Three days later, "Genocide Revealed" was premiered in Vancouver to the Ukrainian community organized by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Vancouver branch, the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada and the Ukrainian Studies Foundation of British Columbia.

"Genocide Revealed," a recent winner of 12 international awards, is being shown at various venues throughout North America. For a list of upcoming screenings readers may visit [www.yluhovy.com](http://www.yluhovy.com). Organizations may call 514-481-5871 or e-mail [mmlinc@hotmail.com](mailto:mmlinc@hotmail.com), to arrange a screening of "Genocide Revealed," which is narrated by actor Graham Greene, or "Okradena Zemlya" (the Ukrainian version), narrated by actor Bohdan Beniuk.



Yuriy Luhovy

Adriana Luhovy prepares Famine-Genocide survivor from Odesa for a filmed interview.

## Luhovy documentary premieres in Calgary

by Uliana Holowach-Amiot

CALGARY - The Calgary premiere of the powerful multi-award-winning feature documentary, "Genocide Revealed" took place at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Center. The event was sponsored by the Ukrainian

Museum of Canada, Calgary Collection and the Calgary branch of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association, along with the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Calgary and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

Uliana Holowach-Amiot of the Ukrainian Museum of

Canada was the evening's mistress of ceremonies. She introduced honored guest Yuriy Luhovy, the producer and director of "Genocide Revealed," which has received 12 international awards, including those for Best Historical Film, Best Documentary and Best Direction.

Mr. Luhovy recounted the difficulties, both emotional and technical, in the production of the film, and emphasized the necessity for the completion of the shorter educational adaptation of the documentary for use in schools and universities across North America. He also thanked the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association for their generous support in the making of the feature documentary.

The audience was riveted during the screening of "Genocide Revealed." Among those in attendance was Wayne Cao, member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for Calgary Fort, himself a Vietnamese refugee. Mr. Cao is a frequent guest and speaker at the Calgary Holodomor commemoration held in November.

Ms. Holowach-Amiot thanked Mr. Luhovy for having the strength and the courage to produce such documentaries, which bring to light the injustices suffered by the Ukrainian people throughout history. Following the viewing, individuals were moved to financially support the important and much-needed educational version of the film. All proceeds from the September 19 event were designated toward this project.

To make a donation toward the educational version of the film, readers may contact MML Inc. - Genocide Revealed, 2330 Beaconsfield Ave., Montreal QC H4A 2G8. For an income tax receipt, checks should be made payable to "Shevchenko Foundation-Genocide Revealed."



Simon Roy

At the Calgary premiere of "Genocide Revealed" (from left) are: Bohdan Romaniuk, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Calgary; Uliana Holowach-Amiot, Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Calgary Collection; Yuriy Luhovy, producer/director; and Michael Hantzsch, vice-president, UCPBA Calgary.



# Irondequoit sister cities organization hosts educators from Poltava

by Christine Hoshowsky

IRONDEQUOIT, N.Y. – An Open World delegation of educators from Poltava, Ukraine spent a weeklong visit in Irondequoit, N.Y. this past fall. The Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities organization hosted the delegation and organized an extensive program to promote mutual understanding and shared experiences about education.

Participants included highly motivated Ukrainian school administrators, a principal and teachers from several Poltava schools among whom were: Yulia Kril, assistant principal for academic and student affairs, I.P. Kotlyarevskiy Prep School No. 1, Poltava; Tetyana Kryvoshapka, deputy head of Character Education Complex No. 14 (preschool and elementary education); Maryna Kyrylyuk, department of mathematics, Mykhaylo Ostrohradskyy Poltava Region Graduate Institute of Education; Yevheniy Romanov, director, Poltava Specialized School No. 3.; Olesya Vovchenko, teacher of German, Specialized School No. 3; and Lylia Sereda, facilitator, Feodosiya, Crimea. Accompanying the delegation was Alexander Etlin, an Open World interpreter from the U.S.

Upon their arrival, the delegates were met by representatives of Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities. At dinner that evening, the delegation was welcomed with the traditional bread and salt platter and toasted with wine, compliments of Irene Lyko Smith, manager of the Ukrainian Cultural Center.

On Saturday, the delegates met with several leaders of the Ukrainian community. First, they visited the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union (UFCU) where they met Oleg Lebedko, CEO, and Tamara Denysenko, board member and past CEO. Then Wolodymyr Pylyshenko, the director of the Ukrainian Library at the UFCU, showed them around the facility.

The delegates then attended a concert presented by the students of the Ukrainian Saturday School under the direction of Zhanna Polyanska Wirlo, the school's principal. On Sunday, at the discretion of their host families, guests visited some Ukrainian churches.

Irondequoit-Poltava Sister City volunteers scheduled professional sessions with leaders in the Rochester, N.Y., area. The delegates met the Irondequoit Town Supervisor, Mary Joyce D'Aurizio with whom they talked about local governance and education. They had a meeting with representa-



The Open World delegation: (front row, from left) Lylia Sereda, Tetyana Kryvoshapka, Olesya Vovchenko, Wolodymyr Pylyshenko, Dr. Randall Stone, Maryna Kyrylyuk, (back row) Yuliya Kril, Yevheniy Romanov, Dr. Christine Hoshowsky and Anna Kornlyo.

tives of the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Project at Monroe Community College. The delegates also met with faculty and administrators at East and West Irondequoit Central School Districts. At Nazareth College they explored opportunities for international education, and at the Rochester Institute of Technology they visited a robotics lab.

As the program continued they viewed the Rochester Ukrainian Diaspora Archival Collection at the Rush Rhees Library and then paid a visit to the Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies, both at the University of Rochester.

The cultural program included trips to the Genesee Country Museum and the Strong Museum of Play. The highlight of their visit was a trip to Niagara Falls at the end of the tour.

Among those who helped coordinate parts of the program were: Olena Dilai, assistant professor of mathematics, Monroe Community College; Olena Prokopowych, assistant professor of political science, Nazareth College; and Dr Evhen Lylak, professor in the Department of Liberal Studies, Rochester Institute of Technology.

