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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## New online exhibit spotlights Ukrainian liberation movement



Illya M. Labunka

Roman Krutsyk, head of the Kyiv Association of Memorial and director of the Museum of Soviet Occupation, explains the images depicted in a slideshow during the launch of the Internet version of the exhibit "The People's War 1917-1932."

by Illya M. Labunka

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – The Kyiv Association of Memorial and the Our Ukraine party have joined forces to combat the current regime's anti-Ukrainian educational policies regarding Ukraine's liberation movement in the 20th century.

On February 7, Roman Krutsyk, head of the Kyiv Association of Memorial, welcomed political leaders, community activists, scholars and journalists at Memorial's office for the official presentation and launch of the website "The People's War: 1917-1932."

Based on a physical exhibit that originally took place in November 2010 at the Ukrainian House in Kyiv under the title "The Unknown War" and consisting of 24 display sheets, the electronic version of "The People's War" comprises 70,000 previously unreleased documents on the national liberation movement of the Ukrainian people.

According to Mr. Krutsyk, the original physical exhibit was an endeavor over two years in the making. Research associates of the Kyiv Association of Memorial

travelled throughout Ukraine over a period of eight months and meticulously researched and digitalized approximately 1,500 archival files and 320 photographs that had been declassified by the central and regional archival branches of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) in 18 oblasts of the country. The remaining period of time was spent on technically formatting the gathered data and preparing it for display in the exhibit.

As he presented a brief slideshow of the Internet version of "The People's War: 1917-1932," Mr. Krutsyk pointed out that the electronic version – unlike the physical exhibit – has been enhanced by a textual summary included before each of the 24 chapters. Due to the extensive amount of material featured, a brief explanation of the documents, photographs and events provides a better understanding of the presented information as it pertains to each oblast.

"The exhibit aims to demonstrate through statistical data how many underground organizations, insurgent detachments and peasant uprisings existed on

(Continued on page 9)

## Ukraine's politicians turn to Twitter

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

NEW YORK – Once the Orange Revolution's television anchor, National Deputy Andriy Shevchenko used Twitter to alert the world to the bloody December 16, 2010, parliamentary attack hatched by the deputies of the Party of Regions against their rivals in the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

"It's very dark. Almost all the lights were shut before the siege. They smashed [National Deputy Mykhailo] Volynets' head with a chair. Blood," the 34-year-old typed into his mobile phone, which had replaced the television camera as his news medium of choice.

As intensely as the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich has stepped up its persecution of opposition forces, more Ukrainians politicians have turned to Twitter to communicate with the public. The technology allows its users to send text messages from mobile devices to broadcast on the Internet.

"Politicians have understood that it's time to catch up to the train," said Otar Dovzhenko, a mass media observer at the Telekritika website.

"The active part of society is becoming

free from political propaganda, communicating via social networks and exchanging information. Politicians are trying to widen their propaganda and their portion of the information sphere," he said.

A new Twitter precedent, perhaps for world politics, was set when a politician as high-ranking as former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko began sending "tweets" directly from her daily questionings by state prosecutors, drawing international attention.

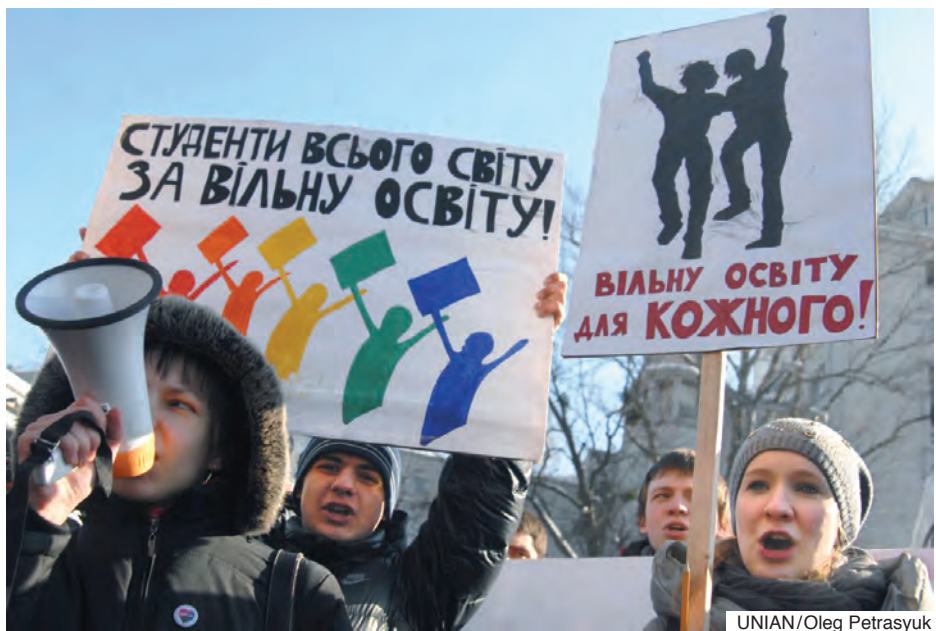
"I am now at the Procurator General of Ukraine. I was given 180 volumes on the criminal case on pension payments," Ms. Tymoshenko tweeted on March 1. "Great guys! They worked hard. They found a true criminal."

[Editor's note: Ms. Tymoshenko's tweets can be read at: <http://twitter.com/tymoshenkoua>.]

While it was former President Viktor Yushchenko who became the first Ukrainian politician to use Twitter, those tweets were official statements drafted by his communications staff, Mr. Dovzhenko said. Ms. Tymoshenko does much of her tweeting personally, though her staff has its own strategy.

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## Students picket Parliament



UNIAN/Oleg Petrasjuk

KYIV – About 300 students on February 28 picketed the buildings of Verkhovna Rada committees to protest against the adoption of a new law on higher education. The protesters demanded that national deputies not pass the law on higher education and dismiss Minister of Education, Science, Youth and Sports Dmytro Tabachnyk. The students held posters with such slogans as: "Free education for all" and "No students – no future." Most of the protesters were from the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, but students from other universities of Kyiv also participated. The last time students picketed Parliament was on January 31, when they made the same demands. Student organizations have stated that the new bill on higher education makes it impossible to gain honest admission to higher education institutions and destroys the right to free education in Ukraine. (Ukrinform)



## ANALYSIS

## Turning Ukraine into a 'nation without identity'

by Alexa Chopivsky  
RFE/RL

"One Ukraine, One History" read the text of billboards splashed across downtown Kyiv last month.

But just what does that history encompass? Less than a year into office, the government of President Viktor Yanukovich revised fifth-grade history textbooks to delete certain key events from Ukrainian history, including the 2004-2005 Orange Revolution.

The selective teaching of Ukraine's history and the government's moves to curb university autonomy are reinforcing concern that the country is moving away from the West and becoming more synchronized with Russia, and in some cases even endorsing Moscow's take on Ukrainian history.

The fifth-grade textbook under the previous administration referred to the Orange Revolution as the "Orange miracle," according to Vakhtang Kipiani, the editor-in-chief of *Istorychna Pravda*. It was an interpretation, he says, that lacked objectivity, "but simply to throw out the Orange Revolution, that's not right," Mr. Kipiani said.

A lawmaker with the ruling Party of Regions and a member of the Parliamentary Committee on Education and Science, Maksym Lutsky, defended the change: "The Orange Revolution needs to be burned out of history because of what its instigators did to the country."

### No reference to Kruty

The revised textbooks suffer from other important deletions, including a reference to the Battle of Kruty. Former President Viktor Yushchenko called the 1918 battle, in which more than 200 Ukrainians were massacred trying to stave off 4,000 Bolsheviks advancing on Kyiv, "the symbol of the liberating struggles of Ukrainians for freedom in the 20th century." In Soviet times, the Kruty victims were considered traitors, or simply ignored.

A description of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) as Ukrainian patriots fighting for the country's independence from both Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union was dropped from the text, as was a passage about UPA veterans and their families being subsequently sent to the gulag by Soviet authorities and called "enemies of the people."

A section about Soviets persecuting Ukrainian patriots was also deleted.

President Yanukovich, for his part, said in an interview last month: "We will not eliminate anything from Ukrainian history."

### Deleting "man-made" from Holodomor

Some events have been rewritten to correspond to Moscow's version of history. The man-made famine, or Holodomor, engineered by Joseph Stalin in 1932-1933, which starved millions of Ukrainians to death, was revised to delete the term "man-made."

This contradicts Ukraine's official view, established by law, that the Holodomor was a deliberate act of genocide against the Ukrainian people.

Russia does not recognize the Holodomor as ethnic genocide, but rather the result of the disastrous agricultural policies of the period. Moscow

believes the famine was a common tragedy of the peoples of the Soviet Union, a point of view Mr. Yanukovich last year endorsed before the Council of Europe.

Russia, in its so-called near abroad, is actively propagating its viewpoint regarding the Holodomor.

According to documents released by Wikileaks, Britain's Prince Andrew, a frequent visitor to the region, said that Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev received a letter from Russian President Dmitry Medvedev "telling him that if Azerbaijan supported the designation of the Bolshevik artificial famine in Ukraine as 'genocide' at the United Nations, 'then you can forget about seeing [the disputed territory of] Nagorno-Karabakh ever again.'"

Prince Andrew said that every single other regional president, except one, had told him of receiving similar "directive" letters from Mr. Medvedev.

Viktor Musan, the author of one of the fifth-grade textbooks, said he got close to 20 recommendations regarding the rewrite, according to *Ukrayinska Pravda*, many of them related to Russian politics in Ukraine.

The ministry, for its part, has denied any involvement in rewriting the book. "The text is up to the authors," Oleksander Udod, an Education Ministry official responsible for textbooks, told *Ukrayinska Pravda*. He also said the changes will help "avoid excessive politicization."

But academics are skeptical, calling out politicians' "meddling" in the historical sphere. "Intellectuals need to have freedom to pursue their research and to look critically and freshly at the past," says the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, the Harvard-trained rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. "The ministry is proposing that history textbooks in Ukraine be aligned with the Russian version of history, in which Stalinism is viewed less critically – and sometimes even positively as a time of great development of the Soviet Union."

### "Umbilical cord" to Russia

"Minister [of Education, Science, Sport and Youth Dmytro] Tabachnyk and the leaders of the ministry are anti-Orange, anti-democratic, anti-West people," Mr. Kipiani said. "That's why correspondingly at their level, as much as they can, they are trying to clean out the heritage of the Orange Revolution. Some in the current leadership are connected by an umbilical cord to Russia – some in financial ways and some morally."

Last year, Mr. Tabachnyk and his Russian counterpart, Andrei Fursenko, announced their intention to create a Ukrainian-Russian working group for the purpose of creating a joint textbook guide for history teachers in the two countries.

Mr. Tabachnyk also cancelled the 12th year of secondary school, bringing it into line with Russia's 11-year system and making it more difficult, according to critics, for Ukrainian students to qualify to study at Western institutions, which typically are premised on 12 grades of schooling.

"That is something Russia wants from [Ukraine]," says Mr. Kipiani.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Minister meets with Freedom House

KYIV – Ukraine's Ministry of Justice is calling on the international non-governmental organization Freedom House to provide objective assessments of the situation in Ukraine. This was stated by Minister Oleksander Lavrynovych during a meeting with the executive director of Freedom House, David Kramer, in Kyiv, the press-service of the ministry reported on February 24. Mr. Lavrynovych stressed that authorities are concerned about the recent statement by Freedom House about a decrease in the rating of democratic freedoms in Ukraine. He noted that Ukraine's authorities in the course of reform have to resort to unpopular measures, which affect the ratings of the country. The minister stressed that, after reform, the situation in this country will be better than now. The justice minister called on international experts assessing the situation in Ukraine to be guided by concrete facts rather than emotions or the preferences of opponents or supporters of the reforms and the current Ukrainian authorities. Freedom House's annual report noted deterioration of democratic freedoms in Ukraine during 2010 and changed its rating from free to partly free. (Ukrinform)

### Ukrainian language among top 30

KYIV – In terms of the number of its native speakers – 45 million – the Ukrainian language is in the top 30 languages of the world, it was reported on February 25. This was discussed at a meeting on the problem of mother tongues at Ukrainian schools. The chief editor of the publication *Ukrainian Language and Literature*, Natalia Korzhova, noted that Ukrainian is among the most melodic of languages. During the Language Beauty Pageant, which took place in Paris back in 1934, it finished third, behind only Farsi and French. According to Ms. Korzhova, the Ukrainian language is among the most common languages of the world and at the same time it is the most oppressed. "Speaking about the problems of native languages, for some reason they have in mind the languages of national minorities living in Ukraine, especially Russian, for-

getting about the problems of the titular language," she pointed out. In Ukraine, Ms. Korzhova underlined, all the conditions for preservation and development of minority languages have been created: there are schools, universities, newspapers and magazines, television and the like. "Today, protection from both the state and its citizens is required for the state language because, according to the 2001 census, more than 72 percent of the population of Ukraine recognizes it as native," she said. At the same time, in her view, "the state language in Ukraine is not functioning in a full format." In turn, the chief editor of *Psychologist*, Tetiana Shapoval, suggested that active communication in the native language promotes the personal development of each individual. There are nearly 3,000 languages in the world today: from the billion who speak Chinese and Hindi, to the few speakers of Aleut in the Aleutian Islands in the Pacific Ocean. (Ukrinform)

### Yanukovich speaks to the nation

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, who took part on February 25 in a three-hour live TV broadcast dubbed "Conversation with the Country," called the project a "report to the Ukrainian people, the nation" after a year in office. The president, who in recent days had received more than 35,000 questions from citizens from all regions of the country, said that the main achievement of his year's work was halting economic decline. Although, he added, "if I said that life has become very good, I would be disingenuous." He added, "The main thing is that we have managed to stop the decline of the economy and we have economic growth of more than 4 percent, industrial growth of almost 11 percent and we overcame a huge deficit, which as of the beginning of 2010 was 15 percent and now is 5 percent." The president said that the task for himself and his team is to improve the competitiveness of domestic products, 60 percent of which are exported. He called for the development of the coal industry and bringing order to the agricultural

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## NEWS ANALYSIS

## Experts say Yanukovich institutes “neo-Soviet” rule in Ukraine

by Gregory Feifer  
RFE/RL

He's destroyed his country's democratic institutions and reduced quality of life for most of his compatriots. That's the verdict against Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich by many of the country's political experts one year into his presidency.

Not that major change in Ukraine was completely unexpected. When Mr. Yanukovich took power a year ago to the day after an election that repudiated five years of rule by the Orange Revolution's leaders, he said they'd left his country in a state of “ruin.” He promised what he called a “course of deep reform and systematic modernization in every area of public life” that he said would “carry out a new wave of much-needed socioeconomic transformation.”

At the top of his list was fighting corruption and reforming the state bureaucracy. But, one year on, political experts say his policies have been either incomplete or regressive, aimed at canceling the Orange Revolution's democratic gains.

A survey of expert opinions about Mr. Yanukovich's first year in office by Kyiv's Democratic Initiatives Foundation found most of those polled say his main accomplishment is to have concentrated power in his own hands, says its director, sociologist Iryna Bekeshkina.

“Yanukovich built a full vertical power structure with himself at the top,” she said, “holding all levers of power, including ones that are formally independent.”

#### Selective justice

Mr. Bekeshkina said Mr. Yanukovich has undermined Parliament – where his Party of Regions holds a majority – by turning it into a “vehicle for the Presidential Administration's bills.” She said he's also used law enforcement to carry out “selective justice” against his rivals.

Prosecutors have targeted opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko and her allies in what the government says is part of a campaign against corruption.

Ms. Tymoshenko – a former prime

minister who narrowly lost the election to Mr. Yanukovich last year – is under investigation on charges of misuse of funds. She's been barred from leaving Kyiv. Her ally, former Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Lutsenko, is in jail on charges that his driver embezzled \$45,000. Both deny the allegations, and Ms. Tymoshenko says Yanukovich is really using the drive as an excuse to jail her supporters.

Speaking last month after New York-based Freedom House downgraded its rating of Ukraine from “free” to “partly free,” Ms. Tymoshenko said Ukraine has regressed a decade.

“That's the result of the new president's first year in office,” she said. “All those who hoped for freedom, justice and rule of law have nothing to hope for anymore. Now that's recognized not just by the Ukrainian opposition, but by the whole world.”

#### Regressive policies

Besides marginalizing the opposition, human rights activists say the government has moved to censor the media. The European Union and other European organizations have also criticized the government over journalists' complaints about censorship and physical attacks.

Political expert Vadim Karasyov calls Mr. Yanukovich's rule “neo-Soviet” for undercutting pluralistic politics.

“The president's power is based on personal factors, not institutions,” he said. “The political system has been transformed into Yanukovich's personal regime.”

As for their effectiveness, Mr. Karasyov said that Mr. Yanukovich's policies have been “either half-baked, retrograde or simply unfulfilled.”

Among his policies, experts say his legal overhaul has made the judicial system dependent on the president by giving him the power to hire and fire judges. And, although the government has reduced the number of bureaucrats, Mr. Karasyov said their fewer numbers haven't reduced corruption, lessened red tape or improved the climate for business.

In economic reform, Ms. Bekeshkina said the government has reduced its bud-

get deficit mainly by slashing pensions and social welfare. “Reform has been paid for by the population's falling standard of living,” she said.

Instead of creating greater transparency, Ms. Bekeshkina said, Mr. Yanukovich's tax reform has pushed small and medium-sized businesses – seen as the opposition's backbone of support – further into the grey market.

She says those developments have changed, not lessened, what's seen as the country's worst problem: corruption. “If it was chaotic and unsystematic before,” Mr. Bekeshkina said, “now it's becoming part of the power vertical system. It's allowed only for those in power and no one else.”

