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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine's economic indicators point to robust growth in January-February

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Newly released indicators show that Ukraine's economy has returned to robust growth in the first two months of this year, after an economic slowdown in 2002 had caused concern that a contraction may be imminent.

Numbers released by the government on March 25 show that in the January-February time period the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 7.2 percent, with 7.7 percent growth in January, followed by a 6.7 percent increase in February.

President Leonid Kuchma, speaking at a regular monthly press briefing, praised the government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich for smoothing out the economic bumps that had threatened continued economic expansion, but said that reforms needed to be completed to assure longer-term growth, which would put the country at a level of development comparable to other European countries.

"The performance of the last two months has shown that the negative tendencies of last year have been dealt with," said President Kuchma.

He noted that he remains concerned about the continued large debt carried by

Former minister arrested on charges of corruption

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukrainian law enforcement officials detained a former vice prime minister of agriculture on March 24 on charges of corruption and tax evasion. The charges came after President Leonid Kuchma ordered an investigation into reports of huge grain shortages in the country.

The Procurator General's Office has charged Leonid Kozachenko with abuse of office for taking bribes for the illegal sale of grain to foreign buyers at reduced prices. He has also been charged with tax evasion for failing to declare 584,940 hryvnia as director general of the firm UkrAgroBusiness.

As vice prime minister in the government of Anatolii Kinakh from June 2001 to November 2002, Mr. Kozachenko was in charge of agricultural policy. If convicted he could face up to eight years imprisonment on the first charge and 10 years on the second. The case is one of 90 such investigations Ukraine's chief law enforcement agency has been pursuing.

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factories in some industries, particularly to electricity providers.

In 2002 Ukraine's economic expansion slowed to an annual rate of 4.1 percent after hitting 9.1 percent growth in 2001. Last year's slowdown was precipitated by a growth rate of only 3.6 percent for January-February. The strong initial figures for this year have led Ukraine's Ministry of the Economy to raise its outlook for the year from 4 percent annual GDP growth to 6 percent.

President Kuchma said he was particularly pleased with a sharp upturn in machine building, which he said has historically been the cornerstone of a strong Ukrainian economy. In the first two months of 2003 the sector showed a production increase of 12 percent over 2002. Industrial Policy Minister Anatolii Mialytsia predicted on March 13 that the

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Majority of Ukraine's citizens against U.S.-led war in Iraq

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Not only are Ukrainians overwhelmingly against war in Iraq, but large numbers of them also see no reason for having sent a Ukrainian army decontamination battalion to provide support should Saddam Hussein order a chemical or biological attack against U.S. or British troops in the region.

These conclusions were revealed by several sociological surveys done in Ukraine in response to the onset of hostilities by a U.S. led coalition against Iraq and its president.

A study conducted by the polling firm Taylor, Nelson, Sofrez-Ukraine and funded by the non-governmental organization Democratic Initiatives showed that an astonishing 82 percent of Ukrainians hold the view that "the military operations in Iraq are not acceptable under any

circumstances."

Another 10 percent said the operations would be acceptable only if weapons of mass destruction were found on Iraqi territory. Only 2.5 percent agreed that there is no good reason to invade Iraq. The poll was conducted prior to the onset of the Iraqi conflict, between February 27 and March 9, and included 1,200 respondents from all the regions of Ukraine, with a sampling error of 3 percent.

Equally interesting were responses given to a survey conducted by the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Research which asked Ukrainians whether they support the deployment of the Ukrainian Army's 19th Battalion to the Persian Gulf to support chemical and bacteriological clean-up should such weapons of mass destruction be used. The Verkhovna Rada

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"Songs of the Underground" festival raises awareness of poverty

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Halyna Lobova sings the "Ave Maria" nearly every day in the underpass beneath the Khreshchatyk that connects the two sides of Independence Square. People have become familiar with her soaring soprano, which she has demonstrated at the spot for nearly five years – ever since she became a pensioner. Many of them regularly give her a few coins as they pass by.



Ihor Lobok, 14, who plays on the streets to raise money to realize his dream of owning his own violin, relaxes before appearing at the "Songs of the Underground" Festival.

Near the Kyiv Conservatory, 14-year-old Ihor Lobok plays his violin several times a week. The wunderkind, who has twice been double-promoted at school and is currently completing the 10th grade, performs on the square before the building on a violin he borrows from the school he attends. He is raising money to buy his own.

Down the road two teenage rockers scream a punk anthem accompanied by a Cone folk guitar. They use the instrument's case to hold donations from

passers-by. They say that by playing on the street they can earn a living, however meager, while perfecting their art and attaining public exposure.

These are but a few of Ukraine's poverty-stricken citizens – the ones who still retain initiative and hope. Many more have given up. Today they walk the streets during the day and dig through trash containers, while at night they take illegal refuge in apartment buildings for a few hours of restless sleep. Others find their sanctuary in a bottle and sleep where they drop.

There are few Ukrainian civic organizations that deal with the destitute – perhaps because most Ukrainians, according to Western standards, are themselves considered poverty-stricken. At least one group, however, has decided that someone must bring attention to the plight of the poorest Ukrainians.

The Union of Humanists of Ukraine, an organization of students and journalists, was recently formed with the self-proclaimed aim of helping those in need. One of its first projects, held on February 5, was "Songs of the Underground," a festival of musicians who perform in Kyiv's underground walkways, at Metro entrances and, generally, wherever the public gathers. In return, they receive whatever passers-by offer – mostly coins, but at times also fruits and sweets.

The organization, which underscores that it is a non-profit group not connected to any political organization, scoured Kyiv's streets in preparation for the festival, searching for those who were willing to come in from the cold for a day and

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ANALYSIS

U.S.-Ukraine relations: revitalization possible only after Kuchma retires

by Taras Kuzio

Since Ukraine became an independent state in December 1991, U.S.-Ukraine relations have undergone many changes, one reason being that U.S.-Ukraine relations cannot be treated in isolation from U.S.-Russia relations. In the post-Soviet era when U.S.-Russia relations were poor (1995-1999) U.S.-Ukraine relations were good. Conversely, when U.S.-Russia relations were good (1992-1994, since 2001) U.S.-Ukraine relations were poor. Washington's current disappointment in Ukraine, therefore, is little different to that of the early 1990s under President Leonid Kravchuk when the United States also placed priority on relations with Russia in the CIS.

There is little basis for poor U.S.-Ukraine relations at the popular level. Ukrainians do not hold great power ambitions like Russians and do not see their country in competition with the United States. Russians also inherited the Soviet-era superpower hostility to the United States.

A worldwide survey by the Washington-based Pew Global Attitudes Project last year found that of the six post-Communist states surveyed, Ukrainians had the most favorable opinion of the United States (80

Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto. His latest book is a volume co-edited with Paul D'Anieri titled "Ukrainian Foreign and Security Policy" (Praeger, 2002).

percent), with Poland coming in at second (79 percent). A December 2002 poll by the Kyiv International Institute for Sociology (KIIS) found that 61 percent held positive attitudes toward the U.S., a figure still high but lower than the Pew poll. The KIIS poll showed that in the decade between 1992 and 2002 there had been a decline of 20 percent from the 81 percent positive view of the U.S. in 1992.

These positive views of the United States have not prevented a deterioration in U.S.-Ukraine relations in Ukraine because foreign policy is developed by its elites with no public input. A recent Razumkov poll cited in the March 8-14 edition of Zerkalo Nedeli found that 83.7 percent of Ukrainians feel they have no influence on the central government. The deterioration of relations, therefore, is to be laid at the feet of the Ukrainian elites and, to a lesser extent, the mishandling of this relationship by Washington.

Bilateral realtions in 1994-1999

During President Kuchma's first term (Kuchma 1), there was a coincidence of interests that elevated U.S.-Ukraine relations to what was then called a "strategic partnership" wherein Ukraine was described as the "linchpin" or the "keystone in the arch" of European security. U.S.-Ukraine relations improved in 1994-1996 because the U.S. saw a reformer elected (Kuchma), whose government program obtained support from the

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EU proposals for future ties spark disappointment in Ukraine

by Valentinas Mite

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Last week the European Union mapped out plans for future relations with the countries that will be its neighbors once it expands in 2004. The plans, contained in a document titled "Wider Europe - Neighborhoods: A New Framework for Relations With Our Eastern and Southern Neighbors," were presented by the European Commission to the European Parliament on March 11. The proposals are expected to be made official policy following an EU summit in June.

The document says the EU should offer Russia, Ukraine and Moldova, among others, closer economic integration and enhanced political cooperation in exchange for political, economic and institutional reform based on "shared values."

Norbert Jousten, the EU's ambassador to Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, said the proposals, which are meant to cover the coming five to 10 years, include preferential trade terms; expanded transport, energy, and telecommunication links; and the possibility of visa-free travel to the EU. The document also appears to leave open the possibility of eastern neighbors eventually joining the EU. Mr. Jousten called the proposals "a very ambitious offer" and a solid opportunity for Kyiv.

But Ukrainian officials are less enthusiastic. A Foreign Affairs Ministry

Valentinas Mite is an RFE/RL correspondent.

spokesman, Markian Lubkivskyi, criticized the proposals, saying they do not fully meet Ukraine's "aspirations" for becoming a full-fledged EU member.

Oleksander Sushko, the director of Ukraine's Center for Peace, Conversion and Foreign Policy, told RFE/RL that Ukraine is unlikely to accept the proposal in its current form. "It is natural that the Foreign Ministry reacted in such a way. Any long-term EU strategy regarding Ukraine that does not recognize the prospects for Ukraine's possible membership in this organization will not be well accepted in Ukraine, not by the Foreign Ministry or other institutions, or experts, or anybody," Mr. Sushko said.

Steffen Skovmand heads the political division of the European Commission's delegation to Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. He told RFE/RL that, contrary to remarks by critics, the proposals do not actually preclude Ukraine's eventual membership in the EU. "We are not talking about accession now. We are neither including it nor excluding it. What we are talking about is a new framework for a closer integration of Ukraine into the EU, and it is a very concrete proposal. It basically says: 'Get yourself ready to join our single market. Align your legislation. Let's work together. We'll support you. We'll draw up action plans together with you about what needs to be done. We'll have annual reviews about how you make this progress and what progress is made, and we will have money,'" Mr. Skovmand said.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Ukrainian officers arrive in Kuwait

KYIV - A group of 15 Ukrainian officers arrived in Kuwait on March 22 to prepare the deployment of a Ukrainian anti-nuclear, -biological, and -chemical (NBC) battalion, ITAR-TASS reported. The officers will identify measures to be taken to ensure the safety of Kuwaitis and to gather information about the sanitary and epidemiological situation in the area, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry told the news agency. The NBC battalion comprising 432 servicemen will stay in Kuwait for at least six months in accordance with an agreement between the two countries. It will not participate in combat actions and will only provide humanitarian aid. (RFE/RL Newsline)

NBC battalion on the way to Kuwait

KYIV - Two Ilyushin-76 transport aircraft on March 25 began to airlift soldiers and equipment of the Ukrainian anti-nuclear, -biological and -chemical (NBC) battalion to Kuwait, Interfax reported. Within the next few days, two planes with troops and equipment on board are expected to fly to Kuwait every 24 hours, and the IL-76 planes could be replaced by more powerful Ruslan and Mria aircraft. Defense Minister Volodymyr Shkidchenko told journalists the same day that four servicemen of the battalion have refused to go to Kuwait, "owing to different reasons." The Verkhovna Rada approved sending the NBC unit to Kuwait last week. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Former vice PM arrested in grain probe

KYIV - Police have arrested former Vice Prime Minister for Agriculture Leonid Kozachenko on charges of tax evasion and abuse of office, Reuters reported on March 25, quoting Procurator General's Office spokeswoman Polina Bashkina. Ms. Bashkina said Mr. Kozachenko's detention stemmed from an investigation launched earlier this month at the order of President Leonid Kuchma, who is concerned by a deficit of grain and a rise in bread prices in Ukraine. Prosecutors last week said the actual grain crop in Ukraine in 2002 was "significantly lower" than the previously announced 38.8 million tons. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President introduces new Cabinet job

KYIV - President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree introducing the post of cabinet minister for relations with the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Ukrainian news agencies reported on March 25. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kinakh re-elected as party leader

KYIV - The third congress of the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Party of Ukraine on March 22 unanimously re-elected former Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh as its leader, Interfax reported. Mr. Kinakh was the only candidate for the post. The congress also adopted a resolution that reads that the main goals of the party are its development as a nationwide movement, protection of national economic and political interests, achievement of worthy and equal integration of Ukraine into the global community, creation of favorable terms for industrial and entrepreneurial activity, the protection of the rights of owners and investors, and transparent market competition. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada condemns attack on Iraq

KYIV - The Verkhovna Rada on March 20 adopted - by a vote of 229 to 5 - a resolution condemning the U.S.-led attack on Iraq, Interfax reported. "The Verkhovna Rada demands that the military actions of the United States, Great Britain and other countries on the territory of Iraq be immediately halted, and all the foreign military formations be withdrawn from this country," the resolution states. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine-NATO target plan revealed

KYIV - The official website of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine (<http://www.mfa.gov.ua/>) on March 24 published the Ukraine-NATO Target Plan for 2003. The document, which follows the Ukraine-NATO Action Plan adopted at the November 2002 NATO summit in Prague and published in January 2003, maps out specific measures pertaining to political, economic, military, human rights and other areas to be taken by Ukraine in 2003 in its pursuit of NATO membership. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv urges Miensk to ratify border treaty

KYIV - Alyksandr Vaytovich, head of the Council of Republic of Belarus' National Assembly, visited Kyiv on March 24 and met with President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, Ukrainian media reported. Messrs. Vaytovich and Lytvyn reportedly spoke in favor of the ratification by Miensk of a Belarusian-Ukrainian border treaty. Kyiv ratified this

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“Songs of...”

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perform in a more customary manner. They found 10 such types, including Ms. Lobova and 14-year-old Ihor. For their performances the musicians received monetary stipends courtesy of the financial sponsors of the event.

Valerii Nechyporenko, a 47-year-old journalist who is the group’s founder and director, said the reason for the festival was to remind Kyivans that they remain poor compared to the West, no matter what self-perceptions they retain. He said that too many residents have deceived themselves into believing that they are doing sufficiently well, which means that they were demanding too little from themselves, their lives and their politicians.

“We had a study done before the festival and discovered that 55 percent of Kyivans consider themselves middle class. Yet more than 70 percent of Kyiv’s residents make no more than 250 hrv a month, which is less than \$50,” explained Mr. Nechyporenko. “The rationale is that we should not be comparing ourselves to Ethiopia, we should be comparing ourselves to France and Germany.”

The capital city is by far the most affluent region of Ukraine. Whereas only 5.8 percent of Kyivans live below the country’s official poverty level of 175 hrv (\$33) in monthly income, in the Transcarpathian Oblast of Ukraine nearly half are below the poverty line. In the Crimea the number is 38 percent, while in Kyiv Oblast it approaches 20 percent, according to the State Committee on Statistics.

There is also a correlation between the number of kids in a family and the level of poverty it must endure. Government figures show that 29 percent of single-child families are below the poverty level, a number that rises to nearly 40 percent in two-child families, to 47 percent in three-child families and to 64 percent where there are four kids in the family.

In Ukraine, unemployment, lack of education, drug addiction and alcoholism are far from the only contributors to poverty. Government figures show that 78 percent of the country’s impoverished come from families in which at least one family member works full-time.

Ihor, slight in stature and reserved in demeanor, comes from just such a family, normal in most every way, except that the father cannot make ends meet with the poor state of the economy and the social transformations taking place. The shy ingénue, who has twice jumped grades because of his scholastic ability, wants his own violin because he is very serious about his playing. He feels no compunction over his manner of gathering money

for a new instrument, a notion he affirmed with a quiet shake of his head when asked.

The festival, held at the International Academy of Personnel Management in Kyiv, included statistical presentations and discussions on how to alleviate poverty and change the social mindset, as well as performances by 10 street musicians and ensembles.

An associated issue addressed by attendees was the increasingly harsh manner in which law enforcement officials have recently begun to deal with beggars. Mr. Nechyporenko said he sensed a return to Soviet times.

“Lately the militia has begun banning street musicians, as it was earlier. Even during the Gorbachev era it was allowed,” explained Mr. Nechyporenko.

Yet, today those who have something they can offer passers-by in return for the few kopiiky thrown into their metal cups can at least retain their dignity. Others can offer little more than a dirty, feeble hand held out in need.

Most of them are pensioners, someone’s grandmother whose government subsidy does not stretch to the end of the month – forcing her to ask for money, while able to offer only God’s blessing, a bowed head and the sign of the cross in return. There are those in even worse shape, however; those who hang cardboard signs across their chest asking for money to help pay the medical expenses – or the funeral – of a spouse or child.

At many intersections away from the city center, one-legged and legless middle-aged men, limbs lost to the Afghanistan War, factory accidents or diabetes, stand on crutches or sit in crude wheelchairs and approach cars to ask for money. Abandoned by hope, many of them are wracked by alcoholism as well. Often they are joined by Roma (Gypsy) women in tattered clothes, who thrust dirty palms into vehicles, while holding their disheveled children on the other arm.

Most Ukrainians, who feel the sting in their own pockets, cannot and do not offer a coin. Too often it is simply too difficult even to turn toward the beggar to recognize his existence. Yet the poor do exist, and in large numbers, and they must be given compassion and aid, according to Mr. Nechyporenko.

“We must constantly remind our people that they have to raise themselves from poverty. If we concern ourselves with the ways we can solve this problem, we will find a way out,” explained the ever-upbeat journalist.

“We have lived through a system that collected and then divided up everything we had. We have lived through wild, out-of-control capitalism. Now we need to find the third way – the humane way,” he emphasizes.