The Open World Program is a non-partisan initiative of Congress. It is managed by the independent Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress. The program is designed to enhance understanding and capabilities for cooperation between the United States and the countries of Eurasia and the Baltic states by developing a network of leaders in the region who have gained significant, first-hand exposure to America's democratic, accountable government and free-market system.

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## NOTES ON PEOPLE

### Celebrates 30 years of priestly service



PALATINE, Ill. – The Very Rev. Archpriest Mykhailo Kuzma, pastor of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church in Palatine, Ill., celebrated the 30th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood on Sunday, November 20. Joining the Rev. Kuzma (pictured in white) to celebrate the divine liturgy was Archimandrite/Mitred Archpriest Ivan Krotec (to his left), the Rev. Andriy Plishka (to his immediate right), and the Very Rev. Bohdan Nalysnyk (far right). About 200 clergy, parishioners and guests attended the anniversary celebration banquet.

### To perform with Opera Colorado

by Ala Mosijczuk Salter

CENTRAL CITY, Colo. – Katherine Kozak is a gifted pianist who has been performing with the Central City Opera in Central City, Colo., for five years. She will also begin performing with Opera Colorado in Denver during the January-April 2012 season.

At Central City Opera, she put in hours of practice coaching opera singers and working summer interns and apprentices – the “stars of tomorrow” who are chosen via a highly competitive program. For the 2011 season, only 30 young artists between the ages of 19 and 29 were chosen out of 970 applicants.

Ms. Kozak’s behind-the-scenes contributions typically include coaching apprentices in diction and providing career guidance. She also performs during the Fringe Festival short works series in the summertime.

Ms. Kozak is an accomplished pianist who has worked also with the Berkshire Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Santa Fe Opera and Tulsa Opera. She has held teaching positions at the Juilliard School, where she worked with singers enrolled in the Juilliard Pre-College Program, and the University of Miami, where she was the music director of the opera theater, principal coach for the department of vocal performance and visiting assistant



Katherine Kozak

professor. She earned her master’s degree in music at the University of Illinois.

A native of Cleveland, Ms. Kozak currently resides in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Her parents, Joseph and Susan (Yaroslava), were young children when they emigrated to the U.S. in the years after the second world war.

Ms. Kozak cites her maternal grandmother, Stefania Monastyrskyj, as her greatest influence when it came to cherishing her Ukrainian heritage, which she says is “steeped in rich tradition.”

### Chosen as Jersey’s 2012 Top Home Chef

MORRISTOWN, N.J. – When Inside Jersey, a magazine of The Star-Ledger, announced its search for Jersey’s 2012 Top Home Chef, Donna (Bohdanna) Pochoday-Stelmach submitted a favorite recipe for consideration. The magazine was looking for non-professional chefs to compete in the categories of original appetizers, entrees and desserts.

Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach’s dessert recipe was an European walnut, almond-chocolate torte with an almond-coffee frosting and a chocolate-Frangelico-frosting, a French chocolate buttercream frosting, a butter-almond frosting, with an almond toffee crunch bottom and espresso chocolate beans.

Her inspiration was her Ukrainian heritage and years of baking and cooking alongside her mother, Ahafia Pochoday. When her mother became incapacitated with, and eventually died of, Alzheimer’s disease, Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach took over the cooking and baking for many family occasions.

In October Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach received an e-mail from the editor of Inside Jersey informing her that she was chosen as one of the three finalists in the dessert category as judged by a professional New Jersey chef. She was asked to prepare and present her recipe in the kitchen of The Star-Ledger in a bake-off contest among the finalists on November 9.

Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach showed up for the showdown well-prepared with four large boxes of baking materials, mixers, plates, and husband in tow. The other finalists showed up with just a small bag containing their desserts. They had 15 minutes to set up their dessert.

Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach presented the torte on an eye-catching Ukrainian wooden decorative plate. A second plate held a torte slice with home-made bittersweet chocolate mousse in a chocolate mini cup and a fan of almond brittle. A third plate held a torte slice with a scoop of hazelnut ice cream and bittersweet chocolate shavings, along with an espresso-Frangelico cream drink.

The judges were asked to score the three finalists on creativity, authenticity, cooking from scratch and fusion of cultures or techniques. The two runners-up in the dessert category made homemade



Donna Pochoday-Stelmach (right) with the Ukrainian torte that earned her the title of Jersey’s 2012 Top Home Chef in the dessert category. With her is contest judge Cynthia DePersio.

cream cheese ice cream with red velvet cake, and a coconut macadamia nut bread pudding, respectively.

Judge Cynthia DePersio, a pastry chef and co-owner of Fascino Restaurant in Montclair, N.J., noted that Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach’s dessert and presentation of it hit every adjudged criteria in originality, use of numerous techniques, making everything from scratch, and tasted good. She even said the buttercream frosting was “as good as her own.”

Photos and interviews with Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach and the other finalists will be in the February 2012 issue of Inside Jersey. Online videos, photos and recipes from the 2012 Top Home Chef Contest will be available through Inside Jersey.com and The Star-Ledger.

Ms. Pochoday-Stelmach is a former president of the Ukrainian American Bar Association. She was born in Poland, attended St. George Ukrainian Catholic School and High School, New York University and Brooklyn Law School in New York City. She was an active member of the Ukrainian American Youth Association while residing in New York.

She currently lives with her son, Andriy, and husband, Roman C. Stelmach, in Morris Township, N.J. They are members of the St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian American Cultural Center in Whippany, N.J.

### A friend to Ukraine’s orphans



NEW YORK – Olga Szonk Alvino is a generous philanthropist and friend of orphans who shares her wealth and talents by hand-making quilts for orphans in Ukraine. She has personally made over 150 quilts (some of which are seen above) that have been delivered to orphanages in Donetsk, Poltava and Ternopil and other locations ministered by Sister Mary Bernarda.

“Notes on People” is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian community and the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person’s UNA branch number (if applicable). Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt.



