

**INSIDE:**

- Tarasyuk speaks on challenges facing Rukh and Ukraine — page 3.
- Battle of Bound Brook is re-enacted at Orthodox center — page 8.
- Vasyl Krychevsky returns to Ukraine via his artwork — page 11.

# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## U.S. will not seek deposition from Kuchma in Lazarenko case

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The United States Attorney General's Office will not seek a deposition from President Leonid Kuchma when a U.S. prosecutorial delegation comes to Kyiv next week to do interviews in the case of ex-Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, announced former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Steven Pifer on May 14.

"President Kuchma will not be on the government's deposition list," stated Mr. Pifer during a press conference after a two-day visit to Kyiv, which included talks with President Kuchma and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn on an array of topics.

Mr. Pifer, who is currently U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian affairs, traveled to Kyiv for a gathering of the U.S.-Ukraine Foreign Policy Council and a trilateral meeting on U.S.-Polish-Ukraine strategic relations.

During Mr. Pifer's visit, the London-based Financial Times reported that the Ukrainian president would be asked to answer questions on his relations with Mr. Lazarenko, his ex-prime minister and former political crony, who has spent the last three years in a San Francisco detention center after illegally entering the U.S. and then requesting political asylum. U.S. authorities have charged Mr. Lazarenko with illegally laundering tens of millions of dollars. He faces trial on the charges in August.

Mr. Pifer said he had not seen the U.S. prosecutor's list and did not want to comment further, but that the U.S. court handling the matter would make it public at some point. The Financial Times reported on May 14 that the list included the names of Ukraine's secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, Yevhen Marchuk, and National Deputy Valerii Pustovoitenko.

Messrs. Marchuk and Pustovoitenko, respectively, preceded and followed Mr. Lazarenko in the post of prime minister. The Financial Times said the political leaders on the list would be asked how Ukraine's energy sector was divided among business clans during the mid- to late 1990s.

### Pipeline more and more viable

The U.S. senior diplomat said that, in discussions with Polish and Ukrainian officials during a two-day review of tripartite relations, the sides had determined that the Odesa-Brody pipeline had become increasingly viable, especially in the post-war atmosphere, and the consensus was that Poland needed to complete the line to the town of Plotsk, located on the Baltic Sea.

Mr. Pifer went so far as to acknowl-

edge that pumping Iraqi crude oil through the pipeline into Central Europe was a realistic possibility. He noted, however, that a major obstacle remains in Turkey's determination to restrict access to shipping on the overused Dardanelles strait that it controls, an impediment to moving the crude oil efficiently that would have to be overcome.

### Armed forces' specific capabilities

The former ambassador to Ukraine acknowledged that discussions took place about a possible deployment of Ukrainian troops to take part in an Iraq stabilization force, which both Washington and Warsaw supported.

"We believe that the Ukrainian armed forces have specific capabilities that they could contribute, based on what we have seen in U.S.-Ukraine joint military exercises and in the work of the Ukrainian-Polish Battalion in Kosovo," explained the U.S. official.

Ukraine is expected to take part in another round of meetings to be held on May 22 in Warsaw to determine the responsibilities of the 10 countries that

(Continued on page 3)

## Ukraine's vice PM calls on Rada to seek U.N. recognition of Famine as genocide

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Vice Prime Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk called on Ukraine's Parliament on May 14 to turn to the United Nations to have the Great Famine of 1932-1933 recognized internationally as genocide.

Speaking during a special session of the Verkhovna Rada held in conjunction with the 70th anniversary of the Soviet-perpetrated Famine in which from 7 million to 10 million Ukrainians were starved, Mr. Tabachnyk said that there is no doubt that the Great Famine was a crime against humanity, but that a special effort needs to be made to have the United Nations recognize it as genocide, just as the United States did in 1988.

He said that by obtaining international recognition that those who were savagely starved to death by the deliberate actions of Stalin's henchmen were victims of genocide, Ukraine would do much to make sure that such a tragedy is not repeated.

"We are quite simply forced by the memory of these innocent victims to raise the level of their commemoration to the level at which victims of the Holocaust

have been immortalized by the world," declared Mr. Tabachnyk.

Scores of empty rows – not just seats – marked the parliamentary session hall while Mr. Tabachnyk spoke, with at least half of the legislative body playing hooky, including the full complement of the parliamentary faction of the Communist Party.

While the Great Famine is now widely recognized as an attempt at ethnic extermination to bring the recalcitrant Ukrainian farmers under Communist control and collectivization, Ukrainian Communists, for the most part, still cling to the old Soviet party line.

National Deputy Adam Martyniuk, vice-chairman of the Communist Party, said prior to the session that his party would not take part because it felt that the issue had been addressed previously and had become redundant.

However, his colleague, National Deputy Ivan Herasymov gave more of an explanation: "In 1932-1933 there was a hunger ['holod'] caused by natural circumstances, but it was not death by forced starvation ['holodomor']."

(Continued on page 4)

## Breast cancer awareness program aims to help Ukraine

by Marta Kolomayets

KYIV – When Ira Zholnova, 44, appeared on a popular Ukrainian talk show, "Bez Tabu" (Without Taboos), in October 2001 and told of her battle with breast cancer, it was the first time that a Ukrainian woman had so publicly spoken out about this disease, which annually kills 3,000 women in Ukraine.

She brought tears to the eyes of the studio audience when she disclosed how after her mastectomy she came home and told her husband that he was free to go, because she was no longer a woman. He swept her into his arms and said, "I married you and I will stay with you." Although her husband did not leave her after her surgery, he refused to appear on the show to discuss this emotional situation.

"Ukrainian society is just not ready for such openness," said Dr. Halyna Maistruk, a gynecologist and leading breast cancer expert in Kyiv, who founded a breast cancer support group called Women's Health and Family Planning Charitable Fund.

A quarter century ago, the topic of breast cancer was also absent from public discussions in the United States. First Lady Betty Ford did much to raise awareness about this topic when she

was diagnosed with breast cancer months after her husband assumed the office of president of the United States, in 1974. "Maybe if I, as first lady, could talk about it candidly and without embarrassment, many others would be able to do so as well," she explained during an interview after her ordeal.

Mrs. Ford, Happy Rockefeller and Betty Rollin, author of the book, "First, You Cry," brought the topic of breast cancer out of the closet in the United States in the 1970s. In the 1990s the breast cancer storyline in the popular sitcom "Murphy Brown," resulted in a percent increase in the number of women who went for mammograms.

And now, in Ukraine, a group of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is taking the lead in raising awareness about this disease among the population. Statistics are grim in Ukraine: more than 15,000 women annually are diagnosed with breast cancer. The mortality rate for this disease is one of the highest in Europe; 20 percent of them die within a year because the cancer was not detected early. (Close to 40 percent of patients are diagnosed with stages 3 and 4, compared to 5-7 percent in the United States in the same stage of the disease.)

Some of the reasons for these statis-

tics are Ukrainian women's limited access to information about breast cancer and the lack of equipment for early detection.

"We are not a culture of preventive medicine," added Dr. Maistruk. "People believe that breast cancer equals death, so there is no reason to start any kind of treatment," she added. "We don't have a screening program in Ukraine and we use diagnostic equipment only for those women who already have breast cancer," she noted.

Slowly, however, attitudes are changing; women's support groups help breast cancer survivors and their families; NGOs are beginning public awareness campaigns throughout Ukraine to inspire women to fight the battle.

Although over the past two years, women's magazines in Ukraine have started writing about such issues. Yedynstvenaya, (Only One) a Russian-language monthly women's magazine began the dialogue in 2001, dedicating a series of five articles to this topic. Together with Avon-Ukraine and Dr. Maistruk, the magazine not only highlighted the importance of self-exams, but talked to women who are breast cancer survivors, bringing such topics into an open forum for discussion.

(Continued on page 5)



## ANALYSIS

## Declassified KGB documents: authorities were aware of Chernobyl's fatal flaws

by Askold Krushelnycky  
and Yulia Zhmakina

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

The Ukrainian intelligence service, the Security Service of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SBU), has released a large number of previously secret documents that reveal the Chernobyl nuclear power plant suffered from serious design and building flaws.

The documents show that the authorities ignored KGB warnings that the materials used in the plant's construction were substandard and that the technicians operating the plant often did not comply with safety regulations.

The SBU is the successor to the Soviet-era KGB of the Ukrainian SSR. Around 120 files composed of information sent at the time to Moscow KGB headquarters by its Ukrainian branch have been published by the SBU on the Internet (<http://www.sbu.gov.ua>).

The documents reveal there had been previous accidents at Chernobyl that released radioactive pollution into the atmosphere and that the KGB had warned the plant should be shut down only months before one of its reactors exploded on April 26, 1986. That explosion resulted in the world's worst civilian nuclear accident and spewed radiation across vast sections of Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, and Western Europe.

But now the agency wants to set the record straight. "For a long time, a section of the documents concerning Chernobyl was inaccessible to historians and, there-

fore, much of the published work that aimed at analyzing the causes of the catastrophe or to shed light on government actions [at the time] are based essentially on the memoirs and observations of the participants. Because of that, many are tendentious and obstruct an objective examination of the reasons and circumstances for the accident, especially in analyzing its consequences and the effectiveness of government bodies," Maryna Ostapenko, a spokeswoman for the SBU, told RFE/RL.

The bulk of the documents cover the 1986 accident and the clean-up efforts running through 1988. Ms. Ostapenko said the files also show that the plant, built in the 1970s, suffered 29 accidents between 1977 and 1981 and that the Ukrainian KGB had warned of the dangers posed by its continuing operation.

One KGB report, written in January 1979, said: "According to operational data, there were deviations from design and violations of technology procedures during building and assembling works. It may lead to accidents."

"This release [of KGB files] contains only documents," Ms. Ostapenko said, "and it speaks in the language of documents – that is to say, a person who has these before him sees what actions were taken by the Ukrainian secret services to warn the country's ruling circles about the dangers of an accident and what actions were taken by the security services after the accident. These [documents] reveal a true picture of events at the time."

In September 1982, an accident at Chernobyl released what are described in the files as "significant quantities of radi-

Askold Krushelnycky and Yulia Zhmakina are RFE/RL correspondents.

(Continued on page 16)

## Four Christian parties unite into Christian Democratic Union

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

KYIV – The Ukrainian Christian Democratic Party, the Christian Democratic Party of Ukraine, the All-Ukrainian Union of Christians and the Christian People's Union united into the Christian Democratic Union (CDU). This happened at the sixth extraordinary assembly of the Christian People's Union held in Ukraine's capital on April 12.

According to Volodymyr Stretovych, head of the Christian People's Union, Christian democracy is the most suitable ideology for Ukraine, taking into account the traditional, historical and Christian development of social relations. Christian democracy, Mr. Stretovych said, revived Europe after the destruction of World War II, therefore, this experience is particularly relevant for Ukraine, which is currently in a state of crisis.

Eduard Ilyin, a leader of the newly united party, said that the party's major goals were "devotion to God and serving the people and the state."

Guests from the Christian Democratic Union of Germany shared their experience of the Christian democratic movement in Europe. Among other speakers at the assembly were Viktor Yushchenko, chairman of Our Ukraine; Hennadii Udovenko, Ivan Plusch, Yurii Pavlenko, Mykhailo Pavlovskiy, Ivan Zaiets and representatives of other parties.

The CDU leaders also spoke about the party's relations with Churches and

emphasized that no Church will be given any special treatment. They also insisted on the constitutional provision for the separation of Church and state.

According to Mr. Stretovych, state authorities are losing their influence in society because they are trying to get control over the Church through various administrative bodies. That is also the reason, he continued, that he spoke against the proposed new religious legislative bill, worked out by the National Committee on Religious Matters.

In support of Mr. Stretovych's position, Mr. Yushchenko stressed that people shouldn't be divided because they belong to different jurisdictions. "Does it make a difference what Church you go to?" he asked.

In addition, the CDU assembly passed a statement protesting the interference of state bodies in the internal affairs of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, which has led to a division inside the Church. Participants of the assembly also condemned officials from the National Committee on Religious Matters for attending Church sobors (councils), which can be interpreted as interference in their internal affairs and contradicts constitutional provisions.