Roman Woronowycz

An elderly pensioner asks for donations from passers-by in the underpass beneath Independence Square in Kyiv.



Two young musicians sing punk rock songs to practice their craft and support themselves, using the case of their single guitar to hold the coins offered by passers-by.



Valerii Nechyporenko, founder and leader of the Union of Humanists, surrounded by student-members who staged the one-day Festival of Underground Music to bring attention to the plight of poor people in Kyiv.

This issue of The Ukrainian Weekly is reaching all members of the U.S. Congress thanks to the generous sponsorship of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union.

Lviv students protest government interference in rector's election

by Matthew Matuszak
and Liliya Kovalyk

LVIIV – Approximately 4,000 students gathered on March 25 in the square near the statue of Ivan Franko, across the street from Ivan Franko National University in Lviv to protest Ministry of Education interference in the election of a rector for the university. Ivan Vakarchuk's contract as rector of the university ended on March 24, and students and staff of the university object to the interference in the process of electing another rector.

On March 18, Vasyl Kremin, Ukraine's minister of education, issued an order stating that Vakarchuk would

continue as acting rector until the position was filled. On March 19, Mr. Kremin informed Dr. Vakarchuk that, because of the pressure of certain political forces, he was forced to retract the order and appoint a person who does not work in the university.

To date, no one outside the university has ever been designated as rector.

According to Dr. Vakarchuk, Minister Kremin said, "I must do this." On March 20, Dr. Vakarchuk gave a report on his work at the university as rector at a staff conference and received the unanimous support of the delegates, representing 28,000 students and staff. Thereafter, V. Bykovskiy, head of the personnel department of the Ministry of Education,

phoned and asked him to return the copy of Minister Kremin's order.

On March 24, another order came to the university from the Ministry of Education stipulating that Dr. Vakarchuk will act as rector only until April, when a staff conference will be held at which time the staff will be asked to support the candidacy of a new rector.

That same day, Oleksa Hudyma, national deputy from the Our Ukraine bloc announced: "We will not allow certain political forces to destabilize Lviv National University. ... Prior to the presidential elections, we cannot doze off because some people want to rule, not only the university, but other structures. Educational institutions should not be the playthings of certain political forces."

The normal procedure for choosing a rector is for the teachers of the university to vote and for the election to be confirmed by the Ministry of Education in Kyiv.

On March 25 Mr. Hudyma joined the striking students, who came from the Lviv Polytechnic Institute, the Forest Technology Institute, and the Medical University, as well as Ivan Franko University. Stepan Hordii, head of the teachers' union, announced at the strike that the teachers had decided at a meeting on March 24 that the whole teaching staff also will strike if necessary.

According to the newspaper Postup, the students are not coming out for or against the candidacy of Dr. Vakarchuk for the position of rector. Holding signs reading "The election of the rector is an internal matter of the university," they simply demand that the election of the university's rector be done openly and honestly.

According to a statement released by

the staff, this incident "casts doubts on Lviv National University's capacity for autonomy and self-regulation of its activities. ... At the same time, this demonstrates the inability of government organs of authority in education to use democratic principles in government educational policy, with conditions of university autonomy."

There is speculation in Lviv that Dr. Vakarchuk has been targeted because in February and March 2001 Lviv university students were involved in anti-Kuchma demonstrations and the rector refused to punish these students. Student leaders say that Dr. Vakarchuk was asked if the students would have any problems, and that he responded that the students would not have problems, but he would.

In addition, there is talk that since Mr. Kremin is a member of the pro-Kuchma Social Democratic Party-United, he can secure the appointment of a rector who can be used next year during the presidential elections in encouraging students to support the candidate endorsed by President Kuchma to be his successor.

"I went to Volodymyr-Volynskiy to meet with Vasyl Kremin," said Dr. Vakarchuk, "and he confirmed that he was satisfied with the work of the university, but he did not dispute the fact that the order was revoked. When I asked him 'why,' he answered, 'circumstances have worked out that way.'"

The press center of the university is preparing an appeal to President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn regarding the situation.

This story was written with materials from the newspapers Postup, Vysokyi Zamok and Lvivska Hazeta.

New bishop named for Chicago

Metropolitan Archeparchy of Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA – On the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, March 25, the pope has announced the appointment of Msgr. Richard Seminack, pastor of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Carnegie, Pa., as the new eparch of the St. Nicholas Eparchy in Chicago. This appointment affirms the nomination made to the holy father by the Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops.

The bishop-elect succeeds Bishop Michael Wivchar, CSsR, who was appointed in November 2000 as the bishop for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Bishop Wivchar has served as administrator of the Chicago Eparchy from November 2000 until the appointment by the pope on March 25.

Bishop-Elect Seminack, 61, studied at

St. Basil's Seminar College in Stamford, Conn., at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary and The Catholic University of America in Washington, where he received a Master's of Divinity degree.

The St. Nicholas Eparchy of Chicago embraces most of the western part of the United States of America, including Alaska and Hawaii. It is one of four Ukrainian Catholic eparchies in the United States.

Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka issued the following statement: "We ask the prayers of all the bishops, clergy, religious and faithful for the newly appointed Bishop-Elect Richard Sminack. God grant him His wisdom, strength and guidance in his ministry as chief shepherd of the Chicago Eparchy of St. Nicholas, Mnohaya Lita."

UOC-MP monks occupy Kyiv building rented by U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

KYIV – Monks of the Monastery of the Holy Presentation of the Lord, which is affiliated with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) occupied the Kyiv building of the Pylyp Orlyk Institute of Democracy and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation on March 5. They demanded that the building which once belonged to the monastery, be returned to the monastic community.

Though the foundation, which rents the building, has a lease until May 2004, foundation employees packed their things and left the building.

On March 11 UOC-MP leaders brought their religious and faithful out of the building thus ending the occupation. The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) has filed a court case, claiming its rights have been violated. (See sidebar)

USUF Vice-President Markian Bilynskiy told TV channel 1+1 that "There were no civilized discussions with the monks. They addressed us in the form of an ultimatum, demanding that we leave the premises."

Until the foundation's court case has been decided, the premises are under police protection. Though the UOC-MP contingent has left the building, the employees of the foundation cannot return to work because the offices have been sealed shut.

According to National Deputy Pavlo Movchan of Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine faction, "the occupiers blocked the offices and demanded that employees of civic organizations leave the building."

Political pretext?

"The seizure [of the building by

monks] has a clear political pretext, since it took place under anti-American slogans," said Mr. Movchan. "Numerous requests of national deputies to the Ministry of Internal Affairs to resolve this problem in accordance with current legislation didn't give any desired results, and the ministry has taken an exceptionally passive stand," he added soon after the occupation began.

According to the press service of the UOC-MP, on November 19, 2002, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine issued a decree to transfer the building to the Kyivan Monastery of the Holy Presentation of the Lord. The UOC-MP reported that monks had made numerous requests to Mykola Udovenko, director of the UkrAhroPromBud Corp., which rents the building out to the Pylyp Orlyk Institute, to return the building to its historical owner. In addition, the UOC-MP also accused the Pylyp Orlyk Institute of attempting to get around the government's decree and the law.

The press service of the UOC-MP reported that the Pylyp Orlyk Institute of Democracy was established by the wife of an American congressman, Nadia McConnell. In fact, Nadia Komarnyckyj McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, is married to Robert McConnell, an attorney who is not a congressman.

Institute employees call police

Representatives of the UOC-MP maintain that the situation became aggravated when, at the monks' demand to leave the building, employees of the institute called the police.

The UOC-MP stressed that in accordance with the presidential decree "On Urgent Measures for Combating the Negative Consequences of Totalitarian Policies of the Former Soviet Union regard-

ing Religion and Restoration of the Violated Rights of Churches and Religious Organizations," issued on March 21, 2002, the state should return the expropriated property to Churches.

USUF chronology of incident

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, which is based in Washington, issued the following fact sheet regarding the incident.

- The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) has been renting premises at vul. Moskovska 40-A, Kyiv, Ukraine since 1992.
- In May 2001 USUF signed a renewed three-year lease agreement.
- The property was administered on behalf of the state, specifically the State Property Fund, by UkrAhroPromBud (UAPB) Corporation. Consequently, the State, through the State Property Fund, instructed UAPB to enter into the aforementioned rental agreement with USUF.
- In July 2002, the UAPB, without notifying USUF, began lobbying the Cabinet of Ministers to hand over the premises to the Vvedensky (Holy Presentation of the Lord) Monastery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate so that the Church would in fact now administer the property on behalf of the State. This was done by using highly selective and inaccurate information.
- The State Property Fund, which

administers state property on behalf of the government, was cut out of the loop. The State Property Fund has prerogative over these issues.

- On November 19, 2002, the government of Ukraine adopted an Instruction supporting the recommendation that the UOC-MP become the Property Manager of vul. Moskovska 40-A and use the property at its discretion.

- On December 9, 2002, UOC-MP hierarchs delivered an ultimatum to USUF that it vacate the premises by December 25, 2002. The USUF refused, saying that the UOC MP had now inherited the obligation of the previous property manager and it should respect the terms of the lease agreement.

- The correctness of the USUF's interpretation was confirmed in writing by the Regional State Property Fund on January 14.

- The UOC-MP refused to honor its legal obligations and continued to threaten the USUF.

- Negotiations with the UOC-MP have been impossible because they have

(Continued on page 20)

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Ariana Maria Shatynski, daughter of Maria and Joseph Shatynski of Whippany, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 142. She was enrolled by her grandparents John and Olga Shatynski, and was welcomed by her sister Julianna Rose, and her 10 cousins – all of whom are members of Branch 142.



Adrian Deputat, son of Kathy and Jurij Deputat, is a new member of UNA Branch 360 in Buffalo, N.Y. He was enrolled by his parents.



John Richard (Jack) Russell, son of Alina and John Russell of Lorton, Va., is a new member of UNA Branch 88. He was enrolled by his grandparents Marta and Richard Legeskis of Bethesda, Md.



Emiliya Taisa Smyk, seen above with her older sister (and fellow UNAer), Tetiana, 3, is a new member of UNA Branch 82. She was enrolled by her parents, Sonia and Andriy Smyk of Livonia, Mich.

OBITUARY: Michael Turko, tireless secretary of Branch 63

by Martha Lysko
UNA First Vice-President

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – One of the most prolific organizers of the UNA died quietly on Friday, February 28. Michael Turko, former secretary of Branch 63 in Ford City, Pa., was a secretary for more than 30 years. During this time he organized over 1,500 members and boasted one of the largest branches in the Pittsburgh District. Branch 63 often had three delegates to the convention.

The last UNA convention Mr. Turko attended was in 1998, when he served as sergeant-at-arms. In 1999, due to failing health and advancing age, he reluctantly relinquished his duties to Michael S. Turko, his son.

The elder Mr. Turko served as branch secretary from 1968 to 1999. Based on the total number of members he enrolled into the branch, it can be stated that he organized close to 50 members a year – a remarkable achievement and worthy of emulating.

Mr. Turko was born on September 19, 1920, to Theodore and Helen née Elash in Ford City. He spent his entire life in Ford City, except for service in the U.S. Army during World War II.

He returned to Ford City and became active in the community and the

Ukrainian National Association. He coached Little League, and officiated at basketball games, and through these community activities he sought membership for the UNA and Branch 63. Because he was well-known, liked and respected in the community, he was very successful in enrolling members in the UNA.

One of Mr. Turko's hobbies was gardening, as the UNA Home Office came to find out. Every summer boxes of fresh garlic, onions and tomatoes would arrive from the Turko garden. We all enjoyed this fresh bounty.

I once asked him why he planted so much. He explained that it was not only a hobby but also a chance to make new contacts since he gave away much of what he harvested. This was one of the ways he found to reach out to people and sell them on the UNA and its insurance program. The secret of his success was knowing how to make contacts within the community. Once Mr. Turko established contact, no one could refuse him. His technique could serve many UNA secretaries today as a great example. His talent as an organizer and a devoted secretary will be sorely missed by the UNA.

Mr. Turko was laid to rest in Ford City, Pa. He is survived by his daughter, Camille, and son, Michael, with their families.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – JANUARY 2003

Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 12/2002	6,203	12,803	2,824	21,830
Total Inactive Members – 12/2002	7,626	16,423	0	24,049
Total Members – 12/2002	13,829	29,226	2,824	45,879

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 1/2003

New members	10	19	0	29
New members UL	1	1	0	2
Reinstated	12	13	7	32
Total Gains:	23	33	7	63

Losses in 1/2003

Died	0	25	0	25
Cash surrender	8	13	0	21
Endowment matured	9	10	0	19
Fully paid-up	18	16	0	34
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	13	20	0	33
Certificates lapsed (active)	8	13	20	41
Certificate terminated	0	3	1	4
Total Losses	56	100	21	177

Total Active Members – 1/2003	6,170	12,736	2,810	21,716
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INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 12/2002

Paid-up	18	16	0	34
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	13	20	0	33
Total Gains	31	36	0	67

Losses in 1/2003

* Died	0	35	0	35
* Cash surrender	7	10	0	17
Pure endowment matured	5	5	0	10
Reinstated to active	12	13	0	25
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	1	10	0	11
Total Losses	25	73	0	98

Total Inactive Members – 12/2002	7,632	16,386	0	24,018
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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 12/2002	13,802	29,122	2,810	45,734
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(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)



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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A check-up for our community

Does anybody remember our Ukrainian community's favorite word of 1999: "synergy"? What ever came of the great ideas of that great Ukrainian mega-gathering, the Joint Conferences of Ukrainian Organizations held that year to promote our community's awareness and utilization of synergy?

The 1999 "synergy conference," as it came to be called for short, was seen as the first of more such gatherings to come. And its concluding session – dubbed "Finding Direction for Our Organizations" – led to the first steps toward creation of a formal entity to be known as the Council of Presidents of Ukrainian American Organizations, a mechanism for regular consultation among our organizations with the aim of increasing the community's effectiveness both internally and in terms of its external relations. We expressed hope that the event, which attracted over 900 people to Washington for five days in June, had provided a new model of cooperation for our organizations – "the synergy that the conference organizers had envisioned." It was an auspicious start. Alas, there was no follow-through (as an old tennis instructor used to say).

Then, in 2002, the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America seized the initiative and held, well, not another mega-conference, but a Summit of Ukrainian American Organizations. The inaugural summit focused on youth – the next generations who constitute the potential members and leaders of our organizations and institutions, and the key question posed was how do we attract this missing demographic link in our community life? Using a loose brainstorming format, Summit 2002 generated ideas and challenged assumptions; there were no passive listeners. The summit demonstrated that we value and need our "hromada" and that our community can be successful if we establish better contacts among its component parts.

The 2003 Summit of Ukrainian American Organizations, which takes place this weekend at Soyuzivka, addresses the topic "The Ukrainian American Community Today: Who Are We and How Do We Communicate?" It has the makings of a good follow-up to last year's summit and the potential to build on that foundation to really move forward. The keynote speaker is Dr. Oleh Wolowyna, a name familiar to our readers because for decades now he has analyzed our community's demographics. He has argued that in order for us to flourish we need to be aware of certain basic facts: How large is our community? Where do its members reside? What are the characteristics of these Ukrainians Americans – e.g., do they speak Ukrainian, how many are of mixed ancestry, how many have intermarried, what is their household income?

Indeed, it bears repeating that in the decade since the 1990 Census the number of Ukrainians in the U.S. has seen extraordinary growth. In 2000 there were 893,055 of us in this country – a growth of 20.6 percent from 1990. To put it another way, there are 152,252 more Ukrainians living in the U.S. than a decade earlier. Those numbers alone should demonstrate why it is important for our community to use the data gathered by the census – certainly this would be valuable for our organizations' planning.

Participants of the 2003 Summit no doubt are aware that our community's health is not good. Most organizations are losing members; our resorts are threatened; our schools' futures are in question; some of our parishes are in decline, while others need new church buildings to house their growing congregations; our newspapers' readership is on the decline. In fact, what we are witnessing is the very thing that is happening in most older U.S. cities: our infrastructure is crumbling. It must be attended to!

At the same time, our communities have become more insular. The so-called "tsentrali" – our national umbrella organizations – certainly don't have much to brag about as our individual communities have become out of touch with each other and/or some central body. Chicago does not much care what New York does, and neither does Houston. And, it is doubtful that the umbrella organizations really care that, for example, a parochial school in Newark is on the verge of closing or that there is a most vibrant group of community members active in the California Association to Aid Ukraine. Surely this is not a healthy sign. We dare say that our umbrella organizations do not seem concerned about issues that matter to folks on the ground and, therefore, the folks on the ground do not concern themselves with the "tsentrali."

Perhaps, then, what our community needs is something akin to an annual health check-up, a review of where we are, where we are headed, and where we'd like to be years down the road. Summits such as the one being held this weekend have the potential to serve as a venue for such an examination.

April
1
1984

Turning the pages back...

At this time of the year in 1984, this newspaper carried an editorial calling on all Ukrainians to encourage their senators to support a bill introduced by Sen. Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) that would establish a congressional commission to investigate the causes

and consequences of the Great Famine of 1932-1933. Three weeks before that we had asked readers to contact their representatives about the same matter, as the bill had first been introduced in the House by Rep. James Florio (D-N.J.).

We wrote: "The Great Famine in Ukraine is not a dead issue simply because its 50th anniversary and our observance of it have come and gone. Yet, even though the national commemorative committee recognized this fact and decided to continue its activities, has it, as of this writing, come out with a coordinated national campaign to push the bill? How many organizations have lent their support and resources? How many individuals?" The answer: too few. (The Weekly, it must be noted, was one of the strongest proponents of this legislation.)

The Great Famine, with its 7 million to 10 million victims is one of the greatest atrocities to stain the history of modern man. "A congressional commission is an excellent way to propagate knowledge" of this genocide, we argued.