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At the launch of the new VISA card that supports the work of the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness 1932-1933 (from left) are: Walter Drobenko and Christine Balko of Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union, and Daria Pishko-Komichak and Michael Sawkiw Jr. of the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness 1932-1933.

WASHINGTON – As the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness 1932-1933 (U.S. Holodomor Committee) prepares its projects and activities to commemorate the upcoming 80th anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933, the board of directors of Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union has initiated a timely program to support those endeavors.

On November 18, Ukrainian National FCU released a VISA credit card, whereby 1 percent of monthly proceeds (based upon individuals' transactions) will be donated to the U.S. Holodomor Committee's many programs, in particular the building of the Holodomor memorial in the nation's capital.

A ceremony launching the new credit card was held at the offices of Ukrainian

National Federal Credit Union. Participating in the event was the chairman of credit union's board of directors, Walter Drobenko; the credit union's CEO, Christine Balko; U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness 1932-1933 Chairman Michael Sawkiw Jr., along with Executive Secretary Daria Pishko-Komichak; as well as representatives from various national organizations comprising the U.S. Holodomor Committee.

Mr. Drobenko who spoke of the importance of remembering the Holodomor and in this gesture, contributing to the advocacy of memorializing its victims. Ms. Balko reiterated the financial institution's contribution to the work of the U.S. Holodomor

(Continued on page 20)

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(Continued from page 7)

the regnant view of Russians as having a culturally coded predisposition to quiescence and a strong hand. ... If colored revolutions were possible in Georgia, Ukraine, and Kyrgyzstan, then why not in Russia?

"... the Putin mystique has been shattered, once and for all. There's just no denying that a dictator with a black eye looks ridiculous.

"...the Russian demonstrators have also struck a big blow for democracy in the non-Russian states. Putin's Russia was always the model for would-be dictators in the 'near abroad.'

"...And what about Viktor Yanukovich? No more beauty sleep for Ukraine's first, and last, sultan. Putin's current travails are a nightmare for Viktor and the Regionnaires. After all, Putin's Russia wasn't just their theoretical model. It was the regime that provided the rationale for their anti-Ukrainian policies internally and their pro-Russian policies externally. ...

"Putin's Russia also provided Yanukovich and the Regionnaires with hope. If the 'thieves and crooks' to the east could get away with murder, then why shouldn't their counterparts in Ukraine?...

"So, a very big spasibo to Russia's anti-Putin demonstrators, who have banged another — very big — nail into Yanukovich and the Regionnaires' political coffin. ..."

"Will Yanukovich Start Cracking Heads?," by Alexander J. Motyl on his blog, "Ukraine's Orange Blues," on the

World Affairs website, December 9:

"...Does the otherwise bankrupt Yanukovich regime have the coercive wherewithal to force Ukrainians to love it? The thousands of militiamen and special-forces agents that invariably appear, clad like Star Wars extras, at demonstrations would appear to suggest that the answer is yes. ...

"The Yanukovich regime is now in the unenviable, but richly deserved, position of having nothing but coercion and violence to keep it in power. But resorting to violence is a very risky bet. The forces of coercion may carry out your orders — or they may not, especially if the protesters are senior citizens and coal miners in the Donbas. And even if they do carry them out, they're likely to provoke a mass outburst of people power that will only hasten the regime's collapse. Knowing that a large-scale use of coercion will probably fail, the Regionnaire thugs are likely to use violence selectively. But that strategy, too, is a dead end, as it won't eliminate the opposition while continuing to enrage the population. Worse, Yanukovich's role model — Vladimir Putin's repressive regime — is showing some big cracks. ... And, unlike Yanukovich, Putin is charismatic — and has ideological appeal, economic resources, and effective forces of coercion. So what's a powerless autocrat to do? ...Now that he's backed himself into a corner, you can be sure of one thing: if Yanukovich does decide to spill the blood of his citizens, that won't be a sign of strength, but of weakness, decrepitude and despair. ..."

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bad taste in their mouths after dealing and trying to negotiate with Mr. Yanukovych, observers said.

"They are certainly disappointed with Ukraine," said Oleksandr Paliy, a veteran political observer in Ukraine. "They applauded Yanukovych at his inauguration with expectations that his government would be stable and democratic."

Besides violating basic standards of rule of law, President Yanukovych misled EU leaders when offering signals to them in September that he would help provide for Ms. Tymoshenko's release, only to allow the courts to convict and sentence his top political rival to a seven-year prison sentence on October 11.

President Yanukovych then submitted legislation to Parliament in early October to decriminalize certain statutes. The day of the verdict, he assured the public that the

verdict wasn't final, hinting at new legislation that would clear Ms. Tymoshenko on appeal.

Yet these gestures turned out to be bluffs, which offended EU leaders.

Nico Lange, a top German political observer and chair of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Fund in Kyiv, told The Ukrainian Weekly that top EU leaders left the Yalta European Strategy (YES) summit in mid-September confident they reached an understanding with Mr. Yanukovych, only to be stunned later when learning of the seven-year prison sentence.

The EU's decision to abstain from initialing the agreement has serious implications for Ukrainian foreign policy, observers said.

Initialing is merely a technical step in which diplomats place their initials on pages and formally express their agreement with the text in order to prepare for what's truly important - putting their signatures on it.

Political observers expected the EU would agree to initialing as a token gesture, but hold out on actually signing the

Association Agreement until Ms. Tymoshenko was freed. Yet, as it turned out, the EU didn't think the Yanukovych administration was worth the token.

Its leaders were concerned that Mr. Yanukovych would abuse the initialing ceremony as a public relations ploy to portray to the Ukrainian public that it indeed has EU support, experts said.

"The EU leadership didn't want a bombastic ceremony that would have made it look like they were signing something," said Volodymyr Fesenko, board chairman of the Penta Center for Applied Political Research. "The disinterest in pompously initialing the agreement is a consequence of the Tymoshenko and Lutsenko cases and the EU's position on them."

By sidestepping even the technical step of initialing, EU leaders wanted to send a strong signal to Ukraine that it won't compromise on its core values of rule of law and independent democratic institutions, Mr. Paliy said.

