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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ternopil Oblast Council elections held despite attempts to derail them

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – In defiance of attempts by Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko to derail the March 15 pre-term elections to the Ternopil Oblast Council, a majority of eligible voters came to the polls and cast the most votes, or 35 percent, for the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union, Ukraine's leading nationalist force.

Though the election held minimal consequences, even on a local level, it carried enormous symbolic value, drawing comparisons with the 2004 Mukachiv mayoral election in which the presidential administration of Leonid Kuchma sabotaged the vote as part of a dress rehearsal for the presidential election that year.

The chaos surrounding the Ternopil election, provoked by the Tymoshenko Bloc, not only reflected its desperation amidst falling popularity to win at all costs – particularly by trying to cancel the vote just 12 days before it was to take place – but also signified the potential for similar mayhem in the January 17, 2010, presidential election.

"It was a whole series of mistakes for the Tymoshenko Bloc – starting from provoking the election by blocking the work of the [Ternopil] Oblast Council, and then trying to cancel the election unsuccessfully," said Volodymyr Fesenko, board chairman of the Penta Center for Applied Political Research in Kyiv, which is financed by political clients.

"They stopped the pre-term parliamenta-



Zenon Zawada

Oleh Tiahnybok, leader of Svoboda.

ry election last year, but it didn't work this time because they were alone and practically had no allies," he added.

Despite denials from the Tymoshenko Bloc of the election's legitimacy and court decisions in its favor, most influential institutions have recognized its results, including the Presidential Secretariat, the Verkhovna Rada, the Party of Regions and the Committee of Voters of Ukraine, the coun-

(Continued on page 18)

Experts focus on U.S. relations with Russia and Ukraine

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – A bipartisan commission of experts on March 16 released a report recommending that the new U.S. administration review its relations with Russia and reconsider its support of NATO membership for Ukraine and Georgia.

The report came a little over two weeks before President Barack Obama prepares to meet with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on April 2 in London, during a summit of the Group of 20 industrialized and developing states.

Brian Knowlton of The International Herald Tribune wrote on March 16 that the commission recommended the Obama administration "reach out to Russia in a number of ways, putting NATO membership for Georgia and Ukraine on hold and taking 'a new look' at the planned missile shield in Eastern Europe, possibly even collaborating with Moscow on it."

Not ready for NATO

Significantly, the report recommended that the Obama administration should "accept that neither Ukraine nor Georgia is ready for NATO membership" but that it should also work with NATO allies to find other ways "to demonstrate a commitment to their sovereignty." It said the U.S. does not now have "a compelling security interest" in NATO membership for either country.

The 30-page report was prepared by a panel headed by two former senators,

Gary Hart (D-Colo.) and Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.). Members of the panel include: Brent Scowcroft, national security adviser to Presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush; Robert C. McFarlane, national security adviser to President Ronald Reagan; former Sen. Sam Nunn, a Democrat; and Lee H. Hamilton, a Democrat and former chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

"Engaging Ukraine"

At about the same time, the Brookings Institution issued a report titled "Engaging Ukraine in 2009." Its authors are: Steven Pifer, visiting fellow in foreign policy at Brookings' Center on the United States and Europe; Anders Åslund, senior fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics; and Jonathan Elkind, non-resident senior fellow on energy security issues at Brookings. Mr. Pifer is also a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine. Dr. Åslund has served as an economic advisor to the government of Ukraine in 1994-1997 and has written extensively about Ukraine.

The policy paper – No. 13 in the Foreign Policy Paper Series – was presented on March 17 at the Washington-based public policy organization.

In its introduction and summary, the paper notes: "Ukraine and Ukrainians will be tested over the course of 2009. The global financial and economic crisis already has provoked a deep recession and falling living standards. Kyiv will need to make a real effort to strike a balance between integration into Europe and the Euro-Atlantic community and maintaining stable relations with Russia. Doing so will not be easy, as Russia regards Ukraine's pro-Western policy as inimical to Russian interests, and Ukraine's politics are subject to influence from Moscow. In particular, Ukraine must address its energy security situation, where it remains vulnerable to Russian pressure."

The paper points out that "Ukraine is the most democratic state in the post-Soviet space, and its domestic debate is vibrant and open, but its politics are highly dysfunctional." It goes on to urge the Obama administration to resist the temptation "to wait for the leadership in Kyiv to get its act together, given how divided it is," adding "Washington does not have the luxury of waiting; absent strong U.S. engagement, the situation in Ukraine will likely worsen and require greater American attention at a future point."

The paper's authors write that "Washington should focus on four areas." Following are excerpts of the report's outline of those areas.

- Structure a bilateral dialogue to have maximum influence with Ukraine's lead-

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Yushchenko nominates Shamshur as foreign affairs minister

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on March 17 nominated Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Shamshur to replace the ousted Volodymyr Ohryzko as Ukraine's foreign affairs minister, rejecting the de facto parliamentary coalition's support for Borys Tarasyuk.

Just hours after President Yushchenko announced the nomination of Dr. Shamshur, a diplomat who favors Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration, the pro-Russian Party of Regions of Ukraine declared its opposition.

It remained unclear whether Ambassador Shamshur's nomination would eventually gain the support of the de facto coalition – consisting of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc and a slight majority of Our Ukraine deputies – which submitted its nomination of Mr. Tarasyuk, who once held the post, on March 6.

"The coalition deputies are concerned that Bankova [the presidential administration] expresses its blatant disrespect to the nation's highest legislative organ, elected by the Ukrainian people," said a March 17 coalition statement, issued after President Yushchenko ignored the nomination of Mr. Tarasyuk without offering an explanation.

President Yushchenko is unlikely to nominate Mr. Tarasyuk because he led the majority of the Our Ukraine parliamentary faction in breaking allegiance with the Presidential Secretariat in December and aligning with Prime Minister Tymoshenko to form the de facto Coalition for National Development, Stability and Order.

The coalition doesn't have a majority and exists only because the president still chooses not to enforce his September 2008 decree dismissing Parliament.

Meanwhile two days after Ambassador Shamshur's nomina-

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Yaro Bihun

Ambassador Oleh Shamshur, President Viktor Yushchenko's nominee for minister of foreign affairs.

ANALYSIS

NATO resumes full-fledged relations with Russia after nine-month suspension

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The ministers of foreign affairs of NATO's 26 countries held an informal meeting on March 5 in Brussels, following the defense ministers' meeting in Krakow on February 19 and 20 (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, February 23-24). Both were preparatory to NATO's April 3-4 summit. The Brussels meeting decided to resume full official relations with Russia, effective soon after the summit.

NATO had largely suspended political relations and fully suspended military ones in the wake of Russia's invasion of Georgia in August 2008. That event challenged the post-1991 international order and continues to reverberate strongly in Europe and Eurasia, although its implications are not being fully addressed.

The alliance had ruled out "business as usual with Russia" (as the stock phrase went) in August 2008 until Russia abided by the French-brokered armistice in Georgia, withdrew its forces from internationally recognized Georgian territories, and returned to the "status quo ante."

Since then, however, Russia has introduced thousands of additional troops into Abkhazia and South Ossetia, is building a network of military bases there, has recognized the "independence" of the two territories, carried out ethnic cleansing of Georgians, and bars United Nations, OSCE and European Union observers from entering the occupied areas (unless these organizations first recognize the two territories' "independence").

Nevertheless, NATO is now reverting to business as usual and even more than usual with Russia. The reasons for NATO's turn-about are both structural and circumstantial. Some of the most influential Western

European governments have developed separate bilateral relations with Russia that often enfeeble allied policies, particularly in Europe's East. A group of five countries – said to be Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Norway – took the lead in pushing for full resumption of relations with Moscow (AFP, February 26, March 4). Meanwhile, both the new U.S. administration and NATO sought with growing urgency Russian "cooperation" to extricate themselves from policy failures on Iran and Afghanistan.

Consequently, NATO is inviting Russia to resume regular official meetings at various levels, starting with a reconvened NATO-Russia Council meeting shortly after the alliance's summit. Defending this decision at the March 5 ministerial meeting, NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer argued, "Russia is an important global player and this means that not talking to them is not an option" (DPA, March 5; Ahto Lobjakas, "NATO U-Turn on Russia Seen as an Embarrassment," RFE/RL, March 9).

This would imply that NATO had no option left; and that Russian military action is a cost-free option for Moscow outside NATO territory, in Europe's East. It also implies making amends for "not talking" to Russia officially for a while in response to the invasion of Georgia. That response was little more than symbolic, but the alliance is now ruling even this symbolic option out, apparently without a substitute let alone a more effective one.

The ministers agreed that the situation in Georgia would be discussed with Moscow in the framework of the NATO-Russia Council. This decision is meant to demonstrate that the alliance is not ignoring the issue and will raise it in a dialogue with

(Continued on page 22)

NATO-Russia Council to resume meetings in the wake of April summit

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

NATO has not invited Russia to the alliance's summit on April 3 and 4. The event,

Clarification

The Ukrainian Weekly last week reported that Melanne Vermeer had been named by President Barack Obama as ambassador at large for women's global issues. The story was based on a March 6 press release headlined "President Obama Announces Key State Department Appointments" that was circulated by the White House. That same release also quoted President Obama as saying: "Each of these individuals brings a deep knowledge and expertise in their field, along with a commitment to strengthen American diplomacy to meet 21st century challenges. They will be joining a leadership team at the State Department which will be at the forefront of our effort to renew America's security and standing in an uncertain world." In fact, however, Ms. Vermeer (and the other two persons mentioned in the release) was nominated, not appointed, to the post.

A later release from the White House, dated March 11, made it clear that Ms. Vermeer's and other nominations were sent to the Senate for its action.

to be held on both sides of the Franco-German border, is billed as a family affair for NATO member-countries. NATO has nevertheless initiated ahead of the summit a normalization of relations with Russia. The NATO-Russia Council and other political and consultative processes, which NATO had suspended after Russia's invasion of Georgia in August 2008, are to resume shortly after the summit.

The suspension of relations has done no more to ameliorate Georgia's situation than the resumption of relations could conceivably do to moderate Moscow's conduct in Europe's East or toward NATO. Since the alliance's summit one year ago, Russia has significantly stepped up its challenges to the post-1991 international order. In addition to invading Georgia, it has threatened to dismember Ukraine and to target Russian missiles on NATO countries that would station elements of the U.S. anti-missile shield. It has completed the evisceration of the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe, manipulated energy supplies for political leverage in Europe, resorted to cyber warfare, is posing a growing problem for Allies through penetration of Western economic and socio-political systems (Stratfor, March 3), and has orchestrated the closure of the U.S.-led coalition's air base in Kyrgyzstan – to list the challenges within NATO's remit or

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NEWSBRIEFS

SBU director cites priorities

KYIV – Reporting to the Verkhovna Rada on March 17, Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, the chief of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), said preventing offenses against Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence are the top priorities of the SBU. The SBU has fulfilled dozens of actions over the past two and a half years aimed at preventing such activities. Another priority for the SBU is combating xenophobia, racism and extremism, said Mr. Nalyvaichenko. He also noted that, due to the global financial turmoil, the SBU has prepared in-house plans for 2009 involving means of countering the economic downturn. The agency also intensified work to combat corruption; in 2008 the SBU drew up 183 protocols on corrupt actions by officials. Yet another priority for the SBU is countering the activity of foreign security services on Ukrainian territory. In a Financial Times interview with Roman Olearchyk, Mr. Nalyvaichenko said that Kyiv seeks better relations with Russia, but would continue to crack down on "Russian politicians" who interfered in the country's domestic politics. "Good relations are when a neighbor does not stretch across the fence into your yard," he said, referring to Russian support for pro-Russian political groups in Ukraine, including separatists on the Crimean peninsula, home to Russia's Black Sea Fleet. (Ukrinform, Financial Times)

Envoy praises Obama administration

KYIV – The administration of President Barack Obama will support Ukraine's independence and sovereignty better than the previous administrations of the United States, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor told an audience at the National Academy of the Procurator's Office on March 12. He assured that his country believes Ukraine to be an exceptionally important country, enjoying the support of both Democrats and Republicans, and both the executive and legislative branches of the U.S. government. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine-U.S. consultations slated

KYIV – Ukraine-U.S. consular consultations will be held on March 24 in Washington. The Ukrainian delegation will be headed by Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Oleksander Kupchyshyn, the ministry's Press Secretary Vasyl Kyrylych told a briefing on March 16. He said the event is significant because these consultations will be the first for the new U.S. administration. Among the topics planned for discussion are the state of fulfillment of provisions of existing bilateral documents on the Consular Convention in the context of the protection of the rights and interests of citizens and legal entities of the two states. The parties will also discuss the issue of international adoptions and migration visa problems. (Ukrinform)

Ohryzko appointed to NSDC

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on March 17 appointed Ukraine's ex-Foreign Affairs Minister Volodymyr Ohryzko as first deputy secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (NSDC). On March 3, the Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution to dismiss Mr. Ohryzko from his post as foreign affairs minister. (Ukrinform)

Six Ukrainians on Forbes list

KYIV – The American business magazine Forbes on March 11 released its annual list of multimillionaires. The list includes six Ukrainian citizens. Among the Ukrainians, Rinat Akhmetov is considered to be the richest with a capital of \$7.3 billion (U.S.). He ranks 127th on the list of multimillionaires. Viktor Pinchuk, with \$5 billion, is 203rd on the list; Igor Kolomoisky, with \$4.2 billion, is 50 numbers lower. Also lower on the list are Hennadii Boholiubov, with \$4 billion; Kostiantyn Zhevaho, with \$3.4 billion; and Serhii Taruta, with \$2.7 billion. The total capital of the Ukrainian oligarchs adds up to \$26.6 billion. (Ukrinform)

Honorary consulate opens in Florence

KYIV – Ukraine's Ambassador to Italy

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NEWS ANALYSIS: Nalyvaichenko becomes SBU chief after two years in legal limbo

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The Verkhovna Rada on March 6 approved President Viktor Yushchenko's nomination of Valentyn Nalyvaichenko for chief of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU). Mr. Yushchenko's choice was backed by 230 votes in the 450-seat unicameral body. Mr. Nalyvaichenko was supported by a coalition of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's bloc, Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn's bloc, and the pro-Tymoshenko wing of Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD), as well as its pro-Yushchenko wing (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 6).

This was a surprise vote decided by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), which changed its mind overnight after threatening to reject Mr. Nalyvaichenko. He had been rejected by Parliament several times in the past; but since President Yushchenko was adamant, Mr. Nalyvaichenko headed the SBU as acting chief since December 2006 when Parliament approved the dismissal of his predecessor, Ihor Drizhchany. It was probably Mr. Nalyvaichenko's unclear status that made him especially loyal to Mr. Yushchenko, who could have dismissed him as acting chief of the SBU at any time, without consulting either Prime Minister

Tymoshenko or Parliament.

Unlike his predecessor Leonid Kuchma, who had all the law-enforcement agencies under his control, Mr. Yushchenko, weakened by the constitutional reform of 2004-2006, can rely only on the SBU. The police are supervised by Ms. Tymoshenko's ally Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko, while Procurator General Oleksander Medvedko and especially his deputies gravitate toward the Party of Regions. In addition, the Supreme Court is chaired by Vasyly Onopenko, another Tymoshenko ally.

By legitimizing Mr. Nalyvaichenko's status, Ms. Tymoshenko should make him more institutionally independent from the president. It is interesting that Mr. Yushchenko withdrew Mr. Nalyvaichenko's nomination on January 18 after submitting it to Parliament on January 16 (UNIAN, March 5). First Vice Prime Minister Oleksander Turchynov, who is Ms. Tymoshenko's right-hand man, opined that Mr. Yushchenko had recalled the nomination "in order to have a powerless person and not to have an officially appointed head of the SBU, as the SBU head should be appointed and dismissed by Parliament" (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 4).

Mr. Yushchenko submitted the Nalyvaichenko nomination again on March 5, a day after the SBU had stormed the



Zenon Zawada

The Verkhovna Rada on March 6 approved the candidacy of Valentyn Nalyvaichenko to chair the Security Service of Ukraine.

premises of the Naftohaz Ukrainy national oil and gas company and arrested customs official Taras Shepitko for giving Naftohaz customs clearing for gas that had earlier belonged to RosUkrEnergo. Ms. Tymoshenko protested against the arrest and the search, which she alleged were organized to defend the interests of RosUkrEnergo's co-owner Dmytro Firtash (Interfax-Ukraine, March 4; see Eurasia Daily Monitor, March 6).

Russia's Gazprom, which owns 50 percent of RosUkrEnergo's shares, authorized Naftohaz to take that gas from underground storage facilities in lieu of payment for gas transit in 2009, according to Ms. Tymoshenko. Mr. Firtash, however, insists that the gas belongs to RosUkrEnergo and is destined for consumers in the European Union. President Yushchenko backed the SBU's actions.

The raid on Naftohaz was apparently conducted when Mr. Nalyvaichenko was away from Kyiv. It was supervised by the first deputy chief of the SBU, Valerii Khoroshkovskiy, an opponent of Ms. Tymoshenko and reportedly a partner of Mr.

Firtash in the media business. Simultaneously with approving Mr. Nalyvaichenko, Parliament passed a motion urging President Yushchenko to dismiss Mr. Khoroshkovskiy for the raid and for arresting Mr. Shepitko (Interfax-Ukraine, March 6). Mr. Shepitko was later released, and the YTB explained its support for Mr. Nalyvaichenko's nomination by the role he apparently played in Mr. Shepitko's release (Ukrayinski Novyny, March 6).

YTB caucus leader Ivan Kyrylenko said, "We gave Mr. Nalyvaichenko a chance, and we believe that as the legitimate head of the SBU he will be fully controlled by and report to Parliament."

OU-PSD National Deputy Yuriy Karmazin offered a different explanation for the YTB's change of heart. According to Mr. Karmazin, Mr. Yushchenko was considering appointing Mr. Khoroshkovskiy as acting chief of the SBU instead of Mr. Nalyvaichenko, so by appointing Mr. Nalyvaichenko Parliament prevented the appointment of a hard-liner (Delo, March 10).

Another OU-PSD deputy, Ksenia Liapyna, an ally of Mr. Yushchenko, suggested that the YTB had changed its mind about Mr. Nalyvaichenko because during its search at Naftohaz the SBU apparently found certain documents compromising Ms. Tymoshenko's government (www.liga.net, March 6).

It has been made clear to Mr. Nalyvaichenko that he could lose his post if he does not distance himself from President Yushchenko. In addition to requesting that Mr. Nalyvaichenko dismiss Mr. Khoroshkovskiy, Parliament also advised him to change his personnel policy in general (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 6).