Source: "The Famine bill" (Editorial), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 1, 1984, Vol. LII, No. 14.

NEWS AND VIEWS

The comical, the idiotic and the obscene: Khrushchev's grand-daughter on Ukraine

by Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky

It is no mean feat to manage to be comical, idiotic and obscene within the span of a mere paragraph and a half, but Nina Khrushcheva, Nikita's grand-daughter and a lecturer at New York area colleges, apparently is no run-of-the mill talent.

In a recent newspaper article mostly about Russia that was picked up on the Internet, she opined as follows:

"But some other countries sloughing off the skin of communism are only too ready to adopt a new history – even one based on fancy and invention – to suit current needs.

"Ukraine provides an example of this. Does Ukraine have a history? Well, the place certainly does, but is the place a country? Ukraine means, literally, 'on the edge.' It is more a frontier than a region, let alone a country. So it is well suited to an invented history – and who better to supply it than a Ukrainian diaspora eager to boost the land of their forefathers? It may be no accident that independent Ukraine's first history textbook was written in Toronto, not Kiev."

I will begin with the comical. Let me see if I have this right. It's the Russians who think that Kyivan Rus' history is a part of "their" history (early Americans were much more directly and in much greater numbers as well as much more recently descended from the British than Muscovites were from Kyivan Rus', yet no sane American thinks that early British history is a part of American history), and it's the Russians who think that they had nothing to do with the atrocities visited upon Ukraine in the 20th century, but it's the Ukrainians who invent history?

Now to the idiotic. To begin, wasn't there some guy named Hrushevsky who "invented" 10-volumes of history about some frontier a while back, or did this just escape the attention of such a knowledgeable academic as the above article's writer? But as to her point directly, yes, it is somewhat odd that the two most recently written histories of Ukraine were written by scholars at Canadian universities. But is that because Ukraine's history is a project of invention undertaken

Bohdan Vitvitsky is a lawyer, writer and lecturer who holds a Ph.D. in philosophy and is a long-time contributor to The Ukrainian Weekly.

en by the Ukrainian diaspora, or is it because grand-daddy Nikita, along with his murderous-thug colleagues, killed all of those in Ukraine who under normal circumstances would have been able to write such histories, and is it also because they destroyed all of the Ukrainian institutions that would have facilitated such projects?

Lastly, we come to the obscene. In the last century alone, millions of Ukrainians have been murdered by the Russo-Soviets because the existence of those nationally conscious Ukrainians was inconsistent with the "Ukrainians never existed, don't exist and won't exist" genocidal fantasy so tenaciously held by our "brothers" up north. And now Ms. Khrushcheva reveals that she subscribes to the very same "Ukrainians don't exist" fantasy.

That attitude resulted in mass murders of Ukrainians in the first half of the 20th century, but individual murders have continued until recently.

Thus, for example, the folk singer and poet Volodymyr Ivasiuk, a poor confused man who thought he was a poet of a nation named Ukraine rather than realizing that he was the poet of a frontier, found himself hanging from a tree in 1979 as penance for his confusion.

Vasyl Stus, a similarly confused man who thought he was a poet of a nation named Ukraine rather than realizing that he was the poet of a frontier, died in the Gulag in 1986, likewise as penance for his confusion.

And just two years ago in Lviv, yet another poor confused man, this time the singer Ihor Bilozir, died at the hands of a couple of Ms. Khrushcheva's countrymen because Bilozir foolishly thought it was OK to sing Ukrainian songs in Ukraine.

Those of us fortunate enough to call the United States or Canada home, particularly those of us whose parents or grandparents lived under the Soviets and/or the Nazis, understand better than most how precious an open society with free speech is. But even here there are limits, imposed not by law, but by the boundaries of propriety. Where the expression of certain kinds of views has historically been a part of criminal actions, such expressions are beyond the pale. Thus, you cannot make genuinely anti-Semitic remarks without consequence. You cannot make racist or even

(Continued on page 18)

To The Weekly Contributors:

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UWC statement raises questions

Dear Editor:

I was amazed to find the "declarative" statements of the Ukrainian World Congress under the headline "UWC urges diplomatic solution to Iraq crisis" (March 9) indicating that it is a representative organization of some 20 million Ukrainians residing in 30 countries.

I would like to know how the president, Askold Lozynskyj, and the secretary general, Victor Pedenko, obtained the authorization to represent 20 million individual views of the situation of the current Iraq crisis and come up with only "one" viewpoint? In America, any organization that declares it will represent its membership, seeks to obtain and conduct a survey of its members' stand on the issues.

I do not see the results of any survey conducted by the UWC showing that they asked anyone, in any of the 30 countries, what their thoughts were. Nor do I see any information on whether the UWC even solicited the "voices" of the 20 million individuals.

Therefore based on what documentation, study or survey of the 20 million Ukrainians throughout the world have they declared what is representative of "our" thoughts.

To put it another way: Who are the "we" they refer to?

Orianna Skomoroch
Hawaii

St. Nicholas School begins registration

Dear Editor:

April is registration time for the 2003-2004 school year at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in Passaic, N.J.

St. Nicholas School has been in existence for over 60 years. During this time hundreds of graduates have become good Christians, caring American citizens and leaders in our Ukrainian American community.

Over 60 percent of the school's children are Ukrainian. The school gives children born in America a golden opportunity to learn about their Ukrainian culture and religion. Equally important, it gives young immigrants from Ukraine a unique opportunity to grow accustomed to their new American surroundings in a comfortable yet educational Ukrainian learning environment.

St. Nicholas School offers a modern educational experience. We have qualified, dedicated teachers, daily classes in Ukrainian and religion, computer classes, access to high-speed Internet, cable televisions and VCRs in every classroom, a new science laboratory, physical education, a library program, a music program, a school choir and an after school program for those parents who work.

In today's morally challenged world, a Catholic school education is a priceless gift to your children or grandchildren. It is a place where Christian virtues of charity, truth and goodness are fostered. Statistically, Catholic schools achieve a higher standard of learning. Past graduates of our school have enjoyed successful professional careers as doctors, attorneys, teachers, etc. Recent graduates can

be found on the honor rolls of some of the best high schools in New Jersey.

In a Catholic school you find a highly disciplined, religious, moral and safe environment for your children. And in our case, an additional benefit is a Ukrainian atmosphere where lifelong friendships develop.

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School helps develop good parishioners and active members of the Ukrainian community. We invite you to visit our school and see what a difference a Ukrainian Catholic School can make in the life of your child. We welcome you to enroll your children in our school.

In March we will be accepting registration for students from grades pre-kindergarten through 8. Children who will be 4 years old by October 31, 2003, are accepted into our pre-K classes. For more information please visit us in person at 223 President St., Passaic, N.J., log on to <http://home.catholicweb.com/stnicholasukrainian> or call (973) 779-0249.

Orest Temnycky
Clifton, N.J.

We should support our armed forces

Dear Editor:

In response to Michael J. Berezowsky's letter (March 16), "Bush administration is orchestrating war," I would like to say that I find the letter very partisan.

Of course, Mr. Berezowsky is entitled to his opinion. However, under the present circumstances, that is damaging to the morale of our servicemen/service-women abroad and to the image of our Ukrainian American community.

We must support the armed forces already in Kuwait, southern Iraq, aboard ships, or wherever they are in position to fight the enemy of democracy. Otherwise, there would be no such voters as Democrats.

When we look at the photos in the press, many captions bear names that sound Ukrainian or Slavic. They speak of their professionalism and their dedication to the cause of liberty and freedom for all, regardless of where on the globe it might take them and despite the hardships they must endure and the sacrifices they must bear, even to the ultimate.

We must not let them down!! Dear Readers of The Weekly, kindly support our men and women overseas and those serving at home, in whatever capacity, with words of encouragement and your prayers.

Zenon Izak
Warminster, Pa.

Editorial excerpts were on the mark

Dear Editor:

Please excerpt more editorials from the Baltic Times. The excerpts you printed on February 16 about the clownish and immature behavior of Leonid Kuchma and Alyaksandr Lukashenka were on the mark, while also being humorous and brief. This latter quality Ukrainians seldom seem able to get. They drown in verbiage.

Betty Towner
Levittown, N.Y.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



And then the war came...

"And then the war came ..." That was a phrase my parents and their friends, all a generation older than me, would often use as they told their life stories; how they were young, going to school, setting up a business or profession, doing whatever they were doing ... "and then the war came."

Only the phrase announcing the advent of war is much more dramatic in Ukrainian than it is in English. Wars don't just "come" like a stranger at the door or "break out" like some disease. In Ukrainian, wars explode: "vybukhla viyna."

My friend Franko Benko, now about 80 years old, was a teenager in June 1941. He lived in a village in western Ukraine, where family life and that of the church were set to the agricultural calendar, the mysterious cycle of spring planting and harvest in the fall. Soon, the young people in the village would be setting up families of their own, "and then the war came."

The village leader told the council that a quota had come down from the Nazis for men and women to work in the German economy. Franko was single, while others had a family and responsibilities. So he, along with others his age, was volunteered and put on a train to go to a factory far away.

Before long, Franko along with his compatriots and their enslavers, were subjected to Allied bombs, intended to destroy Germany's industrial capacity and break the people's will to resist. Many died, but Franko survived. When the war finally ended, he was homeless and hungry.

In the end, it all worked out, though. Franko soon found himself in a displaced persons (DP) camp in Germany, along with millions of other war refugees. After a rather unpleasant week or two on a ship to America, he ended up in Cleveland, where he worked in a factory, this time for decent wages in safe conditions and a nice pension when he retired. Franko sent his children to school, tended a garden at his suburban home, and, a few years ago, buried his wife at Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery on Hoertz Road in Parma. Now remarried, he sends money to his ancestral village in Ukraine to help pay for the church, library and school. Not bad.

It didn't work out as well for my father's cousin, Sviatoslav, way back in the days of the Austrian Empire. He was an attorney and, apparently, quite a romantic. According to family legend, he woke his wife by strewing flowers on her body as she lay next to him in their bridal bed, "and then the war came" – Sviatoslav was mobilized in July 1914, just days after the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand in Sarajevo. He died a few weeks later at the Battle of Ternopil, becoming one of the first of several million men his age to be killed in the first world war. They called them "the Lost Generation."

People, understandably, don't like war. To begin with, it's terribly disruptive of family life. Franko Benko, forced to work in place of soldiers occupying his land, left for Germany and never saw his parents again. As for Sviatoslav Fedynsky, he will always be young, in love and showering his bride with flowers. He and his wife never got to grow old together. The children they would have had were never even born.

Then, there's the sad story of the Kryshталowych family, my parents' friends from the Old Country who remained our

friends in Cleveland. In June 1941, they left home for a few days, leaving their infant son with their parents, "and then the war came."

They had no way of knowing, but the week the Kryshталowyches decided to go out of town was also the time Adolph Hitler selected to betray his partner, Joseph Stalin, and invade the Soviet Union. Long-standing battle plans went into effect, front lines were drawn, and armies started marching. The Kryshталowyches didn't see their baby boy for another half a century, until the Soviet Union collapsed and the baby they left behind had become a grandfather, making them great-grandparents.

For Franko Benko, the Kryshталowyches and so many others, World War II was a catastrophe, but it was a war that had to be fought. Hitler was forcing a program based on the immediate extermination of Jews, Gypsies and the disabled, along with the enslavement and eventual extermination of the Slavs. It's all there in "Mein Kampf," the best-seller he wrote in 1923. It's astonishing, when you think about it, how he managed to mobilize the energies and resources of the German people for a program like that. But that's what happened. Others fought back, including Ukrainians on both sides of the Atlantic; there were hundreds of millions of casualties and disrupted lives, but really there was no choice.

World War I, on the other hand, was as stupid a war as can be imagined. After the archduke was assassinated, diplomats issued ultimatums deliberately designed to be rejected. Defense ministers invoked strategic commitments and field marshals put their armies on automatic pilot. Not wanting to lose face, risk office or status, Europe's leaders let events unfold. In the end, four empires collapsed.

For the past half year, the vast majority of citizens in France, Germany, Italy, Chile, Mexico, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine – nearly every country in the world – have been voicing strong opposition to a Middle East War. Even billion-dollar inducements, threats and invocations of historic debts didn't change people's minds. These are nations that have experienced wars and know how unpredictable they can be and how disruptive.

Some wars cannot be avoided; others should never have been fought. Depending on how they're conducted and how the peace is structured, wars can solve intractable problems or sow the seeds for another conflict. World War I, which took the life of Sviatoslav Fedynsky and millions in his "Lost Generation," so embittered the survivors that otherwise civilized people were willing to accept the lunacy of an Adolph Hitler or Vladimir Lenin, making it inevitable that another world war would follow.

Today, a Middle East conflict is fraught with danger. Words that mean different things to different people – "jihad," "crusade," "democracy," "justice," "liberation," "aggression" – are used to invoke the use of force or promise to resist. What do they all mean exactly? In the end, diplomacy and political restructuring that follow any conflict will be as important as the war itself and the manner in which it is fought. Let us hope all of it is approached with wisdom and justice, whatever those mean. But one thing we can say for sure, once a war "explodes," nothing is ever the same.

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*Conditions apply to this offer only. Term of offer limited and may be discontinued or changed at any time. Subject to credit approval and with credit score of 680 or above. For the most current information please stop in to one of our offices. For purchase of owner-occupied single family home or townhome or condominium with maximum of 4 units. Balloon loan for 84 months at 5.5% APR with 10% down or 5.375% APR with 20% down based on 30 year amortization, balance due at maturity. A \$100,000 loan at 5.375% APR amortized over 160 monthly payments results in a payment amount of \$559.97 per month with a balance of \$89,162.75 due at maturity. Loans available only to our members and in our regular service area.



Ukrainian Canadians in the 2001 Census: an overview

by **Andrij Makuch**

TORONTO – Recently released Canadian census figures show that Ukrainians remain a major ethnic group in this country, although native language knowledge continues to drop. The total Ukrainian numbers are up slightly from the 1991 and 1996 censuses – albeit with fewer respondents claiming single origin (i.e., an exclusively Ukrainian background).

Renewed immigration from Ukraine, which developed over the course of the 1990s, had only a slight impact on Ukrainian Canadian demographic trends as the numbers involved were relatively small.

The 2001 figures presented here are taken from the Statistics Canada website (www.statcan.ca) and the StatCan information line (the home language usage figures were obtained by specific request). Earlier statistics come from either Bohdan Kordan's "Ukrainian Canadians and the Canada Census, 1981-1996" (published in 2000) or William Darcovich and Paul Yuzyk's "A Statistical Compendium on the Ukrainians in Canada, 1891-1976" (1980). The figures focus on ethnic origin, language use and immigration. Data regarding religion have yet to be released.

The census figures should be approached with some caution. Changes over the last 20 years in how information regarding ethnicity has been posed in the census questionnaire and the establishment of "Canadian" as an origin category have made direct comparisons with earlier statistics no longer possible as the database is not consistent.

As a result, the statistics on origin provide a general indication of trends, but not a solid base for precise analysis. An introductory essay in the Kordan handbook on the Canadian census notes some of these changes.

Ethnic origins

In 2001, there were 1,071,060 Ukrainians in Canada out of a total population of 29,639,035 (see Table 1 for a listing for Canada and the provinces in 2001 and 1991). Of this number 326,200 were of single origin (Ukrainian only), while 744,860 were of multiple origin (i.e., individuals claiming more than one ethnic background).

The origin category "Canadian" obtained the greatest number of responses on the census (a total of 11,682,680). Nationally, Ukrainians were the ninth most populous group in Canada, now

Andrij Makuch is a research coordinator of the Ukrainian Canadian Program at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

slightly behind the Chinese. Ukrainians ranked quite highly in western Canada – British Columbia (10th place), Alberta (7th), Saskatchewan (6th), and Manitoba (5th) – but less so in central Canada (12th in Ontario and 22nd in Quebec). They did not figure significantly in Atlantic Canada or the territories.

In absolute terms, the national figure represents an increase of 1.6 percent in the total Ukrainian Canadian population since 1991 (when it stood at 1,054,300). It is a well below the 9.8 per cent increase in Canada's population overall during the decade, but something of a "recovery" from the 1996 census results that saw the Ukrainian Canadian population fall to 1,026,470.

In proportional terms, this means that the percentage of Ukrainians in the Canadian population overall fell from 3.91 in 1991 to 3.61 in 2001. There was a substantial decrease in the number of single-origin Ukrainian Canadians – from 410,410 (406,645 using another method of calculation) in 1991 to 326,200 in 2001.

The majority of this drop occurred between 1991 and 1996, when the single-response figure stood at 331,680. This can partially be understood as one aspect of an inevitable demographic trend with the passing away of individuals from older (interwar and post-World War II) generations in which single origin was commonplace. The addition of "Canadian" as a suggested origin category since the 1996 census most likely influenced the figures as well.

The proportion of the Ukrainian Canadian population found in specific provinces or regions remained much the same as it was in 1991. This provides at least a pause to certain historic trends in the internal migration of Ukrainians in Canada.

In the first instance, the proportion of Ukrainian Canadians in British Columbia did not rise. The province accounted for 16.7 percent of the Ukrainian-Canadian population in 2001, just slightly down from 16.9 percent a decade ago. This represents the first break in its steady increase for more than a half-century (starting with a figure of 1.1 percent in 1931).

Secondly, the Prairie provinces did not experience a significant drop in their proportion of the Ukrainian-Canadian population. They claimed a combined total of 52.8 percent of the dominion's Ukrainians, down just slightly from the 1991 tally of 53.4 per cent. This is the smallest proportional drop for the Prairie provinces since 1961, when 61.3 percent of Ukrainians in Canada lived there. The largest losses occurred between 1931 and 1951 (dropping in this period from 85.7 percent to 66.8 percent), largely as a result of out-migration and the preference

of new Ukrainian immigrants to settle in central Canada.

