



Part 2 of  
**THE YEAR  
IN REVIEW**  
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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Ukrainian Canadian carolers perform at prime minister's residence



Ukrainian carolers organized by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress in front of the residence of Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa. On the left is the prime minister's wife, Laureen Harper.

OTTAWA – For the first time ever, Ukrainian Canadian carolers performed traditional Ukrainian Christmas carols, “koliady,” and songs of the season, “schedrivky,” at the prime minister's residence in Ottawa.

Approaching the end of the Ukrainian Christmas season according to the Julian calendar (January 7 to 19), a group of carolers composed of members of the choir of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and a youth choir from St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine in Ottawa on January 17 performed a series of carols in Ukrainian and the Ukrainian “Carol of the Bells” (Schedryk) in English.

Weathering a January winter storm in Ottawa, the carolers arrived at 24 Sussex at 5:30 p.m. and greeted Laureen Harper, Prime Minister Stephen Harper's wife, with the traditional Ukrainian Christmas greeting “Khrystos Narodysia” (Christ is

born) and sang “Dobryi Vechir Tobi,” and then asked “do you accept carolers?”

The carolers then performed “Boh Predvichnyi” (God Eternal), and followed with a traditional Ukrainian Christmas greeting, a “vinshuvannia,” recited in English by Keith Swinton.

The youth choir performed an English-language version of “Schedryk,” popularly known as the “Carol of the Bells,” and the Assumption choir concluded the performance with “Boh Narodysia” and “Boh Sia Razhdaye” (both meaning God is born).

The carolers concluded by offering Christmas greetings. Mrs. Harper graciously provided hot chocolate and homemade “pampushky” (pastry similar to doughnuts) to the carolers.

The caroling was organized by the national office of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress in cooperation with Ottawa branch of the UCC.

## Those willing to stand up become targets of Yanukovich administration

by Zenon Zawada  
Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Lawlessness and corruption permeate all levels of Ukrainian society, resulting in such maladies as misused taxpayer revenue, bribery in the courts and police brutality. Those most willing to stand up and challenge the evils in government without fear of retribution or imprisonment – able-bodied male patriots in their 20s and 30s – have become particular targets for the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich because they pose the biggest threat, observers said.

Prosecutors are currently dragging dozens of such patriots through the courts and prosecuting them under dubious conditions in what human rights activists allege are persecution campaigns to punish Ukrainians for attempting to defend their rights and fight the lawlessness that surrounds them.

“2011 was distinguished by intensified political persecution not only against representatives of the political opposition, but against participants of civic movements,” stated Yevhen Zakharov, the co-chair of the Kharkiv Human Rights Group.

“Political repressions are a very serious violation of human rights. They influence significantly the state of political freedoms. They are geared towards intimidating society, but they have the opposite result because they rouse even bigger protests,” he commented.

Such persecution affected 55 civic activists, journalists and rights defenders in 2011, the Kharkiv Human Rights Group estimated. Politically motivated criminal charges were filed against the participants of the nationwide tax protests, Svoboda party nationalists, and members of the Stepan Bandera Tryzub organization, who smeared paint on the monument to Cheka founder Felix Dzerzhinsky and sawed off the head of the Joseph Stalin bust on December 28, 2010. Both monuments are in Zaporizhia.

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Zenon Zawada

Roman Khmara, an activist for the Stepan Bandera Tryzub organization, was convicted with a suspended sentence of three years' incarceration for sawing off the head of the Joseph Stalin bust in Zaporizhia in December 2010. He said he'll sooner go to prison than pay compensatory damages to the Communists.



Olena Bilozerska

Lawyer Vitalii Zaporozhets has become a folk hero for murdering the allegedly corrupt local police chief in his native village of Semypolky in the Kyiv Oblast. He is seen above in a photo taken on December 26, 2011, in Brovary, Kyiv Oblast, where his trial has begun.

## Clinton says U.S. will continue to seek Tymoshenko's release

KYIV – U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said the United States will continue to advocate for judicial due process and the release of Yulia Tymoshenko and the other imprisoned former senior government officials in Ukraine, according to news posted on Ms. Tymoshenko's website on January 11.

“We will continue to advocate for judicial due process and the release of you and the other imprisoned former senior government officials as a critical step in that pro-

cess. Also, please be assured we are committed to free elections with the participation of all legitimate political candidates and parties in Ukraine. This is another critical step toward European Union integration and something your country has done successfully in the past. I hope this will again be the case in the October parliamentary elections,” Secretary Clinton wrote in a letter to former Prime Minister Tymoshenko.

The secretary of state said that she has been closely following developments in the

Tymoshenko case. “The United States was disappointed the Kyiv Court of Appeals upheld your conviction without addressing issues raised during the trial about selective prosecution and the administration of justice. Indeed, our concerns were then heightened by the sudden decision to transfer you to a prison far from Kyiv, especially given reports about your medical condition,” she wrote.

“We remain equally troubled by the cases against other former senior govern-

ment officials. I am heartened to see that at this difficult moment you continue to support Ukraine's integration into the European Union and good relations with all of its neighbors. Democracy and development go hand in hand. Please be assured in that regard that the United States will continue to support the aspirations of the Ukrainian people to transform their country into a prosperous European democracy,” she said, according to the story posted on [www.tymoshenko.ua](http://www.tymoshenko.ua).



## ANALYSIS

## Ukrainian government mishandles gas negotiations with Moscow

by Vladimir Socor  
Eurasia Daily Monitor

President Viktor Yanukovich and his government are setting the stage, politically and legislatively, for transferring Ukrainian pipelines to Russian control, in a package deal with Gazprom. The president and government wavered and agonized at times, but are now actively preparing Ukrainian public opinion for an imminent deal.

In the endgame of negotiations, Ukraine's governing Party of Regions is rushing legislation through Parliament to authorize transfers of gas infrastructure. Leasing pipelines to Gazprom is one form of transfer, out of several under consideration (UNIAN, Interfax-Ukraine, January 9, 10).

Ukraine's transit system has a capacity of some 140 billion cubic meters (bcm) per year, operates at nearly 120 bcm annually, and carries 75 percent of Russia's total gas exports to Europe. It consists of 22,000 kilometers of pipelines, and alongside the transit capacity it boasts 31 bcm in storage capacities. It is the largest by far among gas transit systems, and a unique strategic asset for Ukraine. But it is an aging system on the brink of technological obsolescence, requiring massive investments for modernization, which the Ukrainian government expects Gazprom to undertake after the proposed takeover.

Bringing these pipelines under Gazprom's control is a longstanding objective of Kremlin policy in Ukraine. The system's vulnerability to such a takeover is higher now than at any stage in the past.

First, the sheer passage of time increases the system's obsolescence while Ukraine fails to generate investment funding for overdue upgrades. As these can no longer be delayed, the Ukrainian government is turning to Gazprom, offering to share control in return for investment.

Second, the surging price for Russian gas (resulting from oil-gas price indexation) pressures Kyiv to seek a classical post-Soviet solution: transferring infrastructure into Gazprom's hands, in return for lower gas prices. The gas price for Ukraine has risen to \$416 per 1,000 cubic meters in the first quarter of 2012 (Interfax-Ukraine, December 26, 2011).

Third, Russian export pipeline projects in the north can in the future leave less gas available for the existing export routes. Kyiv, however, wants Moscow to "guarantee" the existing gas transit level through Ukraine in the future; and even to build new pipeline capacities in Ukraine, in return for shared control of the transit system.

Fourth, Gazprom's South Stream bypass project in the Black Sea, which threatens to divert significant volumes from Ukrainian pipelines, alarmed President Yanukovich and his government. In late December 2011, Turkey (against Kyiv's expectations) allowed Russia to start work on this project in Turkey's exclusive economic zone in 2012. This shocked the Ukrainian government into concluding that the way to stop South Stream is to give Russia a share of control in some form (if not ownership) in Ukraine's pipeline system (see

Eurasia Daily Monitor, January 9).

This also triggered the Party of Regions' draft law that would authorize transfers of gas infrastructure. The Ukrainian government wants to have this legislation approved and in hand when it goes to Moscow for decisive negotiations. These were scheduled for January 15; and the Russian government expects the Ukrainian delegation to carry the necessary legal authority to make such concessions.

Ukraine's existing legislation bars any form of "alienating" pipelines and related infrastructure assets of the state-owned Naftohaz Ukrainy oil and gas company and its subsidiaries. Yulia Tymoshenko, the opposition leader currently jailed by the authorities, authored that legislation in 2007, when she was opposition leader. The Parliament adopted that legislation overwhelmingly. The Party of Regions, in power at that time with Mr. Yanukovich as prime minister, voted in favor.

Ms. Tymoshenko's law meticulously enumerates, and forbids, all possible forms of "alienating" these types of assets. The prohibition extends to any type of privatization, sale, lease, merger, acquisition, restructuring, division, sharing, consortium, trust management, joint venture, joint operatorship, rental, lending, concession and yet other forms. Ms. Tymoshenko's initiative and the Verkhovna Rada's consensus were responding to Russia's then-president, Vladimir Putin's, tactless public call to Ukraine to pay for Russian gas by giving up its infrastructure (UNIAN, January 3, 10; see EDM, February 16, 2007).

At present, however, the Party of Regions proposes to nullify that legislation and authorize some forms of asset transfers, ahead of the next round of negotiations with Russia. For its part, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc has announced its intention to resist. Wrenching scenes can be expected in Parliament if the Party of Regions goes ahead with this initiative.

If the Ukrainian government enters into an asset-sharing deal with Moscow, it would do so reluctantly, but also unnecessarily. The government has neglected or declined other options, notably that of European Union-assisted reform of the energy sector.

This government inherited a gas sector in permanent crisis from previous governments, but the incumbent team has maneuvered itself into an untenable negotiating position with Moscow. It wants Russia to: cut the price of gas to Ukraine; guarantee the existing volumes of gas transit via Ukraine and even increase those volumes; finance the upgrading of Ukrainian pipelines; and abandon the bypass South Stream project, taking this threat unjustifiably at face value.

On top of all this, President Yanukovich and the government have displayed panic over the price of gas and advertised their fear of South Stream for all to see. This group has severely undermined its own bargaining position vis-à-vis Russia. But it still has time to reconsider before going to Moscow.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Lutsenko wants witnesses to testify

KYIV – Former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko has requested that witnesses in his trial be forced to attend and testify. Mr. Lutsenko, one of the leaders of the Our Ukraine-People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) parliamentary faction, was arrested in December 2010 and went on trial on May 23, 2011, for abuse of office and misappropriation of funds while he was internal affairs minister. At the trial on January 16, Mr. Lutsenko stated that he had looked through the list of witnesses in his case prepared by the Procurator General's Office and discovered that 10 of them have never been summoned to court and some 45 individuals who were officially summoned to his trial never appeared. "More than 20 of those 45 potential witnesses have been summoned to court three or even five times," Mr. Lutsenko said. "I do not understand why the court does not force those people to come and testify in the hearings." According to one charge against Mr. Lutsenko, he illegally helped his former personal driver, Leonid Pristuplyuk, obtain an apartment in Kyiv. In court on January 16, Mr. Lutsenko asked why no one from the commission that made the decision to allocate the apartment to Mr. Pristuplyuk was invited to testify. Mr. Lutsenko, 47, also said he fears that his case may be forced to a quick conclusion. He said he is innocent of all charges and his case is politically motivated. Mr. Lutsenko was internal affairs minister in 2005-2006 and 2007-2010. He became publicly known as one of the leaders of the 2005 Orange Revolution. (RFE/RL)

### Army to be reduced for five years

KYIV – "The strength of the Ukrainian army will be reduced by 15 to 20 percent as part of reorganization measures over the next five years," Defense Minister Mykhailo Yezhel said on January 17. He added that the number of servicemen in the armed forces will be increased to 130,000. Mr. Yezhel also noted that special attention will be paid to armaments and military equipment. In particular, work will continue to extend the service life of equipment, modernize existing models and buy new ones, he said.

According to the minister, until 2017 it is also planned to double the pay of the military. However, due to reorganization, the armed forces for five years will save about 717 million hrv, Mr. Yezhel said. (Ukrinform)

### Ukrainians receive 60,000 U.S. visas

KYIV – Ukrainian citizens filed about 74,000 applications for U.S. non-immigration visas last year and 81 percent of them were approved, according to a statement by U.S. Consul General Henry Hand on January 14. The consul general explained that the waiting period for U.S. visas for Ukrainian citizens will be reduced in the nearest future. This will take place thanks to the relocation of the U.S. Embassy to a new building, whose larger premises allow for processing a greater number of applicants on a daily basis. A considerably larger staff working at the Embassy will also shorten the waiting period for visas, as will the greater number of service windows – 25, as opposed to four in the old building. However, the visa application price for Ukrainian citizens in the near future will remain at \$140. The U.S. Embassy will celebrate its housewarming next week. Last year the Kyiv City Council, upon the request of U.S. diplomats, renamed Tankova Street, where the new U.S. diplomatic mission is located, as Ihor Sikorsky Street. The Kyiv-born engineer, aircraft designer and father of the helicopter construction industry, who emigrated to the United States in 1919, symbolizes the close ties between Ukraine and the U.S. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine 15th in security of nuclear material

KYIV – According to a survey released on January 12 by the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI), a private advocacy group in Washington, and the Economic Intelligence Unit, a London-based company specializing in risk analysis, Ukraine is ranked 15th overall in security of its nuclear material of the 32 countries in the world with one kilogram or more of weapons-grade nuclear material. Out of 100 possible points Ukraine scored a 76 and did well in the categories of "quantities and sites" (such as material production and elimination trends) and "global norms"

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## NEWS ANALYSIS

## Ukraine braces for gas transportation consortium with Russia

by Pavel Korduban  
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Kyiv's hopes for cheaper Russian gas as of January 1, have failed to materialize. However, gas talks are continuing, and there are signs that Moscow will agree to cut the price of gas in exchange for a share in a consortium to be set up to operate Ukraine's pipelines carrying Russian gas to the European Union.

The main dispute is about the size of this share, as Russia wants to obtain control of Ukraine's gas transportation system (GTS), while Kyiv hopes to dilute Gazprom's participation in the pipelines with the EU's help.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich and Prime Minister Mykola Azarov pinned high hopes on their meetings with the Russian leadership in Moscow on December 20, 2011, and the Ukrainian dailies Kommersant-Ukraine and Segodnya even reported on December 21 that Mr. Azarov would announce a new gas price later that day.

Ukraine hoped to lower the price from the \$400 per 1,000 cubic meters of gas, which it paid Gazprom in the fourth quarter of 2011, to between \$210 and \$230. In that case, the budget of the state-subsidized oil and gas company, Naftohaz Ukrainy, for next year might have been balanced and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) may have unfrozen its \$15 billion assistance package to Ukraine. The government's failure to improve the situa-

tion at Naftohaz was one of the main reasons behind the IMF's refusal to issue loans to Ukraine last year.

However, Mr. Azarov told his ministers after returning from Moscow on December 21, that the talks with Russia had been deadlocked. He said the government could not accept Russian conditions (www.zn.ua, December 21, 2011). As a result, the government submitted to the Verkhovna Rada a state budget bill for 2012, based on the gas price formula that has been in force since 2009, and Parliament promptly passed it.

The formula suits Russia, but it does not meet the aims of the Ukrainian government, which has been trying to persuade Russia to either change it or give a new discount in addition to the reduction of \$100 per 1,000 cubic meters that Ukraine received in 2010 in exchange for extending the Russian Black Sea Fleet lease of the Sevastopol naval base by 25 years until 2042. According to the current formula, which depends on oil prices, Ukraine will have to pay \$416 per 1,000 cubic meters of Russian gas on the average this year.

Kyiv believes that \$250 would be a "fair price" this year, as President Yanukovich said at a press conference on December 21, 2011. He called the price of \$416 "unaffordable." Mr. Yanukovich reiterated that Ukraine was aiming to set up a tripartite gas consortium to run its gas pipelines, which he said would be the best solution to the challenge of upgrading Ukraine's

aging pipelines.

Mr. Yanukovich said the Russian gas pipelines Nord Stream and South Stream would diminish the importance of Ukraine's pipelines for Russia and the EU, and he complained that Ukraine was not treated as an equal partner by either Russia or the EU in the South Stream project (UT1, December 21, 2011).

During the Ukraine-EU summit two days earlier, Mr. Yanukovich had rebuked the EU for not opposing South Stream, which bypasses Ukraine, and said Kyiv was waiting for an answer from Brussels on whether the EU was ready to participate in a consortium to manage Ukraine's pipelines (Ukrayinska Pravda, December 19, 2011).

On December 22, 2011, Nezavisimaya Gazeta cited sources from the ruling Party of Regions of Ukraine as saying that Kyiv was about to agree to a bilateral consortium with Russia in mid-December but Brussels, with which Kyiv hopes to sign an association agreement, rejected the plan. As a result, no agreement was concluded with Russia as an agreement on Moscow's conditions would have not only left Ukraine without control over its own pipelines, but apparently also jeopardized Ukraine's European integration.

At the same time, the ruling party looks set to remove the legal ban on selling any shares in the pipelines, which was passed by Parliament in 2007. With the ban in place, any agreement on modernizing the pipelines with Russia or Europe is hardly

possible. The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry's spokesman, Oleh Voloshyn, said it would be much better to have full pipelines not owned by the state than empty state-owned pipelines (www.lb.ua, December 26, 2011).

Gazprom's CEO, Aleksey Miller, told Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on December 30, 2011, that Ukraine evaluated its gas transit network at \$20 billion and wanted gas price discounts totaling \$9 billion per annum in exchange for a share in it. In addition, several billion dollars would be needed to upgrade Ukraine's pipelines, said Mr. Miller. Mr. Putin instructed Mr. Miller to continue talks with Kyiv in order to set up a gas transportation consortium (Interfax, December 30, 2011).