Though the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) has united several parties, it should be noted that part of the Christian Democratic Party of Ukraine and the Republican Christian Party refused to join.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### 'Internal consolidation' before NATO

KYIV – Yevhen Marchuk, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, told television interviewers on May 12 that his country must travel "a rather complicated path to internal consolidation" before entering NATO, Interfax reported. "This must not be only a presidential or a government decision; it must be one backed by Parliament and, most important, it must be backed by at least half of the Ukrainian population," Mr. Marchuk said, suggesting that NATO currently perceives Ukraine as an "unpredictable partner" because of weak support for NATO membership among Ukrainians. Mr. Marchuk also reiterated that Ukraine should deploy stabilization forces to Iraq. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Former central banker sentenced

KYIV – A district court in Kyiv on May 13 sentenced former National Bank of Ukraine Vice-Chairman Volodymyr Bondar to five years in prison for abuse of authority and embezzlement, Interfax and UNIAN reported. "When an election campaign starts in Ukraine, the authorities again resort to far-fetched criminal cases," Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko commented on the Bondar case. "Opponents of Our Ukraine use all kinds of dirty tricks in the struggle against political rivals, since they have not gotten used to civilized methods of struggle." Mr. Bondar served as vice-chairman of the NBU in 1995-1999, when Mr. Yushchenko headed the institution. Mr. Bondar's trial is seen by some analysts as an attempt to discredit Mr. Yushchenko ahead of the upcoming presidential election campaign. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Case against Tymoshenko halted

KYIV – The Kyiv Appeals Court on May 13 ordered the closure of all criminal cases launched by the Procurator General's Office against opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko and four former executives of Unified Energy Systems (EES), which Ms. Tymoshenko headed in 1995-1997, Interfax reported. Prosecutors accused Ms. Tymoshenko, her husband, father-in-law, and two other EES colleagues of misappropriating state funds. The Procurator General's Office said in a statement that it will appeal the ruling. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kyiv invited to conference on Iraq

KYIV – U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Steven Pifer said in Kyiv on May 13 that Ukraine has been invited to a conference on the reconstruction of Iraq that will take place in London later this month, UNIAN reported. Mr. Pifer, a former U.S.

ambassador to Ukraine, reportedly said the United States wants to help Ukraine apply for subcontracting work for domestic firms in the reconstruction of Iraq. Mr. Pifer met in Kyiv with Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, with whom he also discussed Ukraine's possible participation in the stabilization effort in Iraq. "At the moment, Ukraine needs time for internal consideration of this issue," UNIAN quoted Mr. Pifer as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Aviation in a 'catastrophic state'

KYIV – A Ukrainian airline-industry publication reported recently that the industry is in "a catastrophic state," plagued by a shortage of new pilots, and utterly distrusted internationally, Reuters reported on May 12. "After a long string of accidents, any trust in Ukrainian aviation is almost destroyed," Transpress commented. "It is no secret that Ukrainian civil and military aviation is in a catastrophic state," the publication added. "For the last two years not a single military pilot has graduated. The best schools training pilots and aviation engineers have been destroyed." According to unidentified analysts cited by the agency, the previous week's air disaster in Congo only added to growing international distrust in Ukrainian aviation. On May 8 the doors of a Ukrainian-owned Ilyushin IL-76 cargo plane with a Ukrainian crew opened in mid-air, leading to the deaths of an unconfirmed number of passengers. Initial reports claimed that as many as 120 people were sucked out of the aircraft and killed, while Congolese Information Minister Kikaya bin Karubi said the death toll would probably rise above 14. In December, a Ukrainian AN-140 aircraft crashed in Iran, killing all 46 Ukrainian aviation engineers and experts on board. In July 2002, 83 people were killed in Lviv in the world's worst air-show disaster, when an SU-27 fighter jet crashed into the crowd. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Marchuk on involvement in Iraq

KYIV – Yevhen Marchuk, secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, told UNIAN on May 9 that Ukrainian peacekeepers should take part in the stabilization of postwar Iraq. "I personally think that we should get involved – this is not a war, this is something else," Mr. Marchuk said. Asked whether Ukraine may take part in the stabilization forces in Iraq without approval from the United Nations Security Council, he said such authorization would be "desirable." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Troops mark V-Day in Sevastopol ...

SEVASTOPOL – Some 1,000 Ukrainian  
(Continued on page 12)

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# INTERVIEW: Borys Tarasyuk on challenges facing Rukh and Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

*Borys Tarasyuk, foreign affairs minister in the government of ex-Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko and currently a lawmaker in the Verkhovna Rada, was elected chairman of the National Rukh of Ukraine Party during its 13th congress, which was held in Kyiv on May 3-4. He succeeded Hennadii Udovenko, who had chaired the NRU Party since 1999, after the death of Vyacheslav Chornovil, one of Rukh's central founders and most charismatic figures.*

*Mr. Tarasyuk has long been associated with the democratic-patriotic forces in the country. He has been a driving force for Ukraine's pro-European development and a prime proponent of its entry into NATO.*

*He gave the following, exclusive interview to The Weekly in the Verkhovna Rada Building on May 13.*

**As the newly elected chairman of the National Rukh of Ukraine Party, what are your plans for the near term? What needs changing?**

As the head of the National Rukh of Ukraine, my first responsibility is to ensure that decisions made at the Rukh congress are carried out. The congress made several decisions, of which the party's structures must now be informed so that they can be disseminated at all membership levels for organizational implementation.

Second, in a matter of days, there will be meetings of the leadership organ of Rukh: the Political Council and the Central Leadership. At these meetings I will put forward a set of proposals for approval to maximize the party's organizational potential.

I will propose to divide functional responsibility among all the members of the Political Council and Central Leadership, not only among the assistants as the statutes delineate. In this way I want each member of the Political Council and Central Leadership to carry responsibility for specific tasks, so that each one understands that membership in leadership organs is not simply a position of honor, but one that carries daily responsibilities. We will also implement reporting mechanisms so that members of the Central Leadership report on their spheres of responsibility during regular meetings.

We have much to do to release the full, existing organizational potential of our party in order to realize the party's program, as well as that of the political bloc Our Ukraine. Today, we have specific issues before us, such as expanding the party's membership. We have ample reason to believe we can expect serious growth in membership in the National Rukh of Ukraine. Just recently meetings took place of the organizations of another party in which they expressed a desire to join Rukh, specifically from the Lviv Oblast, as well as other oblasts.

**Can you name the party?**

I do not know whether it has been made public, but it is Batkivschyna. The information should be released any time now, if it hasn't been already. It should have been printed in Lviv's newspapers today. [Editor's note: It was officially made public on May 13.]

**So this would be the Lviv Oblast party organization of the Batkivschyna Party?**

## U.S. will not seek deposition...

(Continued from page 1)

were invited to become part of the peacekeeping and stabilization force.

Mr. Pifer said that Ukraine would be part of the rebuilding effort in Iraq also. He explained that while the awarding of contracts would occur on a competitive basis, the U.S. would offer information to certain countries, including Ukraine, to make the bidding process easier for those firms that might want to attempt to get such contracts.

**Relations on the mend**

Mr. Pifer also noted that he was pleased with the progress that Washington and Kyiv had made over the last four months in mending their frayed relations, which cooled considerably after the U.S. announced last September that it had reason to suspect that Ukraine had transferred Kolchuha anti-aircraft systems to Iraq. The State Department official acknowledged that "2002 was a difficult year" and that both sides had worked over the last four months to "improve the relationship."

"At the top of the [U.S.-Ukraine] agenda was how could we recreate the partnership," explained Mr. Pifer.

Yes, a large part of this organization would like to leave Batkivschyna. They have expressed their dissatisfaction with the leadership line and would like to join National Rukh of Ukraine. You know, of course, that Bohdan Horyn (former national deputy from Lviv) has rejoined Rukh. We are in discussions with other leading figures that were prominent in the creation of Rukh.

We have critical questions before us today regarding the national political agenda that require mobilization of the party's potential in the ranks, as well as in the central organization, specifically on the issue of political reform as proposed by the president. The party needs to develop an operational response.

We would like to improve the informational resources of the party in the near term, between party members and

***The biggest problem before Ukraine is a ruling force that does not work in support of the nation. And this means that the biggest challenge is victory in the presidential elections and a change in the system of power to make it more accountable to the people.***

society-at-large, as well as our internal communications between the central organization and the oblast and raion organizations.

I have personally heard that there are internal communication problems. When we gathered local leaders prior to the convention many of them complained to me that they do not receive decisions made by the Central Leadership. How can we work like that? Can we consider ourselves a party when decisions of the central leadership bodies do not reach the raion organizations?

We have concrete plans to strengthen our work within the population to raise the standing of the party among the people. I am not ready to give details, but we have a few ideas that will be discussed today at the Political Council meeting and soon after within the Central Leadership.

**Among these several new efforts, which one is most needed for the evolution and expansion of Rukh?**

First, we need effective cooperation between the leadership organs and the local party organizations. The leadership organs must consolidate into a single team, and the same must happen at the local level. Only by creating a single team within the party can we reach our goals.

We must pay special attention to returning those prominent figures to Rukh that helped to create it, as well as to drawing our youth, people involved in small and medium-sized businesses and schoolteachers. We need to develop

"I think we have had good results. Both sides have worked on practical matters."

Mr. Pifer listed the resolution of several outstanding issues as key to the warming of relations, including banking procedure changes Ukraine made to have anti-money laundering sanctions removed; agreement on import standards for U.S. poultry, which he said could have delayed further Ukraine's entry into the World Trade Organization; progress on changes in Ukraine's export control regime; and Ukraine's willingness to deploy a special battalion on the neutralization of weapons of mass destruction to Kuwait at the start of the Iraq war.

**The Kolchuha issue**

Asked whether any Kolchuhas have been found in Iraq since the end of the war, Mr. Pifer did not give a direct reply. He only reminded reporters that while the U.S. had expressed "concern," it had never outrightly accused Ukraine of wrongdoing, and had consistently noted that it had "no evidence of such a transfer."

He also made it clear that both sides believe the issue to be dead.

"I actually think that [during this trip] this is the first time I have heard the word Kolchuha," explained Mr. Pifer.

specific programs that would interest these people, and we are currently working on this.

**Could you say that Rukh is united today as rarely in the past? Even during the first days of Rukh there was disagreement and infighting. Is the situation improved over how it was in the past?**

Rukh, unfortunately, has lived through difficult times in its history. It was pushed from the outside to division. There were internal participants in the split.

Today we can say that Rukh has survived and become a stronger entity. This does not mean that today within Rukh there are no differing ideas. There must be various viewpoints, and before the convention we tried to stimulate them to feel the pulse of the party.

As the convention showed, the party is one of like-minded individuals, with few exceptions. Only one presentation, only one person suggested that Rukh should not work closely with the Our Ukraine Bloc. The rest supported the resolutions of the convention in regard to the development of a quality Rukh organization as well as the participation of Rukh in the Our Ukraine Bloc, with the central aim at this point being the election of our candidate, Viktor Yushchenko, as the president of Ukraine.

This convention was the first political power within Our Ukraine to urge Viktor Yushchenko to agree to become a candidate for the post of president.

**Does the possibility exist that Rukh could rename itself at some point and become the Our Ukraine Party or that it could evolve into a part of such a political party if it were formed in the future?**

I support the idea that only the consolidation and union of democratic-patriotic powers into a single party will strengthen the democratic forces and lead to no small benefit.

Last year's elections showed the weakness that exists when separate parties retain power over the bloc. There were even instances where candidates from differing political parties within the bloc defeated one another in areas [politically] controlled by Our Ukraine. This was one of the central reasons why the bloc did not take more votes. Local "little hetmans" decided to do battle with their partners within the Our Ukraine coalition. This was the reason for our problems in the last elections, and we must do everything possible to avoid a repeat of these situations in the presidential elections.

The dedication and the unity of the members will to a large extent decide the final outcome. If we continue to proceed as we have in earlier elections, there will be serious misgivings about the end results of our efforts.

Within this context I believe the name is of secondary importance, even though I understand and fully respect the feelings of thousands of Rukh members regarding their name, which is doubtlessly legendary and deserves respect. Historically, Rukh will not lose its position. It is an integral part of our history, the history of the reborn Ukrainian state.

**Would you insist that the Rukh name be retained in a new party configuration, if it ever came to that?**

I would have no choice but to insist on that. But the matter of unity is more important in relation to the name. If we want victory, we need to unite, that is most important, [although] we cannot forget our symbols, even in a coalition, they also count for something.

**With what specific organizations are negotiations taking place for unification of the democratic-patriotic forces? You've already mentioned that a part of the Batkivschyna Party has moved over.**

Let me add something regarding the name. On the eve of elections in 2001, meetings and consultations took place among the leaders of the main parties of the Our Ukraine Bloc. During those meetings a discussion took place on a name for a unified party. Even in 2001 there was talk of a single party; this is not something that Tarasyuk has initiated. Leaders were discussing it in 2001. There were several proposals, and in most of them the name Rukh was included.

Given Rukh's accomplishments, society should thank it for organizing the people for the rebirth of our independence – in leading the fight against the Communist system – by retaining the name. This would be a righteous act by society and the other political powers, and not towards Rukh, the political party, but towards Rukh, the platform upon which national independence was attained.

There are other thoughts, that Rukh is not popular in the eastern regions, while we need to develop a nationwide party. But I think we can find a balance between our goal and our objectives, and this should be the fight to

(Continued on page 4)



## John Kark's mission: to help less fortunate children in Ukraine

by Taras Hunczak

CHATHAM, N.J. – He came to the United States as an orphan at the age of 18. Having experienced by himself the misfortunes of World War II, John Kark did not want to be adopted. Instead, he was willing to face the challenges of the new world all by himself and decided that his path to the future was with the Armed Forces of the United States. He was right.

While serving in Korea and Vietnam he rose through the military ranks as commander of military units, and back in the United States Col. Kark was entrusted with various important positions. Holding a Ph.D. in modern European history, Col. Kark taught and directed academic programs at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the Naval Postgraduate School in California, Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, the National Defense University at Fort McNair in Washington and other institutions. When he retired, Col. Kark could proudly say that he served his country with dedication and distinction.

After he retired, Col. Kark, who lives in San Diego, dedicated himself to helping orphans in Ukraine. Toward that end he organized the Committee to Assist Ukrainian Orphans and Children Without Parents. With the support of the members of this committee, among whom are Eugenia Dallas from California, Irena Syrotiuk-Ochrymowych from New Jersey, George Zaluzney from Virginia and Yuriy Aroniv from Ontario, Col. Kark raised sufficient funds to launch his first project, "Eyeglasses for Orphans of Ukraine."

Having identified 783 orphanages, which cared for 158,781 children, Col. Kark began a program providing for eye examinations for children. Upon completion of that stage of the project, he signed a contract with a factory in Izyum, near Kharkiv, which manufactures eye-



Col. John Kark (left) visiting with a group of students in Ukraine during one of his humanitarian missions.

glasses. Ultimately he purchased 20,387 pairs of eyeglasses which he distributed to the needy children. One can almost see the happy faces of these thousands of children who for the first time could see clearly.

Having completed the eyeglass project, Col. Kark, with the support of the executive committee, initiated his next project: "Scholarships for Students – Orphans in Ukraine." These scholarships are for children who grew up in orphanages and now are students at institutions of higher learning. With his typical dedication,

Col. Kark has identified those students and has already awarded thousands of scholarships to them.

One should note that Col. Kark travels throughout Ukraine and, as in the case of the eyeglasses, personally distributes the scholarships. Even now he is in Ukraine doing exactly that – bringing happiness to less fortunate children.

One can only applaud the dedication and vision of Col. Kark and wish him continued success in his noble undertakings.

## Borys Tarasyuk...

(Continued from page 3)

obtain power, and our symbols.

**Can you name the parties with which you are in negotiation regarding unification or reunification?**

Don't forget that back yet when Vyacheslav Chornovil was in charge an agreement was made regarding unification with the Reform and Order Party. It was signed in 1998 with [ROP leader Viktor] Pynzenyk.