Significantly, both Manitoba and Saskatchewan's Ukrainian population declined, while that of Alberta grew. Whether this represents an end to the two

historical trends is debatable. The lacklustre performance of the British Columbia's economy over the past decade may partially account for the lack of its proportional growth in Ukrainian

(Continued on page 10)

Table 2
Population by Ukrainian Ethnic Origin, Single and Multiple Origins for Selected CMAs, 2001 (based on 20% sample data)

	CMA Total	Ukr. Total	Single	Multiple
Vancouver	1,967,480	76,525	18,150	58,375
Victoria	306,970	12,770	2,555	10,210
Kelowna	145,950	11,235	2,955	8,280
Edmonton	927,020	125,720	44,680	81,045
Calgary	943,310	65,040	15,060	49,985
Saskatoon	222,635	34,385	11,230	23,155
Regina	190,015	23,220	6,040	17,175
Winnipeg	661,730	102,635	34,325	68,315
Toronto	4,647,960	104,490	40,705	63,785
Ottawa-Hull	1,050,755	17,235	3,985	13,250
Hamilton	665,060	24,070	7,390	16,685
London	427,215	9,745	2,400	7,345
Kitchener	409,765	8,650	1,925	6,720
St Cath-Niagara	371,405	16,735	5,330	11,405
Windsor	304,960	9,195	2,800	6,390
Oshawa	293,545	11,035	3,275	7,755
Sudbury	153,890	7,140	2,095	5,040
Thunder Bay	120,370	16,250	4,415	11,840
Montreal	3,380,645	20,050	8,035	12,010
Halifax	355,940	3,580	675	2,905

Table 3
Population with Ukrainian Mother Tongue, All Origins, Canada, 1981 to 2001 (based on 20% sample data)

Age Group	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001
All Ages	285,115	208,185	187,015	162,695	148,090
0-4	2,130	1,680	1,395	1,315	1,230
5-9	2,775	1,565	1,470	1,690	1,660
10-14	4,640	2,135	1,445	1,745	2,135
15-19	7,720	3,485	1,765	1,440	2,175
20-24	9,620	4,895	2,425	1,625	1,930
25-29	12,060	6,805	4,405	2,715	2,290
30-34	15,485	10,020	6,350	4,555	3,245
35-39	16,550	12,370	9,320	6,470	4,945
40-44	18,720	13,395	12,100	9,720	7,530
45-49	25,460	15,670	13,420	11,655	9,640
50-54	29,760	19,215	15,080	12,205	11,590
55-59	37,670	21,585	19,195	14,250	11,715
60-64	29,830	27,585	21,730	17,470	14,090
65+	72,705	67,995	76,905	75,845	73,930

Table 4
Frequency of Ukrainian Home Language Use, Canada and the Provinces, 2001 (based on 20% sample data)

	Total	Only	Mostly	Equally	Regularly
CANADA	67,665	14,325	14,515	5,385	33,440
British Columbia	3,165	530	700	265	1,670
Alberta	11,845	1,495	1,655	1,090	7,605
Saskatchewan	8,255	690	930	810	5,825
Manitoba	11,625	1,515	1,865	1,100	7,145
Ontario	29,300	9,045	8,435	1,865	9,955
Quebec	3,345	1,005	915	260	1,165
Atlantic Provs	120	40	10	5	65

Table 1
Population by Ukrainian Ethnic Origin, Single and Multiple Origins, Canada and the Provinces, 2001 and 1991 (based on 20% sample data)

	Total	2001		1991		
		Single	Multiple	Total	Single	Multiple
CANADA	1,071,060	326,200	744,860	1,054,300	410,410	643,890
British Columbia	178,885	40,785	138,095	177,920	53,015	124,905
Alberta	285,725	88,355	197,370	266,225	105,260	160,965
Saskatchewan	121,740	40,710	81,025	131,105	56,305	74,800
Manitoba	157,660	54,925	102,730	165,950	74,625	91,325
Ontario	290,925	90,065	200,860	275,441	106,856	168,585
Quebec	24,030	9,165	14,860	23,830	11,475	12,355
Atlantic Provs	9,175	1,650	7,515	10,640	2,525	8,115

Table 5
Number of Immigrants from Ukraine to Canada, 1993-2001

	Canada	Ontario	Other Provs
1993	722	500	222
1994	1,358	922	436
1995	1,756	1,239	526
1996	2,626	1,710	916
1997	2,465	1,752	713
1998	2,648	1,713	935
1999	2,156	1,501	655
2000	3,321	2,300	1,021
2001	3,574	2,538	1,036
Total	20,635	14,175	6,460

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, compiled by the Canadian Ukrainian Immigrant Aid Society

Ukrainian Canadians...

(Continued from page 9)

population.

Moreover, ongoing immigration from Ukraine – much of which ends up in Ontario – may in the future spur a demographic change that could decrease the Prairie's share of the Ukrainian Canadian population.

Edmonton, Winnipeg, and Toronto – each with a population of over 100,000 Ukrainian Canadians – remained the major urban centers for Ukrainians in Canada. A listing of the number of Ukrainians in selected Census Metropolitan Areas is found in Table 2.

Language

A total of 148,090 Canadians claimed Ukrainian as their mother tongue in 2001, down from the 187,015 in 1991 – and much reduced from the 285,115 in 1981). The drop is much in keeping with a national trend that saw a decline in the numbers of individuals from “established” ethnic groups – Italians, Germans, Poles and Dutch – claiming native language knowledge. This reflects increasing death

rates related to the aging of individuals from these groups with a native language fluency and a decline in the number of immigrants from European countries.

A much greater proportion of Canada's allophone population (i.e., those with a mother tongue other than one of Canada's official languages) now consists of recent immigrants from non-traditional source regions (e.g., east and southeast Asia, the sub-continent, and so forth). In fact, Tagalog (a.k.a. Pilipino) has superseded Ukrainian as the second leading non-official mother tongue in Winnipeg. German remains in first place.

A breakdown of Ukrainian language knowledge in Canada by age groups indicates that just less than half of those individuals claiming a Ukrainian mother tongue (73,930) are age 65 or older (Table 3 lists the number of Canadians claiming a Ukrainian mother tongue by age categories). This suggests that the loss in linguistic fluency is almost certain to continue. There seems to have been a minor increase in language skills in the lower-age cohorts, presumably as a result of the renewed immigration from Ukraine. This, however, is not readily

Table 6
Immigrant Population from Ukraine, Showing Period of Arrival, Canada, 2001 (based on 20% sample data)

Total	Pre-1960	1961-70	1971-80	1981-90	1991-2001
51,610	21,235	1,360	3,060	2,575	23,435

evident from the figures presented here.

The use of Ukrainian as a home language increased nationwide from 31,990 in 1991 to 49,985 in 1996, and finally to 67,665 in 2001. To a degree, this is due to renewed immigration from Ukraine. The more pertinent factor, however, is likely to be a looser interpretation of what constitutes “language.” For the 1996 census the definition read “the language spoken most often at home by the individual at the time of the census.” In 2001, it became “the language spoken most often or on a regular basis at home by the individual at the time of the census.”

Ontario had the greatest number (29,300) of individuals with a Ukrainian home language; of these, 19,855 lived in Toronto. In relative terms, Ontario and Quebec were the only provinces in which the number of people claiming Ukrainian home language use was greater than 10 percent of the Ukrainian-Canadian population. Among those claiming Ukrainian home language use across the country, 14,325 used Ukrainian exclusively, 14,515 mostly, 5,385 in equal measure, and 33,440 regularly (see Table 4).

Immigration

A total of 23,435 individuals emigrated from Ukraine to Canada in 1991-2001. The majority of these (15,875) set-

tled in Ontario, particularly in Toronto (13,835). This represents a significant increase in the number of immigrants from Ukraine over the decade, although their numbers remain relatively modest (see Table 5, based on figures tracked by the Canadian Ukrainian Immigrant Aid Society). The numbers cited do not take into account the ethnic origin of the Ukrainian immigrants; nor do they factor in possible ethnic Ukrainian immigration from a third country.

An additional 1,380 individuals from Ukraine were registered in the census as non-permanent residents of Canada.

The significance of the recent arrivals is underscored by comparing their numbers against those of earlier immigrants born in Ukraine (see Table 6). Those who came here in 1991-2001 constitute 45.4 percent of the total immigrant population (51,610) from Ukraine. Those who arrived before 1961 represent a further 41.1 percent, while the remaining 13.5 percent came in the intervening period of restricted emigration from Ukraine.

The impact of recent immigration from Ukraine is not readily obvious. In overall demographic terms, the new arrivals do not seem to make a major difference. However, in respect to Ukrainian language use they seem to have increased numbers in lower- to middle-aged cohorts.

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Ukrainian Debutante Balls

California debutante ball raises funds for aid to Ukraine

by Bohdan and Eleanor Malaniak

GLENDALE, Calif. – Guests arriving at the Glendale Hilton Hotel on February 22 to attend the eagerly awaited 2003 ball and presentation of debutantes organized by the California Association to Aid Ukraine (CAAU) were greeted by the blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flag flying majestically alongside “Old Glory” high above the entrance of the hotel. With the backdrop of the San Gabriel Mountains to the east and the lush San Fernando Valley to the north, it was clear enough in the early evening to almost see the blue Pacific Ocean in the distant west. The path leading to the lobby of the hotel was scented by the spring flowers planted alongside the walkway, and the palm trees swayed gracefully in the gentle breeze.

As guests entered the delightful reception area they were able to immediately see all of the exciting silent auction items that were on exhibit throughout the room. While everyone was socializing and enjoying the hors d’oeuvres and libations, they also had an opportunity to view the many beautiful CAAU posters and photographs on display, as well as watch a 20-minute revolving video about the association’s charitable work in Ukraine, which included the distribution of wheelchairs to many adults and children. All proceeds from this evening’s event will benefit orphanages and meals for seniors programs in Ukraine.

The enjoyment continued as the guests entered the grand ballroom, which was breathtakingly beautiful. The tables and chairs were covered in white linen, burgundy starburst floral arrangements were on every table, and the white-gloved waiters stood at attention. The candles and mood lighting combined to warm the ambiance of the room, and then the guests were seated.

Lesia Chopko, secretary of the CAAU and master of ceremonies, graciously greeted the guests and opened the program for the evening.

Christina Shymkovich, CAAU vice-president, introduced each one of the lovely debutantes and presented a synopsis of their educational, cultural, civic and community achievements, as well as their goals for the future. She also introduced each of the young gentlemen escorts. Following the presentation of debutantes, the beautiful young ladies waltzed with their fathers, and then with their escorts. The waltz of the fathers and mothers concluded the presentation.

Preceding the dinner, the Ukrainian National Choir Kobzar of Los Angeles sang “God Bless America,” “Prayer for Ukraine” and “The Lord’s Prayer,” conducted by Gregory Hallick-Holutiak, musical director and conductor of the choir.

The delicious cuisine was served by the many courteous attendants, who poured wine and champagne throughout the dinner. Afterwards, Taras Kozbur, the newly elected chairman of the CAAU board, delivered welcoming remarks and commended the program committee members who had totally devoted themselves to making this the most successful and well-attended ball ever. He also recognized Bohdan Malaniak, outgoing president, and Bohdan Mykytyn, outgoing treasurer, for their long and outstanding service to the CAAU.

Mr. Malaniak introduced a special guest, David Richard, executive director of the organization Wheels for Humanity, as well as a strong supporter and partner with the CAAU in the Wheelchairs for

Ukraine Program. Mr. Malaniak then greeted all of the out-of-town guests and asked them, one city at a time to stand up and take a bow, beginning with Toronto and Edmonton in Canada and then moving on to Buffalo, N.Y., Chicago, Detroit, Las Vegas, Phoenix, San Diego and San Francisco, as well as the states of Texas and Oregon. The large group received a huge welcome from the other guests.

And then someone said, “Let the Dancing Begin,” and it did, to the music of the popular Kari Ochi Band from Toronto. This was the third year that this group has performed for this annual event, once again providing just the right blend of music for a diverse audience. The young and energetic danced their hearts out into the wee hours of the morning. Those of the young-at-heart generation (to which these writers belong) called it an evening a little bit earlier.

The silent auction was superbly organized and delivered by the “Best-In-The-West-Ukrainian-Auctioneer,” Susan Koziak, program committee member. All 85 auction items were sold to the highest bidders and a good time was had by all who participated.

Luba Poniatszyn Keske, newly elected president and outgoing chair, this year worked incessantly behind the scenes to ensure the success of the event. For the last six months, as co-chair of the ball, she planned and executed activities, as well as organized and drilled all of the debutantes and their escorts. The evening of the ball proceeded under Ms. Keske’s watchful eye, assuring a smooth and well-paced event from start to finish. (In her spare time, it should be noted, Ms. Keske is senior vice-president for MGM Studios.)

The reviews are in

The CAAU’s 2003 charity ball and presentation of debutantes was definitely more than very special this year. To illustrate just how special, here are some quotes from those who were there.



California’s debutantes (from left) Slavomira A. Haywas, Renia N. Soluk, Mary S. Micevich, Natalya A. Brikner and Nicole H. Swartzlander.

“I think that the debutante presentation was really elegant. All of the young women have so many aspirations for the future and have accomplished so much thus far. They looked radiant and seemed to enjoy themselves the entire evening,” said Ms. Chopko of Los Angeles. “I think the silent auction was a great success. There were so many items to choose from and it was a great source of revenue. Many people’s generosity enabled us to have an amazing display this year – thanks mostly to Susan Koziak for, once again, organizing it.”

Ms. Chopko also noted: “I thought the CAAU video was awesome. We got to see where our hard work and efforts really go

– to the needy people of Ukraine. When I saw the clip of the old woman who was explaining that she never left the house because she didn’t have a wheelchair, and now she can because CAAU was able to provide her with one, I literally had tears in my eyes. That was really moving.”

Dr. Roman Kulczycky of North Hollywood said of the event: “The Kobzar Choir was magnificent. The ballroom setting was beautiful. The presentation of debutantes and their credentials – unbelievable. The overall mood of the affair – simply wonderful.”

“It was nice to see so many young peo-

(Continued on page 12)



The debutantes and their escorts at the dinner table.

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Philadelphia engineers sponsor annual society event

by Metodij Boretsky

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. – The 48th Engineers' Ball of the Philadelphia Branch of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA) was held here on Saturday, February 1, at the Park Hyatt Hotel. This year's ball included the presentation of debutantes, a banquet and a dance to the music of the Tempo orchestra.

After the cocktail hour, Metodij Boretsky, head of the UESA's

Philadelphia Branch, opened the event and greeted the guests, especially the head of the executive board of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, Marko Shmerykowsky. He also introduced the master of ceremonies, Bohdan Mizak.

After the formal opening, the following eight debutantes and their escorts were presented: Patricia Ksenia Leskiw with Andrij Bzovjtskyj, Maria Lidia Prociuk with Marko Bohdan Chaikiwskyj, Christina Xenia Krier with Ivan Pavlo Bobak, Iryna

Balytsky with Mykhas Kindrat-Prat Jeanette Natalia Krier with Alexander Mykhajlowych, and Larissa Maria Stawnychy with Danylo Peleshchuk.

The debutantes and their escorts were formally greeted by Mr. Boretsky and introduced by the master of ceremonies. Mr. Boretsky congratulated each debutante and pinned ribbons on them with the assistance of Yaroslava Halaway. Andrea Kalyta, Maria Cyhan, Khrystyna Hud and Ms. Halaway prepared the debutantes for the presentation ceremony.

After the debutantes' presentation, the dinner began. About 200 people attended the dinner, and more than 400 enjoyed the dance held afterwards.

The committee that organized the 2003 Engineers' Ball was composed of Mr. Boretsky (chairman), Larysa Zaika, Marta Shyprykevych, Ihor Kovaliv, Alexander Jarymowych, Wolodymyr Horbovyj, Myron Bilas, Mychajlo Komarovsky, Olenka Chaburska and Petro Shtompil.

California...

(Continued from page 11)

ple involved so enthusiastically in preparation for this event, and having so much fun doing it. My only complaint, and not only mine, was that the music was too loud. Are the young musicians getting hard of hearing?" commented Mr. Kozbur of Buena Park. His concerns were addressed by his colleague on the CAAU, Mr. Malaniak of Glendale, who said, "Next year we will have a concession to sell 'sound modifiers' (earplugs) to the sensitive listeners among us – with proceeds being donated to CAAU, of course."

"Second-generation Los Angeles area Ukrainian Americans are participating and enjoying the traditional debutante ball that originated almost 40 years ago by our contemporaries. Literally, both young and old enjoyed the fun, dancing and camaraderie," underscored Ania Shalauta of Laguna Niguel.

Ms. Shymkovich of Pasadena noted that this was made possible by "talented and dedicated committee members devot-

ing so much of their time to make this an elegant affair with 300 people attending." She added, "I'm also grateful for everyone's generosity, which, along with the silent auction and the challenge to match donations made our charity event a huge success! Thank you everyone!"

Fellow Pasadena resident Bohdan Knianicky commented: "It was my pleasure to make such a donation and challenge others to step up to the plate and open their hearts and wallets to such a worthy cause. I think it's part of our responsibility to help those that have so little, whether here or abroad."

He went on to thank the CAAU "for their dedication and hard work" to make the debutante ball a success. "You are the unsung heroes. You are the lifeline and the heart of this community. Therefore, I salute you."

Community outreach

Quite by good fortune, the ball also became a venue for outreach.

For instance, the CAAU received a wonderful offer when one of the debu-

tantas, Mary Micevych of Tarzana, sent a message indicating she wants to volunteer some of her time to community service via the CAAU.