During a press conference on December 21, Mr. Yanukovich estimated the upgrade would cost \$5 billion to \$7.5 billion. The next round of gas talks with Russia is scheduled for January 15. By that time, the majority in Parliament, which is loyal to Mr. Yanukovich, will try to scrap the 2007 ban. The EU has not thus far displayed any official interest in the consortium, leaving Kyiv one on one with Moscow, as in January 2009, when Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko had to accept the price formula imposed by Gazprom.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

(including international and voluntary commitments and transparency), but fared worse in "societal factors" (particularly corruption and political stability). Australia ranked first in the world with a score of 94, while North Korea was ranked last and scored a 37. (NTI)

## Gas price five times higher than in U.S.

KYIV – Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said on January 16 that the price of gas for Ukraine is five times higher than in the United States. "An agreement on gas supplies from Russia, which is unfavorable for us, remains in effect. This price is five times higher than that in the United States. Let's think for a moment – the price in the United States is \$99 per 1,000 cubic meters, while in Ukraine it is \$516, not including the Kharkiv discount," he said at a meeting with the executive director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Michel Kazatchkine, in Kyiv. Mr. Azarov said: "We pay an addition \$1 billion to Russia each month, but we could have spent this money on health and social needs." (Ukrinform)

## Gazprom: Contract must be honored

KYIV – Sergei Kupriyanov, an official representative of Russia's state-owned natural gas giant Gazprom, said on January 12 that Ukraine cannot cut in half the amount of gas it is contracted to purchase from Gazprom. Mr. Kupriyanov said Gazprom and Naftohaz Ukrainy, Ukraine's state gas company, signed a 10-year deal in 2009 specifying Ukraine would purchase 52 billion cubic meters (bcm) of gas annually. Mr. Kupriyanov noted there was a possibility to decrease that amount by as much as 20 percent and even then Ukraine is obligated to inform Gazprom six months in advance of plans to reduce volumes. Ukrainian Energy Minister

Yurii Boiko said on January 11 that Ukraine would only purchase some 27 bcm of gas from Gazprom this year. The next round of Russian-Ukrainian talks on the issue is scheduled for January 15. (RFE/RL)

## President proposes jury trials

KYIV – In the draft of the new Criminal Procedure Code submitted to Parliament, President Viktor Yanukovich proposed introducing the institution of trial by jury, explained Andriy Portnov, presidential adviser and head of the judiciary directorate at the Presidential Administration, to reporters on January 12. It is assumed that suspects in a felony commonly punished with life imprisonment may demand a jury trial. Under the draft code, the jury would be composed of two professional judges and three jurors. It is envisaged that the jury candidates will be nominated by local communities. Previously, Procurator General Viktor Pshonka said that the new Criminal Procedure Code would provide for phased-in introduction of trial by jury "only for serious crimes, for which lifetime punishment is envisaged." Justice Minister Oleksander Lavrynovych was more cautious in assessing prospects for the introduction of trial by jury, calling the move "premature." In May 2011, in an interview with the publication Public People, he called the outlook for introducing this institution in Ukraine "problematic," although it is prescribed by the 1996 Constitution. "In our society it is premature. It's not so much a court of law but of emotions," he explained. In recent months, discussions about the introduction of jury trials have gained new urgency in connection with the criminal cases against former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and other members of her government. Ms. Tymoshenko demanded that that she be tried by a jury and specifically mentioned Articles 124 and 129 of the Constitution. On June 1, 2011, the Parliament refused to even include on its agenda the bill on the estab-

lishment of jury trials in Ukraine, authored by one of Ukraine's most famous lawyers, Serhii Vlasenko, a national deputy from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc-Batkivschyna faction. (Ukrinform)

## Filaret criticizes Moscow's position

KYIV – Unlike the head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Volodymyr, who once stressed that the Ukrainian question should be settled by the council of all local Orthodox Churches, the head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, Patriarch Filaret, is convinced that it is impossible to realize that idea in modern times, according to a January 3 interview. "In what way is the council to settle the issue, by consensus or majority? Moscow is for consensus and Constantinople is for majority, why so? Because consensus is the right of 'veto.' They do not talk about any Church having the right of 'veto.' If they mentioned 'veto,' everyone would ridicule their use of 'veto' in Church matters. It is unaccept-

able! But consensus, in its essence, means the same: if one Church does not agree, the decision is not passed. That is why they have unsuccessfully tried to convene the All-Orthodox Council for 40 years. And why does Moscow insist on consensus? For consensus allows it to ensure not only its rights but also the domination of its interests. If anything does not fit the interests of Moscow, it does not agree to it and the decision is not passed. Constantinople understands this and argues for passing decisions by majority," explained Patriarch Filaret. According to the hierarch, representatives of Moscow say that they will agree to the autocephaly of Ukrainian Orthodoxy when everyone else agrees, but it is impossible to have the unanimous support of any question. Therefore, according to Patriarch Filaret, one should not raise this question in that way. Patriarch Filaret stressed that, according to opinion polls, the majority is for autocephaly, for one local Church. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

## Quotable notes

"We would like to see Ukraine move in the direction of better relations with the West, with the United States and with the European Union. We've made that clear. But we've also made clear that we expect Ukraine to meet European standards of democracy and human rights and we've been disappointed by some of the recent developments, not least the arrest of former Prime Minister [Yulia] Tymoshenko which I have to say appears to us to be a political prosecution. Without getting into – I'm not going to sit here and adjudicate the case – but the pattern seems to be that it's only the previous regime and its leadership that is being arrested for these alleged crimes and corruption. That is simply not the way European countries of the 21st century can proceed. That has to have consequences for Ukraine's relations. Therefore, we strongly supported the European Union's message last month when it said we want an Association Agreement with you, we want a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement. But they can't move forward until democracy standards are met, and that's exactly the message of the United States as well."

– Philip H. Gordon, assistant secretary of state, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, speaking in an interview with Egle Samoskaite of Delfi that was conducted in Trakai, Lithuania, on January 12.



# CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

## Ukrainians in Hawaii?

It can happen in mid-winter. You've had enough Ukrainian concerts, Ukrainian fund-raisers, Ukrainian lectures, Ukrainian meetings, etc. You're "Uked out." You want to go somewhere where the word "Ukrainian" is never heard.

So if you're lucky, you go to Hawai'i. This land, after all, is not only a long way from New York, Philadelphia and Chicago. It's about as far as you can get from Ukraine. There you can lie on a beach and never think about Yanukovich or Yulia or Plast or pyrohy. You can finally relax.

So you're walking down Kalakaua Avenue on Waikiki and what do you hear but a young couple speaking Ukrainian. No, they're not from the diaspora – by their speech you can tell they're from Ukraine. How nice, you think: here, where they don't have to impress anyone, where nobody's listening and nobody cares, they choose to speak Ukrainian, not Russian, to each other. And how good that such people can afford a Hawaiian vacation!

Then you remember that Ukrainians have been coming to Hawai'i for over two centuries. In 1804, Yurii Fedorovich Lisianski (1773-1837), an officer in the Russian navy from Nizhyn, visited these islands during a three-year expedition around the world. The following year he discovered the isle that bears his name, just over 1,000 miles northwest of Honolulu.

In fact, Hawai'i almost became Gavai. In 1815, German-born physician Georg

Anton Schaeffer arrived at Kaua'i on a salvage mission for Alexander Baranov of the Russian American Company. Not content to complete his task, Schaeffer negotiated with King Kamehameha, the "Napoleon of the Pacific," and received land grants on O'ahu. Next, learning that Kaumuali'i, the ruler of Kaua'i, had ambitions to retrieve several islands from Kamehameha, he promised Russian aid in exchange for land grants and monopoly rights to precious Kaua'i sandalwood. Schaeffer even provided Russian names for various places on the island. However, Baranov disowned the German adventurer, while the commander of a visiting Russian naval expedition, Otto von Kotzebue, made it clear that the imperial government did not endorse Schaeffer's plans. The enraged Kaumuali'i drove the Russians off his island. You can still see the ruins of their fort near Waimea.

What if St. Petersburg had supported Schaeffer and the Kauaiian king, and gained control over the islands? Would tourists be flocking to Russian Polynesia? Or would it have become one vast prison colony, with the likes of Taras Shevchenko cutting sugar cane in the broiling sun? By connecting its Alaskan colony with the port facilities of Honolulu, Russia might even have gained control of the Pacific, with Soviet apparatchiks building mansions on San Francisco's Russian Hill. But then they're probably there anyway.

The largest Ukrainian presence in

Hawai'i was the contract workers from Halychyna, many from the vicinity of Chortkiv and Zbarazh. They were headed for Canada, lugging warm clothing and farm implements, lured by the promise of land and opportunity. But in Bremen, agents of the Hawaiian sugar companies made them an irresistible offer: free passage, housing, fuel, water, and medical care for them and their families, with guaranteed tax-free wages in return for a promise to work on the plantations for three or five years. So they made the four-month voyage in steerage around Cape Horn, arriving in Honolulu in July 1897.

Another group disembarked in September 1898, by which time the Hawaiian Republic had been annexed to the United States. Author Michael Ewanchuk estimates that they numbered about 600 altogether. Settled on the five principal Hawaiian islands, they joined legions of Japanese, Portuguese, Filipino and other imported contract workers.

Very soon they began to complain of the harsh working conditions and maltreatment by the "lunas" or overseers. Food and clothing at the company stores were expensive, and the laborers found themselves perpetually in debt. The newspapers Svoboda and the San Francisco Examiner took up their cause. The American territorial administration established in 1900 brought more liberal labor laws and outlawed contracts of indenture. According to Mr. Ewanchuk, there were a number of Eastern Ukrainians among the 1,800 or so contract laborers who arrived from Manchuria in 1909-1910.

Once their contracts were completed, nearly all the emigrants left the island paradise for the higher wages of California or the free arable land of Canada. Several families from Halychyna remained on the Big Island, however, settling in government-subsidized housing in the cold, rainy Ola'a mountain forest south of Hilo and

near today's Volcanoes National Park. Some of the men worked building roads and railroad tracks. In 1985 Mr. Ewanchuk located a few of their descendants at nearby Mountain View.

As in the early immigrant coal-mining communities of Pennsylvania, there was a lack of spiritual care. In 1898, a Greek-Catholic laborer complained that the local Catholic priest spoke only Portuguese (Ewanchuk p. 46). Honolulu's Ukrainian Orthodox were served by the Rev. John T. Dorosh for a year in 1917. Many years later, the Very Rev. Archimandrite Jules C.E. Riotte, World War II Belgian resistance fighter and entomologist, was appointed episcopal vicar for local Eastern Catholics (Ewanchuk p. 171). In 1975, the St. Sophia Mission was established under the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Chicago. Today, the chapel near Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church at Kuli'ou'ou, about 15 or 20 minutes' drive windward from downtown Honolulu, is only occasionally served by visiting priests. (Wanted: biritual resident pastor; fluent in Pidgin; surfing skills a plus). Its combination of Byzantine decoration and Hawaiian folk motifs is an interesting example of Ukrainian church inculturation in a Polynesian context.

So let's face it: even in Hawai'i, you can't forget that you're Ukrainian. And why should you? Just remember this verse from "Holokai Hula" by George Manoa Huddy: Ka leo hamama o ka pu'uwai/Pau 'ole o ka 'aina poina 'ole: "The open voice of the heart/ Never ends for the land not to be forgotten."

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Further reading: Gavan Daws, "Shoal of Time: A History of the Hawaiian Islands" (Honolulu, 1968). Michael Ewanchuk, "Hawaiian Ordeal: Ukrainian Contract Workers, 1897-1910" (Winnipeg, 1986).

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### Ukrainians in the U.S.: concerned, engaged

Ukrainians in the United States had Yulia on their minds during most of 2011. In August they gathered to rally in protest against the August 5 arrest of Yulia Tymoshenko by Ukrainian authorities. In New York, over 100 Ukrainian Americans organized by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America appeared before Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York to call for the immediate release of Ms. Tymoshenko and a stop to the backsliding of democracy in Ukraine.

Later that month, the UCCA appealed to Doctors Without Borders to provide an independent physician to examine Ms. Tymoshenko, whose requests for her personal doctors to examine her had been denied by Ukrainian authorities.

The UCCA organized another protest before Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations on September 21 during the opening of the 66th Session of the General Assembly, which President Viktor Yanukovich attended. In an open letter to the Ukrainian president that same month, the UCCA reminded Kyiv that it had done little to address the serious issues and concerns the UCCA had brought up in a letter sent a year earlier, and that the situation in Ukraine had indeed gotten worse. The pressure on Ms. Tymoshenko, Yurii Lutsenko and other members of the opposition had increased, and the whitewashing of Soviet crimes such as the Holodomor continued unabated. The UCCA renewed its call for constructive dialogue and said it was willing to meet with Mr. Yanukovich, "but only when democratic principles are adhered to in all branches of Ukraine's government and when we detect from you a genuine concern for the Ukrainian nation and the trials that it continues to suffer."

On January 13 the Trenton, N.J., branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) presented a donation of \$100,000 for the Capital Improvement Project Campaign at the UAYA campground in Ellenville, N.Y., whose goal is to raise \$1 million towards renovations and improvements at the beloved "oselia." The campground, operating for over 50 years, plays a critical role for the organization, as it hosts summer camps, jamborees, congresses, sporting events, festivals and other events for the Ukrainian community. There were other fund-raisers for the oselia during the year, including a masquerade gala at the Ukrainian Institute of America on November 12.

The Washington Group on February 19 held its annual Leadership Conference, during which a distinguished panel of speakers discussed the state of Ukraine under President Yanukovich. Most of the speakers, ranging from policy advisors to scholars to former ambassadors, agreed the current administration is noted for backsliding on rights and freedoms, and for its authoritarian tendencies. Despite these negative trends, speakers said Ukraine's system cannot yet be compared to Russia's or Belarus's as the opposition and civil society are still much stronger, and the Yanukovich government's drop in popularity means it will continue to face increasing pressure from within.

A group of Ukrainian students studying in the U.S. held a meeting on March 18 with Konstantyn Kudryk, the consul general for Ukraine in Chicago, in an attempt to better coordi-



The ribbon-cutting on August 28 at Cleveland's Lesia Ukrainka statue by Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 8, which was responsible for raising funds for the statue's restoration.



Lawrence Silverman of the State Department addresses The Washington Group's Leadership Conference on February 19. Ambassador Steven Pifer is on the right.



UNIS Director Michael Sawkiw Jr. presents the Hrushevsky Award to Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) during the celebration of Ukrainian Independence Day held in Washington on September 15.

nate amongst themselves. The Ukrainian government currently doesn't support the education of talented youth abroad and doesn't maintain a database of students at American universities. The key idea negotiated at this meeting was to establish a traditional of annual receptions at the Consulate to greet Ukrainian students in Chicago and help them bond in a new country - an event comparable to the current tradition of the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine meeting with new Ukrainian Fulbright scholars. The meeting's participants also agreed to reach out to the international offices of Chicago-area universities to help identify Ukrainian students who might be interested in meeting up and coordinating activities.

The Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America (known as SUSTA) held its annual conference at Drexel University on April 8-10. SUSTA is a non-profit organization run by students that represents and defends Ukrainian interests at U.S. universities. Over 30 students and young professionals attended the conference, which featured presentations on Ukrainian history, culture, people, politics and current events. Among the guest speakers were former Ukrainian dissident Sviatoslav Karavansky and Dr. Alexander Motyl; the keynote speaker was journalist Myroslava Gongadze. The newly elected SUSTA board is led by Maksym Plakhotnyuk, president. Also during 2011, SUSTA unveiled its new website, located at [www.ukrainianstudents.org](http://www.ukrainianstudents.org).

Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU) marked three decades of human rights advocacy, which all began with a small meeting of activists who were interested in bringing hope and relief to Soviet prisoners of conscience. Some thought that after independence in 1991 the organization could disband after successfully raising awareness about so many Soviet-era dissidents, but events in Ukraine showed that problems persist. In its many years, AHRU has worked to defend Ukrainian political prisoners, helped establish the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, warned of the dangers of Chernobyl and its aftereffects, and raised funds for women's monasteries and children's clinics. True to its name, AHRU continues to work with Amnesty International in defense of Ukrainian prisoners of conscience.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) and its Washington bureau, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) organized Ukrainian Days in Washington on April 6-7 to promote closer contacts between Ukrainian Americans and their members of Congress. Over a dozen participants took time to attend a UCCA briefing session to discuss their strategy and goals before heading out to meetings with representatives and senators. Attendees urged the members of Congress to reform the visa process for Ukrainians and restructure U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine, updated them on Chernobyl's aftermath and the civil rights situation in Ukraine, and discussed the affects of the U.S.-Russia "reset" on Ukraine.

Ukrainians across North America in April commemorated the 25th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. In Boston, the local branch of the UCCA worked with photographer Tania Mychajlyshyn D'Avignon to put together a traveling exhibit of 54 sepia-toned photographs of Ms. D'Avignon's visit to Chernobyl, while the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute co-sponsored a one-day seminar on Chernobyl 25 years later.



Demonstrators gather on September 21 near Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations to protest the policies of the Yanukovich administration.

Chicago Ukrainians came together for a multifaceted conference on Chernobyl featuring guest speakers, a photography exhibit and a documentary film, and the city's Ukrainian National Museum hosted a "Chernobyl + 25" exhibit.