Later, after Vyacheslav Chornovil's death, an agreement was signed between Hennadii Udoenko of NRU, Pynzenyk of ROP and Slava Stetsko's CUN (Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists). Not long ago a similar agreement was signed with the Republican Christian Party (RCP) and ratified during the convention.

We maintain close contact with all the parties that are part of Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine Bloc. I think, however, that there is every reason to believe we can find partners outside the bloc as well. These would be partners that reflect the principles and goals of Our Ukraine.

**But are these simply declarations, or are they concrete efforts?**

The convention has only just ended, but already I have turned to all the democratic-patriotic forces to respond to our call for unification. This call will gather substance through concrete actions.

I am not telling you anything new, but

## Correction

In the two-part series titled "On the current literary and cultural situation in Ukraine: discussion between Volodymyr Tsybulko and Yuriy Tarnawsky," which appeared in the April 13 and April 20 issues of The Weekly, an incorrect website for the New York Group was supplied. The correct website for the group is: <http://users.belgacom.net/babowal/indexnyg.htm>.

am simply turning your attention to the consultations that have occurred between the two Rukhs, with NRU, ROP and CUN, with NRU and RCP, with NRU and the Democratic Party. These processes have existed, but now the question is how to continue them after the convention, to move them along without undue pomp and bring them to a pragmatic conclusion. There have been many discussions, documents have been signed, but there have been no concrete actions. I have been, still am and will continue to be a strong supporter of the need to unite all democratic-patriotic forces. Only in this way can we have a realistic chance to gain power. Not by working to fulfill the personal ambitions of little hetmans.

**And finally, what is the biggest problem facing Ukraine today?**

The biggest problem before Ukraine is a ruling force that does not work in support of the nation. And this means that the biggest challenge is victory in the presidential elections and a change in the system of power to make it more accountable to the people. This would be in contrast to a system that deceives the nation.

This is our main assignment and we are fighting to achieve it. We are building a new Ukraine, the type of Ukraine of which many generations of Ukrainian fighters for independence and freedom dreamed. We are building a Ukraine in which each citizen would feel worthy to be a citizen of his country and would not dream of a better life abroad, one in which each citizen – wherever he was, either at home or abroad – could proudly state that he was a citizen of Ukraine.

We understand that this is a difficult assignment, but it is not a fantasy. The leadership of Viktor Yushchenko during a period of 12 months [as prime minister] fundamentally changed the situation for the better. An administration led by the democratic-patriotic forces with Viktor Yushchenko at the helm is capable of changing the situation in the whole country. This is not within the sphere of dreams – it was proven by our work while in the government.

## Ukraine's vice PM...

(Continued from page 1)

What was more distressing, according to the Kyiv leader of a civic organization dedicated to maintaining the memory of all those who died at the hands of the Soviet regime, was that the legislative body did not vote on a resolution to have the United Nations recognize the Great Famine as genocide.

Roman Krutsyk, the head of the Kyiv branch of the Memorial Society, said that he was disheartened that during parliamentary discussion lawmakers debated whether or not the legislative body was entitled to propose such an action and whether it had merit.

"Shamefully, when the Congress of the United States, the Parliament of Canada even Denmark have recognized the fact of genocide in Ukraine, our Parliament continues to speak in half-truths," explained Mr. Krutsyk after the special parliamentary session.

The few lawmakers who cared enough to attend the session listened to Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, National Deputy Hennadii Udoenko and Vice Prime Minister Tabachnyk explain why so many innocents had suffered such a brutal death, remember the victims and outline plans to commemorate them, and recognize the past injustice and the failure by the Soviet Union to acknowledge the horror of the Stalin regime.

Mr. Tabachnyk – who underscored that last year President Leonid Kuchma had declared via executive edict the objectives that need to be fulfilled in commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Great Famine – gave a thorough accounting of the efforts under way to better establish the facts behind the man-made famine and better bring them to light. He said U.N. recognition is the key to international acknowledgment of the genocidal act.

Mr. Tabachnyk said the Ukrainian government is continuing to develop an extensive collection of historical documents, publications and archival records as testimony to the artificial nature of the famine

and the deliberate focus by the perpetrators on the Ukrainian farmer, the backbone of the Ukrainian nation.

"This was a deliberate effort at genocide of the Ukrainian nation, which has left its merciless imprint on all of our history and our national self-identity," explained Mr. Tabachnyk.

He noted that some 200,000 pieces of archival material, including 10,000 original documents already had been gathered from 17 oblasts of Ukraine, which constitute a relatively complete and thorough data bank. He said that archivists and historians now are working to gather additional information in Russia and the United States. He also pointed out that the incompleteness of an extensive oral history archive is a glaring omission in the historical record that must be corrected soon.

The vice prime minister, who carries the humanitarian affairs portfolio in the Cabinet, noted the abundance of information on the Great Famine on the Internet, but said he would like to see a single, all-encompassing and comprehensive website as well. He said the Ukrainian State Archival Committee is developing such a project.

Mr. Tabachnyk also informed the lawmakers that a television documentary on the Great Famine is nearing completion and would soon be broadcast.

In addition, plans for an extensive memorial complex to include a central archival depository to house the information on the Great Famine are under development, announced Mr. Tabachnyk. He said a museum to honor the victims of the Great Famine victims – as well as the victims of forced deportation and political repression – would be built in Kyiv on the banks of the Dnipro River in what is now Navodnytskyi Park. It would include the historical museum, a conference center, a scientific-research center, and an elaborate memorial.

In his presentation, Mr. Tabachnyk noted that Ukraine lost from 10 percent to 25 percent of its population during 1932-1933, losing on average 25,000 persons per day, which came to about 1,000 an hour or 17 a minute.



## Breast cancer awareness...

(Continued from page 1)

In April 2002 a coalition of civic organizations, including the Center for Reform Education (CURE), the Ukrainian Women's Fund, the National Council of Women, Women's Health and Family Planning Charitable Fund, and Winrock International, which is funded by the U.S. government and runs women's programs throughout Ukraine, decided to start a fund-raising initiative to buy a mobile mammography machine. (Since that time the NGOs have been advised against a mobile machine due to the horrendous state of roads in Ukraine and are now concentrating on buying one or two stationary machines, depending on the success of their fund-raising efforts).

"We began with our contacts in the art world. We asked women artists to allow us to use their art work to print up note cards explaining our cause," said Natalia Karbowska, the chair of the Ukrainian Women's Fund. "Then we approached musicians and designers to see if they could contribute their time and effort for such a cause."

The response was good and on November 17, 2002, a charity event was held in the Ukrainian House featuring the singing talents of Oleksander Vasylenko and Pikardiyska Tertsia, as well as five talented designers, Victoria Gres, Anna Babenko, Oksana Karavanska, Larysa Kononko and Tanya Abramova of the Rito House of Style.

The fashion show attracted a number of ambassadors based in Ukraine, as well as Ukrainian parliamentarians, cultural and community leaders, doctors and journalists.

"These kinds of acts of public awareness can go a long way to educate women about breast cancer," said Iryna Movchan, the president of CURE, which has taken the lead in distributing information brochures throughout the regions on such topics as self-examinations and early detection. "Ukrainians were so impressed that foreign dignitaries would take time out of their busy schedules to address this issue," she added.

U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission, Marie Yovanovitch addressed the capacity crowd of 400 telling the women of Ukraine about the various initiatives in the United States, which today has over two million breast cancer survivors. She underscored that when cancer is detected early in the U.S., the five-year survival rate is 96 percent. "It is time to break the silence about breast cancer," she stated, adding that the NGO community can play an important role in this effort.

Using designers to promote a public awareness campaign is not a new idea. Since 1994, a group called Fashion Target Breast Cancer (FTBC), launched by a group of fashion designers in the United States, has taken this movement overseas, raising more than \$25 million.

Tony Staffieri, the FTBC's worldwide executive producer, said recently in Japan – the 10th country where FTBC has launched its campaign to battle breast cancer – that the campaign is "targeting not just breast cancer but awareness, education, fear, shame, embarrassment, ignorance, prejudice and apathy."

But, in Ukraine, this was a novel approach. "As a country in transition, we are still learning this culture of volunteerism," explained Ms. Karbowska. "Our mission is twofold: we want NGOs to unite to show that there is strength in numbers and we want to introduce the notion of philanthropy in Ukraine."

"It is also important to show grassroots initiatives," added Ms. Movchan. When this writer, who is project coordinator, began talking to her friends in the

United States and Canada, they, too, supported this idea of promoting breast cancer awareness through fashion. Thus, the fashion show became a road show traveling to Chicago, Detroit, Toronto, Washington, and New York.

All of the coordinators in the five cities agree that this will be a landmark cooperative effort between NGOs in Ukraine, the United States and Canada. It is perhaps the first time that an endeavor of such magnitude is being organized by women's groups on both sides of the Atlantic.

"This is a very tangible way to help Ukraine – a mammography machine is such a real way to help Ukrainian women. Health concerns are immediate," said Marta Zielyk, who is on The Washington Group's organizing committee.

"And it is gratifying to see that women in Ukraine are trying to help themselves. It's good to see them taking their own health matters seriously and I think that should be applauded and supported," she added.

Although there are close to 300 mammography machines in Ukraine today, less than 100 are in good condition, according to Dr. Maistruk. "Most of this equipment is over 15 years old, and the average lifespan of a mammography machine is three to four years," she added.

There is not one digital machine in Ukraine's public hospitals, she added. And such oblasts as Poltava, Zaporizhia, Vinnytsia, Sumy and Ivano-Frankivsk do not have any mammography machines at all in their oblast hospitals.

To date, through the efforts of the NGO coalition, more than \$11,000 has been raised to buy at least one machine for the neediest region. But this is hardly enough. A good mammogram that includes a film-developing machine can run anywhere from \$75,000 and up. Once that money is collected, the women's groups will assemble a tender committee, composed of doctors, leaders of NGOs and representatives from the Ministry of Health to announce a competition for the regions. Then, they will announce an open and transparent competition to award a hospital a "Life is Beautiful" mammography machine, complete with a plaque honoring those committees that have made the purchase of a mammography machine possible.

"I understand the Ukrainian women's daily difficulties and appreciate their sometimes harsh circumstances. Many more hurdles are present for a Ukrainian woman and conquered in daily life, as compared to an American woman. To have life further complicated with an illness such as breast cancer in a country where minimal proper medical care and support is available, I am only hoping our small effort in New York can help make at least one woman's life in Ukraine a little easier," said Melaniya Hrybowych-Temnycky, the coordinator of the event in New York City.

For Anya Szepetyk of the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations in Toronto, raising money for Ukraine is a regular activity. "Our member-organizations have been actively involved in raising funds for medical supplies and technology to assist people who have been affected by the Chernobyl tragedy. This is just another way of helping out," she said.

According to Dr. Maistruk, "The incidence of breast cancer in women is 2.2 times higher than it was 17 years ago, before Chernobyl." Indeed, studies have proven that besides genetics, environmental pollution also can contribute to the incidence of breast cancer.

And, the women who are affected in Ukraine are younger; according to Dr.



Ambassadors at the Kyiv fashion show held to benefit breast cancer awareness programs (from left): Monique Frank of the Netherlands, Carlos Pascual of the United States and Jolanda Brunetti Goetz of Italy.



U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Marie Yovanovitch (second from left) with members of the Breast Cancer Awareness Committee in Kyiv (from left): Dr. Halyna Maistruk, Marta Kolomayets and Grace Kennan Warnecke

Maistruk, doctors now see women with cancer in the 35-45 age group, as opposed to women in the West, where the most vulnerable age group is over 65.

As Marta Farion, the chair of the Chicago-Kyiv Sister Cities Committee explained, the problem of breast cancer is all-embracing. "It affects both men and women because the impact is universal. There is not one person that does not have either a family member or a friend that has been a victim of breast cancer.

These are not just Ukrainian problems. The reason why we have so many volunteers and enthusiasm for the event in Chicago is because everyone has been affected by breast cancer and people feel universal solidarity on this issue."

She added, "Our goal at the Chicago Sister Cities Program is to bring Ukraine and its issues to the attention of the world at large and to be able to go beyond the local Ukrainian community for support."

Chicago has been able to do just that: the honorary chairwoman of the event is Maggie Daley, herself a breast cancer survivor and the wife of Chicago Mayor Richard Daley.

In Toronto, the honored guest will be Sen. Raynell Andreychuk, a Ukrainian Canadian who has served in the Canadian Senate since 1993. One of her top priorities is focusing on the health concerns of Canadians. Now she wants to familiarize herself with the health issues of Ukrainian women.

In the U.S. capital, according to The Washington Group, which is organizing the event together with the Ukraine-U.S. Business Council, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 79 and the Ukrainian Association of the

Washington Metropolitan Area, the venue seeks to attract diplomats from other countries, as well as U.S. congressmen. The fashion show will be held at the Embassy of Ukraine, located in the prestigious Georgetown section of the District of Columbia, the nation's capital.

In New York, guests will be treated to a fashion show by Ukrainian designers, featuring models formerly of Ukraine on the catwalk. Among those who will be wearing the haute couture will be Miss Ukraine 1996, Natalia Shvachko.

Interestingly, some of the New York City committee members, who are volunteering at the Ukrainian Institute of America to organize this event, are first-generation Ukrainian women who are now working in the Big Apple at investment banks, design houses and consulting firms.

"I think it is very important that our team is a combination of Ukrainian diaspora women from New York and New Jersey. I believe that it will promote closer ties between the diaspora and Ukrainians from Ukraine, and it will attract a wide audience to this charity event," said Natalia Bruslanova, originally from Kyiv. "We have such a talented multi-dimensional team."

"I am very proud to be working on this committee with young professional women from Ukraine who are now living in New York City. I feel that our cooperation together is somehow our little piece of history in the making. By working together perhaps we can begin to understand each other a little better and look deeper into each other's lives to see our similarities and differences. These types

(Continued on page 14)



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Re: Jayson Blair and Walter Duranty

"Times Editor Details Steps to Prevent a Recurrence of Fraud" was the headline on a news story in the May 13 issue of The New York Times concerning the case of a promising young reporter, Jayson Blair, who turned out to be better at writing fiction than fact and who thought nothing of using someone else's work to further his own career. He was, in short, a fraud. Tina Kelley reported in the story that Executive Editor Howell Raines "announced that a committee would be formed to address what went wrong" and that top editors would consider what "repairs" must be made to the paper's modus operandi. The story also quoted an e-mail message to staffers of the paper from Publisher Arthur Sulzberger Jr., Mr. Raines and Managing Editor Gerald M. Boyd: "We are resolved to do all that we can to learn from this tragedy and prevent any similar instances of journalistic fraud in the future."