Oleksander Skybynetsky, a former SBU deputy chief and current YTB deputy, gave more specific advice, saying that Mr. Nalyvaichenko should hire people from the YTB. Mr. Nalyvaichenko is expected to report on his personnel policy on March 17, and it is not ruled out that Parliament will dismiss him immediately if he does not heed Mr. Skybynetsky's recommendation (Delo, March 10). The YTB is already prepared for that. Just several hours after his appoint-

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Russian 'cyber-oppositionist' forced into psychiatric clinic

RFE/RL

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia – An opposition activist in St. Petersburg, Russia, who created several online opposition groups on the website contact.ru was forcibly placed in a psychiatric clinic, RFE/RL's Russian Service reported on March 16.

Vadim Charushev is an outspoken online critic of the Kremlin's position on the Holodomor – the 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine that led to millions of deaths. He also often criticizes Moscow policies

in the Caucasus.

It has been reported that Mr. Charushev was forcibly brought to a psychiatric clinic on March 7, where a mobile court satisfied a request by medical personnel to place him in the clinic.

The leader of the United Civic Front opposition movement's branch in St. Petersburg, Olga Kurnosova, told RFE/RL that Mr. Charushev's current state of health in the clinic is very worrisome. She said he has lost a lot of weight and looks sick.

Paula Dobriansky joins board of directors of Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation

WASHINGTON – Paula Dobriansky is one of three distinguished foreign policy professionals who have joined the board of directors of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOCMF). Dr. Dobriansky, undersecretary of state for democracy and global affairs from 2001 to 2009; Dr. Aldona Wos, U.S. ambassador to Estonia in 2004-2006; and Jay Katzen, regional director of the Peace Corps in 2004-2009, were welcomed aboard by Dr. Lee Edwards, foundation chairman.

"We welcome these esteemed foreign policy experts to the VOCMF board," he said. "They add wide ranging experience to a board that already numbers recognized authorities in every aspect of global affairs."

Dr. Dobriansky has also been senior vice-president and director of the Washington office of the Council on Foreign Relations and associate director for policy and programs at the United States Information Agency. She is the daughter of Dr. Lev Dobriansky, former U.S. ambassador, Georgetown University professor and tireless advocate of freedom and democracy who founded Captive Nations Week. He was also the first VOCMF chairman.

The Victims of Communism Memorial



Dr. Paula Dobriansky

Foundation is dedicated to memorializing the more than 100 million victims of communism and educating the public about the history, philosophy and legacy of communism. The foundation will launch the first online Global Museum on Communism in June of this year.

Quotable notes

"Russian officials should like what they are seeing from the Obama administration... But while improved ties with Moscow are desirable, the Obama team should rein in expectations and avoid the 'grand bargain' that some in the United States and Europe have recommended.

"The 'bargain' is simple: In exchange for Russian cooperation on containing the Iranian nuclear threat and other strategic issues, the United States would, to varying degrees, scale back its relations with Russia's neighbors, pause on missile defense plans and stay quiet about Russia's deteriorating human rights situation. ...

"Many questions are raised by such a trade-off: What price would secure Russian cooperation on Iran? Who exactly is going to tell Ukraine or Georgia that we have returned to a 'Russia first' policy? Does anyone believe that saying nothing about Kremlin crackdowns on domestic opponents would keep Moscow on board? And what if all this isn't enough? Moscow is likely to keep raising the fee for its cooperation -- in effect, extorting the United States. ...

"Moscow sees its surroundings in revisionist, zero-sum terms. Russia has tried to maintain a 'sphere of influence' along its borders, regardless of neighboring states' desires to lean westward. Moscow is threatened by Ukrainian and Georgian ties with NATO, even though NATO's eastward growth has been a source of stability over the past decade. ...

"Any 'grand bargain' the United States makes with Russia would be viewed in Moscow as a sign of U.S. desperation. A major American shift in missile defense policy absent a real retreat by Iran would be seen as a sign of weakness and would undercut friendly governments in Warsaw and Prague. Yes, the United States should work with Russia on issues including Iran, North Korea, counterterrorism, arms control and Afghanistan. But both sides must show interest in cooperation; above all, we must not bargain away our relations with Russia's neighbors or our own values."

– "No 'Grand Bargain,'" by David J. Kramer (assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor, and deputy assistant secretary of state responsible for Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova in the administration of George W. Bush), *The Washington Post*, March 6.

Ukrainian Free University celebrates its 88th birthday

MUNICH, Germany – At the annual Dies Academicus held on February 4, the Ukrainian Free University in Munich celebrated the 88th anniversary of its founding.

This year's academic commemoration took place in the Kardinal Wendel Haus. Among the 200 participants were distinguished guests from German universities and academic institutions; Cardinal Friedrich Wetter, recipient of an honorary doctorate from UFU; as well as bishops from Germany and Ukraine; consular representatives, and UFU lecturers and students.

The first part of the evening was commenced by the former rector, Dr. Albert Kipa, who in his inaugural speech titled "The Ukrainian Free University: Yesterday, Today And Tomorrow" gave an overview of the history of this unique academic institution, which finds itself at the beginning of a new phase of its existence in a new location. This plan was initiated during Prof. Kipa's term of office and completed during Prof. Ivan Myhul's term. Hence, Prof. Kipa symbolically passed the keys to the new building to Rector Myhul, who then thanked the guests for their continued support and interest in the Ukrainian Free University.

Oksana Noebauer, who spoke on behalf of the UFU student body, commented on the important role the university has in integrating Ukraine, and Ukrainian students, into the European Union. She also spoke of UFU as a unique meeting place for an exchange of ideas.

The highlight of the program was the presentations of two honorary doctorates.

The Senate of the Ukrainian Free University decided to bestow an honorary doctorate on the highly respected philoso-

pher and theologian Eugen Biser. The laudatio was given by Prof. Dr. Nicolas Szafowal, who praised the Rev. Dr. Biser for his groundbreaking work in philosophy and highlighted the key role that he plays in the academic world in Germany.

In light of the fact that Rev. Biser was unable to attend due to illness, he was represented by Marianne Kuester, head of the Eugen Biser Foundation.

This presentation was followed by the celebratory lecture titled "Theology and Science" held by Prof. Dr. Richard Heinzmann, former dean of the Faculty of Philosophy at Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich.

The well-known historian Dr. Orest Subtelny was the promoter of the second honorary doctorate bestowed that evening. The recipient was Ihor Orest Ian Ihnatowycz from Toronto. Prof. Subtelny praised Mr. Ihnatowycz for his generous deeds as a benefactor of Canadian and Ukrainian-Canadian institutions.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Ihnatowycz thanked his wife, Dr. Marta Witer, for her support of their joint endeavors, and his late father, who instilled in him a sense of responsibility for one's environment.

Throughout the evening, musical interludes featuring the works of Bach, Mozart, Dvorak and Skoryk were provided by Ukrainian musicians Vadym Sandler (violin), Svitlana Matviyenko (violin) and Alla Boborikina (piano).

The official part of the evening was concluded with the singing of "Guademus Igitur," and all guests were invited to a reception. Musical accompaniment on the harp was provided by Silke Aichhorn.



A view of the annual Dies Academicus ceremonies.



Ihor Orest Ian Ihnatowycz (right) receives an honorary doctoral degree in philosophy from UFU Rector Ivan Myhul, as Prof. Dr. Albert Kipa (left) and Philosophy Faculty Dean Yaroslava Melnyk look on.

President of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy to visit Canada in April-May

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – The Canada Ukraine Foundation (CUF) has announced that Dr. Serhiy Kvit, the president of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NUKMA) in Kyiv will be making a cross-Canada tour organized by the CUF from April 28 to May 5.

The foundation, with the cooperation of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, is organizing Dr. Kvit's tour of major Ukrainian centers in Canada that will include Toronto, Ottawa and Hamilton in Ontario; Winnipeg, Manitoba; and Edmonton and Calgary, Alberta. The aim of the tour is to promote the purpose and activities of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy as well as to garner financial, organizational and academic support for the university's future growth and development.

The tour will include meetings with the Ukrainian community, presentations on the university's current activities and plans discussions with representatives from Canadian universities and colleges, and several fundraising banquets. Specific dates and details will be released within the next few weeks.

The National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy is the oldest institute of higher learning in Ukraine, having been founded in 1632. It is located in the Podil district of Kyiv and has a current enrollment of some 3,000 students. It offers a broad array of courses in both Ukrainian and English, and is particularly renowned for its business school, regarded as the best in Ukraine.

It has ties to numerous universities and institutes in Ukraine and abroad, including an active partnership in Canada with the University of Alberta, Grant MacEwan College (Edmonton), the University of Ottawa, the University of Toronto and the University of Western Ontario (London), and the University of Manitoba (Winnipeg). It also has affiliations and partnerships with several U.S. universities, among them Harvard, Columbia, Stanford and Johns Hopkins, as well as the universities of

Pennsylvania, Alabama, Minnesota, Michigan and Arizona.

Dr. Kvit was elected president of NUKMA in 2007, succeeding Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, the academy's first president subsequent to its revival in 1991 following Ukraine's independence. Dr. Kvit is one of Ukraine's most respected scholars in the field of communications, journalism and philology. He is the author of seven books and numerous other publications.

Bohdan Onyschuk, chair of the Canada Ukraine Foundation, explained that "the foundation's relationship with NUKMA goes back to CUF's own creation in 1996. Since that time we have supported KMA through the generous donations of Ukrainian Canadians in the order of more than \$600,000."

"We are now entering into a new phase at CUF – more serious support of the important educational, nation-building and cultural

institutions of Ukraine, with particular support on the post secondary educational level – and the support of KMA is one of our chosen priorities, because KMA is developing the next generation of patriotic civic and

business leaders in Ukraine," he added. "Therefore, we have organized this cross-Canada tour with Dr. Serhiy Kvit, in order

(Continued on page 19)

National University of Kyiv-Myhola Academy: Ukraine's oldest institution of higher learning

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – The Kyiv Mohyla Academy, or officially the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NUKMA), is the oldest institution of higher learning in Ukraine, dating back to the 17th century.

In 1632, two smaller schools, the Kyiv Brotherhood and Lavra schools merged to form the Kyiv-Mohyla Collegium under the patronage of Petro Mohyla, an influential Orthodox theologian and church leader who became metropolitan of Kyiv and Halych in 1633.

In 1658, under the terms of the Treaty of Haidach between the Kozaks and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, it was accorded official status as an academy.

For the next two centuries most of the intellectual and political elite of Ukraine gained their education in its hallowed halls, including Hetman Ivan Mazepa, philosopher Hryhoriy Skovoroda and scientist Mikhail Lomonosov.

It was acknowledged as one of the leading centers of learning in Eastern Europe and attracted students from Poland, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Serbia, Bulgaria and Greece.

Following the break-up of the Kozak state and the imposition of Russian rule, the school was closed down by Russian Tsar Alexander I in 1817. In 1819 a smaller theological school, the Kyiv Theological Academy was allowed to re-open, but was limited to religious studies with greatly restricted admissions policies. Under the

Soviets, this too was liquidated and the premises were taken over by a military school.

In 1991, with the fall of the Soviet state, a new Kyiv-Mohyla Academy arose from the ashes with Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetsky as its first president. The school modeled itself after North American universities, offering bachelor's and master's level programs, with admissions based strictly on qualifications. In 1992, its first year of operations, the school had an enrollment of 529 students. This grew in succeeding years to 873 in 1993, 1,068 in 1994, 1,496 in 1995, 2,168 in 1996 and 2,895 in 1997.

Currently, the academy admits some 1,200 first-year students each year and offers a variety of bachelor's, masters's and doctoral programs under the faculties of humanities, law, economics, natural sciences, social sciences and technologies and computer sciences. Instruction is offered in both the Ukrainian and English languages.

One of NUKMA's most interesting components is the renowned Kyiv Mohyla Business School. Formed in 2005, it aspires to be one of the top five business schools in Central and Eastern Europe. Its MBA program is recognized as the most prestigious and valued in all of Ukraine. It has close ties to numerous business schools in Canada and the U.S. and a strong faculty of Western-educated teachers.

The chairman of the Board of the Business School is James Temerty, CEO of Canada's Northland Power Co.

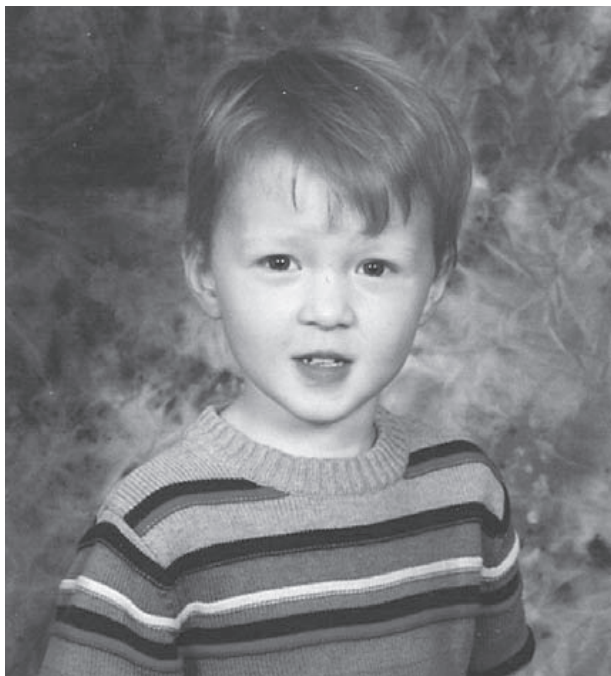


Dr. Serhiy Kvit

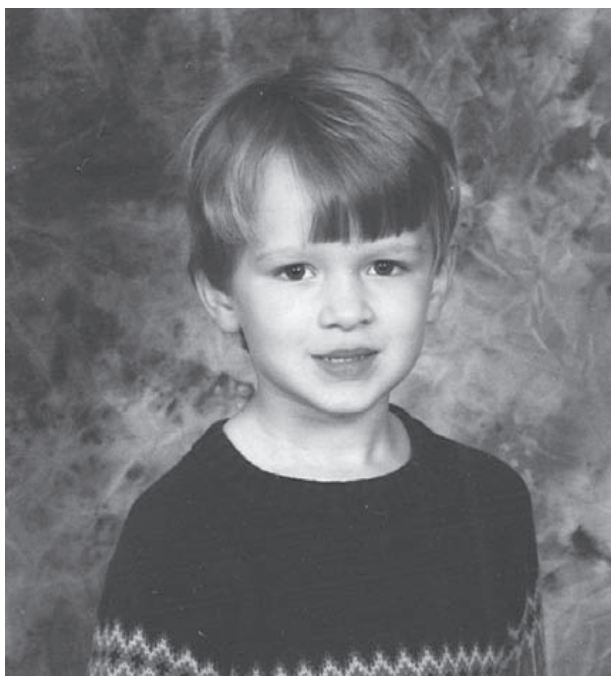


THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Nathaniel D. Malaniak, son of Alexander and Lisa Malaniak of Boise, Idaho, is a new member of UNA Branch 360. He was enrolled by his grandparents Bohdar and Anna Malaniak.



Nicholas M. Malaniak, son of Alexander and Lisa Malaniak of Boise, Idaho, is a new member of UNA Branch 360. He was enrolled by his grandparents Bohdar and Anna Malaniak.



Grace Anne "Meetsia" Harvey, daughter of Shawn Harvey and Natalia Borysenko Harvey of Cape Coral, Florida, is a new member of UNA Branch 76. She was enrolled by her godmother, Olena Boyko.

UNA Branch 13 holds annual meeting



WATERVLIET, N.Y. – Members of St. Nicholas Brotherhood Society (Bratstvo) and Ukrainian National Association Branch 13 gather around newly elected officers at the yearly meeting held at the Ukrainian American Citizens Club in Watervliet, N.Y., on Sunday, February 15. Seated (from left) are: Bratstvo Secretary Taras Myshchuk, Bratstvo President Slavko Tysiak (who also is an auditor on the UNA General Assembly), UNA Branch 13 Secretary Mykola Fil (also an advisor on the UNA General Assembly), Bratstvo Treasurer John Suchowacki and senior Bratstvo member Seman Ksenych.

– Nicholas Fil

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: February

Amount	Name	City	Name	City
\$155.00	Jaroslav and Vera Kryshtalsky	Forest Hills, NY	Kristina Zaluckyj	Hugo, MN
\$100.00	Oksana Zakydalsky	Toronto, ON	\$15.00 Doris Hladky	Hollywood, FL
\$55.00	Raymond Badynskyj	Phoenix, AZ	Myron Komarynsky	Kirkwood, MO
	Zenon and Dozia Krislaty	Cleveland, OH	Wasył and Stanisława Kovach	Stratford, CT
	Victoria Malick	Union Hall, VA	Christina Kowinko	Stratford, CT
	Stefan Peleschuk	Stamford, CT	Zenia Kuzel	Rochester, NY
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\$35.00	Michael Sosiak	Curitiba, Parana, Brazil	Malyna Dziuba	West Seneca, NY
	Oleh Sydor	Glen Ellyn, IL	M. Hirniak	Dulles, VA
	Larysa Szanc-Smarsh	Astoria, NY	Stephan and Daria Krawczeniuk	Jersey City, NJ
\$30.00	Roman and Victoria Maksimowich	Warren, MI	Eustachius Krawczuk	North Port, FL
\$25.00	W. Balko	Ledgewood, NJ	B. Marchuk	Hinsdale, IL
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	Ihor and Natalie Gawdiak	Columbia, MD	Daria Mehrle	New York, NY
	Oleh Karawan	Inverness, IL	M. Nazarewycz	Phoenix, AZ
	Roman Knysh	Ellicott City, MD	Natalia Ripeckyj	Eau Clair, WI
	Nickolas Kotow	Bethel Park, PA	Peter Romanyszyn	Arvada, CO
	Ihor Kowalysko	Warren, MI	O. Rybak	Berlin, MD
	D. Kozak	Greenville, NC	Joseph Sachno	Flushing, NY
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	Oleh Mahlay	Hinckley, OH	\$5.00 Merle and Bonnie Jurkiewicz	Toledo, OH
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	I. Sawchyn	Morristown, NJ	Mary Malenczuk	Syracuse, NY
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	Gregory Tkaczyk	St. Catharines, ON	Zoriana Siokalo	Newtown PA
	I. Zabytko	Apopka, FL		
\$20.00	Michael Drabek	McLean, VA		
	Maria Dychdala	Norristown, PA		
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	J. Panchuk	Chicago, IL		
	Helen Petryshyn	Sarasota, FL		
	Roxolana Podpirka	Whitestone, NY		
	Stephan Uzzell	Woodstock, MD		
	Alice Yarysh	Rocky Hill, CT		

TOTAL: \$2,135.00

Sincere thanks to all contributors to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund.

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund is the only fund dedicated exclusively to supporting the work of this publication.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Ternopil votes

The Ternopil Oblast Council elections are cause for both hope and trepidation. It was encouraging that 54 percent of Ternopil residents ignored the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc's attempts to sabotage the election and went to their local polling stations, all of which were reported to be functioning, more or less. Just as Ternopil played a critical role during the Rukh independence movement and the Orange Revolution, its residents again proved that democracy, when it works right, is necessary for a healthy society because it places the greater need above the whims and desires of any single individual or interest group.