Ukrainians in Philadelphia came together at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for a solemn ceremony in remembrance of the disaster's anniversary. The event was held in cooperation with the Japanese American community, in view of the Fukushima nuclear disaster that occurred in March.

The Northeast Regional Conference on the Social Studies included a presentation about the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide at its session in April, and teachers who participated received a booklet that includes a synopsis about the Holodomor. In related news, Boston's Ukrainian American community began a campaign to gather signatures for a petition in support of S. 234, a bill on the teaching of the Holodomor in Massachusetts schools. In June, the Joint House Committee on Education of the Massachusetts state legislature heard presentations by members of the Ukrainian American community on various aspects of the Holodomor and why it must be included in the state curriculum.

The Sisters of St. Basil the Great celebrated the centennial of the arrival of their religious order to the U.S. with a symposium on April 30 at the Basilian Spirituality Center in Fox Chase Manor, Pa. The order came to the U.S. in 1911 and faced many challenges, such as animosity from the Latin hierarchy, lack of administrative organization and funding from the Ruthenian Greek-Catholic Church, demoralized younger generations and a great number of homeless orphans. But the Basilian order persevered, grew, published school textbooks and a monthly magazine, and established a renowned college, Manor Junior College, which now is Manor College.

The UCCA issued a statement in May harshly condemning the Yanukovich government's backsliding on democracy, blatant harassment of civic activists and opposition leaders, the constant curtailing of freedom of speech and the desecration of Ukraine's cultural heritage. The statement said the criminal case filed against Ms. Tymoshenko was a personal vendetta that violated individual rights and the Constitution, and that Education Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk's anti-Ukrainian policies had to be stopped. The UCCA appealed to the U.S. government, as a strategic partner, to take steps to come to the defense of liberty and civil rights in Ukraine, as these violations threaten Ukraine's transition to a stable, modern European democracy.

On Memorial Day weekend, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America held its 29th convention, at which it reviewed the organization's recent campaigns and achievements and discussed future goals. Certificates of appreciation were given to veteran members with 50 or more years of service, and elections were held for new officers. Re-elected to head the new board was Marianna Zajac. The UNWLA discussed creating an endowment for a women's studies program at the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv, the deteriorating political situation in Ukraine and the Chernobyl aftermath. On November 20 the UNWLA presented a check for \$25,000 - the first installment of the \$100,000 it pledged to UCU - to the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, the university's rector.

The UCCA National Council announced in June that the New Ukrainian Wave Inc. had been accepted as a member of



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Illya M. Labunka

**Zenon and Nadia Matkiwsky at the November 21 press conference at which the closing of the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund was announced.**

the UCCA. NUW is a not-for-profit educational and cultural organization that focuses primarily on the needs and interests of the most recent Ukrainian immigrants. UCCA President Tamara Olexy stressed the importance of this partnership, saying that "for such unity to flourish, we must endeavor to include our newest immigrants into the ranks of our established organizations in the U.S."

At the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association's 30th annual meeting in Warren, Mich., on June 10-11, 13 Ukrainian American credit unions gathered to discuss current issues facing credit unions and to elect a new board of directors. As of December 2010, the assets of the 16 UNCUA member credit unions totaled \$2.4 billion and over 104,000 members of Ukrainian credit unions were counted. Despite the recession, in 2010 Ukrainian credit unions contributed nearly \$4.4 million in support of community organizations. Bohdan Kurczak of Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union was elected chair of the UNCUA board of directors; Orysia Burdiak was elected president of the association. The meeting was hosted by the Ukrainian Future Credit Union, which was celebrating its 50th anniversary.

After being a center for Ukrainian community gatherings for decades, the Ukrainian American Citizens Club of Allentown, Pa., was forced to shut its doors in June due to declining patronage and revenue. At its peak in the 1940s the club boasted some 1,500 members in the Lehigh Valley. However, like other ethnic groups and their community centers before them, the Ukrainian community either assimilated or moved out of the area.

Members of the executive board of the UCCA met with various governmental and non-governmental officials in Washington in mid-July to discuss issues of importance to the community. On the eve of the meeting, a U.S.-Ukraine Working Group dinner was the venue for a discussion about the alarming lack of human, cultural and religious rights amongst the 10-million-strong Ukrainian community in Russia. The next day UCCA officials held a meeting with Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Olexander Motsyk to discuss the Holodomor memorial, diaspora issues and U.S.-Ukraine relations. Representatives then met with members of the Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova Bureau of the State Department to cover topics such as the U.S.-Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission and the deteriorating political situation in Ukraine.

Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 8 of Cleveland spearheaded efforts to restore a bronze statue of Ukrainian poetess Lesia Ukrainka in the city's Rockefeller Park. Dedicated in 1961, this statue is one of several Ukrainian busts that grace the Ukrainian section of Rockefeller Park's Cultural Gardens. After months of effort, the newly renovated statue was unveiled on August 28 during the city's One World Day festivities, with special guests Mayor Frank Jackson and Rep. Dennis Kucinich.

On September 15, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), in co-sponsorship with the Congressional

Ukrainian Caucus, hosted a special commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's independence on Capitol Hill. The Senate conference room overlooking the dome of the U.S. Capitol was filled with Ukrainian hierarchs, dignitaries from various countries, numerous past and present government officials, guests from Ukraine, members of Congress and Ukrainian American community activists. They gathered to celebrate a free and independent Ukrainian state, as well as to witness the presentation of the Michael Hrushevsky Award, named in honor of 20th century Ukraine's first president, which is presented for efforts in promoting U.S.-Ukraine relations.

The recipients of 2011 Hrushevsky Awards were: Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.), former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Roman Popadiuk, Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) and former Congressmen Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.) and Don Ritter (R-Pa.). Due to prior commitments, former U.S. Ambassadors to Ukraine Steven Pifer, Carlos Pascual, John Herbst and William Taylor, and the current ambassador to Ukraine, John Tefft, as well as Reps. Danny Davis (D-Ill.) and Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.) and former Rep. Hertel (D-Mich.) were unable to receive their Hrushevsky Awards at the luncheon, but received them at a later date.

The celebratory program began with opening remarks from Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the Ukrainian National Information Service, the UCCA's public affairs bureau based in Washington, who noted that, "For the past 20 years, the Ukrainian people have shown those of us who have enjoyed democracy for generations may have forgotten that one should never take freedom for granted." Panel presentations on Ukraine and hopes for its democratic development followed the anniversary luncheon.

Representatives of major Ukrainian American museums and archives came together in Cleveland on September 16-18 to discuss their shared missions of preserving and promoting Ukraine's national heritage. The Ukrainian Museum-Archives (UMA) of Cleveland organized the conference to promote a nationwide conversation on how to stay relevant in the 21st century, how to sustain museum's missions and fund-raise, how to share ideas that benefit all of their organizations, and the like.

Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization in the United States held its 30th biennial national convention at Soyuzivka on October 21-23, during what was the Plast's 100th anniversary year. Elected to head Plast U.S.A. was a new National Plast Command headed by Dr. Christine Kochan.

After 22 years of service, the New Jersey-based Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund announced at a November 21 press conference in Kyiv and in its winter 2011 newsletter that it was concluding its humanitarian mission and medical programs in February 2012. At the same time, CCRDF announced its final project: a comprehensive telemedicine program that, according to a news release from the organization, aims "to bring Ukraine's healthcare into the 21st century." The project, whose cost is estimated at \$620,000, will connect 13 hospitals across Ukraine by providing the latest medical technology to facilitate real-time visual consultations with doctors in a global network. The organization's first medical airlift dates back to February 1990. Since its founding, CCRDF has delivered more than \$63 million worth of medical assistance to Ukraine.

A special requiem service held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York on November 19 attracted thousands of Ukrainians to come together and pray for the millions of victims of the Holodomor – the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Hierarchs of both the Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches concelebrated the requiem and the Dumka Chorus sang the responses. Sen. Charles Schumer of New York, now a regular speaker at the annual memorial services, underscored the necessity of remembering the Holodomor's victims and standing up to evil.

## Ukrainians in Canada celebrate 120 years



**The official logo for the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada, which was unveiled by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress on May 23.**

Celebrations of the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada began on May 23 at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village in Alberta. It was the official launch of a full year's celebrations (which will last through September 2012), under the umbrella of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC). In attendance were descendants of Iwan Pylypow, Nykola Tychkowsky and Anton Paish – the original immigrants from Nebyliv, Halychyna, who came to Canada in 1891. The official 120th anniversary logo, the result of a nationwide call for proposals, was made public. The winning submission (out of 30 submitted) was by Toronto-based artist Oleh Lesiuk, who has worked as an artist in Canada since 1992 and is a graduate of the Lviv National Academy of Applied and Decorative Arts.

A song, called "Edna Star" to commemorate the 120th anniversary of the Ukrainian settlement of Canada was written by Steve Andrusiak of London, Ontario, former drummer of the group Rushnychok. The music was composed by accordionist Igor Zhylyak, also of London. In the title, "Edna" and "Star" are the communities first settled by the Ukrainians who followed the original immigrants Pylypow and Eleniak to Alberta. The place names combine to form the name of a woman whom Mr. Andrusiak imagines to be mature, knowing, serene, sweet and even regal – like the landscape that greeted the Ukrainian settlers. The song traces the singer's progression, first as a pioneer, then as an immigrant seeking work and acceptance, then as an accomplished citizen and finally as an appreciative descendant. It is meant to be performed at concerts, around campfires and at dances.

As the Ukrainian community marked the 120th anniversary of its settlement in Canada, it also began preparations for a celebration much larger in scope – the 125th anniversary in 2016. On December 20 the UCC announced the appointment of a national resident historian – Radomir Bilash, senior historian for the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, project manager of the Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project and president of the Canadian Association of Ukrainian Ethnology. He is the author of numerous articles on Ukrainian Canadian culture and history and a researcher/consultant for the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Mr. Bilash's first task will be to develop a webpage through the Commemorative Committee and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. He will also be available, on an ongoing basis, to respond to direct requests for texts, scripts and other materials to be used in anniversary event programs, interpretive displays and works of artistic inspiration.

The Ukrainian Canadian community held its inaugural "Ukrainian Day on the Hill" with a celebration of culture and heritage with over 400 guests present. The event was cou-



Andrew Zwarych

**Participants of the 2011 SUSTA conference, hosted by the Drexel University Ukrainian Society on April 8-10.**



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pled with two days of meetings between Ukrainian community leaders and political leaders, diplomats and government officials. The purpose of these meetings was to inform decision-makers about issues important to the Ukrainian Canadian community, particularly the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada.

In his address that evening, UCC National President Paul Grod underscored that, "we have a deep sense of our birthright as Canadians who settled western Canada and shaped Canadian values, which is coupled with a devout connection to our Ukrainian heritage and ancestral homeland. As we celebrate 120 years of Ukrainian settlement in Canada, we must continue to be strong advocates of core Canadian values by engaging our fellow citizens and government to stand with the Ukrainian people and to oppose all efforts, inside Ukraine and from outside its borders, that would undermine Ukraine's hard-won independence."

As it showcased the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada, the Toronto Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival celebrated its own 15th anniversary on September 16-18. The festival site was extended by two city blocks and there were several new pavilions. Thanks to a Celebrate Ontario tourism grant, the festival was able to feature performers and ensembles from across Canada. The headline performer was the group Mandry who came from Ukraine. The Canadian Lemko Association sponsored the Lemko Tower Youth Ensemble from Lemkivschyna. There were many local groups from Toronto. Another new addition was the Film Fest, with directors Halia Kuchmij, Jurij Klufas and Roxy Toporowych on hand to answer questions about their films. The annual parade was the largest in festival history and included over 60 entries with 2,000 participants. The top winning non-commercial entry was the Ukrainian National Federation float depicting the immigration of Ukrainians to Canada on a colorful ship. As always, there was no shortage of delicious Ukrainian food. Attendance was estimated at more than 550,000 people, making the Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival the largest Ukrainian festival in North America.

### Remembering the Holodomor

On November 26, Prime Minister Harper joined Canadians in remembering and honoring those who suffered and perished during the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. In his statement, Mr. Harper encouraged all Canadians to participate in the many Holodomor commemoration ceremonies across the country and to learn about this terrible episode in human history. Mr. Harper noted that in 2008 Canada became the first nation to recognize the Holodomor as an act of genocide and passed legislation that established the fourth Saturday in November as Holodomor Memorial Day. Several Members of Parliament also issued statements on the Holodomor commemoration: Peter Goldring (Conservative, Alberta); James Bezan (Conservative, Manitoba); Kevin Lamoureux (Liberal, Manitoba).

The UCC continued its lobbying of the Canadian government, greatly helped by its office in Ottawa, which is run by UCC Executive Director Taras Zalusky. The UCC presented a submission to the government's consultations on immigration. The submission stated that the Ukrainian community had helped to build this country and must work to ensure that a balanced approach among diverse ethnicities is included in Canada's future immigration plan. Specific recommendations from the UCC report on immigration touched upon immigration targets, visas, the Canadian Embassy and Consulates in Ukraine and the new language requirements for immigrants. Serhiy Koroliuk, UCC Immigration Committee co-chair, stated: "The Ukrainian community is willing to assist Citizenship and Immigration Canada with the development of ways to implement the recommendations by providing necessary logistical and implementation support."

### Canadian Museum of Human Rights

One issue of particular concern during the year was the status of the Canadian Museum of Human Rights (CMHR), under construction in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The efforts of the UCC have focused on ensuring that the CMHR fairly and equitably represents the Holodomor of 1932-1933 and Canada's first national internment operations in the Canadian taxpayer-funded museum. The discussion revolves around the CMHR Content Advisory Committee final report (released at the end of 2010), which wrote that the museum will have 12 subject matter "zones" with only two being permanent – those dealing with aboriginal peoples in Canada and the Holocaust. The UCC position has been that the Holodomor also be provided with permanent exhibit space.

In April, when Minister of Canadian Heritage James Moore was quoted as saying that the Holodomor and the internment operations would not be permanently included in the CMHR, UCC President Grod responded: "The museum's board, management and the government have repeatedly given vague assurances that the Holodomor and Canada's first national internment operations will be included in some permanent fashion. Now the minister is vacillating..."

The most critical stand about the CMHR's content has been taken by Prof. Lubomyr Luciuk, who voiced his opinions in an article titled "Is the CMHR truly committed to telling Canadian stories?" The main thrust of the article was that the CMHR has



The Ukrainian Canadian community on October 28 presents a check for \$110,000 to UNICEF Canada for Somali Famine relief.

given a disproportionate share of permanent exhibit space to Jewish suffering during World War II to the detriment of fair treatment of other killings and genocides, and hence the CMHR is not meeting its stated goal of "contributing to the collective memory and sense of identity of all Canadians."

Those advocating for a greater presence of the Holodomor in the CMHR received support from Liberal Members of Parliament. Their statement, released on February 23, read:

"One of the fundamental and most basic of human rights is the right to nourishment – the right to food. In the case of the Holodomor, this was the first genocide that was methodically planned out and perpetrated by depriving the very people who were the producers of food of their nourishment. What is especially horrific is that the withholding of food was used as a weapon of genocide perpetrated by Soviet authorities in 1932-1933 against the Ukrainian people. This has been recognized as such by the Parliament of Canada. The Canadian Museum for Human Rights presents an opportunity to illustrate the promise and the importance of human rights, but sadly part of its mission will necessarily also be to educate Canadians about the consequences of denying those rights. The Holodomor is as graphic and moving an illustration as can be imagined of the denial of the basic Human Right to Food. We, federal Liberal Party Members of Parliament, hold that this publicly funded national Canadian museum should create and operate a permanent gallery dedicated to the Holodomor, and that the board of Directors of the CMHR should embrace and include respected members of the Ukrainian Canadian community with expertise in the Holodomor. By having the Holodomor in a permanent zone (exhibit) in our national human rights museum, Canada would fulfill its traditional role in leading the world in the promotion of human rights."

In spite of the uncertainty that has been generated about the status of the Holodomor in the exhibit space of the museum, researchers at the CMHR are aware that there are a lot of research materials on the Holodomor available in the Ukrainian community. Representatives of the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center (UCRDC) met in January with Dr. Clint Curle, a researcher at the CMHR whose research responsibilities there include the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Dr. Curle wanted to discuss the archival materials and resources available at the center pertaining to the Holodomor. Dr. Frank Sysyn, historical consultant to the UCRDC, presented the current state of academic research on the Holodomor; Iroida Wynnycky, head archivist, introduced Dr. Curle to the UCRDC's archival collection on the Holodomor; researcher Orest Zakydalsky spoke about the center's ongoing joint project with the UCC – the collection of Holodomor eyewitness testimony; Valentina Kuryliw of the board of directors described the educational resources available on the Holodomor and presented Dr. Curle with a Holodomor Teaching Kit; Switlana Medwick, curator of the "Barbed Wire Solution" exhibit, reviewed the resources available at the UCRDC on Canada's World War I internment of Ukrainians. An open and frank discussion followed on how the Holodomor might best be presented at the CMHR, with Dr. Curle saying he looked for further research cooperation between the CMHR and the UCRDC.

### Ukrainian Canadians' relations with Ukraine

In July, Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird announced the appointment of a new Canadian ambassador to Ukraine: Troy Lulashnyk. Mr. Lulashnyk joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in 1999 after working with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission as a nuclear non-proliferation officer and with the Nuclear and Chemical Disarmament Implementation Agency. He succeeded Daniel Caron, who had been Canada's ambassador to Ukraine since July 2008. Mr. Lulashnyk is a native Manitoban whose family came to Canada from the Ternopil area of Ukraine in 1899.