#### Russia ties

The main factor holding President Yanukovich back from instituting a fully “Russian model” of authoritarianism, Mr. Karasyov said, is the presence of his arch-rival Ms. Tymoshenko. The embattled opposition leader was an icon of the Orange Revolution in 2004, when street protests helped overturn Mr. Yanukovich's victory in a rigged presidential election.

Ms. Tymoshenko has been especially vocal about Mr. Yanukovich's decision to end Ukraine's drive to join the European Union and NATO in favor of re-establishing close relations with Moscow.

Mr. Yanukovich extended Russia's lease for a former Soviet naval base at the Black Sea port of Sevastopol. In return, Moscow gave Ukraine a discount on the amount it pays for Russian natural gas. The deal helped roll back the previous administration's policy of minimizing the influence of Moscow.

Such moves have been popular in Ukraine's largely Russian-speaking east, which overwhelmingly backs Mr. Yanukovich, but have alienated people in western Ukraine, the opposition's main base of support in the deeply divided country.

President Yanukovich's policies have also strained relations with the West. The European Union last month blocked millions of dollars in aid to protest changes to regulations on public tenders it said would

make them less transparent.

But, despite Ukraine's clear reorientation away from the West, Mr. Karasyov criticizes Mr. Yanukovich for having “no real strategy” in foreign policy. “It's just tactical zigzags,” he said.

#### Downplaying Ukrainian identity

Other domestic policies, such as reversing decisions to honor Ukrainian nationalists who resisted Soviet authorities, have angered many in western Ukraine. New history textbooks have also downplayed the anti-Communist resistance, measures that Ms. Bekeshkina says have impeded the development of Ukrainian national identity.

“Ukraine is a very young country, it will be only 20 this year, and needs to develop its language and own view of history,” she said. “But now that's being cut back because of many scandals, including the shutting of Ukrainian schools.”

One year on, has President Yanukovich managed to roll back the gains of the Orange Revolution? Not yet, says Mr. Karasyov, but he adds that this year will be pivotal.

“It will show whether Yanukovich will be able to turn Ukraine around completely by driving Tymoshenko out of politics, scattering the opposition, and taking the political system under his control,” he said, “or whether Ukraine's democratic development can't be turned around.”

Mr. Karasyov says Mr. Yanukovich has so far been unable to crush Ms. Tymoshenko because he governs not in his own interest, but in the interest of a handful of powerful billionaires who financed his campaign.

However the political conflict plays out, Ms. Bekeshkina says it's unclear how the country will emerge. “For now,” she said, “we're walking away from European values.”

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## Ukrainians honor Catholic patriarch

RFE/RL

KHARKIV, Ukraine – A plaque honoring the Soviet-era political prisoner Patriarch Josyf Slipyj of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, has been unveiled in the eastern city of Kharkiv, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on February 23.

The plaque was placed on February 22 on the building housing the Kharkiv City Transport Inspection Police, site of a former Soviet-era transit jail in which Patriarch Josyf spent several weeks in 1961 en route to a Siberian prison camp.

Kharkiv Oblast Governor Mykhailo Dobkin, Kharkiv Mayor Hennadii Kernes, Lviv Oblast Governor Mykhailo Tsymbalyuk and Lviv City Mayor Andrii Sadovyi took part in the ceremony.

Slipyj was harshly persecuted by the Soviet regime and spent many years in jails. He refused to convert to the Moscow-controlled Orthodox Church when the Soviets liquidated the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

Responding to pressure from the Vatican and U.S. President John F. Kennedy, the Soviet leadership released Patriarch Josyf and let him leave the USSR in 1963. Slipyj died in Rome in 1984 at the age of 92.

Slipyj was made a cardinal by Pope Paul VI in 1965. He was also the major archbishop of Lviv as head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church from 1944 to 1984.

The first plaque commemorating Patriarch Josyf was officially unveiled in Kharkiv in 2005 but was damaged by pro-Russian groups in 2008. The local Catholic congregation and the organization of Ukrainian Youth arranged for its registration.

In 2010, pro-Russian organizations in Kharkiv won a lawsuit to demand the restored plaque not be publicly displayed. Yuri Apukhtin, leader of the Great Rus' organization, and some of his supporters subsequently destroyed it.

About 8 percent of Ukrainian Christians belong to the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

## Ukrainian national deputy says state language ‘under pressure’

RFE/RL

KYIV – A national deputy from the ruling party said on February 21, International Mother Language Day, that the Ukrainian language “remains under pressure,” RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported.

Vitaliy Zablotskyi told RFE/RL that in recent months the opportunities for parents to send their children to schools using Ukrainian as the language of instruction have narrowed, especially in the eastern part of the country where linguistic Russification is more prevalent.

“Some of my colleagues say that freedom of choice should be taken into account when choosing schools for children, but if the number of schools in Ukrainian is limited, it means the choices are limited too,” Mr. Zablotskyi said.

Mr. Zablotskyi is a member of President Viktor Yanukovich's Party of Regions.

In the last several months, some Ukrainian-language schools have been

closed in the eastern part of the country. Parents in Luhansk have resorted to hunger strikes to defend their children's right to an education in Ukrainian.

Several towns and cities in Ukraine marked the International Mother Language Day by holding special events at schools, universities and writers' organizations.

Ukrainian is the state language of the country, but Russian is widely spoken, particularly in eastern and southern Ukraine. Ukrainian language predominates in the western and central parts of the country.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: International Mother Language Day was proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in November 1999. According to the United Nations website, it has been observed every year since February 2000 to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.*





The Old Academy Building of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.



French Ambassador Jacques Faure speaks during the fund-raiser.

## Restoring an icon of academic identity: Kyiv Mohyla Academy

by Paul Johnson  
*Business Ukraine*

KYIV – In the early 1990s one of the most potent symbols of Ukraine's re-emerging independent identity was the return of Kyiv Mohyla Academy as the nation's flagship university.

However, while patriots toasted the return of an institute which had for centuries served as a seat of learning for Ukraine's leaders, the sheer scale of the task was daunting. During the Soviet period many of the academy's older buildings had been neglected and allowed to fall into a state of disrepair, but with priority given in the early 1990s to getting undergraduates back into the classroom as quickly as possible, large-scale restoration works addressing the university's infrastructure problems had to take a back seat.

Twenty years later, the issue of architectural upkeep is once again moving to the top of the agenda at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, university leaders look to protect the institute's priceless architectural and spiritual inheritance.

### An icon of Ukrainian education

Early 2011 saw the start of a new fund-raising drive which is designed to finance the restoration of one of the university's most iconic buildings – The Old Academy Building which houses the university's immense book collection and which traces its roots back to the era of Hetman Ivan Mazepa in the early years of the 18th century. This venerable building is literally crammed from floor to ceiling with thousands upon thousands of books – many of them personal libraries donated over the centuries by prominent Ukrainian academics and politicians.

The winds of ancient history continue to blow through the corridors of the Old Academy Building, offering a glimpse of the figures and events to have shaped



Members of the restoration advisory board, including French Ambassador Jacques Faure, rock star-turned-patron of the arts Pavlo Gudimov and fashion designer Lilya Pustovit join National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy Honorary President Viacheslav Briukhovetsky on stage.

Ukrainian identity over the centuries. This is the building where luminaries such as Ukrainian philosopher Hryhorii Skovoroda studied – indeed, while a portrait of Skovoroda is featured on Ukraine's current 500 hrv banknote, the flipside is dominated by a plan of the Old Academy Building itself.

The building is still in use today for post-graduate studies, but it is in a poor state of repair and is currently a mere shadow of its former splendor – a situation which university supporters and management argue is hardly in keeping with the prestige which the academy claims for itself within the context of Ukrainian academic history.

It is hoped that the current round of fund-raising will secure the necessary finance to pay for a complete renovation of

the building in time for the university's planned 400th birthday celebrations in 2015 – allowing one of Ukraine's oldest seats of learning to continue providing top quality education for another few hundred years at least.

### Project attracts corporate support

At the fund-raising launch event in early January, the man behind the re-establishment of Kyiv Mohyla Academy in the early 1990s – honorary university President Viacheslav Briukhovetsky – spoke passionately about this latest stage in the institute's rebirth. He likened the university to a fortress of spirituality and expanded on its role as a symbol of Ukrainian continuity – a place where the nation's history is preserved.

Thanks to his work over the past 20

years, Prof. Briukhovetsky can today count on the goodwill and support of many Kyiv Mohyla Academy graduates now working as executives and CEOs at Ukraine's top companies. The restoration project has already attracted an impressive array of corporate sponsors, including Dragon Capital, Raiffeisen Bank Aval, BDO and IIT investment group, alongside many of the country's leading cultural and business publications including Tyzhden magazine, Den newspaper and Invest Gazeta.

Kyiv embassies – led by the French and the Canadians – have also been loyal supporters of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy over the past 20 years and are expected to continue this trend as preparations for the 400th birthday pick up pace.

### Counting on diaspora donations

The National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy also enjoys the support of an influential segment of the North American Ukrainian diaspora, which has long been among the most financially generous supporters of the university, providing funding for the construction of a number of today's most regularly used study areas and other student facilities.

Kyiv Mohyla Academy has its own foundation in America and, as this latest restoration project kicks off, the academy's U.S. foundation will play a key role in fund-raising efforts throughout the Ukrainian diaspora. Generous diaspora support, together with the material and spiritual backing which can be expected from Kyiv Mohyla's post-Soviet graduates and the university's many admirers, should prove sufficient to ensure that the university is restored to its historic glory in time for its 400th birthday.

*The article above is reprinted with permission from Business Ukraine (www.bunews.com.ua).*



National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy President Serhiy Kvit with Raisa Bohatryriova (center) of the National Security and Defense Council and National Deputy Lesia Orobets.



Ukrainian music icon Oleh Skrypka (left) with National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy Honorary President Viacheslav Briukhovetsky



## Ukraine's politicians...

(Continued from page 1)

"The Tymoshenko Bloc technologists are counting on a situation emerging in Ukraine similar to what happened in the Middle East – mass protests coordinated through social networks," Mr. Dovzhenko said. "Tymoshenko wants those protests to be in her support and she wants to be close to the people through social networks."

Prosecutors have called Ms. Tymoshenko in for questioning on a daily basis since December 2010 in what political observers agree is a campaign to put pressure on the opposition leader and ultimately destroy her political career with convictions on criminal charges.

The former prime minister has used Twitter for more than mocking her political opponents.

On February 18, Ms. Tymoshenko tweeted a warning about an attempted raid on her Batkivshchyna party headquarters, alleging agents of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) planned to break in and confiscate its main computer server. The SBU immediately denied any such attempt.

Whether it was real or a public relations stunt, Ms. Tymoshenko got the attention she needed. "The first attack was thwarted. The information wave worked. They were called [by the media] and they ran away. SBU never denied its actions so quickly," she tweeted.

Ms. Tymoshenko has turned to Twitter because she doesn't have her own television networks to engage in propaganda, said Viktoriya Siumar, director of the Institute of Mass Information in Kyiv.

"It's very important that she keeps attention drawn to her matter," she said. "She has few mass media outlets and needs to use free, modern means of communication. Life compelled it."

Ms. Tymoshenko's Twitter posts have yet to achieve the popularity of those by Lesya Orobets, the 28-year-old national deputy of the Our Ukraine—People's Self-Defense Bloc. (She's a member of the Single Center party led by Viktor Baloha, the minister of emergency situations.)

Ms. Orobets began tweeting in June 2009, offering readers insight into behind-the-scenes activity at parliamentary sessions and committee hearings that the public doesn't have access to, Ms. Siumar said. She also informs the public about the latest legislative activity on education, a theme she champions in her political life.

As a result, she's among the most popular politicians within Ukraine's younger generations, drawing more than 5,000 fol-

lowers on her Twitter page (<https://twitter.com/LesyaOrobets>) and the LiveJournal site, which also posts her tweets, Ms. Siumar said.

"She writes everything herself and actively comments on events," Ms. Siumar noted. "She constantly informs the public of her activity."

Even allies of the Yanukovich administration actively employ Twitter, among them oligarch Mihailo Brodskiy. After his appointment as chair of the State Committee on Regulatory Policy and Entrepreneurship, he asked his staff to begin posting all its events, decisions and initiatives through its own Twitter site.

"Public service [bodies] ought to be in step with the times," Orest Sokhar, the committee's deputy chair, said in August 2010, when the initiative was introduced. "Many people – particularly youth – get information from Twitter. Now those who are interested in what's happening in the business community can easily follow the committee's work. They simply need to sign on to our news."

Having embraced new media, Mr. Brodskiy also launched his own personal LiveJournal site that posts his tweets. He didn't pull any punches during the tax revolt of November 2010, condemning the protesters and insisting the Yanukovich administration was on the right path with its proposed tax code.

Needless to say, he received a flood of nasty responses, which didn't bother the politician or affect his in-your-face style (<http://twitter.com/mihailobrodskiy>).

Recently he fired back at comments asking why Ukrainians should work the same hours as Europeans yet receive only a fraction of their wages. (Mr. Brodskiy owns numerous factories known for their low wages.)

"People work a lot more in Europe," he posted on February 24. "With identical production conditions, Italian output is greater than ours. For example, one of my factories had merit-based pay, but the employees worked without enthusiasm all the same. Yet, when living abroad, Ukrainians immediately begin to work more."

Mr. Brodskiy continues to use Twitter to comment on political events and even shares details of his personal life, such as where he dines, the latest movies he's seen and daily observations.

"There's snow on the streets of Kyiv – accidents and jams," he wrote on February 22. "If we don't change anything, Kyiv will stop altogether in a few years. We'll be like Moscow residents, spending half our lives in traffic jams."



## THE UNA FORUM

### Home Office celebrates UNA's 117th birthday



Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Executive officers and employees of the Ukrainian National Association, including staffers of its two newspapers, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, on February 22 marked the 117th anniversary of the UNA's founding. The Home Office crew enjoyed a birthday cake and sang "Mnohaya Lita" for the oldest and largest Ukrainian fraternal organization.

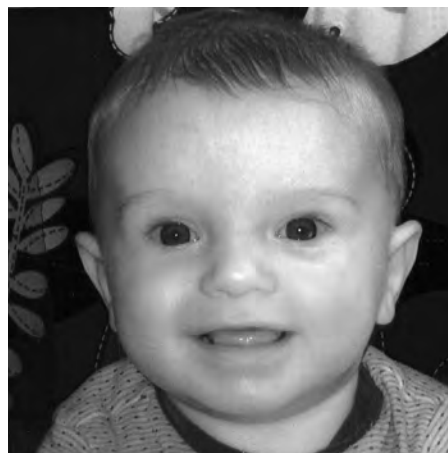
### Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

### Young UNA'ers



Roman Polyuga, son of Olga Senyk and Ruslan Polyuga of Los Angeles, is a new member of UNA Branch 257. He was enrolled by Luba Poniatsyzyn Keske, an advisor on the UNA General Assembly.



Sophie H. Zamyatin, daughter of Victoria Popova and Oleksi Zamyatin of San Diego, is a new member of UNA Branch 777. She was enrolled by her "American grandmother," Vera Skop.

### FOR THE RECORD: UCC writes to Cardinal Husar

Following is an excerpt of a letter to Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, who resigned on February 10 as the primate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, from National President Paul Grod of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress

... On behalf of the whole of the Ukrainian Canadian community, please accept our sincere gratitude for the work you have put in over the years for the benefit of the Ukrainian people.

On the 10th anniversary of your service, you were faced with many challenges: consolidating the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church both in and outside of Ukraine, guiding the faithful during the creation of an independent Ukraine, and, last but not least, ensuring that the Ukrainian

Greek-Catholic Church occupies a proud and dignified place among the Churches of the world.

Throughout all these years, you became not only a spiritual leader and a role model for your followers, but also a moral compass for all of the Ukrainian community – always enlightening people with the truth about God and God's role in our lives.

Because of your steadfast dedication and indomitable faith, the main altar of the Church was returned to the spiritual heart of Ukraine – Kyiv, and millions of the faithful from all over the world continue to rediscover God and find a place for him in their hearts.

Again, please accept our gratitude for your years of devoted service. May God bless you, the Church and all of the people of Ukraine.



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Ukraine's PR message

"Ukraine's government will not be tempted by the false choice between reforms and democracy." Those words in a March 1 letter to the editor of The Washington Post got our attention. Was someone saying that it could only be one or the other?

The letter by Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., Olexander Motsyk was in reaction to the February 23 editorial titled "Slipping in Ukraine" (or "Ukraine: A democratic revolution in reverse" as it appeared online). The editorial pointed to the "backsliding" under way in Ukraine, which it said "may be creeping out of the democratic camp" under the Yanukovich administration. Among the problems cited were selective prosecution of Orange Revolution leaders, pressure on the news media and tainted local elections.

Ambassador Motsyk wrote: "The suggestion that the government of Ukraine is rolling back the democratic promise of the Orange Revolution was off the mark. The promise of the revolution was betrayed much earlier – by its own leaders, who failed to make democracy a key to successful reforms and a major transformation of Ukraine's society. ...President Viktor Yanukovich is doing what should have been done six years ago: proclaiming an ambitious reform agenda, recruiting people capable of implementing it, passing unpopular but necessary laws and cracking down on corruption." He continued: "But Post readers can rest assured that Ukraine's government will not be tempted by the false choice between reforms and democracy. ..."

Similarly, The Wall Street Journal's editorial titled "Orange Crushed" (February 7) pointed out that "Mr. Yanukovich's government is now busily trying to reverse democratic rights, putting pressure on the press, ramming constitutional changes into law to increase his power and extending the parliament's term by a year. ..."

That too elicited a response from a Ukrainian diplomat – this time from Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, whose February 12 letter argued: "...the Yanukovich administration has worked tirelessly to advance Ukraine's democratic ambitions, improve the electoral process, expand the rule of law and begin [a] major program of social and economic reform. ...the Yanukovich administration has brought Ukraine stability as well as the kinds of necessary, and at times difficult, reforms that have been lauded by countless international observers..."