Hopefully the lesson Yulia Tymoshenko gains from this experience is that she's not above the Constitution of Ukraine, and needs to play by the rules of the political game instead of making them up as she goes along.

Like the Mukachiv mayoral election in 2004, the Ternopil election was viewed as a litmus test for the next presidential election. In a number of ways, it was quite revealing of what lies ahead. Significantly, Ternopil was the only Halychyna oblast that the Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) won in the 2006 parliamentary election; now it's the first Halychyna oblast to reject her.

While the true result for the Tymoshenko Bloc won't ever be known, given that the bloc asked Ternopil residents to avoid the election, it's clear that its support has declined significantly, particularly in western Ukraine. Ms. Tymoshenko's lukewarm support for Georgia in the South Ossetian war, followed by deal-making with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin behind President Viktor Yushchenko's back, clearly irritated western Ukrainians.

In its desperation, the bloc showed a complete lack of composure and sense of perspective, resorting to Orwellian arguments in defending its sabotage. "Elections took place in the Soviet Union," argued YTB National Deputy Andrii Shevchenko during the "Shuster Live" program. "Elections occurred in North Korea recently. The simple fact of elections says nothing."

Yes, Mr. Shevchenko, perhaps those totalitarian governments did hold elections, albeit restricting the candidates to Communist Party members. But canceling elections 12 days before they're to be held, just because the prime minister doesn't like the anticipated outcome, is a demonstration of despotism in its own right.

How far President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Tymoshenko have fallen from four years ago when voters were ready to give their lives on their behalf. Having done nothing to fulfill the promises made on Independence Square during the Orange Revolution, Our Ukraine is now extinct, while the Tymoshenko Bloc is far off its 2007 peaks. The failure of the Orange forces to provide any leadership has driven voters to the nationalists in their increasingly desperate attempt to find politicians that will represent their interests and stand up to the oligarchs who have done little to improve their lives. And it's not that Ternopil residents are exceptionally keen on nationalism, as polls revealed any party led by Arseniy Yatsenyuk would have earned many of their votes had he competed. That's what democracy is supposed to be about – offering new politicians a chance to clean up government when the old ones fail.

Peacefully elected nationalists are certainly preferable to the gangs of thugs with shaven heads that stormed Mukachiv polling stations in 2004, stealing voting protocols and beating up those opposed to former President Leonid Kuchma. Thousands of votes were trashed and the new mayor was declared the next day without a proper tally or adherence to election procedures.

In the Ternopil elections, the most serious accusations involved falsifying votes in favor of Single Center and the Party of Regions, which was also reported to have been involved in buying votes. Aside from the Friday the 13th brawl at the Zbruch printing house, no significant incidents of physical violence or threats were reported.

If nothing else, that's a definite sign of progress since the Kuchma days.

March
25
1999

Turning the pages back...

Ten years ago, on March 25, 1999, Vyacheslav Chornovil, a Verkhovna Rada national deputy, leader of the Rukh Party and a former Soviet political prisoner, was killed in a collision involving his Toyota and a Kamaz tractor-trailer truck. He was 61.

The accident occurred just before midnight near the village of Horodysche, on the Boryspil-Zolotonosha highway near Boryspil International Airport, outside of Kyiv. Mr. Chornovil and his driver were killed instantly, but his press secretary, Dmytro Ponomarchuk, was hospitalized with serious injuries. In a separate vehicle following Mr. Chornovil was Hennadii Udovenko, the former minister of foreign affairs, whom the Rukh Party supported as a presidential candidate.

Mr. Chornovil wrote the book "Lykho z Rozumu" (The Misfortune of Intellect), published in English as "The Chornovil Papers," chronicling the secret trials of Ukrainian intellectuals by the Soviets in 1965-1966. He was imprisoned in 1972 for his work as editor of the underground journal *Ukrayinskyi Visnyk* (The Ukrainian Herald). In 1979 he became a member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, and in 1988 he became a founding member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union.

Mr. Chornovil was a founding member of the Rukh Party that called for Ukraine's independence during the period characterized by the Soviet policy of glasnost and perestroika (perebudova in Ukrainian). Prior to his death, Mr. Chornovil was ousted as leader of the Rukh faction at what he described as an illegitimate congress of Rukh. But a separate scheduled congress of Rukh reasserted Mr. Chornovil's position as the leader of the organization.

Police reported that more than 10,000 people attended Mr. Chornovil's funeral on March 29, 1999. Ukraine observed a national day of mourning for his passing, and condolences were sent from the United States and Poland, and their respective diplomatic missions.

Some have speculated that the accident in which Mr. Chornovil was killed was politically motivated.

Source: "Chornovil killed in car accident," by Roman Woronowycz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 28, 1999.

NEWS AND VIEWS

The genocidal Holodomor: Where do we go from here?

by Yaroslav Bilinsky

It is eminently fit, to use the English word, or prope, in French, that, under the weight of new evidence, Nicolas Werth has changed his old judgment and in 2008 publicly declared that the Holodomor was indeed genocide. See especially the conclusion of his keynote speech at Harvard's Holodomor conference" (The Ukrainian Weekly, Sunday, March 1) "...[T]he answer to the question, 'Was the Holodomor a genocide?' can only be a resounding 'yes.'"

Since Dr. Werth, the author or co-author of 14 books on the history of the Soviet Union, is the research director of the Institute for Contemporary History (IHTP) of the highly respected National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) in Paris, his scholarly conversion will help to convince honest intellectuals in Europe. But since most of the Russian intellectuals, with only a few exceptions – as, for instance, Dr. Yelena Bonner Sakharov, the widow of Academician Andrei D. Sakharov, and Sakharov's associate Dr. Sergey Kovalev – have opted for Eurasia rather than Europe, they will follow Dr. Werth's path only "when shrimps will learn to whistle," or, in plain English: never!

I was pleased that Dr. Werth cited, as evidence, Stalin's public statement that "the Ukrainian peasant question... was, 'in essence, a national question, the peasants constituting the principal force of the national movement.'"

It was a Holodomor survivor and Ukrainian publicist, the late Vasyl I. Hryshko, in his 1983 book "The Ukrainian Holocaust of 1933," who first drew our attention to Stalin's very revealing statement. Hryshko's book was financed by the survivors' Bahriany Foundation. Robert Conquest then picked up Hryshko's discovery in his minor masterpiece of 1986, "The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror Famine." So did others.

Even more important for Dr. Werth's conversion was a posthumously published study written in 1953 by none other than Raphael Lemkin. It was Lemkin who had coined the term genocide. Lemkin was also the spiritual father of the 1948 U.N. Convention on Genocide.

Where do we go from here? I offer two

Dr. Yaroslav Bilinsky is the author of the books "The Ukraine: The Second Soviet Republic After World War II" (1964) and "Endgame in NATO's Enlargement: The Baltic States and Ukraine" (1999) and numerous professional articles, the latest of which is "The Holodomor-Genocide of 1932-1933 and Ukrainian Independence," The Ukrainian Quarterly, Vol. LXVI, Nos. 1-2, Spring-Summer 2008. He is professor emeritus of political science and international relations, University of Delaware, and can be reached at yby@udel.edu.

practical suggestions. First, let us subscribe to the new Canadian journal Holodomor Studies. Second, let us agree in advance on the inscription on the Famine-Genocide Memorial in Washington.

The journal's inaugural issue contains Lemkin's "Soviet Genocide in the Ukraine." The article itself and the entire journal is edited by Montreal historian Roman Serbyn. Dr. Serbyn has been working in Ukrainian archives and has inherited the role of the prematurely deceased Dr. James E. Mace. Dr. Werth, in his keynote address, has been very complimentary toward Dr. Serbyn, who graduated from the Sorbonne.

The Holodomor monument, which will soon be built in a prime location in Washington will, ideally, carry the inscription: "For the 10 million victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide (Holodomor) of 1932-1933, from the Government of Ukraine, with the assistance of United States Congress and the Ukrainian American Community." The text in bold letters is non-negotiable, a sine qua non, because it was the U.S. Congress itself that had authorized the building of a monument for Ukrainian Famine-Genocide.

The italicized word Holodomor, though well-known to many Ukrainians in Ukraine, could perhaps be omitted. It must not however, be substituted for Famine-Genocide, because for many Americans the word Holodomor is still a question-mark. It is definitely not a good idea to put question-marks on important monuments.

The figure of 10 million was suggested by Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko himself. It was used in a very successful 75th anniversary commemoration in downtown Philadelphia by the Ukrainian community of greater Philadelphia and their American friends. Furthermore, I agree with a letter to the Editor of The Ukrainian Weekly "Re: the number of Famine deaths" (Sunday, January 11, p. 4), by Myroslaw Prytulak, of Windsor, Ontario. In his words: "... [T]he obviously rational, credible and convincing estimate of the number of Ukrainians who were starved to death in the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide appears to be 10 million – especially in the absence of other possible catastrophes between the censuses of 1926 and 1937 that could have resulted in such an enormous number of deaths."

In a nutshell, the estimate rests on a comparison of the number of Ukrainians in the entire USSR in 1926 and 1937. In 1926 there were 31 million Ukrainians, in 1937 there were only 26 million. Between those two censuses, the entire population of the USSR increased by 17 percent. Had ethnic Ukrainians kept pace with the average population increase, their number in 1937 would have been 36.3 million and not 26 million.

MAY WE HELP YOU?

To reach The Ukrainian Weekly call (973) 292-9800, and dial the appropriate extension (as listed below).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Good news about Dr. Shevchenko

Dear Editor:

This note brings the good news that Dr. Anatoliy Shevchenko had the prostate cancer surgery performed by Dr. Arnon Krongrad in Miami on February 22. (See *The Weekly*, February 8.) The surgery was a complete success and after a few weeks more of recovery – now already underway back in Seattle – Dr. Shevchenko will be able to return to his work in Chernivtsi and expect a long, healthy life.

Gifts made to the Jackson Memorial Foundation fund for Dr. Shevchenko totaled about 30 percent of the money that was needed. His daughter, Irina Snare, borrowed the second 30 percent from a friend and financed the final 30 percent with personal credit. While that scenario is not ideal, and it will take Irina many years to repay the \$20,000 total debt, she and her father are extremely grateful for the attention and consideration offered by everyone with whom I spoke over the several weeks I tried to help them.

The fund in Dr. Shevchenko's name at Jackson Memorial Hospital Foundation remains open and we are still trying to collect money – now to help Irina pay the debt she incurred. We just could not wait any longer to have the surgery take place. While prostate cancer is typically slow-growing it had already been more than three months since Dr. Shevchenko's initial diagnosis and the stress of waiting and worrying was complicating his otherwise good health. Jackson continues to monitor the money collected and through Dr. Krongrad's office ensures that the proceeds of the gifts received are used to pay down the debt. It is possible to make a credit card donation through the Jackson Memorial Foundation website: www.jmf.org. Please include the reference to Dr. Anatoliy Shevchenko in the section that asks for Contribution Details.

Thank you, for your outreach to your readers on behalf of Dr. Shevchenko's situation. We are working to identify the source of every gift that was received so that a proper thank-you note can be sent personally by Irina.

All donors received receipts and acknowledgement from Jackson, of course, but Irina and her dad want to thank everyone themselves as well. Irina told me: "I am not sure what inspired so many people to help us out, but I am very thankful and my whole outlook on life has changed. My father is feeling much better, and we never ever stop talking about Dr. Krongrad and the whole experience. In many ways it has inspired my dad to do things differently at his workplace."

Irina also regularly voiced her belief that she would not have been able to keep going with her pursuit of the goal without the kind responses she was hearing from my contacts with the Ukrainian community in the United States.

Mary Lynn Potenteau
Miami

The letter-writer is executive director of the Prostate Cancer Mission in Miami.

Re: monitoring school textbooks

Dear Editor:

In a recent letter to the editor, "School

textbooks must be monitored" (March 1), Dr. Maria Kiciuk pointed out the persistent problem of negative treatment of Ukrainian history in English-language textbooks.

This problem is exacerbated by many factors. First of all, in the traditional climate of American intellectual freedom, textbooks are ordered by individual instructors, some of whom might be unfamiliar or biased against Ukrainian history. Furthermore, before any book is published, publishers employ anonymous reviewers. In some instances those reviewers clearly express pro-Russian sentiments.

I agree with Dr. Kiciuk that this is a significant problem. In my opinion, it should be considered by Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and/or the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

Ivan Z. Holowsky
Somerset, N.J.

The letter-writer is professor-emeritus at Rutgers University - New Brunswick.

Another ski trip to Bukovel

Dear Editor:

The February 15 issue of *The Ukrainian Weekly* had an interesting piece by Viktoria Varvariv-Markowicz about skiing in Bukovel in the Carpathian Mountains. She is the daughter of an old friend and fellow student of mine at the gymnasium in Kholm.

Ms. Varvariv-Markowicz and her family, who now reside in Kyiv, were skiing (or "katalys' na lyzhakh," as the locals put it) in Bukovel in December 2008, less than a year after our ski trip there in March.

The improvements taking place in Ukraine are often astounding, and I wonder if the breakfast buffet also changed for the better at the Kozachok restaurant. Ms. Varvariv-Markowicz, who stayed with her family in a newer and better hotel nearby, which did not exist when we were there, said she preferred its breakfast buffet to the one they had at the Kozachok when they stayed at the Bukovel Hotel the year before.

It would probably take someone other than me to convince the management of Kozachok to light the food warmers on the buffet table which, I suspect, they took as an affront coming from a "diaspornyk."

Orest S. Slupchynskij
New York

We welcome your opinion

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

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

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

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

A nose for the weird

This year marks the bicentennials of several remarkable men: Lincoln, Darwin, Mendelssohn, Poe – and Mykola Vasyliovych Hohol. Born on April 1, 1809, in Sorochyntsi near Poltava, Gogol (as he is generally known) preceded his countryman Taras Shevchenko by five years. Unlike the serf Shevchenko, he came from a line of gentrified Kozaks and Orthodox priests. He died in 1852, not quite 43 years old, nine years before Shevchenko, who died at just 47.

Shevchenko, who chose to write in Ukrainian and was arrested for clandestine political activity, spent a decade in military exile beyond the Volga, forbidden to write or paint. Gogol wrote in Russian, though he spoke it with an accent and apparently considered it a foreign language. He befriended Alexander Pushkin, gained lasting fame, and spent a dozen years traveling about the great capitals of Europe.

In 1828 Gogol moved to the Russian capital of St. Petersburg and served two years as a government clerk. In 1831-1832 he published the two-volume "Evenings on a Farm Near Dykanka," containing stories drawn from Ukrainian folklore such as "Christmas Eve," "St. John's Eve" and "A Terrible Vengeance." In 1834, after nearly obtaining a position teaching world history at the new university of Kyiv, Gogol took an assistant professorship at St. Petersburg. In 1835 he published two more collections: "Mirgorod," including "Taras Bulba" and the supernatural folk story "Viy," and "Arabesques," which contained the droll yet disturbing "Memoirs of a Madman."

Gogol's experiences in the capital prompted a turn away from rural Ukrainian themes to urban motifs and the absurdities of the imperial bureaucracy.

In "The Nose," a barber opens up his breakfast roll to discover – well, a nose. The bizarre adventures of the barber, the nose and its owner were published in Pushkin's literary journal *The Contemporary* in 1836. That same year, Gogol's satirical play "The Government Inspector" premiered in St. Petersburg. Low-level bureaucrats everywhere can empathize with the protagonist of "The Overcoat" (1842), the meek government clerk Akakii Akakievich, who enjoys his job of copying documents (he even has his favorites among the letters of the alphabet) and, when offered the more challenging task of putting first-person verbs into the third person, begs to return to his accustomed routine.

From 1836 to 1848 Gogol lived abroad, visiting Paris, Switzerland and especially Italy, where the sunny climate reminded him of his beloved Ukraine. In Rome you can still see a commemorative plaque where he lived on the Via Sistina. It is a short walk to the Spanish Steps and down to the Via Condotti, where Gogol would mingle with foreign writers and painters at the Caffè Greco.

During this time he worked on his celebrated novel "Dead Souls," in which the hero, Chichikov, concocts a fraudulent financial scheme rivalling the latter-day exploits of Michael Milken or Jack Abramoff. The first volume appeared in 1842.

By this time Gogol, not content to be a world-famous novelist, had begun to see himself as a teacher and guide for the moral regeneration of Russia. Tragically, his peculiar talent and temperament were

not suited for this kind of writing. It was as if Rabelais had tried to become a Dante. Moreover, far from criticizing serfdom or autocracy, Gogol considered the Russian state as the ideal socio-political order. The didactic "Selected Passages from Correspondence with Friends" (1847) elicited angry reactions from both his Slavophile friend Aksakov and the liberal critic Belinsky.

Visiting Vienna in the summer of 1840, Gogol experienced a spiritual crisis. Spiritual crises are not uncommon among great artists, of course, and often lead to greater creative heights; one thinks of Dostoyevsky and Tolstoy. But Gogol could not reconcile his artistic impulses with his religious convictions. Around 1847 he came under the influence of an uneducated Russian priest who, by all accounts, deserved the over-used term of "fanatic." He urged Gogol to give up his art and may have been responsible for the excessive fasting that undermined his failing health.

On February 11, 1852, Gogol burned most of the second part of "Dead Souls." It is possible that he did not know what he was doing and immediately regretted it. Ill and tormented by second-rate physicians, Gogol continued his fasting, which was extreme even by Russian Orthodox standards, and even for Lent. When Metropolitan Filaret (Drozdov) of Moscow entreated him in the name of the Church to stop, he refused. He died on March 4.

Ukrainians naturally tend to favor Gogol's early folkloristic works. It is precisely these that novelist and critic Vladimir Nabokov found utterly uninteresting. "When I want a good nightmare," he wrote, "I imagine Gogol penning in Little Russian dialect volume after volume of *Dykanka* and *Mirgorod* stuff about ghosts haunting the banks of the Dniepr, burlesque Jews and dashing Cossacks." ("Nikolai Gogol," 1944, pp. 31-32) Yet, Nabokov also recognized what later critics explored more fully: that even these early writings bear the stamp of Gogol's quirky and peculiar imagination.

In his poem addressed to his countryman, Taras Shevchenko says, "you laugh, my great friend, while I weep." On Gogol's tombstone appears the biblical misquotation "Through my bitter word I shall laugh." But Gogol cannot be regarded as simply a humorist. Nor was he just a satirist attacking social injustice – though his early fame stemmed from that misperception. Soviet critics generally followed the views of 19th-century social reformers, who considered him a realist. Russian émigrés focused on Gogol's aesthetics. Modern critics have stressed the surreal and the grotesque in his works. But Gogol eludes them all.