Two awards were given to Canadians for their work on

behalf of issues related to Ukraine. On January 22, Member of the Provincial Parliament (MPP) of Ontario Dave Levac was named a chevalier of the Ukrainian Order of Merit by Dr. Ihor Ostash, Ukraine's ambassador to Canada. Mr. Levac had been awarded by the Yushchenko administration for his work on increasing knowledge and awareness of the Holodomor through his co-sponsorship of the "Holodomor Memorial Day Act, 2009," passed by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, which established the fourth Saturday of every November as Holodomor Memorial Day in Ontario.

On March 21, Frédéric Lavoie, investigative journalist of La Presse of Montreal, became the fourth recipient of the John Strynick Journalism Award sponsored by the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko. Mr. Lavoie received the 2011 award for his comprehensive coverage of the political situation in Ukraine from September 2009 to September 2010. The award was presented by Andrew Hladyshevsky, president of the Shevchenko Foundation. A native of Chicoutimi, Quebec, Mr. Lavoie is a freelance journalist who has been based in Moscow since 2008. He writes primarily for the French-language Montreal newspaper La Presse, but also does work for Radio Canada, Radio Suisse Romande, La Croix, Le Soir, La Tribune de Genève, Le Figaro and other European media. In his remarks at the award ceremony, M. Lavoie said, that, if he could, he would dedicate the prize to all his Ukrainian colleagues because he thought that it was more difficult for them to cover Ukraine currently than it was for him.

There are groups all across Canada that support institutions and initiatives in Ukraine. One of the most active has been Friends of Dzherelo – the Toronto-based fund-raising group for the Dzherelo Children's Rehabilitation Center in Lviv, which helps children with special physical and developmental needs. This year, the group organized a unique benefit held on November 6 at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church hall. Called "Not Your Baba's Borsch," it featured a competition for The Golden Beet Award for the best borsch. The competitors were four top Toronto chefs and the judging panel included Tom Birchard, proprietor of the Veselka Restaurant in New York City. All guests took part in voting for the best borsch. The high points of the event were the presentation of The Golden Beet Award, which was won by Tatiana Shabotynsky of La Petite Chef Catering Company, and the announcement that \$25,000 had been raised for Dzherelo.

The case of Yulia Tymoshenko cast a long shadow over relations with Ukraine and negatively influenced the Ukrainian Canadian community's judgment of the Yanukovich regime. After the August 5 arrest and detention of Yulia Tymoshenko in Kyiv, several hundred members of the Ukrainian Canadian community in Toronto held a rally outside Ukraine's Consulate General to protest against the increasing political repressions in Ukraine. Community leaders, among them UCC Ontario Provincial Council President Yvan Baker and UCC Toronto Branch President Oksana Rewa, spoke to the crowd. Also addressing the crowd were several Canadian politicians: federal MP Ted Opatz (Conservative), former MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj (Liberal) and MP Peggy Nash (New Democrat). Ms. Nash said that, "To jail a former prime minister and not allow bail is shameful... an affront to democracy. We expect better from Ukraine."

Members of the UCC (who were in Kyiv at the World Forum of Ukrainians) on August 25 attended proceedings of the trial of Ms. Tymoshenko at the Pechersky District Court. During a break in the court proceedings, Ms. Tymoshenko spoke briefly with the UCC representatives.

### Miscellany

On March 24, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario passed The Ukrainian Heritage Day Act that proclaims September 7 each year as Ukrainian Heritage Day in the province. During the debate on the bill, members of all three parties – Progressive Conservative, Liberal and New Democratic – rose to voice their support of the bill, which was introduced by



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MPP Gerry Martiniuk (Cambridge) and co-sponsored by MPP Donna Cansfield (Etobicoke Center) and MPP Cheri DiNovo (Parkdale-High Park).

The preamble to the bill includes the following: "Ontarians of Ukrainian descent have left and continue to leave a historic mark on our province. Their contributions span communities across Ontario and are reflected in our economic, political, social and cultural life. Ukrainian Canadians have played an important role in the development of Ontario into one of the most desirable places in the world to live and have contributed to making Canada the great country that it is today. It is important to recognize and celebrate these contributions."

Ukrainians were making themselves noticed, not only in Ontario, but also in Quebec. On March 20, the St. Patrick's Day Parade was held in Montreal and, for the 10th consecutive year, Montreal's Ukrainian community participated under the name "Ukraine on Parade." The driving force behind ensuring the Ukrainian community's participation in the parade has been Edward Dorozowsky, who grew up in Pointe St. Charles of Montreal, a working-class district that had high concentrations of both Ukrainians and Irish. Mr. Dorozowsky has made sure that all the people who line the streets of Montreal for the St. Patrick's Day Parade know that Ukrainians are present in Montreal. The St. Patrick's Day Parade is a 187-year tradition in Montreal, and Ukrainians first participated in 1942. The Ukrainian community's participation was reintroduced in 2002. Included in the festivities has been the nomination of a Ukrainian of the Year who rides in the parade. This year's nominee was James Slobodian from Royun-Noranda in northern Quebec, president of the Camp Spirit Lake Corp.

Hundreds of people gathered in Ottawa on June 26 for the unveiling of the new Taras Shevchenko monument located on the grounds of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine. The ceremony was sponsored by the Taras Shevchenko Monument Committee of Ottawa and the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada. This year marks the 150th anniversary of Shevchenko's burial. The statue was created by world-renowned Ukrainian sculptor Leo Mol (Leonid Molodozhanyan). At the unveiling ceremony, greetings were given by Ambassador of Ukraine to Canada Dr. Ihor Ostash; Orest Dubas, chairman of the Ottawa Shevchenko Monument Organizing Committee; Sen. Raynell Andreychuk and other members of Parliament. The monument was blessed by hierarchs of the Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches. Soil from Kaniv, Ukraine – the location of Shevchenko's gravesite – was brought for the official unveiling ceremony.

In August, the UCC launched a joint fund-raiser for African Famine Relief, moved by the memories of the millions of lives lost in the Holodomor. On October 28, the UCC presented a check for \$110,000 to UNICEF Canada for African Famine Relief. As this donation was eligible for the federal government's dollar matching program, the actual donation was for the sum of \$220,000.

Participating in the check presentation was Holodomor survivor Stephan Horlatsch, who said "Let's help people in need, let's save Somalia." UNICEF Canada President David Morley, who accepted the check, remarked that "the ongoing generosity of supporters like the Ukrainian Canadian Congress is critical to saving children's lives." The fund-raising campaign was chaired by Mr. Wrzesnewskyj.

Ukrainian Canadians in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, were witnesses on September 24 to the official recognition by the government of Canada of the St. Petro Mohyla Institute as a National Historic Site. A trilingual bronze plaque – in English, French and Ukrainian – mounted near the institute's entrance, now marks this designation. The master of ceremonies for the program was Allan Duddridge, Saskatchewan member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of



The ribbon-cutting at the inauguration of the Spirit Lake Internment Camp Interpretive Center on November 24 used symbolic barbed wire. From left are: Members of Parliament Peter Goldring (Alberta) and James Bezan (Manitoba); Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Jason Kenney; Andrew Hladyshevsky, president of the Taras Shevchenko Foundation; and James Slobodian, president of the Spirit Lake Camp Corporation.

Canada. Present at the ceremony were Don Atchison, mayor of Saskatoon; Ken Krawetz, deputy premier of Saskatchewan; and Dr. Frances Swiripa, historian of the University of Alberta who, six years earlier had started the process for the award. The plaque was blessed by the Rev. Victor Lakusta, chancellor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada.

The award ceremony coincided with the celebration of the 95th anniversary of the institute's founding in 1916. This celebration continued with an evening banquet at which jazz pianist John Stech, an alumnus of the Mohyla Ukrainian Summer School, entertained. At the banquet, Board President Steve Senyk commented that, by virtue of this prestigious designation, the institute had become a member of Canada's family of National Historic Sites, which includes places, people, and events of national historic significance. Although the institute operated as a co-ed student residence, it also served as a center for cultural and religious events and ran an extracurricular program in Ukrainian culture. It was the primary cultural center in the city. The institute is named after Metropolitan Petro Mohyla, a leader of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the 17th century. It was called the P. Mohyla Ukrainian Institute until 1996 when Metropolitan Petro Mohyla was canonized and it then became the St. Petro Mohyla Institute.

On November 24, the Spirit Lake Internment Camp Interpretive Center was opened to the general public by the Camp Spirit Lake Corp. (CSLC), which is headed by Mr. Slobodian. Spirit Lake, located 370 miles northwest of Montreal, was the second largest internment camp established during Canada's first internment operations in 1914-1920. The overwhelming majority of the 1,200 interned there were Ukrainians. The opening of the center was attended by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Jason Kenney, who called the internment operations a "blight" on the country's history. The idea of the Spirit Lake project, costing over \$1 million, had been under development for the last 10 years. The Camp Spirit Lake Corp. received a major grant from the federally funded Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund. This grant, along with other grants received from local businesses, donations and a grant from the Quebec provincial government, made the realization of this project possible.

A joint Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) and Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Foundation (UCCLF) conclave was held in Saskatoon. Representatives of the UCCLA and officials from the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) spoke by teleconference during the annual conclave. The museum representatives assured the UCCLA that the CMHR remains dedicated to reaching out and consulting with all Canadians. In response, the UCCLA confirmed that they remain dedicated to ensuring that all 12 galleries in this publicly funded museum are inclusive, comparative and thematic in their treatment of the many episodes of crimes against humanity and genocides that occurred before, during, and after the second world war.

The UCCLF initiated a group of book prizes that will honor the achievements of several Ukrainian Canadians: Kari Moore at the University of Victoria; Yevhen Harasymiw at the University of Alberta; Lt. Bohdan Panchuk at the Prairie Center for Ukrainian Heritage, University of Saskatchewan; Cpl. Filip Konowal at the Royal Military College of Canada; and internee survivor Mary Manko Haskett, who will be remembered with a prize through the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto. The UCCLF also elected a new executive chaired by Andriy Harasymiw of Edmonton.

The Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) held its 53rd national congress at the University of Ottawa on May 5-8 with over 60 delegates attending. SUSK is the national student organization in Canada, comprising student organizations at post-secondary institutions. The delegates took part in informative sessions, professional development, and song and dance – a balance of professional and social activities. Outgoing president Danylo Korbabicz said that, since its rebirth in Winnipeg in 2007, SUSK had experienced exponential growth. More than 200 people attended the SUSK alumni banquet at the National Arts Center that featured a keynote address by Borys Sirskyj on "Ukrainian Students and Community Leaders – Yesterday, Today and in the Future – A Voice to be Reckoned With!" Heading the 2011-2012 executive committee of SUSK is President Olena Kit (McMaster University).

The UCC National Youth Advisory Council (NYAC) on June 15 announced the launch of its online youth survey project titled "An Investigation Youth Involvement in the Ukrainian Canadian Community." At the triennial congress of the UCC it was resolved that the re-engagement of youth in the Ukrainian Canadian community be made a priority and the NYAC, comprising of young adults, was formed. To investigate factors related to Ukrainian Canadian youth involvement, the survey is aimed at young adults between the ages of 16 and 35. The goals of this survey include: gaining demographic information about Ukrainian Canadian youth; identifying factors that promote or hinder the involvement of youth in the Ukrainian Canadian community; defining what it means to "be Ukrainian" in the context of Canadian society; and understanding the role of Ukrainian language skills in the 21st century for Ukrainian Canadian youth.

To end this review of the year 2011, a final item that harks back to the Cold War. On October 14, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association announced that it had engaged the services of a private investigation firm to place a former KGB agent under surveillance. A veteran of the KGB had claimed sanctuary in a Lutheran church basement in Vancouver, although no right of sanctuary exists in Canadian law. According to the UCCLA (quoting Vic Toews, minister of public security), the KGB man had no right to enter Canada or remain in the country. Although not a refugee, he has remained in Canada for three years. The UCCLA has stated that, until the KGB man is returned to his country of origin, it is placing the site where he is hiding under surveillance. If he attempts to leave his cellar, he will be apprehended and turned over to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the country's national police.



Judy-Anne Chabun

A trilingual plaque noting its designation as a National Historic Site is unveiled on September 24 at the St. Petro Mohyla Institute in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.



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### The strange case of John Demjanjuk

John Demjanjuk, who turned 91 on April 3, continued to be in the news in 2011 – for the 35th year. On January 14 it was reported that, as Mr. Demjanjuk's German trial on Nazi war crimes charges – being an accessory to the murder of nearly 28,060 people at the Nazi death camp at Sobibor, Poland – entered its 13th month, the high court of Spain had requested an international arrest warrant for the former U.S. citizen.

According to wire service reports, the high court wanted to try Mr. Demjanjuk on accusations that he was responsible for the deaths of Spaniards at the Flossenberg concentration camp, where he allegedly served as a guard during World War II. Apparently, Spain would seek his extradition once his trial in Germany concluded.

Meanwhile, in Munich, where Mr. Demjanjuk's trial had begun in November 2009, defense attorney Ulrich Busch said on January 18 that the court was acting on the assumption his client is guilty. Dr. Busch made the charge after the court decided to reject a series of motions made by the defense. According to the Associated Press, the judges rejected a motion that they recuse themselves from the trial because, according to the defense, they hadn't properly considered whether Sobibor was part of an earlier trial in Israel. They also refused defense requests for more files and to hear more witnesses.

On February 22, in a statement read to the court, Mr. Demjanjuk threatened to go on a hunger strike within two weeks unless the judges agreed to seek more evidence that he said would exonerate him.

Mr. Demjanjuk charged that Germany is holding "a political show trial" and charged that "Germany's weapons of torture in this trial include: suppression of exculpatory evidence, falsification of history, introduction of so-called legal principles which never existed in Germany previously, conspiring with fraudulent prosecutors of the U.S.A. and Israel, and a reckless refusal of each argument, motion and exculpatory piece of evidence my defense has submitted which should have already resulted in my acquittal and freedom."

His son, John Jr. issued a statement to the press on that same day. He said:

"If the Germans are interested in justice, they will simply ask the Russians and the U.S. to turn over all the evidence, including Soviet investigative file 1627 on my father and the missing Danilchenko reports. They have the access to evidence, and we do not. This case has been fraught with government cover-up and prosecutorial misconduct and fraud over the years. So far, this trial has been just another chapter of the same injustice.

"Testimonies and official Nazi war records prove Soviet POWs faced starvation by the millions or were coerced to serve or face execution for desertion. It is abhorrent for Germany to now make its former prisoners and victims responsible for the crimes committed by Germans who in many cases were acquitted or never tried by Germany. This is not about justice being better late than never. Rather, it is Germany's continued utter failure to accept responsibility for destroying the millions of people it captured."

The evidentiary phase of the trial – which was subject to many delays and postponements due to the defendant's ill health – concluded on March 17 and closing arguments in the case were delivered in late March. Relatives of people killed at Sobibor and their lawyers delivered closing statements on March 23, arguing that the evidence showed Mr. Demjanjuk was a guard at the death camp and therefore should be found guilty of being an accessory to the murder of 28,060 prisoners. In his closing statement on March 22, State Prosecutor Hans-Joachim Lutz demanded a six-year jail term for Mr. Demjanjuk, saying he had played an active role in the extermination process. Prosecutors could have sought up to 15 years.

Mr. Demjanjuk denies that he served as a death camp guard and insists that he was a prisoner of war – a Red Army soldier captured by the Germans.

Mary W. Lane wrote in *The Wall Street Journal* on March 21 that, although German authorities had promised an orderly trial and swift justice in the Demjanjuk trial, "it's clear they have achieved neither." With closing arguments beginning this past week, "The proceedings, now in their 15th month, have been bogged down by disputes over the authenticity of key pieces of evidence, the 90-year-old defendant's failing health and a torrent of defense motions," she wrote.

"The trial, likely one of the last of its kind, was supposed to signal Germany's enduring commitment to facing its past and pursuing justice for Holocaust victims. Instead, the country risks a public debacle," Ms. Lane added. She quoted Thomas Henne, a legal historian at the



John Demjanjuk in a photo from 1993.

University of Frankfurt, as saying, "It's turning into exactly what the defense wanted." The problem, he told *The Wall Street Journal*, is that it's all but impossible to obtain concrete evidence or reliable witness testimony 70 years after the alleged crimes took place.

Mr. Demjanjuk's lawyer, Ms. Lane reported, had filed hundreds of motions as part of the defense strategy, and the judge had recently rejected 350 such motions.

On April 12, a sensational story was released by the Associated Press: "An FBI report kept secret for 25 years said the Soviet Union 'quite likely fabricated' evidence central to the prosecution of John Demjanjuk – a revelation that could help the defense as closing arguments resume Wednesday in the retired Ohio auto worker's Nazi war crimes trial in Germany."

The story quoted the 1985 report of the FBI's Cleveland field office, which noted: "Justice is ill-served in the prosecution of an American citizen on evidence which is not only normally inadmissible in a court of law, but based on evidence and allegations quite likely fabricated by the KGB." That report, the AP explained, came four years after the Soviets showed U.S. investigators the Trawniki card.

The newly declassified document, an FBI field office report discovered by the AP at the National Archives in College Park, Md., questioned the authenticity of the Trawniki ID card that has been a key piece of evidence against Mr. Demjanjuk in past legal proceedings in the United States and Israel, and now in Germany. The card was considered proof that the defendant, after training at the Trawniki camp, served as a guard at the Sobibor death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland.

Mr. Demjanjuk's attorney in Germany said the FBI report cited by the AP was "completely new" and was not among the 100,000 pages of U.S. documents related to the case that were received by German investigators. The day after the AP story hit the wires, Dr. Busch asked the Munich court to suspend his client's trial, saying he needed more time to investigate whether more such material could be found at the National Archives in Maryland.