Mr. Fesenko said he's confident the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement will be

initiated at a low-key event that won't have any political meaning, merely indicating that the two sides approve of the agreement's text.

The signing the Association Agreement had been planned for the summer of 2012, however the EU has made clear that won't happen until Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Lutsenko are released from prison and allowed to compete in the October 28 parliamentary elections. The EU also wants an overhaul of Ukraine's corrupt judiciary.

The former prime minister has been imprisoned for five months. Mr. Lutsenko, who celebrated his 47th birthday in prison after serving as police chief of Ukraine's 300,000-plus national police force, has been in prison for a year and on an illegal basis, according to human rights officials.

Additionally, EU officials have recently indicated that any signing of the Association Agreement will be postponed until after the October 2012 elections to ensure they're held without significant violations.

"If it occurs with the approval of international observers, there's a chance that the Association Agreement could return," Marek Siwec, a Polish member of the European Parliament and member of the YES board, wrote on his blog.

Even if the Ukrainian government was to clear the hurdle of signing the agreement, it would then need ratification by the European Parliament and the parliaments of all 27 member-states, which would be even more challenging given the reluctance of the governments of France and Germany to expand relations with Ukraine.

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Committee and how the transactional purchases of its members will benefit Holodomor-related projects.

"This is an opportunity for Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union to give back to the community and by leveraging our resources we will help to build a lasting legacy. Of no cost to our members other than your transactions, the Ukrainian National FCU will guarantee its contributions to the U.S. Holodomor Committee on a monthly basis," she explained.

Mr. Sawkiw, chair of the U.S. Holodomor Committee, thanked Ukrainian National FCU for partnering with the committee. "In looking at the credit card, it depicts stalks of wheat, which are the building blocks of our daily bread," remarked Mr. Sawkiw. "That wheat, which was taken from the Ukrainians nearly 80 years ago, is now transcended into opportunities for furthering knowledge of the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933 to the world."

He added that the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness 1932-1933 will be appealing to the Ukrainian community and its many organizations to apply and use the Holodomor credit card and indirectly contribute to Holodomor awareness.

To learn more information about the VISA Holodomor card, readers may visit Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union's website at <http://www.UkrNatFCU.org/>

Furthermore, readers may view the U.S. Holodomor Committee's Facebook page at <http://on.fb.me/sbPrke> (shortened form of <https://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Committee-for-Ukrainian-HolodomorGenocide-Awareness-1932-33/115928911852192>) to learn more about its activities and programs.

Donations may be sent to: U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness 1932-1933, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003.



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# SPORTSLINE

by Matthew Dubas

## Soccer

Shakhtar Donetsk has been eliminated from the group stage following its last-place finish in Group G of the UEFA Champions League with one win, two draws and three losses, with six goals for and eight against, for a final of -2 points on aggregate. Group G is led by APOEL FC (Cyprus), followed by FC Zenit St. Petersburg (Russia) and FC Porto (Portugal). Shakhtar lost to Porto 0-2 on November 23 and Shakhtar lost to APOEL 0-2 on December 6. The knockout phase of the tournament begins on February 14, with APOEL to play against Olympique Lyon (France) in Lyon, France. Zenit plays against Russia's Benfica on February 15 in St. Petersburg, Russia. FC Porto, for its third-place finish in the group will playing the knockout stage of the UEFA Europa League.

In the UEFA Europa League, Metalist Kharkiv is in first place of Group G, with four wins, two draws and no losses, with 15 goals for and six against, for 14 points on aggregate. Metalist defeated Austria Wien 4-1 in Kharkiv on November 30. Metalist drew 1-1 against AZ Alkmaar in Alkmaar, the Netherlands. Swedish club Malmo FF finished in last place in Group G. Metalist will play against Salzburg on February 16 as part of the knockout phase, and again on February 23, one home and one away match. Dynamo Kyiv finished Group E in third place, ending its run in the tournament. Dynamo Kyiv tied 1-1 against Stoke City (England) on December 1 in Stoke-on-Trent, England. Dynamo tied again on December 14, this time against Maccabi Tel-Aviv 3-3 in Kyiv. After six games played, Dynamo had one win, four draws and one loss, with seven goals for and seven against, with 7 points on aggregate. Stoke City and Besiktas (Turkey) advanced to the knock-out phase. Vorskla Poltava was eliminated from Group B, after finishing on aggregate with 2 points. Poltava had no wins, two draws and four losses, with four goals for and 10 against. Vorskla tied 1-1 against Kobenhaven (Denmark) on November 30 in Poltava, and lost 3-1 against Hannover 96 (Germany) on December 15 in Hannover, Germany.

Ukraine's Under-21 team is in fourth place in Group 2 after four games played. The team has one win, two draws and one loss, with five goals for and five against, with 5 points on aggregate. Ukraine tied with Finland 1-1 on November 11 in Sevastopol, and defeated Lithuania 2-0 on November 15 in Sevastopol. Ukraine's next match will be on May 31, 2012, against Sweden. Other teams in Group 2 include Slovenia and Malta.

Ukraine's women's team is in fourth place in Group 5 of the UEFA Euro tournament. Ukraine lost 0-1 to Belarus on November 24 in Sevastopol. The team's next matches will be on April 5 against Estonia, June 16 against Finland, Slovakia on June 20, Belarus again on September 15, and Finland again on September 19. After three games played, Ukraine has one win, one draw and one loss, with four goals for and two against, for 4 points on aggregate.

In the FIFA Futsal World Cup, hosted by Azerbaijan, Ukraine leads Group 5 after three matches played, with two wins, zero draws and one loss, with eight goals for and six against, for 6 points on aggregate. Ukraine defeated FYROM (Macedonia) 2-1 on December 15, and won against Croatia 4-1 on December 16, and lost to Azerbaijan 2-4 on December 18.