That piece followed a May 11 front-page story that jumped to pages 24 through 27, which recounted the "chain of falsifications and plagiarism" that appeared in at least 37 articles by Mr. Blair. The story called the Blair case "a low point in the 152-year history of the newspaper," and Mr. Sulzberger referred to it as "a huge black eye" and "an abrogation of the trust between a newspaper and its readers." That same issue contained an Editor's Note on page 3 which explained that The Times had organized a weeklong investigation into the episode "in the belief that the appropriate corrective for flawed journalism is better journalism – accurate journalism." The note also asked readers and news sources who know of "defects" in other articles to send e-mail to The Times at [retrace@nytimes.com](mailto:retrace@nytimes.com). The item ended with an apology to readers, subjects of news stories, those "whose work was purloined" and "to all conscientious journalists whose professional trust has been betrayed by this episode."

We cite all of the foregoing for the benefit of our readers beyond the reach of The New York Times and in order to bring up a "disconnect" in the Times' department. Despite the Times' profuse apologies, its pronouncements about having nothing to hide, as well as its fine words about preventing such fraud from recurring in the future and conducting a complete inquiry to regain the trust of its readers, we have even more questions about the standards at The New York Times.

What about the proven fraud committed in the past? What about the much more serious "systematic fraud" (to use a phrase from The Times' news story about Mr. Blair) committed by one of the stars of The Times, Pulitzer Prize winner Walter Duranty? The low point represented by the actions of Jayson Blair, and the inaction of his editors, pales in comparison to that perpetrated by Duranty, and the Times' refusal to voluntarily relinquish his ill-gotten prize for correspondence.

Duranty, after all, concealed an artificially created famine that killed millions. What's more, he lied in print while in private telling others that millions were dying due to Stalin's famine. And, he slandered fellow journalists, those who did tell the truth about what really was happening in the USSR. He had no journalistic integrity, no ethical concerns whatsoever. He, like Jayson Blair, was a careerist. Duranty's lies about Stalin's USSR and his role as an apologist for that regime guaranteed him access to the powerful and, as a result, fame.

The New York Times should apply the mechanisms used in the Blair case to come clean about Walter Duranty, admit that it was complicit in covering up a major genocide of the 20th century, renounce its Moscow correspondent's reporting at the time of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 – and return Duranty's defiled Pulitzer. Then, and only then, could we begin to once again trust this newspaper of record whose slogan remains: "All the news that's fit to print."

May  
24  
1978

### Turning the pages back...

Twenty-five years ago, a monument to Ukrainian poet-laureate Taras Shevchenko, erected through the efforts of the Soviet Embassy in Paris, was unveiled on May 24, 1978, despite strong protests by the Ukrainian community in Paris.

The bronze bust of Shevchenko, the work of Kyiv sculptor Petro Lysenko, was executed in the official, Soviet-sanctioned socialist realism style and erected almost directly against the wall of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Volodymyr the Great in a square the Ukrainian community succeeded in renaming Taras Shevchenko Square. After authorities had permitted the name change, Ukrainians began a drive to erect a Shevchenko monument by world-renowned sculptor Alexander Archipenko. That petition, however, was never approved.

About 150 protesters led by former Soviet political prisoner Leonid Plyushch demonstrated their opposition to the erection of the monument by the Soviets; they were prevented by the police from entering the square where the unveiling ceremonies were held.

Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac was to have attended the Soviet unveiling ceremonies but was unable to attend. Deputy Mayor Edouard F. Dupont, a staunch anti-Communist, spoke about the greatness of Ukraine and Shevchenko without mentioning the Soviets. He further angered the Soviets by refusing to use the informational materials given him by Soviet Embassy officials.

The Ukrainian community of Paris first learned of the Soviet monument in mid-May 1978. Immediate steps were taken by the Central Ukrainian Committee and the Shevchenko Committee. Twice representatives of the Ukrainian community visited city authorities to protest the planned monument, and the authorities' inaction on the community's previous request to erect a monument to Shevchenko. On May 19 the Soviet monument first appeared on the square, and policemen were assigned to guard it.

Mr. Plyushch was invited by the Paris-based daily newspaper *Le Monde* to write a letter to the editor in order to explain the Ukrainian community's position. Published in the May 24 edition, it stated in part:

"Ukrainian organizations were outraged and naturally began protest actions. Why? Does one need to be reminded of Soviet repressions against the spiritual sons of

(Continued on page 13)

## FOR THE RECORD

### Ukraine's "troubled media environment"

*Following is the text of a statement in the U.S. Senate delivered on April 29 by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, co-chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (U.S. Helsinki Commission). The topic: "The Troubled Media Environment in Ukraine."*

Mr. President, later this week individuals around the world will mark World Press Freedom Day [May 3]. The functioning of free and independent media is tied closely to the exercise of many other fundamental freedoms as well as to the future of any democratic society. The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which I co-chair, is responsible for monitoring press freedom in the 55 participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Recently, I reported to the Senate on the deplorable conditions for independent media in the Republic of Belarus. Today, I will address the situation of journalists and media outlets in Ukraine.

Several discouraging reports have come out recently concerning the media environment in Ukraine. These reports merit attention, especially within the context of critical presidential elections scheduled to take place in Ukraine next year. The State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices in Ukraine for 2002 summarizes media freedoms as follows: "Authorities interfered with the news media by intimidating journalists, issuing written and oral instructions about events to cover and not to cover and pressuring them into applying self-censorship. Nevertheless a wide range of opinion was available in newspapers, periodicals and Internet news sources."

Current negative trends and restrictive practices with respect to media freedom in Ukraine are a source of concern, especially given that country's leadership claims concerning integration into the Euro-Atlantic community. Lack of compliance with international human rights standards, including OSCE commitments on freedom of expression, undermines that process. Moreover, an independent media free from governmental pressure is an essential factor in ensuring a level playing field in the upcoming 2004 presidential elections in Ukraine.

In her April 18, 2003, annual report to the Ukrainian Parliament, Ombudsman Nina Karpachova asserted that journalism remains among the most dangerous professions in Ukraine, with 36 media employees having been killed over the past 10 years, while beatings, intimidation of media employees, freezing of bank accounts of media outlets, and confiscation of entire print runs of newspapers and other publications have become commonplace in Ukraine.

The murder of prominent journalist Heorhii Gongadze – who disappeared in September 2000 – remains unsolved. Ukrainian President [Leonid] Kuchma and a number of high-ranking officials have been implicated in his disappearance and the circumstances leading to his murder. The Ukrainian authorities' handling, or more accurately mishandling of this case, has been characterized by obfuscation and stonewalling. Not surprisingly, lack of transparency illustrated by the Gongadze case has fueled the debilitating problem of widespread corruption reaching the highest levels of the government of Ukraine.

Audio recordings exist that contain conversations between Kuchma and other senior government officials discussing the desirability of Gongadze's elimination.

Some of these have been passed to the U.S. Department of Justice as part of a larger set of recordings of Kuchma's conversations implicating him and his cronies in numerous scandals. Together with Commission Co-Chairman Rep. Chris Smith, I recently wrote to the Department of Justice requesting technical assistance to determine whether the recordings in which the Gongadze matter is discussed are genuine. A credible and transparent investigation of this case by Ukrainian authorities is long overdue and the perpetrators – no matter who they may be – need to be brought to justice.

The case of Ihor Aleksandrov, a director of a regional television station, who was beaten in July 2001 and subsequently died also remains unsolved. Serious questions remain about the way in which that case was handled by the authorities.

A Human Rights Watch report, "Negotiating the News: Informal State Censorship of Ukrainian Television," issued in March, details the use of explicit directives, or "temnyky" (lists of topics), which have been sent to editors from Kuchma's presidential administration on what subjects to cover and in what manner. The report correctly notes that these temnyky have eroded freedom of expression in Ukraine, as "editors and journalists feel obligated to comply with temnyky instructions due to economic and political pressures and fear repercussions for non-cooperation." To their credit, the independent media are struggling to counter attempts by the central authorities to control their reporting and coverage of issues and events.

Another troubling feature of the media environment has been the control exerted by various oligarchs with close links to the government who own major media outlets. There is growing evidence that backers of the current prime minister and other political figures have been buying out previously independent news sources, including websites, and either firing reporters or telling them to cease criticism of the government or find new jobs.

Last December, Ukraine's Parliament held hearings on "Society, Mass Media, Authority: Freedom of Speech and Censorship in Ukraine." Journalists' testimony confirmed the existence of censorship, including temnyky, as well as various instruments of harassment and intimidation. Tax inspections, various legal actions or license withdrawals have all been used as mechanisms by the authorities to pressure media outlets that have not towed the line or have supported opposition parties.

As a result of these hearings, the parliament, on April 3, voted 252-1 to approve a law defining and banning state censorship in the Ukrainian media. This is a welcome step. However, given the power of the presidential administration, the law's implementation remains an open question at best, particularly in the lead up to the 2004 elections in Ukraine.

Mr. President, I urge our Ukrainian parliamentary colleagues to continue to actively press their government to comply with Ukraine's commitments to fundamental freedoms freely agreed to as a signatory to the Helsinki Final Act. I also urge the Ukrainian authorities, including the constitutional guarantor, to end their campaign to stifle independent reporting and viewpoints in the media. Good news from Ukraine will come not from the spin doctors of the presidential administration, but when independent media and journalists can pursue their responsibilities free of harassment, intimidation and fear.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### UUARC receives plea for assistance

Dear Editor:

The office of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) has received a very desperate and moving plea. Its text follows.

\*\*\*

This appeal to you is from the parents of Ihor Chovhan (born 1981), who currently survives on an artificial kidney in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk. His condition is critical and he requires an immediate kidney transplant.

We reside in the village of Ryhivka, in the Halych region of the Ivano-Frankivsk territory in western Ukraine. I, Mykhailo, the father, work as a driver on the collective farm; my wife, Kateryna, also performs various job there.

An examination at the Kyiv Institute of Surgery and Transplants of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine revealed that the mother may be a donor.

The cost of a kidney transplant is 60,200 hrv (\$12,000).

At this time, our family and we are seeking sponsors to carry out the operation, since our financial situation does not permit us to pay for this operation.

Dear Benefactors! It is difficult for us to appeal for assistance, but life forces us to take this step. We are requesting that you help us in our misfortune. May God bless you.

\*\*\*

The UUARC Executive Board is appealing to our generous community to help save the life of this young man. Please send your tax-deductible contributions to: UUARC – Ihor Chovhan Fund, 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111

**Stefan Hawrysz**  
Philadelphia

### Another notable restaurant in Kyiv

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to Roman Woronowycz on an excellent article about the restaurants in Kyiv. I definitely agree that Kyiv has undergone a tremendous change in terms of quantity and quality of restaurants, and can now compete with other European capitals. I was surprised that when commenting about the lack of affordable restaurants, Ukrainska Kukhnia was not mentioned.

This is a cafeteria-style restaurant near Kontraktova Ploshcha in the Podil region, a few blocks from The National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (I heard that they may be opening other branches in the city).

The restaurant has an extensive menu of Ukrainian dishes, desserts and drinks. The food is good and cheap. It is practically mobbed at lunch time, and is an excellent example of a good, affordable restaurant in Kyiv. I highly recommend it.

**Oleh Wolowyna**  
Chapel Hill, N.C.

### Famine terminology is problematic

Dear Editor:

In his March 23 column Myron Kuropas bemoans the fact that the Ukrainian Famine is largely unknown.

It wasn't that long ago that the 1932-1933 catastrophe that befell Ukraine went by Fake-Famine, False Famine, Made in Moscow Famine, Man-Made Famine, Ordered-By-Stalin-Famine, and so on.

Now we have progressed to Terror-Famine, Famine-Genocide, Famine-Holocaust, and so forth. Is it any wonder so little is known about the Famine? After 70 years we still don't know what to call it.

The word "Holocaust" is derived from ancient Greek. "Genocide" is a word invented after World War II. Both words aptly apply to the catastrophe that befell European Jews during World War II. We should not be piggybacking off the Jews: it diminishes us both.

The Ukrainian Weekly has numerous articles using the term "Great Famine." It is, in my viewpoint, an appropriate, descriptive term.

**George A. Nestor**  
Nanty Glo, Pa.

### Pyrrhic victories in Afghanistan, Iraq

Dear Editor:

Our Pyrrhic victories in Afghanistan (where no one is in control outside Kabul) and Iraq are costing the U.S. treasury \$2 billion and \$5 billion a week, respectively. The name of the unfolding main act in Iraq is the Sisyphian stone rolling up the mountain.

These conquests (pardon the expression) are draining the economy of the United States at an unsustainable rate of near nearly 360 billion a year. Add President George W. Bush's tax cut "for working families" – mainly with 6-figure incomes and up – and we get a federal deficit of over half a trillion dollars per year. The paucity of public awareness of this pathetic reversal and fiscal disaster of historic proportions is illustrated by a survey quoted in London's Financial Times, showing that 19 percent of Americans believe that they are in the top 1 percent income bracket.

The dollar fell 15 percent relative to the euro ("the declining power," if you can believe Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld) in the last several months. Americans are enduring job layoffs and corporate pension fraud by singing "The Star Spangled Banner."

But there are hopeful signs that the GOP will find it increasingly more difficult to milk patriotism. As predicted by skeptics, no weapons of mass destruction or terrorist connections – the pretenses drummed up by President Bush as casus belli – were found, despite several fumbled attempts to designate some rusted shells as evidence of "imminent threat from Iraq to the security of our people" in the president's speech library. But there was and still is the mass detraction from neo-con propaganda mills.