However, on April 14 the court rejected the defense's request. Judge Ralph Alt said the AP story "does not offer any grounds for a suspension" of the trial. "The report does not bring forth any concrete aspects that have not already been analyzed as part of the examination of evidence," the judge was quoted as saying.

In presenting the defense's closing arguments on May 3-5, Dr. Busch stated that German investigators had failed to offer concrete evidence of his client's involvement in Nazi war crimes and were inconsistent in their efforts to pursue suspects. He added that, regardless of the trial's outcome, Mr. Demjanjuk was already "a victim of German justice," and he underscored that he had never served as a Nazi guard, but suffered under both the Soviet regime and the Nazis.

Dr. Busch also pointed out that West German officials had argued in the 1980s that their country didn't have the right to pursue crimes carried out abroad by foreigners and that, for decades, they considered non-Germans who trained at the Trawniki camp too insignificant to prosecute. In his final arguments on May 11, Dr. Busch accused Germany of trying to minimize its own culpability by prosecuting foreigners like his client.

The AP reported that Dr. Busch "noted that high-rank-

ing Germans, such as the commander of the Trawniki SS camp where Demjanjuk allegedly trained, had been acquitted in the past by German courts." The news service quoted the lawyer as asking the court: "Should foreigners pay for the crimes of the Germans... in order to acquit Germany of its responsibility alone for the Holocaust?"

The AP also noted that Mr. Demjanjuk lay in a bed during the court session on May 11, as he had for most of the trial, wearing dark sunglasses and showing no reaction to Mr. Busch's remarks.

Meanwhile, back in the United States, a U.S. judge on May 10 appointed a public defender to represent Mr. Demjanjuk's interests in this country, indicating that his denaturalization case might be reopened in view of the recently declassified FBI report that questioned the authenticity of the Trawniki ID card. U.S. District Judge Dan Aaron Polster's order appointed the Office of the Federal Public Defender as co-counsel to pro bono counsel Michael E. Tigar. The May 10 ruling came after Federal Public Defender Dennis G. Terez argued that the FBI report raises "a fundamental issue of fairness" in the Demjanjuk case.

The AP quoted Mr. Terez's May 6 filing: "That issue is: Why has the government for almost 30 years withheld, contrary to court rule and order, documents which on their face are plainly exculpatory and relevant?" He argued that "The government should welcome the chance to have that cloud lifted so that the outcome of its prosecution is not tainted — unless, of course, it has something to hide."

Mr. Terez's April 29 motion for reappointment of counsel, a copy of which was received by *The Ukrainian Weekly*, noted that the Office of the Public Defender had represented Mr. Demjanjuk almost two decades earlier in his denaturalization case. Mr. Terez emphasized: "All of Mr. Demjanjuk's proceedings to date have been potentially tainted by the failure of the United States to provide to defense counsel a document that came to the undersigned attention last week and was the subject of an AP news article on April 12, 2011."

On May 12 came the verdict of the German court: Mr. Demjanjuk was convicted on 28,060 counts of accessory to murder, "one for each person who died during the time he was ruled to have been a guard at the Sobibor camp in Nazi-occupied Poland." Judge Alt stated that the defendant was "part of the Nazis' machinery of destruction" and noted that "The court is convinced that the defendant... served as a guard at Sobibor from 27 March 1943 to mid-September 1943."

The AP's news story about the verdict pointed out: "There was no evidence that Demjanjuk committed a specific crime. The prosecution was based on the theory that if Demjanjuk was at the camp, he was a participant in the killing — the first time such a legal argument has been made in German courts." Furthermore, as noted by *The Guardian* (United Kingdom), "no living witness could testify to having seen Demjanjuk at the concentration camp."

The court sentenced the former U.S. citizen to five years in prison, but ordered him released pending an appeal, noting that he did not pose a flight risk. Mr. Demjanjuk's attorney said the appeal could take about two years.

The *Telegraph* (United Kingdom) reported: "The high-profile trial, seen as one of the last to involve an alleged Nazi war criminal, has led to much soul-searching on the



John Demjanjuk's German lawyer Ulrich Busch.



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subject of delayed justice. And the fact that the accused was a Ukrainian-born prisoner of war who now faces justice at the hands of the nation behind the Holocaust has also raised questions. He is in fact the first foreigner to be judged in Germany for Nazi war crimes."

On June 9, the Munich court denied Spain's request for Mr. Demjanjuk's extradition, questioning Spain's jurisdiction in the case and noting that the evidence presented against Mr. Demjanjuk was incomplete.

On July 8, prosecutors in Germany said they had dropped their objection to the court-ordered release of Mr. Demjanjuk while he appealed his conviction. The AP noted that spokeswoman Barbara Stockinger said Mr. Demjanjuk has been living in a Bavarian nursing home and shows no signs of being a flight risk, therefore, prosecutors saw no chance of succeeding with an appeal against the court's decision to allow Mr. Demjanjuk to remain free.

But there was also news on July 16 that he could be prosecuted for crimes at the Flossenberg camp between October 1943 and December 1944, since Bavarian prosecutors opened a new investigation of Mr. Demjanjuk after a German attorney filed a complaint accusing him of additional war crimes.

In the United States on July 19, public defenders for Mr. Demjanjuk filed a motion in U.S. District Court in Cleveland, asking a federal judge to overturn the ruling that led to his deportation in 2009 to Germany.

Mr. Demjanjuk's son, John Jr., told the AP in October that the family is confident his father's conviction in Germany will be overturned. "We've been in this position before — he was convicted and sentenced to death not in Germany, but in the state of Israel, and on the face of it on much more convincing evidence than Germany has ever seen — and they were wrong," he said.

In related news, in early October, it was reported by various news services that German prosecutors had reopened hundreds of dormant investigations of former guards at Nazi death camps and others who might be charged with war crimes. They did so because the Demjanjuk case in Germany had established a new legal precedent whereby a guard's mere presence at a Nazi camp automatically made him an accessory to the murders committed there.

Afterwards, the Simon Wiesenthal Center announced in December that it had begun Operation Last Chance II to track down remaining Nazi war criminals. The New York Times reported that the center's chief Nazi hunter, Efraim Zuroff, speaking in Berlin, said rewards of up to \$32,900 would be offered for information leading to the prosecution and punishment of Nazi war crimes suspects.

The latest twist in the strange case of John Demjanjuk came on December 21 when U.S. District Judge Polster ruled that the 1985 FBI memo that questioned the legitimacy of the Trawniki ID card was immaterial and was based on speculation and mistaken beliefs. The judge sided with federal prosecutors, who said that they had no idea that FBI agents in Cleveland had ever looked into Mr. Demjanjuk and argued that the report by agent Thomas Martin was based on conjecture and misinformed impressions, not evidence.

The judge said that, because the internal FBI documents are merely speculative, they did not need to be turned over to the defense. The judge also noted: "Despite numerous opportunities, Demjanjuk has never provided a single, consistent accounting of his whereabouts during the war years 1942 to 1945."

An attorney for Mr. Demjanjuk, Mr. Terez, told The Cleveland Plain Dealer "we're evaluating all of our options."

\* \* \*

The Demjanjuk case dates back to 1977, when the Office of Special Investigations, the Nazi-hunting arm of the Justice Department, began proceedings against him based largely on Soviet-supplied evidence. Mr. Demjanjuk was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1981 for concealing information at the time he applied for entry into the U.S., and was extradited in 1986 to Israel, where he stood trial for Nazi war crimes committed at Treblinka and was sentenced to death in 1988. The Israeli Supreme Court overturned the conviction in 1993, after newly unearthed evidence showed that another man was the notorious Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

Mr. Demjanjuk was allowed to return to the U.S. and regained his citizenship in 1998, only to be accused by the U.S. Justice Department of concealing his service at three other Nazi camps. He was yet again stripped of his citizenship in 2002 and a ruling in 2005 paved the way for his deportation to Ukraine, Poland or Germany. Armed with documentation provided by the U.S. Office of Special Investigations, Germany decided to prosecute him. Mr. Demjanjuk was deported to Germany on May 12, 2009, and his trial in Munich began on November 30 of that year.

## An exhilarating year on the academic front

Exhilaration was the hallmark of 2011 on the academic front, with many stimulating conferences, provocative courses and interesting publications. In addition, the Ukrainian community demonstrated its financial generosity toward higher education. Below is a short summary of the various developments throughout 2011.

The Kyiv Mohyla Business School was named in January as the Best MBA Program for the year 2010 by the Kyiv Post. For the last 10 years the newspaper has issued awards to individuals, organizations and businesses that contribute to the development of Ukraine. The Kyiv Mohyla Business School was established in 1999 to educate business leaders who make lasting contributions to Ukraine and the world, with a focus on the highest quality learning, leadership with an international perspective and social responsibility.

The Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, offered seven courses during its spring semester. Continuing its tradition of working with leading scholars from Ukraine, this semester hosted Dr. Volodymyr Kulyk, senior research fellow at the Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv. At Columbia, Dr. Kulyk taught a new course, "Politics of Identity in Post-Communist Europe," examining the complex relations between policies and identities in various countries of post-Communist Eastern, Central and Southern Europe.

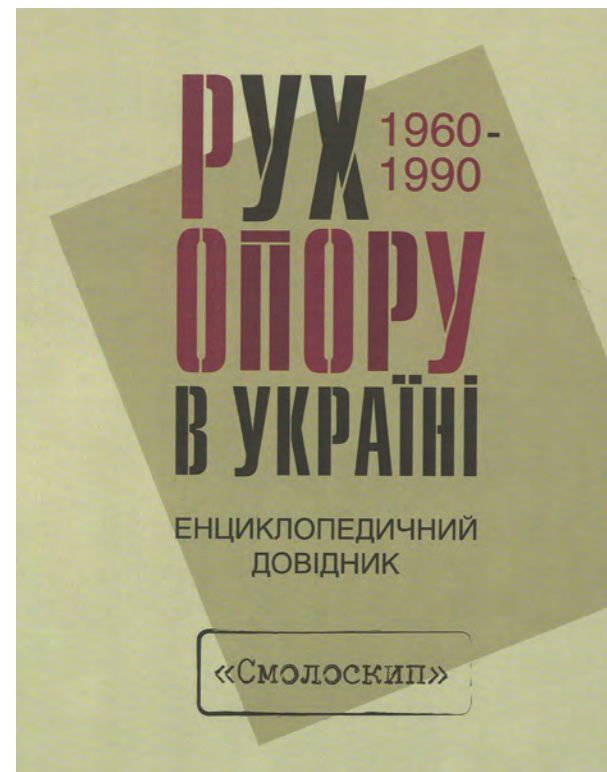
Six courses were offered during the fall semester of the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University. Serhiy Bilenyk, one of the three visiting scholars, taught "History of Modern Ukraine" and "Nationalities in the Russian Empire." Ambassador Valerii Kuchynskyi taught a newly revised course titled "Ukrainian Foreign Policy: Russia, Europe and the U.S.," which provided historical perspectives on Ukraine's foreign relations since independence in 1991, through the Orange Revolution in 2004, until the 2010 presidential election and beyond.

The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute (HUSI) summer program of three courses was taught by full-time Harvard faculty associated with the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. The courses included "Ukrainian for Reading Knowledge," "Ukraine as Linguistic Battleground" and "Frontiers of Europe: Ukraine since 1500."

For the first time ever in North America, a full six-credit course on the teaching of the Holodomor and the World War I Canadian Internment of Ukrainians was offered at the university level via the Summer Institute on Social Justice: Teaching the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide (Holodomor) and the Ukrainian Canadian Internment. The course was an amalgam of history, culture, media, the arts and pedagogy, presenting a unique opportunity to examine any horrific events within a teaching and learning perspective. The institute was the brainchild of Dr. Denis Hlynka and Dr. Orest Cap, longtime



Roman Krutzyk, head of the Kyiv Association of Memorial and director of the Museum of Soviet Occupation, speaks during the February launch of the Internet version of the exhibit "The People's War 1917-1932."



Cover of "Resistance Movement in Ukraine 1960 to 1990: An Encyclopedia."



### Ukrainians in Argentina, 1897-1950:

The Making of a Community

Serge Cipko



Cover of "Ukrainians in Argentina, 1897-1950: The Making of a Community."

professors in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

### Notable books

In February, The Weekly reported on the first encyclopedia on Ukraine's Soviet-era dissident movement, published late in 2010 by Kyiv-based Smolokyp, offering a collection of extensive biographies of the most influential enemies of the Soviet Union in a single book. "Resistance Movement in Ukraine 1960 to 1990: An Encyclopedia" was composed by an editing team headed by Osyp Zinkewych, the legendary publisher who founded the Smolokyp information service in the U.S. in 1968.

"Yalta: The Price of Peace" by Serhii Plokh, Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard, was shortlisted for the 2011 Lionel Gelber Prize, literary award for the world's best non-fiction book in English that seeks to deepen public debate on significant global issues. The jury citation for the book read: "A work of outstanding scholarship which brings to light important interpretations based on newly available Russian documents. Going beyond the Western sources, this is a seminal treatment of a profoundly important moment in history."

After two editions in the U.S., Prof. Taras Hunczak's book "Russian Imperialism" was translated, expanded and published by the Kyiv Mohyla Academy Publishing House. The book includes translated chapters by eight leading Western historians covering Moscow's aggressive expansionism into Ukraine, Poland, the Baltic states, the Balkans, Central Asia and the Caucasus (including Georgia). Thus, readers can appreciate the broad scope of Russia's unrelenting subjugation



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tion of neighboring nations since Tsar Ivan the Terrible. The new chapters in the Ukrainian edition include: Yuri Shapoval's "The USSR as a Continuation of Russia"; Vladimir Bandera's "Measurements of Ukraine's Exploitation by Russia"; and Prof. Hunczak's "It's Difficult for an Empire to be a Good Neighbor."

"Ukrainians in Argentina, 1897-1950: The Making of a Community" recounts the immigrant contribution to Ukrainian cultural, political, religious and other organizations in Argentina. The book is based on research conducted in the archives of both Ukraine and Argentina; it also draws on the immigrant press. The chapters are arranged chronologically, the first dealing with the initial, pre-1914 wave of Ukrainian settlement and the last with the third wave that came after World War II. Two middle chapters are case studies of two organizations founded in the interwar period. The author of this study, Dr. Serge Cipko, is coordinator of the Ukrainian Diaspora Studies Initiative at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

As part of ongoing efforts to combat historical revisionism and counter Soviet apologists, Dr. Norman Naimark's book "Stalin's Genocides" (Princeton University Press, 2010) was released in May in a Ukrainian translation by the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. Dr. Naimark's conclusions are clear: he believes Stalin singled out Ukrainians for oppression "to disallow achieving independence, to deprive them of their nationality, and to deprive them of creating opposition to Sovietization." Stalin's genocides persisted during the period between the 1930s and World War II, beginning with the war on the kulaks, then the Holodomor, and followed by the widespread persecution and deportation of ethnic minorities ranging from Poles to Tatars. Dr. Naimark put the Holodomor into a special category beyond mere food shortages and starvation: "the Holodomor was a very concealed terrorist act against the background of a general Soviet famine, yet caused by entirely different reasons."

### Conferences, lectures

On February 7-8, a panel of experts analyzed the impact of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich's first year in office and looked at the implications of what has occurred for future developments. The analysis and overview was sponsored by the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) and drew specialists and other interested participants from as far away as Washington. Among the topics discussed were the changes in Verkhovna Rada, the courts and other government institutions, the rule of law, nation-building, attitudes toward the opposition and the media, foreign policy, a political plan, Western and Russian attitudes toward President Yanukovich and his government, the economy, the aims of the current power elite and the oligarchs, and, finally, what's next?

Radoslaw Sikorski, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Poland, on February 28 delivered the annual August Zaleski Lecture in Modern Polish History at Harvard University on the topic "European Security: Does It Still Matter to the U.S.A.?" In response to a graduate student's question about relations with Ukraine and Russia, he outlined some of the major issues pertaining to Ukraine from the Polish perspective. Minister Sikorski stated that all of the major international indices have recently shown that Ukraine is regressing and losing ground in the areas of democracy, media, the opposition and even basic freedoms. He emphasized the fact that this development was going to make it much more difficult for Ukraine in its dealings with the European Union and the West, and that it also makes it much more difficult for Poland to act as an advocate for the country.

Scholars, students and the general public participated in a three-day conference presented by the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University on Soviet-era dissent and nonconformism in Ukraine, Poland and Russia. The program, held on March 30-April 1 and organized in collaboration with Columbia's East Central European Institute, the Polish Cultural Institute and The Ukrainian Museum, brought together scholars and prominent figures from national dissident movements that opposed Communist rule. The audience also heard from important cultural figures, who



Dr. Yaroslava Melnyk of Ivan Franko National University in Lviv speaks on October 1 at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington at a celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Ukrainian Free University. In 2012 Dr. Melnyk will become the first woman president of the UFU.



Holodomor researcher Prof. Andrea Graziosi, one of the winners of the 2011 Antonovych Prize.

approached the dissident movement from their own perspective, and from panelists who presented papers about studies of the dissident movements and their legacies.

On October 1, the Ukrainian Free University (UFU) marked its 90th anniversary at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington. Dr. Yaroslava Melnyk, professor of Ukrainian studies at the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv, discussed the accomplishments and future potential contributions of the Ukrainian Free University during the celebration. Dr. Melnyk will become president of UFU in early 2012 – the first woman elected to that position.