Ukraine's Uragan Ivano-Frankivsk is in third place in Group D in the UEFA Futsal competition Elite round. After three games played, Uragan won one, drew one and lost one, with seven goals for and eight against, for 4 points on aggregate. Uragan tied 1-1 against Montesilvano (Italy) on November 17, Uragan lost 2-4 against Marca Futsal (Italy) on November 18, and won 4-3 against Slov-Matic Bratislava (Slovakia) on November 20.

Groups have been announced for the Euro-2012 soccer championship. Ukraine, in Group D, will square off against Sweden, France and England, while co-host Poland, in Group A, will play against Greece, Russia and the Czech Republic. Ukraine will have its first match against Sweden on June 11 in Kyiv, and Poland will play against Greece on June 8 in Warsaw, Poland.

UEFA named the Euro-2012 referees in a statement on December 20, and they include: Cuneyt Cakir (Turkey), Jonas Eriksson (Sweden), Viktor Kassai (Hungary), Bjorn Kuipers (the Netherlands), Stephane Lannoy (France), Pedro Proenca (Portugal), Nicola Rissoli (Italy), Damir Skomina (Slovenia), Wolfgang Stark (Germany), Craig Thomson (Scotland), Carlos Velasco Carballo (Spain) and Howard Webb (England). Additional officials, should the need arise, are Marcin Borski (Poland), Tom Harald Hagan (Norway), Pavel Kralovec (the Czech Republic) and Viktor Shvestov (Ukraine).

## Boxing

The Klitschko brothers' promotion company K2 Promotions Ukraine, hosted an exhibition at the Kyiv Sports Palace on December 17. WBO middleweight Maxim Bursak (24-0-1, 10 KO) retained his title with a third-round stoppage against Laatekwei Hammond (18-6, 11 KO) of Ghana. Referee Yuri Koptsev stopped the fight at 1:22 of the third round, after seeing the Ghanain hit the canvas twice before. Welterweight Victor Plotnikov (27-1, 13 KO) defeated Mikheil Khutsushvili (19-16-3, 5 KO) with the referee stopping the fight in the eighth round with 15 seconds remaining. Kostiantyn Rovenskiy (17-0-2, 4 KO) drew a tie against Fayzullo Akhmedov (10-10-1, 5 KO) of Uzbekistan, with the fight scored 77-76, 76-76 and 76-76. Vitaliy Nevesioloiy (12-0, 7 KO) defeated Paata Berikashvili (11-13-1, 5 KO) of Georgia, with the fight stopped at 2:45 of the sixth round. Berikashvili took multiple head shots and signaled that he was not okay. A ringside physician halted the contest after evaluating the Georgian. Light heavyweight Olexander Cherviak (9-2-1, 2 KO) drew to a tie against George Tevdorashvili (9-6-3) of Georgia, with the judges scoring 77-74 (Cherviak), 74-79 (Tedorashvili) and 77-77. Mamed Yagarov (16-6-1, 10 KO) of Ukraine defated Olim Nazarov (5-1, 3 KO), handing him his first defeat by unanimous decision. No scores were announced. Light middleweight Dmitry Nikulin (23-1, 8 KO) defeated Mykola Korenov (2-12) by unanimous decision in the sixth round. No scores were announced.

The documentary "Klitschko," about the heavyweight boxing brothers, Vitali and Wladimir Klitschko, won the "Video Champion World Award" on November 16. The jury highlighted the brothers for their exceptional sports achievements and their entertainment talent in the film. The film is on sale at Amazon.de.

Vitaliy Klitschko (43-2, 40 KO), the WBO heavyweight champion, will fight British boxer Dereck Chisora (15-2, 10 KO) on February 18 at Olympiahalle in Munich, as announced by Klitschko on December 13. The 40-year-old Klitschko is looking forward to his fight with the 27-year-old Chisora. Klitschko won his previous fight on December 10 against Poland's Tomasz Adamek, won by TKO in the 10th round. Chisora lost on December 3 against European title challenger Robert Helenius.

Wladimir Klitschko's December 10 bout against Jean-Marc Mormeck of France was cancelled on December 5 due to complications resulting from Klitschko's hospital stay to remove a kidney stone. The fight has been rescheduled for March 3, and was approved by the IBF on December 15.

Wladimir Klitschko was named "Fighter of the Year" by the World Boxing Organization on November 2. Klitschko won the WBO belt in 2008 when he defeated Sultan Ibragimov at Madison Square Garden by unanimous decision.

## Chess

Vasyl Ivanchuk (sixth place, men's division) and Kateryna Lahno (fifth place, women's division) were named among the top 10 grandmasters by the World Chess Federation (FIDE), as announced on November 1. Ivanchuk has 2,775 points and Lahno has 2,549 points.

## Basketball

Ukraine is set to host the 2015 European basketball championship, as announced by Olaf Rafnsson, FIBA Europe president, on December 18. The decision was made by the FIBA Europe Board in Munich, Germany. On December 14, France, Croatia, Germany and Italy withdrew their joint bid to host EuroBasket 2015, citing "doubts regarding the professionalism and the lack of trust in the bidding process conducted by the European Basketball Federation, FIBA Europe."

## Paralympics

Oleksandra Konnonova, a paralympian who won several medals at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, was awarded the title of Best Paralympic Games Debut for the International Paralympics

Committee's 2011 Paralympic Sports Awards on December 10 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Beijing, China. Konnonova could not attend the awards gala, as she is awaiting the arrival of her new daughter. Konnonova beat three other finalists for the award; Russian biathlete and cross-country skier Maria Iovela; American ice sledge hockey player Nikko Landeros; and Swedish visually impaired cross-country skier Zebastian Modin. At the Winter Games in Vancouver, Konnonova won gold medals in the 5-kilometer and 12.5-kilometer standing biathlon races and Sprint Classic Cross-Country Skiing events. She also won a silver medal in the 3x2.5-kilometer Cross-County Skiing race.