Stonewalled by the U.S. media until March 16, and officially acknowledged by the Iraqi government the day before was the well-known (in Europe) allegation that the biological germ cultures that Iraq did have at one time – during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s – had been supplied to Iraq by a Virginia-based company. All along this has been just as transparent as the reason for the present American invasion, the oil grab.

Come to think of it, are we better off today than four years ago?

**Boris Danik**  
North Caldwell, N.J.

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



### French delusions, French reality

When you think of the French, what comes to mind? Wine? Food? Philosophy? Romance? Nôtre Dame? Or laziness, arrogance, duplicity, wimpiness. It's not easy to maintain an appreciation of the French character. Still, any nation that produced Renoir, Manet, Monet and Gauguin can't be all bad.

I've tried to like the French. I really have. Lesia and I have visited Quebec City and Paris. We had a French teacher live with us for a month. I had a class of French children study in my elementary school for three weeks. While none of this makes me an expert, what I experienced left an impression. Not a very good one, I'm afraid.

France, of course, played a significant role in America's War of Independence. A French fleet under the Comte de Grasse blockaded the Atlantic Seaboard, preventing the British from bringing in supplies or from retreating following defeat. The Marquis de Lafayette and the Comte de Rochambeau fought in Washington's army.

The French had their own revolution in 1789. Under the bloody Jacobins, however, their uprising became a precursor of the Bolshevik coup d'état of 1917 and led to the rise of Napoleon who, like the Bolsheviks, put much of Europe to the sword. Napoleon bit off more than he could chew, and when his delusions of a French empire in America was destroyed by a French defeat in Haiti, the United States benefitted. The result was the Louisiana Purchase.

French decline after 1789 was swift and painful. Five separate republics rose and fell. The Germans defeated France in 1815, 1870 and 1939. Germany lost to France in World War I, but only as a result of America's intervention. By demanding confiscatory surrender terms from the Germans, however, France helped lay the groundwork for Hitler's rise to power.

During Ukraine's war of independence, the French ignored Ukraine's liberation crusade and pushed for a re-united, democratic Russia. Soon after French troops landed in Odesa for example, French General Borius appointed Russian Gen. Alexei N. Grishin-Almazov as Odesa's military governor, undercutting Otaman Symon Petliura's forces, which had recently captured the city. French soldiers then accompanied the Russians as they drove Petliura's army out of Odesa.

Later, when the Poles invaded Eastern Galicia, they did so with the support of the French. Responding to French and American pressure, the Allies awarded Eastern Galicia to Poland in 1923.

During World War II, a decadent and demoralized France surrendered quickly to the Germans, betraying the British, their allies at the time. As Phillips Burrell points out in "France Under the Germans: Collaboration and Compromise": "The French were curling up as if in a shell. A refusal to accept defeat and a determination to fight on would have been made possible by common values, a willingness for sacrifice to preserve them and a sense of national fraternity. These though were conditional upon people harboring no illusions regarding the enemy, placing their hopes and faith in their ally, and maintaining solidarity with the other peoples of Europe who were threatened by Nazi hegemony. What was needed was a tragic imagination capable of envisaging the future rather than an obsession with pain, self-pity along with all the

cheap hopes that such self-pity encouraged." Ennui was invented by the French.

Many Frenchmen welcomed the Vichy government as a means of national renewal. For intellectuals such as André Guide, Hitler was the man of the hour. "If German domination would secure us affluence," he wrote, "nine out of 10 Frenchmen would accept it, three or four of them most cheerfully ... to seek agreement with the enemy is not cowardice but wisdom ... What would be the point of battering ourselves against the bars of our cage?"

Existentialist philosopher Jean Paul Sartre turned his back on the French resistance, continued to publish books and plays, and, like so many Frenchmen, did not join the resistance until it was clear that Germany would lose the war.

The French had no problem in rounding up Jews for Nazi extermination camps. The Vichy "lent a hand by turning in foreign Jews, denaturalizing some French Jews and arresting Jews with French nationality," writes Monsieur Burrell. Jewish property was the reward. "At least 10,000 Frenchmen worked during the occupation as temporary managers of despoiled Jewish businesses."

Germany dangled exploitation of conquered territories and France jumped at the bait. In 1943, explains Monsieur Burrell, Monsieur Laval was eager to participate in the Nazi rape of Ukraine. A French economic delegation was sent to Ukraine to determine how France could best exploit Ukraine's riches. Unfortunately for the French, Germany planned to retain Ukraine as a "private preserve."

"For at least three years," concludes Mr. Burrell, "the Germans managed both to maintain their domination and to keep the yoke in place, despite cutting to the minimum the number of troops assigned to maintaining order, and thereby making it possible to reinforce other fronts and to exploit the economic resources of France in a most effective way ... over 4 million French people were working for the Germans in 1944 (2,600,000 in France and 1,314,000 in Germany), that is to say 37 percent of the male population between the ages of 16 and 60. And that is not counting all the labor further up the pipeline of the French economy that was contributing indirectly to the German war effort ... Objectively, this massive assistance ... far outweighs the courageous actions of members of the resistance ..."

When the war ended, French General Charles DeGaulle demanded that France be an equal partner with Great Britain, the United States and the USSR in ruling a conquered Germany despite the fact that the French played a relatively paltry role in the Nazi defeat. Anglo-American benevolence also allowed France, along with the British, the United States and Russia, to gain an unearned permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council.

The treachery of the French government during the Anglo-American war to liberate Iraq only serves to confirm what some believe may well have become a national trait.

America needs to come to France's assistance once again. The best thing we can do is to stop pretending that France is still a player on the international circuit. Why not ignore them until they grow up?

*Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com.*



## Historic Battle of Bound Brook re-enacted at Ukrainian Orthodox center

by Hieromonk Daniel Zelinsky

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – Those who live in South Bound Brook, N.J., a small town founded in 1678, and its vicinity, and travel daily on its Main Street, have to pass the Memorial Church of St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle, the centerpiece of the spiritual nucleus of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

Oftentimes passers-by will stop and approach the church for a glimpse of this priceless treasure of Ukrainian spirituality. Perhaps it's the memorial church itself, or maybe the statue of St. Olha, or maybe even the statue of Metropolitan Vasyl Lypkivsky that enrich these human souls with the feeling of something indescribable, but harmonious.

Looking around, the visitors' eyes are drawn into these uncommon surroundings. Thousands of Ukrainian Christians have found the place of their final repose in the center's cemetery – a cemetery that reflects the sad and the glorious moments of Ukraine's history. Here Ukrainian Americans have managed to preserve the customs and traditions of their forefathers while living side by side with fellow Americans of diverse ethnic backgrounds.

On April 12-13 a re-enactment of the 1777 Battle of Bound Brook took place on the grounds of the historic Fisher estate, which is now the property of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

American history textbooks tell about the battle in the vicinity of Bound Brook, which took place on April 13, 1777, when American soldiers under Gen. Benjamin Lincoln's command were attacked by the British, who planned to go on and occupy Philadelphia. However, later that spring an army of nearly 5,000 American soldiers prevented these strategic plans from becoming reality.

Over 500 persons gathered on the

grounds of the Ukrainian Church Center to watch the march of the "American" and "British" soldiers, dressed in uniforms of that period. The sound of cannon and rifle shots, the commands of the generals and the quickly moving soldiers who carried out those orders reminded both the participants of the re-enactment and the onlookers of the events of the American past.

It is noteworthy that this was not the only time when the Ukrainian Orthodox center actively participated in the life of the local American community. Each year around Christmastime the Fisher house, tastefully decorated by Shirley and Emil Skocypec, holds an open house for the benefit of local historical organizations and numerous schools, which bring to the grounds of the UOC-USA hundreds of students and local residents.

The original owner of the estate, Henry Fisher, played a significant historical role in the state of New Jersey. It was he who represented this state at the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America and then brought back a copy for the local residents to read.

Aside from the Fisher house, the Home of Ukrainian Culture – Ukrainian Cultural Center – serves not only as the center for Ukrainian community affairs, but also is a teaching and ethnic center for numerous educational and cultural events in the vicinity. Not to be forgotten is the Museum of the UOC-USA which holds numerous rare and priceless artifacts. Each of these institutions plays an important role in the formation of American-Ukrainian relationships.

The re-enactment of the Battle of Bound Brook, which lasted almost an hour, ended with applause by the spectators, most of whom had probably visited the Ukrainian Orthodox Center for the first time.



A view of some of the "troops" during a re-enactment of the Battle of Bound Brook, against the backdrop of the Ukrainian Orthodox Memorial Church of St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle.

### The Northern New Jersey District Committee of Branches of The Ukrainian National Association

invites the Ukrainian community  
to participate in celebrating

## FATHER'S DAY

on **Sunday, June 15, 2003**  
at **SOYUZIVKA**

For this occasion the District Committee is organizing a bus trip.  
Cost per person – \$20.00

Pickup sites will depend on a number of participants from that area.

Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 10 a.m.  
Concert – 3 p.m.

Additional information will be published in the upcoming issues of The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda.

Bus reservations and checks, written out to Northern New Jersey District Committee, should be mailed to:

U.N.A.-NNJ District Committee  
Attn: Walter Honcharyk  
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
Tel.: (973) 292-9800 ext. 3041  
Eugene Oscislawski - District Chairman



216 Foordmore Road P.O. Box 529  
Kerhonkson, NY 12446  
(845) 626-5641

Visit Soyuzivka's newly  
redesigned website:  
[www.soyuzivka.com](http://www.soyuzivka.com)

### NEW YORK DISTRICT COMMITTEE of UNA BRANCHES

*cordially invites*

**UNA members, their families and friends**

to

**CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY AT SOYUZIVKA**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2003**

Bus departure from 98 Second Avenue, New York City at 7:30 a.m.  
at

Return departure from Soyuzivka at 6 p.m.

At Soyuzivka – 10 a.m. Holy Liturgy  
3 p.m. Concert

Round Trip Bus Transporations – \$20.00 per person  
FOR RESERVATIONS please call:

Oksana Lopatynsky, Selfreliance Assoc., (212) 777-1336  
Seats will be guaranteed upon full pre-payment. Make check or money order payable to:

**NY UNA DISTRICT COMMITTEE**  
Mail payment to Selfreliance Assoc., Attn: Mr. John Choma,  
98 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003



# Ukrainian edition of Shevelov's "A Historical Phonology of the Ukrainian Language" is published

EDMONTON – Thanks to support from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) and its affiliate at Kharkiv National University, the Kowalsky Eastern Ukrainian Institute (KEUI), the first Ukrainian-language edition of George Y. Shevelov's fundamental monograph "A Historical Phonology of the Ukrainian Language" was published in late 2002 in Kharkiv.

Support for the project was also received from the International Renaissance Foundation (IRF, Kyiv), the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences (U.S.), the Shevchenko Scientific Society (U.S.), and the Kharkiv Historical and Philological Society. The book was published by the Kharkiv-based publisher Akta under the title "Istorychna Fonolohiia Ukrainskoyi Movy."

The inaugural book launch of the Ukrainian translation of Shevelov's "historical Phonology," organized by the KEUI and Akta Publishers, was held at Kharkiv National University on February 7, heralding its arrival on the Ukrainian scholarly and cultural scene. The Kyiv launch of the monograph took place on February 11 at the offices of the IRF, with guest speakers including Dr. Zenon Kohut, director of the CIUS; Academician Mykola Zhulynsky, director of the Shevchenko Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU); Academician Vasyl Nimchuk, director of the NASU Institute of Linguistics; and other specialists. Also attending were the Kharkiv scholars Leonid Ushkalov and Volodymyr Kravchenko, as well as Halyna Fedorets, the director of Akta Publishers.

Dr. Shevelov (1908-2002) was a prominent Ukrainian linguist, whose monumental work, "A Historical Phonology of the Ukrainian Language," was published in 1979 with the support of the CIUS. Its appearance prompted the scholarly world to revisit not only the historical phonetics of the Ukrainian language but also the history of the language itself.

In his study, Shevelov opposed views hitherto dominant in the academic world—namely, that the Ukrainian language had developed in the period following the destruction of the Kyivan Rus' state by the Mongols from a supposedly common Old Rus' language, which was the forerunner of Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian.

In the preface to the Ukrainian translation, the Polish Slavist Janusz Rieger summarizes Shevelov's thesis as follows: "The East Slavic world was already so differentiated at the beginning of the period following the adoption of writing that the existence of a 'common Rus' or 'proto-Rus' language is precluded – at least in the form usually imagined until now."

While it is unlikely that all Slavists will adopt Shevelov's views, they will have to be taken into account and considered. The same may be said with respect to historians – particularly specialists in Eastern European history – and the significance of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's views on the history of the Eastern Slavs. Just as Hrushevsky's seminal "Istoriia Ukrainy-Rusy" (History of Ukraine-Rus') demonstrates the independent historical development of the Ukrainian people, so Shevelov's work reveals a completely different understanding of the history of the East Slavic languages in general, and the Ukrainian language in particular. It is worth noting that his work remains the only fundamental study of the historical phonology of any Slavic language.

Given the circumstances in which the publication of the original "Historical Phonology" was published (i.e., in English, in the diaspora), the few linguists in Ukraine who knew about it had no real opportunity to make use of it, especially as the author was proscribed by the Soviet

Ukrainian regime.

Once circumstances changed in Ukraine, the CIUS undertook to have this work published there in Ukrainian so as to make it accessible to Ukrainian scholars and researchers. "Historical Phonology" was translated into Ukrainian by the Kharkiv linguists Andrii Danylenko, who now resides in New York, and Serhii Vakulenko, from Kharkiv. The Ukrainian edition was edited by Prof. Ushkalov of Kharkiv. In the final stages of the project, work was coordinated and organized by the KEUI (Volodymyr Kravchenko, director).

The publication of the translated edition in the city of Kharkiv is symbolic. In contrast to present conditions, Kharkiv was once a leading center of Ukrainian culture and study of the Ukrainian language. It was here in the 19th century that the eminent Ukrainian linguist Oleksander Potebnia ini-

(Continued on page 16)



Seen at the book launch are (from left) Dr. Volodymyr Kravchenko (director, Kowalsky Eastern Ukrainian Institute, Kharkiv National University), Academician Vasyl Nimchuk (director, Institute of Linguistics, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine) and Dr. Zenon Kohut (director, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta).