Is Gogol Ukrainian enough for us? Surely he was no Shevchenko. Like most members of his class, he thought of himself as Russian by nationality and Ukrainian by ethnicity.

But let Gogol be Gogol. In his "History of Russian Literature from Its Beginnings to 1900" (New York, 1958) D.S. Mirsky concludes that no one in world literature surpassed Gogol's "superhuman power of creative imagination" (p. 152). Read his works. You will not be disappointed.

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UCU Vice-Rector Myroslav Marynovych celebrates 60th birthday

by Matthew Matuszak

LVIV – Like the title of one of his favorite American movies, it's been a wonderful life for Myroslav Marynovych. Like the classic movie's hero, he also struggled through a period of darkness to enter a great light.

At times, hope seemed very dim. For a decade he labored in the gulag for daring to expose human rights abuses in Soviet Ukraine. In prison, however, he found freedom in Christ. "The total conversion to Christianity in my case was caused by what you might call a personal revelation," he once told an interviewer. "After leaving the Gulag, I had to analyze the nature of evil and its hidden dangers while witnessing the urgency of kindness."

In Ukraine today, he is prominent in academic and political circles as a key figure in the ecumenical dialogue between Catholics and Orthodox. He does so from his post as vice-rector for university mission of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU).

On January 4 Mr. Marynovych turned 60. He waited to celebrate this milestone with UCU's students until after they returned from Christmas vacation on February 2. The festivities included a "vertep" (Christmas play) performed by members of the administration and a "creative meeting" with the students during which he shared some lessons on life.

As the UCU rector, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, explained in his introductory speech for the "creative meeting": "Mr. Marynovych agreed to share with us some lines from his biography... How to stand up for something when you are alone... A few years after leaving school, he made some fateful decisions. He was a prisoner at the age of 27."

In the presence of students and staff of the Ukrainian Catholic University, as well as young men from Holy Spirit Seminary, the Rev. Gudziak noted that "there were significant numbers of people involved in the underground Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Sixties generation, the UPA generation. But the group defending human rights in the 1970s was very small."

The Rev. Gudziak challenged the students: "Young people, listen carefully. Think: Am I ready to be a joyful, peace-making witness of Jesus Christ?"

Two UCU students then played the

bandura and violin during a slide show of pictures from Mr. Marynovych's life. Then Mr. Marynovych talked about his life, often giving examples to demonstrate his conviction that "Every element of our life is a prompting from God, an attempt to help us."

Mr. Marynovych recalled how, as a third-year student at Lviv Polytechnic University, he was detained by the KGB and accused of spreading "anti-Soviet lies." The KGB told him he had two choices: either cooperate by informing on critics of the Communist state or be expelled from the university.

He went back to the dormitory and heard students there saying lots of bad things about then Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and decided that he couldn't inform on them. He was expelled.

A few years later, he was in Kyiv helping found the Ukrainian Helsinki Group. They did not operate in secret.

Soon the authorities hauled him in and gave him an ultimatum. "Either you're for us or against us," they said in a scene worthy of the big screen.

"Then I'm against you," he replied.

"Only a young man could say that," Mr. Marynovych remarked. "Today, I would say: 'On the one hand... while on the other hand...'" The audience burst out laughing at his frankness.

"No one with a sound mind wants to go to prison," Mr. Marynovych explained. He realized this was a possibility while helping forming the Helsinki Accords monitoring group. He and his fellow activists considered the threat but concluded that other things were worse than prison. They had to continue their struggle, he said, because "otherwise we would have been ashamed of ourselves. Some day, I didn't want to have to look back into the past and say, 'I was too scared to do this.'"

Today, he can look into the mirror and feel justified.

He reflected on "radical breaks" in his life that made it seem "like more than one life." He recalled the hardships in the gulag (1977-1987), as opposed to his beautiful life now. "Good and evil were clearly before you in the camps," he explained. "There was tension in the spiritual life."

Mr. Marynovych described how "two promptings from God" encouraged him to begin his prolific career as a writer in many genres. In the gulag, some Russian



Myroslav Marynovych (center), vice-rector for university mission of the Ukrainian Catholic University, celebrated his 60th birthday, among other ways, by playing the role of King Herod in a vertep (Christmas play) that the staff of UCU's rector's office put on for the students.

poets read their works and suggested that he too should write. Then he heard another political prisoner, Oles Shevchenko, recite a poem brimming with hatred for the Russians.

"How people offend each other with words," Mr. Marynovych thought. He came up with the title of the book he would write, "The Gospel According to God's Fool." Throughout his talk to the students he read passages from this book, one of his many published works.

Reading from the book, he asked the audience: "Do we have a feeling that God is saying something to us?"

Marynovych reflected on how "Ukrainians and Jews were, for the first time, on equal terms in the camps. It was the first chance we had to listen to each other."

He then read some conciliatory lines that he had written about the Russians and, when Mr. Shevchenko heard these, Mr. Marynovych recalled what his fellow rights activist told him: "You know, Myroslav, after this, one wants to become a better person."

Mr. Marynovych was determined that he didn't want "to be a source of further harm to others."

He recounted how, when he returned from the camps, the "new generation encouraged [him] to go into politics. But I never wanted to do that."

"I wasn't successful in everything," he admitted. "Some questions still bother me today, like 'How can I influence what's happening in Ukraine now?'"

The best we can do, however, is what we are capable of doing where we find ourselves. "You can't always change the

world, but you can change the area immediately around you," he reflected. "You are an instrument in God's hands."

At the end of his presentation, he thanked his wife, Luba, who visited him when he was in the prison camp in Kazakhstan, by presenting her a bouquet of flowers. Then he showed a brief home movie in which he, his sister and late mother sang a song about a cuckoo.

Father Gudziak encouraged students and staff to get to know Mr. Marynovych. As Vadym Adadurov, a history professor at UCU, noted: "Marynovych is not a statue on which to place flowers, but a living, breathing authority."

In appreciation, the university presented him with a rocking chair upholstered in red velvet: UCU's "Marynovych Chair," the Rev. Gudziak quipped.

After liturgy was celebrated in the UCU chapel, Mr. Marynovych joined the staff of the rector's office in putting on a vertep for the students. He played King Herod and, among other actors, the Rev. Gudziak played the Devil. The moral incongruity between the roles and the men playing them was cause for comic appreciation.

Last December, Mr. Marynovych was awarded the Order of Freedom by President Viktor Yushchenko. In January he received the Vasyl Stus Prize.

The UCU Press is now preparing to publish the first of a planned four-volume collection of Mr. Marynovych's essays.

Further information about UCU (in English and Ukrainian) is available on the university's website at www.ucu.edu.ua.

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HURI conference breaks new ground in Holodomor studies

by Peter T. Woloschuk

PART 2

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) held the international conference “The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Holodomor and Its Consequences, 1933 to the Present” on November 17-18, 2008. The event drew some 30 of the world’s most noted experts on the Holodomor and an audience of nearly 120 scholars, students, diplomats and community representatives. Below is the second part of the detailed article on the conference presentations.

Third session

The third session of the conference, chaired by Mark Kramer (Director, Cold War Studies Program, Harvard University) looked at “The Mid-Term Aftermath of the Famine: The World War Two II Period.”

Roman Wysocki, assistant professor, Institute of History, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland discussed “Reactions to the Famine in Poland and Its West Ukrainian Regions.” Prof. Wysocki emphasized the fact that the Polish government had a very good idea of what was going on in Soviet Ukraine in spite of the sealed borders. The Poles had official representation in Kharkiv and Kyiv, a well-developed spy network throughout the country with 46 known posts, a sizable community of ethnic Poles living in Soviet Ukraine, and more than 5 million ethnic Ukrainians living within the borders of the Polish Republic.

He stressed that “Poles, the Polish government and the Polish media were the best informed people in Europe about what was going on in Ukraine.” He discussed the attitudes of government officials, the country’s media and social elites, and the leadership of the Ukrainian minority.

“Although some work has been done in Poland on the Holodomor in the last 20 years,” Prof. Wysocki said, “only five serious studies and approximately 15 articles have been published. We still don’t even know how much archival material exists. Much was destroyed during the second world war, but, surprisingly, both official and private documents are still surfacing.”

“From the material that we already have,” Prof. Wysocki continued, “it is clear that the Polish government as well as the elites of the country were closely following developments in Soviet Ukraine and throughout the USSR. They knew of the repressions, they knew of the Famine, and at lower, usually non-official levels, they even taunted Polish Ukrainians about the calamity.”

“In early 1933 the embassy in Kharkiv sent a dispatch saying that 700 people were dying each day in Kyiv alone,” he added. “Other dispatches indicated that the Famine was Moscow’s way of dealing

with Ukraine and the northern Caucasus region. Later, a dispatch guesstimated that more than 5 million people have already died in the country; and still later, another dispatch said that approximately half of the rural population of Ukraine had died.”

Prof. Wysocki stressed that in spite of strong anti-Communist, anti-Soviet, and anti-Russian feelings, the Polish government, for a number of political reasons, decided to maintain “normal” relations with the USSR, at almost any cost, even signing a non-aggression pact in the fall of 1932.

“Most telling,” Prof. Wysocki pointed out, “was that official Warsaw turned a blind eye to the suffering of hundreds of thousands of ethnic Poles in Ukraine. From the materials in the official state archive, it is clear that the government was closely monitoring the reaction of the Ukrainian leadership and Ukrainian organizations to the news of the Famine and actually moved to curtail mass protests when they developed and in Lviv used the murder of an employee at the Soviet Consulate to ban all Ukrainian anti-Soviet activity. Finally, it also ordered the deportation of refugees from Soviet Ukraine fleeing the Famine.”

Karel Berkhoff, researcher and associate professor, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Amsterdam, Holland, gave an overview of “The Great Famine in Light of the German Invasion and Occupation.” He observed that the Nazis knew about the Famine in Ukraine but were not interested in it for anti-Soviet propaganda. In fact, during the war, the Nazis created their own famine in the same area, which took an additional several million lives both to provide foodstuffs for the Reich and cleanse the area for German colonization.

Obviously, the German-induced famine of 1942-1944 received no media coverage, and there was also no mention of a special famine that was engineered by the Nazis in the city of Kyiv which was seen by many as the “village taking its revenge.”

A few eyewitness accounts of the 1932-1933 Famine were published and one or two newspaper articles appeared in German-occupied Ukraine, but, for the most part, there was very little interest shown by the Nazi-controlled media. The written recollections of villagers were ignored. No attempt was made to interview either witnesses or survivors, Prof. Berkhoff noted.

A small number of western Ukrainians serving as translators for the German army made notes of what they saw and experienced in the villages of Soviet Ukraine and several members of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalist (OUN) operating in the central and eastern regions of the country gave reports, as did one or two missionaries. This is all that is currently known.



Prof. Roman Wysocki



Prof. Karel Berkhoff

“All of the various reports indicated that in every single village people would quietly talk about the Famine and the horror of what they had endured,” Prof. Berkhoff said. “Invariably, the topic of cannibalism would come up and people would point out known cannibals in their villages. There was never any discussion of what caused the Famine and people had no idea of the offers and attempts to furnish aid from the West.”

“In order to stabilize the country and restore agricultural productivity, the Nazis mandated that no revenge be taken for past injuries suffered and often kept the kolkhoz system intact. The Soviets, upon their return, took a similar approach,” Prof. Berkhoff pointed out. “As a result, the surviving rural population was completely cowed and learned not to talk about the Famine and its experience and its offspring were swept up in the propaganda of the Komsomol.”

The paper by Oleksandra Veselova, senior research Fellow, Institute of History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, was read by Dr. Lubomyr Hajda. It dealt with “The Soviet Return and the Famine of 1946-1947: Complicating the Holodomor in Retrospect.”

Ms. Veselova’s presentation began by looking at developments in the USSR in the years after the Holodomor. She wrote that in the late 1930s the government moved into high gear in its efforts to build state socialism and set incredibly high goals for its 1940 five year plan. “Stalin completely restored power in the [central government] and then turned his attention to building up the military at the cost of all other sectors of society. Industrialization was emphasized and the total Soviet economy was militarized. There was no one who could or would oppose this development,” she noted.

Ms. Veselova’s presentation then looked at conditions in Ukraine at the end of World War II as the Soviet armies swept westward. Work norms for the civilian population were increased, and rations were decreased. At the same time grain requisitions were boosted, new taxes were imposed and a drought developed. The rural population was again being squeezed.

“Even Khrushchev pointed out that there would be a catastrophe in a letter to Moscow,” Ms. Veselova wrote. “However, no one had the ability to fight with Stalin.”

Grain requisitions were again increased in July 1946, and within a few months there was a full blown famine. Eighteen out of 25 oblasts in the Ukrainian SSR were impacted. At first, hundreds of thousands of peasants fled to western Ukraine, because there was food in those oblasts and many of them survived as a result. However, within a few months the government began the collectivization of the

newly incorporated western regions and famine quickly developed there as well, resulting in some 369,000 deaths.

“The Soviet government dealt with this new post-war famine in Ukraine in exactly the same way that it handled the Great Famine of 1932-1933. There was denial, distortion and destruction of official records and documents, and the refusal of outside aid. Grain exports were made to the newly conquered areas of Eastern Europe, particularly to the Balkans and Czechoslovakia,” Ms. Veselova wrote. “No one officially died of starvation, and the records indicate, for example, that more than a half million people died of ‘dystrophy’ within a six-month period.”

“The government did such a good job in covering up the famine and covering its own tracks that no one is sure how many victims there really were and estimates range as high as 2 to 3 million,” Ms. Veselova added. “Not only don’t we know how many victims the post-war famine claimed, but we cannot even precisely determine when it began and when it ended. The real problem is that the perpetrators held power long enough to destroy much of the evidence.”

“The post-war famine emphasized the fact that the Soviet government was willing to wage war against its own people to further its own goals and interests and that the mass starvation of the rural Ukrainian population was both artificial and deliberate,” Ms. Veselova stressed.

Ms. Veselova’s presentation concluded by pointing out that the government continued to use the same tactics in the 1950s and 1960s, and the end result was that it basically destroyed its own agricultural ability, regularly relying on imports from the 1960s on.

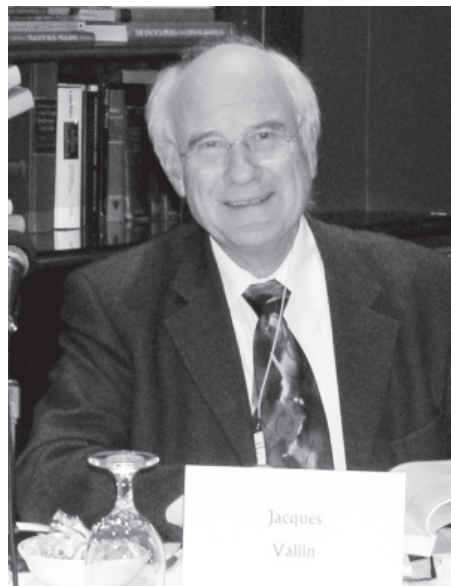
Roman Serbyn, professor of history (emeritus) at the University of Quebec at Montreal, served as discussant for the session. He started by suggesting that the presentations immediately suggest three areas of future research: further work on the Polish documents; a deeper look at memory; and in-depth studies of the 1946-1948 famine.

He raised questions for exploration: How many Poles actually fled Soviet Ukraine during the Famine? Why didn’t more do so? In addition to Polish records, what do the government documents of Czechoslovakia and Romania, two other countries that bordered Soviet Ukraine, show about the Famine? What are the differences in the recorded memories done in the 1930s, the 1940s, and later of those who survived the Holodomor? Are there many records of memory of the Nazi-engineered famine? What are the exact parameters of the 1946-1948 famine? How many victims did it claim? What were its causes and what was its extent? Why did

(Continued on page 10)



Prof. Roman Serbyn



Dr. Jacques Vaillin

HURI conference...

(Continued from page 9)

the Soviet Union refuse aid from the Marshall Plan when dealing with the Ukrainian famine? Was it a sin of omission or commission?

Prof. Wysocki responded that as far as he could determine all of the official records showing border crossings and migration from Soviet Ukraine, both legal and illegal, into Poland were destroyed during the war. He added that it was clear the Polish government was willing to turn a blind eye to the 1932-1933 Famine in its effort to normalize relations with the Soviet Union and also because it wanted a free hand in its own efforts to pacify and assimilate Poland's very large Ukrainian populace.

Prof. Berkhoff discussed the fact that archival evidence shows that right from the beginning both victims and witnesses believed the 1932-1933 Famine was caused by the authorities. However, because of government prohibitions against even mentioning the Famine and the fact that the Soviets remained in power for the next two and a half generations, even the terms "Holodivka," "Holodovka" and "Velykyi Holod" initially used to describe the Famine slowly passed from general use and the popular lexicon.

Prof. Berkhoff further observed that the long-term consequences of the Famine were a general passivity on the part of the rural population, a lowering of expectations and a constant fear of future famines. He concluded that this was further reinforced by the Soviet prohibition of mentioning the Nazi famine, the special famine in Kyiv and the post-war famine.

"Even today," he said, "no one in Ukraine is looking at the Nazi famine or the famine in Kyiv, and very little work is being done on the post-war famine."

Prof. Serbyn concluded the discussion by citing a speech given by Rafael Lemkin, who developed the definition of genocide that is currently accepted and used by the United Nations. The speech was given to a Ukrainian audience in New York City in 1953. In that speech Lemkin emphasized that the 1932-1933 Famine was a genocide against the Ukrainian nation undertaken by the Soviet government.

Soviet officials first attacked the intelligentsia, then went on the offensive against the Church and organized religion, and aimed a mortal blow at the farmers and rural population which the Soviets viewed as the repositories of folklore, tradition, language, literature and culture. Finally, the government diluted and fragmented the Ukrainian people by introducing other, primarily Russian, elements into their ethnographic territories and by scattering the Ukrainian populace throughout the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. By doing so Soviet officials were trying to eliminate a culture and a nation. They were successful in either eliminating or suppressing the most significant elements of distinctiveness but did not achieve complete success because they could not deal with the total number of Ukrainians in the population.

Fourth session

Session 4 started off the second day of the conference by looking at population losses resulting from the Famine and the ongoing demographic impact of the tragedy. The session was chaired by Dr. Hajda, associate director, Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University.

In the first presentation of the day, "Population Losses in the Holodomor: New Archival Evidence," Hennadii Boriak, head of the Department of Historiography and Special Historical Disciplines, Institute of History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, discussed the current state of government

archives dealing with the Famine, as well as current archival research.

Dr. Boriak began with an overview of the surviving archival material and emphasized the fact that the Archives of Ukraine had already declassified more than 99 percent of its holdings and has made these holdings available to the international scholarly community online.

He focused on the materials dealing with the period from the mid-1920s to the onset of the second world war, describing what has survived and what can be used with some credibility. He also noted that in some cases it is known how documents were distorted and corrections can be made for that. Finally, he stressed that much material is available in the all-union statistical records kept in Moscow; in addition, in Moscow, there is an unknown quantity of material that is still classified and thus unavailable.