Academic, political, media and civil society leaders from various countries and Ukraine met on October 7-8, at the conference "Roads to Freedom" held at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (NUKMA). The ambassadors of the United States, Canada, Poland, Germany, France, Austria and

the European Union also attended the conference. The landmark conference was organized to provide a forum for discussion on the dynamics of Ukraine's development, on achievements and problems in its educational sector, and for formulating distinct recommendations regarding reforms in higher education. The conference focused on Ukraine's rightful place in Europe through necessary reforms in education and society.

The 12th annual "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable" was held in Washington on October 19-20. The roundtable's theme was "Compelling Bilateral Ties: Poland-Ukraine and Turkey-Ukraine," focusing on interrelations of Ukraine and Poland (which presently holds the presidency of the European Union), as well as Turkey (which has been a very important player with a growing economy in the Middle East). As noted during the two-day conference, strengthening these bilateral relations is very important to Ukraine's political and economic development, as well as Ukraine's stated goal of integration into the European Union.

On October 20-22 at the University of Ottawa, 16 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. The papers presented were gathered under four themes: "Ukraine and Politics," "World War II and Memory," "Education and Identity" and "Holodomor and Gender." The seminar was 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.

Ukrainian poet and publisher Ivan Malkovych visited the U.S. capital in the last week of October to talk about the state of Ukrainian literature since Ukraine gained its independence 20 years ago. He addressed the subject at two venues – the Embassy of Ukraine and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. While the Russian language still dominates the mass media in Ukraine, he told the audience at the Wilson Center, Ukrainian is taking over the leading role in what he said was the country's real culture. He said there is a difference between true culture and the "mass pop-culture," which is devoid of any understanding of such notions as sin or any sense of shame.

On November 10, at New York University's Torch Club, scholars, community leaders and the general public had an opportunity to learn that, following World War I, an active liberation movement existed not only in western Ukraine but also in the eastern half of the country. The guest speaker for the special "Ukrainian Historical Encounters" series event, titled "The People's War: National Liberation Struggles in Eastern Ukraine (1917-1932)" was Roman Krutysk, president of the Kyiv Memorial Society and director of the Museum of Soviet Occupation. Mr. Krutysk opened with the compelling assertion that, after the re-establishment of independence in 1991, Ukraine began its new life without a political history. Elaborating on this thought, he explained that generations of Ukraine's citizens had been raised on a history that was written by their occupiers and that most archival materials pertaining to Ukraine's resistance to Soviet occupation were banned and marked "secret."

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 Center at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), the Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba, and the Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center in



Participants of the Summer Institute on Social Justice, which focused on the Holodomor and the internment of Ukrainian Canadians, with Canadian Member of Parliament James Bezan.



# 2011: THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Instrumental in the design and interview process for "The Oral History Project of Independent Ukraine, 1988-1991," launched in 2011, were (from left) John Hewko, Prof. Marta Dyczok, journalist Mykola Veresen and Margarita Hewko.

Winnipeg. 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.

This year's Omelan and Tatiana Antonovych Foundation awards were presented to two leading researchers of the Holodomor - Prof. Stanislav Kulchytsky from Ukraine and Prof. Andrea Graziosi from Italy. The presentation ceremony on November 19 at the Ukrainian Embassy coincided with other events in Washington at which the Holodomor was the subject of discussion. Among these events were a four-day convention of the American Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, at which the two laureates also presented their findings, and discussions at the National Press Club and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation about the Welsh journalist Gareth Jones and his role in exposing the Holodomor to the world.

Jones's story was presented on November 21 by his grandnephew Nigel Colley, who along with his mother, Margaret Siroli Colley, has been gathering and publishing additional substantiating evidence about those tragic events that Jones left behind in his letters and diaries uncovered 20 years ago. Using her uncle's diaries and letters, Dr. Margaret Colley, with her son's assistance, had published two books about Jones' Holodomor reporting and other fact-finding endeavors - "More Than a Grain of Truth: The Biography of Gareth Richard Vaughan Jones" and "Manchukuo Incident". They were working on a third book. In addition, Mr. Colley said that the BBC was close to finishing a documentary about his work. Dr. Margaret Colley passed away on November 20.

### Fund-raising, donations

The issue of architectural upkeep is once again moving to the top of the agenda at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. Early 2011 saw the start of a new fund-raising drive designed to finance the restoration of one of the university's most iconic buildings - The Old Academy Building, which houses the university's immense book collection and which traces its roots back to the era of Hetman Ivan Mazepa. It is hoped that the current round of fund-raising will secure the necessary finances to pay for a complete renovation of the building in time for the university's planned 400th birthday celebrations in 2015.

In February, the Ukrainian community was notified at a meeting with university representatives that the University of Pittsburgh was facing the reality of not being able to continue offering Ukrainian language classes. Beginning and intermediate Ukrainian language courses were taught by Kateryna Dowbenko as a volunteer instructor for 35 years before her recent retirement. All future Ukrainian language courses would need to be underwritten by private donors. The Ukrainian community responded generously and helped to underwrite the current expenses related to ensuring the immediate continuation of Ukrainian courses. More fund-raising was planned to establish an endowment fund, which will help secure a permanent position in Ukrainian language studies at the University of Pittsburgh.

On October 1, The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, under the directorship of Bohdan Heryavenko, performed a benefit concert for the benefit of the Ukrainian Language Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh to a very appreciative audience composed of Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians. Spearheaded and organized by Dr. Adriana N. Helbig, assistant professor of music, and Anatoli W. Murha, president of the chorus, the concert was sponsored by the Department of Music, the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the university together with Ridna Shkola of Pittsburgh Inc.

Dmytro Firtash, a Ukrainian oligarch, pledged to financially support the Ukrainian Catholic University's construction of a

new campus near Strytskyi Park in Lviv. The announcement came in London on May 17, during a talk at the Ukrainian Institute, which is affiliated with the Ukrainian Catholic University, where the Rev. Dr. Gudziak and Dr. Rory Finnin, head of Ukrainian studies at the University of Cambridge, addressed the topic: "Ukrainian Studies Internationally: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." Mr. Firtash, the owner of Group DF, a business conglomerate, and the co-chairman of the Investors' Council at Ukraine's Ministry of Education, has made significant donations to establish Cambridge Ukrainian Studies, a program launched in 2008 to promote and contribute to the study of Ukraine in the United Kingdom and beyond. His pledge to UCU was seen as demonstrating his commitment to support quality education in Ukraine.

Several weeks later, Adrian J. Slywotzky thanked Mr. Firtash for his groundbreaking and insightful donation and called upon every Ukrainian industrialist, businessperson and entrepreneur - in Ukraine and in the diaspora - to make an equally astute and significant investment in higher learning, in order to creating a network of world-class, privately funded universities in Ukraine. Mr. Slywotzky then announced his own contribution of \$1 million to UCU over a three-year period.

At Fordham University's tribute to Ukrainian Catholic Church Leaders on November 20, in the presence of Patriarch Sviatoslav, Marianna Zajac, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, presented the Rev. Dr. Gudziak, UCU rector, with a check for \$25,000. This was the first installment of a \$100,000 endowment being established by the UNWLA for Women's/Gender Studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University. At the 29th Convention of the UNWLA, held in May, the delegates overwhelmingly endorsed this unprecedented project.

James Temerty, chairman of the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter Initiative, donated \$1.2 million to establish three endowed chairs in Jewish studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. The programs will focus on Ukrainian-Jewish interaction over the centuries, and interfaith relations; Jewish studies in the context of Central and East European history; and biblical studies. The endowment pledge was made in November during the Toronto visit of the UCU rector.

### Archives, oral history

In February, Roman Krutysky, head of the Kyiv Association of Memorial and director of the association's Museum of Soviet Occupation, kicked off the release of a groundbreaking online archive and exhibit titled "The People's War: 1917-1932" about the Ukrainian liberation movement in the years between the first world war and the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. The online material amounts to 70,000 previously unreleased documents from the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) and complements his traveling exhibit of 24 large display sheets. The archives make it clear that Ukrainian resistance to Soviet rule did not take a pause between the two world wars, but was in fact a continuous armed campaign throughout the countryside.

As Ukraine approached the 20th anniversary of its independence, many people who tracked its arduous birth as a nation-state, welcomed the launch of the website www.oral-history.org.ua, that hosts 72 interviews with political leaders, dissidents, diplomats, journalists, religious figures, businessmen, scholars and military leaders from six countries, who witnessed the changes that came with glasnost and eventually led to the collapse of the Soviet Union. "The Oral History Project of Independent Ukraine, 1988-1991" was the brainchild of Margarita Hewko and Sara Sievers, who lived in Ukraine and worked, respectively, as a journalist and diplomat in the early 1990s and who wanted to preserve the memory of the direct participants in the events that led up to Ukrainian independence.

# The UNA: marking 117 years of service

The Ukrainian National Association, the oldest and largest Ukrainian fraternal organization - as well as the oldest and largest continuously active Ukrainian community organization in North America - celebrated the 117th anniversary of its founding on February 22. It was on that date in 1894 in Shamokin, Pa., that the UNA was established to organize Ukrainian immigrants in the United States and to reinforce their identity as both Ukrainians and new Americans. In Canada, the first branches of the UNA were organized a decade later.

Since its beginnings, the UNA has played a crucial role in diverse facets of our community life, although we would hazard a guess that most people know the UNA best as the publisher of two newspapers - Svoboda in Ukrainian and The Ukrainian Weekly in English - and as the owner of the Soyuzivka Heritage Center. The UNA has been an educator, a defender of human rights, a proponent of Ukraine's independent statehood, a patron of the arts, a promoter of sports, a friend to students, a publisher of numerous Ukrainian- and English-language books and other publications, and an initiator and advocate of countless community projects. In 2011, the UNA continued in all those roles.

The 2011 Almanac of the Ukrainian National Association, which was mailed to all Svoboda subscribers early in the new year, was dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the re-establishment in 1991 of Ukraine's independence. The editor of the almanac was Petro Chasto of the Svoboda editorial staff. The 256-page volume opened with greetings from UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj and the editor-in-chief of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, Roma Hadzewycz.

The first section of the UNA Almanac, titled "Independent Ukraine: 20 Years," included both poetry and articles related to Ukraine's independent statehood. It was followed by sections titled "The Tragic Year of 1921" (about the first famine in Ukraine), "A Collision of Two Evil Forces" (the Soviet advance into Ukraine in 1941 and other events of World War II), "Unforgettable Personages" (notable figures from history and literature), "To Know the World, To Love the World" (miscellany such as the Hudson River, the travels of the yacht Batkivschyna and Ukrainian song) and "From Unfinished Manuscripts" (featuring two authors). The 2011 UNA Almanac's cover design was the work of Stepan Slutsky, who has been designing these unique covers since 1999.

In February, via four-page inserts into The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, the UNA introduced its scholarship and award recipients for the 2010-2011 academic year. Eighty-one students who are UNA members received a total of \$16,825 in funds for their college/university stud-

**Congratulations, UNA scholarship and award recipients of 2010-2011!**

**PARISIPPA, N.J.** - The Ukrainian National Association continues its annual tradition of recognizing academic achievement as well as community involvement by its student members who receive monetary awards to be used toward their college studies.

This year, at the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee, the UNA is awarding scholarships totaling \$16,825 to 81 students who are UNA members.

The highest award, the Joseph and Olga Tymoshenko Scholarship, in the amount of \$2,000, went to Larissa Kaban, a member of UNA Branch 489, and an honor student studying psychology at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New York. Larissa is very active in the Ukrainian community and dedicated time for all things Ukrainian, having attended Ukrainian School on Saturdays in New York. She graduated with top grades in Ukrainian language, literature and history. During the summer, she attended Pinar Ukrainian Speaking Organization camps at Winthrop and participated in several trips and programs there. Larissa also helped to coordinate the daily presentation of Ukrainian folk songs and folk art in Boston, N.Y., where she learned Ukrainian folk dances and songs, read Ukrainian poetry, and participated in many projects to promote Ukrainian culture. Larissa is a member of the Ukrainian Youth League and is currently studying psychology at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

The Dr. Maria Dmytro and Olena Tymoshenko Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000, was won by Maria Hryshchuk, a junior and honor student studying history at York University in New Haven, Conn. Maria's application was particularly impressive, as well as her extensive resume. Maria grew up in a family where books were seen as the key to knowledge. So it is no surprise that in the year of 7, she was awarded the title of the local library's "Bookworm" and "Book Fairy" at that time. She says she still hopes to achieve her goal. Maria speaks a lot of Ukrainian and is currently studying history and geography. She is proud of her Ukrainian heritage and is thankful to her parents for having the continuation of Ukrainian traditions.

The Joseph Wolk Scholarship, in the amount of \$750, was awarded to student Paul Hryshchuk, UNA Branch 205, an honor student and member of the Ukrainian Club at Lafayette College in Rutherford, N.J. Paul is very active in the Ukrainian community of Morris County, N.J. He graduated from the Latin Ukrainian School of Ukrainian Studies in Whippany, N.J., with top grades. From a young age he dreamed with the idea of Ukraine Dance Ensemble. He also plays volleyball for Chortomirsk School of Ukrainian Studies in the Children of Chortomir Relief and Development Fund. While some from

other countries at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey. As a life-long member, Paul has completed the path from the school "Bookworm" to a significant study assistant during various Paul is a member of Pinar Center, working with the area presentation of music. Paul is studying economics and political science, and is studying Business Administration at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Scholarships of The Ukrainian National Home Corp of Brookline, Mass., in the amount of \$500 each, were awarded to Iar Lichner and Iaroslav Lichner, who are members of the Ukrainian Youth League and are currently studying at the University of Vermont. The younger generation is proud to support the UNA by participating in various events and projects at the church.

Alexandra, a member of UNA Branch 206, is a business psychology student at the University of Vermont. She grew up in a family that presented and encouraged Ukrainian tradition. She participated with the Ukrainian dance group in her church and created collectibles for shipping to the newly in Ukraine. Alexandra is active in sports, playing soccer and basketball. She hopes to eventually earn a master's degree in psychology.

The younger generation is proud to support the UNA by participating in various events and projects at the church. The UNA's main commitment is to support the UNA by participating in various events and projects at the church. The UNA's main commitment is to support the UNA by participating in various events and projects at the church.

**LAUREA KISHINEV, (UNA Branch 489), is a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University.**

**MARIA HRYSHCHUK, (UNA Branch 489), is a student at York University.**

**PAUL HRYSHCHUK, (UNA Branch 205), is a student at Lafayette College.**

**IAR LICHNER, (UNA Branch 206), is a student at the University of Vermont.**

**IAROSLAV LICHNER, (UNA Branch 206), is a student at the University of Vermont.**

**JAN FIKSBERG, (UNA Branch 206), is a student at the University of Vermont.**

**AKHIMAR HRYSHCHUK, (UNA Branch 206), is a student at the University of Vermont.**

**NAELIA BEHARAV, (UNA Branch 489), is a student at North Western University of Michigan.**

**MIKHAIL HRYSHCHUK, (UNA Branch 205), is a student at Pennsylvania State University.**

**JENNIFER HRYSHCHUK, (UNA Branch 205), is a student at Rutgers University.**

**SEAN HATTIGAN, (UNA Branch 39), is a student at UConn College.**

**MIKHAIL HRYSHCHUK, (UNA Branch 132), is a student at Appalachian State University.**

**RAMONA KAPLAN, (UNA Branch 77), is a student at Rutgers University.**

**NIKOLAI KISHINEV, (UNA Branch 130), is a student at Manhattan College.**

**ALEXANDRA KISHINEV, (UNA Branch 489), is a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University.**

**TRAVIS KISHINEV, (UNA Branch 489), is a student at Ohio State University.**

**NICHOLE MANKO, (UNA Branch 309), is a student at The Pennsylvania State University.**

Front page of the special section on UNA scholarship recipients of 2010-2011.



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Cover of the UNA Almanac for 2011, which was dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

ies. (For more information about the UNA's Scholarship Program, readers can visit the UNA's website at [www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org](http://www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org), and click on "Our Benefits.")

In May, UNA National Secretary Christine E. Kozak's annual organizing report was published in The Weekly. Ms. Kozak noted that in 2010, despite the languishing economy and a difficult environment in selling life insurance and annuities, the UNA surpassed all projections for its new annuity and life insurance business. Annuity and traditional life insurance premium income rose from \$35,916,516 in 2009 to \$50,465,577 in 2010 – reflecting an increase of \$14,549,061 or 40.51 percent. "Several key elements have helped to bolster the performance of 2010; sales initiatives, increased marketing, great products, a very dedicated Home Office staff, hard-working branch secretaries and the UNA's independent sales agents," Ms. Kozak wrote.

The top organizers in 2010, in terms of the number of members they enrolled, were Advisor Lubov Streletsky (UNA Branch 10), 25 members; Second Vice-President Eugene Oscislawski (Branch 234), 21 members; and Advisor Nicholas Fil (Branch 13), 13 members. In terms of the face amount of life insurance written, Mr. Oscislawski was tops with a sum of \$2.9 million. He was followed by the late Advisor Oleh Palaschenko (who passed away on February 24, 2011) with \$750,000 and Mr. Fil with \$580,000.

The national secretary also reported that the UNA's licensed branch secretaries and Home Office (HQ) professionals sold \$4,573,605 in annuities and the UNA's contracted field agents sold \$37,744,516 in annuities for a total of \$42,318,121 in cash with applications (CWA). The UNA's top producers with the most annuity premium CWA for 2010 were: Oksana Stanko (HQ, Branch 37) \$1,320,955; Steve Woch (HQ), \$1,028,697 and Stephan Welhasch (HQ, Branch 172), \$601,368.

The annual UNA Seniors Week at Soyuzivka took place June 12-17, with 87 older and younger seniors from the United States, Canada and Ukraine participating. They enjoyed catching up with old friends and getting acquainted with new people during activities ranging from a wine-and-cheese reception to stretching classes, informative lectures, an auction, a sing-along and Bingo, as well as a banquet and dance. Oksana Trytjak, the UNA's national organizer, was re-elected president of the UNA Seniors.