## You've asked: How Can We Help?

### Book a Room for a Week!

Over the past few months, as it became apparent that Soyuzivka needed community support, many began to ask, "How can we help?" Many volunteers answered our call for assistance and the renaissance of Soyuzivka began. In recent months, many changes began taking place at our beloved Soyuzivka. We encourage you to "Come home to Soyuzivka" and see the changes... Be a part of the Renaissance... Together, let's work toward making Soyuzivka a delightful retreat for present and future generations.

But in order to ensure that Soyuzivka remains an integral part of our community,

**YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL AND TIME IS CRITICAL.**

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#### WE NEED YOU TO BOOK A ROOM FOR THIS SEASON!

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Soyuzivka has had an average occupancy rate of 35% over the past few years. In order for us to ensure Soyuzivka's future, we need to **DOUBLE** our occupancy this coming season.

Soyuzivka needs to have guests throughout the year, not just in the summer. That is why so many fun weekend events are in store for you and your family!

Can't make it this summer? Gift a room to your children or grandchildren! Show your appreciation to your parents, and send them for a wonderful Soyuzivka week... If you like antique-browsing or checking out the local wisecracks, we can arrange a splendid weekend for you and your friends... Check our Soyuzivka calendar and website for new, interesting fun-filled events and make your plans accordingly. You will have a wonderful time.

Whether you're adding to a lifetime of Soyuzivka memories or just starting your family's collection, you'll find that every moment is a treasure at Soyuzivka. Find your perfect spot and relax alongside our Olympic pool, or atop our Veselka mountain-view deck. Wake up to a spectacular sunrise... No matter what your choice, you'll enjoy the friendly personal service at Soyuzivka.

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## CONCERT REVIEW: Vocal duo of Wolanska and Kulish perform in Montreal

by Claudette Berthiaume-Zavada

MONTREAL – The Montreal public had the pleasure to hear a recital of melodies, arias and duets of classical as well as operatic Ukrainian repertoire in an exceptional performance held on April 19 at the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall of Concordia University.

In a program titled "Love and Death," Halyna Wolanska and Taras Kulish – the two Montreal-born Ukrainian singers – presented a selection of famous opera arias and duets, as well as German lieder and French melody, which comprised the first half of the concert program, followed in the second half by an all-Ukrainian program. Such a combined menu offered the public an opportunity to appreciate the rich potential of the performing artists. The unique quality of their voices and remarkable, warm and dynamic interpretations received an enthusiastic response from the audience.

The idea of a mixed program, one suitable not solely for a Ukrainian public, served two purposes: the integration of great arias from Ukrainian composers like Lysenko and Hulak-Artemovsky, alongside the works of Mozart, Verdi, Ponchielli, Richard Strauss, Jacques Ibert and Handel promoted Ukrainian music by offering the public an occasion to discover a repertoire not generally known – one that should take its deserved place among the vocal repertoire as a whole. At the same time, it gave the Ukrainian audience an opportunity to discover the very rich potential of two young Ukrainian singers already engaged in a promising career.

Ms. Wolanska, a lyric soprano who is of Ukrainian and Greek descent, completed

*Claudette Berthiaume-Zavada, Ph.D., is a pianist and musicologist at l'Université de Montréal.*



Lyric soprano Halyna Wolanska

her music studies at the McGill Conservatory of Music, with subsequent studies in Milan and Vienna. She made her European operatic debut in Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte" at the Varna International Music Festival. Her lieder debut was in 1996 in Montreal and her North American operatic debut was in 1998 in the role of Mimi in "La Bohème" under the direction of Monique Martin. Recent performances include roles such as Rosalinda in "Die Fledermaus" and Cio-Cio-San in "Madama Butterfly."

Mr. Kulish, a bass-baritone who is already involved in a successful career in many opera houses in North America, made his European debut touring France and Belgium in the title role of "Don Giovanni." He has appeared to critical acclaim singing the title role in "Le Nozze di Figaro," as well as in the roles of Colline in "La Bohème," The King in "Aida" with Vancouver Opera, and Basilio in "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" at Opera



Bass-baritone Taras Kulish

Saskatchewan.

Mr. Kulish completed his music studies at McGill University in Montreal and at University of Toronto and received professional training at l'Opéra de Montréal and Vancouver Opera. A finalist at the prestigious Belvedere International Opera Competition in Vienna, Mr. Kulish also performed in American festivals including the Aspen Music Festival and Tanglewood where he sang in the anniversary production of "Peter Grimes" under Seiji Ozawa. Upcoming events include a debut with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra in a concert version of Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin."

From the outset of the concert program, which opened with excerpts from Handel's "Serse" and "Berenice," Mr. Kulish presented himself with authority and a fine and communicative musical stage presence. Mr. Kulish has a remarkable command of articulation and pronunciation no matter in what language he sings – be it English, Italian, French or Ukrainian.

His constant control of his rich bass-baritone voice and vocal technique, the precision of pitch and a good sense of timing and rhythmic precision gave way to neat and honest interpretations throughout the entire concert showing his good musical taste, deep comprehension of musical emotions and his ability to adapt various

styles.

These qualities were revealed especially in Ibert's difficult "Chansons de Don Quichotte" and Ponchielli's aria "Ombre di Mia Prosapia" from "La Gioconda." The natural and spontaneous interpretations of the duet "La ci darem la mano" from Mozart's "Don Giovanni" as well as of the Ukrainian repertoire in excerpts from Lysenko's "Taras Bulba" and Hulak-Artemovsky's "Zaporozhets za Dunayem," demonstrated his professionalism on stage.

Ms. Wolanska conquered the public with her unique quality of voice. The warmth, flexibility and particular tonal color of her voice was the instrument of a very sensible, emotional and convincing interpretation of "Sempre Libera" from Verdi's "La Traviata," which found particular resonance with the audience. Even though there were beautiful moments in Strauss' lieder "Ständchen" and "Morgen," Ms. Wolanska manifested obvious qualities and affinity for operatic repertoire. Much at ease with Ukrainian repertoire, she showed the richness of her potential in a most refined interpretation of Mayboroda's "Ridna Maty Mojya" and one of her father's compositions, Bohdan Wolansky's "Tozh Prosty."

Esther Gonthier, one of the most active and renowned pianists on the Quebec music scene, offered musical support to the artists, mastering the art of accompaniment with a remarkable musical complicity.

The concert ended with a marvelous duet interpretation of Lysenko's "Koly Rozluchayutsia Dvoye."

The artists should be commended for reinstating a concert formula that was forgotten for a while in Ukrainian cultural and musical events and which is most worthy of a revival. The high quality of the production contributed to enhancing the Ukrainian vocal repertoire and giving it the place it merits among the music-loving public at large. It should also be noted that the translation of the concert program into both French and English was a much-appreciated idea.

This high quality linkage with musical heritage happened to be a very rewarding musical experience, and was greeted by the public with enthusiasm. It was, indeed, a recital to remember.

## Kuchar named music director of Reno Chamber Orchestra

RENO, Nev. – Theodore Kuchar, conductor, chamber musician and string player, has been named music director of the Reno Chamber Orchestra this spring, as reported in the April 28 issue of The Fresno Bee in California.

Mr. Kuchar who succeeds Vahe Khochayan, who founded the orchestra in 1974, holds other positions as music director with the Boulder Philharmonic of Colorado, conductor laureate of the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine, in Kyiv, and as artistic director of the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, an annual event regarded as the country's leading music festival.

Mr. Kuchar, one of the most prolifically recorded American conductors of the past decade, was appointed artistic director and principal conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine (NSO) in 1994. Under his direction, the NSO Ukraine has recorded more than 50 compact discs for the Naxos and Marco Polo labels, including the complete symphonies of Martinü and Prokofiev, as well as major works of Dvorak, Glazunov, Mozart, Shchedrin, Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky.

The first of these recordings, devoted to Liatoshynsky's Symphonies Nos. 2 and 3, was awarded the ABC's "Best International Recording of the Year" in 1994. The NSO recording of the complete works for violin and orchestra by Walter Piston for the Naxos label was hailed by Gramophone (January 2000) as a "Record of the Year" for 1999.

Mr. Kuchar's guest conducting engage-

ments have taken him to Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center in Chicago, the Sydney Opera House, the Hong Kong Cultural Center, and the Auditorio Nacional in Madrid, among many others. Soloists with whom Mr. Kuchar has collaborated in past seasons include James Galway, Jessye Norman, Lynn Harrell, Itzhak Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma, Sarah Chang and Mstislav Rostropovich. In May 2000, at the invitation of Mr. Ma, Mr. Kuchar conducted the world premiere of the Capriccio for Cello and Orchestra by American composer Lukas Foss, with Mr. Ma as soloist.

At age 20, Mr. Kuchar was awarded the Paul Fromm Fellowship from the Boston Symphony Orchestra to undertake advance study and performance at Tanglewood, where he worked with Leonard Bernstein, Colin Davis, Seiji Ozawa and Andre Previn, and in Cleveland where he worked under the guidance of Lorin Maazel. Soon after his Australian debut in 1987, Mr. Kuchar was appointed music director of the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra in Brisbane, while serving as music director of the West Australian Ballet in Perth until 1993.

Trained as a violinist and later a violist, Mr. Kuchar graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Music and served as principal violist of the Helsinki Orchestra in Finland. He has appeared as soloist and chamber musician in Australia, Europe, the United Kingdom, the United States and the former USSR as well as at major festivals, including Blossom, Edinburgh, Khumo and Tanglewood.

## Russian clownmaster from Ukraine to debut with La MaMa Theater

NEW YORK – Inspired by a novel by the German writer Heinrich Böll and the work of Slava Polunin, the internationally acclaimed Russian clown master, Oleg Braude is making his La MaMa debut May 22 to June 8 with the clown theater play "God's Comic," on the theme of life, love, abandonment and religion. Conceived and directed by Mr. Braude, the play has a cast of eight.

Mr. Braude, 42, began his career in Kyiv at the age of 14, performing in the Theater for Young Audiences. By 18, he was working regularly in Kyiv's State Musical Theater. He started his own studio with his own actors as a young man, but left Ukraine for the United States in 1989. He now lives in the Park Slope section of Brooklyn, and designs shows regularly at La MaMa Experimental Theater Club in New York's Lower East Side.

"God's Comic," while employing different forms of clownery and pantomime, draws on ideas from the clown theater of Polunin – characterized by the unbridled silliness of slapstick, the poetic poignancy of traditional clowning and a visual extravagance and beauty – but not the latter's visual style. Another major differ-

ence is that Mr. Braude's play makes use of words and has a text.

Mr. Braude has retained the "post-war feeling" inherent in Böll's "The Clown," because, as he notes, he relates to it and feels that "we are all 'post-war,' whether we like it or not." Böll's famous short novel draws a revealing portrait of German society under Hitler and in the post-war years through the eyes of an artist. The sensitive but cynical novel is one of Böll's best about the moral dramas of common people in a changing society.

"God's Comic," which is set in post-World War II Germany, captures the feeling of being down and out and rootless as the protagonist deals with the sense of loss, alienation and religious doubt.

The main character is played by David Tyson, an actor and professional clown, who teaches clownery in a college. Design for the play is by Vladimir Davidenko.

La MaMa is located at 74A E. Fourth St. Performances are held Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. For tickets call the Box Office at (212) 475-7710. Online ticketing available at [www.lamama.org](http://www.lamama.org).



# Vasyl Krychevsky returns to Ukraine, via a collection of his works

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – When Vasyl Hryhorovych Krychevsky (1873-1952) left his native Ukraine at the end of World War II, he was one of its most renowned artists. He never returned, dying less than 10 years later in Caracas, Venezuela.



Vasyl Krychevsky's 1918 design of Ukraine's small national emblem, the trident.

This month, a half century later, he is returning home, in a way – in the form of a large collection of his works – thanks to his descendants in Caracas, who thought it was time for new generations of his countrymen to get to know him better; an American investor and his wife, who thought it was a good idea and agreed to help make it happen; and a journalist, who, as fate would have it, was able to bring the parties together.

The result was on display April 30 at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, which along with the SigmaBleyzer investment company mounted what could have been called a “Western Hemisphere farewell exhibit” of selected works from the Vasyl Krychevsky collection on the eve of its departure home to Ukraine.

On hand were the artist's granddaughter, Oksana Linde Ochoa of Caracas and the sponsors of this artistic homecoming, Natalia and Michael Bleyzer of Houston. Adorning the walls of the main reception room of the Embassy were a cross-section of the more than 300 oil paintings, watercolors, architectural sketches, book cover designs and theatrical and movie set designs that within a few weeks will find a new home in five museums and cultural institutions in Ukraine.



Vasyl Krychevsky's book cover design for Volodymyr Vynnychenko's collection of short stories, “The Necklace,” 1929.

Welcoming them and the other guests at the Embassy, Ambassador Kostyantyn Gryshchenko underscored the importance of having Vasyl Krychevsky's works return to Ukraine, where “they will be cherished as our heritage and something that is very dear to every Ukrainian and important to our history.”

The ambassador expressed his country's gratitude to the artist's daughter, Halyna Krychevska Linde, and granddaughter, Ms. Ochoa as well as to the Bleyzers for making the return possible. He noted that Mr. Bleyzer, who was born in Kharkiv and made his business career in the United States, is now playing an important role not only in the economic revival of Ukraine but also in helping return Ukrainian art to its homeland.

Ms. Bleyzer said a few words about the artist, the “tremendous diversity” of his creativity, which included such architectural treasures as the Zemstvo building in Poltava, for which he became known as “the father of Ukrainian architecture,” and the Shevchenko Memorial Museum in Kaniv; set designs for Mykola Sadovsky's theater in Kyiv, artistic direction for Dovzhenko's “Zvenyhora” and other movies; innovative book cover designs, textiles, kylims, as well as Ukraine's first national trident emblems in 1918 and the two-hryvnia note.

The guests also heard from Ms. Ochoa, who traced her grandfather's life history from Vorozhba, near Kharkiv, where he was born in 1873, to Caracas, where he died in 1952. She thanked all those involved in the current project, especially the people of Ukraine for wanting to know more about her grandfather.