"Ukrainian census figures for the 1927-1928 census, as well as figures from a number of national ministries are very accurate," Dr. Boriak said, "and give us a good baseline for making comparisons. The records for the first half of the 1930s, including the period of time covering the Famine, are fragmentary at best and are highly suspect. The 1937 census figures at the end of the period are also problematic because they were systematically inflated. However, it is known that the [census was falsified by adding] just over a million people so that these figures can also be used for making comparisons."

Dr. Boriak then talked about the recent discovery of some 3,500 death registers for the period of the Famine in the archives of the Justice Ministry and said that they contained information for 4,800 settlements, or roughly 48 percent of the cities and towns accounting for one-third to one-half of the population. The bulk of the registers cover the northern and eastern sections of the country, and preliminary investigations show that they list some 650,000 deaths from causes that could be considered Famine-related.

He also said that investigations had begun into the surviving registers for births, marriages and divorces to extrapolate material from them and said that based on the material currently at hand a minimum of at least 3 million people died as a direct result of the Famine.

He stated that orders from Moscow ordering the falsification of birth and death registers for the period of the Famine, and, later for their confiscation and destruction have been unearthed in the Vynnytsia and Kharkiv oblasts. A March 1934 secret Odesa Oblast order warns party officials that in many cases record-keeping is being done by enemies of the people who are deliberately overestimating deaths and underestimating births, and instructs them to keep all statistical records for 1932 and 1933 secret. Similar instructions have come to light for the periods preceding and encompassing World War II, during the mid-1950s and again in the 1960s, Dr. Boriak added.

Many records were deliberately destroyed when the government moved from Kharkiv to Kyiv in 1934; the move was used merely as the excuse for the destruction of these records. Although the archives continued to be purged right up to the collapse of the Soviet Union, the bulk of the records dealing with the Holodomor had been deliberately destroyed by the end of the 1930s. It should be pointed out that these destruction orders were also top secret and should have been destroyed.

In spite of all these attempts to eradicate all recorded evidence of the massive scale of the starvation of the Ukrainian peasantry – which Dr. Boriak characterized as deliberate "archivocide" – archival material has been found among the all-union statistical records in Moscow, in the repository of the Ukrainian Ministry of Justice and in the archives of the impacted oblasts. Based on these materials, statistical projec-



Dr. France Meslé



Dr. Oleh Wolowyna

tions can now be made of direct population losses totaling some 3 million to 4 million.

Dr. Boriak also pointed out that the situation has been further complicated by the fact that the perpetrators of the Famine stayed in power long enough after the fact to shape the evidence as they wanted. "Stalin and the ruling elite of the Communist Party deliberately destroyed and altered records in an attempt to reshape the historical record and the future writing of the history of the period and they did so for psychological rather than pragmatic reasons," Dr. Boriak concluded.

Dr. Jacques Vallin, research director, National Institute of Demographic Studies in Paris, spoke on the topic "The Crisis of the 1930s: Population Losses in the Aftermath of the Famine," examining the impact the Famine had in the late 1930s and the immediate pre-World War II period.

"We tried to look at all of the existing archival statistical data for births and deaths, and using various statistical models based on existing archival material from the 1926 Soviet census, as well as surviving records from the Famine period," Dr. Vallin explained, "and we came to the conclusion that if Soviet Ukraine's population had developed according to the accepted European models by 1939 it should have had a population of 35.5 million. However, the adjusted census figures for the period show a real population of 30.9 million which reflects a global population loss of some 4.6 million inhabitants."

"We found that the existing records show a spike in the mortality rate in 1932-1933 as well as a precipitous decline in the birth rate," he said. "Life expectancy for males dropped to 7.3 years in that time period and to 10.9 years for females, and the infant and child mortality rates were incredibly high. We also noted that the mortality rate for males doubled that of females. Finally, we also had to adjust our figures because we noted a decline in the fertility rate beginning in the late 1920s that coincided with the government's increasing pressure on the rural population in its efforts to take control of agricultural production and implement various forms of collectivization."

His colleague, Dr. France Meslé, research director, National Institute of Demographic Studies in Paris, followed up his presentation and looked at the long-term demographic impact of the Holodomor. She began by pointing out the colossal challenges faced by demographers in trying to come to terms with population changes in Ukraine in the 20th century.

"First of all there is the famine and slight decrease in fertility rates in the mid to late 1920s, closely followed by the great Famine and the purges of the late 1930s," Dr. Meslé said, "and these were followed by World War II, the collapse of the Soviet Ukrainian health care system in the 1960s and '70s with a precipitous drop in the rate of life expectancy, and the drop in the fer-

tility rate from the 1970s onward, which has only slightly begun to turn around in the last few years."

"The picture is further complicated by the fact that the size of the territory, as well as the population base of Soviet Ukraine changed in 1940 with the annexation of lands from Poland, in 1945 with the annexation of lands from Romania and Czechoslovakia, and in 1954 with the annexation of the Crimea," Dr. Meslé pointed out. "Soviet apologists, for example, have consistently argued that the pre-World War II population figures show no major impact as a result of the Famine but they fail to take [consideration] the addition of the lands and populations taken from Poland."

"It is clear that the population of Soviet Ukraine at the end of 1929 and 1939 is almost identical yet almost 5 million people were added to the population base with the annexations of the Polish territories," Dr. Meslé explained. "Even without any natural increase there should be a difference in the figures of at least 5 million. It is clear that something catastrophic happened during the decade of the 1930s."

Dr. Meslé then employed a number of standard statistical models used in calculating population growth and applied them to the figures available for the Soviet Ukrainian population at the beginning of the 1930s. She came to the conclusion if Ukraine had had a history similar to any of the countries in Western Europe in the 20th century, Ukraine's population today should be slightly over 80 million inhabitants.

She pointed out that, although the generation impacted by the Holodomor is rapidly disappearing, there are still clear signs of the population anomalies caused by the events of 1932-1933, and that they were exacerbated by the Terror of the late 1930s, World War II, the deliberate post-war famine, and by the ongoing agricultural and health policies pursued by the Soviet government in the last 40 years of its existence.

In conclusion Dr. Meslé emphasized the fact that the 1932-1933 Famine had a greater impact on the Soviet Ukrainian population than World War II.

The discussant, Dr. Oleh Wolowyna, President of Informed Decisions, Inc., pointed out that, as the picture of the impact of the Famine on the Ukrainian population begins to be filled in, additional studies need to be carried out to look at its impact on education, health and health care, labor force, pensions and pensioners.

Dr. Boriak said that other archival material exists which would be useful in further research, including the 1927 and 1937 censuses of urban areas, as well as the agricultural tax records, while Prof. Serbyn suggested that another area for research was the Ukrainian population in the Russian Federation which numbered 8 million in 1927 but only 4 million in 1936.

Next week: The conference's concluding sessions.

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Session 1: June 28 to July 5

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Ukrainian Plast camp (tabir) for children age 4-7 accompanied by their parents. To register child please watch for registration form appearing February 27, March 6, April 3 in Svoboda, March 1, March 8, April 5 in The Ukrainian Weekly. For further information please contact Mrs. Neonila Sochan at 973-984-7456.

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Session 1: June 29 to July 3 \$150 per week per child or \$35 per day per child

Session 2: July 6 to 10

A day camp for boys and girls age 7-10, with five hours of supervised fun daily.

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Session 1: July 19 to 24 \$160 per week per child staying on premises

Session 2: July 26 to 31 \$200 per week per child staying off premises

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Discovery Camp

July 19 to 25

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Ukrainian Chornomorska Sitch Sports Camp

Session 1: July 26 to August 1

Session 2: August 2 to 8

40th annual sports camp run by the Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch for campers age 6-17. The camp will focus on soccer, tennis, volleyball and swimming, and is perfect for any sports enthusiast. Please contact Mrs. Marika Bokalo at 908-851-0617 or e-mail sportsschool@chornomorskasitch.org for application and additional information.

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Camp

Session 1: July 26 to August 8

\$950 UNA member

Session 2: August 9 to 22

\$1,000 non-member

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky), this camp is for children and teens age 8-16, and offers expert instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Each session ends with a grand recital. Attendance will be limited to 60 students.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Heorhii Cherniavskiy opened the Honorary Consulate of Ukraine in Florence that will serve the regions of Tuscany and Umbria, the press service of Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported on March 6. This is Ukraine's fourth honorary consulate on the Apennine peninsula. The consulate will serve as an auxiliary center for the more than 30,000 Ukrainian citizens living in Tuscany and Umbria. (Ukrinform)

Japanese to build Ukrainian subways

KYIV – A working group considering the prospects for the construction of subways in Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk by Japan's Sumitomo Corp. has been set up at Ukraine's Transport and Communications Ministry. Agreement to this effect was reached during the meeting of Transport and Communications Minister Yosyp Vynskyi with representatives of Sumitomo. Japan showed the greatest interest in the construction of subways in Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk. The Cabinet of Ministers promised to open the first subway line in Donetsk in time for the 2012 European soccer championships. (Ukrinform)

Wind power plants in Crimea

KYIV – Ukraine's PLAN-ECO scientific production enterprise, together with experts from Germany and Denmark, is planning to build two wind power plants on the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. This was announced on March 10 during a presentation of the company's program to the administration and experts of the Crimean Council of Ministers. The enterprise is planning to locate the stations in the Krasnoperekopsk and Zhankoi districts. PLAN-ECO was set up in 2003 for the development and operation of energy-saving technologies, and the design and construction of energy facilities using non-traditional and renewable sources of power. Earlier PLAN-ECO was authorized to build three wind power plants in the Kherson and Odesa regions. (Ukrinform)

300 M hrv for AIDS prevention

KYIV – The board of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine (Alliance Ukraine) has confirmed its intentions to invest over 300 million hrv in a national AIDS prevention program for 2009-2013. The alliance will receive around \$60 million (U.S.) at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as part of the sixth round of grants, said Alliance Ukraine Executive Director Andrii Klepikov. He stressed the need to spend the funds, first and foremost, on the development of HIV/AIDS prevention programs, because their state financing is under threat, especially amidst the economic crisis. Mr. Klepikov said that the status of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine has been changed and added that this organization has become independent and has formed its own management bodies – a board and a supervisory council. He said that Alliance Ukraine's strategy would now be determined by Ukrainian, rather than foreign, experts. (Ukrinform)

Clinton urges NATO to keep door open

KYIV – U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on March 5 called on the NATO allies "to leave open the door for accession of Ukraine and Georgia." Speaking at an informal meeting of the foreign ministers of the alliance's member-states in Brussels, she said, "We should continue to open NATO's door to European countries such as Georgia and Ukraine and help them meet NATO standards."

(Ukrinform)

Customs officers seize paintings

KYIV – Officers of the Hremiach customs checkpoint of the Novhorod-Siverskyi Custom House found smuggled paintings by modern Italian artists, the State Customs Service press service reported on February 25. An Iveco vehicle, driven by a Belarusian citizen, traveling from Italy to Russia via Ukraine was transporting "furniture and its parts." Among the furniture, customs officers found 56 paintings, information about which was not indicated in the shipping documentation. (Ukrinform)

Wage arrears at state enterprises

KYIV – Wage arrears at 280 state enterprises totaled 104 million hrv, Industrial Policy Minister Volodymyr Novytskyi told a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on February 25. He underscored that 99 percent of these enterprises are from the defense-industrial complex, aircraft-building and shipbuilding spheres. (Ukrinform)

Lviv most financially stable

KYIV – Lviv has been assigned the highest rating of financial and credit stability among all regional centers of Ukraine, the city's press service reported on February 25. According to research conducted by Standard & Poor's, Lviv was assigned uaA on the National Scale. The city therefore has a moderately high ability to implement, in a timely and complete fashion, its debt securities. (Ukrinform)

Banks to undergo diagnostics

KYIV – The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) on February 25 obliged medium-sized and small banks to undergo a diagnostic examination with the aim of determining their viability under crisis conditions. The NBU decided "to oblige banks of the third and fourth groups to carry out a diagnostic examination at their own expense with the attraction of an auditing firm that has no agreement relations with this bank regarding an audit of annual financial reporting for 2008, and in compliance with the Ukrainian legislation, has a right for carrying an audit of banks." The NBU approved a program for appraisal of the current and prospective solvency of banks: medium-sized and small banks should conclude agreements with an auditing firm about a diagnostics audit as of March 1 and submit a report to the NBU by April 15. (Ukrinform)

New airlines fly to Ukraine

KYIV – With introduction of the summer schedule of regular flights, at least two new airlines will enter the Ukrainian air carriers market. As the Transport and Communications Ministry press service reported on March 12, in 2009 the State Aviation Administration has approved a flight schedule for the German small budget air carrier Germanwings to carry out flights on the Cologne-Kyiv-Cologne route. In March British Midland Airways received permission to conduct flights on the London-Kyiv-London route. (Ukrinform)

25.4 million visit Ukraine

KYIV – During 2008, Ukraine was visited by 25.4 million foreigners – 2.3 million more than a year earlier. The increase in travel to Ukraine took place both due to tourism and to foreigners having business interests. The highest number of tourists came from neighboring Russia; over 663,000 Russians tourists visited Ukraine in 2008. The number of people who came to the country on busi-

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

ness trips reached 1 million. (Ukrinform)

78 percent do not support president

KYIV – A total of 78.5 percent of the people polled by the Razumkov Center said they do not support President Viktor Yushchenko's activity, as reported on March 12. Only 2.5 percent of respondents expressed full support for the president's work, 15.5 percent support some of

his moves, 2.9 percent found it difficult to say, and 0.7 percent said they do not know. The activity of opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich of the Party of Regions is not supported by 63.9 percent of Ukrainians; Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko is not supported by 60.6 percent, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn by 46.9 percent, and ex-chair of the Verkhovna Rada Arseniy Yatsenyuk by 43.8 percent. The poll's sampling error does not exceed 2.3 percent. (Ukrinform)



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Провід Групи



With great sorrow we announce that our beloved husband,
father and grandfather

Dr. JACOB PYSARIW

passed into eternity on March 3, 2009.
He was born October 30, 1910
in the village of Hrushiv, Ukraine.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, March 7, 2009
in Rhode Island

In deep sorrow:

- wife – Judy
- daughters – Irene Romanelli, Esq., with her husband, Paul
– agmaD omer C
– Alena Golding with her husband, Ernest
- 5 grandchildren – Karina, Mark, Laryssa, Roman, Ernest
- extended family in Ukraine

Вічна Йому пам'ять!

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It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing on March 3, 2009, at the age of 55, of our beloved son, father and brother

Wolodymyr Krywulych

In deep mourning:

- parents Theodosia and Myron
- son Michael
- brother Myron with wife Oksana and son Roman
- aunts Nadia Bubniw, Theopolda Burka,
Xenia Deresz, and Tania Krywulych
- cousins Luba and Ihor with their families
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Wolodymyr Krywulych

June 16, 1953 – March 3, 2009

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of Branch 266 and to the UNA membership at large that Wolodymyr Krywulych, died March 3, 2009. Mr. Krywulych held the position of branch secretary for over 13 years.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to son Michael, parents Teodosia and Myron, brother Myron with wife Oksana and son Roman, and the entire Krywulych family. Mr. Krywulych will be remembered for his dedication, loyalty and many year of service to the UNA.

Vichna Yomu Pamiat



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Вічна Йому пам'ять!

Gateways to the afterlife: check-ins and carry-ons

by Adrian Bryttan

Who really knows what lies waiting for us in The Great Beyond? Hovering at the doorstep to eternity, most of us would probably deem it prudent to cover all the bases, including some created by our adept forebears. In one cemetery on the outskirts of Lviv, modern-day Scythians have been quietly but dramatically updating the almost 3,000-year-old farewell routines of their ancestors. It's no small feat to outshine Herodotus' jaw-dropping histories of these fierce nomads who traditionally had themselves buried with their horses, household servants, wives and favorite concubines — all freshly killed to spice up the ceremonies.

When a Scythian king was buried, 50 horses were bludgeoned to death and 50 servants/slaves were strangled. All were gutted, stuffed and impaled on poles and arranged better than a window-display at Macy's, while mourners howled as they got stoned inhaling fumes of burning cannabis. The Greek "father of history" claimed Scythians never bathed in water, but cleansed themselves after funerals in the steam created by throwing cannabis seeds onto blazing-hot stones. Archaeologists have uncovered over 400 horse skeletons at one such large burial mound or "kurhan." Intricate gold ornaments and treasures were buried with the departed, tempting Indiana Jones wannabes to plunder and sell many priceless artifacts on the black market.

Massive "stone baba" grave markers were erected on the 20-meter-high kurhans. At the archaeological museum in Dnipropetrovsk I was assured these nearly seven-foot-high female statues with buff limbs of granite like pro wrestling divas on steroids were actually carved to the true-life proportions of our lady predecessors. After all, in Book Four of his "Histories," Herodotus detailed the peculiar way Scythians met and interbred with a race of Amazons, probably somewhere near the Donetsk basin.

Quaint urban legends? Well, very tall Scythian women have in fact been found buried in the same riding gear and clothes, and bearing the same swords and hunting bows as their male warriors. Furthermore, facing the Opera Theater in present-day



Andrew Bryttan

"Stone baba" grave markers outside the Historical Museum in Dnipropetrovsk.



Contemporary monuments from Holoskivskiy cemetery near Lviv.

Kharkiv, a park pavilion canonizes Soviet heroes, including the grim-jawed Lialia Ubyjivovk (Dolly Wolf-killer), with curly locks frozen for eternity and jutting bronze breasts that could easily pierce the 150-millimeter frontal armor of a German King Tiger tank. I rest my case.

Fast forward to the present. In the Holoskivskiy cemetery near Lviv, custom-designed gravestone art is "breaking new ground" in more ways than one.

It seems as if every other recent monument features a photo-quality engraving of the departed, sometimes in the most unexpected poses. Artistic flights of kitsch have resulted in intricate 3-D sculptures, and you would be hard-pressed to spot two grave-stones that resemble one another. (The new monuments are a striking contrast to many older memorials like that of tenor Vladyslav V. Vladyslavskiy who left his entire headstone blank except for his name and a mere eight notes of wordless melody from Rodolfo's poignant aria in "La Boheme.")

By far the most creative Holoskivskiy monument glorifies a Borat look-alike. Nearly the size of a small barn, this detailed mural is embedded with more codes than ever dreamed by Da Vinci. Well... almost. The memorial to Petr Bolatovich Ohli, who shed his mortal coil in 1996, is expertly engraved on both sides. The back depicts a pastoral scene with a lake, two swans, a willow tree and a life-size portrait of Petr himself, flashing his Rolex and toasting passers-by, champagne glass in hand.