July brought the Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka – already the fifth annual such event. Some 3,000 visitors arrived at the Ukrainian Heritage Center on July 15-17 to enjoy performances by an assortment of singers, musicians, dancers and choirs hailing from Ukraine, the United States and Canada. The headliner for the 2011 festival, folk-pop singer Maria Burmaka of Ukraine (an exclusive interview with Ms. Burmaka by our colleague in Kyiv, Zenon Zawada, was published in The

Weekly's July 3 issue), was joined by violinist Vasyl Popadiuk of Canada and opera singer Stefania Dovhan of the U.S., as well as two energetic dance troupes, Soyuzivka's Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Workshop and the Selo Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Canada. Also on the bill during the three-day festival's three outdoor and two indoor concerts were the Harmonia ensemble of folk musicians from Cleveland, the Dzvyn male chorus of Philadelphia and the Dumka Chorus of New York. And, of course, there were dances and plenty of vendors selling a diversity of wares.

Special visitors at festival No. 5 ranged from representatives of Ukraine's diplomatic corps in the United States to participants of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's camp for "novachky" (girls age 6-11) from the Vovcha Tropea campground in East Chatham, N.Y. Another special guest, whose appearance and performance on stage were a surprise to the festival audience, was Peter Yarrow of the legendary folk group Peter, Paul and Mary, who joined Ms. Burmaka for a few songs during the Saturday evening concert.

The sponsors of the 2011 Ukrainian Cultural Festival were the Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union, AeroSvit Ukrainian Airlines and the Ukrainian National Association. The organizer of the annual festival is the Ukrainian National Foundation, the charitable arm of the Ukrainian National Association, and the festival is organized under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine. Mark your calendars: the sixth annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival is scheduled for July 20-22, 2012.

An important annual gathering of another sort is the Adoptive Families' Weekend at Soyuzivka, which has been held since 2003. The July 22-24 event brought together families from eight states in the northeastern U.S. who have adopted children from Ukraine and have chosen to embrace their Ukrainian identity. The weekend, which was coordinated by Bohdana Puzyk, was filled with activities that celebrated families and Ukrainian culture.

Serhiy Pohoreltsev, Ukraine's consul general in New York, expressed thanks to UNA President Kaczaraj, UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich, Soyuzivka Manager Nestor Paslawsky, Administrative Assistant Sonia Semanyszyn, Soyuzivka staffers, as well as to Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union and the SUMA Federal Credit Union in Yonkers, N.Y., for making the special weekend possible. Mr. Pohoreltsev noted that more than 1,500 children from Ukraine have already been adopted by Americans in only those eight states represented at the Soyuzivka gathering.

Miss Soyuzivka 2012 was crowned on August 13 at yet another fabulous zabava (dance) at the Ukrainian Heritage Center. She is Lala Chopivsky-Benson of Washington, daughter of Dr. Randy Benson and Lydia Chopivsky-Benson, a former Miss Soyuzivka. Kateryna Szewczyk of Yonkers, N.Y., and Katherine Ovsak of Kerhonkson, N.Y., were the first and second runners-up. Another special treat that evening was a performance by Serhiy "Foma" Fomenko and Danylo Denisov of the famous folk-rock-blues-ska band Mandry from Ukraine.

During 2011 Soyuzivka celebrated its 59th birthday. That's what we learned from Facebook, which actually listed a birth date of June 14, 1952. Many Soyuzivka fans

responded on Soyuzivka's Facebook page with heartfelt birthday wishes. But we wondered: What was the significance of the June 14 date? According to news reports in Svoboda, the agreement for the purchase of the estate that became Soyuzivka was signed by the Ukrainian National Association on May 29, 1952. We could only guess that June 14 might have been when ownership of the property was formally transferred to the UNA. (If anyone has the answer, please do let us know.)

At any rate, the cost of the property once known as Nonkanahwa and later as Foordmore was \$72,000 for about 250 acres of land with one main building and seven additional buildings (plus a large garage, as well as a pool, a tennis court and other amenities). Located about 90 miles north of New York City, the property was once the site of a sanitarium owned by Dr. John Foord that was known for its "nature rest cures." It was a beautiful mountain setting of forests, fields, a stream and a pond.

From the very beginning the UNA saw the unique property as a place of retreat, a potential site for a seniors' home, for vacation stays, and more. Svoboda, writing soon after the UNA acquired the estate, noted: "The property has all the elements needed for it to become a representative Ukrainian center not only for relaxation but for cultural, artistic and social life during the summer months." That first summer the UNA graciously allowed Plast to use one of the buildings on the site for a camp for children age 8-12.

We look forward to Soyuzivka's 60th birthday in 2012.

In other developments at Soyuzivka, on March 8 a release of heating oil on Soyuzivka property was reported by a motorist to the New York Department of Environment Conservation (DEC). Oil was observed on the eastern side of the Main House on Foordmore Road. The release was not visible from Soyuzivka's Main House or public areas. UNA Treasurer Lisovich reported that Soyuzivka began containment efforts within hours of the notification and engaged environmental specialists in an effort to identify the source of the release and establish and implement a clean-up protocol in cooperation with and response to the DEC. The DEC made regular inspections of the site and reported that it was pleased with the remediation efforts. The good news was that the project did not impact the operation of the summer season and that the response site was not part of Soyuzivka's public area. As could be expected, the cost of the response action required a substantial and immediate outlay of funds, putting a substantial strain on Soyuzivka's resources. UNA President Kaczaraj noted that "Reimbursement efforts, of course, are being aggressively pursued."

Turning again to the Ukrainian National Association, in early October the UNA Auditing Committee's report on its recently completed examination of the fraternal society's financial condition, management and operations for the calendar year ending December 31, 2010, was released. The Auditing Committee – comprising Slavko Tysiak (chairman), Eugene Serba and Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta – noted that the UNA was on a slow path to recovery. The UNA's U.S.-based insurance business, along with investment income, was strong, while its other business components lagged behind and continued to present



During the Adoptive Families Weekend at Soyuzivka on July 22-24, Gloria Horbaty helps children make pysanky as Ukraine's Consul General Serhiy Pohoreltsev (center) and Vice-Consul Kostyantyn Vorona observe.



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Some of the participants of UNA Seniors Week on June 12-17 enjoy cocktails on the Main House balcony.

challenges to earnings and to growing net surplus.

The UNA's net surplus, which stood at \$4,505,252 as of December 31, 2010, had stabilized, but showed signs of shrinkage, the auditors reported. The challenge for UNA executive management going forward remained the same: to keep UNA net surplus at an acceptable level to meet regulatory expectations, while maintaining a high level of annuity sales and growing life insurance sales in a sluggish economy. In addition, the Auditing Committee report pointed out that the UNA was confronting an increasingly more demanding regulatory environment, which presented a huge challenge for the UNA's small staff in terms of keeping pace with the expanding web of regulatory demands.

The UNA General Assembly convened its regular annual meeting at Soyuzivka on November 4-6 to review the UNA's activity for the past year and set the stage for its further development. Substantive reports were delivered by the three full-time executive officers of the UNA; advisors and auditors, as well as the editor-in-chief of the UNA's official publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, had the opportunity to deliver addenda to their written reports. Four committees were established to work during the sessions: Organizing/Fraternal, Soyuzivka, Publications and Financial. In a departure from the usual format, the committees did not meet separately in smaller groups, but during plenary sessions of the General Assembly that promoted brainstorming and

out-of-the-box creativity in a collegial atmosphere. The result was a fruitful strategic planning session for the UNA and its subsidiary operations that laid the groundwork for the months and years ahead.

Addressing the General Assembly, President Kaczaraj summarized the state of the UNA: "Even though in the past three years we have been living through a turbulent economic storm, with a high unemployment rate in the range of 9 to 10 percent, the UNA continues to move in the right direction. Sales are growing as was planned, investment income is up, assets are up and the quality of investments is excellent." His colleague, UNA Treasurer Lisovich reported that the past year had been especially challenging, as the external environment – the market, competitive forces, the economy and regulatory requirements – was changing so rapidly. She underlined that the UNA, as both a community organization and an insurance company, must marshal internal and external resources to meet these new demands and challenges. "Although our mission to serve the community and membership remains constant, the UNA must periodically define the vision for its future and then systematically determine how it will get there," she commented.

Finally, in other news at the UNA, the organization conducted its annual Christmas card project. Sales of the cards, which feature the art of Ukrainian artists who allow their works to be used without any compensation, go to support the Soyuzivka Heritage Center through the Ukrainian National Foundation (UNF), a not for profit foundation with a 501 (c) (3) status. UNA members, readers of its publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, visitors to Soyuzivka and community members were encouraged to participate in this major fund-raising project by purchasing the cards.

### Next week...

...our "2011: The Year in Review" concludes with a look at developments in the realms of culture and sports, the year's noteworthy people and events, and more.

### The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Inc. Illinois Branch

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# Temerty donation to UCU endows Jewish studies chairs

*Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation*

CHICAGO – The \$1.2 million donation to Ukrainian Catholic University by James Temerty, chairman of the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter Initiative (UJE), will establish three endowed chairs in Jewish studies. The programs at UCU in Lviv will focus on Ukrainian-Jewish interaction over the centuries and interfaith relations; Jewish studies in the context of Central and East European history; and biblical studies.

The endowment pledge was made in November 2011 during the Toronto visit of the rector of the UCU, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak.

"This university represents the opportunity for research in all aspects of Ukrainian Jewish life where Ukrainians and Jews lived side by side, helping shape the history and destiny of the territory known as Ukraine today," said Mr. Temerty. "It is the place where the work of the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter can further its vision to advance greater mutual, empathetic understanding and mutual support between the two peoples and sets of communities, and enable a coming to terms with the painful aspects of the relationship and elements in their respective formative histories that have affected how they think of themselves and each other."

The Rev. Gudziak declared that "the generous pledge made by philanthropist James Temerty is of seminal significance for the Ukrainian Catholic University as it develops new programs. His outstanding endowment, for which we are most grateful, transcends strictly academic concerns."

"Through the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter he founded, Mr. Temerty champions discussion of difficult questions that cannot be avoided any longer. UCU has sought in its social, theological and historical programs to fill in the gaping thematic vacuum left by Soviet ideological control that ravaged the humanities and continues to have broad ramifications stunting Ukraine's social development. Compelling topics in history and religion such as Ukrainian-Jewish relations throughout the centuries have been all but ignored by scholars, even in independent Ukraine. These topics can be searingly painful. Studying them requires great sensitivity and responsibility, courage and honesty," the UCU rector added.

"Such study can also bring to the fore profoundly inspiring stories of virtue and heroism, uncover histories of centuries long peaceful and fruitful co-existence, and reveal rich shared cultural legacies of which we remain largely ignorant. We are honored that Mr. Temerty has recognized the work con-

ducted by UCU scholars in recent years. We are thrilled that he deemed UCU to be the institution in Ukraine capable of confronting subject matter that needs to be explored if we are to find truth and reconciliation in our historical awareness and spiritual consciousness. Ultimately, this is a pre-condition for full integration of Ukraine into the global community of mature nations. The fact that Mr. Temerty is an Orthodox Canadian Ukrainian gives added international, ecumenical and inter-religious significance to this singular benefaction," Father Gudziak concluded.

Mr. Temerty, founder and chairman of Toronto-based Northland Power, is originally from the Donbas region in eastern Ukraine and a prominent member of the Canada's Ukrainian community. He founded the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter Initiative in 2008 as a private multinational project that aims to build a sound foundation for future interaction among generations of Jews and Ukrainians – in Ukraine and Israel, and in the diaspora communities, Canada in particular.

UJE's goals are to deepen understanding of the breadth, complexity and diversity of Ukrainian-Jewish relations historically; to treat embedded stereotypes and secure an authentic connection to the past; and to enable each of these two peoples to understand and empathize with the other's historical experience and narratives. To advance these goals, UJE has convened a series of expert meetings and working conferences, engaging close to 200 scholars and experts in developing a collaborative, truthful and insightful account of the relationship over the centuries. This shared historical narrative will provide the basis for a range of products and activities to reach wider audiences, including university courses, publications, dedicated websites, museum exhibits, films, television and cultural programming.

Eminent Jewish figures have noted the significance of the initiative. Canadian MP and former Justice Minister Irwin Cotler said: "I commend UJE Chair James Temerty for his extraordinary initiative in founding and funding of three endowed chairs in Jewish studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. This is a singular contribution both to scholarship, to the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter, and to the advancement of inter-faith and cross-cultural relations. It is a milestone initiative that warrants international recognition and support."

The Ukrainian Catholic University is one of Ukraine's leading educational institutions and the only Catholic university between Poland and Japan. It is located in Lviv, the principal city of western Ukraine, which was a major center of Jewish population and culture

before World War II. UCU's founder, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, himself saved over 200 Jews during the war and preached tolerance between the two peoples. The university was closed by the Soviets in 1944 and was re-established in 2002.

Myroslav Marynovych, the vice-rector at the Ukrainian Catholic University, commented: "Mr. Temerty's financial support opens new horizons for UCU. We have always wanted to plunge more deeply into the legacy of previous generations of ethnic Ukrainians and Jews who lived on historically Ukrainian lands. This legacy knows not only pain and injustice, but also the experience of tolerant co-existence and mutual assistance. In order to guarantee a humane outline for the future, we must not forget the former and actively the experience the latter. For example, the spiritual inheritance of the Sheptytsky brothers alone, Andrey and Klymentiy, is sufficient to reveal to the contemporary person all the beauty of the love of humanity."

A human rights activist who served time in Soviet prisons, Mr. Marynovych added: "Mutual tolerance creates the conditions for learning how to hear one another and to respond to one another's needs. We, Ukrainian and Jewish dissidents, in Soviet times came to know the strength of this position in jails and camps. Today the time has come to study the accumulated historical experience and offer it to all of society."

The prominent historian Martin Gilbert said of the donation: "It will help advance the cause to which we all feel so committed. It is good deeds such as this that help repair the world."

Mark Freiman, the noted Jewish community leader who, among other roles, has served as president of Canadian Jewish Congress, observed that "For hundreds of years Ukrainians and Jews lived as neighbors on the territory of present-day western Ukraine. The rich, complex and ultimately tragic story of the Jewish sojourn in eastern Galicia occupies a central place in the narrative of both communities. Jim Temerty's generous and far-sighted endowment, like his admirable support for projects ranging from the landmark Ukrainian Jewish Encounter to my own initiative for proper memorialization of the mass graves of victims of the Shoah in Sambir, reflects his clear understanding of the centrality of this story and its lessons for modern Jews and Ukrainians alike. Through his efforts the memory of Jewish history, religion and culture will be preserved and enriched in the place that was once their epicenter. Like UJE itself, the UCU project is not simply retrospective, but also dynamically forward-looking as it establishes a firm founda-

tion for both Ukrainian and Jewish communities to build a productive and meaningful future relationship, based on a mature understanding and appreciation of the past, but not imprisoned by it."

UJE has previously supported the introduction and expansion of university-level courses treating the shared history of Jews and Ukrainians, at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. UJE is working to establish a network of universities, to include leading institutions in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Israel, and Ukraine, to collaboratively develop and deliver courses, including online offerings, for both academic and wider audiences, treating Ukrainian-Jewish interaction over the centuries. UJE is also supporting a series of two-week courses by visiting lecturers from Israel at universities in Ukraine.

Another current issue UJE is addressing, in collaboration with others, is the neglect of mass graves from World War II and the 1930s. Many hundreds of thousands of victims, Jewish, Christian and other, lie in unmarked and unprotected mass graves across Ukraine. Their protection and proper memorialization is today a compelling moral and societal imperative.

An additional \$100,000 was donated toward these chairs at UCU by Borys Wrzesnewskyj, former member of Parliament for Etobicoke Center, Ontario. He did so, he noted, because "the epicenter of humanity's most horrific killings took place in the bloodlands of Galicia. It is where the local population was sequentially occupied by the armies of the world's most cruel and prolific killers: Stalin, Hitler, and then once again Stalin. It is there that Hitler's Nazi killing machine reached the pinnacle of Holocaust killings, the 'Holocaust by bullets.' These crimes and the history of those who lie in the thousands of mass graves in Galicia were suppressed by Stalin's Soviet regime."

"During the ensuing atheist Soviet era," Mr. Wrzesnewskyj continued, "the Ukrainian Catholic Church was in the catacombs with thousands of its believers martyred. It is upon these foundations that the miracle of the Ukrainian Catholic University has been built. It is appropriate that the Temerty endowment will be located in Galicia, where the heart of the 20th century's greatest darkness took place, to ensure that this evil chapter in history will never be forgotten nor repeated. The bones of our brothers and sisters continue to speak to us from below the earth."

For more information readers may contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation: Marta@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

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Складаємо подяку Всечеснішим оо. Михайлові Дроздовському, Ігореві Касіянові, та Василеві Петрові за відправлення Парастасу у похоронному заведенні Головачка в Пармі, Огайо.

Складаємо подяку Всечеснішим оо. Михайлові Досякові та Борисові Гудзякові за відслуження похоронних відправ в Українській католицькій церкві св. Івана Хрестителя в Сиракузах, Н.Й., а відтак на церковнім кладовищі.

Дякуємо всім за співчуття, молитви, квіти, та щедрі датки в пам'ять нашої дорогої Марти.