Clearly, Kyiv feels if you repeat something often enough it becomes believable.

Even Minister of Justice Oleksander Lavrynovych has gotten into the PR game. According to a report by the Ukrinform news service, he told Freedom House Executive Director David J. Kramer that his NGO should provide "objective assessments" of the situation in Ukraine. That was a reference to Freedom House's downgrading of Ukraine from "free" to "partly free" in its most recent annual report on global freedom. Citing the Justice Ministry's February 23 release, Ukrinform reported: "He [Mr. Lavrynovych] noted that Ukraine's authorities in the course of reform have to resort to unpopular measures, which affect the ratings of the country. The minister stressed that, after reform, the situation in this country will be better than now."

Hmmm, must be that false choice between reforms and democracy. Reforms now, democracy later? What exactly is the message being sent by Ukraine's leaders?

March  
6  
2008

### Turning the pages back...

Three years ago, on March 6, 2008, during a meeting of NATO countries' ministers of foreign affairs in Brussels, some Western European leaders cold-shouldered Georgia's and Ukraine's NATO Membership Action Plans (MAPs) by dragging their feet in deference to Russia.

The meeting, which adjourned without a decision on the major chapter of the summit's agenda, was in preparation for the NATO summit to be held in Bucharest in April of that year. This meeting was also the first time that a discussion on the merits of MAP aspirants was held on the ministerial level.

Georgia's MAP application was seen as more controversial than Ukraine's, with most of the debate centered not on Georgia's performance in taking steps toward NATO, but rather concerns for relations with Russia, especially from Germany, France and a handful of other Western European governments.

French Foreign Affairs Minister Bernard Kouchner urged the Brussels meeting participants to "take into account Russia's sensitivity and the important role it plays."

"We think that EU-Russia relations are absolutely important. And France is not the only country wanting to maintain a relationship with Russia as a great nation," Minister Kouchner was quoted as saying in La Monde on March 8, 2008.

German Minister of Foreign Affairs Frank-Walter Steinmeier focused on relations with Russia, said he was "skeptical" on the MAP and called for a "calm discussion" of the differences within NATO. "In Russia we have a new president and I think that the European Union wants to put its ties with Russia on another footing."

This was echoed by Luxembourg's Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Asselborn, who said, "We have to take the interests of others, not only of NATO members, into account."

Spain and the Netherlands were said to be motivated by internal EU politics in resisting the NATO aspirations of Georgia and Ukraine.

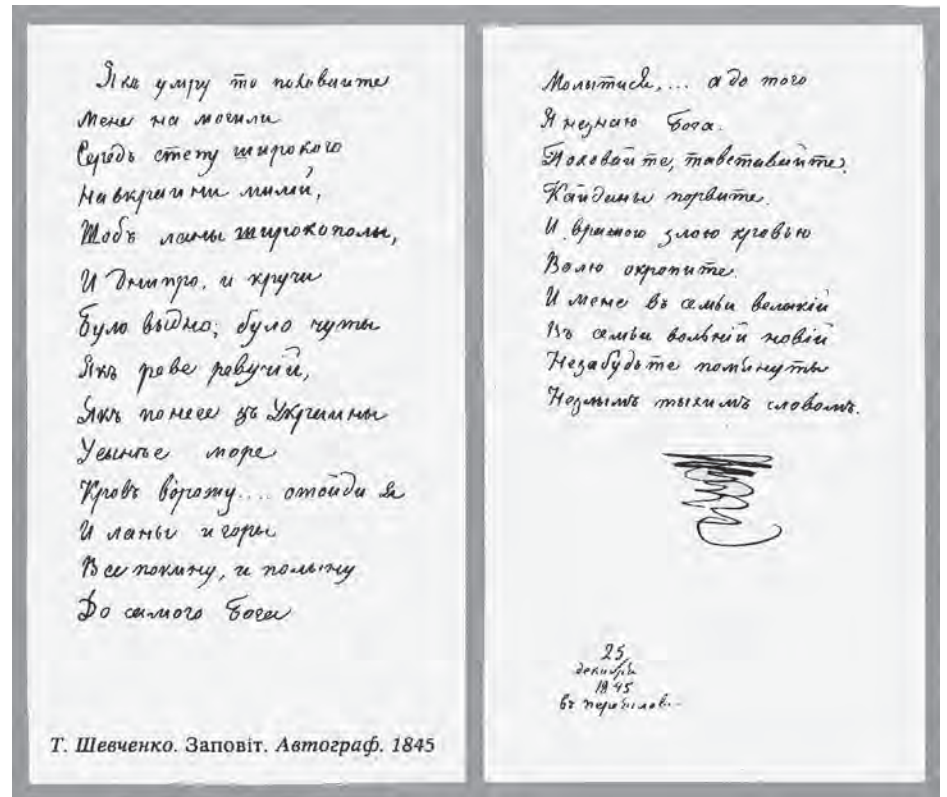
Four main arguments against the MAPs emerged from the meeting, including: Russia's energy supplies to Europe; Russian reassurance of peaceful Western intent and other security issues; counterposing agendas of the EU and NATO; and the reluctance to damage relations with Russia.

Such arguments would award Russia indirect levers of influence and distort NATO decisions – in this case over the eligibility of countries for Membership Action Plans and accession prospects. The integrity of NATO's decision-making process, and even its capacity to take internal decisions fully independent of Russia, were at stake in the MAP debate in the run-up to the alliance's summit. (Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin was invited to attend the NATO summit in Bucharest.)

Source: "Some Western European states cold-shoulder Georgia, Ukraine," by Vladimir Socor (Eurasia Daily Monitor), The Ukrainian Weekly, March 16, 2008.

## SHEVCHENKO ANNIVERSARY

### How "Testament" was written



Taras Shevchenko's "Zapovit," or "Testament," written in 1845.

by Mykola Chubuk

On December 25, 1845, Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko wrote his outstanding and most well-known poem, "Testament," in Pereyaslav. Set to music in more than 60 versions, "Testament" has also been translated into 147 languages.

Shevchenko was fortunate enough to meet many remarkable personalities, something he invariably spoke about with gratitude and pride. Those with whom he developed close personal relationships included Andriy Kozachkivsky, whose affectionate friendship the poet valued all his life.

A professional physician, Kozachkivsky graduated from the St. Petersburg Academy of Medicine and Surgery in 1835. Back home from a trip round the world, he was catching up on news in literature and arts and thus came across the almanac "Lastivka" (The Swallow) edited by Yevhen Hrebinka. There he read Shevchenko's poems for the first time and was greatly impressed by their simplicity and strength. He asked his Ukrainian countrymen to introduce him to the author.

That first meeting took place in the fall of 1841. They immediately became friends and talked late into the night. From then on, Shevchenko would often call on his new friend to read to him his latest poems.

When Kozachkivsky moved to Pereyaslav (now the town of Pereyaslav-Khmelnysky, Kyiv region), where he worked as a doctor and a teacher of medicine at the local seminary, Shevchenko often stayed with him during his visits to Ukraine.

Shevchenko made one such visit in August 1845, just after graduating from the Academy of Art with the diploma of a "free artist." After a stay in Pereyaslav, he continued his trip but soon caught cold and had to spend several days in bed in the town of

Myrhorod near Poltava. Realizing that he should not travel in such a state, Shevchenko returned to Pereyaslav for treatment, but left again as soon as his health showed a slight improvement.

However, his recovery was far from complete, and on December 24, 1845, the poet fell seriously ill. He was in critical condition by the time he was brought back to Pereyaslav, where Kozachkivsky did all he could to save him. At a certain stage it looked as if the doctor might fail. And thus, one night when all hope of recovery seemed lost, Shevchenko lit a candle, sat down at a table and wrote his famous "Testament."

Finally, the remedies prescribed by his doctor and Shevchenko's own youthful organism overcame the illness, and the poet's health took a turn for the better. Shevchenko grew more cheerful and communicative, and would often talk to Kozachkivsky's patients.

That was an extremely fruitful period for the poet. In Pereyaslav he wrote "The Housemaid" and "The Caucasus." He also painted several landscapes and a self-portrait, which unfortunately has not been saved.

The friends met again in 1859. As Kozachkivsky wrote in his memoirs, in June of that year a mail coach drove into his yard. He did not recognize the passenger at first. The exile with its innumerable moral and physical sufferings had altered Shevchenko almost beyond recognition.

Silently, they greeted each other and went inside the house. Too moved to speak, the poet paced up and down the room. Then he saw the bustle of a fair through a window and suggested they go there at once. There, among the people who were so painfully dear to him, he gradually calmed down. When they returned from the fair, Shevchenko had cheered up sufficiently to tell Kozachkivsky about his ordeal.

After lunch he wanted to see the Dnipro and set out for the river on foot without waiting until the horses were harnessed. Kozachkivsky picked him up when he was already past the boundary of the town, and they drove on together.

That was an unforgettable experience. The friends caught some fish in

Mykola Chubuk was a freelance writer and a contributor for the magazines Ukraine (Kyiv) and Forum (United States).

The article above was provided by the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto.

(Continued on page 16)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Re: comment about Snyder

Dear Editor,

Further to "A comment about Snyder" (letter, February 23), I agree with the criticisms of Lydia Kossak Kernitsky concerning the position taken by author Timothy Snyder on Ukraine's freedom fighters. I, too, believe that he is misguided in some of his negative views on the OUN and the UPA. As I have written before, those who criticize the missteps of Ukraine's freedom fighters miss the key point: it was a do or die moment.

However, I consider the impact of Dr. Snyder's exposé of Stalin's evil side by side with that of Hitler very important to Ukraine's history and the battles taking place there now, as well as those of the diaspora around the world, for the hearts and minds of fair-minded people duped or ignorant of Communist atrocities.

In my judgement, the value of Dr. Snyder's book outweighs his primarily Internet-based misrepresentations. "Bloodlands" sets the stage for a more responsible treatment of the OUN and UPA liberation movement by any author of the future. This rationale allowed me to take him off my Worst List – he was there for reasons cited by the letter-writer – and to put him in the 2010 Best List (January 30).

I hope that people like Ms. Kernitsky and others continue to counter some of Dr. Snyder's positions. It will be a measure of the man's scholarship to see how he treats the subject in the future. The Best and Worst List will respond in kind.

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn  
Ottawa

### The villains of Ukraine

Dear Editor:

Ex-President Viktor Yushchenko is one of the primary villains in Ukraine.

Throughout his presidency, policies succeeded in destroying opposition to the Russophile political leaders, robber oligarchs, who were horrified and frightened of democracy becoming a reality, especially after the Orange side won the election in 2005.

When Mr. Yushchenko became president, he appointed Viktor Yanukovich, the enemy of the Orange Revolution, as prime minister of Ukraine (2005-2007).

Mr. Yushchenko was emotionally obsessed with hatred for Yulia Tymoshenko and was against her party members, with whom he initially joined forces for an independent democratic Ukraine.

Ironically, he became president with the help of Ms. Tymoshenko. She had 31 percent of the votes; Mr. Yushchenko had a lot less. He would have never been president without Ms. Tymoshenko.

To pacify the criminal robber oligarch gang, Mr. Yushchenko did not convert Ukraine to a democratic rule-of-law country. Mr. Yushchenko did not even ban the Communist Party, because they were supporters of the Party of Regions.

Police, prosecutors and judges continued to not be independent. People's rights were left limited. Oligarchs were allowed to be loyal to their pockets only. The laws remained largely as they were under his dear friend Leonid Kuchma.

Three days before the second 2010

election, Mr. Yushchenko illegally changed the rules to favor the Party of Regions. Mr. Yushchenko and Arseniy Yatsenyuk told the people in western Ukraine not to vote for anyone. The people listened to him and 5 percent did not vote. This took away votes from the opposition to the Russophile elements.

Two years earlier, Mr. Yushchenko's rating in Ukraine was 2 percent because he did nothing for the people of Ukraine. He became popular in the West because community leaders worked hard to educate the world about the Holodomor of 1932-1933. He acknowledged the Holodomor and was hosted by the diaspora. But he did nothing to improve the lives of the living in Ukraine. His policies and his squabbles with Ms. Tymoshenko kept Ukraine out of Europe.

Mr. Yushchenko is a Judas to 45 percent of Ukraine's citizens who voted for a democratic Ukraine in 2010. These are the supporters of the Orange Revolution who gathered on the Maidan in Kyiv and won the election in 2005.

Today, Ukraine is run by thugs and an anti-Ukrainian dictator whom Mr. Yushchenko helped win the 2010 election.

The government is hell bent on demoralizing the freedom fighters of Ukraine. Today these people are harassed and beaten; their homes are vandalized, some destroyed; many are arrested illegally and charged by corrupt people beholden to the mafia in government. People in opposition to the Yanukovich regime are being terrorized.

Today, Mr. Yushchenko is a baron and a billionaire hero of Russophiles and enemies of Ukraine. Meanwhile, Ukraine is being sold to its enemy for profit in the thugs' pockets.

Pearl Holubowsky  
Toronto

### Karatnycky reacts to editorial

Dear Editor:

I have been traveling overseas in recent days, and so was only recently able to read The Ukrainian Weekly's editorial of February 13, "Let the Reader Beware," which inaccurately characterizes me as a "point man" in Washington for the Yanukovich forces and declares that I have been "hired" by the Party of Regions.

Let me state for the record, I am not a lobbyist for the government of Ukraine, for Ukraine's president or his administration or for the Party of Regions; nor do I receive money from them.

The Weekly is free to disagree with my views editorially. But I hope you will criticize my views for what they are: my own views, shaped by my own evolving perceptions of developments in Ukraine.

In my writings, I do not hide the fact that I believe criticisms bordering on hysteria have exaggerated the real decline in political, media and civic freedoms in Ukraine and inaccurately cast President Viktor Yanukovich as a villainous instrument of the Kremlin. While concern over rights regression merits criticism, claims that the state of liberty in Ukraine is comparable to Russia are completely off-track.

That said, I am on record in observing that the case against Yulia Tymoshenko represents a crossroads for President Yanukovich. And her conviction and imprisonment can only be seen as politically motivated, given the lack of inde-

pendence of Ukraine's courts. I am also a harsh critic of the policies of Education Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk, who has polarized relations between eastern and western Ukraine.

At the same time, I believe that President Yanukovich has unveiled an ambitious program of government deregulation, reduced taxes on business, pared down the size of government bureaucracy, and produced a fiscal plan that has thus far satisfied the International Monetary Fund. Nor has he pressed unrelentingly to make Russian a state language and instead recently urged the people of eastern Ukraine to "Learn Ukrainian, that will be normal. ... We live on Ukrainian soil and we should respect and honor it."

As importantly, despite caricatures of his positions, President Yanukovich has improved relations with Russia, while defending Ukraine's national interests by protecting sovereign control over its energy pipeline systems. In addition, he has opened the door to energy diversification through exploration with the help of the U.S. government and has traveled around the world to open Ukraine to new investments.

Readers interested in my assessment of the Yanukovich presidency can look at my recent article (February 24) in the New Atlanticist. ([acus.org/new\\_atlanticist/yanukovich-report-card-one-year-power](http://acus.org/new_atlanticist/yanukovich-report-card-one-year-power)).

As a U.S. citizen of Ukrainian ancestry, I am interested in seeing Ukraine move closer to Europe on the basis of democratic practices, a growing economy, a foreign policy that enhances Ukraine's sovereignty, and unity and cohesion between East and West. In my view this can best be done through engagement with Ukraine and its leaders, cooperating with them in those areas where they are on the right track and criticizing them when they err. In that role, I am ready to be a "point man."

Adrian Karatnycky  
New York

*The letter-writer is senior fellow, Atlantic Council of the U.S., and coordinator of its Ukraine-North America Dialogue.*

### About cooperation with Russia

Dear Editor:

Now that the new U.S.-Russia nuclear treaty has gone into effect, and the partnership with Russia has become so vital to continued progress in other areas, there remain many unanswered questions, most pressing among them to what extent will such cooperation take effect and what will be its consequences.

What is worrying many East European countries, particularly Russia's neighbors, is the extent of this cooperation and the danger it poses to their democracies and the freedom of their people. Why do better relations with Russia come at the expense of Russia's neighbors by allowing Russia to meddle in the internal and external affairs of its neighbors, most notably Ukraine, by allowing Russia to orchestrate elections that have been rife with widespread fraud and resulted in a new government almost entirely composed of corrupt, criminal and Ukrainophobic elements?

If such cooperation is to continue at the expense of Russia's neighbors, then all of Russia's neighbors will be in great jeopardy. Their freshly won freedom and the process of democratization of their countries will soon be past history. Obviously, this will please Russia beyond its expectations. And, once again, thanks to the "freedom-loving" democracies of the West, the deceitful Russian sphinx will triumph as it has done on many occasions in the past.

Rather than representing and defending the aspirations of nations that have freed themselves from the Russian yoke, the leaders of Western democracies, have yet again chosen to appease the Russian imperial appetite. By their flagrant disregard for the sovereignty, democracy and political independence of Ukraine and the freedom of its people, and countless victims of Russian terror, they have shown again their abhorrent disregard for their own Western values. In doing so, they are discrediting themselves.

Ukraine and the new democracies of Eastern Europe, as it appears now, cannot expect that the political rationale of the Western leadership will change soon enough. Time is running out.

Lubomyr M. Pawlowych  
Union, N.J.

### Congratulations on Year in Review

Dear Editor:

Congratulations on the excellent articles in "2010: The Year in Review" in The Ukrainian Weekly issues of January 16 and 23.

This year you and your staff did an outstanding summary and presented all-important information to us, the readers – for which we are very grateful.

These articles should be shared with the people of Ukraine to show them how the free press and people function in a free society, and are not used as a tool of the government.

Great job. Thank you.

Jerry Zinyac  
Venice, Fla.