But it is the bravura front face of Ohli's monument that really takes one's breath away. Petr proudly stands next to his... full-

length Mercedes SL 320 two-door open convertible. It's all there in glorious photo-etched detail: the gleaming silver metallic body with five-lug alloy wheels, complete down to the Bosch wiper blades. The remarkable background landscape depicts stylized mountains and delicately leafed trees, along with a dotted highway line on an engraved winding road that evaporates into the distance. High-tech Baroque! The ultimate apotheosis! Rumors persist that the deceased's beloved Benz was lowered into this very plot with Petr sitting straight up in the fully adjustable, Nappa leather upholstered, heated bucket seats... safety belt fastened, one hopes.

They say you can tell a lot about a culture by observing its rituals for the dead. How we immortalize our nearest and dearest is often our final legacy for the living. Our ancestors were the first to domesticate the horse and probably the first archers on horseback. The fact that Scythians included equines in their burials shows their high regard for these animals. As a result, the kurhans also served as our first animal burial grounds.

Animals have always held a special place in Ukrainian hearts and imaginations. Folklore, songs and literature celebrate many of them. And, there is more symbolism, for instance, in the popular song about the marriage of the fly and mosquito than first meets the eye. When Wolodymyr (Vlad) Tytla was the chief artist at Walt Disney for many animated films, one of his most memorable creations was the beloved

(Continued on page 22)



Petr Ohli and his Mercedes SL 320 memorial at Holoskivskiy cemetery.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Awards and Scholarship Program for UNA student-members attending college in academic year 2009-2010

The UNA Scholarship program for UNA student members offers two programs: an Awards Program and a Scholarship Program.

UNA Awards Program: these awards are assigned by the Scholarship Committee, designating a set amount to each year depending on the total amount assigned for the awards. The applicant must comply with all rules and qualifications.

UNA Scholarship Program: offers special scholarships to active UNA members completing freshman, sophomore and junior years in college. These special scholarships are: Joseph and Dora Galandiuk; Maria, Demetrius and Olha Jarosewycz; Vera Stangl; Joseph Wolk; and the Ukrainian National Home Corp. of Blackstone. Each of these scholarships has special requirements that student applicants must meet.

- Scholarship awards will be granted to UNDERGRADUATE students attending accredited colleges or universities, studying towards their first bachelor's degree, and to high school graduates entering college.
- Applications for UNA SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS or UNA AWARDS will be accepted from students who have been **ACTIVE UNA MEMBERS** for at least **TWO YEARS** by June 1st of the filing year.
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- Incomplete and/or late entries will automatically be disqualified.

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SPORTSLINE

Soccer

• Ukraine is in third place in Group 6 of the World Cup 2010 qualifiers with seven points, behind England (12 points) and Croatia (seven points). Other teams in the group include Belarus, Kazakhstan and Andorra. After three games played, Ukraine has two wins, one draw, no losses, and four goals for and one against. Ukraine will play against Croatia on June 6, Kazakhstan on June 10, Andorra on September 5 and England on October 10. Ukraine's last group-stage match will be on October 14 against Andorra.

• In UEFA Cup matches, FC Metalist Kharkiv defeated Italy's UC Sampdoria 1-0 on February 18. A lone goal headed by Denys Oliynyk from a crossing pass by Olexandr Rykun in the third minute of stoppage time in the first half secured the win for Metalist.

Shakhtar Donetsk defeated England's Tottenham Hotspurs 2-0 on February 19 in freezing temperatures at RSC Olympiyskiy Stadium. Yevgen Selesznov headed in Jadson's free kick in the 79th minute and Jadson scored in the 88th minute.

Dynamo Kyiv tied with Spain's Valencia CF on February 18 at Valeri Lobanovskiy Stadium. David Silva scored in the eighth minute for Valencia, but Artem Milevskiy deflected a free kick by Florin Cernat in the 63rd minute to tie the match. Milevskiy received a second yellow card and was dismissed one minute later in the game. In the first leg of the Round of 16 for the UEFA Cup CSKA Moskva defeated Shakhtar Donetsk 1-0 on March 12 and Dynamo Kyiv defeated Metalist 1-0 on with a score from Ognjen Vukojevic.

• The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) ranked Ukraine's national futsal team among the top three in Europe. The Ukrainian national team is competing in the UEFA Futsal Championship and its group includes Romania, the Netherlands and Andorra.

• Andriy Shevchenko, with an annual salary of 6.5 million euros, is in a five-way tie for ninth place of the 50 highest-paid soccer players, as ranked by the

Portuguese website Futebol Finance.

• Andriy Voronin was named by voters in a Sport-Express poll as the best soccer player of the month among players of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic states. Voronin is a forward for the Ukrainian National Team and plays for the German club Hertha BSC Berlin.

Chess

• Yuriy Kuzubov finished in third place at the Pfalz Open International Chess Tournament in Neustadt, Germany, on February 22. The tournament attracted 323 players. Ukrainians Vladyslav Borovikov and Yuriy Drozdovsky finished in fourth and fifth place, respectively.

• Serhiy Bilosheyev won the world chess championship in Chelyabinsk, Russia, on March 2. The 22-year-old grandmaster won by a deciding match.

• Spartak Vysochin won the open chess tournament in St. Petersburg, Russia, on March 3. The grandmaster scored 10 out of 13 points to win the tournament.

• Vasyl Ivanchuk finished in second place at the Linares Chess Tournament in Linares, Spain, on March 10. Ivanchuk tied with Russia's Alexander Grischuk (eight out of 14), but additional results put the Russian ahead.

Fencing

Olympic champion Olha Kharlan defeated Russia's Sofia Velikaya 15-13 and won the Moscow Grand Prix in women's sabre on February 16. In team competition, Ukraine's women's team finished in second place.

Tennis

• Alona Bondarenko was ranked in 30th place by the World Tennis Association. Also ranked by the WTA were Kateryna Bondarenko (56th) and Maria Korytseva (90th). In doubles, the Bondarenko sisters were ranked 37th (Kateryna) and 43rd (Alona), and Korytseva was ranked 67th, Olha Savchuk 77th and Tetiana Perebyinis 94th.

• Tennis player Serhiy Bubka defeated Japan's Takao Suzuki 7-6, 6-4, to win the

Kyoto Challenger tennis tournament in Japan on March 15. This was the first title for Bubka, who won \$35,000.

Universiade

Ukraine's athletes finished in 13th place with seven medals at the 24th Harbin Winter Universiade in China. Oleh Berezhnuy won the gold medal in men's 12.5 km pursuit biathlon and a silver medal in men's 10 km sprint; Maria Loseva, Maryna Maltes-Lysohor and Tetiana Zavalij won silver in women's 3x5km relay. Figure skaters Ala Bejnazarova and Volodymyr Zuyev won the bronze in the ice dance competition. Serhiy Semenov won the bronze medal in men's 20 km biathlon. In the mixed biathlon relay, Lyudmyla Zhyber, Valentyna Shestak, Anton Yunak and Oleksandr Kolos won the bronze medal for Ukraine.

Water polo

Ukraine will host the Under-20 European Water Polo Championship qualifiers in Dniprodzerzhynsk on May 1-3, as confirmed by the European Swimming Federation on February 13. The finals will be held in Greece on September 20-27.

Judo

• Vadym Syniavsky won the bronze in the 90 kg division at the 2009 Judo Grand Prix in Hamburg of February 22.

• Roman Hontiuk defeated Japan's Kazuma Katabuchi in the 90 kg division and won the New York Open Judo Championship on March 12.

Figure skating

Stanislav Pertsov finished in second place at the ninth Winter European Youth Olympic Festival in Cieszyn, Poland, on February. Pertsov's final score was 146.45; he finished in first place in the short program and third place in the free skating portion. In ice dance, Ruslana Yurchenko and Alexandr Liubchenko came in second place in the free dance, original dance and compulsory dance programs, to finish with 128.04 for second place.

Biathlon

Vita Semerenko and Serhiy Sednev won two silver medals in pursuit races at the Open European Biathlon Championship in Ufa, Russia, on March 2. Sednev also won a bronze medal in the 20 km race and silver in the 15 km race. Olena Pidhrushina, Valentyna Semerenko, Inna Suprun and Vita Semerenko won the gold medal in the women's 4x6 km relay, beating their nearest competitors by more than two minutes.

Strongman

Oleksandr Pekanov finished in ninth place at the 2009 Arnold Strongman Classic on March 6-7.

Hockey

Yegor Bezuglyy, who played for the Under-18 Ukrainian National Team in 2008 and the Druzhba '78 team, hopes to play for Ukraine at the International Ice Hockey Federation World Championship in Minsk, Belarus. The 17-year-old, originally from Kharkiv, plays left wing for Needham High School in Needham, Mass.

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NEW YORK, NY, DISTRICT COMMITTEE of UNA BRANCHES

announces that its
ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING
will be held on

Friday, April 3, 2009 at 6:00 P.M.
at UCCA National Office

203 Second Ave, (between 12th and 13th street) 2nd Floor, New York, NY

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

5, 8, 16, 86, 130, 184, 194, 267, 325, 327, 450, 489

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting
MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:
Christine E. Kozak – UNA National Secretary
Oksana Trytjak – UNA National Organizer
Maya Lew – UNA Advisor

DISTRICT COMMITTEE
Maya Lew, District Chairman
Motria Milanytch, Secretary



Ternopil Oblast...

(Continued from page 1)

try's most reputable election monitor.

Earning 14 percent of the votes and finishing in second place was the Single Center party founded by Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha, who has managed to launch a political party based solely on his access to government resources.

The Party of Regions of Ukraine won 10 percent, the Tymoshenko Bloc won 8 percent, the Ukrainian People's Party earned 8 percent, Our Ukraine People's Union won 6 percent and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc earned 4 percent, according to final results released on March 17 by the Ternopil Oblast Election Commission.

(That commission is recognized by all except the Tymoshenko Bloc. Two election commissions emerged after the Ternopil Oblast Council, led by the Tymoshenko Bloc, dissolved the election commission loyal to the Presidential Secretariat and created a new one, which hasn't been recognized by local judges.)

Though the Tymoshenko Bloc was projected to lose votes, the Ternopil Oblast Council vote would have drawn little attention if the Tymoshenko Bloc hadn't led the effort to cancel it during the March 3 parliamentary session. It marked the first time Parliament nullified a pre-term election.

"An attack on rule of the people and democracy is happening now," Oleh Tiahnybok, the Svoboda leader, told the "Shuster Live" national television program on March 13. "Those political forces that said they believe in democratic principles and values are practically destroying them today. They fear the nationalists coming to power. They fear the example that nationalists can show in government. That's the main reason for the attempt to disrupt the election."

The cancellation vote occurred two and a half months after the Tymoshenko Bloc's parliamentary faction led others in approving pre-term elections of a new Ternopil Oblast Council, which was gridlocked and not functioning largely because of the Tymoshenko Bloc's own refusal to work in the council.

After a Ternopil court ruled in the summer of 2007 that 10 deputies illegally left the Our Ukraine faction to form the Oblast Council coalition led by the Tymoshenko Bloc and deprived them their mandates, the Tymoshenko Bloc refused to allow their replacements to take their oaths and stopped attending.

Leading up to the election, the Tymoshenko Bloc ordered its Ternopil leaders to boycott the election and make sure that others did so. Meanwhile, its lawmakers appeared on national television telling Ternopil voters not to show up to the polls because the election was illegitimate.

"These won't be honest elections," Tymoshenko Bloc National Deputy Andrii Shevchenko warned voters on "Shuster Live," a popular political talk show. "They can't be held or organized normally. Moreover, two parallel election commissions are working in Ternopil. All deadlines are ruined. According to the law on local elections, there isn't a single deadline that can be adhered to. There isn't a single district in the Ternopil Oblast where election commissions will fully function."

The confusion was aimed at preventing the turnout needed to legitimize the vote. Despite warnings from the Tymoshenko Bloc and the Party of Regions that only a minority of Ternopil voters were interested in the election, 54 percent of those eligible voted, according to the Ternopil Election Commission.

"It was a fairly high turnout, considering not more than 30 to 40 percent of voters participate in pre-term local elections," the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU) reported on March 16

As Tymoshenko Bloc deputies made the

rounds of political talk shows to plead their case the night of Friday the 13th, local operatives, led by the bloc's oblast division head Vasyl Derevlianyi, attempted sabotage by using their cars to block trucks from delivering freshly printed ballots.

More than 10 trucks were delayed for at least two hours from leaving the Zbruch state printing house because of the blockade, leading to brawls between Tymoshenko Bloc supporters and their opponents from Svoboda, Single Center and Pora.

Tymoshenko Bloc oblast deputies "not only blocked the exit from the printer, but applied force against members of political parties, as well as law enforcement authorities," said Nazar Zelinka, the chair of the executive committee of the Ternopil Oblast organization of the Pora party. For quite a while the police were impotent because the Tymoshenko Bloc deputies shielded themselves behind their badges, which give them immunity, he added.

"Neither pleas from the election commission nor the explanations of police influenced them," Mr. Zelinka said. "Based on the information available to us, it was a planned scenario of undermining the election led by National Deputy Vasyl Derevlianyi, who was present and led the provocation."

Megaphones were smashed and the blocking cars were either pushed aside or flipped over before the local police managed to establish order and clear the way for ballot delivery, according to *Ukrayina Moloda*, the pro-presidential daily newspaper.

In their defense, local Tymoshenko Bloc leader Yuri Romankiv said the transport of voting ballots must take place under the supervision of three election commission representatives from various political forces, which was not ensured.

"The Tymoshenko Bloc's local leadership was absolutely unskillful," Mr. Fesenko said. "They ought to get rid of Derevlianyi and others who led the bedlam in the region. In essence, they handed a gift over to all their opponents and are responsible for everything that happened."

It was downhill from there for the Tymoshenko Bloc as last-minute rulings on March 14, issued by a Kyiv district court and a Lviv appellate court, re-affirmed the election's legitimacy for the next day.

In fact, all 1,163 polling stations opened, according to the oblast election commission. Yet that didn't stop ongoing attempts at disruption.

The Tymoshenko Bloc instructed its members not to serve on local election commissions, with the goal of denying their legitimacy for lack of quorums, the CVU reported. In the case of the village of Shumliany, the local election commission chair submitted her resignation.

Meanwhile, Tymoshenko Bloc members in the Lanivetskyi District confiscated rubber stamps and voter lists, *Ukrayina Moloda* reported. Numerous other polling stations refused to accept ballots, as well as hid rubber stamps and voter lists, the newspaper reported. Several local election commission chairs denied wages to its members or threatened prosecution.

Despite all this, "the common efforts of election commission members, political forces and the citizenry didn't allow for the election's disruption," reported the CVU, which is financed by the National Endowment for Democracy and other Western sources, including some related to billionaire financier George Soros.

Perhaps the most underhanded tactic involved denying police escorts for the election ballots as they were being transported from local polling stations to election commissions.

The oblast police chief was suspiciously in Kyiv that weekend, and his first assistant was on sick leave, said Yuri Chyzhmar, chair of the Ternopil Oblast State Administration, the local government body that serves the interests of the Presidential Secretariat. All of Ukraine's policemen fall

under the administration of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which is currently led by Yuri Lutsenko, a close ally of Ms. Tymoshenko.

"The election commission repeatedly turned to the internal affairs organs to ensure security during the transport and storage of ballots," Mr. Chyzhmar said. "But, unfortunately, we didn't receive an answer from the police. I will insist that such behavior by the leadership of the internal affairs administration is reviewed on the highest level."

Denying the necessary police escort enabled critics of the election to claim it was illegitimate.

Mr. Romankiv of the Tymoshenko Bloc complained the original ballots were transported from the printer to a district state administration building and afterwards to polling stations without police escort.

"The biggest of falsifications involved 200,000 ballots which were transported from the Zbruch printing house without police oversight," said Taras Berezovets, director of the Polittech political consulting and public relations firm in Kyiv.

"Where were these ballots, and where did they end up finally? The oblast's population consists of little more than a million people. And we know that a large number of these people are working abroad. Accordingly, the number of voters who could have participated in the voting was half a million, at maximum. So 200,000 is almost half the voters."

Following the election, a Tymoshenko Bloc deputy admitted anonymously to the daily newspaper *Segodnya* that his bloc was trying to derail the vote in anticipation of electoral losses.

At the same time, the Tymoshenko Bloc issued official statements claiming the Ternopil election was the "dirtiest in Ukrainian history."

It also gained a March 18 decision from a Kyiv district court in its favor, forbidding the oblast's main election commission from publishing the election's results, which would make them official.

However, Ternopil election officials said the results had already been published in newspapers and widely accepted. The first oblast council session met on March 19, with Svoboda lawmaker Oleksii Kaida selected as chair of its temporary presidium.

The Tymoshenko Bloc also announced on March 16 that its deputies wouldn't participate in the new Oblast Council and wouldn't accept the 12 earned mandates. "We don't recognize the fact of the election or the figures offered as their result," Mr. Shevchenko said. "What we saw was an attempt at the scenario of 'everyone against Yulia.'"

Alongside the Tymoshenko Bloc's indisputable underhandedness, some election observers cited numerous election violations committed by Mr. Chyzhmar, a longtime associate of Mr. Baloha. Most notably, the ballots were printed merely two days before the election, instead of the 10 days required by law.

Critics and observers alike also pointed out that figures for voter turnout accelerated unusually sharply throughout the voting day.

Investigative reporter Yuri Sheliashenko, who has ties with the Tymoshenko Bloc, reported that turnout in the city of Ternopil was 11 percent at 3 p.m., jumping to 25 percent by 8 p.m. Meanwhile, turnout was between 30 and 50 percent outside the city at 3 p.m., and more than 50 percent by 8 p.m.

Political scientist Viktor Nebozhenko, president of the Ukrainian Barometer sociology service, said overall voter turnout climbed from 35 percent at 3 p.m. to 51 percent by 9 p.m.

"Everyone understands the price of this scandalous percentage point," he said, referring to 51 percent as opposed to 50 percent. "The interested parties and political forces simply divided the votes among each other due to the falsified quorum and the fact that Tymoshenko Bloc observers and commission members didn't show up."

Drawing even more criticism was the

unexpectedly strong result of 14 percent (second place), earned by the Single Center party, launched just one year ago by Mr. Baloha after he became chief of the Presidential Secretariat and manipulated government resources, known as "admin-resurs," to create a party.

Critics of the vote alleged Mr. Chyzhmar played a critical role in the use of "admin-resurs" in falsifying the vote, citing numerous opportunities such as the transport of ballots without escort and the excess number of ballots resulting from a depressed turnout.

Mr. Berezovets, whose past clients have included the Tymoshenko Bloc, said Single Center's poll ratings were no higher than 1 percent prior to the election.

"From the political science point of view, the growth of the Party of Regions' rating by four to five times and the growth of Single Center's rating by 15 times can be achieved primarily by applying network technologies and vote-buying, which we saw in the Kyiv election," he said.