Another guest, Christine Dax-Czajkowskyj of Sherman Oaks, said: "My husband is half Ukrainian, yet we have never really been an active part of the community. We were coaxed into attending this year by a friend and had such a great time that we not only want to get a table together for next year, we are looking for potential debutantes for our sons to escort."

Finally, a guest who flew in all the way from Detroit, Peter Maziak, gave this testimonial: "Complete with good cheer, good music, and good friends – not to mention great auction items from Madonna and Pierce Brosnan – the CAAU Ball was not only a great charity, but also a great time. One of the best zabavas in the country!"

This was followed up by a message to out-of-town friends from Mr. Malaniak: "Next year when winter arrives in the colder climates of the country, think

Sunny California, and remember the great CAAU ball of 2003. Then, immediately, make plans for a little winter vacation to join your family and friends for a delightful evening at the 2004 CAAU ball and presentation of debutantes, where you will enjoy wining, dining, dancing, music and more. Imagine all of this at a charitable event whose proceeds benefit the needy in Ukraine."

CAAU's outreach request to the Ukrainian American community was to bring toothbrushes and toothpaste to the ball. Organizers ended up with approximately 1,200 sets for orphanages, and they are now in the process of being shipped to Ukraine.

The CAAU's substantial Ukrainian American membership base provides for the needy in Ukraine. Dues and contributions are tax-deductible under IRS Code, Section 501(c) (3). Checks made payable to the CAAU may be sent to the association's treasurer: Marta Mykytyn-Hill, 1219 via Arroyo, Ventura, CA 93003.

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Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization introduces debutantes

WHIPPANY, N.J. – Plast-Pryiat of Newark, N.J., and that city's branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization Newark, N.J., held their annual debutante ball on Saturday, February 8, at the Hanover Marriott's Grand Ballroom.

The black-tie event began with the masters of ceremonies, Lida Moczula and Lubodar Olesnycky, having the pleasure of presenting the 10 debutantes and their escorts as they entered the grand ballroom. All the girls are members of the Plast troop ("hurtok") "Kalyna."

As family, friends and guests looked on, Oksana Bauer's beautifully choreographed promenade of debutantes and their escorts unfolded before their eyes. The program included a welcome from George Shypailo, the president of the Newark Plast branch, a welcome from girls' "hurtkova," Oksana Buniak, and an invocation by the Rev. Bohdan Lukie and the Rev. Roman Mirchuk, pastors of Ukrainian parishes in Newark and Whippany, N.J., respectively.

Over 470 guests enjoyed the dinner and several hundred additional guests arrived to dance to the music of two bands, Tempo of New Jersey and Zolota Bulava of Montreal. It was a very elegant and magical evening for all the guests, and especially for the young ladies introduced to Ukrainian society.

The girls presented to society along with their escorts were as follows: Adriana Brodyn with Yuri Stawnychy, Oksana Buniak with Orest Mykyta, Marta Lasiy with Alexander Drabyk, Natalia Lasiy with Adrian Wirt, Alexandra Paslawsky with Maksym Artymyshyn, Justina Polanskyj with Michael Pylyp, Christina Popovich with Alex Knihnicky, Roxanne Roik with Mark Babiak, Sophia Torielli with Alexander Oryshkevych and Renata Shypailo with Adrian Kochan.

Ball organizers expressed thanks to



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Debutantes and their escorts at the Newark Plast branch's 2003 ball.

Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union for its continued support.

At the conclusion of the memorable evening gratitude was extended to the

guests who made the evening a success and an invitation was offered to next year's debutante ball to be held on January 31, 2004, again at the Hanover Marriott.

Committee members for the 2003 debutante ball were: Irene Turynsky, Zenia Olesnycky, Darka Semanyshyn, Laryssa Nahnybida and Lida Moczula.

Washington association hosts Malanka/debutante ball

by Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych

WASHINGTON – At the traditional Malanka, or New Year's Eve debutante ball, three debutantes were introduced to the Washington Ukrainian American community before an audience of 300 guests.

The January 11 Malanka was hosted by the Ukrainian Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area ("Obiednannia") in the Grand Ballroom of the Georgetown University Conference Center.

After a cocktail and hors d'oeuvre reception, Sophika Nakonechny-Smith, co-president of the association, welcomed everyone. She introduced the honored guests: Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Kostyantyn Gryshchenko and his wife, Natalya. Ambassador Gryshchenko greeted all present and wished joy to Ukrainians everywhere, faith in the future, and much love to Ukraine, which gave us all life.

Ms. Nakonechny-Smith also introduced and thanked the Obiednannia executive board responsible for planning this event: Halyna Breslawec (co-president), Irene Kost (secretary), John Kun (treasurer), Richard Smith (marketing consultant), and Oleh and Slavko Voloshin (members of the board).

After concluding her opening remarks, Ms. Nakonechny-Smith introduced the masters of ceremonies for the debutante presentation: Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych and Yaromyr Oryshkevych. The presentation included a very touching moment that each debutante and her family will no doubt treasure as a wonderful remembrance for a lifetime.

The three debutantes and their escorts were: Nadia Mostovych with Roman Shapoval, Anya Sira with Michael Kindrat-Pratt, and Stefanie Nakoneczny with Andres Garcia.

The dinner began with an invocation delivered by the



Natalie Sluzar

Debutantes and their escorts with organizers of the event (from left): Yaromyr Oryshkevych, Chrystia Shashkewych-Oryshkevych, Roman Shapoval, Nadia Mostovych, Michael Kindrat-Pratt, Anya Sira, Andres Garcia, Stefanie Nakoneczny and Sophika Nakonechny-Smith.

Rev. Volodymyr Steliac, pastor of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, Md. After the festive dinner, guests enjoyed dancing to the superb accompaniment of the Veseli Chasy (Good Times)

orchestra from Chicago.

Everyone welcomed the New Year with a champagne toast at midnight and continued to enjoy the festivities of the grand evening.

Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Fifteen SUM members debut at organization's annual ball

by Adrianna M. Rudyk

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. – On March 1, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in White Plains, 15 giddy, bubbly and excited teenage girls were transformed into elegant, graceful and poised young ladies. The event was the well-attended 39th annual Debutante Ball of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM). The beaming smiles, glistening eyes and proud stance of young ladies ready to be announced and accepted into the social circle of the Ukrainian community was both the culmination and the reward for the ball organizers' efforts.

After an enjoyable cocktail hour, the air of excitement heightened as the guests entered the main dining room. The lights in the hall came up and the participants listened to the official greeting of parents, family and other guests. The main speaker was Kornel Wasylyk, representing the SUM national board.

More than 350 dinner guests anxiously awaited the grand entrance of this year's debutantes. The masters of ceremonies, Yaroslav and Lesia Palylyk, introduced each young lady along with her escort. They represented five branches of the Ukrainian American Youth Association: Passaic, N.J. – Lana Abruskato (with escort Stefan Shchur), Amy Johnson (Michael Kapitula), Oksana Paluch (Roman Kebalo), Oksana Rusynko (Daniel Maksymiv), Tetiana Hamaniuk Saleh (Markian Romaniv), Larissa Sydor (Pino Tortorici); Yonkers, N.Y. – Marusia Drobenko (Paul Bybel), Rosa Maria Lotocky (Alexander Hulinsky), Alina Sysak (Wasyly Liber); Irvington, N.J. – Oksana Maria Laschuk (Peter Kasyanenko); Hartford, Conn. – Julia Paslawsky (Andrew Bzonytsky); Chrystyna Tsar (Maksym Say), Anastasia Teterechko (Andrew Kudryk); New York, – Katherine Rojowsky (Christopher Gojdyecz) and Julianna Wynohradnyk (Christopher Sambrato).

As each debutante was announced, she was escorted by her partner to meet her parents, who congratulated their daughter and expressed their love and admiration on the occasion of her debut. The young debutant, in turn, gracefully curtsied to all present.



2003 SUM debutantes and their escorts make their entrance.



The ever-popular "kolomyika" dance during the debutante ball.

The 15 young couples delighted the audience with an intricate minuet choreographed by ballet master Hryhorij Momot. This segued into the debutante's first waltz. Halfway through, the young ladies' fathers cut in, and completed the dance with their daughter. All other guests then joined in dancing to the tunes of Zolota Bulava from Montreal.

The evening continued with an elabo-

rate banquet, which was preceded by a prayer conducted by the Rev. Bohdan Danylo. He added his own blessing and encouraged each debutante to lead a beneficial and Christian life, never forgetting her heritage.

As a memento of this unforgettable event, the debutantes and all guests received a program book listing each young lady and her escort. The booklet

also summarized each debutante's accomplishments and interests, both academic as well as societal, and her future plans.

This successful evening was the result of the efforts of a well-coordinated debutante ball committee led by Mr. Palylyk, which fulfilled its goal of hosting an elegant, memorable and enjoyable evening.

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Ukrainian Debutante Balls

Detroit engineers' winter ball presents area's debutantes



Debutantes and their escorts at the Detroit UESA's winter ball (from left): Adriana Marie Stebens and Neal Cole, Christina Odarka Zurkiwskyj and Marko Bodnaruk, Veronica Rogalla and Alexander Skalchuk, Larysa Konowka and Dmytri Hryciw, Lesia Baranyk and Alexander Moysaenko, Marta Olena Hnatiuk and Andrew Rudnycky, Andrea Kovalyshyn and Alex Poljanac, Marta Kunynskyj and Adrian Pichurko, Natalie Onyskiw and Roman Laba, Maria Dzul and Paul Kossak, Alexandra Leheta and Michael Koniuch and Katya Roma Prybula and Roman Pylpaczak.

by Laryssa J. Kozak

DETROIT – The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA), Detroit Branch, continued its 42-year-old tradition with the annual winter ball and presentation of debutantes on February 22. To date, the Detroit Chapter has presented 404 debutantes to Ukrainian society.

The gala, held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Mich., attracted 300 guests. Opening the ball's festivities, UESA Detroit Branch President Dianna Korduba Sawicky welcomed the debutantes and their escorts, families and friends. She acknowledged the attendance of four generations of debutantes' families at the event.

She made special mention of a past chapter president, the late Mykola Kunynskyj, for his initiative in the development of the presentation program beginning in 1960. His role had special

significance as his granddaughter was making her debut and his grandson, Marco Shmerykowsky, UESA national vice-president was present at the ball.

Officiating as mistress of ceremonies, Oksana Woloszczuk, began by greeting friends, families and guests, and expressing appreciation to the organizers of the event, especially to Ms. Sawicky for her efforts in reviving the Detroit Chapter's activity.

The evening turned magical as each of the 12 debutantes was introduced. Entering the ballroom donned in regal white gowns, carrying delicate pink rose nosegays and flanked by their escorts, the ladies made their formal debut.

A group dance of the debutantes with their escorts was followed by the father-daughter dance. Elegantly choreographed, the gentlemen escorted the debutantes' mothers to the dance floor

where the debutantes, in keeping with tradition, presented their mothers with a single long-stem red rose.

The MC ended the formal part of the evening by addressing the debutantes, wishing them well in their goals and aspirations, and urging them to maintain their strong ties to the Ukrainian community. With a toast and group rendition of "Mnohaya Lita," the 41st presentation of debutantes in Detroit became history.

The festivities continued after dinner to the sounds of Veseli Chasy of Chicago, as guests filled the dance floor late into the snowy night.

The successful event was largely due to the contribution of dedicated UESA ball committee members. This sentiment was expressed by Mr. Shmerykowsky, as he delivered a brief address to the guests on behalf of the UESA national board. Mr. Shmerykowsky also highlighted the

UESA's 55th anniversary, which spawned the national organization's involvement in new projects, including charitable efforts in Ukraine.

Detroit Chapter Vice-President Natalie Lewyckyj presented Ihor Senyk an award recognizing his 50 years of UESA membership and his status as the longest active Detroit Chapter board member since 1958.

Special thanks were extended to the ball committee – Ms. Sawicky (chairperson), Zina Kozak-Zachary and Laryssa Kozak (debutante presentation, advertising, program publication), Irene and Ihor Senyk (flowers, photographer), Ksenia Kozak (ticket/table reservations), Ms. Woloszczuk (MC) – as well as to Ireneus Kozak for the invitation design.

A portion of the proceeds from the winter ball will be used to support scholarship funds in the Ukrainian community.



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TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 240

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We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance to the address listed below:

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Newsbriefs...

(Continued from page 2)

treaty in 1997, while Miensk has made ratification dependent on the repayment of Ukrainian debts to Belarus. Belarus believes Ukraine should pay it more than \$100 million, while Ukraine admits to owing no more than \$50 million. Mr. Lytvyn told his Belarusian guest that the border treaty's ratification should be separated from economic issues in Ukrainian-Belarusian relations, UNIAN reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Pope blesses cornerstone for Chernihiv

ROME – Pope John Paul II has consecrated a stone taken from the tomb of St. Peter the Apostle to be the cornerstone for a Roman Catholic cathedral which is currently being built in Chernihiv, in northeastern Ukraine. It is planned that Archbishop Nikola Eterovic, apostolic nuncio in Ukraine, will bring the consecrated cornerstone to Ukraine on Pentecost, which is the feast day of the Roman Catholic community in Chernihiv. This news was reported on March 21. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Husar addresses faithful on Iraq war

LVIV – Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC), on March 21 addressed the clergy, faithful and people of good will, expressing his concern over the Iraq conflict and spiritual situation in the world. He stated that the war in Iraq testifies to the decay of humanity's moral values and called upon everyone to make their contribution towards the restoration of humanity, part of which is also Ukraine, its people, communities and families. "It is impossible to keep peace by armed force. Peace in countries, communities, according to Pope John Paul II, cannot be settled without justice. Only when everybody observes the commandments of God will the earth be a decent place for normal and peaceful life," said Cardinal Husar. In addition, the Greek-Catholic primate called on the faithful to pray for those "who take part in military actions and for those who will suffer from them." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Voice of Russia beamed across Ukraine

MOSCOW – Moscow-based state broadcaster Voice of Russia on March 14 launched programming on Ukraine's domestic radio channels, the company's director told ITAR-TASS. The "Welcome Ukraine" program will be broadcast in Russian during prime afternoon hours each Saturday on Ukrainian state radio's Channel 3, the news agency reported. Programming will highlight historic ties between Russia and Ukraine, as well as include reports on culture, science and the economies in the two countries. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv pays off \$375 M in foreign debt

KYIV – Ukraine repaid about 2 billion hrv (\$375 million) in foreign debt in March, Vice Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mykola Azarov announced at a meeting with the Council of Entrepreneurs of Ukraine in Kyiv on March 13, Interfax reported. Mr. Azarov called this amount "gigantic in a budget," but added, "We paid without any panic, and without concentrating all of our reserves." He also said, "Ukraine's financial position is very strong. We do not need foreign loans and have a balanced budget." Before the 2003 payment, Ukraine was facing \$1.53 billion in foreign-debt payments in Eurobonds maturing in March and September, each estimated at \$325 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)

INTERVIEW: Volodymyr Klitschko comments on loss of WBO title

South African Corrie Sanders knocked out Ukrainian Volodymyr Klitschko to take the World Boxing Organization title during a boxing match in Hanover, Germany, on March 8. The loss was Klitschko's second in his professional career, giving him a record of 40 wins and two losses.

Sanders, 37 stunned Klitschko, 27, with repeated punches throughout the short fight, knocking him to the mat twice in the first round and twice in the second round. The final blow came 27 seconds into the second round and shocked much of the boxing world as Klitschko was widely expected to win.

A special correspondent for *The Ukrainian Weekly* recently had an opportunity to speak with Volodymyr Klitschko, and his older brother, Vitalii, regarding the upset. The following is a portion of that interview conducted by Roman Kernitski.

Volodymyr, what happened Saturday night?

I think that everyone that was present at the arena or that has watched the fight on TV saw perfectly what happened. In my 12-year career as a boxer nothing like this has ever happened to me. Even my fight with Ross Purity was something completely different than this loss to Corrie Sanders.

I started the fight confidently and dominated until the moment when I missed Corrie's punch. Instead of starting to box, I made a mistake, which affected the outcome of the fight. I tried to rehabilitate myself and win back the fight with combinations. I started attacking and exchanging blows with him. What happened next, I think you already know.

What do you think about your loss?

I think that nothing tragic has taken place. Many great boxers have lost. However, the most important thing is to find the power to rise up and return into the ring.

Vitalii [Volodymyr's older brother] said last night that Corrie won by a lucky punch. What do you think?

I think that's the way it was. Sanders had a one in a hundred chance to win the fight against me. He utilized that one chance. To be more precise, I helped him use it. On the one hand it was a lucky punch, and on the other hand it was my hasty tactics. Corrie was able to use my mistakes against me and he was able to finish the fight with a victory.

Volodymyr, many say that after your first knockdown the fight should have been stopped, since the punch that sent

you to the canvas was rather powerful. What do you think?

As you saw, I was not hit with punches that would have sent me into a deep knockout. Corrie was able to hammer me only because I was unable to recover. But I did not want to give up that easily. I am sure Fritz Sdunek [Volodymyr's trainer] could have stopped the fight but I still believed that I could turn the fight around. However, I was unable to do that.

Volodymyr, there is an opinion that your preparation for this fight was not good enough and there is some talk that you underestimated your opponent.

Believe me when I say that I prepared for this fight like any other. I considered this opponent to be as serious as any other opponent. Sanders' punch and my desire to look impressive had its toll. I would say, however, that my weight was somewhat too heavy for such a fight. It's not an excuse, just an observation.

After your loss HBO did not react as they did when Vitalii was defeated, but were rather reserved and reasonable toward your loss. What was the reason that Larry Merchant was so reasonable about the loss?

I think that Larry, as well as most other people inside the arena, were in shock and could not say much. On the other hand, HBO had to understand that this loss did not destroy my future potential, and that this loss did not bring an end to my professional career. On the contrary, now there is intrigue, which is always interesting.