## Kickboxing

Ukraine's athletes won eight medals at the 2011 WAKO World Kickboxing Championship in Skopje, Macedonia, on October 26-29. Dmytro Bezverkhy (57 kg), Dmytro Kirpan (81 kg) and Kateryna Solovey (55 kg) won gold medals. Silver medal winners were: Kostiantyn Demoretsky (63 kg) and Yuriy Zubchuk (86 kg). Bronze medal winners were: Ihor Pryhotko (84 kg), Vira Makresova (48 kg) and Nadia Khayenok (56 kg). The competition attracted hundreds of competitors from 61 countries.

## Wrestling

The U.K.'s Telegraph newspaper reported on December 10 that five Ukrainian wrestlers have married their English competitors. The Ukrainians were invited to train the English wrestlers ahead of the 2012 Olympics, and it is understood that as many as four Ukrainian men have married young female wrestlers whom they met at the academy, where the women had been sent to improve their skills. In the most recent marriage, Yana Stadnik married British wrestler Leon Rattigan. Some of the Ukrainians have since stayed in Britain, obtaining British passports in the process - allowing them to compete for Great Britain in the London Olympics. Other Ukrainian wrestlers include Myroslav Dykun, whose marriage to his British wife ended in divorce, and Oleksandr Madyarchyk, who remains happily married. Two other Eastern Europeans, both believed to be Ukrainian, also married British women who had been training at the national academy.

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## Tymoshenko urges...

(Continued from page 1)

Batkivschyna and Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense factions – has lost much of its credibility since Mr. Yanukovich became president.

"Why was it necessary to take part in this at all – smearing and shaming themselves?" wrote Yuri Makarov, a political columnist for the Ukrainian Week magazine. "The fatal number of 366 votes (in favor) is a new, sad record and a new, dirty page in domestic politics."

In the November 17 vote, 62 out of 103 national deputies from the Tymoshenko Bloc lent their support, as did 36 out of 66 deputies of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense Bloc.

That enraged certain leaders of the opposition, particularly former Defense Minister Anatoliy Grytsenko, who abandoned the Dictatorship Opposition Committee that was formed in August to unite the leading opposition parties. The Svoboda Party criticized the vote, but decided to remain a committee member.

The vote also fueled speculation on the waning influence that former Prime Minister Tymoshenko has on the political party that she founded. Concerns surfaced that Batkivschyna's leadership reached its decision without Ms. Tymoshenko's approval.

She confirmed as much in an anticipated statement released on December 20, admitting that "I didn't have the timely opportunity to consult with the [parliamentary] faction on this subject."

Yet, she reaffirmed that she and the Batkivschyna party are "a single whole, with all of our mistakes, victories, disappointments and successes." Also she voiced her approval for her party's decision.

"Yes, my team endured a certain loss of

reputation from this vote, but not everything should be done for ratings," Ms. Tymoshenko wrote.

"At that moment, they didn't think of ratings but about preventing trouble at the election. It's understood to everyone that the election law would have been passed with a mixed system and with its unfair threshold and without the opposition, but in a significantly more horrible form with absolute opportunities for falsification," she noted.

In concluding the statement, she called upon Ukraine's opposition parties to forge a "single party list on the basis of a neutral party" for the 2012 parliamentary election and a "single list to nominate candidates in single-mandate districts."

"Only in this case will the chance emerge to prevent the mutual conquering among the opposition parties and win the just fight for a 'Ukraine Without a Mafia' with a big advantage," Ms. Tymoshenko stated.

"I believe that the opposition forces can find such a consensus, without a petty struggle for shares and privileges in the lists, and demonstrate at least once their love for Ukraine and not themselves," she said.

The former prime minister asked the opposition to invite "a highly moral and patriotic person on the level of Lina Kostenko to lead this list." Ms. Kostenko, 81, is a legendary poet and writer and member of the "Shestydesiatnyky" movement of the 1960s.

Political observers dismissed the notion of opposition leaders uniting into a single party. Mr. Fesenko called it a utopia, while Kyiv political veteran Ivan Lozowy, a graduate of New York University Law School, said it's not serious.

"Certainly there's a measure of desperation," Mr. Lozowy said of the letter. "She's almost admitting that she's not the right person to rally around. Tymoshenko isn't seen as a big moral alternative to the Party of Regions."

Prof. Lev Dobriansky, chairman of the UCCA, noted the uprisings in Hungary and in Ukraine: "The Hungarian revolution for national independence rudely awakened the free world from a steeping stupor generated by the false hopes of 'peaceful coexistence,' the deceitful smiles of Moscow and the foolish but dangerous theories of those who held that the captivity of the Moscow-enslaved nations is final."

Source: "Pro-Free Ukraine and anti-Soviet & ..."

## Eastern Catholic Vocations Fair to be held in Washington

WASHINGTON – On Sunday, January 22, 2012, the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States of America will host the first ever Eastern Catholic Vocations Fair at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington at 1-4 p.m.

The Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States invite all students in the area as well as interested people to come and learn about the importance of Christ's call to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. This is also a great chance to learn about the various Eastern

Catholic Churches in the United States, which serve communities of immigrants from countries like Iraq, Lebanon, Romania, Syria, Ukraine and others, as well as generations of Americans.

For more information, readers may check out the Facebook page [www.facebook.com/EasternCatholicVocationsFairUSA](http://www.facebook.com/EasternCatholicVocationsFairUSA), or they may contact Msgr. Peter Waslo at [ukrcomm@catholic.org](mailto:ukrcomm@catholic.org) or the Rev. Paul Makar at [ukrvocations@catholic.org](mailto:ukrvocations@catholic.org). Both may also be contacted at: 1-215-627-0143 (phone) or 1-215-627-1236 (fax).

## Winnipeg hosts...

(Continued from page 11)

He was followed by Jody Perrun (Royal Military College), who looked at "The War within the War" between Ukrainian Canadian nationalists and Communists in Winnipeg from 1939 and 1945, basing his observations on research for his doctoral dissertation.