The Party of Regions also gained a surprisingly strong result. Though never earning more than 2 percent of the vote in the Ternopil Oblast, it earned 10 percent in the March 15 election, Mr. Fesenko said.

Some of these voters were deserters of the Orange camp, experts said.

Mr. Tiahnybok pointed out that a "red belt" exists in the Ternopil Oblast consisting of the Pochayiv region, where villages are loyal to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Moscow Patriarchate and its politics. Observers confirmed those communities were a strong source of votes for the Party of Regions.

The results are evidence that "since 2004, the western Ukrainian electorate has become entirely disappointed in the Orange leaders - the president, as well as the prime minister," said Ivan Popesku, a national deputy of the Party of Regions.

However vote-buying doesn't hurt either, as observers reported at least one case of Party of Regions workers offering 50 hrv (\$6) per vote in a village.

Svoboda's strong result primarily came from Ukrainians seeking new politicians to vote for outside the Orange forces they supported in 2004, political observers said.

Had Arseniy Yatsenyuk's political project competed in the election, it could have earned as much as 18 percent of the vote, said Maria Kasian, a pollster at the Research and Branding Group in Kyiv.

Mr. Fesenko agreed, noting that Svoboda's strong performance would have significantly diminished in Mr. Yatsenyuk's favor had his political force competed. Observers said Mr. Yatsenyuk didn't run because he hasn't had enough time and resources to form a national network and party organization for his political movement, the Change Front.

Mr. Yatsenyuk would have offered western Ukrainians a more moderate alternative to the Svoboda nationalists, who have controversial political platforms. Svoboda boasts that its ranks consist exclusively of ethnic Ukrainians, and proposes that Ukrainian citizenship be extended only to those born on Ukrainian soil or who can prove their Ukrainian ethnicity.

Svoboda never hides the fact that it started out as the Social-National Party of Ukraine before changing its name and image in February 2004. Our Ukraine booted Mr. Tiahnybok from its parliamentary faction soon after he gave a speech in July 2004 alleging the "Muscovite-Jewish mafia is running Ukraine."

The Russian-language daily newspaper *Segodnya*, owned by Donbas businessman Rinat Akhmetov and popular among Russophile Ukrainians, splashed Mr. Tiahnybok's photograph on its front page on March 18 under the alarming headline, "Tiahnybok, Fear and Division in Ukraine."

Some critics allege that Svoboda is financed by the Party of Regions in order to

(Continued on page 19)

Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 1)

tion, Verkhovna Rada Chair Lytvyn said the de facto coalition would consider his candidacy only if the president appeared before Parliament to deliver his annual address and answer questions from national deputies.

"It would be nice if the president presented his candidate for the minister's post, which is required by the [parliamentary] regimen," Mr. Lytvyn said on March 19. "Though it's understood the president's regimen isn't legally binding, it would be a testimony of respect for the Verkhovna Rada."

The president has little support in Parliament nowadays, having alienated almost all its members who have either allied themselves with Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko or remain firmly committed to the pro-Russian course.

Nevertheless, former Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk said he expected Parliament would approve Dr. Shamshur's nomination as part of a legislative package or trade with the Presidential Secretariat.

The day after the president's nomination,

Ambassador Shamshur flew to Kyiv to meet with the leading parliamentary deputies.

The main advantage of the ambassador's candidacy is his non-involvement in domestic Ukrainian politics, said Valerii Chalyi, the director of international programs at the Razumkov Center think-tank in Kyiv. Dr. Shamshur is also unlikely to upset the Kremlin, he said.

"Shamshur is well-known among his colleagues for his ability to find common ground," Mr. Chalyi said. "The key issue will be preserving, at minimum, Ukraine's image abroad."

Dr. Shamshur was appointed as Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S. in December 2005. The 52-year-old envoy was born in Kyiv and earned a candidate's degree in international law from Shevchenko State University in Kyiv.

He served as a diplomat in Switzerland before he was appointed in 1993 as an advisor to Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. He was Mr. Tarasyuk's vice-minister of foreign affairs between February 2004 and December 2005.

Experts report...

(Continued from page 1)

ers. The Obama administration should establish a regularized, tough-minded dialogue with Kyiv. It needs to send an early high-level message, perhaps delivered by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, of support and the need for Ukraine's leaders to cooperate with one another... The administration should revive the binational commission that operated between 1996 and 2000... U.S. officials must be blunt: if Yushchenko and Tymoshenko cannot work together, U.S. efforts to help Ukraine cope with the economic crisis, strengthen its energy security, or develop closer relations with Europe will yield minimal results.

- Assist Ukraine in dealing with the financial/economic crisis. Ukraine needs to be and stay in compliance with its International Monetary Fund (IMF) program. Even with help from the IMF, Ukraine will likely face a financing gap in 2009 of about \$5 billion. The U.S. government should work with partners such as the European Union, IMF, World Bank and others to address this as a matter of priority, with the objective of a donors' conference that would provide \$5 billion in additional financing this year. ...

- Promote serious actions to strengthen Ukraine's energy security. Ukraine's leaders know what they need to do to improve the country's energy security situation but have steadfastly refused to act. Senior U.S. officials now must impress on them that there is no alternative but to push through reforms that have been thwarted by entrenched vested interests. ...

- Help Ukraine deepen its relations with the European Union and NATO

while avoiding a crisis with Russia. The administration should encourage the European Union to accelerate conclusion of the negotiation under way with Ukraine on an association agreement, including a free-trade arrangement. Washington should lead in shaping NATO-Ukraine relations. Given the impossibility of securing Alliance consensus for a membership action plan (MAP), U.S. officials should assist Ukraine in developing an annual national program that contains most, if not all, of the content of a MAP, and work within the Alliance to secure approval of the program. Washington should be clear with Kyiv on how much support it can expect in a stand-off with Russia while cautioning Moscow that Russian efforts to destabilize Ukraine will risk its relations with the West. ...

In a later section of the report, "An Agenda for U.S. Engagement with Ukraine," the authors write: "In the run-up to the April NATO summit, U.S. officials should seek language for the summit statement that reaffirms the Bucharest language that Ukraine will be a member of the Alliance. U.S. officials should also press for language that makes clear that the Alliance does not accept the notion of a sphere of influence in the post-Soviet space or that Moscow's claimed 'privileged interests' allow it to determine the foreign policy courses of other post-Soviet states, in order to reassure countries such as Ukraine."

To view the entire report, readers may log on to http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2009/03_ukraine_pifer.aspx.

Nalyvaichenko...

(Continued from page 3)

ment, four YTB deputies, who ostentatiously did not vote for Mr. Nalyvaichenko, submitted a motion to Parliament calling for his dismissal (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 6).

Before coming to the SBU, Mr. Nalyvaichenko had been a diplomat. He served at the Ukrainian Embassy to Finland in the mid-1990s, was consul-general in Washington from 2001 to 2003, and then served as ambassador to Belarus. It is inter-

esting that in his official biography Mr. Nalyvaichenko does not mention the fact that he graduated from the KGB school in Moscow in the early 1990s (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 6; Segodnya, March 10). Speaking in an interview with Ukrayinska Pravda on February 17, he admitted to having been "the last Ukrainian to be trained there."

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

President of...

(Continued from page 4)

to raise the public awareness of KMA and to raise some funds for this important national institution."

Mr. Onyschuk underscored: "The Kyiv

Mohyla Academy has always identified with, and stood for, a free and independent Ukraine. Its graduates have over the centuries been the prominent and patriotic leaders of Ukraine. Its revival in 1991 has run in parallel with the rebirth of an independent Ukraine, and its fortunes are inextricably tied to the future of Ukraine."

Ternopil Oblast...

(Continued from page 18)

draw votes away from the Orange forces, and its success plays right into the strategy of the Party of Regions and its leader, Viktor Yanukovich, who has a strong chance of becoming Ukraine's next president.

(Mr. Tiahnybok has repeatedly denied taking money from the Party of Regions.)

"I am very fearful that the nationalists can take over all the power in the country," Donbas resident Natalia Pavlovna told the Segodnya newspaper. "I will convince everyone that they need to go the elections. We can't sit at home. Then all kinds of Tiahnyboks will undoubtedly take advantage of the situation, after which everyone will cry bitter tears."

Among Svoboda's other political positions are renewing the functioning of Ternopil's airport, halting raider attacks on state and private property, establishing a "Clean Product from Ternopil" label on local products, banning baby food made from genetically modified products, and forbidding the sale of alcohol and tobacco products near schools and churches.

However the Ternopil Oblast Council election won't affect conditions in the oblast to a large degree because much of the rest political power rests with the state oblast administration, said Kostiantyn Matviyenko, director of the Hardaryka Strategic Consulting Corp. in Kyiv.

The Cabinet of Ministers, with the approval of the Presidential Secretariat, allocates the budget for all the oblasts, and the

councils serve largely as a rubber stamp without their own income sources, he said. Though oblast councils are formally responsible for planning socio-economic development, these programs are financed and developed by Kyiv.

"Oblast councils have minimal amounts of state property," Mr. Matviyenko said. "They don't influence the division of land, which is done by city and village councils."

Instead Ternopil marked the symbolic launch of the campaign for the 2010 presidential elections, drawing frequent comparisons to how the election in the small city of Mukachiv became symbolic of the corruption that surrounded the historic 2004 election.

What was unique about the 2004 Mukachiv election, in which the presidential administration led by Viktor Medvedchuk dispensed violence and sanctioned vote falsification, was a sincere desire by pro-Western forces to hold a fair election regardless of the outcome, said Serhii Hrabovskiy, a veteran Kyiv political observer and journalist.

Meanwhile, the Ternopil election became a nasty fight for power between those same Orange forces, including Mr. Baloha, who was the candidate in the Mukachiv election that had victory stolen from him by Mr. Medvedchuk and his corrupt network.

In Mr. Hrabovskiy's view, "There was no Ternopil election, because no political force that took part and no state institution even thought about the idea and the need to conduct democratic elections for the sake of discerning the will of the citizens and forming state organs on the basis of the law and that will."



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Preview of events...

(Continued from page 24)

Cambridge, MA 02138. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 617-495-4053 or e-mail huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Thursday, April 2

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America New York Branch, together with Moksha Films and Tomkiw Entertainment, cordially invites you to a fund-raiser event – an archival photo exhibit of the Holodomor and the screening of the 20-minute short film “Holodomor: Ukraine’s Genocide of 1932-1933.” This short documentary film has already been screened at over 10 film festivals around the world, and the feature-length version currently in production will be the first feature length documentary about the Ukrainian Holodomor produced in the United States. Following the screening there will be a question-and-answer session with Nestor Popowych, executive producer and Maya Lew, co-producer. The event will take place at the UCCA, 203 Second Ave., second floor, at 7 p.m. Suggested donation: \$20 (as additional funding is needed to complete this film). All donations are 100 percent tax-deductible. RSVP to ucca@ucca.org or 212-228-6840 as space is limited.

Friday, April 3

NEW YORK: The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, the Ukrainian Museum, and New York Bandura Ensemble/Bandura Downtown present “A Bandurist and His Legacy: Hryhory Kytasty (1907-1984)” with Julian Kytasty, a musical retrospective on the life of the bandurist, composer and teacher who remains the greatest single influence on bandura players in North America. The event will be at 7 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum (222 E. Sixth St., between Second and Third avenues). Tickets: \$15; discounts available for museum/CTMD members and seniors. To reserve

tickets (which include gallery admission plus reception following concert) call the museum, 212-228-0110.

WASHINGTON: At 6:30 p.m. Prof. Michael Naydan will speak on “Googling Gogol” (in English) and Prof. Ostap Stromecky will speak on “The How of Hohol” (in Ukrainian) at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW. The event is sponsored by the Ukrainian Embassy and the Shevchenko Scientific Society, District of Columbia branch. Admission is free; contributions are welcome. RSVP is mandatory by March 30 via e-mail to both Oleksander Mykhalchuk, olex@ukremb.com, and Victor Voloshyn, voloshyn@ukremb.com; or by phone to 202-349-2977. For further information call 240-205-1889.

Wednesday, April 8

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University will host a lecture by Dr. Vita Susak titled “Ukrainian Artists in the Context of the Paris School (1900-1939).” Dr. Susak is curator of the Department of European Art (19th-20th centuries) at the Lviv Gallery of Arts, Ukraine. This year she is a visiting Fulbright scholar at the Harriman Institute at Columbia. The lecture will be held at noon in Room 1219, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St. The event is free and open to the public. For additional information call 212-854-4697.

Thursday, April 16

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University will host a lecture by Dr. Tetiana Stepykina titled “National Mapping of the World as a Problem of Modern Ukrainian Studies.” Dr. Stepykina holds the English philology chair at Luhansk State University. This year she is a visiting Fulbright scholar at the Harriman Institute at Columbia. The lecture will be held at noon in Room 1219, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St. The event is free and open to the public. For additional information call 212-854-4697.

BOOK NOTES: Pictorial review dedicated to Regensburg Gymnasium

“*The Ukrainian Gymnasium Regensburg, Germany, 1945-1949: Our Reunions and Legacies*,” Bohdan Z. Malaniak, editor-in-chief. Clifton, N.J.: Computoprint, 2008. 471 pp.

The newly released book “The Ukrainian Gymnasium Regensburg, Germany, 1945-1949: Our Reunions and Legacies” is dedicated to the students, faculty and family of this Ukrainian secondary school (gymnasium) and presents what it calls a “pictorial review of past and present.”

Its publication became a reality due to the generosity of former students of the Ukrainian gymnasium, former residents of the Regensburg displaced persons’ camp. In many ways, this publication is an extension and expansion of the earlier book “Regensburg 1945-1949,” published in 1986.

The idea for this particular publication was born decades earlier. It remained under consideration and underwent many changes, until it finally became a committed undertaking. Under the aegis of a newly formed editorial board, the project was finally brought to fruition.

The book portrays the life experiences of a relatively small group of young people caught up in the circumstances of World War II. These then-adolescents and teenagers found themselves snatched away from their native Ukraine and placed into a Displaced Persons’ camp in the town of Regensburg, Germany.

Regensburg was a temporary transition point in their lives, before they were scattered throughout the world. Here they formed values and worldviews, and forged lasting friendships. The book is a repository of their stories and a record of their experiences.

The timeless value of the book, however, lies beyond any specific narrative. Its importance lies in its whole, in its capacity to provide inspiration and guidance to other young people in similar circumstances. In recognition of this, the editorial board sincerely wants the book to reach a wider audience and capture the interest of all who share similar experi-



ences.

The publication of historic memoirs serves as a valuable resource, as a source of firsthand information about an entire generation of Ukrainians in the diaspora. It contains vivid descriptions of the town of Regensburg itself, a brief history of the Ukrainian Gymnasium in Regensburg, accounts of the academic and social activities of its students, remembrances of gymnasium reunions, a few dozen biographies of students and faculty members, some reflections on the past, and a bit of creative poetry, prose and drama.

The book contains both English and Ukrainian sections. The English version is abbreviated, not containing some passages that were deemed too difficult to translate from the Ukrainian without losing the sentiment and poetry of the original. Nonetheless, English and Ukrainian readers alike will find this collection of memoirs very engaging.

For more information about the book, readers may write to its editor-in-chief, Bohdan Malaniak, at 1020 Camann St. Glendale, CA 91208; or e-mail him at bzne@aol.com.



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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Boston Parish hosts two speakers as part of ongoing series

by Peter T. Woloschuk

JAMAICA PLAIN, Mass. – Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Boston (Jamaica Plain) welcomed U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Leonid Kondratiuk and Ukrainian Army Col. (ret.) Leonid Polyakov as speakers on Saturday, March 7, for its new monthly series “Saturday Night at the Parish.”

Gen. Kondratiuk spoke on “Ukrainian Americans in Defense of the Nation” and Col. Polyakov spoke on the “Role of Ukraine in Europe’s Security.” The event drew more than 60 participants.

Parish choir director Igor Kowal welcomed everyone and then turned the podium over to the two guests. Gen. Kondratiuk began by saying that as an American military historian he was responsible for covering the entire span of U.S. military history from 1636 to the present. He then gave an overview of the history of Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans serving with the American military and filled out his talk with a number of anecdotes, several of which dealt with service rendered by members of the Boston community over the years.

“The first confirmed record of Ukrainians serving with the American Army occurred during the Civil War, when a small number of immigrants from western Ukraine served with a Polish brigade organized in New York State,” Gen. Kondratiuk said. “Interestingly enough, there are unconfirmed reports of Ukrainians fighting with Washington’s armies in the Revolutionary War and there are confirmed reports of Ukrainians fighting in the Texan Army during their war for independence from Mexico in 1836.”

“Several dozen Ukrainians from Pennsylvania served with American forces during the Spanish-American War in 1898,” Gen. Kondratiuk continued, and between 20,000 and 30,000 enlisted during World War I. Twenty-four of them won the Distinguished Service Cross for Valor. Theodore Kalakuta, who graduated from West Point in 1923, was the first Ukrainian American to do so, and he saw

service in the Far East.

“Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans have served in the armed forces in ever increasing numbers since then and have been conspicuous in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Numbers have also seen service in the war against terrorism and the Gulf,” Gen. Kondratiuk pointed out.

Among the little known incidents of World War II, Gen. Kondratiuk said, “are the fact that Col. Kalakuta was in charge of American forces in northern Luzon and since the commander of the invading Japanese forces could not speak English but knew Russian all negotiations by the Americans were conducted in Ukrainian and the document of surrender by the American forces to the Japanese is written in Ukrainian. Also, the sergeant commanding the group that raised the flag at Iwo Jima was of Ukrainian descent and is portrayed in the famous monument. He is one of the two soldiers holding the base of the flagpole.”

Col. Polyakov began by giving an overview of the current state of the Ukrainian armed forces, pointing out that Ukraine still has one of the largest standing armies in Europe. “Ukraine is not Georgia,” he emphasized, “and is capable of defending itself. Even the Russians will think long and hard before they attempt any direct military actions.”

Col. Polyakov then discussed the current state of Ukrainian military hardware and armament, and pointed out that it was rapidly becoming obsolete. “Our government,” he said, “needs to budget major capital outlay to bring our military up to date. We also need to pay our military a living wage and we need to improve the quality of our recruits. However, given the current economic situation it is difficult to envision this happening.”

Col. Polyakov concluded by looking at Ukraine’s military and its activities during the Georgian war, during the various Russian provocations in Crimea and during the ongoing hostilities in Transnistria.

Gen. Kondratiuk hails from Boston and serves concurrently as the director of historical services for the U.S. Army and



Vsevolod Petriv
U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Leonid Kondratiuk (right) and Col. Leonid Polyakov of Ukraine’s armed forces.

director of militia affairs for the Massachusetts national guard, as well as National Commander of the Ukrainian American Veterans.

Col. Polyakov is a former Ukrainian vice minister of defense who is presently at Harvard University, where he holds a joint fellowship from the Ukrainian Research Institute and Harvard’s Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. He is also a consultant to the Verkhovna Rada’s Committee on National Security and Defense.