### We welcome your opinion

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

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



## NEWS AND VIEWS

# Former Canadian ambassador on wrong side of East-West divide

by Jars Balan

On November 19, 2010, the Toronto Star ran a news story by Allan Woods under the headline "Canadian diplomat blasts Ottawa's stance toward Russia." The piece, which appeared on the eve of a NATO summit in Lisbon, Portugal, reported on a litany of complaints made by retired Canadian diplomat Christopher Westdal about the Harper government's conduct of Canadian foreign policy toward Russia, Ukraine and Georgia.

In the article Mr. Westdal is said to have "blasted Canada's foreign policy stance toward Russia as outdated and specifically designed to win over ethnic votes in Canada."

He is quoted as saying: "Our prime minister's credibility is undermined by widespread suspicion that his government's policy in East-West security relations is tailored to suit Ukrainian, Baltic and other Russophobe diaspora voting blocs in Canada."

Mr. Westdal further claims that "Rigid neo-con antipathy to Russia (reinforced by conservative national media) and a foreign policy narrowly designed for diasporas have led us to the margins of irrelevance and mischief."

The original source of Mr. Westdal's comments was a policy paper titled "NATO Summit: Making Peace with Russia, Canada Notwithstanding," which he prepared in November 2010 for the Canadian Defense and Foreign Affairs Institute (CDFAI). A Calgary-based think tank that includes many well-known academics, consultants and former civil servants among its fellows, directors and contributors to its publications, the CDFAI is well-connected with Canada's defense establishment and with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), undoubtedly seeking to influence both with its analyses.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress

Jars Balan is chair of the Canada-Ukraine Committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

strongly disagrees with some of the claims that Mr. Westdal makes in his attack on the current Canadian government's handling of relations with Russia, and his attribution of these to "outdated" Cold War posturing and "neo-con antipathy" to Russia.

We particularly take exception with his patronizing and offensive portrayal of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's October 2010 visit to Ukraine, which he described as follows: "He spent his time commemorating no end of atrocities, in avowed aid of remembrance, harping on about his host's transgressions (centralizing power! restricting access to information! no kidding!) and, to who knows what end (or Canadian national interest), stoking a sense of aggrieved Ukrainian victimhood and narrow nationalism. It was to these ends, presumably, that the prime minister exaggerated, more than doubled, the number of Ukrainian victims of the Holodomor [sic] – doing their memory scant service, surely, with the inference that 4 million were too few, 10 million need have died to make the point."

Mr. Westdal's rhetoric and his choice of targets reveals more about his own partisan political prejudices than it does about Ukrainians, Russians, or a host of other issues. What seems obvious from the substance of his remarks is that the real target of his venom was Stephen Harper, whom he unfavourably compares with Brian Mulroney, Pierre Trudeau and Lester Pearson.

The convenient "stick" that he uses to beat him with is the prime minister's visit to Ukraine and his government's actions in challenging Russia's behavior toward its former vassal states and to the West as a whole, including Canada.

While the Ukrainian Canadian Congress feels no need to defend every foreign policy decision of the Conservative government of Canada, it does believe that Prime Minister Harper should be congratulated for his principled stand in drawing attention to the increasingly disturbing developments in Ukraine. He also deserves credit for publicly acknowledging in Kyiv the mass murder of millions of Ukrainians dur-

ing the genocidal famine of 1932-1933 at a time when the current Ukrainian government is trying to downplay and obfuscate the nature of this crime.

As for Mr. Westdal, he is entitled to his opinions, no matter how ill-informed they might be, since this is a privilege that he enjoys as a citizen of a truly free and democratic country – unlike Russia. However, we vigorously object to his characterization of diaspora Ukrainians as "Russophobes"; the sarcastic tone of his remarks concerning the Holodomor; and the dismissive and patronizing intent of his reference to the prime minister "stoking a sense of aggrieved victimhood and narrow nationalism."

As is the case with Ukrainians in Ukraine, the vast majority of Ukrainians in Canada cannot be said to hold "Russophobic" views any more than it can be said that most Canadians are "anti-American" (even if some are critical of American government policies or aspects of American society.)

Labelling Ukrainians, Balts and other colonized peoples of the Russian Empire and the USSR as "Russophobes" is a deliberate slur being promoted by the Kremlin. It seeks to discredit critics of Moscow's intensifying campaign to its restore its hegemony over its former territories, especially what Russian imperialists like to euphemistically refer to as their "near abroad." It is name-calling akin to earlier Soviet propaganda that sought to paint all East European critics of the USSR as "fascists" and "Nazi collaborators" because they were tarnishing the image of Russian Communism.

In actual fact, many diaspora Ukrainians feel great sympathy and a sense of kinship with the long-suffering Russian people, whom they regard as having been politically oppressed, exploited, deceived and abused by centuries of tsarist autocracy and by seven decades under Communist dictatorship. As exasperated and outraged as many Ukrainians may feel about the way the Kremlin has treated Ukrainians historically or now conducts relations with independent Ukraine, Ukrainian Canadians are

perfectly capable of distinguishing between the Russian people on the one hand, and the imperial Russian state, the Soviet Union and the post-Communist government of the Russian Federation, on the other.

Furthermore, diaspora Ukrainians continue to identify with and support those brave Russian politicians like Boris Nemtsov and Gary Kasparov who dare to oppose Putinism and are fighting for democracy in Russia today, frequently risking life, liberty and limb. Do the unsolved murders of a long and steadily growing list of journalists, human rights activists and critics of the Kremlin, both in Russia and abroad, not provide sufficient evidence that Moscow no longer deserves to be treated with kid leather gloves by the democratic members of the Euro-Atlantic community? Because objective and informed observers of Russia – including Western diplomats who deal with the Kremlin today, judging from the revelations in Wikileaks – now regard it to be ruled by a thoroughly corrupt, ideologically bankrupt and anti-Western regime that is playing a dangerous and duplicitous role in world affairs.

Contrary to the views expressed by Mr. Westdal in his earlier piece titled "Don't Demonize Putin," published in the Globe and Mail on August 21, 2007, it is not the West that has demonized Vladimir Putin, but the actions and threats of Mr. Putin himself that have brought Russia into widespread disrepute.

It is regrettably true that, for short-sighted political and economic reasons, Europe and the United States have been reluctant to challenge Russia's aggression toward its neighbors or to condemn its descent into what is effectively an authoritarian one-party state.

However, it is time for would-be pundits like Mr. Westdal to stop making excuses for the indefensible Putin-Medvedev regime and to begin thinking about ways to defend Western interests and the citizens of Russia who are struggling to overcome their country's xenophobic and anti-democratic legacy.

It is not just diaspora Ukrainians, or Mr. Westdal's hated "neo-cons," who have become alarmed by developments since Mr. Putin and his former colleagues in the KGB established "a power vertical" whose tentacles extend throughout Russian society. That Mr. Putin has successfully forged a cabal with Russia's mafia-like oligarchic elite, its neo-feudal Orthodox Church, and with racist, chauvinist and openly imperialistic elements in Russian society, goes a long way toward explaining why "Putinism" has become a term of opprobrium. And it is why the Kremlin ultimately bears responsibility for the increasingly chilled relationship between Moscow and the democratic countries of the West.

Does anyone seriously doubt where the trail of the polonium used to kill Alexander Litvinenko leads, or who stands to benefit each time a Russian journalist, opposition critic or human rights activist gets threatened, beaten, poisoned, shot? Does Mr. Westdal believe that United Russia candidates consistently sweep Russian elections because of the great things that the party is doing to improve the lives of ordinary Russians, or that elections in Russia are remotely fair and free?

And is it any wonder that opinion polls show Mr. Putin is popular with the Russian public when the compliant Russian mass media never dares to criticize him but fawningly portrays him as a strutting, swaggering, macho action figure – not-

## IN THE PRESS: Ukraine's 'Egypt moment'

**"Orange Crushed," editorial, The Wall Street Journal, February 7:**

"Six years ago, Ukraine had its Egypt moment. A popular uprising toppled an authoritarian regime in what came to be known as the Orange Revolution. That was the high point. What has happened since ... is a learning opportunity for aspiring Arab democrats.

"After the euphoria in Ukraine faded, its freely elected leaders turned out to be flawed too, amid bickering, corruption and policy mistakes. Last year, Ukrainians chucked the Orange leaders in a clean election. In came President Viktor Yanukovich, on whose behalf the previous regime tried to steal elections in 2004.

"Mr. Yanukovich's government is now busily trying to reverse democratic rights, putting pressure on the press, ramming constitutional changes into law to increase his power and extending the parliament's term by a year. ...

"Ukraine's democratic experiment is far from dead, but it is under threat from refugees of the Soviet era who grew up with the habits of one-party rule and have never taken to pluralistic politics. ...

"Despite the recent setbacks, one legacy of 2004 is that Ukrainians now

expect to have a say over who governs them and how. They can't be taken for granted. Tunisians and Egyptians have sent the same message to their entrenched leaders in recent weeks. ..."

**"Ukraine is progressing after Orange Revolution's failure," letter to the editor from Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, foreign affairs minister of Ukraine, The Wall Street Journal, February 12:**

"Your editorial "Orange Crushed" is, no doubt, well intended. And yet, as it often happens with Ukraine's outside observers, the good intentions pave the way to wrong conclusions.

"Drawing parallels between Kiev [sic], and today's Tunis and Cairo is simply wrong. It's 'apples and oranges' and not only because the word 'orange' has a special connotation in Ukraine's case.

"You say that Ukraine's orange government was crushed and voted out of power. Yet let me remind you that this was done by the voters, not the current government, because the orange leaders promised their supporters so much and delivered so little.

"Economic reforms, a professional

army, adequate pensions, etc. — all these bombastic pledges went down the drain during the years of the orange rule. As a result, the revolution's leaders were repudiated by Ukrainian voters in the last presidential election. The new reform-minded government is leading the successful modernization of Ukraine. And President Viktor Yanukovich's first steps confirm both his good will and ability to change things for the better.

"...the Yanukovich administration has worked tirelessly to advance Ukraine's democratic ambitions, improve the electoral process, expand the rule of law and begin major program of social and economic reform. ...the Yanukovich administration has brought Ukraine stability as well as the kinds of necessary, and at times difficult, reforms that have been lauded by countless international observers, including the International Monetary Fund. ..."

**"Ukraine: A democratic revolution in reverse," editorial, The Washington Post, February 23:**

"Note to Egypt et al: Democratic revolutions, even when successful, must be

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued on page 18)



## New online...

(Continued from page 1)

the territory of the Ukrainian National Republic (UNR)," explained Mr. Krutsyk.

The title of each chapter of the electronic version of "The People's War" offers a stark reminder of the turbulent times the Ukrainian nation experienced at the beginning of the 20th century in its quest for self-determination and independence: "Nation-Building During the Era of the Central Council," "The Era of the Hetmanate," "The Directorate of the UNR," "The Period of Occupation," "Crimes of the CHeKa," "Bolshevik Pillaging," "The Destruction of the Clergy," and "Crimes Against Humanity," to name just a sample.

When he initially viewed the "The Unknown War" exhibit in November 2010 at the Ukrainian House, former President Viktor Yushchenko was struck by the plethora of important documentation that had been compiled. At the same time, Mr. Yushchenko realized that the physical exhibit lacked the appropriate forum to make the information more accessible – as well as the desired impact – on both the national and international scale, particularly to foreign journalists and scholars. As a result, Ukraine's former head of state resolved to initiate and co-sponsor the creation of an electronic version of exhibit under the aegis of his institute and political party.

"I wouldn't want our people to be reared on the Pavlyk Morozovs of this world or to be schooled on historical lies. We have our own history. It's a single history and it's Ukrainian. Ukrainian history should not be written in Moscow. It should be written by the people of the



**Prof. Volodymyr Serhiychuk, who served as the top historical consultant of the exhibit titled "The People's War: 1917-1932."**

Ukrainian nation," stated Mr. Yushchenko as he addressed the audience during the presentation.

In his remarks, Mr. Yushchenko took the opportunity to dispel the popular misconceptions that Ukraine's independence fell like manna from heaven and that Ukrainians did not fight for their sovereignty. "This exhibit speaks loud and clear that your grandfathers and great-grandfathers throughout the entire [period of the] UNR did not accept what we today know as the Soviet way of life. Thousands of protests were undertaken to repel Soviet ideology and occupation."

"This exhibit is a history about you, and we have the right to be proud of such a history," added Mr. Yushchenko.

Mr. Yushchenko underscored the fact that, for all intents and purposes, the exhibit "The People's War" could have easily been titled "The Unknown War" because most of its heroes remain unknown even today.

Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, who served as head of the SBU when "The People's War" project initially began to take shape, is considered one of the key figures behind the overall success of the endeavor.

"Although today history textbooks are being 'rewritten,' we know how to relay the truth to the people, especially our young people. Instead of special, bureaucratically cumbersome, government-issued research passes, we are making documentation accessible through this electronic version to all those who want to know the truth," stated Mr. Nalyvaichenko in his opening remarks during the presentation.

Mr. Nalyvaichenko underscored the significance of the exhibit by emphasizing the extent to which sheer terror was utilized to suppress the war for independence. Some of the most resonant and revealing documents, according to Mr. Nalyvaichenko, demonstrate how terror prevailed in the form of official government orders calling for the liquidation of singled-out members of the intelligentsia and clergy.

By 1919, for example, there were five concentration camps on the territory of Ukraine aimed at quashing any armed uprisings by instilling pure fear in the minds of the population. One of the more amazing discoveries featured in the electronic exhibit bears witness to the so-called Pavlohrad Uprising of 1928 in Kharkiv Oblast, where people bore arms and stood up to the Soviet occupiers.

In his final remarks, Mr. Nalyvaichenko labeled the myth that the Ukrainian liberation struggle began only after the 1930s as Soviet and post-Soviet propaganda. "The truth can be found in the documents and photos displayed in this exhibit, and not in the latest publications of Tolochko or other pseudo-academicians."



Iliya M. Labunka

**Seen at the launch of the online exhibit (from left) are: former President of Ukraine Viktor Yushchenko, former chief of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Valentyn Nalyvaichenko and Mr. Yushchenko's press secretary, Iryna Vannykova.**

"The electronic version of this exhibit is the 'Wikileaks' for all those liars who now govern the educational and research infrastructures of this country and write under the guise of the Communist Party and the current government," concluded Mr. Nalyvaichenko.

Currently, Mr. Nalyvaichenko serves as head of the Political Council of the Our Ukraine party.

As the top historical consultant of "The People's War" project, Prof. Volodymyr Serhiychuk of Kyiv University expressed satisfaction that many eastern Ukrainians have embraced the exhibit, especially because "The People's War" was virtually unknown for decades, since that aspect of the liberation movement was officially branded criminal and anti-Soviet.

"This exhibit is important because it demonstrates the fact that the Ukrainian peoples' struggle for freedom is eternal, and it showed itself in full force in the 1920s in the tradition of the Ukrainian Kozaks," stated Prof. Serhiychuk.

Prof. Serhiychuk emphasized that many of the pseudonyms used by the defiant uprising detachments were based on the Kozak legacy. This serves as evidence that the tradition of the Kozak heritage had imbedded itself in Left-Bank Ukraine, which according to Prof. Serhiychuk, is the reason that further scholarly research needs to be conducted in order to demonstrate the military correlation between the Hetmanate (of the 17th century), the UNR and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA).

"This type of research would provide a solicitous platform for enlightening the masses about the direct link between the achievements of the Kozak state, the

events of 1917-1932 and the period of World War II, particularly the contributions of the UPA. All of these periods exemplify the historical and never-ending process of the formation of the armed forces of Ukraine," concluded Prof. Serhiychuk.

As director of the Museum of Soviet Occupation (which is also housed within the premises of the Kyiv Association of Memorial), Mr. Krutsyk concluded his presentation by underscoring that Ukrainians must continue to discover who they are by learning from their past.

In addition to a museum, the Kyiv Association of Memorial also houses a library, whose collection includes publications found in no other library on the territory of Ukraine. According to Mr. Krutsyk, a significant number of these books was generously donated by the North American diaspora.

As a result of Memorial's activities and rare holdings, citizens from all corners of Ukraine continue to visit the museum and library in order to obtain pertinent information on their particular oblast. In some cases, the Kyiv Association of Memorial sends photocopied materials free of charge to individuals who live in distant locations and are unable to travel to Kyiv.

The electronic version of "The People's War" can be accessed by referring to the website of the Kyiv Association of Memorial: <http://memorial.kiev.ua/>

By May, Memorial plans to unveil English, French and Russian electronic versions of "The People's War: 1917-1932." All of the versions will be supplemented with newly acquired documentation on a continuous basis.

# Police brutality in Poltava reveals police corruption

by Yevhen Yankevych

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

POLTAVA – Reports of police brutality and false convictions have surged throughout Ukraine since the election of President Viktor Yanukovich one year ago, observers reported. Recent arrests in the city of Poltava offer a glimpse into how police corruption has flourished in the last year.

The most recent incident involved 25-year-old Ihor Stetsenko, whose father owns an auto-related business. Police allegedly kidnapped him off the street on January 28 and beat him for four hours at their station. Mr. Stetsenko told local media he was hospitalized with broken ribs and multiple bruises.

Cases of abuse of police authority have increased during the last year, said Volodymyr Yavorsky, executive director of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union on Human Rights, in Kyiv.

"The police have no oversight," he told The Weekly in a February 24 interview. "For instance, we know a Poltava Oblast resident who was ready to testify that, with his help, law enforcement authorities planted drugs in more than 100 narcotics cases. Meaning 100 people are illegally convicted for possessing narcotics in the Poltava Oblast. It's a proven fact, yet no one is interested."

In Mr. Stetsenko's case, it was the officers of the criminal investigation department of the Poltava City Administration of

the Internal Affairs Ministry that allegedly ran up to him as he was walking out of the City Justice Administration and clonked him on the head several times, knocking him unconscious.