Will you have a rematch with Corrie?

This has to be decided by my promoter and Corrie Sanders' promoter.

When are you planning on going back into the gym to start training again?

In about three to four weeks.

And what will you be doing during those weeks?

I don't know yet, but I can tell you one thing – boxing will not be on my mind during those weeks that I have off.

When can we expect your next fight?

In about three to four months, though not earlier. I will impatiently wait to return into the ring.

What can you say to all those who support you?



Yuri Nesterenko

Volodymyr Klitschko after his loss.

Only one thing – a huge thanks for all your letters and words of support. This obligates me to return into the ring and to confirm your hopes.

Volodymyr, your answer to your skeptics?

I don't know whether it's worth to keep on persuading them. If I had won, their reaction would have been the same, though not as loud.

Vitalii, what happened with Volodymyr?

What happened is what can happen to

any boxer. Corrie Sanders had one chance in a hundred, and he used this chance. The lucky punch was powerful and sent Volodymyr into a very groggy condition and he could not recover.

How is Volodymyr feeling?

He's feeling normal. Unfortunately, it is necessary to acknowledge that boxers experience victories and they also experience defeats. But most important for him is to be able to rise up and return to the gym so that he can shortly return into the ring and prove his right to be considered as one of the strongest boxers in the world.

Vitalii, we're all interested to know if there will be a rematch?

Volodymyr has a right to this. When and where this will happen – I have no answer now. But the revenge will show the validity of Sanders' win, or if it was luck.

Vitalii, probably your plans need some rethinking. Is America on hold now?

No! Our plans that we made public earlier continue to be true. Certainly, this loss is a step back for both Volodymyr and me. But there was no tragedy – everyone loses. However, the real champions are the ones who return to the ring.

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The comical...

(Continued from page 6)

racially insensitive remarks without consequences. And this is doubly so if you are somehow associated, whether by national, regional or political origin or affiliation, with those who committed the crimes or atrocities at issue.

If Ms. Khrushcheva's grandfather and countrymen had not murdered millions of Ukrainians, her views could simply be considered harmlessly crackpot. If there were at least a smidgen of recognition among Russians – as there has been for a

long time among the Germans regarding crimes against the Jews – that the actions of Russians vis-à-vis Ukrainians have been criminal – but there seems to be none whatsoever – then Ms. Khrushcheva's comments might simply be offensive, but not dangerously obscene.

But because her comments do represent mainstream Russian thinking, and because views such as hers have historically been central to the mindset that has led to crimes against humanity being committed by Russians against Ukrainians, the public expression of such views is obscene, dangerously so.

EU proposals...

(Continued from page 2)

Mr. Skovmand also said Ukraine's official goal of becoming a candidate country in a decade is in line with the EU proposals. Stuart Hensel, a Ukraine analyst at the Economist Intelligence Unit in London, said the country has been offered the best deal it can reasonably expect. "It doesn't offer any prospects for any sort of immediate membership, in fact. It suggests that over the next 10 years the EU is not interested in looking at new members and that the most this deal offers Ukraine is access to the internal markets. That means perhaps greater concessions on trade terms, greater access for Ukrainian goods to get into the EU, greater access perhaps for Ukrainians to enter into the EU without visas, but that's about it," Mr. Hensel said.

Mr. Sushko said the proposals put Ukraine in a league with countries that will never be accepted into the EU, such as the North African states, which are also discussed in the "neighborhood" proposals. "Ukraine is put in the same league not only with Belarus and Moldova but also with Africa. Even taking into consideration all the advantages that North African countries enjoy in their relations with the EU, such an African option for Ukraine, on an emotional level, provokes misunderstanding," Mr. Sushko said.

Mr. Sushko said the document implies that Ukraine might never be accepted into the EU. "We have a suspicion that these [North African] countries are put

into a single package with Eastern European countries in order to confer upon two groups a single status. This single status may mean a single prospect: exclusion from the possibility of integration, possible membership," Mr. Sushko said.

Mr. Sushko said Brussels is setting a double standard for EU neighbor countries. He said the situation in Ukraine is no worse than in Albania or Macedonia whose future candidacy has already been declared by Brussels.

He said Balkan countries like Albania, Macedonia, and Serbia are also far from meeting the Copenhagen criteria – the economic and political conditions for candidate countries set by the EU in 1993. But the EU is clear in its strategy toward them. "The EU has an aim to fully integrate those countries," he said. "It may happen in the distant future – the precise dates have not been given – but the [political] will in Brussels is clear."

Mr. Hensel said Ukraine itself lacks political will and has been slow with reform progress. "I think the main problem is a lack of willingness on the part of [Ukraine's] political class to embrace the sort of reforms that it knows the EU is looking for, and more technically, the incapacity of the administration in Ukraine to fulfill the sort of reforms required," Mr. Hensel said.

Mr. Hensel said Ukraine's foreign policy is fuzzy. Ukraine seeks closer economic ties with Russia on the one hand and with the EU on the other. He noted that last month, leaders from Ukraine, Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan signed a joint declaration stating their intention to create a free-trade zone.

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THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES THE 2003 ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT	ADDRESS	DATE	TIME	DISTRICT COMMITTEE
CHICAGO	Ukrainian Cultural Center 2247 West Chicago Ave Chicago, IL	4/5/03	3:00 PM	Stefko Kuropas Andrij Skyba Bohdan Kukuruza Dr. Myron Kuropas Helen Olek-Scott Michael Kuropas
SYRACUSE	St. John Church 207 Tompkins St Syracuse, NY	4/6/03	2:30 PM	Dr. Ivan Hvozda Mykola Welych Mykola Krzywaj
CLEVELAND	Ukrainian women's League St. Joseph Church 5720 State Rd. Parma, OH	4/12/03	1:00 PM	Evhen Bachynsky Alice Olenchuk Natalia Miahky

MEMORANDUM

The
Syracuse District's
Annual Meeting
has been rescheduled
for Sunday, April 6,
2003, at 2:30 PM, at
the St. John's Church,
207 Tompkins St.,
Syracuse, NY.

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Anthracite Museum to focus on pysanky

SCRANTON, Pa. - Just in time for Easter, on Saturday, April 5, the Anthracite Heritage Museum will again host two identical workshops featuring the Ukrainian art of decorating Easter eggs, known as pysanky - a popular program that has become an annual event celebrating folk art and crafts at the museum.

The first workshop will run from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and the second program from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Participants may register for only one of the sessions.

A \$5 fee is required for each participant to cover material costs for the program, which is designed for participants age 12 and above. For more information and to register for either workshop, contact the museum at (570) 963-4804.

Ukrainians have been widely credited for elevating the beautifully decorated egg to a popular folk-art form, a practice dating to pre-Christian times. Neighboring peoples such as the Poles, Lithuanians and Hungarians began similar egg-decorating techniques including scratch-carving and wax-resistant decorating. Workshop instructor Irene Sherman will introduce participants to the traditions of the pysanky art and the techniques of egg-decorating, enabling students to design and make their own pysanky in preparation for the Easter holiday, when pysanky are traditionally exchanged.

The Pennsylvania Anthracite Heritage Museum is located in McDade Park, off Keyser Avenue (Exits 182 or 191B off I-81, and Exit 122 from I-476). The museum is open year-round Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

Toronto choirs to pay tribute to Mykola Leontovych

by Sonia Solomon

TORONTO - The Vesnivka Choir and the Ukrainian Male Chamber Chorus, under the direction of Kvitka Kondracka, will close their 2002-2003 season with a tribute to Mykola Leontovych.

Mykola Leontovych was born on December 1, 1877, in Monastyrsk, Ukraine. In 1882 he attended the seminary in Kamianets, where he sang in the choir, began to study ancient Ukrainian chants and folk melodies and began his first attempts at choral arranging. In 1894 he completed his seminary studies, taught at various schools, composed arrangements and organized choirs and orchestras. During this time Leontovych also published two booklets of choral arrangements, which he sent to Mykola Lysenko.

In the summer of 1903 and 1904 Leontovych attended the St. Petersburg Court Capella to continue his formal musical training and in 1909 he began to study composition at the Conservatory of Kyiv. He worked and studied in relative obscurity until 1916, when he showed Oleksander Koshetz his manuscript of "Schedryk." This piece was performed that year to tremendous acclaim and made Leontovych famous.

Leontovych's peak composing period was from 1910 to 1920. In the summer of 1919 he began working on "The Feast of the Water Nymphs," which was based on a story by poet and folklorist Borys Hrinchenko. At the end of 1920 the first act was almost finished while a couple of sections remained sketched out. Leontovych played the piece for composer Kyrylo Stetsenko and poet Pavlo Tychyna. Both were impressed by the work and Leontovych planned to write

the second and third acts but was assassinated during the night of January 22-23, 1921, in a wave of terror initiated by the Soviet Bolshevik regime in Ukraine. We are fortunate that despite his relatively short life Leontovych left a substantial body of work.

Composer Myroslav Skoryk and poet D. Bobyr took it upon themselves to finish the one act opera. Mr. Bobyr edited the libretto and Mr. Skoryk focused on the unfinished sections of the score. Both worked as closely as possible to Leontovych's style to maintain the work's integrity. "The Feast of the Water Nymphs" is a folk-fantasy opera that weaves the intonations and rhythms of Ukrainian spring, kupalo and "rusalka" songs and elements of dance. The main theme of the opera is the conflict between the real world and the world of fantasy. Leontovych's fantasy world can be playful and frolicking but also full of secrets, mystery and danger. He makes the water nymphs real, suffering and angry beings with characteristics given to individual "rusalky."

"The Feast of the Water Nymphs" had its premiere in 1977 at the Kyiv State Opera and Ballet Theater to mark the centenary of Mykola Leontovych's birth. For the opera's North American premiere, Kvitka Kondracka commissioned Myroslav Skoryk to rearrange his original orchestral score for a chamber orchestra.

Guest soloists Kateryna Chubar, Christine Stelmacovich, Lesia Piasta and Taras Chmil will join Vesnivka Choir and The Ukrainian Male Chamber Chorus for the performance. The program will be rounded out with a selection of Leontovych's religious and folk compo-



Mykola Leontovych

sitions, including his signature pieces "Dudaryk and Schedryk" and should turn out to be an event that can't be missed.

A tribute to Mykola Leontovych featuring selections of liturgical and folk music and the North American premiere of Leontovych's unfinished one-act opera, "The Feast of the Water Nymphs," will be presented on April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. W., Toronto. Tickets are: \$25 for adults; \$20 for seniors/students. For additional information call (416) 246-9880.

To subscribe: Send \$55 (\$45 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054

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Conference at Ukrainian Free University tackles legal issues of parliamentary elections

MUNICH, German – The Ukrainian Free University (UFU) organized an international conference on the legal issues of parliamentary elections. The conference was held February 14-15 at the university building located on Pienzenauerstrasse.

Titled "Election and Jurisprudence – A Comparative Analysis: Germany (Bavaria), Ukraine and the United States," the conference brought together Canadian, German, Ukrainian and American scholars, members of parliaments, judges and high civil servants. Over 130 persons attended this academic gathering.

This international conference addressed four major themes in its three plenary sessions. They were the nature of electoral systems, the problem of voting rights, the role of electoral commissions and the adjudication of election disputes.

Leonid Rudnytsky, rector of the Ukrainian Free University, welcomed everyone in his opening remarks. Since Dr. Oleksander Lavrynovych, the minister of justice of Ukraine, was unable to attend, his keynote speech was made by Dr. Volodymyr Stretovych, chair of the Verkhovna Rada's Committee on the Struggle with Organized Crime and Corruption. In the absence of Dr. Hans Gerhard Stockinger, member of the Bavarian Parliament, his keynote address was read by Dr. Reinhard Heydenreuter, director of the Bavarian Central Archives, Munich. The last keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Ludwig Spaenle, member of the Bavarian

Parliament.

Dr. Bohdan A. Futey, judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims in Washington, and Stephen B. Nix, director of the Washington-based International Republican Institute gave papers at the first plenary session. The moderator was Dr. Heydenreuter.

Prof. Mykhailo Kostytskyi and Natalia Kushakova gave a jointly authored paper at the second plenary session. Dr. Kostytskyi is a judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine and Ms. Kushakova is a senior researcher at the same court.

Mykhailo Riabets, president of the Central Election Commission in Ukraine and Dr. Stretovych of the Ukrainian Parliament also addressed this second session with scholarly papers. The moderator was Ivan Myhul, dean, UFU faculty of government and political economy.

Dr. Dieter Blumenwitz, chair of international law, general state theory and political science of Würzburg University, and Johann Hahlen delivered scholarly papers at the third plenary session. Mr. Hahlen is the president of the German Federal Bureau of Statistics and the commissioner of German Federal Elections. The moderator was Dr. Hansjürgen Doss of the UFU, a retired member (1961-2002) of the German Federal Parliament, Berlin. Dr. Doss also delivered closing remarks at the end of the conference.

The conference was made possible thanks to the generosity of the International Republican Institute of Washington.

Former minister...

(Continued from page 1)

ing throughout Ukraine.

On March 25 President Leonid Kuchma said he was satisfied with the work of the Procurator General's Office thus far, which had turned up startling evidence of wrongdoing. Prosecutors said they have found violations of law in all of Ukraine's 27 regions.

President Kuchma noted that many of the illegal foreign transactions involved great deals for foreign buyers. He said that at times "the prices that were set for [grain] export and those that were reported in customs differed by up to 30 percent."

The Ukrainian president said the best outcome from the scandal would be if reporting and enforcement mistakes were not repeated. Mr. Kuchma emphasized that he believes those who closed their eyes and ears to what was happening around them bear the same guilt as those who took part in the criminal activity.

While Mr. Kuchma underscored that he wanted to keep the investigation separate of the politics, the organization that former Prime Minister Kinakh currently heads, the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, claimed that the charges against Mr. Kozachenko were exclusively of a political origin and reflected an effort to hide a failure to implement structural economic reforms.

The arrest of Mr. Kozachenko, 48, came after the Procurator General's Office received instructions from President Kuchma to look into the current situation in Ukraine's grain market, where revelations of grain shortages had thrown the country's vital bread-making industry into turmoil. The crisis began in mid-February, when bread prices began to rise dramatically in some southern oblasts of Ukraine amid allegations of severe grain shortages. The current minister of agrarian policy, Serhii Ryzhuk,

originally said the deficit was not caused by "abuses... but by flawed statistic-gathering methods."

Over the last six weeks, prosecutors have accused individual farms, traders and regional officials of inflating the figures of current reserves and last year's grain harvest, which was originally reported to have been about 39 million tons. Prosecutors now say the amount of the harvest was "substantially less."

Investigators continued to search for evidence that grain harvest figures were inflated to hide secret sales at reduced prices to foreign buyers. By inflating harvest numbers, those who undertook the criminal activity allowed themselves a greater share of international sales, ceilings for which are derived as a percent of the total harvest.

In an interview with the newspaper Den, Procurator Tatiana Korniakova cited a Ukrainian-Egyptian deal as a specific example of how set prices and delivery prices differed. She said that, while an agreement between Egypt and Ukraine had directed that grain sales occur at a government-set price of \$80 per ton of wheat, customs documents showed grain transfers had been made at \$50 per ton.

Among the regions of southern Ukraine reporting the largest discrepancies between the harvest figures as reported last year and the current, more accurate numbers were the Crimean Autonomous Republic, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast and Zaporizhia Oblast.

President Kuchma said Ukraine had supplemented local grain stores from its central depositories, which had stabilized the pricing situation in the country. However, the president said he looked askance at the manner by which oblasts and municipalities had allowed themselves to be left with shortfalls.

"Kyiv sold grain openly, but it was the first to ask for state supplements," noted Mr. Kuchma.

USUF chronology...

(Continued from page 4)

always made them contingent upon a written guarantee that the USUF would vacate the premises by April 1, 2003 – a full year before the USUF is legally obliged to do so.

- The UOC-MP continued to refuse to fulfill its legal responsibilities and did not present the USUF with utility bills, thereby hoping that the USUF's utilities would be shut off and the USUF would be forced out of the premises.

- On February 21, the National State Property Fund reaffirmed in writing the legality of the USUF's position and that the change in property management was carried out with considerable procedural violations. They advised the USUF that, should the provocations continue, the USUF should take the matter to court.

- Upon returning from a brief absence, UOC-MP hierarchs were upset to discover that the USUF had paid the utility bills irrespective of the Church's efforts and decided "to teach [you] a lesson."

- At approximately 7:30 a.m. on March 5, a group of monks, priests and about 40 lay people stormed the premises of vul. Moskovska 40-A, subdued the USUF's guard and proceeded to occupy the premises. The police were summoned and prevented the intruders from spreading throughout the building.

- As USUF staff arrived to work, they were subjected to a stream of anti-American slogans relating to Iraq.

- Although the police said that the UOC-MP hierarchs had acted illegally they could not eject them until someone higher up in the Ministry of Internal Affairs was prepared to make a decision regarding the UOC-MP. The police were apologetic and sympathetic but, asked the USUF to understand the realities of the situation.

- One of the priests used a hammer to smash the sizable glass-covered plaques of the USUF and its Pylyp Orlyk Institute of Democracy (POID). This was done in full view of the police who did nothing, and when challenged again, asked the USUF to appreciate Ukrainian realities.