The new monthly speakers’ series at the Boston area parish was initiated by

Mr. Kowal in February and featured a showing of the classic film “Tini Zabutykh Predkiv” (Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors) for its first event. Due to the Easter celebrations at the parish according to both calendars, the next event will be held on Saturday, May 2, and will feature Adrian Slywotzky, a partner of Oliver Wyman, a global management company.

For further information on the speakers’ program readers may e-mail igor_kowal@yahoo.co.uk, yaroslavnalysnyk@aol.com, or boston-ukrs@yahogroups.com.

Ukrainian American Center Foundation funds \$8,000 in scholarships and grants

DETROIT – Ukrainian American Center Foundation (UACF) President Bohdan Andrushkiw recently presided over the awarding of \$6,000 in scholarships to eight Michigan college students of Ukrainian descent and \$2,000 in grants to the Americans for Democracy in Ukraine (ADU) and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. This 93-year-old non-profit organization has funded over 125 scholarships and 50 grants totaling over \$154,000 since 1987.

Founded as The Ukrainian Home Association in 1915 and later renamed the Ukrainian American Center in the basement quarters of the Grayling Street Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hamtramck, Mich., this benevolent group has seen dramatic changes in its role in the local Ukrainian community.

As a social center, entertainment venue and cultural core of the Ukrainian community in Detroit, the UACF has supported the immigrants and indigenous populations throughout 11 decades. At the September 21, 2008, presentation of scholarships and grants, Dr. Lydia

Tarnavsky of the ADU explained how some of the grant funds were being used to set up teaching centers throughout Ukraine. Board member Roxolana Karanec read the winning essay on Russia using its natural gas reserves to yield influence over Ukraine.

Mr. Andrushkiw stated that “Past president and long time member Stephan Wichar would be so proud of us. Even in these challenging economic times it is important for us to continue the work of the pioneers that forged this path for the UACF. We will again provide scholarships and grants to Michigan students and deserving organizations and foster cultural and educational endeavors that contribute to an appreciation for our Ukrainian history.”

The last living founder, or pioneer as they were referred to, died last year. Baselina Marfey (whose son Walter Marfey was a past president) passed away just short of her 101st birthday.

For scholarship and/or grant applications or for more information readers may contact Ms. Karanec at roxkar@sbcglobe.al.net.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

NATO-Russia...

(Continued from page 2)

affecting NATO directly.

The alliance has yet to devise effective responses to these actions or at least consensual approaches in the run-up to this summit.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, attending her first NATO ministerial meeting in Brussels on March 5, criticized Russia publicly on some of those counts on behalf of the United States, and certainly in harmony with some NATO countries. She rejected "Russia's claims to spheres of influence over unwilling nations" and "any Russian veto right on countries' aspirations to join NATO or the EU."

She pledged "in no way to withdraw our support for Georgia," and recalled that "my country strongly condemned Russia's actions in Georgia"; and borrowing from then-Vice President Richard Cheney's 2006 phrase about Russia, she expressed "serious concern over the use of energy resources as tools of intimidation."

At the same time, however, Ms. Clinton called with some urgency for renewing NATO-Russia and U.S.-Russia relationships to work together in areas of common interest, listing: Afghanistan, Iran, nuclear proliferation, and terrorism and its associated threats and challenges (AFP, March 5, 6). The notion that the United States and NATO need Russia's help to resolve those conflicts remains an insufficiently examined assumption on both sides of the Atlantic and is partly responsible for tying Western hands in Europe's East.

At the outset of the Brussels meeting, Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Vygaudas Usackas suggested that it would be premature to reconvene the NATO-Russia Council so soon, in view of Russia's recent conduct. A few other ministers shared that view, but the majority felt that reconvening the council would encourage Russia to become more cooperative. The Lithuanian move did, however, help NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer strengthen the language on allied support for Georgia's territorial integrity in his concluding statement (BNS, March 5; RFE/RL, March 9).

When the North Atlantic Council suspended official meetings with Russia in August 2008, it pointed out that Russia had breached fundamental principles of jointly adopted NATO-Russia documents, including those of the NATO-Russia Council. Those breaches multiplied in the ensuing months even as the alliance continued informal meetings with Russian officials and began preparing for full resumption of institutional relations. NATO-Russia dialogue never stopped at

the working levels during this period.

Official resumption accelerated with the change of administrations in Washington, particularly with a new U.S. administration hard-pressed to act on the protracted conflicts inherited from the old.

Moscow sounds delighted with the resumption of institutional relations with NATO. Formally, the move restores Russia's equality of status with the alliance, a prize that NATO has conceded for nothing in return. Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergei Lavrov and his spokesmen hailed NATO's move as a "victory for common sense." Moscow seems to feel confirmed in its calculations that invading Georgia was a low-risk affair and that a strategically distracted West would soon reach out to Russia again (Interfax, March 6, 7).

At NATO in Brussels, Russian envoy Dmitry Rogozin taunts and insults the alliance on an almost daily basis, irrespective of the state of relations. When NATO announced the NATO-Russia Council's reconvening for next month, Mr. Rogozin warned, "Russia is in no hurry [to help] on the issue of Afghanistan. But NATO could hurry. Delaying by a month does not look very patriotic to its soldiers who are spilling blood in Afghanistan" (Interfax, March 5).

The next day he went on: "The debate within the alliance was fraught with scandal. We know who spoke against cooperation with Russia. ... Those states with Russophobic policies are simply afraid of disappearing among the big powers. Old Europeans, however, as well as the new U.S. administration, need good relations with Russia; they don't need this small trash, they could resolve issues together with Russia in a serious way, an adult way" (Interfax, March 6).

NATO leaders have tolerated such treatment in the alliance's own house from the Russian ambassador on a quotidian basis for the last two years.

High-profile, political dialogue with Russia, now about to resume, would have been unexceptionable as part of a coherent NATO policy on manifold contentious issues. Without such a policy, however, Moscow will undoubtedly continue using the NATO-Russia Council and other forms of institutional dialogue as it has done in recent years: as propaganda platforms and opportunities to gain a voice in NATO's own deliberations. Moscow will also offer putative "help" to NATO allies involved in the protracted conflicts in Afghanistan and with Iran, if NATO will in turn defer to Russian geopolitical priorities in Europe's East and Eurasia.

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NATO resumes...

(Continued from page 2)

Russia. Moscow also wants this issue referred to the NATO-Russia Council in order to criticize NATO for, in Russia's view, abetting Georgia's "aggression." Moscow even wants NATO to "restore [Russia's] trust" in the NATO-Russia Council through a "joint assessment of why NATO blocked this mechanism" and measures to prevent a recurrence (Interfax, ITAR-TASS, March 5, 6). Russia's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergei Lavrov, his ministry's spokesmen, and the envoy to NATO Dmitry Rogozin have repeatedly aired this position in recent months, down to the very day of NATO's Brussels ministerial meeting (they had earlier sought outright self-criticism from NATO).

Thus, it seems almost certain that the NATO-Russia Council will become dead-

locked on that issue, without affecting the situation on the ground in one way or another. The alliance (as well as the United States in a national capacity) will undoubtedly uphold the legal principle of Georgia's territorial integrity and right eventually to join NATO; but the allies and Russia will agree to disagree with each other on these issues and move on with the NATO-Russia Council's agenda. NATO will be going into that forum to encourage Russian cooperation on Afghanistan and Iran as the top allied priorities. Those will probably relegate the Georgia issue and other festering issues in Europe's East to the back burner in the NATO-Russia Council soon after the resumption of that process.

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Gateways...

(Continued from page 16)

elephant "Dumbo." And who has not been enchanted by Ivan Franko's "Mykyta the Fox" (inspired by Goethe's retelling of the medieval "Reineke Fuchs") or his novella "When Animals Talked"?

Ukrainian officials are loathe to discuss pet cemeteries because they are the source of many problems. Grieving owners cross swords with local district administrations over sanitation, space, and architecture issues. Currently, the only official pet cemetery in Ukraine is in Kharkiv, and it is quite a profitable business. A few other cities and towns have only makeshift burial grounds with small tombstones dotting the landscape. Some four-legged friends are even buried with crosses and prayerful observances of Christian traditions. If this is not an option, a few bigger cities may offer disposal services to perform cremations, the ashes to be kept in an urn or scattered in a garden or park of your choice.

Near Kyiv, the town of Rusanivka has been a popular site for pet burials. The Canine Training Association of Ukraine recently reported on hygiene and sanitation problems, as decomposing remains mix with groundwaters and drain into the nearby Dnipro river, further spreading bacteria. In response, the Rusanivka District Administration erected signs for owners to rebury their pets elsewhere, because this improvised cemetery is to be bulldozed.

So what happens after Rex or Burko, Rover or Topik, your constant friend and recipient of your love and attention, finally buys that one-way ticket on the Stygian ferry? Throughout the world, many pet owners have spared no effort to express their profound sense of loss. In modern-day America, this has developed into an artform.

A few stone's throws from Yonkers, N.Y., rising on a fastidiously landscaped hillside flanked by pink and white dogwood trees, lies the historic Hartsdale Pet Cemetery. Each spring more than 3,000 chrysanthemums are in bloom, and every summer 20,000 begonias grace the grounds. Established in 1896, America's first and most prestigious pet cemetery is now the final resting place not only for dogs and cats, but also for horses, rabbits, ferrets, rats, mice, birds, turtles, lizards and even a lion cub, "Goldfleck."

A new plot that can accommodate pets (in the 41- to 100-pound range) will set you back \$1,812, excluding annual maintenance which tacks on an additional \$47 per year. But a one-time payment of \$1,400 for "perpetual care" or \$2,000 for the optional "perpetual flower care" will guarantee peace of mind for all the coming eons until our sputtering sun finally implodes down to the size of your cat's last hairball. A sum of \$150 provides for a non-denominational religious burial ser-

vice when your pet is lowered into the ground. Winter blankets are \$900.

One tombstone yearns "Would that I could lie beside you under the gentle night sky." Not to worry. A wish to be buried next to your little friend can also be realized at Hartsdale. As one administrator told me, "There's always room for more ashes."

More crowded than a third-world city, Hartsdale is nonetheless better maintained than many cemeteries for humans. As you stroll through the grounds ("Here sleep our lifetime friends"), a kaleidoscope of pet names greets the eye: Goldie, Pebbles, Pumpkin, Othello, Romeo, Hamlet, Tristan, Siegfried, Khayam, Nero, Atticus, Charlie Chan, Valentino, Pinocchio, Mickey Mouse, Bambi, Maximum Joy, Penelope the Good... even Satan. Miniature monuments carved in English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese and other languages honor the seeing-eye dogs, the horses who served in World War I, and several canines from the 9/11 Emergency Task Force.

Heart-rending inscriptions paint a vivid picture of pet owners: "Loving you has changed the person I have now become," "My beloved guardian angels," "Here rests a part of our hearts," and most tenderly: "Sunshine - my little girl, keep a warm spot in your red chair for mommy. I'll see you soon."

Perhaps the most famous Hartsdale resident is Goldfleck, the young lion who crossed the finish line in 1912. His mistress was the eccentric Hungarian Princess Vilma Lwoff-Parlaghy, an accomplished portrait painter, who had previously encountered opposition to housing her dogs at the Waldorf Hotel in New York. Acquiring the lion cub from Ringling Brothers Circus, Princess Parlaghy cuddled Goldfleck in an expensive wool blanket and chauffeured him by limo to the Plaza Hotel, where she was allowed to keep him in a separate room in her apartment. Goldfleck behaved well. That is, until a photographer's flashing light bulb galvanized him to charge into the hall and up and down the corridor. After he died of an illness, the princess held a formal wake, with Goldfleck lying in state encircled by his feeding dishes, favorite toys and vases of flowers.

Currently, the Internet hosts a blog site - "Orange Revolution: Pet Cemeteries Come to Ukraine." But other than Kharkiv, today's residents of Ukrainian cities still don't have lots of options to suitably say farewell to their beloved pets. Oh well... Neither Rome nor Lviv were built in a day. However, don't be surprised when a pet cemetery like Hartsdale pops up somewhere in the land of the Scythians before too long.

On the other hand, given today's economy, surviving family members and beneficiaries in Ukraine must be pleased that the bury-me-with-my-sports car attitude has not yet become the latest rage... Maybe it's all for the best - just one less item to lug to the Happy Hunting Grounds.

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OUT AND ABOUT

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|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| March 27, 29
New York | Film screening, "Folk" by Roxy Toporowych, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | March 29
Whippany, NJ | "An Artful Afternoon," art exhibit and sale, Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 75, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, bhpolskyj@aol.com |
| March 27 through April 12
New York | "Er Toshtuk," performed by artists from Kyrgyzstan and the Yara Arts Group, La MaMa Experimental Theater Company, 212-475-7710 or www.lamama.org | March 29
Washington | 26th annual Pysanka Workshop and Bazaar, Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine, 202-526-3737 |
| March 28
Lehighton, PA | Pysanka Workshop by Ukrainian Heritage Studies Center at Manor College, Ukrainian Homestead, 215-235-3709 or 610-377-4621 | March 29
Toronto | Duo concert, violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv and pianist Marianna Humetska, Glenn Gould Studio, 416-240-8403 or 416-762-7988 |
| March 28
New York | Pysanka Workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | March 29
Alexandria, VA | Concert with soprano Solomia Dutkevych and violinist Solomia Gorokhivska, The Washington Group Cultural Fund, The Lyceum, 301-229-2615 |
| March 28
Lehighton, PA | Bandura Workshop, Ukrainian Homestead, 570-708-1992 | March 29
Passaic, NJ | Open House, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School, 973-779-0249 |
| March 28
Arlington, VA | Film screenings, "Pysanka: The Ukrainian Easter Egg" and "Sheep in the Wood" by Slavko Nowytski, Arlington Sister City Association Ivano-Frankivsk Committee, Shirlington Library, www.arlingtonsisitercity.org/events | March 30
Cambridge, MA | Lecture by Moshe Taube, "Jewish-Christian Cultural Contacts in Late Medieval Kyiv," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 |
| March 28
New York | Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble 30th anniversary concert, New York University's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts, with guest artist Vasyl Popadiuk, Eliteplo@hotmail.com or 718-435-0190 | April 5
Whippany, NJ | Easter Bazaar, St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-476-1970 |
| March 28
San Francisco | Taras Shevchenko concert, St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 415-861-4066 | | |
| March 28
Chicago | Book launch and lecture, "Holodomor: Reflections on the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine," by Lubomyr Luciuk, Ukrainian American Youth Association - Chicago Branch, 773- 486-4204 | | |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Wednesday, March 25

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University will host a lecture by Prof. Anna Procyk titled "Independence or Federation: Ukraine and Russia during the Revolution and the Civil War." Dr. Procyk is professor of history at Kingsborough College of the City University of New York. This year she is a visiting scholar at the Harriman Institute at Columbia. The lecture will be held at noon at the Harriman Institute, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St. (between Amsterdam and Columbus avenues) in Room 1219. This event is free and open to the public. For additional information call 212 854-4697.

Friday, March 27

NEW YORK: All are cordially invited to the short Ukrainian and American film night at 7 p.m. at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave., New York, NY 10003. Suggested donation: \$10 and up; wine and cheese reception to follow. All proceeds from this event will benefit Bohdana Smyrnova's thesis film at New York University titled "Her Seat Is Vacant," a family drama about Ukrainian immigrants in New York. For tax-deductible donations, checks can be made payable to the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine with the notation "for film project" and sent to: USA/USA, 80 Maiden Lane, Suite 606, New York, NY 10038; bss1168@nyu.edu, 1-347-581-5347.

Saturday, March 28

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Dr. Petro Kononenko on the subject "Ukrainians in World Civilization and Culture." Prof. Kononenko, a doctor of philological sciences, is director of the Scholarly Research Institute of Ukrainian Studies in Kyiv. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Avenue (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Business and Professional Group (UPBG) of Chicago invites members and the community to a presentation by Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk titled "Them and Us." Dr. Luciuk, a professor of political geography in the department of politics and economics at the Royal Military College of Canada, in Kingston, Ontario, will discuss how the Anglo-Saxon world has viewed Ukraine and its history in the early to mid-20th century and how these views continue to color current perceptions of Ukraine. A specialist in refugee studies, Canada's immigration history and the political geography of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Dr. Luciuk is author, co-author and co-editor of numerous books, booklets and editorials. "Holodomor: Reflections on the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine," edited by Dr. Luciuk, will be available for purchase after the event. The program will be held at the American Ukrainian Youth

Association, 2457 W. Chicago Ave., at 5 p.m. Admission: \$10 for UBPG members, \$15 guests, \$5 students.

NEW YORK: The Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble will celebrate its 30th anniversary with a concert at New York University's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts at 7 p.m. The Syzokryli will perform traditional Ukrainian folk dances, a modern fusion of Ukrainian folk dance and hip-hop dance, and Roma Pryma Bohachevsky's moving choreographic creation, "Fight for Freedom." Famed violin virtuoso Vasyl Popadiuk will appear as a guest artist to entertain the audience with his vibrant interpretations of classical Ukrainian music. NYU Skirball Center for the Performing Arts is located at 566 LaGuardia Place (at Washington Square South). Tickets may be obtained by calling NYU Skirball Center at 215-352-3101, by e-mail at www.skirball-center.nyu.edu or at the box office at 566 LaGuardia Place Tuesday through Saturday, noon-6 p.m. Contact Emilia Liteplo at elitemplo@hotmail.com or 718-435-0190 for tickets and more information.

Sunday, March 29

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Dr. Mykola Brodyn, cardiologist, on the subject "Acute Coronary Syndrome." Dr. Brodyn is a professor at Seton Hall University School of Graduate Medical Sciences and Kansas City University School of Medicine and Biosciences. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Avenue (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 2 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

ALEXANDRIA, Va.: The Washington Group Cultural Fund, in its mission to support Ukrainian arts and artists, has the pleasure to introduce two talented young performers, Solomia Dutkevych, soprano, and Solomia Gorokhivska, violin, in a diverse program of classical, Ukrainian and Latin American works for voice and violin. Meet the artists at a reception immediately following the program. The events will take place at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., beginning at 3 p.m. Seating is unreserved; suggested donation is \$20, free for students. For information call 301-229-2615.

Monday, March 30

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture given by Moshe Taube, professor of linguistics at Hebrew University of Jerusalem; and Jaroslaw and Nadia Mihaychuk Research Fellow at the Ukrainian Research Institute. His lecture, "Jewish-Christian Cultural Contacts in Late Medieval Kyiv," will be held at 4 p.m. in Room S-050 (Concourse Level), CGIS Building South, 1730 Cambridge St.,

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

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

Information should be sent to: preview@ukrweekly.com or Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510. **NB: If e-mailing, please do not send items as attachments; simply type the text into the body of the e-mail message.**