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## Fulbright Scholar from Ukraine to teach at Columbia during spring semester

NEW YORK – The spring 2012 semester at Columbia University will feature six courses in Ukrainian studies and a series of events focusing on Ukrainian politics, education, art, history and literature. Once again contributing to the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia's Harriman Institute will be historian and anthropologist Dr. Oksana Kis, a dynamic young Ukrainian scholar who has recently presented at numerous forums throughout North America.

Dr. Kis is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Ethnology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) in Lviv. She received her Ph.D. in history from the Ivan Krypiakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies, NASU, in 2002. Her academic interests cover women's history, feminist anthropology, oral history and gender transformations in post-socialist countries. She has published numerous articles on these subjects and has authored the book "Women in the Traditional Ukrainian Culture, Second Half of the 19th-Early 20th Centuries" (Lviv: Institute of Ethnology NASU, 2008).

Dr. Kis is director of the Lviv Research Center Woman and Society (NGO) and president of the Ukrainian Association for Research in Women's History. She has been awarded a Fulbright Research Scholarship (2003), a Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellowship (2007) and a Petro Jacyk Visiting Professorship (2010). Currently, she is working on her research project, "Invisible Agency: Representations of Gendered Historical Experiences and Identities in the Ukrainian Women's Personal Narratives," as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at Columbia University.

In the spring semester, Dr. Kis will teach a course titled "Women in Post-Socialist Transformation: Ukraine, Russia and Poland In Focus" (Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-12:50 p.m.). This course will introduce students to post-socialist transformations in Eastern Europe from the gender perspective. By focusing on Ukraine, Poland and Russia, it will examine the multidimensional impact of radical political, social, economic and cultural changes onto women's lives. Exploring challenges women faced in transition from state socialism to market economy and democracy, women will be analyzed as both targets and agents of changes.

The role of schooling and media in women's gendered socialization, ways of (re)construction of old/new models of



Dr. Oksana Kis

femininity, women's responses to the demographic crisis and alteration of family roles, women's agency and representation in politics, as well as women's economic strategies and employment behaviors will be examined. Special attention will be given to the problems faced by women migrant workers abroad and those subject to trafficking. International debates on collisions of feminist and traditionalist ideologies in the new women's activism and controversies of introducing women's and gender studies in post-socialist academic discourse will be discussed as well to give students a better understanding of the complexity of emerging women's movements and institutionalization of feminist scholarship in Central and Eastern Europe.

Also this semester, Dr. Mark Andryczyk will be teaching a course titled "Fin de siècle Ukrainian Literature: Beauty, Duty and Decadence" (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:10-2:25 p.m.). This course will focus on the onset of modernism in Ukrainian literature in the late 19th century and early 20th century – a period marked by a vigorous, often biting, polemic between the populist Ukrainian literary establishment and young Ukrainian writers who were inspired by their European counterparts.

Students will read prose, poetry and drama written by Ivan Franko, the writers of the Moloda Muza, Olha Kobylanska, Lesia Ukrainka and Vasyl Stefanyk, among others. The course will trace the introduction of urban motifs and settings, as well as decadence, into Ukrainian literature and analyze the conflict that ensued among Ukrainian intellectuals as they set out forging the identity of the Ukrainian people.

The current political situation in Ukraine will be addressed for Columbia students in a course titled "Ukraine: Power, Politics, Diplomacy" (Tuesdays, 2:10-4 p.m.). Delivered by a career diplomat, Ambassador Valerii Kuchynsky, this new course will examine the evolution of Ukraine's politics since independence and will analyze the causes of current domestic problems.

Dr. Yuri Shevchuk will teach three levels of Ukrainian language at Columbia this spring: Elementary Ukrainian (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:10-10:25 a.m.), Intermediate Ukrainian (Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:35-11:50 a.m.) and Advanced Ukrainian (Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:40-3:55 p.m.).

Throughout this semester, the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University will continue screening new films from its growing collection. All films will have English subtitles. Screenings will take place at least once a month and are free and open to the public. The first event, "New Shorts From Ukraine" will take place on January 25 at 7:30 p.m. and will feature "I Have a Friend" by Dmytro Moiseiev, "Beyond Frames" by Maksym Ksionda, "To Be Human" by Anna Butuzova, "Illusions of Happiness" by Daria Tkachenko and "Who Will Die Today" by Viktor Hres.

Carnegie Research Fellowship Program Award recipient Dr. Oksana Yurkova, leading researcher at the Institute of the History of Ukraine at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, will be a visiting scholar at the Harriman Institute for the Spring semester. At Columbia she will be working on "Historiographic Sovietization in the Ukrainian SSR: How Ukrainian Historians Were Made Soviet, 1929-1941."

Dr. Valentyna Kharkhun (Nizhyn University), a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the Harriman Institute in fall 2011, will continue at Harriman in the spring semester. Both scholars will be giving public lectures during the semester.

Eight presentations have already been scheduled for the upcoming semester. The Ukrainian Studies Program lecture series begins February 7 with a lecture by Dr. Oxana Blashkiv (Ivan Franko State Pedagogical University of Drohobych) on "Ukrainian Scholars in Americans Slavic Studies: The Case of George Y. Shevelov and Dmytro Chyzhevskyi." Later that month, on February 23, Kyiv-based writer Andrei Kurkov will be presenting his latest novel to appear in English-language translation "The Case of the General's Thumb."

Courses at Columbia are open to students from other universities in the New York metropolitan area seeking credit. (Please contact the university at which you enrolled to determine whether it participates in this manner with Columbia University.) Some courses are also open to outside individuals interested in non-credit continuing studies. Additionally, through the Lifelong Learners program, individuals over age 65 who are interested in auditing courses may enroll at a discount rate as Lifelong Learners. (Please visit the Columbia University School of Continuing Education <http://www.ce.columbia.edu/auditing/?PID=28>, for more details.) Classes begin January 17 and January 27 is the last day to sign up for a class.

For more information about courses or the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, readers may contact Dr. Andryczyk at [ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu](mailto:ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu) or 212-854-4697.

*Congratulations to  
Andrew Taras Oryshkevych (ATO)  
on receiving his Bachelor's Degree  
during the Winter Commencement  
at the University of Maryland  
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*With love and pride,  
TATO Yaromyr, MAMA Chrystia,  
brothers Adrian and Alexander,  
and BABA Anna Shashkewych*

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**Sat Jan 28 -- 8PM** gala concert and performances by Yara artists and friends,  
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**Sun Jan 29 -- 2PM** shadow puppet show for children from six to 106.

**Ukrainian Institute of America  
2 East 79th Street at Fifth Avenue  
New York. (212) 288-8660**



## Those willing...

(Continued from page 1)

The saga involving the decapitated Stalin bust drew to a close on December 12, 2011, when a Zaporizhia district court convicted nine defendants of hooliganism with suspended prison sentences.

Mr. Zakharov, one of the most vocal defenders of the Tryzub activists, has argued their act wasn't hooliganism, which Ukrainian law defines as upsetting the social order with an explicit motive of disrespect towards society, characterized by exceptional insolence or cynicism. Instead, the Tryzub activists were engaged in legitimate political protest as defined by European law, he argued.

The court also ordered Tryzub to compensate the Communist Party \$13,625 in damages since it established the bust on its own property. Convicted Tryzub activist Roman Khmara said he'd rather sit in prison than pay for a replacement bust.

Yet Mr. Khmara has asked that anyone willing to help cover Tryzub's legal debts incurred as a result of the Stalin protest should contact the organization's Central Command 011-380-98-085-19-90 or ussd@ukr.net.

"I perceive this monument and its establishment as an insult and dishonor," Mr. Zakharov said. "If they lost money, then the issue is compensating damages and not more. But to imprison and accuse us of hooliganism is political persecution."

During their incarceration and alleged torture by the police, the Tryzub activists were questioned about their role in the same Stalin bust being detonated and razed three days later.

They denied any involvement in that act, and it's widely believed among the

Ukrainian patriotic circles that the SBU itself detonated the Stalin statue as a pretext to arrest, torture and intimidate those active in the national protests that have erupted since the Yanukovich administration took power.

In addition, authorities on August 26, 2011, imprisoned three activists from the Kyiv Oblast city of Vasylkiv, accusing them of planning to bomb a statue of Vladimir Lenin in Boryspil on Independence Day.

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) alleged it had found a homemade explosive in their possession, as well as fliers calling for removing Lenin and threats against President Yanukovich. Prosecutors filed criminal charges of terrorism.

Remaining incarcerated for nearly soon to be five months are Vasylkiv City Council Deputies Serhii Bevz and Ihor Mosiichuk, as well as Volodymyr Shpar, a deputy's aide. All are members of the nationalist organization Patriot of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian judicial system's abuse of its right to imprison suspects until a verdict is reached has turned into a systemic violation of the European Convention, said lawyer Andrii Didenko of the Kharkiv Human Rights Group.

The Vasylkiv patriots alleged the explosives were actually planted in the City Council building by SBU agents. Investigators violated standard procedure when removing the explosive without evacuating the City Council building, which would indicate they knew the threat wasn't real.

The activists claim they are being targeted by the city's corrupt establishment – including its judges, prosecutors and authorities – for undermining their corrupt schemes and attempting to introduce law and order into city governance.

Their supporters claim the accused prevented corrupt authorities from illegally confiscating apartments and redistributing

them as political tribute. A documentary film produced by independent journalist Olena Bilozerska features Vasylkiv residents testifying to the deputies' commitment to social justice.

The patriots' lawyers alleged the court has excluded critical evidence that demonstrates the patriots' innocence, including the fact that no fingerprints were found on their alleged explosives.

On January 10, the TVi television network broadcast undercover video footage of an SBU officer, Dmytro Yermakovich, threatening a witness with reprisals if he didn't testify against the accused. (<http://tvi.ua/ua/watch/author/?prog=90&video=5193>).

On the video, Agent Yermakovich acknowledges that witnesses were beaten to extract incriminating testimony. He dismissed the 13 volumes of evidence gathered against the patriots as "layno" (crap) that he himself hadn't even read.

The TVi journalists who compiled the report drew the conclusion that law enforcement authorities likely forged the "Vasylkiv terrorist" affair on the eve of Independence Day as a pretext to ban extensive protest activity expected that day.

In some cases, vigilante patriots have taken the law into their own hands out of desperation, as was the case with Vitaliy Zaporozhets, a 34-year-old lawyer who resides in the Kyiv Oblast village of Semypolky.

He got into a fight with the village police chief, Mykola Symonenko, who was notorious for terrorizing local residents. On the night of September 4, 2011, Maj. Symonenko was drunk and allegedly badgering village residents in a café and humiliating them, drawing admonition from Mr. Zaporozhets.

In reaction, Maj. Symonenko beat the lawyer and broke his hand, before threatening to have him rot behind bars.

Enduring repeated badgering and threats from the police chief was the last straw for Mr. Zaporozhets, who went home, got his hunting rifle and came back to the café to shoot Maj. Symonenko, who bled to death for an hour and a half at the bar without anyone so much as lifting a finger, according to eyewitness accounts.

Once the shooter was arrested, hundreds of village residents visited Mr. Zaporozhets' mother to express their support for their newfound hero.

The incident ignited a catharsis for village residents, who began testifying to beatings at the hands of Maj. Symonenko. Accusations of drunkenness, bribery and brutality on the part of the local police force overflowed at a raucous village meeting two weeks later.

More than 90 Semypolky residents signed a complaint submitted to the Procurator General of Ukraine and the Ministry of Internal Affairs stating that police brutality led to the death of Maj. Symonenko, who engaged in extortion and sheltered lawless businessmen and officials.

Afterwards, police allegedly arrested some 15 to 20 villagers and dragged them to the district police station – some in their underwear and some barefoot – where they were beaten. Police allegedly held a gun to the heads of several villagers with threats to kill them, after which they agreed to testify against Mr. Zaporozhets.

Meanwhile, the accused reported he was tortured by police to extract a confession. He reported being denied his legal rights, such as adequate time to review the evidence against him presented to the court. The judge has also evicted journalists from the courtroom.

Prosecutors claim Maj. Symonenko was sober the night he died and their case makes no mention of any assault against Mr. Zaporozhets.

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# OUT & ABOUT

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>January 24 through February 25<br/>Perth Amboy, NJ</p> | <p>Art exhibit, "Opposite Ends," featuring works by Dianna Shmerykowsky and Viviana Acuna-Francisco, Perth Amboy Gallery Center for the Arts, 732-826-1690 ext. 4325 or <a href="http://www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us">www.ci.perthamboy.nj.us</a></p> | <p>February 4<br/>Rochester, NY</p>  | <p>Presentation of debutantes, featuring music by Vechirka, Ukrainian Arts Foundation of Greater Rochester, Radisson Rochester Riverside Hotel, 585-598-4580 or <a href="mailto:chervonakalyna@uafgr.org">chervonakalyna@uafgr.org</a></p> |
| <p>January 27<br/>Chicago</p>                             | <p>Meeting with Consul General of Ukraine in Chicago Kostiantyn Kudryk, Federation of Ukrainian Students' Organizations (SUSTA), 312-642-4388 or <a href="http://www.ukrchicago.com">www.ukrchicago.com</a></p>                                  | <p>February 10<br/>Washington</p>  | <p>Concert featuring soprano Victoria Loukianetz and pianist Marianna Humetska, The Washington Group Cultural Fund, Embassy of Austria, 703-955-2555 or <a href="mailto:twgculturfund@gmail.com">twgculturfund@gmail.com</a></p>           |
| <p>January 27-29<br/>New York</p>                         | <p>Performance, "Re-Imagine Ourselves: Yara's Winter Festival of New Art, Music Performances and Video," by the Yara Arts Group, Ukrainian Institute of America, <a href="mailto:yara.arts.group@gmail.com">yara.arts.group@gmail.com</a></p>    | <p>February 11<br/>East Rutherford, NJ</p>   | <p>Presentation of debutantes, with music by Hrim and Fata Morgana, Chervona Kalyna Plast Fraternity, Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel, 201-896-0500 or 914-271-2805</p>   |
| <p>January 28<br/>New Britain, CT</p>                     | <p>Malanka dance with music by Hrim and Zolota Bulava, Zolotij Promin Dance Ensemble, St. George Greek Hall, 860-452-4023 or 860-348-1463 (hotel)</p>  | <p>February 11<br/>Chicago</p>   | <p>Presentation of debutantes, with music by Good Times, Ukrainian Medical Association of North America - Illinois Branch, Palmer House Hilton, 312-282-7017 or <a href="mailto:umanadeb@aol.com">umanadeb@aol.com</a></p>                 |
| <p>January 28<br/>Lethbridge, AB</p>                      | <p>Malanka dance featuring the Troyanda Ukrainian Dance Club, with music by the Absolute Dance Band, Lethbridge Senior Citizens Organization, 403-634-9405 or <a href="http://www.troyanda.ca">www.troyanda.ca</a></p>                           | <p>February 11<br/>Warren, MI</p>  | <p>Presentation of debutantes, with music by Svitank, Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 734-717-0695 or <a href="mailto:ksonia@peoplepc.com">ksonia@peoplepc.com</a></p>                                 |
| <p>January 28<br/>New York</p>                            | <p>Malanka dance with music by Vox Ethnika, St. George Academy, 646-327-1693 or 212-473-3323</p>   | <p><i>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 <a href="mailto:mdubas@ukrweekly.com">mdubas@ukrweekly.com</a>.</i></p> |  |
| <p>February 4<br/>Trevose, PA</p>                         | <p>Presentation of debutantes, Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, Radisson Hotel, 610-277-1284 or 215-638-8300</p>   |  |  |

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# PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Friday-Sunday, January 27-29**  
**NEW YORK:** Yara Arts Group and the Ukrainian Institute of America present "Re-Imagine Ourselves: Yara's Winter Festival of New Art, Music, Performances, Poetry and Video." The schedule is as follows: Friday, 8 p.m., opening of art and video exhibits, with readings by poets and writers; Saturday, 2 p.m., participatory music workshop with Alla Zahaykevych from Kyiv; Saturday, 8 p.m., gala concert and performances by Yara artists, Ensemble Hilka and friends, with a party featuring Debutante Hour and food by Olesia Lew/Veselka Bowery; Sunday, 2 p.m., shadow puppet show for children age 6 to 106. The event takes place at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at Fifth Avenue. For information call 212-288-8660; to see updates log on to [www.brama.com/yara](http://www.brama.com/yara).

**Friday, February 10**  
**WASHINGTON:** An internationally acclaimed star is in town. The Washington Group Cultural Fund, in cooperation with the Embassies of Austria and Ukraine, is pleased to present Ukrainian-born soprano Victoria Loukianetz in a concert featuring works by Mozart, Schubert, Strauss, Lehar,

Skoryk, Kosarenko and Silvestrov. Marianna Humetska will provide piano accompaniment. The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Embassy of Austria, 3524 International Court NW. Ms. Loukianetz, a soloist with the Kyiv State Opera, made her debut at the Vienna State Opera as Queen of the Night in Mozart's "The Magic Flute." As a member of the company, she has sung major roles in the operatic repertoire and has performed at major opera houses and festivals worldwide. Tickets: \$40. For further information and to reserve tickets contact [twgulturalfund@gmail.com](mailto:twgulturalfund@gmail.com) or call 703-955-2555.

**Saturday-Sunday, March 10-11**  
**NEWARK, N.J.:** St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark is sponsoring a Pre-Cana conference on Saturday, March 10, at 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sunday, March 11, at 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. for everyone who is planning a wedding in a Ukrainian Catholic Church, regardless of city or state. The conference will feature lectures by qualified specialists: a priest, a psychologist, a physician, an attorney/financial planner and several life coaches. Cost: \$150 per couple. To register or for more information call the parish office, 973-371-1356, between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

## 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**. Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated.  
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.**

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