[Editor's note: The Internal Affairs Ministry administers Ukraine's national police force, which employs more than 200,000 officers, according to the latest estimates.]

When he regained consciousness, Mr. Stetsenko found himself in a police car, he told local media. Police took him to the second floor of the police station, confiscated his cellphone and demanded that he sign a statement acknowledging that he stole a tractor.

When he refused, the police allegedly

beat him on the head and back for four hours. After his release, Mr. Stetsenko said he was admitted into the surgery wing of a Poltava hospital with broken ribs, numerous bruises on stomach and back tissues, and a concussion.

Mr. Stetsenko's father, who owns 25 percent of the shares in the Motors-Servis firm, filed complaints against the police's illegal actions with the local police department, the Procurator General of Ukraine and the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU).

"Law enforcement authorities said, 'Tell your father to transfer his shares. We'll tell him to whom. And we'll kill you if you don't,'" said Mr. Stetsenko, who is the

(Continued on page 14)



## NEW RELEASE

## Journal releases special issue dedicated to Ukrainian poets of the past 25 years

GREENSBORO, N.C. – A special bilingual Ukrainian-English issue of the International Poetry Review has been released as Volume XXXVII, Number 2 of the journal for fall 2010. The journal is edited by Mark Smith-Soto at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and is dedicated to founding editor Evalyn Pierpoint Gill's idea that "the world will be a better place as we cross language barriers to hear the voice of the poet in different countries."

The special issue – marking 25 years of Ukrainian poetry – is one of the largest in the history of the journal and was made possible by generous support from the Shevchenko Scientific Society's Ivan and Elizabeta Khlopetsky Fund. The cover design includes a painting by artist Mykola Kumanovsky of Lutsk, Ukraine.

The issue is edited by Michael M. Naydan, Woskob Family Professor of Ukrainian Studies at The Pennsylvania State University, who provides a brief

introduction, and includes 47 poems by 22 poets who have emerged over the past 25 years of creative freedom in Ukraine.

The volume is dedicated to three Ukrainian poets who tragically died in recent years: Ihor Rymaruk, Nazar Honchar and Attila Mohyl'ny. Other poets represented in the volume include Oleh Lysheha, Natalka Bilotserkivets, Oksana Zabuzhko, Vasyl Herasymyuk, Viktor Neborak, Ivan Malkovych, Yuri Andrukhovych, Serhiy Zhadan, Vasyl Makhno, Kost Moskalets, Ludmyla Taran, Maria Rewakowicz, Maryana Savka, Oles Ilchenko, Borys Shchavursky, Hanna Osadko, Mariya Tytarenko, Iryna Shuvalova, and Bohdan Matiyash. The writers range in age from 24 to 62.

Translators include Mark Andryczyk, Svitlana Bednazh, Larysa Bobrova, James Brasfield, Sarah Luczaj, Dzviniya Orlovsky, Orest Popovych, Olha Tytarenko, the team of Virlana Tkacz and



Wanda Phipps, and Michael Naydan.

The issue may be purchased directly through the journal's website: <http://www.uncg.edu/rom/IPR>.

## IN THE PRESS...

(Continued from page 8)

defended for years after the euphoric crowds leave the streets. Autocratic forces can regroup and even use democratic institutions to make a comeback. Freedoms can erode as old habits return. Malign neighbors can intervene.

"Take Ukraine, whose Orange Revolution in 2004 was as thrilling in its own way as Cairo's Tahrir Square – but where all those forms of backsliding are under way. While Western attention is focused on the exciting upheavals in the Middle East, a strategic European country of 50 million people may be creeping out of the democratic camp.

"The retreat is led by Viktor Yanukovych, the same politician whose victory-by-fraud in a presidential election touched off the Orange rebellion. Mr. Yanukovych, a champion of Ukraine's ethnic Russian population and the eastern industrial regions where it predominates, won a fair election for president in 2010, thanks to the bumbling and infighting of the democratic governments that took over after 2004. ...

"the government has begun to move against the Orange Revolution's leaders. ... Journalists say free media are under pressure from the government. Local elections held last year were marked by serious irregularities. ...

"The United States should be pressing harder to stop the democratic erosion. One way to do so is to explicitly link further progress in economic relations with Ukraine to improvements in human rights – and to urge the governments of the European Union to follow suit."

**"The Orange Revolution Betrayed," by Yulia Tymoshenko, The Moscow Times, February 7:**

"...I have watched the revolutions in Cairo and Tunis with joy and admiration. Egyptians and Tunisians are right to be proud of their desire to peacefully overthrow despotic governments. But as someone who led a peaceful revolution, I hope that pride is tempered by pragmatism because a change of regime is only the first step in establishing a democracy backed by the rule of law. Indeed, as Ukraine is now demonstrating, after revolutionary euphoria fades and normality returns, democratic revolutions can be betrayed and reversed.

"The first of Ukraine's lessons for Egyptian and Tunisian democrats is that elections alone do not make a democracy. After all, what if the enemies of freedom use elections to entrench their anti-democratic agendas? What if elements of the old regime or the cadres of militant minorities only pretend to embrace democratic norms in order to hijack the new democracy?

"In Ukraine today, these are not abstract questions. Six years after the Orange Revolution, not only is Ukraine's democracy under threat, but the rule of law is being systematically perverted and its national independence bartered away. Indeed, the hybrid presidential-parliamentary system that the country established as part of the settlement that brought a peaceful end to the Orange Revolution is being hollowed out to concentrate all political power in the hands of a supposedly democratically elected president.

"...The rest of the world must not turn a blind eye to authoritarian backsliding. Yet today, not only are many of Ukraine's neighbors silent about Yanukovych's strangulation of Ukraine's democracy, but some openly celebrate the supposed 'stability' that his regime has imposed. For decades, Egyptians and Tunisians paid a high price in freedom for the stability of others. They must never be asked, or forced, to pay it again. ..."

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# GENERATION UKE

Edited and compiled by Matthew Dubas

## MUSA holds Holodomor exhibit, hosts lecture by Timothy Snyder



Prof. Timothy Snyder (left) with members of the McGill Ukrainian Students' Association, following his book signing and lecture.

MONTREAL – The McGill Ukrainian Students' Association (MUSA) held a week-long Holodomor exhibit at the McLennon Library on January 24-28. The exhibit, located on campus, coincided with a lecture by Prof. Timothy Snyder of Yale University and a presentation of his recent book "Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin" at McGill University's Leacock Building. The exhibit was coordinated by Marta Cybulsky, vice-president of MUSA.

The exhibit is one of many events organized by MUSA for the 2010-2011 term.

In November 2010, MUSA sent two students delegates – Alyssa Paterson, president of MUSA, and Adriana Luhovy, executive member of the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) and recipient of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Youth Leadership Award – to participate in the 23rd triennial national Ukrainian Canadian Congress held in Edmonton, Alberta.

Also in November, MUSA organized the showing on campus of the award-winning internment documentary film "Freedom Had a Price," in preparation for students traveling in March to the official opening of the Spirit Lake Interpretive Museum in Amos, in northern Quebec.

The annual MUSA caroling to many Ukrainian families was held in January,

which serves as a fund-raiser for the club's ongoing projects. In January, the annual Trembit'a dance and Malanka student socials were held, with students coming to Montreal from Toronto, Kingston and Ottawa.

MUSA currently has over 300 student members and holds monthly meetings with the Concordia Ukrainian Students Union (CUSU), whose current president is Matthew Ramsey, a member of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. Both student clubs have joined the rest of the community by participating in the post-card drive, insisting that both the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide and Canada's First National Internment Operations be given a permanent and prominent place in the Canadian Museum of Human Rights in Winnipeg, a museum partially funded by the Canadian government.

In November 2010, Kalyna Franko was elected president of MUSA for the next term.

MUSA and CUSU, both members of the Canadian Ukrainian Students Union (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SUSK), will be sending its delegates to the upcoming SUSK Congress to be held in June in Ottawa. The SUSK Congress booklet is being prepared by Ms. Luhovy. She is currently inviting short articles from SUSK member organizations. For further information, readers may contact MUSA via e-mail at [musa@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:musa@ssmu.mcgill.ca).

## SUSTA's new website aims to enhance cooperation

PARSIPPANY, N.J. -- The Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations (SUSTA) has announced the launch of its new website at [www.ukrainianstudents.org](http://www.ukrainianstudents.org).

SUSTA hopes that the launch of the new website, with enhanced functionality, will foster cooperation among Ukrainian clubs at American universities and help Ukrainian students all over the United States to find and communicate with each other more effectively and that this will significantly contribute to the growth of the Ukrainian studies field in the U.S.

Michael Novick and Pavlo Kononenko contributed their time and effort in mak-

ing the new website a reality. Their knowledge, patience and persistence made it possible to customize the Drupal Content Management System according to SUSTA's needs, to create a clear and user-friendly design of the website, and to enable SUSTA members to register with the site, create their own profiles and network with each other.

As SUSTA continues working on the website, adding new content and functions, visitors are invited to recommend it to Ukrainian students and everyone interested in Ukraine at their universities. For more information on SUSTA activities, readers should visit its website, [www.ukrainianstudents.org](http://www.ukrainianstudents.org).

## Malanka leads to compilation of "why I didn't attend" list

by Emil Bandriwsky

BUFFALO, N.Y. – On January 22 the annual Malanka, a traditional Ukrainian New Year's party, was held at the "Dnipro" Ukrainian Cultural Center in Buffalo, N.Y. The Dnipro building is historically unique and significant, and is increasingly appreciated by non-Ukrainian lovers of history, architecture and culture. Everyone who attended the Malanka this year had a fantastic time. Unfortunately, the main dance hall – which served immigrants from the 1950s and 1960s and took several years for them to lovingly hand-paint in exquisite Ukrainian detail – was about two-thirds empty.

Some reasons why local "Ukrainians" didn't attend this year's Malanka (or almost any other community event), offered in a tongue-on-cheek fashion:

The only Ukrainian events I go to are rallies to support President Viktor Yanukovich.

I thought \$30 per person for live dance music, great snacks, champagne, and a great family fun time was too expensive – so I went to the mall instead and spent several hundred dollars.

I can't get off the couch.

I don't like to dance, or do any physical activity.

Even though I have lived in Buffalo my whole life I am afraid of a little snow.

I am afraid to go into the city.

My father had an argument with some guy 30 years ago at Dnipro, and I carry a grudge.

I belong to the "other" political party, even though I don't know the difference.

I can't stand any events where I have fun with my family and friends.

I have no excuse. I just like to complain that "the hromada is falling apart."

I didn't like last year's band because they were "too American" and I didn't like this year's band because they were "too Ukrainian."

I only go to parties at people's houses that are "free."

I am "an American now."

I had to "study" on Saturday night between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m.

My spouse and I are too old (or fat or lazy) and our children do not socialize with any Ukrainians.

I only interact with people on my computer or cellphone

I don't support SUM (the Ukrainian American Youth Association) or Plast, or any other youth or cultural organization, because I don't think they are important to raising nationally conscious Ukrainian Americans (like me).

## Being Ukrainian means:

- Two New Year's Days in January.
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# CCRDF launches Scholarships for Orphans program

by Zoryana Bruher

KYIV – In the fall of 2010 Philip Morris Ukraine, in partnership with the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF), launched the Scholarships for Orphans program. This new program provides 85 students from the Kyiv and Kharkiv regions financial support in the amount of 1,300 hrv (approximately \$160) per month to help them improve their academic performance and successfully integrate into society. The project is being implemented during the 2010-2011 academic year.

Orphans graduating from secondary schools normally cannot rely on sources of financial aid, like family and relatives, to cover the cost of school supplies and daily living expenses. Priority entry to higher educational institutions offers these students a chance for education. However, this chance is often illusive as the state stipend of 900 hrv per month barely covers housing food and student needs. Therefore, many talented orphaned students sacrifice their studies for unskilled work or save on food, textbooks and daily expenses which, in turn, negatively affects their university studies.

Scholarships for Orphans provides financial support to allow students to focus on successful learning: to pay for additional courses not included in the curriculum, to purchase specialized books and multimedia devices, and to participate in student life, which helps to facilitate their social adaptation. The program prepares them for independent life, develops their problem-solving skills and motivates them to achieve a higher level of education.

Over 250 orphaned students from nine higher education institutions of the Kyiv and Kharkiv regions applied for Scholarships for Orphans. Eighty-five participants, who met program requirements, were selected based on their ability to demonstrate a clear vision of how the scholarship would contribute to their growth as future experts in their selected fields of study.

During a press conference in Kyiv announcing the launch of the program, Philip Morris Ukraine's managing director, Elena Khomenko, explained the company's philanthropic activity: "Our company is a confident market leader. Our success is determined not just by financial results. Therefore, we pay special attention to charitable activities in Ukraine, funding programs aimed at solving acute social problems in Ukraine – this is our duty."

Scholarships for Orphans program coordinator Maryana Voronovych stated, "When designing the grant program for young adults, providing necessities that today's student cannot learn without was the key to achieving our objective – to provide academic and social opportunities to enable orphan students to become successful professionals."

CCRDF's Country Director Alexa Milanytch commented on the new initiative: "Our fund has been implementing large-scale medical projects aimed at saving and improving lives of children in Ukraine. Scholarships for Orphans is a logical extension of our programs because it is very important not only to save lives but also to provide opportunities to young adults to graduate and prepare them for responsible adult life." Ms. Milanytch added, "Philip Morris' new initiative will help prepare a new generation of the workforce in Ukraine."

(Continued on page 23)

Zoryana Bruher is project manager for the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund in Kyiv.



Participants of the Scholarships for Orphans program show off their scholarship certificates during a press conference held in Kyiv in November 2010.



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## Police brutality...

(Continued from page 9)

deputy chair of Poltava city organization of the Union of Leftist Forces, a pro-Russian, pro-Communist party.

Mr. Stetsenko declined to comment when contacted by The Weekly, noting that enough had already been published about the incident.

Meanwhile, local police spokesman Yuri Sulayev initially acknowledged that Mr. Stetsenko had been beaten by police in a January 28 report on the Ukrainian News newswire. Just three days later, however, Mr. Sulayev told the Telekritika website that the alleged victim had no bruises or scratches after he left the police station.

Mr. Sulayev repeated that claim when contacted by The Weekly in late February, adding that medical exams and x-rays showed no signs of a beating.

Mr. Stetsenko signed a document stating he had no complaints against police. Mr. Yavorsky of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union confirmed that the police commonly pressure their captives, often with violence, to sign such documents after being beaten.

Another Poltava resident, 28-year-old Hryhorii Yareschenko, told The Weekly he was kidnapped and beaten by local police. On January 8, they reportedly entered his bedroom and demanded that he sign documents and accompany them to the Volodarskyi Street police station.

There a police officer reportedly asked him, "Number two, five or seven?" As it turned out, each number represented a different form of torture, he told The Weekly.

"Just as I walked past the couch, I was forced onto to it headfirst," Mr. Yareschenko said. "They twisted my hands behind my back and began beating me with their batons against my buttocks and kidneys."

The beating lasted a half-hour, with the police pausing to catch their breath. Mr. Yareschenko was thrown onto the street, where his wife, Yulia, found him and accompanied him to a hospital.

"Yareschenko entered the surgical ward with beaten kidneys and blood clots in his buttocks and left thigh," said Dmytro Furman, the chief surgeon of the Poltava hospital where the victim was treated.

Mr. Yareschenko filed criminal complaints with the Zhovtnevyi District Procurator's Office. This time the police could offer no denials, acknowledging that brutality had occurred and an investigation was under way.

The same officers who beat Mr. Yareschenko showed up at the hospital, where they pressured the semi-conscious victim to sign a statement saying he had no complaints against them. A local television news report said the police offered to pay his medical expenses in exchange for the statement.

"The actions of these police officers weren't professional at all," Mr. Sulayev told The Weekly. "A special investigative commission was created at the oblast police administration, which confirmed their abuse of authority."

Another apparent victim of abuse of authority is Ihor Zahrebelnyi, a 22-year-old native of a Poltava Oblast village who was arrested on January 21 for his alleged role in setting fire in late 2009 to the Zaporizhia Oblast Committee headquarters of the Communist Party of Ukraine.

His supporters said the criminal charge is a fabrication by law enforcement authorities as part of a campaign against Ukrainian nationalists being waged by the administration of President Yanukovych.

Mr. Zahrebelnyi was arrested as part of the nationwide sting in mid-January organized to incarcerate members of the Stepan Bandera Tryzub All-Ukrainian Organization, in what is widely described as political persecution.

Mr. Zahrebelnyi poses no danger to the public, being a high-achieving university student and winner of several philosophy competitions, Mr. Yavorsky said.

He's a leader of Poltava's Ukrainian Catholic community, which is still trying to build a church amidst opposition from local pro-Russian authorities.

He remains incarcerated in a Zaporizhia prison, with no information available about his condition. He reportedly has access to a lawyer.



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що в суботу,  
26-го лютого 2011 року, відійшов у вічність наш найдорожчий  
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СВ. П.

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Просимо згадати Покійного в своїх молитвах.

Вічна Йому пам'ять!



### Oleh Palaschenko

November 12, 1951 – February 24, 2011

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, to members of Branch 102 and to the UNA membership at large that Oleh Palaschenko, newly elected Advisor to the General Assembly at the 2010 Convention, passed away February 24, 2011.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest sympathy to wife Olga, daughters Julie, Christine and son Andrew and their families, sisters, Vera and Lydia, their families, nieces, nephews and grandchildren. Mr. Palaschenko will be remembered for his unassuming fortitude, quiet strength and enthusiasm and dedication to the UNA.

Vichna Yomu Pamiat!



### MARIA DZYDZORA,

88, of Lakewood, formerly of Jersey City and Cedar Grove, died Tuesday, February 22, 2011.