Upon the Krychevsky collection's return to Ukraine, it will be exhibited briefly in Kyiv, Poltava and Kharkiv, after which it will be divided up for permanent display at the National Gallery of Art and the Lavra Book and Cinema museums in Kyiv, the Shevchenko Memorial Museum in Kaniv, the Zemstvo building in Poltava and the Kharkiv Museum of Art.

Four years ago, the Ukrainian Embassy hosted a similar farewell exhibit of oil paintings and watercolors by Vasyl Krychevsky's artist son, Mykola Krychevsky. It was part of a 112-work collection donated to five museums in Ukraine by Kateryna Krychevsky-Rosandich of Mountain View, Calif. Mykola Krychevsky settled in Paris in 1928 and spent most of his creative years in France. Prior to Mrs. Krychevsky-Rosandich's donation, very few of his works had found their way back to Ukraine.

While the family of Vasyl Hryhorovych Krychevsky has retained some of his works, and many pieces are held by museums and private collections, a significant collection of his works – some 300 pieces – are at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City, a gift from the son of the artist's first wife, Vadim Pavlovsky.

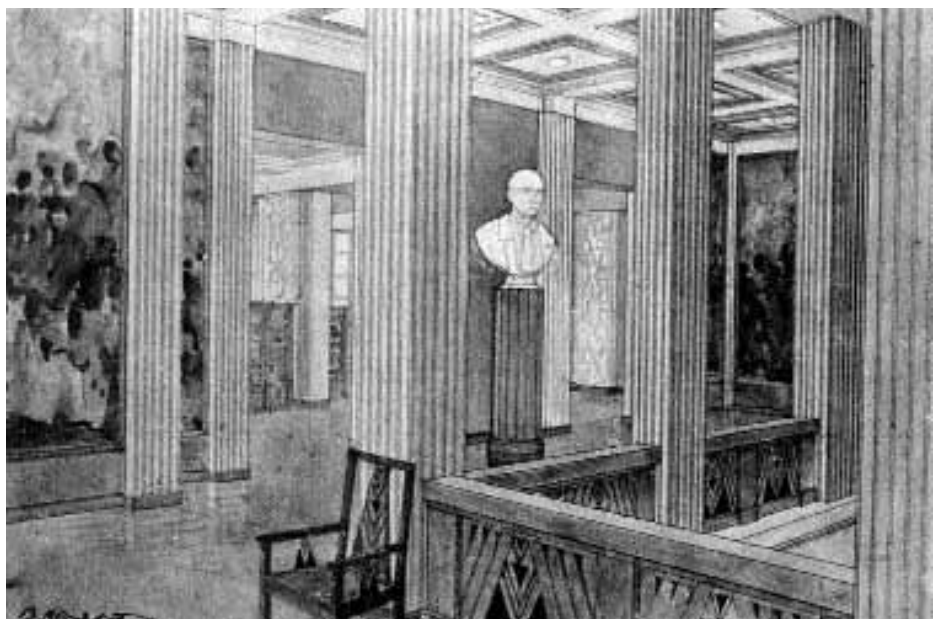
As recalled by E. Morgan Williams, editor of the ArtUkraine Information Service (ARTUIS), the story of the move of Vasyl Krychevsky's works from Caracas to Ukraine began three years ago when Oksana Linde Ochoa mentioned to him the family's interest in donating the collection to museums in Ukraine. Her earlier attempts at direct contacts with institutions in Ukraine and elsewhere were unsuccessful. He brought it to the attention of Natalia and Michael Bleyzer, whose investment company, SigmaBleyzer, became the sponsor of the project, financing its organization and transportation from Caracas, through Washington, to Ukraine, and the mounting of the four exhibits, in Washington and in Ukraine.



Oksana Linde Ochoa (center), granddaughter of Vasyl H. Krychevsky, standing with exhibit sponsors Michael and Natalia Bleyzer.



Oksana Linde Ochoa presents Ukrainian Ambassador Kostyantyn Gryshchenko with a monograph about the life and work of her artist grandfather, Vasyl H. Krychevsky. Standing behind them are Shavkat Khamrakulov, ambassador from Uzbekistan, and Ukrainian Cultural Attaché Nataliia Holub.



Architectural sketch of the interior of Vasyl Krychevsky's Shevchenko Memorial Museum in Kaniv.



Still Life by Vasyl H. Krychevsky, 1949.



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# NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

and Russian troops, mostly sailors, took part in a joint military parade in Sevastopol on May 9 to mark Victory Day, a Soviet-era holiday, Ukrainian news agencies reported. It was the second time since Ukraine declared its independence in 1991 that Ukrainian and Russia servicemen have marched together. A similar march took place in May 2000, also in Sevastopol, where Ukraine and Russia maintain naval bases. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### ... as rightists clash with leftists in Lviv

LVIW – Some 500 people were involved on May 9 in a violent clash at the Marsove Pole memorial to the victims of Stalinist repression, which lay on the route of left-wing veterans marching to lay wreaths at a nearby World War II monument on the occasion of Victory Day, ITAR-TASS and Interfax reported. Police had to intervene, clearing a path for the veterans through a cordon of right-wingers objecting to the red flags being displayed by leftist participants in the march. "Representatives of leftist parties came today to Marsove Pole on purpose, even despite the court ban on conducting any rallies, while attempts to compromise with them were unsuccessful, since they did not agree to the main demand of rightists: no red-flag march," Yurii Shukhevych told Interfax. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### Senate ratifies NATO expansion

WASHINGTON – U.S. senators voted 96-0 on May 8 to ratify protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty previously signed by Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, international news agencies reported. The United States thus became the third of NATO's 19 member-states, after Canada and Norway, to formally approve the alliance's further expansion into Central and Eastern Europe. Legislative approval is required in all current member-states before the bloc may expand, which is expected to occur at a NATO summit in mid-2004. "These nations will make NATO stronger, and we need that strength for all the work that lies ahead," President George W. Bush said in an appeal the same day to other allies to approve the expansion, according to The New York Times. NATO last expanded with the inclusion in 1999 of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. Meeting with the foreign ministers of the seven candidate states in Washington the same day, President Bush said those countries have "a fresh memory of tyranny." He added, "And they know the consequences of complacency in the face of danger." Mr. Bush also backed efforts to take in Albania, Croatia and Macedonia as they proceed with democratic reforms, according to the DPA news agency, saying, "Just as NATO has stood for the freedom of all of Europe, we must stand with people everywhere who strive for greater freedom, and tolerance, and development, and health and opportunity, including those in the Middle East and Africa." (RFE/RL Newswire)

### Kyiv disagrees with DC on CD piracy

KYIV – The United States' inclusion of Ukraine on a list of countries that do not effectively combat CD piracy is unfounded, Viktor Lytvynenko of the Ukrainian Internal Affairs Ministry's Department for Combating Economic Crime charged on May 8, according to Interfax. "Ukraine has adopted all the laws necessary for the protection of intellectual-property rights, and law enforcement bodies are intensively combating the manufacture of pirated media," Mr. Lytvynenko said. He said only one plant in Ukraine currently produces

(Continued on page 13)



## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 12)

CDs, and its production is being carefully monitored by the authorities. Mr. Lytvynenko said the fact that U.S.-based software giant Microsoft more than tripled its sales in Ukraine over the past year is a sign of success in the battle against media piracy in the country. U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick released a report in early May listing Ukraine as a "Priority Foreign Country," that is, as one "pursuing the most onerous or egregious policies that have the greatest adverse impact on U.S. right holders or products, and are subject to accelerated investigations and possible sanctions," Interfax reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Petro Symonenko is hospitalized

KYIV – Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko has been hospitalized with a heart problem since April 24, Interfax reported on May 8, quoting a source in the Communist Party Central Committee. The source denied reports by some Ukrainian media that Mr. Symonenko suffered a heart attack. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Prosecutor sentenced then amnestied

KYIV – A court in Kyiv on May 6 sentenced Serhii Obozov, a former public prosecutor in Tarascha Raion, Kyiv Oblast, to two and a half years in prison for abuse of office and forgery in connection with the case of slain Internet journalist Heorhii Gongadze, whose headless body was found near Tarascha in November 2000, Interfax reported. The court found Mr. Obozov guilty of violating proper procedure and falsifying documents connected with the case. Simultaneously, the court excused Mr. Obozov from punishment, saying he was protected by an amnesty law at the time he committed his crimes. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Wiesenthal Center rates cooperation

TALLINN – Efraim Zuroff, the director of the Jerusalem Office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, in an April 27 press

release previewing the center's third annual Status Report on the Worldwide Investigation and Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals, ranked Estonia as a country that has made "insufficient and/or unsuccessful efforts to prosecute perpetrators of the Holocaust," BNS reported on April 28. In a ranking of grades ranging from A (highest) to F (lowest), Estonia received a D along with Argentina, Australia, Austria, Great Britain, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Spain. Latvia and Lithuania received a C, indicating "minimal success, which could have been greater; additional steps urgently required." The grade of F, indicating total failure of prosecution, was given to Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, the Czech Republic, Greece, Holland, Russia, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Sakharov monument unveiled

ST. PETERSBURG – The first Russian monument to physicist and human rights advocate Andrei Sakharov was unveiled on a square between the main building of St. Petersburg State University and the library of the Russian Academy of Sciences on May 5, Kommersant-Daily reported the next day. The monument is the work of sculptor Levon Lazarev, who began pushing the project after the square on which the statue stands was named after Sakharov in 1996. State Duma Deputy Grigorii Tomchin (Union of Rightist Forces), a "first-wave democrat" who became involved in politics during the era of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, remarked with pleasure that the idea for the monument originated with "the citizens" and that "the authorities had nothing to do with this event." Dr. Sakharov's widow, Yelena Bonner, did not attend the unveiling and told Kommersant-Daily: "Now is not the time to deal with monuments in Russia. The mass enthusiasm for monuments attests to a superficial, unserious relationship to those to whom the monuments are dedicated." Ms. Bonner recently objected to plans to erect a Sakharov monument in Moscow. (RFE/RL Newsline)

## Turning the pages back...

(Continued from page 6)

Shevchenko, that evenings dedicated to the poet are forbidden to be held, that yearly manifestations on May 22 by the monument of the poet end with the arrests of the participants?

"Shevchenko himself was subjected to repressions! He was censored by the tsar and by Stalin. The Brezhnev government continues to censor him. Eight of his poems which denounce enslavement by the regime and Moscow's imperialism were rejected from the latest edition of the 'Kobzar.'"

"The hypocrisy and cynicism of the Soviet Embassy oversteps all bounds: the Embassy will honor a poet who is censored in the USSR, and will erect a monument near a church that is forbidden to exist in Ukraine! But the lies of Brezhnev are not as surprising as the fact that détente has reached the point that the Soviet government allows itself to profane the memory of a great poet and the religious and national feelings of Ukrainians on the territory of the city of Paris..."

Source: "Soviets erect Shevchenko monument in Paris amid protests by Ukrainians," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 11, 1978.



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## Breast cancer awareness...

(Continued from page 5)

of experiences always broaden participants, knowledge of the world, other cultures and themselves," said Ms. Hrybowych-Temnycky.

It will also broaden the experiences of the three designers, who will be bringing over 20 signature designs, as well as accessories, such as necklaces, belts and handbags, to the fashion road shows. For all three, it will be their first showings in the West.

"We were intrigued by the idea of combining fashion and charity," said Ms. Karavanska from Lviv. "This is one way

I can use my talent to turn attention to breast cancer, to tell women that they need to pay attention to their health."

"For me, as a woman, it is very important to support women's organizations. My designs are feminine, very 19th century, and I like to think that my participation in these fashion shows will not only allow women to share beauty, but to also share important information, which in turn will make their lives more harmonious and healthy," said Ms. Gres.

Vera Petrusha, a member of the Metro Detroit fund-raising committee, said, "When Marta Kolomayets contacted me regarding the 'Because Life is Beautiful' project, I thought, what a wonderful ini-

tiative, educating Ukrainian women about breast cancer and helping them by raising funds for mammography machines."

"I reached out to the women in the metro Detroit area who held key positions in Ukrainian organizations as well as supporters of UCARE [Ukrainian Children's Aid and Relief Effort]. The interest and enthusiasm was immediate, and the work began with a great deal of excitement," Ms. Petrusha continued. "Eileen Jewell, a well-known local interior designer and a sponsor of orphans in Ukraine, graciously offered her new studio in the trendy city of Royal Oak, as a location for our event. Dr. Renata Juzych-Kucyj, the president of UMANA [Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Detroit Chapter] contacted Clear Magazine, an international fashion magazine and they in turn became sponsors of our event and have supplied the contacts for all of our models."

"I really like the slogan for this campaign: 'Because Life is Beautiful.' It has a positive spin," added Ms. Zielyk. And even the symbol of the pink ribbon is now seen on women's suit lapels and dress collars in Ukraine. Avon has been instrumental in this campaign, also raising money for mammography machines through the sale of pink ribbons and breast cancer awareness pens in silver and gold tones, complete with pink ribbon ornaments. It has become a symbol not only of breast cancer awareness throughout the world, but also of a united sisterhood.

Women around the globe continue to encourage screenings for early detection of breast cancer, which women worldwide continue to fear more than any other disease. Yet, this cancer is 90 percent curable when caught early. Although some doctors have questioned the effectiveness of mammograms an international study released in late April shows that mammograms reduce deaths from breast cancer by about 28 percent in women between the ages of 40 and 69.

"Screening works," said Prof. Stephen W. Duffy, a researcher from the British charity Cancer Research. "It reduces deaths from breast cancer. This is not an artifact of some bias, but a real effect of screening," he told Reuters after the release of a report on the benefits of mammograms, which tracked 210,000 Swedish women and is the largest study of its kind. "It suggests very strongly that the reservations expressed in the last couple of years about mammography are essentially unfounded," he said.

Just last week, Ukraine's First Lady,

Luidmilla Kuchma addressed the issue of breast cancer during a women's health forum in Zagreb. She joined a group of eight wives of Central and Eastern European presidents – the first ladies of Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Macedonia, Slovakia and Slovenia – in signing a declaration pledging to fight breast cancer by promoting free breast screening programs in their countries.