UKRAINE 2003



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SOLOVEJKO	POLONYNA
LVIV/Lv. Beskivsk YAREMCHE/Kolomyja KHOTYN/Kam. Podolskij YALTA/Symfereopol Bukhchivan/KYIV/Karis Pozhystav/Khmelnytskyj CHERNIBIV July 1-13 \$2950 15 days 350 \$sup	ODESA/Kherson YALTA/Symfereopol Bukhchivan KYIV/Karis POLTAVA/Ophiona CHERNIBIV July 25 - Aug. 7 \$2550 14 days 400 \$sup
INDEPENDENCE I	INDEPENDENCE II
LVIV/Lv. Frankivsk YAREMCHE/Kolomyja KHOTYN/Kam. Podolskij YALTA/Symfereopol Bukhchivan KYIV/Karis Pozhystav/Khmelnytskyj CHERNIBIV Aug. 11-24 \$2950 15 days 450 \$sup	KYIV POLTAVA YALTA/Bukhchivan Symfereopol CHERNIBIV Aug. 14-19 \$2450 12 days 350 \$sup
INDEPENDENCE II	CHUMAKY
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Leschyshyn wants to stay in Ottawa

Ukrainian Curtis Leschyshyn may play his 1,000th National Hockey League game this season and he'd very much like to do it wearing an Ottawa Senators uniform.

While the name of the 33-year-old veteran defenseman has surfaced in several trade rumors, because of his \$2 million salary and the crowd on the club's blueline, Leschyshyn is not going to be applying for a job transfer.

"My family is very happy in Ottawa, and I don't want to pick up to move somewhere else," he said.

Sources said the Anaheim Mighty Ducks, Columbus Blue Jackets, New York Islanders, Washington Capitals and New York Rangers all have held talks with Senators' GM John Muckler about the possibility of getting a defenseman.

But the reality of the situation is the Senators haven't had all of their defensemen healthy very often. Wade Redden, Chris Phillips and Shane Hnidy have all missed games because of injury.

Financial distractions no factor

They might be broke, but the Ottawa Senators don't need to fix a whole lot on the ice.

Battling to stay on top in the East and a solid contender for the President's Trophy as the NHL's regular season champions, the Senators have been able to put owner Rod Bryden's financial troubles aside.

"Has it been a distraction? Yes, no doubt it has. I don't think there's any doubt about it. But, I think we've handled it pretty well. We've played well through all of this, and we've been able to do our jobs," said team captain Daniel Alfredsson. "In a perfect world, we'd be a rich team and we wouldn't have to worry about these kinds of distractions. But, what we've been trying to do is make the best of this and just trying to play the games without thinking about what's happening off the ice. That's all we can do."

After missing their paychecks in early January, the matter wasn't addressed until Bryden filed for credit protection in Canada in mid-January. Since then, he's been working with a partner to try to buy the club back.

"We discussed the issue when it first happened and the guys have just moved on because they know there's absolutely nothing we can do about it," said alternate captain Leschyshyn. "The one thing we can do is control the effort we give on the ice and if that makes the team more valuable, then that's a good thing."

A view from the NHL's Trenches

written by a "ghostwriter"
for Dave Andreychuk

It has often been said I have built my career in front of the net. And, yes, I would have to admit this is quite true.

I try to use my size and reach to score on rebounds of shots and deflections from in tight. I would say that of the 250-plus power play goals I've scored in my career, at least 200 of them went in that way.

Of course, it's not easy to earn a living camped out right in the goaltender's face. If it were easy, everyone would be doing it. But even players willing to take the abuse can't score on their own.

First of all, you need teammates who can get the puck through traffic and on the net. You can stand in front of the net until the cows come home but it won't do any good if the puck never comes home, either.

I've been lucky over my career to have played with guys who knew how to break down defenses and get the puck to the goal

— players such as (fellow Uke) Dale Hawerchuk, Doug Bodger and Phil Housley with the Buffalo Sabres or Doug Gilmour, Dave Ellett and Todd Gill with the Toronto Maple Leafs.

I knew when those guys wound up, they were aiming at me or at least a spot where they knew I could get my stick free for a tip-in or rebound.

It's also important to know the habits of your point men — who likes to shoot high, who keeps it low, who likes to one-time shots. All these things help me get into proper position. A lot of guys don't want to be in that position. I do.

I gravitated toward the crease on the power play starting in my junior days with the Oshawa Generals in the early 1980s. I realized back then the front of the net was where I could be most effective. Nobody teaches you to take the abuse; it comes down to being smart about your positioning and being mentally prepared to sacrifice your body.

One guy who always did that was Dino Ciccarelli. I watched him before I got to the NHL and kept on watching him his entire career. Dino was all determination and heart. He got goals for one simple reason — because he was willing to absorb punishment other players wouldn't.

And you can bet the punishment comes in a variety of ways: crosschecks in the back, slashing to the back of the legs, punching to the head. The one that gets me the maddest is when they try to push my helmet over my eyes. It's tough to score when you can't see.

Unfortunately for guys like me, all those individual battles happen less frequently these days than they did 10 or 15 years ago. I say unfortunately because the 1-on-1 confrontation worked to my advantage. If one defender was occupied with me, our man advantage meant there would often be one of my teammates right behind me ready to pounce on a loose puck.

These days, in today's game, defensemen tend to leave me alone while the puck is on the perimeter, then try to tie up my stick at the last minute. With the size of forwards in the league today, going for the stick is probably a defenseman's best bet.

Don't believe me? You go try to move a guy like Vancouver's Todd Bertuzzi or (Ukrainian) Keith Tkachuk of the St. Louis Blues. See how far you get.

The veteran 'D' guys have changed their tactics because of it. I know from playing with him a few years ago that New Jersey's Scott Stevens won't really get into those kinds of battles any more. Earlier in his career he would have tried to punish forwards; now he just tries to outsmart and outstick them.

So, therefore, I need to be smarter, too. The days of four teammates passing the puck around the outside and me standing in front of the net waiting for the puck to arrive are pretty much over.

Penalty killing is way too aggressive. Power plays don't have the same time to get set up; it takes four or five good passes to get penalty killers to retreat into a more passive box. Sometimes that's just not possible, so I might take a few steps back into the high slot to get more involved. I'm a little-out-of-my-comfort zone up there, but I like to think I can still put a few in the back of the net now and then (17 goals in his first 60 games through mid-March) no matter where I'm standing.

As for the career power-play goal record, it's something I don't really think about all that much. I'm glad Phil Esposito was there when I passed him this season and I'm happy the game was in Tampa, but that's

about it.

Records are made to be broken. I'm pretty sure this one won't be mine for long.

Bondra's defense valued with scoring

Chemistry is a funny thing. The Washington Capitals acquired center Robert Lang specifically to work with Peter Bondra. It was something less than a success story.

Yet Bondra, who owns or shares at least a dozen team records, has extended another. As the Capitals were demolishing the New York Rangers 7-2 on January 26, 2002, Bondra scored to record his 20th goal of the season, the 12th straight year he has racked up at least that many.

Coach Bruce Cassidy is pleased Bondra is contributing offense, but he is more pleased the right-winger is contributing at both ends.

"I think he's been pegged the wrong way, that if he's not scoring, he's not playing well," Cassidy said. "I don't agree. I've told him that when he's having a bad stretch he can still contribute and he has. He's made a conscious effort to be better away from the puck."

UKRAINIAN UTTERINGS: Due to their ninth- and 10th-place finishes in this year's World Junior Championship, Germany and Belarus have been relegated to the B pool next year. These two countries

will be replaced by Austria and Ukraine. This is the first year two teams instead of one have been relegated. Some hockey experts fear this will result in a weakening at the bottom tier of the A pool since the majority of players who helped Austria and Ukraine move up will be too old to play in the World Junior Championship in 2004 ... Released by the Tampa Bay Lightning in the off-season, goalie Dieter Kochan managed to hook up with the young Minnesota Wild organization. With the injury to Manny Fernandez, Kochan suddenly found himself in the major circuit when recalled from the AHL's Houston Aeros ... Left-winger Ryan Bayda, who turned pro last spring after his junior year at North Dakota, is getting rave reviews in his late-season audition with the disappointing Carolina Hurricanes ... Speaking of which, goaltending prospect Randy Petruk was signed by the 'Canes to a two-year contract to share time in Lowell of the AHL ... Joey Kocur was promoted to full-time assistant coach by the Detroit Red Wings. Kocur was the team's video technician prior to the current 2002-2003 campaign ...

(Quotations in above segments thanks to Bruce Garrioch, Ottawa Senators beat writer; Mark Brender of The Hockey News; Dave Fay covering the Washington Capitals.)

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Bella Davidovish, piano
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Ukraine's economic...

(Continued from page 1)

sector could see growth of up to 15 percent by year's end.

The construction sector experienced the strongest growth in the first two months of this year, with a 19 percent increase in activity over the same time period in 2002. Light manufacturing came second, with a 12 percent increase, followed by 10.7 percent growth in the energy sector.

Heavy manufacturing, another key industry, also had a strong showing, with a 10.8 percent increase. Agricultural sector expansion, however, was less robust, with growth reaching merely 4.3 percent for the industry as a whole. While agricultural processors saw relatively stronger growth, at 6.8 percent, farmers achieved barely a 3 percent increase in production.

Analysts believe that the Ukrainian economy will continue to expand, although a question remains whether the new 6 percent forecast offered by the Ministry of Economy is realistic. The ministry's long-term goal is for growth of 8 to 10 percent for the combined 2003-2004 time frame, which they expect to attain by spurring small and medium-sized business development, bringing companies out of the shadow economy and bringing in foreign investment.

Oksana Novoseletska, assistant executive director of the Center for Social and Economic Research, predicted during a roundtable at the Ministry of Economy on March 25 that Ukraine would experience only around 4 percent growth for the year. She explained that second half growth should slow, caused in part by the repayment of a large amount of government foreign debt.

Ms. Novoseletska added that a bad spring harvest could cause a return to inflationary tendencies after deflation of 0.6 percent last year. The inflation rate for the first two months is already at 2.6 percent, with the 2003 target set at a total of 6 percent.

Ms. Novoseletska explained that fewer Ukrainian agricultural goods, along with world oil price increases, a post-Iraq War devaluation of the euro and planned increases of up to 15 percent in government worker salaries in Ukraine could easily spur inflation beyond 6 percent. She noted that the price increases could deplete consumer demand, which has been the overriding factor in economic growth over the last three years.

Marek Dombrowski, director of the center, said the government must bring more businesses out of the shadows if it expects economic development to continue. He said that to do this, it must soon introduce long-awaited tax reforms, which must include an across-the-board tax comparable to Russia's 13 percent tax rate. He also explained that the government must complete reforms in the energy, agriculture, communications and transportation sectors – including privatization of government facilities.

Privatization, along with the development of a sound government investment policy and properly run lending institutions that would make loans more easily available to a wider spectrum of the Ukrainian population, are the keys to sustained economic growth, according to Mr. Dombrowski.

"We believe the highest priority for further economic reform must be in educating on investment policy, in the development of lending institutions and in continued privatization," said Mr. Dombrowski.

Majority of Ukraine's...

(Continued from page 1)

authorized the deployment of the 531 members of the battalion to Kuwait on March 20.

More than 77 percent of those surveyed said they did not see such a need, while only 8.8 percent said Ukraine should provide the humanitarian assistance. That survey, taken at about the same time as the one funded by Democratic Initiatives, questioned 2,000 Ukrainians in 118 residential areas located in all of Ukraine's regions, and had a sampling error of 2.3 percent.

The report further found that 94 percent of the respondents did not see any need for Ukrainian involvement whatsoever in the conflict surrounding Iraq. Only 2.4 percent took the opposite stance.

Perhaps most interesting, however, were comments made by just over a dozen Kyivans questioned in a very non-scientific poll conducted by The Weekly regarding the need for a war in Iraq and support for the U.S. invasion of the country. Not one of the 14 Kyivans asked gave so much as an inkling of support or a nod of understanding for the Washington – led war against Mr. Hussein.

In answering the questions: "Do you support the war in Iraq?" and "Do you back the U.S. or Iraqi side in the conflict?" – some respondents took the opportunity to comment on U.S. failure to work with the United Nations toward peaceful disarmament of Iraq. Others spoke philosophically of the horror and savagery of war, while still others chose to criticize Ukrainian humanitarian involvement via its 19th Battalion.

Interestingly, six of the respondents did not want to be identified.

A person who would only say that she

is a 58-year-old pensioner replied that she disagrees with the U.S. position in the conflict. "I support Iraq, and my acquaintances think the same way. How can you disarm a country and then attack it," queried the woman, who was strolling along the Khreschatyk.

A 23-year-old student of the Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, who also did not want his name used, said he could not support the U.S. side in the conflict because it was the aggressor. He explained that Washington should have waited for a U.N. resolution in support of its current actions.

A person who did give his name, Leonid Yarosh, 40, said he was for neither Iraq nor the U.S. He said that while he was against the U.S. action, he could not support "a Muslim country."

"The worst possible scenario would be if the war engulfed a wider region," added Mr. Yarosh. "That would be the most dangerous thing."

Laryssa Bruniva, 54, wanted to comment on Ukraine's agreement to send the contamination cleanup battalion to Kuwait. "I was a medic, I know these chemicals and their aftereffects. These children will return [from Kuwait] sick and will bring these sicknesses to their families, that is certain," she explained.

"Our Parliament sent our children there without thinking the matter through. But not one of their sons went. I would support the matter if the lawmakers' kids also went," Ms. Bruniva added.

Finally, Irina Plokhotnikova, 40, underscored that as a mother she could not support the conflict. "I am against the war in Iraq. Can any war bring forth positive emotions? I am a mother myself. I have a son and would not want for him to fight, even as part of our force that went there, even if [President Leonid] Kuchma were in charge," she explained.

Liudmyla Liulko of The Weekly's Kyiv Bureau helped compile this story.

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FOR THE RECORD: Television address by Kuchma on battalion's deployment

Following is the text of the March 20 TV address of President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine on the occasion of the Verkhovna Rada's approval of a decision to send a Ukrainian NBC protection battalion to Kuwait.

My Dear Fellow Citizens:

Today the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine decided to send a Ukrainian NBC protection battalion to Kuwait. As commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, I gave order to redeploy this unit.

The position of Ukraine remains definite and unchanged: we are against the war. Practically each Ukrainian family lost someone during the last one – World War II. That is why, who better than we knows that war must be avoided at any price, and by any means.

Regretfully, as often has happened in the history of humankind, diplomacy in this situation suffered a fiasco. Now is the time when arms talk.

We remain devoted to our strategic partnership, first of all with the United States of America. We are members of the anti-terrorist coalition and regard it our major obligation to fight this evil – the worst one in the 21st century. We regret, however, the failure to solve this problem within the framework of possibilities offered by international organizations.

I would like to underline that in no case shall our unit participate in military actions. Its high mission is strictly humanitarian: to provide assistance to the

civilian population, should weapons of mass destruction be used.

The invitation of our forces is not only a recognition of their skills and world-level training. Ukraine has unique experience by world standards in liquidation of the man-made and ecological catastrophe of 1986 in Chornobyl. That's why no one knows better than we what the real threat of nuclear contamination is and how to save people in such conditions, let alone the world threat of ecological disaster which if it happens, many God forbid it, will reach practically every country on our planet.

These are not novices being sent to Kuwait. Among the servicemen are many who directly participated in military actions and peacekeeping operations under the aegis of international organizations. Nevertheless, we shall hope their professional skills and abilities are not required during the conflict. Ukraine is already doing and shall do its best to provide for our military men. I have given instructions to our government to take appropriate decisions.

Men, now I would like to address you directly: wherever you are, you should feel that Ukraine is with you, and beside you. We shall be with you constantly; we shall wait for your return home and shall pray for the safe completion of the war for each of you.

But you have to be aware: wherever you are you represent the country, the flag and reputation of Ukraine.

May God help you.

Chicago veterans post boasts active year and growing membership

by John Steciw

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian American Veterans of Chicago, Post 32, is a veterans organization made up of men and women of Ukrainian heritage who served or are currently serving in a military capacity in defense of our great nation. The post was organized a few years ago and is part of the national UAV established in 1948.

"It's been a great year," said Lt. Col. Walter Chytorbok (U.S. Army, ret.), the post commander. "We started with a handful of veterans and now have over 30 active members and growing." "Our membership consists of people of varied backgrounds, both social and economic," added Staff Sgt. John Steciw (U.S. Army, ret.), the protocol and public relations officer. "On a personal level, we're all involved in the Ukrainian community. Individually, we participate on a number of levels, from youth organizations and church groups, to politics and the arts. As a group, our common bonds are our Ukrainian heritage and our military service to the United States."

Post 32, demographically, is one of the youngest in the country. Although the post is relatively new, it's very active. This past year saw its participation in many events:

- Along with the local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) post and past members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), they helped identify, clear and place flags on the graves of veterans buried at St. Nicholas Cemetery. They participated in the ceremonies held on Memorial Day and Zeleni Sviata and will be continuing the activities of the VFW post as regards the Veteran's Memorial Walkway.

Next year, plans are being made to expand these activities to St. Andrew's Cemetery and the Ukrainian section of Elmwood Cemetery, according to Wally Basarab, the post's quartermaster.

- Post members were in attendance at



Members of Post 32 with the Rev. Myron Panchuk on the steps of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chicago.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley's reception commemorating Ukrainian Independence Day.

- Post 32 was involved in the raising of the Ukrainian and American flags during ceremonies held in downtown Chicago, at the Daley Plaza, in observance of Ukrainian Independence Day.

"Our post is proud to have been designated by the mayor's office of cultural affairs as the sponsors of next year's events at Daley Plaza," said Jerry Jaworsky, the vice-commander.

- Post 32 was invited to participate in the official 2003 Memorial Day parade held by

the City of Chicago.

- Post members were involved with the ceremonies held on the grounds of St. Andrew's Church in the solemn observance of the Great Famine of 1932-1933.

- Post members posted colors and paid respect during the ceremonies commemorating the anniversary of UPA and its surviving members.

- The post sent a delegation to the annual UAV convention held in Independence, Ohio.

- In December, Post 32 held its first annual Christmas party at the Ukrainian American Club in Chicago. "A good time

was had by all and everyone behaved," quipped Roman Zahorodnyj, the group's sergeant-at-arms. Many thanks were offered to John Horodecki and the Ukrainian American Club for being such gracious hosts.