Born in Ukraine, Mrs. Dzydzora immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1949. She worked as a designer at the Maidenform Co. in Bayonne, N.J. for over 30 years before retiring in 1981. Mrs. Dzydzora was very involved in her church and various Ukrainian groups. She was deeply devoted to her family, church and God. Maria was loved by all for her kind and loving spirit. She is predeceased by her beloved husband of 61 years, Petro (2007). To cherish her memory, Maria leaves her loving daughter Olga Tchir and her husband, Gerry; her sons, Oleh and his wife Laurie, and Orest and his wife Lucy; her cherished grandchildren, Donna Maria, Kristiana, Tiffany, Mark, Oleh Jr., Jonathan and Orest Jr.; also her precious great granddaughter Makena Maria.

Funeral Mass was on Monday, February 28th at 10 a.m. at St Stephen's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 1344 White Oak Bottom Road in Toms River. Interment was held at St. Mary's Cemetery in Lakewood. Visitation were held at the D'Elia Funeral Home, 1300 Vermont Ave, Lakewood, on Sunday, February 27. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Stephen's Ukrainian Catholic Church Building Fund.

On this second anniversary of the passing of  
our beloved and never forgotten  
Husband, Father, Grandfather, Son, Brother, Uncle and Godfather

### Wasył (Bill) Dmytro Rudyk

Commemorative Masses were said on  
February 17, 2011 in the following churches:  
Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church in Astoria, NY  
St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hranky Kutu, Ukraine

Our Wasył rests on the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia with his comrades at arms.

Our frequent visits to his gravesite are so inadequate to replace the void his premature passing left in our lives.

We ask for your prayers for the repose of his soul.

Vichna Yomu Pamyat – May Memory of Wasył be Eternal!





З глибоким смутком сповіщаємо пластунок, пластунів й українське громадянство, що з волі Всевишнього 16 лютого 2011 р. в Торонто відійшов на Вічну Ватру провідний член Пласту, колишній голова Головної Пластової Булави



СВ. П.

пл. сен. кер.

## ВАСИЛЬ ЯНІШЕВСЬКИЙ, ЛЧ

видатний науковець, інженер,  
професор Торонтонського університету, громадський діяч.

Залишив у смутку

дружину Мілю, дітей Роксолян у і Марка та п'ятеро внуків.

Народився в Празі в 1925 році, пластуном став в 1935 році на Закарпатті, член куреня „Лісові Чорти”. Пластував у Німеччині та більшість життя в Канаді.

- Пластовий виховник
- Голова Крайової Пластової Старшини Канади (1968-72)
- Член Головної Пластової Булави (1976-80)
- Член Крайової Пластової Ради Канади (1983-84)
- Голова Головної Пластової Булави (1984-88).

Залишив слід в історії не лише як видатний пластун, але й вагомий громадський діяч:

- Співзасновник і перший голова Українсько-Канадського Дослідно-Документального Центру в Торонті
- Організатор створення першого документального фільму про Великий Голодомор в Україні, який привабив до цього питання світову увагу
- Організатор створення англійського фільму про Україну в Другій світовій війні („Between Hitler and Stalin – the Untold Story”)
- Організатор пересувної виставки “Freedom Had a Price” про інтернування українців в Канаді під час Першої Світової Війни
- Одержав Шевченківську Медалю від Конгресу Українців Канади.

Як світово відомий інженер-спеціаліст залишив слід в ділянці електроенергетичних систем та високої напруги:

- Має понад 300 наукових праць
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- Під його керівництвом успішно захистило дисертації понад 60 магістрів і докторів
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- Був вшанований з нагоди 100-ліття Національного Технічного Університету України званням Почесного Доктора Київського Політехнічного Інституту (1998).

Родині св.п. Василя Янішевського складаємо глибокі співчуття.

Від імені Головного Пластового проводу й усіх  
пластунок й пластунів у світі

Пл. сен. Любомир Романків, Начальний Пластун  
Пл. сен. Таня Джулинська, голова Головної Пластової Ради  
Пл. сен. Володимир Базарко, голова Головної Пластової Булави



We are sad to announce that

## MARTHA OLGA WELYHORSKY,

born June 2, 1956, in Toronto, Canada,  
passed away unexpectedly  
on Wednesday August 4, 2010 in Toronto.  
She was our dear sister, sister-in-law,  
niece, God-daughter, aunt, cousin and  
friend. She will be greatly missed.



Martha was raised in a post-war, immigrant family of idealistic Ukrainian patriots. Her grandparents, Peter and Paulina Wepryk, and parents, Ihor and Bohdana Welyhorsky, dedicated their lives to supporting an independent Ukraine, and to developing the Scouting movement “Plast” in the Ukrainian diaspora.

Martha was a kind-hearted, quiet, friendly, humble and generous person. Initially, Martha worked at the Manulife Insurance Company in Toronto. Later, she got a job with the federal government at Canada Customs and Excise Department. She loved listening to music and enjoyed photographing nature. Since birth, Martha was constantly ill. Over the years, she developed several chronic illnesses, and endured numerous surgeries. By 1994, her health was so poor that she had to retire early due to disability. Martha died suddenly, of a heart attack, at 54 years of age.

A traditional Ukrainian Panakhyda Service was held on Tuesday August 10, 2010, at the Turner and Porter ‘Yorke’ Chapel, 2357 Bloor St. W., in Toronto. Martha is buried in the “Wepryk Welyhorsky Senkiw” family grave site at Prospect Cemetery in Toronto.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to Fr. John Barszczyk for officiating at the funeral service, and for delivering a moving farewell tribute to Martha. We would also like to thank Fr. Peter Shumelda for kindly joining in the Panakhyda Service. We are deeply grateful to our dear family and guests for attending this sad event and for supporting us with words of sympathy and flowers. We greatly appreciate your generous donations to the Ukrainian Canadian Social Services, Toronto Branch, and to Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.

Martha leaves behind in shock and sorrow:

Sister: Christina Welyhorsky Senkiw with husband George Andrew, and the Senkiw family

Aunt and God-mother: Lubomyra Welyhorskyj Denysiuk Palij, and the Palij Family

Aunt: Velta Druvis Welyhorskyj, and the Shepitka Family

Aunt: Alexandra Yashan Kowalsky, and the Kowalsky, Onyschuk, Moskaliuk, Morozov and Elyjiw Families

Aunt: Halyna Szafowal, and the Szafowal and Tarapacky Families

Cousin: Maria Welyhorskyj Crombie Meller with son Alastair Crombie and husband Malcolm Meller

Cousin: Borys Iason and Family

Cousin: Olya Zakharkiv with husband Bohdan and daughter Yulya Malaniy with husband Paul

and the extended family in Canada, the United States, Argentina and Ukraine.



With great sorrow we announce that our beloved  
mother, grandmother and sister

## Irene Koczerzuk

passed into eternity on February 22, 2011 at the age of 89.  
She was born July 16, 1921 in Stara Sil, Ukraine.

Panakhyda was held on Friday, February 25, 2011 at Boylan Funeral Home in New Brunswick, NJ.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, February 26, 2011 at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in New Brunswick, NJ, followed by interment in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover, NJ.

In deep sorrow:

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| daughter      | - Maria Shandor with husband Bohdan     |
| grandchildren | - Christina Kachala with husband Stefan |
|               | - Alexander Shandor                     |
| brother       | - Wolodymyr Rudzinsky                   |
| sister-in-law | - Gerda Rudzinsky                       |
| sister-in-law | - Irene Koczerzuk Harris with family    |
| cousins       | - Luba Turiansky with son George        |
|               | - Lazirko family                        |

Extended family and friends in the US and Ukraine.

Eternal memory!

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the UNWLA Scholarship Fund.

## DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Advertising Department by e-mail to [adukr@optonline.net](mailto:adukr@optonline.net)  
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For further information call 973-292-9800, ext. 3040.



## ULKUS club skis at Sugarloaf in Maine



Roman Iwasiwka

CARRABASSETT VALLEY, Maine. – Twenty-six diehard winter sports enthusiasts converged at the Sugarloaf ski resort in Maine on February 6-11. This is an annual gathering for ULKUS (Ukrayinskyi Leschetarskyi Kliub u Sugarloaf). Next season, the club will celebrate its 20th anniversary and everyone is welcome to join. Interested parties can find ULKUS information on Facebook.

## How "Testament"...

(Continued from page 6)

the river and made soup of them. It was a quiet Ukrainian night, and the sky was strewn with myriad stars. Placing his hands under his head, Shevchenko lay on the grass, telling his friend about his plans. He said he intended to buy a small lot on the steep riverbank near the town of Kaniv opposite the village of Prokhorivka and to settle there for the rest of his life.

Later that year, on his way back from Kyiv, the poet again visited his friend in Pereyaslav and stayed two nights at his place. There he wrote down some of his early forgotten poems, which Kozachivsky knew by heart. Then he left for St. Petersburg. They were never to meet again.

Taras Shevchenko died on March 10, 1861 and was buried in Kaniv, Ukraine on May 22, 1861. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the great bard's death.

The article above was provided by the only Taras Shevchenko Museum in the Western hemisphere, which is located in Toronto, at 1614 Bloor St.W.; telephone, 416-534-8662. The museum is open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekends and holidays by appointment. For information log on to [www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum](http://www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum)

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## Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

### A Ukrainian Maple Leaf: Bozak

Ukrainian Tyler Bozak, a 6-foot-1, 195-pound, 24-year-old second-year center from Regina, Saskatchewan, has demonstrated he has what it takes to play in the National Hockey League since he was recalled from the Toronto Marlies (AHL) on January 12, 2010. In his stay with the Marlies prior to the call-up, he tallied four goals with 16 assists for 20 points in 32 games.

After about a full year in the NHL, General Manager Brian Burke and Toronto's management team is faced with the question: Is Tyler Bozak a key member of the young Leafs' core? The following argument will prove he is a future top-six forward the team can build around.

#### The road to Toronto

Outside the rink Tyler is no dumb hockey player, as during his years at the University of Denver he was a business major and made the All-WCHA Academic Team in 2008-2009. He plays golf, volleyball and badminton at a highly competitive level. His hobbies include fishing and water sports. As a youngster, he followed Alex Ovechkin in hockey, Rafael Nadal in tennis and Sergio Garcia in golf.

His road to the NHL had him playing for the Victoria Salsa (became the Grizzlies in 2006-2007) of the British Columbia Hockey League the 2004-2005 to the 2006-2007 seasons. In 170 total games, he tallied 91 goals with 137 assists for 228 points and 95 penalty minutes. He won the Brett Hull trophy in his final year

as the BCHL's top scorer.

Bozak enrolled in 2007 at the University of Denver where he played college hockey for two full years. In 60 games he scored 26 goals, earned 31 assists and had 32 minutes in penalties. On four occasions during the 2007-2008 campaign Tyler won WCHA Rookie of the Month, once winning Rookie of the Week honors, once winning Rookie of the Month. He easily made the All-WCHA Rookie Team and was good enough, as a freshman, to make the All-WCHA Third Team.

Bozak entertained the option of turning pro in 2008, but declined, believing he was not physically prepared for the rigors of pro hockey. Before the 2008-2009 season he was named to the College Hockey News preseason All-America team. A significant knee injury in December 2008 limited his playing time to only 19 games, effectively ending his promising sophomore year.

The injury and resulting short season did not detract interest from NHL clubs, and on April 3, 2009, the Toronto Maple Leafs stepped up to sign Bozak to a two-year, entry-level contract. The rumored value of the deal was up to \$4 million per season including incentive clauses.

#### Making it as a Leaf

In his debut season, Bozak saw action in 37 games, scoring eight goals, 19 assists for 27 points with six penalty minutes and a minus-5 rating. Prorating his

first-year numbers over a full 82-game season, he would have accumulated 20 goals and some 65 points – extremely impressive totals for a rookie.

One must be realistic when thinking about expectations for Bozak in the current 2010-2011 campaign. Before any serious prognostications, it must be stressed that the Toronto Maple Leafs are one of the poorest hockey teams in the NHL. General Manager Burke is still in the process of rebuilding an organization that did not prioritize drafting/player development for the longest time. Getting back to point projections for Bozak in his first full NHL season, somewhere around 50 points is the educated guess.

Why so low, especially since he projected to 60+ points based on his rookie season? Several factors: his body is not yet muscular enough to withstand the grind of an 82-game schedule, he hurt a knee two years ago, and there is a lack of talent surrounding him.

Is Bozak the ideal choice to center a line with sniper Phil Kessel on his right wing? He deserves first crack, having displayed intelligence at both ends of the ice. For a centerman, he impresses with good on-ice vision while attacking the zone. His make-up is not of a goal-scorer, more of a quality set-up man, especially if teamed with a winger who can finish scoring chances. Enter Kessel, right winger-sniper.

The expert opinion says Bozak should be an exciting player for the Toronto Maple Leafs for many years to come. Down the road, with the influx of more talent, Bozak could settle into a second-

line center role. He has already received power play time and been utilized on the penalty kill. He should be a valuable player for Toronto.

#### Injury concerns

Any concerns regarding the December 2008 season-ending knee injury suffered while at the University of Denver are long gone. Bozak did admit the banged up knee scared him a whole lot, yet he tried to spin a positive out of a negative with regard to his first serious injury.

"The injury actually got my upper body bigger and that was what I needed," Bozak said in a September 2009 interview with NHL.com. "So, in a way, I look at it as I know it's not a good thing, but I try to take positives out of it and I am stronger and my upper body is a lot bigger."

This reiterates the conclusion he himself came to prior to the start of the 2008-2009 season, deciding to stay at Denver for a second year because he did not think he was strong enough to compete at the pro level. Thanks to the knee rehab and all of the time spent at the gym, his body was transformed into one more NHL-ready.

"I've put on about 20 pounds since last year [2008] when I decided to stay, so I think it was a good decision and I am happy with it," Bozak said.

Toronto fans seem to be happy with Bozak, one member of an ongoing team overhaul engineered by GM Burke. Burke has brought in a number of proven NHL free agents along with several unproven

(Continued on page 23)



### CARAVEL QUARTET

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## Oscar-nominated actor narrates "Genocide Revealed" Former Canadian...

(Continued from page 8)



Canadian actor Graham Greene (right) records the English narration for "Genocide Revealed" with the film's director, Yuriy Luhovy.

MONTREAL – Graham Greene, an Oscar-nominated Canadian actor, is the narrator of "Genocide Revealed," the English-language version of the documentary film "Okradena Zemlya" about the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide in Soviet Ukraine known as the Holodomor.

"I am extremely happy and honored that actor Graham Greene agreed to record the narration for 'Genocide Revealed,' said the film's director, Yuriy Luhovy. "He has an exceptionally rich and amazing voice so well suited for this documentary. He intuitively understands and has empathy for a people and a nation aimed for destruction, as he, himself, is of proud Native American origin, born on the Six Nations Reserve in Ontario. I am thrilled to have

him part of this project."

Mr. Greene is one of the most recognizable Native American actors working on stage and in film and television in Canada, England and United States. He is known for his roles in films such as "Dances with Wolves" and "Thunderheart," as well as television productions of "L.A. Law," and "Northern Exposure," and as host of the TV program "Exhibit A." He has had roles in over 13 stage performances and 40 movie and television productions and has received the Gemini's Earle Grey Award for Lifetime Achievement.

As with all his documentaries, Mr. Luhovy prefers voice-overs to subtitles, allowing viewers to be drawn into the film and making it easier to follow the story. He

places the English narration so that portions of the original Ukrainian is always heard and appreciated.

Actors Jill Hennessy and Lubomir Mykytiuk have recorded the voice-overs for "Genocide Revealed."

Ms. Hennessy, who does the female voice-over in the documentary, was recorded in New York at the Avatar Studio. The Edmonton native pursued her acting career in New York. Among her many acting roles is her work on the TV series "Law and Order," the supporting role in "I Shot Andy Warhol" and her role as Jackie Kennedy in the TV mini-series. In June 2007 she received a star on Canada's Walk of Fame.

Mr. Mykytiuk was recorded in the Spence-Thomas Recording Studio in Toronto. Originally from Montreal, he has been living and working out of Toronto. A versatile actor working in film, TV and theater productions, he has acted in "North of 60," the miniseries "Master Spy, The Robert Hanssen Story" and the play "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof."

"Genocide Revealed" will be released in two formats: a 75-minute version and a shorter 52-minute version intended for schools and television release. This documentary on one of the 20th century's greatest crimes is based on compelling eyewitness accounts and on the newest archival material made accessible after the fall of the Soviet Union and Ukraine's regained independence.

To organize a premiere of the soon-to-be-released "Genocide Revealed" or to support this project, readers may contact Mr. Luhovy at MML Inc, 2330 Beaconsfield Ave., Montreal, QC H4A 2G8 or visit [www.yluhovy.com](http://www.yluhovy.com).

withstanding all of his failed promises, his botched economic policies and his buffoonish behavior, which is only rivalled by that of his good friend, Silvio Berlusconi?

Yet, reading Mr. Westdal's policy paper one gets the impression that it is narrow nationalists, diaspora Russophobes and neo-con Cold Warriors who are the problem in East-West security relations.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is firmly committed to promoting what it believes are fundamental Canadian values that should guide all of Canada's dealings in the international community: the rule of law; the right to free speech, freedom of assembly and a free media; and respect for the territorial integrity of sovereign states. Exactly what values does Mr. Westdal represent in his repeated apologies for Putinist Russia?

Needless to say, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress is deeply disappointed by the content and the tone of Mr. Westdal's policy paper, and its sycophantic parroting of Kremlin propaganda.

Finally, at the risk of being indiscrete, it is surprising that, while Mr. Westdal always identifies himself as a former Canadian ambassador to Russia and Ukraine, so as to establish his credibility to speak about East-West relations, he fails to disclose his involvement and financial stake in a mining company partially owned by Russian interests and engaged in business in Russia. Knowing how accommodating Russian companies are to the dictates of the Kremlin, it would be appropriate for him to acknowledge all pecuniary or other relationships that he has with companies in Russia whenever he chooses to beat his drum in support of Moscow's agenda.