Participants reconvened after dinner for a screening of the 1943 Hollywood curiosity "The North Star." Boasting an impressive array of talent in front of and behind the camera, the film ostensibly dealt with the impact of the Nazi invasion of 1941 on the inhabitants of a collective farm in Soviet Ukraine. In retrospect, the film was an obvious showcase for the views of Hollywood's leftist sympathizers (among those involved in the production were the writer Lillian Hellman and the composers Aaron Copland and Ira Gershwin), and it comes across as a wooden, somewhat Soviet-style propaganda piece. Other highlights of the evening's theme-related program were a contemporary newsreel and a Donald Duck cartoon ridiculing Hitler and the Nazis.

The sessions on the second day of conference consisted of longer presentations. Roman Yereniuk (Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, University of Manitoba) started off with a detailed description of the Ukrainian chaplaincies in the Canadian forces during the second world war. A total of seven Ukrainian clergymen, four Orthodox and three Catholic,

served in this capacity, all of them behind the lines and toward the end of the war. They were especially active during demobilization.

The final presentation was delivered by Thomas Prymak (Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto), who spoke about Gabrielle Roy's "Steven," a prominent figure in her posthumously published memoir, "Enchantment and Sorrow." Dr. Prymak sensitively documented the love affair between the Manitoba-born Roy and the Alberta-born Ukrainian Canadian Stephen Davidovich, who met in England on the eve of World War II. The intense romance was shattered by the sudden and unexplained disappearance of Davidovich, an operative for the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists who was given a secret assignment in Europe. Things would never be the same once he returned to England. Dr. Prymak had been tracing the contours of this story since the 1980s, when he was working on his book "Maple Leaf and Trident," and his thoroughly researched and moving tale was very well received by the audience.

Final comments were offered by Sophia Kachor (Oseredok), who noted that competing "nationalist" and "Canadian" threads often appeared in the presentations. As for the question of whether the conference had attained its objective of stimulating new research on Ukrainian Canadians and the second world war, she suggested that "time will tell," but that this event had demonstrated considerable interest and a remarkable level of knowledge about the field.

## Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

constituted the Achilles' heel of the Soviet empire.

Mr. Halychyn noted that Ukrainian national resistance to Russian rule manifested itself when Ukrainian soldiers in the Soviet army deserted and went over to the side of the Hungarian freedom fighters with arms and tanks, and fought together with the Hungarians against the Soviet army.

## St. John's Church in Hunter, NY is publishing a book of memories on the occasion of our 50th Anniversary.



The book will consist of family photographs and stories submitted by you — the members of our community.

**Cost of book:** \$50.00 prior to December 31, 2011\*  
\$60.00 after December 31, 2011\*\*

\* Those who order before Dec. 31 will also be allotted two pages for their family stories & photographs at no extra charge. Submissions are due Dec. 31. (See website for details. [www.ukrainianmountaintop.org](http://www.ukrainianmountaintop.org). Click on "Jubilee")

\*\* We advise pre-ordering the book as a limited number of extra copies will be printed.

To order your book, send a check (made out to St. John's UCC) to:  
St. John's Jubilee Book, 31 Rosedale Ave., Millburn, NJ 07041

For more information contact: [bbilash@pascack.k12.nj.us](mailto:bbilash@pascack.k12.nj.us)



The Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Institute  
Cordially invites you to meet the artist and view the exhibition

## Kateryna SVIRGUNENKO

The exhibit opens on January 11, 2012  
and continues through February 5, 2012

Exhibition hours are Tuesday – Sunday, 12 to 6 PM

**Artist's Reception  
on Saturday, January 14 from 6 to 8 PM**

"Art at the Institute" is presented by the  
**Ukrainian Institute of America**  
2 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street, New York NY 10075, T 212.288.8660  
[www.ukrainianinstitute.org](http://www.ukrainianinstitute.org)




# OUT & ABOUT

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p>December 27-30<br/>Downsview, ON</p> <p>December 31<br/>Buena, NJ</p> <p>December 31<br/>Toronto</p> <p>December 31<br/>Passaic, NJ</p> <p>December 31<br/>Whippany, NJ</p> <p>December 31<br/>Trenton, NJ</p> <p>December 31<br/>Perth Amboy, NJ</p> <p>December 31<br/>Lehighton, PA</p> <p>December 31<br/>Philadelphia</p> <p>January 6<br/>Cleveland</p> <p>January 7<br/>Yonkers, NY</p> <p>January 11-<br/>February 5<br/>New York</p> | <p>Multicultural Hockey Tournament, featuring the Ukrainian Kozaks (Toronto), Chesswood Arena, 780-988-2448 or <a href="http://www.cmhl.ca">www.cmhl.ca</a></p> <p>New Year's Eve Vechornytsi (potluck party) with Cossacks, koliadky and Kozak saber art workshops, New Kuban Free Cossack Community and Cultural Center, 856-697-2255 or <a href="http://www.cossacks.us.com">www.cossacks.us.com</a></p> <p>New Year's Eve Gala, Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation Gallery, <a href="http://www.kumfgallery.com">www.kumfgallery.com</a> or 416-766-6802</p> <p>New Year's Eve dance, with music by Svitanok, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 973-473-3379</p> <p>New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance, featuring music by Chetverta Khvylya, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-449-3398 or 732-560-5055</p> <p>New Year's Eve dance, with music by Udech, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church hall, 609-695-3771</p> <p>New Year's Eve dance, with music by Halychany, Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church, 732-826-0767 or <a href="http://www.assumptioncatholicchurch.net">www.assumptioncatholicchurch.net</a></p> <p>New Year's Eve Party, Ukrainian Homestead, 215-769-5059 or <a href="http://www.ukrhomestead.com">www.ukrhomestead.com</a></p> <p>New Year's Eve Party, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, <a href="http://www.ukiebar.com">www.ukiebar.com</a></p> <p>Map exhibit, featuring historical maps of Ukraine, Ukrainian Museum-Archives, 216-781-4329 or <a href="http://www.umacleveland.org">www.umacleveland.org</a></p> <p>Christmas Party, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian Youth Center, 914-374-1978 or 914-844-3606</p> <p>Art exhibit, featuring works by Kateryna Svirgunenko, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660 or <a href="http://www.ukrainianinstitute.org">www.ukrainianinstitute.org</a></p> | <p>January 13-15<br/>Jasper, AB</p> <p>January 13<br/>Scranton, PA</p> <p>January 13<br/>Winnipeg</p> <p>January 14<br/>San Francisco</p> <p>January 14<br/>Los Angeles</p> <p>January 14<br/>Warners, NY</p> <p>January 14<br/>Carteret, NJ</p> <p>January 14<br/>Toronto</p> <p>January 14<br/>Mississauga, ON</p> <p>January 14<br/>Edmonton</p> <p>Malanka in the Mountains, Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Jasper Park Lodge, 888-442-2200 or <a href="http://www.fairmont.com/jasper">www.fairmont.com/jasper</a></p> <p>Malanka dance, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, 570-563-2275 or <a href="mailto:pavloosh@comcast.net">pavloosh@comcast.net</a></p> <p>Malanka dance, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Fort Garry Hotel, 204-338-4898 or 204-338-2565</p> <p>Malanka dance, St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church hall, 707-935-9142 or 650-968-6425 or <a href="http://www.stmichaeluocsf.org/malanka.aspx">www.stmichaeluocsf.org/malanka.aspx</a></p> <p>Malanka dance, with music by Svitanok, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 626-388-3948 or 626-428-6010</p> <p>Malanka dance, St. Luke Ukrainian Orthodox Church hall, <a href="http://www.stlukeukrainianorthodox.org">www.stlukeukrainianorthodox.org</a> or 315-468-1981</p> <p>Malanka dinner and dance, St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, with music by Luna, St. Demetrius Community Center, 609-655-4468 or <a href="http://www.stdemetriusuoc.org">www.stdemetriusuoc.org</a></p> <p>Malanka dance, featuring music by Zolota Bulava and Vorony, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Liberty Grand Hall, 416-769-9998</p> <p>Malanka dance, with music by Chervona Ruta, Ukrainian Sports Club Karpaty, Crystal Grand Banquet Hall and Conference Center, 416-574-1811 or 416-357-6535</p> <p>Malanka, with music by Hudi a Mocni, Ukrainian Youth Association in Canada, Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex, 780-983-3134 or <a href="mailto:iwasnata@hotmail.com">iwasnata@hotmail.com</a></p> |
|--|--|--|