Two members, Adam Bihun, the post's adjutant, and Mr. Steciw, are currently working on a compilation series of musical CDs featuring the talents of many of the Ukrainian American bands from the Chicago area over the years. "We hope to achieve two main goals with this project," said Mr. Bihun. First, sales of these CD's

(Continued on page 25)

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U.S.-Ukraine relations...

(Continued from page 2)

International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

Mr. Kuchma supported Ukraine's accession to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the country's de-nuclearization in 1994-1996. Ukraine supported NATO enlargement and became the most active CIS member of NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP). By the late 1990s Ukraine had the United Kingdom's largest bilateral military cooperation agreement and one of the largest military programs with the U.S. Ukraine also backed the creation of a pro-NATO and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) regional group in the CIS, the GUUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Moldova) alliance.

During this same period U.S. relations with Russia deteriorated. Russia stridently opposed NATO enlargement and was disinterested in cooperation within the PfP. Russia completely halted cooperation with NATO after its intervention in Serbia in the spring of 1999. The U.S. opposed Russia's neo-imperial intervention in the CIS and supported Ukraine as a buffer between central Europe, into which NATO was enlarging, and Russia. Ukraine was rewarded by becoming the third largest recipient of U.S. aid after Israel and Egypt.

Bilateral relations in 1999-2004

The United States under President Bill Clinton ignored many of the signs of the dangerous trends evident in Ukraine in the late 1990s. By any stretch of the imagination, the government of Valerii Pustovoitenko (1997-1999) could not be labelled "reformist." The entry of former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko in 1999 into the U.S. brought into the open the growing international recognition of the high levels of corruption in Ukraine.

This phenomenon was accentuated by many further details revealed by the Kuchmagate tapes made in 1999-2000 by Mykola Melnychenko. In 1999 the Western think tank Transparency International began placing Ukraine alongside countries such as Nigeria in its annual rankings of corruption.

The general state of democratization in Ukraine also began coming under scrutiny, non-governmental organizations and Ukraine began receiving a litany of bad reports from Western (Freedom House, Amnesty International, Helsinki Watch), international (Council of Europe, European Union) and government entities (U.S. State Department). The question of media free-

dom had already damaged Ukraine's reputation even before the murder of opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze in the fall of 2000. Since then, the Gongadze issue has become a symbol of the lack of media freedom for Reporters Without Borders, the Committee to Protect Journalists and other organizations.

Yushchenko: a glimmer of hope

These negative trends in the late Clinton era were still sidelined by the U.S. In December 1999, a month after President Kuchma was re-elected as the savior of Ukraine from communism, Ukraine's only truly reformist government under Viktor Yushchenko began working.

The Yushchenko government (1999-2001) worked under difficult conditions. Its ability to maneuver became impossible within Ukraine's Byzantine political system after the Kuchmagate crisis arose only a year after it began working in November 2000. The government's parliamentary support rested on Ukraine's first attempt at creating in the Verkhovna Rada a non-left majority from pro-presidential centrists and center-right reformers. The Kuchmagate crisis destroyed this unity then, and since then.

These divisions between centrists and national democrats, coupled with the growth of opposition from pro-presidential centrists towards Mr. Yushchenko's reforms led to the removal of the government on the 15th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear accident in April 2001. According to a study since then by a former Ukrainian government adviser, Anders Aslund at the Washington-based Carnegie Endowment, until the Yushchenko government began working, Ukrainian oligarchs made a net income of \$2 billion a year on gas trade. Mr. Aslund calculated that the total funds earned from insider energy trading due to good links to the state were in the range of \$4 billion, or 13 percent of Ukraine's GDP. Little wonder they became hostile to Mr. Yushchenko.

U.S.-Ukraine-Russia relations after 9/11

The removal of the Yushchenko government followed the replacement seven months earlier of Borys Tarasyuk as Foreign Minister. With Messrs. Tarasyuk and Yushchenko gone for the first time since 1992 Ukraine no longer had pro-Western figures within the government or presidential administration.

This removal of pro-Western influence in 2000-2001 coincided with the Kuchmagate crisis. These events in and of themselves helped deteriorate Ukraine's relations with the United States. They reinforced a trend which had already been evi-

dent of a re-orientation of Ukraine's multivector foreign policy from West to East between President Kuchma's first and second term.

Under Kuchma 2 both the executive and his centrist allies felt increasingly more comfortable in the CIS where their non-transparent and corrupt business practices and authoritarian tendencies were never criticized but instead were accepted. By Kuchma 2, Ukraine's oligarchs also felt financially secure and in a strong enough position to deal with Russia's oligarchs – something that had not been the case in the 1990s. Russian investment began to be welcomed into Ukraine, unlike in the 1990s, when it was discouraged.

If these trends were not bad enough, the election of George W. Bush and the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States signalled a change in U.S. views of Ukraine's strategic importance in comparison to the second half of the 1990s. The U.S.-Russia strategic relationship of the early 1990s was revived, and Ukraine became less significant to the United States. Dmytro Tabachnyk, the first head of Mr. Kuchma's presidential administration in 1994-1996 and currently a vice prime minister, began to warn that Ukraine would re-orient itself towards Russia, a warning made continuously in the 1990s to obtain U.S. attention. Mr. Bush refused to follow Mr. Clinton's lead of annual presidential summits until the Gongadze affair was resolved. These summits, however, may have ended even without the Gongadze affair.

In contrast to his refusal to meet with President Kuchma, President Bush held a meeting with Moldovan President Vladimir Voronin in December 2002. Mr. Voronin is head of the Moldovan Communist Party, and is re-orienting his country towards Russia. Arguably, Moldova is neither a "keystone" nor a "lynchpin" of European security.

Post-Kolchuha relations

The U.S. has not always played its cards right on Ukraine. In April 2001 the U.S. undercut support for the opposition by agreeing to Mr. Melnychenko's asylum in the same month as the parliamentary vote on Mr. Yushchenko's government. In addition, the U.S. publicly released details of the decision by President Kuchma to sell Kolchuhas to Iraq just after opposition protests in September 2002.

Ukrainian authorities reluctantly admitted that the July 2000 meeting where the Kolchuha authorization was given had indeed taken place. This is bad enough in and of itself. At the same time, the U.S. has also admitted that it still has no proof that

the Kolchuhas were dispatched to Iraq.

The Kolchuha affair was handled publicly because of the dire strait of U.S.-Ukraine relations and the U.S. obsession with Iraq and Saddam Hussein. If relations had been good, this problem would have been handled behind closed doors. After the November summit of NATO, which Mr. Kuchma was encouraged not to attend but did so anyway, the U.S. began sending out signals that it wishes to improve relations. The Kolchuha question was "put in a box," at least for the time being.

Will U.S.-Ukraine relations now improve? One factor working in their favor is the likely collapse of the U.S.-Russia partnership created after 9/11 because of Russia's backing of France against military action in Iraq. The U.S. is seeking allies wherever it can find them, and most of its new allies are in Central-Eastern Europe. Ukraine could find a niche for itself here; hence it is sending the anti-chemical warfare and clean-up battalion to Iraq.

On the other hand, Ukraine's leaders fail to understand that the very fact that President Kuchma authorized the sale of Kolchuhas only three months after President Clinton met with him in Kyiv is sufficient in and of itself to sow complete and continuing U.S. mistrust in Mr. Kuchma. The January visit of the Ukrainian government to Washington failed to obtain the same high level of meetings as Mr. Yushchenko had the following month.

The United States outlined what is required to improve relations with Ukraine in four key speeches by U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy (April 2002), European University (December 2002) and at the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in January. The following month Steven Pifer, deputy assistant secretary for European and Eurasian affairs at the U.S. State Department and former Ambassador to Ukraine, also spoke at the CSIS. What is required to improve U.S.-Ukraine relations, therefore, is not a secret.

Kyiv will find it impossible to fulfill these U.S. recommendations to Ukraine until the post-Kuchma era after the fall of 2004. Mr. Kuchma's priority is searching for ways to obtain immunity from prosecution after he steps down – not fulfilling U.S. conditions for improving relations. Mr. Kuchma's fate is also closely tied to the political culture of his centrist allies, which cannot change while he remains in power. Both of these factors mean that, while there may be small tactical improvements in relations, a full blown revival will have to await President Kuchma's retirement.



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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE: Passaic groups help Sylvia, 14, who needs a bone marrow transplant

by Krystyna Duplak

PASSAIC, N.J. – The local Ukrainian Center and the Passaic branches of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) and the Organization for Lemkivschyna hosted “Sylvia’s Brunch for Hope and Blood Drive for Life,” here on Sunday, March 16.

The event was successful in raising almost \$15,000 for Sylvia Hyra, a 14-year-old girl afflicted with leukemia who is in need of a bone marrow transplant.

Sylvia was born on March 12, 1989, and is the beautiful daughter of Pawel and Teresa, sister of Christian, and granddaughter of Stefan and Maria, as well as loving pal to canine friend Mishu.

The family resides in Clifton, N.J., where Sylvia attends Woodrow Wilson Middle School. She is a member of SUM in Passaic, where she has enjoyed Ukrainian dancing for many years. She also loves children, animals and skiing, and is described as fun-loving, mature, intelligent and laid-back.

Sylvia’s battle began in September of 2001, when she was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a type of bone cancer beneath the knee. This life-threatening cancer occurs in only several hundred patients per year. Sylvia had 12 hours of surgery at Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) in New York City to remove the actual tumor. During this surgery, four inches of her leg bone beneath the knee were removed and replaced with donated bone. This bone was inserted and affixed with plates and 13 screws.

Sylvia later required three additional emergency surgical procedures to restore blood flow in her leg. The surgeries were followed by six additional months of chemotherapy and intensive physical therapy. Sylvania was cancer-free in August 2002.

In November 2002 Sylvania was experiencing some abnormal bruising. An immediate visit to MSK confirmed the bad news. Sylvania was afflicted with acute myeloblastic leukemia, a rare side effect of the

chemotherapy that was treating her bone cancer. Sylvania’s bone marrow had no healthy cells left, and chemotherapy was started immediately to destroy her unhealthy bone marrow. Her leukemia is now in remission, and a bone marrow match has been found for her transplant, which offers the only hope for a cure.

The costs of Sylvania’s treatments are staggering, and that is why the Hyra family’s friends and relatives have united in an effort to help raise funds. Charitable contributions and support are being solicited from the public in an effort to raise the \$100,000 needed to cover Sylvania’s medical expenses.

Donations to the Children’s Organ Transplant Association may be sent to: “COTA for Sylvania H,” 2501 Cota Drive, Bloomington, IN 47403. For more information readers may log on to www.cota.org, click on “Patient Campaigns” and look under patient names beginning with the letter “S” for Sylvania.

Donations may also be sent to: “Sylvania’s Hope,” c/o Self Reliance New Jersey Federal Credit Union, 851 Allwood Road, P.O. Box 4239, Clifton, NJ 07012-4239.



Sylvania Hyra with Mishu.

Chicago veterans...

(Continued from page 23)

would help raise money for our post. Second, and more importantly, is to archive some of the musical achievements of our immigration and the role this music played in the history and preservation of our Ukrainian culture in Chicago. The musical rights for this project have been donated to the UAV by various groups.

The mission statement of Post 32 is both simple and ambitious:

“To preserve the memory of our Ukrainian American brethren who gave the ultimate sacrifice with their lives in preserving the freedom of our country and our way of life.

“To inform and educate not only our community but the public at large, about the contributions and sacrifices of Ukrainian Americans in our Armed Forces throughout the years.

“To create a forum for the questions and concerns of our veterans and their families.

“To help, along with the national UAV, archive the military service of Ukrainian Americans.

To erect a monument, in the Ukrainian Village neighborhood of Chicago, commemorating Ukrainian American Veterans who served our nation since the Civil War.

“We’ve already received some very positive responses from city hall about this project,” said Mr. Chytorbok.

For more information about becoming a member of the Ukrainian American Veterans of Chicago, Post 32, readers may contact Mr. Bihun, (773) 276-6164, or Mr. Steciw, (773) 227-8708.

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Youth Leadership Program slated for August

by Miriam Bates

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) announced that the second annual Youth Leadership Program will be held in Washington on August 2-8, for students who are interested in U.S.-Ukraine relations in the content of the overall U.S. community or the Ukrainian American community.

The program is a USUF initiative to encourage the next generation of the Ukrainian American community to participate in local, national and global affairs.

USUF President Nadia Komarnyckyj McConnell said, "After the successful first Youth Leadership Program in August 2002, the Foundation is pleased to again open this special 'Washington experience' to young men and women who consider themselves 'leaders for tomorrow.' The weeklong conference offers students an introduction to the public policy process – an appreciation of the components of the process, discussions with 'players,' a chance to learn important leadership skills, and an understanding of how to take a more active role."

"We hope that through our program, the students will have the confidence and the knowledge to actively participate in their communities," she added.

USUF Vice-President John Kun explained, "Students will develop an increased awareness of Ukraine in the glob-

al perspective and will learn the importance of the Ukrainian American community in U.S.-Ukraine relations. By meeting professionals in government and non-profit sectors, students will also better understand the various Washington career choices available to them."

U.S. students age 18-22 entering or in college are eligible. Program costs (for program activities and transport) and lodging will be free. Some group meals will also be without cost. Students will be responsible for their transport to and from Washington, meals, personal spending money and non-program activities. The deadline for applications is May 27.

Please check USUF's website, <http://www.usukraine.org/usuf/YLP/YLP2003.shtml> for further details. To receive further program specifics/application, please e-mail Miriam Bates at miriam@usukraine.org listing "Youth Leadership Program 2003" in the subject line.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1991 to facilitate democratic development, encourage free market reform and enhance human rights in Ukraine. The foundation creates and sustains channels of communication between the United States and Ukraine for the purpose of building peace and prosperity through shared democratic values.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

April 2-26

WASHINGTON: Jen Ferguson, a New York painter who has worked and exhibited in Woodstock, N.Y., Paris, Los Angeles and Virginia, will exhibit her new work, "Strange Worlds," at the Washington Arts Club in a solo show curated by Dr. Eric Denker, curator of prints drawings at the Corcoran Gallery and lecturer at the National Gallery, and Maureane O'Shaughnessy, gallery director, Washington Arts Club. Stories and imagery from her Latvian relatives have inspired much of Ms. Ferguson's work, which depicts architecture in various states of decay and renewal. Washington, city of monuments, will be an ideal setting for her latest group of exquisite paintings. "Strange Worlds" will be on view at The Arts Club of Washington, McFeely Gallery, April 2-26. The opening reception will be held on Thursday, April 3, at 6:30-8:30 p.m. The Arts Club of Washington is located at 2017 I St. NW; telephone, (202) 331-7282. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; the gallery is closed on Sunday and Monday.

Saturday, April 5

CHICAGO: The Chicago Business and Professional Group is sponsoring a presentation by Lidia Wolanskyj, publisher of Eastern Economist, titled "In the Shadow of Iraq: Old Europe, New Europe and Ukraine." Ms. Wolanskyj, who is responsible for one of the most authoritative business publications in Ukraine, will discuss the impact of the war in Iraq on Ukraine's economic and political aspirations and plans for greater integration into the European Union. The presentation will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., at 7 p.m. Refreshments and socializing will follow the presentation. Admission: \$10, members; \$15, non-members and guests. For additional information call (847) 359-3676.

BUFFALO, N.Y.: A Ukrainian Artifacts Roadshow and Expo, sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Council, League of Ukrainian Catholics, will be held at the Our Lady of Perpetual Help church hall, 1219 Abbott Road, Lackawanna, N.Y., at noon-4 p.m. Featured will be demonstrations of Ukrainian folk arts – beadwork (gerdany), embroidery, pysanky, and weaving. Lubow Wolynetz of the Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford in Stamford, Conn., will be present to appraise Ukrainian and Eastern European artifacts that attendees are encouraged to bring in. There will also be ethnic food, a Ukrainian café, as well as Easter

baked goods for sale by members of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. Donation: \$2; proceeds to benefit the building fund of the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Kyiv. For additional information call Dora Horbachevska, (716) 675-3417 (evenings), or e-mail dora.salaban@alum.syracuse.edu.

Sunday, April 6

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) is sponsoring a roundtable on the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 with Jaroslaw Pelensky, W.K. Lypynsky East European Research Institute, European Research Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, chair, and participants: Mark von Hagen, Columbia University; Taras Hunczak, Rutgers University; Stanislav Kulchytskyj, Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; Daria Darevych, York University, Canada; Wsewolod Isajiw, University of Toronto; Larissa Onyshkevych, NTSh, and Mykola Soroka, University of Alberta. The roundtable will take place at 2 p.m. at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For more information call (212) 254-5130.

Monday, April 7

STANFORD, Calif.: Dr. Yuri Scherbak, Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada, will address the topic "Ukraine: Geopolitical Challenge for the 21st Century," as part of seven distinguished lectures in the series titled "Ukraine: Emerging Nation." The lecture, sponsored by the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at the university, will take place at SIEPR Conference Room A, Landau Economics Building (corner of Galvez and Serra streets), beginning at 4:15 p.m. For additional information access <http://www.stanford.edu/dept/CREEES/UkrainianStudies.html>, or call the center at (650) 723-3562.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) will host a lecture by Andrew Savchenko, visiting scholar at the Watson Institute for Intergenerational Studies, Brown University, and Eugene and Daymel Shklar Fellow at HURI, on the topic "The Ties That Bind: What Keeps Independent Belarus in Russia's Orbit?" The lecture will take place at 4-6 p.m. in the Seminar Room of the institute, 1583 Massachusetts Ave. Directions may be found on the website www.huri.harvard.edu. Call the institute, (617) 495-4053, for more information.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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