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## NOTES ON PEOPLE

### Tapped for Ohio transportation job

by Andrew Fedynsky

CLEVELAND – In January, Ohio's new governor, John R. Kasich, named Ukrainian American Myron Pakush as deputy director for the 12th District of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT).

District 12, the largest of ODOT's 12 districts encompassing a three-county area centered on Cleveland, has nearly 450 employees and an annual budget of over \$100 million.

Mr. Pakush and his team are responsible for maintaining all interstate highways along with the state and U.S. highways outside of incorporated areas in the three-county area, including snow and ice removal, pothole patching, mowing, litter pick-up, lighting, traffic signals, traffic incident management, bridge inspection, etc. District 12 is also responsible for maintaining the entire Interstate system within Cuyahoga County, the most populous in the state of Ohio.

The deputy director also assists in strategic planning, short- and long-term goal setting, performance measurement and policy development and deployment on both the statewide and districtwide level. The deputy director is responsible for representing and communicating the activities, views and policies of the department with representatives of local, state and federal agencies, elected officials of local, state and federal governments, consultants, contractors, vendors, the news media and the general public.

During his tenure as deputy director, Mr. Pakush will be supervising a number of large construction projects, most notably the nearly \$650 million replacement of the Inner Belt Bridge in Cleveland with two new parallel structures over the Cuyahoga River Valley. Built more than 50 years ago, this mile-long span cuts through downtown on I-90, America's longest Interstate Highway, linking Boston and Seattle.



Myron Pakush

This is a very complex project that's not only going to challenge Mr. Pakush's skills as an engineer but also ask him to be a diplomat and community planner as he's confronted with neighborhood access issues and the challenge of developing detours to accommodate the needs of businesses along the construction route, while also working with groups interested in bicycle access, beautification, environmental protection, etc.

Mr. Pakush, 46, comes well-qualified for the job. He has nearly two decades of experience working for ODOT, starting at the same ODOT District 12 in the 1990s as a newly graduated civil engineer from the University of Toledo and then serving as deputy director in Districts 5 and 11 in Central Ohio.

He grew up in Lorain, Ohio, and still attends St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church there. He is a graduate of the Cleveland Ukrainian Saturday school (Ridna Shkola) and is a member of the Plast scouting fraternity Burlaky. He is president of the board of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives and a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch 233.

### Honorary consul honored by Ukraine

WASHINGTON – Ukraine's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States Olexander Motsyk late last year held a meeting at the Embassy of Ukraine with Ukraine's honorary consuls in the United States. During the meeting the ambassador awarded Greg Buchai, Ukraine's first honorary consul in the United States, with the Order of Merit (third degree) for significant contributions to increasing the influence of the Ukrainian state, and strengthening ties in the economic, scientific and cultural spheres.

Mr. Buchai has been Ukraine's honorary consul in Houston since May 2000. In that capacity he has dealt with a variety of issues, ranging from bilateral trade and representation of Ukraine at various diplomatic events as a member of the consular corps, to arranging meetings and media interviews for visiting officials from Ukraine and assisting Ukrainian nationals on U.S. soil.

Mr. Buchai was involved also in promoting Ukraine's graduation from the trade restrictions of the Jackson-Vanik amendment that was adopted by the U.S. Congress during the Soviet era. As Ukraine's honorary consul, he has fielded countless calls about visas, travel, adoption, marriage issues, business opportunities and the political situation in Ukraine.



Ukraine's honorary consul in Houston, Greg Buchai (left), is presented the Order of Merit (third degree) by Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Olexander Motsyk.

The November 30, 2010, meeting at the Embassy of Ukraine was attended also by Ukraine's honorary consuls in Birmingham, Ala., Roy Colson; Detroit, Bohdan Fedorak; and Cleveland, Andrew Futey.

A broad range of consular issues was discussed during the meeting, among them protection of individuals and legal entities, and ways to expand commercial, cultural and humanitarian activities.

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

### Harvard divinity grad certified as chaplain

FALL RIVER, Mass. – Marika Hanushevsky Hull of Massachusetts has received board certification as a hospital chaplain from the National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC). This makes her the first Ukrainian Catholic laywoman to obtain certification with the NACC.

Board certification requires approval from the applicant's hierarch. Bishop Paul Chomnysky, eparch of Stamford, gladly provided the endorsement.

Ms. Hull is presently serving as a full-time chaplain at St. Anne's Hospital in Fall River, Mass., with a focus on Oncology. She serves on the hospital Ethics Committee, the Oncology Resource Committee and the Hudner Oncology Clinic Patient Satisfaction Committee. She is also team leader for the Schwartz Rounds Committee, a hospital-wide rounds which focuses on the patient-caregiver relationship.

Her particular interest as a spiritual care provider is to understand the patient's spiritual needs in the context of family and community. In her practice as hospital chaplain, Ms. Hull encourages patients and families to explore their own inner resources, and to rely on their faith in order to balance the physical, emotional and spiritual issues that illness and treatment may present.



Marika Hanushevsky Hull

In her present position as chaplain, she works together with all the medical disciplines, including the medical staff, nutrition, and social services. She also serves as chaplain to the Hudner Oncology Cancer Center.

In addition to her work directly ministering to patients and staff, Ms. Hull develops and implements hospital-wide programs with other disciplines, with interfaith groups and with local inter-faith clergy to meet specific needs for staff or patient support. She also mentors chaplaincy and nursing students at St. Anne's.

Ms. Hull received her Master of Divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School. At Harvard she completed cours-

(Continued on page 23)

# Springtime and Easter

## PROGRAMS AT THE UKRAINIAN MUSEUM

2011

<p><b>PYSANKY - UKRAINIAN EASTER EGG DECORATING WORKSHOPS</b>                  March 27, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.                  March 27, 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.                  April 2, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.                  April 3, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.                  April 3, 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.                  April 16, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.                  April 17, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.                  April 17, 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.                  Fee per session: Adults – \$15; students over 16 &amp; seniors – \$10; children ages 12–16 – \$5; members – 15% discount</p> <p><b>UKRAINIAN EASTER TRADITIONS</b>                  &amp; baking of traditional Easter breads                  Saturday, April 9, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.                  Adults – \$25; students over 16 &amp; seniors – \$20; members – 15% discount</p> <p><b>Limited space – Pysanky and Easter Traditions workshops must be reserved in advance: 212.228.0110</b></p> <p><b>DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE MAKING OF PYSANKY – UKRAINIAN EASTER EGGS</b>                  plus free screening of Slavko Nowytski's award-winning film <i>Pysanka</i> every half hour                  Saturday, April 16, 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.                  Adults – \$10; students over 12 &amp; seniors – \$8; children 12 and under – free; members – 15% discount</p>	<p><b>FAMILY PROGRAMS</b>                  Craft workshops for families with children ages 4-12. Walk-in classes; reservations not required.                  \$5 per family member                  \$3 per Museum member</p> <p><b>FOLK ART WORKSHOP</b>                  Make folk art objects, and take them home!                  Sunday, May 1, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.                  Sunday, June 5, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>INSTRUMENTS</b>                  Listen to and craft an instrument.                  Sunday, March 20, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>CELEBRATE SPRING!</b>                  Easter traditions and egg decorating; watch Slavko Nowytski's film <i>Pysanka</i>.                  Sunday, April 3, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.                  Sunday, April 17, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>BAKING TRADITIONAL WEDDING BREADS</b>                  Learn how to make a <i>korovai</i>.                  Saturday, May 7, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.                  Adults – \$25; students over 16 &amp; seniors – \$20; members – 15% discount</p>
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The Museum's programs and operations are funded in part by the New York State Council on the Arts.

The Ukrainian Museum's film series and traditional arts programs are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

sector, which should stabilize the prices of products. Referring to the painful topic of pension reform, Mr. Yanukovich noted that its implementation requires courage from the authorities, and determination and honesty before the people. He said that gradually, from year to year, the retirement age for women will rise, and over time for men too. He stressed that pension reform will be aimed primarily at introducing an equitable approach to the calculation of pensions. Mr. Yanukovich also said that one of his main goals is combating corruption, and that a package of anti-corruption laws he had submitted would be passed by the Verkhovna Rada in the first half of this year. More than 3,000 people gathered in Kyiv on Independence Square to watch President Yanukovich's "Conversation with the Country" live. (Ukrinform)

### Yanukovich made 28 foreign visits

KYIV – During his first year in office, Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovich made 28 overseas visits and welcomed 25 foreign heads of state and government to Ukraine, according to a report on the quantitative indicators of the activity of the Ukrainian president. News about the report was released on February 25. Mr. Yanukovich held 72 international meetings in Ukraine and attended 1,436 domestic meetings. He met with government members, representatives of the judicial branch, national deputies and heads of regional state administrations. He also participated in 88 domestic policy events, including working visits to regions, speeches in the Verkhovna Rada and celebrations of professional holidays. During his first year as president, Mr. Yanukovich signed 271 laws and vetoed

30 documents. In addition, he signed 1,275 decrees, 1,250 orders and 191 instructions. The head of state received 68,800 appeals from citizens. (Ukrinform)

### Opposition seeks government's dismissal

KYIV – Front for Change Party leader Arseniy Yatsenyuk has called on all political forces in the Verkhovna Rada to support the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense faction's draft resolution on a vote of no confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, it was reported on March 1. He said that signature lists had been submitted to the leaders of all factions in Parliament. Mr. Yatsenyuk blamed the government led by Prime Minister Mykola Azarov for raising prices and tariffs, increasing the tax burden and agreeing to raise the retirement age. The Front for Change leader expressed hope that before March 15, the first anniversary of the formation of the Azarov government, national deputies would manage to collect the 150 signatures required to submit for consideration by the Verkhovna Rada a draft resolution on a vote of no confidence in the government. (Ukrinform)

### Lytvyn rules out government's ouster

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said on March 1 that he believes it is unrealistic to dismiss the current government led by Prime Minister Mykola Azarov. Speaking at a press conference in Luhansk, he said, "I think that it is currently impossible to do so." He was commenting on the initiative by opposition forces to collect 150 signatures to submit a draft resolution on a vote of no confidence in the Cabinet. Mr. Lytvyn said that politicians are already preparing for the parliamentary elections scheduled for October 2012, so "nobody wants to play into someone else's hand." He added,

"The combination of these two factors suggests that such an initiative is just a political move to which factions and deputies have the right." (Ukrinform)

### NASA aids search for journalist

KYIV – The National Space Agency of Ukraine (NSAU) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States are helping in the search for the missing journalist Vasyl Klymentyev of Kharkiv, Vice-Minister for Internal Affairs Vasyl Farynnyk said on February 26. He explained that materials from satellite imagery are needed to obtain information on all vehicles that "were on that day, on that hour and in that place." Mr. Farynnyk noted that the first suspect in the case may be named soon, adding, "we just need to get the data that will enable us to declare that the man is wanted as a suspect in a crime committed against Klymentyev." The editor-in-chief of the Kharkiv-based New Style newspaper went missing on August 11, 2010. Kharkiv police opened a criminal case on the journalist's premeditated murder. Mr. Klymentyev and his newspaper were investigating cases of corruption in the tax inspectorate and the prosecutor's office. (Ukrinform)

### Rada may change voting rules

KYIV – The Ukrainian Parliament is seriously discussing the possibility of legalizing the practice of national deputies voting on behalf of their colleagues in factions, it was reported on March 1. The chairman of the parliamentary Committee on Rules of Procedure, Volodymyr Makeyenko of the Party of Regions, said that this was "necessary." He commented: "This piano has been working for 20 years, it is beneficial to all factions, it has always existed, and it will not change." He proposed to simply legitimize what is happening in the Verkhovna Rada session hall. "It's necessary to introduce amendments to the Constitution, the law on the status of national deputies and the rules of procedure. The Committee on Rules of Procedure is working in this context," Mr. Makeyenko said. At the same time, Party of Regions faction leader Oleksander Yefremov refused to support the idea of allowing national deputies to cast votes in place of their colleagues. He said that the Regions faction was trying to make its deputies "come to their workplaces, work every day and vote in person." (Ukrinform)

### 387 Ukrainians evacuated from Libya

KYIV – The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry as of March 1 completed the first stage of the evacuation of Ukrainian citizens from Libya, ministry spokesperson Oleksander Dykusharov said. "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has conducted the urgent evacuation of Ukrainian citizens from Libya since February 23, and today we have all grounds to say that the first and main stage of the evacuation of our countrymen has been successfully conducted," he said. Mr. Dykusharov noted that 387 citizens of Ukraine had been evacuated from Libya. The Foreign Affairs Ministry, along with the Emergencies Ministry and the Defense Ministry, conducted four free evacuation flights from February 23 to February 27 – two of them conducted by Ukraine International Airlines and two more by the Defense Ministry. A total of 279 Ukrainians were evacuated on these flights. Another 108 Ukrainians left Libya aboard the aircraft of other countries. In addition, Ukrainian airplanes evacuated 166 foreign nationals from Libya. Among those evacuated were citizens of Russia, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Poland and other countries. Mr. Dykusharov said that there are currently 500 to 600 Ukrainian citizens in Libya, who refused

to leave the country for various reasons. (Ukrinform)

### St. Sophia transferred to Culture Ministry

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers decided to transfer the St. Sophia complex of historic buildings to the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Cabinet's press service reported on February 14. At the same time, the Ministry of Finance was instructed to pass to the Ministry of Culture budget allocations for the maintenance and development of the St. Sophia complex. As reported earlier, Prime Minister Mykola Azarov had stated that museums and reserves should be in the jurisdiction of a ministry that should ensure their preservation and development. St. Sophia Cathedral, which is a historical monument of the age of Kyivan Rus', is included on the list of world heritage sites of UNESCO. It had been under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Regional Policy, Building and Housing. As reported in early February, the St. Sophia National Reserve sent a letter to President Viktor Yanukovich urging him to protect Ukraine's greatest Christian shrine from destruction. The letter was signed by hundreds of people, including foreign scholars. According to the authors of the letter, the re-subordination of St. Sophia will lead to "destabilization of the work of the reserve and elimination of the existing effective system of management, and will threaten the preservation of world and national cultural heritage." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

### Gates Foundation assists Rivne libraries

KYIV – Free access to Internet resources for 12 district libraries in the Rivne region and a similar network in the city of Rivne will be provided by computer equipment costing 1.95 million hrv (nearly \$250,000 U.S.), thanks to a grant from the Bibliomist program supported by the U.S.-based Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The program is being implemented by the International Council for Science, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Culture and Tourism Ministry of Ukraine, it was reported on March 2. According to the press service of the Rivne Oblast State Administration, library personnel received the grant on a competitive basis. The project will provide electronic resources to serve the needs of all the members of local communities. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine to step up participation in CIS

KYIV – Ukraine is planning to increase its participation in the Commonwealth of Independent States, President Viktor Yanukovich said during a meeting with CIS Executive Secretary Sergey Lebedev. "The intention of Ukraine is to significantly increase participation in the Commonwealth. We have suggestions on how to intensify trade and economic cooperation in the CIS, and today we are carrying this work bilaterally with our counterparts from the Commonwealth," the president said, according to a February 18 report by his press service. Mr. Yanukovich said that another urgent task is to overcome the negative effects of the global financial crisis. In this context, he stressed the importance of reform, moving away from old patterns that demonstrated their ineffectiveness during the crisis, and the transition to an innovation-investment model of developing countries. "All this is now the subject of our interest. We understand that innovations are the way to the future; they relate to the investment process. Creating the conditions for such work by all our partners in the Commonwealth is a priority for us. And we intend to take an active part in this, to initiate such work," the president underlined. In related

(Continued on page 21)

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 20)

news, Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said an agreement on the establishment of a free trade zone within the CIS may be signed in May. "In general, the development of the treaty text is completed, it is mainly agreed, and we expect its signing at the next meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Council in May this year in Minsk," Mr. Azarov said. He added that the agreement on a free-trade zone should improve trade conditions, or else signing this document does not make sense. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine not able to join Customs Union

KYIV – Ukraine is not able to join the Customs Union, which has existed since 2010 between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC), it was reported on February 18. Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko stated in a report to the Verkhovna Rada: "Priorities of foreign policy are clearly defined in the law, voted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and we consider negotiations with the EU [European Union] regarding an Association Agreement and an enhanced free-trade zone, which makes Ukraine's accession to the Customs Union impossible." The minister also noted that Ukraine is a member of the World Trade Organization, as distinct from Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. "We have quite different conditions, but we are interested in holding negotiations with the members of the Customs Union in order to exclude trade restrictions with those countries," Mr. Gryshchenko stated. Ukraine has partially adjusted the simplification of the trade regime with countries of the Customs Union. In particular, Ukraine preliminarily agreed with Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan about the exclusion of alcohol from the list of exemptions in the free-trade regime between the countries. In November 2010, President Viktor Yanukovich, at a meeting with his Russian counterpart, Dmitry Medvedev, stated that he does not rule out joining the Customs Union. However, he said, "We have procedures that we should undergo in Ukraine, for instance [to adopt] amendments to the Constitution." (Ukrinform)

### Qaddafi's nurse returns to Ukraine

KYIV – The personal nurse of Libyan leader Muammar el-Qaddafi has returned home to Ukraine, but is maintaining her silence, The Washington Post reported on March 1. Halyna Kolotnytska, 38, was described in a diplomatic cable published by WikiLeaks as a "voluptuous blonde" who "travel[s] everywhere" with Col. Qaddafi. She arrived in Kyiv on February 27 and went to her apartment in Brovary, outside of Kyiv, without speaking to reporters. Before Ms. Kolotnytska left Libya, the daily newspaper Segodnya quoted her daughter Tetyana as saying that her mother told her over the phone that she was not in danger and planned to return to Ukraine in the near future. "She spoke in a calm voice, asked us not to worry, said she would be home soon," Tetyana Kolotnytska said, according to a February 26 news story. (The Washington Post, The Associated Press)