*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](mailto:mdubas@ukrweekly.com).*

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and Much More

### Dinner menu:

Appetizer: Turbot Ceviche wrapped in smoked salmon with a razor clam vinaigrette  
Soup: Hungarian Mushroom Bisque  
Salad: Belgian endive, baby arugula, spinach, frizzle lettuce, fresh grapefruit and goat cheese fritter in a honey raspberry vinaigrette

### Entrée choice of:

Broiled Barramundi with a Tropical Fruit Salsa  
Peppered Duck Breast in a Bell Pepper Veal Stock Reduction  
Stuffed Veal Scaloppini with Asparagus and Prosciutto in a Dried Cherry Zinfandel Sauce  
All include roasted pepper stuffed with couscous, wild mushrooms and pine nuts

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**Dinner, cocktail and zabava – only \$110.00 per person**

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**Double, standard room – \$ 145.00 per person**

(includes room, cocktail, dinner and breakfast)

*Special Young Adult Rate available*

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### Saturday, December 31

**PERTH AMBOY, N.J.:** The New Year's Zabava sponsored by Assumption Ukrainian Catholic Church, 380 Meredith St., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861. will take place from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Music will be by Halychany. Advance tickets are \$75 per person; after December 25 –\$85. There will be a fabulous buffet dinner all evening, dancing, champagne and desserts are included. For tickets call 732-826-0767 or log on to [www.assumptioncatholicchurch.net](http://www.assumptioncatholicchurch.net). There are no refunds on purchased tickets and no tickets will be sold at the door.

### Wednesday, January 4, 2012

**PALATINE, Ill.:** Ukrainian American Veterans 1st Lt. Ivan Shandor Post 35 invites all members of the post and members of the community for the 11th annual Christmas dinner at Shaw's Restaurant in Schaumburg, Ill., at 7 p.m. The post encourages the participation of spouses and children. The post commander will provide a review of community events sponsored by the post, and future plans for 2012 will be presented. Please call the post commander for reservations no later than January 2. For more information contact Col. Roman G. Golash (ret) at [romangolash@sbcglobal.net](mailto:romangolash@sbcglobal.net) or 847-910-3532.

### Saturday, January 7, 2012

**PARMA, Ohio:** St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral will sponsor its 24th annual Christmas radio program for sick

and elderly shut-in parishioners. The entire Christmas divine liturgy will be broadcast live at 9-11 a.m. over radio station WJMO, 1300 AM. It can also be heard online at [PraiseCleveland.com](http://PraiseCleveland.com). (Go to the radio station website for Praise 1300 AM, click on "listen live" on the right-hand side.) The liturgy will be celebrated by the cathedral's clergy, with responses sung by the Ukrainian and English choirs of the cathedral. Also at St. Vladimir's, Great Complines and Matins will be celebrated at 7:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Friday, January 6.

### Saturday, January 14, 2012

**CARTERET, N.J.:** The 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., Carteret, NJ. Entertainment will be provided by Luna. Tickets are \$60, which include zabava, hot buffet dinner, open bar and a midnight champagne toast. The St. Demetrius Center is located just blocks from Exit 12 off the New Jersey Turnpike. There is a Holiday Inn right near the exit. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner is served at 7 p.m. For zabava only with open bar, the price of tickets is \$40 with admission after 8:30 p.m. For tickets and table reservations contact Peter Prociuk at 609-655-4468 or [pprociuk@aol.com](mailto:pprociuk@aol.com). Dinner tickets will not be sold at the door. Deadline for dinner tickets is January 8. For more information visit [www.stdemetriusuc.org](http://www.stdemetriusuc.org).

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Items should be **no more than 100 words long**.

Information should be sent to: [preview@ukrweekly.com](mailto: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.**