The women also stressed the importance of the role of media in the breast cancer awareness campaign, reported AFP, stating that the next such forum will be held in Albania within the next 18 months.

When she talks about the efforts of the NGO community in Ukraine today, Dr. Maistruk likes to quote breast cancer survivor Stella Kyriakides: "Life with breast cancer will never be the same again – we have a voice and that voice is now being heard."

\*\*\*

That voice will be speaking at each and every fashion show in North America between May 30 and June 7. The "Life is Beautiful" breast cancer awareness road show debuts in Chicago and then travels to four other major cities, as follows.

- Chicago – Friday, May 30, 6:30 p.m., at Preston Bradley Hall, Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. Tickets are \$75 per person, of which \$60 is tax-deductible. For information and to order tickets, call (312) 742-5320 or e-mail dominiquehines@cityofchicago.org.

- Detroit – Saturday, May 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Studio Jewell, 501 S. Washington Ave., Royal Oak, MI. Tickets are \$60 per person. For information, please call (248) 414-6114 or e-mail design@studiojewell.com.

- Toronto – Sunday afternoon, June 1, at 4 p.m., at the Ukrainian Culture Center, 83 Christie St., Toronto. Tickets are \$35 per person. For information, call the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations, (416) 762-2066, or e-mail amszepetyk@hotmail.com.

- Washington, Thursday evening, June 5, 7 p.m. at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW, Washington. Tickets are \$50 per person. For more information, call Laryssa Courtney at (202) 363-3964.

- New York Saturday, June 7, 5 p.m., at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. Tickets are \$100 per person, \$250 for sponsors, \$500 for benefactors and \$1,000 for patrons. For more information, please call (973) 471-1701 or e-mail UWFNYC@aol.com.

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## NYC chapter of Engineers' Society elects board of directors for 2003-2005

NEW YORK – Nine individuals were elected to the new board of directors of the New York City chapter of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA) for the 2003-2005 term during the chapter's meeting on April 14. The new board affirmed a plan of action that includes an expanded event schedule, the continued improvement of organizational communication and a membership drive.

The elected board members represent a wide range of technical professions, experience and involvement with community service. In alphabetical order, they are as follows:

- Adrian Berezowsky is in his final year of studies at The Cooper Union School of Architecture, and has begun his graduate studies at the Benjamin Cardozo School of Law.

- Ivan Durbak is currently the chief information officer for the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y. He has a bachelor's degree in physics (1971), a master's degree in civil engineering (1974) and a master's degree in management science (1976) from the University of Miami.

- Tymish Hankewycz is a senior engineering consultant at Desktop Engineering International Inc. of New Jersey and has both a bachelor's (1988) and a master's degree (1989) in engineering from The Cooper Union School of Engineering.

- Wasyl Kinach works for the New York City Office of the Comptroller as an administrative engineer. He has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of New York. Mr. Kinach is a licensed professional engineer (P.E.) in the state of New York.

- Marco Shmerykowsky has been elected as president of the chapter. He is a principal of Shmerykowsky Consulting Engineers in New York City. He has a bachelor's degree (1992) and a master's degree (1993) in engineering from The Cooper Union School of Engineering. Mr. Shmerykowsky is a licensed professional engineer in the state of New York.

The chapter's members also elected Wolodymyr Hnatkowsky and

Wolodymyr Magun to the Supervisory Committee and Ivan Mokriwskyj, P.E., and Leonid Pachaluk to the Judiciary Committee.

The New York chapter's expanded event schedule will cover both social and technical events. The chapter hopes to hold monthly lectures on various topics of current interest to members and potential new members. The social calendar will include the annual fall zabava in New York City and the traditional Christmas "Yalynka" celebration.

The chapter also re-affirmed its commitment to communicate with UESA members and the community on the national and local levels. The local newsletter will continue to be issued on a bimonthly basis, and the chapter will contribute information to the national newsletter and society's website.

In addition, the chapter hopes to encourage other young professionals and students to join the ranks of UESA. It is encouraging chapter members to recruit colleagues and friends interested in UESA's mission, and plans to take advantage of New York City being home to several large schools, such as The Cooper Union, Columbia University and New York University, by reaching out to Ukrainian students' clubs in these schools.

Also to increase membership, the chapter will focus on improving its professional networking system, seen as an important membership benefit by both students and young professionals. Student members can gain valuable real-world experience from internship opportunities, and both students and working professionals can benefit from business opportunities offered by fellow members.

UESA is an organization of technical professionals, with more than 500 members throughout the U.S. Its mission is to aid in the spread of engineering and other technical studies and professions, to foster interest in technical and economic issues in Ukraine, and to provide a social environment for networking among its members. To learn more about the society, write to UESA, 2 E. 79th St., New York, N.Y. 10021 or visit the website at [www.uesa.org](http://www.uesa.org).

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The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

## Wedding Announcements

will appear on June 22, 2003.

**For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by June 10, 2003.**

Along with wedding announcements, we will include greetings from friends, family members, bridesmaids and ushers – from all those who wish to share in the excitement of a new marriage.

Also welcome are anniversary and engagement announcements and greetings

**Rates for announcements and greetings:**

One-column wedding announcement: \$100

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For further information or to request a brochure, please call (973) 292-9800, ext. 3040 (Maria).

Visit [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com) to view a wedding announcement sample page.

## Ukrainian edition...

(Continued from page 9)

tiated Ukrainian scholarly linguistics. Shevelov spent the inter-war years of his childhood and youth in Kharkiv, and acknowledged the significance in his life of this city, which played such an important role in the formation of modern Ukrainian culture and national consciousness during the 19th and 20th centuries.

In fact, Shevelov's last publications were issued in Kharkiv while he was still alive – the three-volume collection of selected works "Porohy i Zaporizhia (The Rapids and Beyond the Rapids), published by Folio (1998), and the memoirs "Ja – Mene – Meni... i Dovkruhy (I – Myself – To Me...

and Round About) in two volumes, published by M.P. Kots and Berezil magazine (2001). Until his final days, Shevelov was deeply involved in the publication of his "Historical Phonology" in Ukrainian translation, although he did not live to see the final result.

Slavists the world over, particularly in Ukraine, will appreciate the appearance of this epochal work in Ukrainian translation, which will afford Ukrainian scholars the opportunity to consider anew and rethink the origins and history of their language. The KEUI is to receive a number of copies of Shevelov's "Istorychna Fonolohiia Ukrainskoyi Movy" that it intends to disseminate at no charge to scholarly and educational institutions and organizations throughout Ukraine.

## Declassified KGB...

(Continued from page 2)

tion" into the atmosphere. Most accidents occurred through equipment failures. Chernobyl technicians warned about the high risk of accidents at the power station. One document deals with an inspection of the plant in early 1986 by engineers who urged that it be shut down.

"We hope to restore the historic truth by publishing documents about the station, its construction and the disaster itself," Ms. Ostapenko said.

The documents, Ms. Ostapenko noted, point a finger of blame at the authorities in Moscow for failing to heed warnings about Chernobyl. "You can find here letters written by the heads of the Ukrainian security services to the top leaders of the Soviet Union about the shortcomings in the construction and operation of the Chernobyl power station," she said.

Ms. Ostapenko added that one reason Soviet leaders failed to take action may have been because the information coming from Ukraine was just a small proportion of the intelligence coming from the KGB's

offices throughout the Soviet Union.

"When this accident happened in 1986, the Ukrainian KGB was part of a big machine. Ukraine was one of 15 Soviet republics. Therefore, the reaction of the USSR leadership was not very attentive. The very way that documents were transmitted, the lapse of time and the conviction that such [an accident] could never happen played a big role," she explained.

The release of the documents comes shortly after Russian Atomic Energy Minister Aleksandr Rumiantsev said a new shelter should be built over the exploded reactor at Chernobyl. Russia is concerned it could be affected if the present, hastily built sarcophagus over the damaged reactor develops leaks or collapses, allowing contaminants to escape.

The Ukrainian government says there is no immediate danger at Chernobyl, but is calling for more money from Western nations to erect a new shield around the damaged reactor. It also wants funds to complete construction of two new nuclear units to replace the Chernobyl plant, which finally closed at the urging of Western countries in 2000.

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# Durbak wins first tennis tourney of 2003 season at Tryzubivka

HORSHAM, Pa. – Ivan Durbak, from Ramsey, N.J., a five-time men's champion of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK), added another victory to his already impressive list of tennis accomplishments by winning Tryzub's 16th annual Spring Tennis Tournament. Held at Tryzubivka in Horsham, Pa., during the weekend of May 3-4, the tournament was contested in men's singles competition only with a feed-in division.

To win the tournament, Durbak had to defeat three former Tryzubivka champions. In the quarterfinals he beat Jerry Tymkiw 6-4, 6-2; in the semifinals, Steven Sosiak, 6-1, 6-3; and in the finals, another USCAK champion, George Sawchak, 6-2, 6-2.

Sawchak reached the final round with a 6-3, 6-2 semifinal win over last year's champion, Pavlo Rehulyk, and a 6-2, 6-1 quarterfinal win over Bohdan Krawtschuk. Rehulyk, in the quarterfinal round eliminated the ever-dangerous Ihor Buhaj in a long

three-set match, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Sosiak won the feed-in bracket and thus received third place in the tournament. In the final round of this division Sosiak eked out a victory, over Rehulyk, 4-6, 6-1, 7-5. In the semifinals Sosiak defeated Buhaj 10-6, and Rehulyk, defeated Tymkiw 10-2. Other noted matches in this bracket were Boris Tatunchak's victory over Krawtschuk and Walter Dziwak's win over Alex Olyne, both by the score of 10-8.

At the conclusion of the tournament, trophies were presented to the winner, finalist and feed-in finalists.

The next Ukrainian tennis tournament will be held at Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian National Association estate in Kerhonkson, N.Y., during the Fourth of July weekend. Known as the USCAK-East Tournament, the competition will be in singles, doubles and mixed doubles groups. Advance registration is required. For more information contact Mr. Sawchak at (215) 576-7989.



Tryzub tournament trophy winners (from left): Steven Sosiak, Ivan Durbak, champion, George Sawchak, finalist, and Pavlo Rehulyk.



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**NEW RELEASES**

**Research scientist/composer/pianist releases her first music recording**

WINNIPEG – She is usually seen being interviewed in her laboratory, or in the field in her hipwaders, whenever water quality, toxicology and public health are in the news. Dr. Eva Pip, a research scientist and professor of biology at the University of Winnipeg, is dedicated to environmental causes, and has received numerous environmental and community service awards.

In her other life, in a true blend of science and art, she is a composer, pianist and author of a book on Ukrainian ritual music.

Last year, Dr. Pip released her first CD, "Pictures From Another Place," five piano suites she composed and performs. The collection of gentle classical music is lush with hints of rich Ukrainian melodies and harmonies.

As noted in the notes, the piano works "beckon with evocative pictures 'from another place,' providing a unique and

deeply personal escape. The music incorporates contemporary therapeutic techniques that promote relaxation, spiritual centering, and stress relief."

The CD is available at HMV Portage Place and McNally-Robinson Booksellers.



**Notice to publishers and authors**

It is The Ukrainian Weekly's policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

News items sent without a copy of the new release will not be published.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: Editorial Staff, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America  
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Please volunteer to help. You will have a wonderful time – and Soyuzivka will reap the benefits.

Branch secretaries: wouldn't this be a perfect UNA branch activity? Organize a crew and "Come home to Soyuzivka"...

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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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# PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 24

**PHILADELPHIA:** The Ukrainian Human Rights Committee will be hosting Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, rector of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road at 1 p.m. Dr. Briukhovetsky will speak about the vital role that Kyiv Mohyla plays in the future of Ukraine and its importance in today's Ukraine. For additional information call (215) 663-1166.

Sunday, May 25

**FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla.:** The Ukrainian Dancers of Miami present a whirlwind afternoon of dance and song in their 11th annual "A Ukrainian Montage" concert, featuring the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami and the Maksymowich Trio. The concert begins at 2 p.m. in the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Amatro Theater, 201 SW Fifth Ave. Admission: \$15. For tickets call The AutoNation Box Office, (954) 462-0222 or visit [www.browardcenter.org](http://www.browardcenter.org).

Friday, May 30

**CHICAGO:** The Chicago-Kyiv Sister Cities Committee is pleased to invite the public to a Benefit Fashion Show featuring leading designers from Ukraine – Anna Babenko, Oksana Karavanska, Victoria Gres and Ukrainian designers living in Chicago Tatjana Chelekhova and Natalia Nazarova. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of mammography equipment for early detection and preventive care of breast cancer in Ukraine. The event's honorary chair is Chicago's First Lady, Maggie Daley. All donations are tax deductible. The event will take place at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. The reception begins at

6:30 p.m., followed by the fashion show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$75. For more information contact: Dominique Hines, Marta Farion or Vera Eliashkevskia at (312) 742-5320, or e-mail [Dominiquehines@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Dominiquehines@cityofchicago.org)

ADVANCE NOTICE

Thursday, June 5

**MANALAPAN, N.J.:** Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 98 of Holmdel/Middletown, N.J., and the Monmouth County Library Headquarters are co-sponsoring an Author's Night with Irene Zabytko, author of "The Sky Unwashed" and newly released novel "When Luba Leaves Home." The event be held at 6-8:45 p.m. at Monmouth County Library, 125 Symmes Road (off Route 9 South), Manalapan, N.J. For additional information and directions call (732) 441-9377 or (732) 888-0494.

Saturday, June 7

**NEW YORK:** In a landmark cooperative effort, the Ukrainian Women's Fund (Kyiv), with co-sponsorship from the Ukrainian Institute of America and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, are holding a charity fashion show at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 5 p.m. Three top fashion designers from Ukraine – Anna Babenko (Kyiv), Oksana Karavanska (Lviv) and Victoria Gres (Kyiv) – will display their beautiful designs. Proceeds from the event are designated for the purchase of mammography equipment in Ukraine. As seating is limited, tickets should be purchased in advance. Tickets: \$100; included in the price are a reception and silent auction. For more information call (973) 471-1701 or e-mail [UWFNYC@aol.com](mailto:UWFNYC@aol.com).

## 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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