### Suspects arrested in acid attack

KYIV – A police officer and another man have been arrested in Kyiv in connection with an acid attack on Kyiv Oblast deputy head Yuriy Chyzhmar, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on February 23. Acid was thrown into Mr. Chyzhmar's face by an unknown person as he walked along a street late on February 16. He has

been hospitalized with serious facial injuries. Kyiv city police officials told journalists on February 23 that one of the suspects was a police officer who has confessed to planning the attack. The man said the attack resulted from a dispute involving a woman. The identity of the second suspect remains unclear and it's unknown if he also confessed to involvement in the attack. (RFE/RL)

### Georgian monument to Ukrainian language

KYIV – Borys Sadzhaya, a native of Tbilisi now residing in the Kyiv region, intends to unveil a statue-symbol of the Ukrainian language. It was reported on February 14 that the pensioner plans to hold a design competition among architects, although he has his own idea: "I see a Moebius band, which is a symbol of the language infinity and its vitality." As the newspaper Segodnya reported, the Georgian is not concerned about money. "They say in business: if you are on the right track, the necessary people fall on your head by themselves. Anyone will give money, Akhmetov, Pinchuk, Kateryna Yushchenko. And there is also the Ukrainian diaspora abroad, which worries very much about the state of Ukrainian culture." Ukrainian architects liked the idea. "The theme is very interesting, the idea is worthy," said the vice-president of the Ukrainian National Council of Architects, Heorhii Dukhovnychi. "I see this symbol in the form of some simple geometrical multi-sided form, in which every side would recall through carved images different stages of the formation of the Ukrainian written language, starting from the Trypillian culture." (Ukrinform)

### Tatars given land for mosque

KYIV – The Symferopol City Council has allocated to the Spiritual Administration of Muslims of Crimea 2.7 hectares of land for the construction of a mosque at 22 Yaltynska St. The Crimean Muslims have long asked for this plot of land. In 2004 the City Council decided the mosque could be located at that address. However, deputies later refused to allocate this plot, offering another one. Muslims of Crimea, in turn, said they would build the mosque on Yaltynska Street and began a collection of funds and shell-stone for the construction. In late January, the Economic Court of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea satisfied the claim of the Spiritual Administration of Muslims, who are the second largest denomination in the Crimea, to build the mosque on Yaltynska Street. (Ukrinform)

### Euro 2012 ticket prices announced

KYIV – UEFA on February 15 announced the prices of tickets for the final tournament of the Euro 2012 European Football Championship to be held in Ukraine and Poland on June 8 to July 1, 2012. Prices will range from 30 to 600 euros. According to the Ukraine 2012 Information Center, the purchasing power of local citizens was taken into account when deciding on prices, and the cheapest tickets will cost 50 percent less than at the Euro 2008 in Austria/Switzerland. Furthermore, tickets for the final in category 3 will cost only 50 euros. All prices are subject to an additional administrative fee to cover handling and secure courier delivery. Residents of Poland and Ukraine will also be able to pay in their local currencies, either via credit card or by domestic bank transfer, whereas international applicants will need to pay via credit card and in euros. There are several types of tickets available: individual match tickets, venue series group or knockout, and "follow my team" group or knockout. Ukraine's national football team will play group stage matches in Kyiv and Donetsk. (Ukrinform)

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John J. Breslin Jr., Theater

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Hellertown, Pa.  
Saucon Valley High School

Tickets: 877-826-6437 (D.U.Tamburitzans)  
Info: www.duq.edu/tamburitzans

Saturday, April 16, 2011, 8 p.m.  
Toms River, N.J. Fine Arts Center

Sunday, April 17, 2011, 2 p.m.  
Tickets: Box Office

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## Turning Ukraine...

(Continued from page 2)

"They want to build a common informational, cultural and educational space."

A recent controversial Russian teaching manual claims that Stalin acted "entirely rationally" in executing and imprisoning millions of people in the gulag. Another manual calls Stalin an "effective manager."

Russian officials support Ukraine's revision of history textbooks. Lawmaker Sergei Markov of the ruling United Russia party said it's "an important task to immediately and radically change history textbooks of modern Ukraine" because, in his view, "they are falsified."

Last year, the Russian ambassador to Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov, famously announced that Russians and Ukrainians are a single nation: "I am sure that we are not just brotherly people – we are a single nation. With some nuances, peculiarities, but a single nation."

Former Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk said recently in an interview: "We do not impose on Russia how to interpret its own history. Why do Russians want to make us forget our own history and our heroes? Ukrainians must know their history and live accordingly, instead of living by the stereotypes spun by tsarist and Soviet ideologists."

### Russia targets Ukrainian institutions

While Russia is advocating certain changes in Ukraine's educational sphere, it is clamping down on Ukrainian institutions on its own turf. Last month, Moscow disbanded an important Ukrainian cultural organization, the Federal of National Cultural Autonomy of Ukrainians of Russia.

Russian Internal Affairs Ministry troops from the "anti-extremism" section have raided Moscow's Library of Ukrainian Literature three times since the end of December, seizing computer hard drives and servers, as well as more than 50 books suspected to be "extremist literature." Library director Natalia Sharina was beaten and reportedly suffered a concussion.

The Ukrainian and Russian education ministers last year signed an accord declaring 2011 the Year of Ukrainian Education in the Russian Federation and 2012 the Year of Russian Education in Ukraine.

While history textbooks are getting a make-over in Ukraine, higher-education institutions are coming under pressure from the government. The ministry's proposed draft law on higher education aims to unify the life of all universities,

say observers, demanding the exact same statutes and entry requirements for all universities and prohibiting students the freedom to select their own courses in their chosen programs of study, a common Western liberal arts tradition. It also restricts the use of English, making it impossible, say critics, for higher education institutions to be competitive in the global arena.

"The proposed new law on higher education is a return to Soviet times," said Dr. Serhiy Kvit, president of the respected National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Ukraine's oldest university and the only higher education institution in Ukraine officially to require bilingual – Ukrainian and English – classes.

"Although rhetorically Ukraine takes part in the Bologna Process, saying that it wants to participate in the Western world of education, in reality Tabachnyk, with this new law, wants to lower the Ukrainian educational system from the Western system and bring it closer to the Russian system," Dr. Kvit notes.

The ministry, with its pending draft law, is trying to liquidate Kyiv Mohyla's English-language requirement and does not want to recognize the Western doctorate, says Dr. Kvit.

Civil society in Ukraine may or may not be strong enough to withstand the government-led politicization of education. Last month, the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) hosted a conference of experts on the creation of a new Ukrainian history textbook, an idea supported by the Council of Europe.

"The authorities cannot lead a monopoly on historical memory," said the UCU's Prof. Yaroslav Hrytsak in an interview. "What's needed is civil society initiatives, which can protest this type of monopolization and suggest smart alternatives."

UCU Rector Gudziak said the changes are an assault on the Ukrainian people and, ultimately, the country: "Russian versions of history generally negate much of Ukrainian historical development, subsuming it into one great Russian narrative. In other words, it's a history that negates Ukrainian identity. A state and a people, a nation without its historical identity, is not viable."

*Alexa Chopivsky is a journalist based in Kyiv. The views expressed in this commentary are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of RFE/RL. Copyright 2011, RFE/RL Inc. Reprinted with the permission of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 1201 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington DC 20036; www.rferl.org. (See http://www.rferl.org/content/ukrainian\_commentary/2320473.html.)*

## KINOFEST NYC NEW YORK'S ONLY UKRAINIAN AND POST-SOVIET FILM FESTIVAL

\* Wednesday, March 16, 8 p.m.

**I Am From Nowhere**  
Slovak/Eng. (Eng. subtitles)

Thursday, March 17, 7 p.m.

**Torn From the Flag**  
Hungarian/Eng. (Eng. subtitles)  
plus **The First Karaoke**

Friday, March 18, 7 p.m.

**Not Alone at Home**  
Ukrainian (Eng. subtitles)  
plus **Mofar Nechay**

\* Friday, March 18, 9 p.m.

**Short Films by M. Slaboshpytskiy**  
Ukrainian (Eng. subtitles)  
plus **Mum Died Saturday**

Saturday, March 19, 5 p.m.

**Women From Georgia**  
Georgian/Eng. (Eng. subtitles)  
plus **2033 Kilometers to the Eiffel Tower**

Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m.

**Disco and Atomic War**  
Estonian (Eng. subtitles)  
plus **Radunytsia** and **The First Karaoke**

Sunday, March 20, 2 p.m.


**Ukrainian Film Shorts**


Sunday, March 20, 5 p.m.

**Man With the Movie Camera**  
1929 classic produced by VUFKU, the All-Ukrainian Film and Cinema Administration  
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\* Location: Millennium Film Workshop, 66 East 4th St., between the Bowery and 2nd Ave. All other screenings shown above take place at The Ukrainian Museum. For the complete Kinofest NYC schedule see [www.kinofestNYC.org](http://www.kinofestNYC.org).

Tickets: \$10 each session, or \$35 festival pass. Limited seating. Order in advance at [www.UkrainianMuseum.org](http://www.UkrainianMuseum.org) or [www.kinofestNYC.org](http://www.kinofestNYC.org).

 The Ukrainian Museum  
222 East 6th Street  
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[www.ukrainianmuseum.org](http://www.ukrainianmuseum.org)

 The Ukrainian Museum's film series is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

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Please visit our website: <http://ukrainianmountaintop.org/>



# OUT AND ABOUT

- March 12 Mashantucket, CT Boxing match, Sergiy Dzinziruk versus Sergio Martinez, Foxwoods Hotel and Casino, 860-463-1210 or kozak6064@snet.net
- March 16 Ottawa Wine and cheese art exhibit, Ukrainian Student's Club, University of Ottawa, <http://uofoukrainian.webs.com>
- March 16-20 New York Film festival, "Kinofest NYC," The Ukrainian Museum and Millennium Film Workshop, [www.kinofestnyc.org](http://www.kinofestnyc.org)
- March 19 Cleveland, OH Film and literary evening with Irene Zabytko, "Remembering Chornobyl in Film and Literature," Ukrainian National Women's League of America - Branch 12, Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 440-526-6863
- March 20 Roseville, CA Taras Shevchenko evening, Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California, Valley Presbyterian Church Chapel, 916-771-2402 or [www.uhc-of-nc.org](http://www.uhc-of-nc.org)
- March 20 Whippany, NJ Fashion show, luncheon and gift auction, Plast Chortopoloky Sorority, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-471-0515 or [lvhuk@verizon.net](mailto:lvhuk@verizon.net)
- March 21 Cambridge, MA Lecture by Bohdan Futey, "The Rule of Law and Constitutional Guarantees in Ukraine," Harvard University, 617-495-4053
- March 22 through April 8 New York Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love," featuring soprano Stefania Dovhan, New York City Opera, Lincoln Center, 212-870-6582 or [www.nycopera.com](http://www.nycopera.com)
- March 23 Ottawa Lecture by Charles King, "Odessa: Genius and Death in a City of Dreams," University of Ottawa, [chairukr@gmail.com](mailto:chairukr@gmail.com)
- March 25 Whippany, NJ Varenyky dinner, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 908-998-3289 or [pierogi.dinner.at.uaccnj@gmail.com](mailto:pierogi.dinner.at.uaccnj@gmail.com)
- March 26 Baltimore, MD Flower mart and flea market, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-697-4981
- March 26 San Francisco Taras Shevchenko concert, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council of Northern California, St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church hall, [www.stmichaeluocsf.org/Shevchenko\\_Concert.aspx](http://www.stmichaeluocsf.org/Shevchenko_Concert.aspx)
- March 27 Chicago 50th anniversary celebration, Ukrainian National Women's League of America - Branch 29, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 708-409-9917
- March 28 Cambridge, MA Lecture by Myron Kapral, "'Concordia Plebeiorum' or Some Facets of Social and Ethnic Relations in 17th- and 18th-Century Ukraine," Harvard University, 617-495-4053
- March 30 -April 1 New York Conference, "Nonconformism and Dissent in the Soviet Bloc: Guiding Legacy or Passing Memory?" Columbia University, 212-854-4697 or [ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu](mailto:ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu)

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

## Ukrainian Pro...

(Continued from page 17)

youngsters. Bozak was the most promising of the free agent threesome, forward Christian Hanson and goaltender Jonas Gustavsson being the other two acquisitions.

"Bozak's a responsible player at both ends of the ice and he has shown the ability to put points on the board with his quickness at the collegiate level," Burke said upon signing Bozak, who was recruited by most NHL pro scouts.

The avid interest in Bozak was not surprising.

Denver coach George Gwozdecky lauded Bozak's talents by comparing him to Colorado Avalanche star Paul Stastny, another University of Denver product. Bozak led the Pioneers in scoring his first year while netting five shorthanded markers and finishing a very healthy plus-12. His college scoring totals were no fluke since he put up a league-best 128 points in his final season of juniors with the Victoria Grizzlies.

### Key part of a new core

As an NHL'er in Toronto, Bozak's past achievements no longer matter. Coming

off countless years of non-playoff, losing hockey, Leafs Nation is anxious for a winner. New captain Dion Phaneuf, forward Kris Versteeg and the Ukrainian Bozak are hoped to be key ingredients of the franchise's resurgence. The opportunity to help fix the Toronto club was a part of the decision-making process to sign with the Original Six club.

"I know Burkie [GM Burke] and the type of guy he is and how good a general manager he is," Bozak said in an interview with NHL.com. "It's a team that is sort of in a rebuilding process with our defense and our goaltending now, all the way up to our forwards. It's exciting and something I wanted to be part of. I'm just looking to fit in and fill a role."

Bozak spent some time in Toronto after he signed in the spring of 2009 and got a taste for the passion the city's fandom has for its team. He was amazed about how consumed the city is with the Maple Leafs.

"I've had a good taste of Toronto and I love it," Bozak said. "When I was up here last year after my college season, I got a really good taste. I was just in the room and saw the guys and how everything went. The fan support is unbelievable here, and the organization is in great shape and things are looking up for the next few years."

(between Ninth and 10th streets) at 2 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130. Please note the unusual day and time for this particular program.

### Monday, March 21

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host the Zenovia Sochor Parry Memorial Lecture given by Judge Bohdan A. Futey of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Washington. His lecture, "The Rule of Law and Constitutional Guarantees in Ukraine," will be held at 4 p.m. in the Kresge Room 114, Barker Center, 12 Quincy St. This event is free and open to the general public. For more information e-mail [huri@has.harvard.edu](mailto:huri@has.harvard.edu).

## Harvard divinity...

(Continued from page 19)

es in "New Testament," "Medical Ethics Pastoral Counseling," as well as a course in "Interdisciplinary Care of the Aged" at Harvard Medical School.

Ms. Hull holds a B.A. in environmental conservation from Barnard College at Columbia University.

Prior to her present position, she

served as a full-time chaplain-resident at Tampa General Hospital, a Level 1 Trauma Center in Florida.

Ms. Hull and her husband, Web, live in Rhode Island, where they attend St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Woonsocket. They are the parents of Mykola and Julia. Their middle daughter, Kalyna Hull, was born to eternal life in 1998. Ms. Hull is the daughter of Ivanna and the late Dr. Taras Hanushevsky of North Providence, R.I.

## CCRDF launches...

(Continued from page 13)

Participating students were awarded with scholarship certificates during press conferences held in Kyiv and Kharkiv in November 2010. Both events were attended by top management of Philip Morris and CCRDF, who met the students in person and answered their questions about the program.

The press conference in Kyiv was also attended by honored guests – U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John F. Tefft and representatives of the Presidential Administration of Ukraine – who congratulated the program participants and emphasized the importance of the initiative for both the students and the country.

The Scholarships for Orphans program launch was supported by Inter-Continental Kyiv, which works in partnership with CCRDF, having selected the organization as its "Charity of Choice."


## PREVIEW....

(Continued from page 24)

### Sunday, March 13

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Dr. Alexander Lushnycky titled "A Review of the Ukrainian Press in America: From Its Beginnings to Today." The lecture is dedicated to the 125th anniversary of the Ukrainian press in America. Dr. Lushnycky is the chair of the Philadelphia Regional Committee of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Avenue

*Attention Debutante Ball Organizers!*



As in the past, The Ukrainian Weekly will publish a special section devoted to the Ukrainian community's debutantes. The 2011 debutante ball section will be published on March 27.

**The deadline for submission of stories and photos is March 14.**



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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Tuesday, March 8

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, jointly with the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, will host a book presentation of "Bloodlands: Europe between Hitler and Stalin" by Timothy Snyder, professor of history at Yale University. The presentation will be followed by scholarly assessments, authorial response and open discussion. The event will be held at 12:15 p.m. in Room K-354 of the CGIS Knafel Building, 1737 Cambridge St. The book presentation is free and open to the general public. For more information e-mail huri@has.harvard.edu.

Friday, March 11

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Institute of America invites all to a lecture by Prof. Michael S. Flier. Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University, and director, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. The title of the lecture is "Gender, Hierarchy and Representation in Kyiv's Cathedral of St. Sophia." Admission: \$15

Saturday, March 12

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh-A) invites all

to a lecture by Kateryna Davidenko, archivist at NTSh-A and at the Bakhmatiev Archive at Columbia University, on the subject "NTSh-A Archives: Their Present State of Preservation and Perspectives for the Future." The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Avenue (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

**PALATINE, Ill.:** Ukrainian American Veterans 1st Lt. Ivan Shandor Post 35 and the Palatine ACT Chapter invite veterans and members of the community to a viewing of "Rediscovering God in America," hosted by Newt Gingrich and his wife, Callista Gingrich. From the National Archives to Arlington National Cemetery, this film illuminates the importance of God to our nation's founders and their successors. A discussion will follow the film. The meeting takes place at the Palatine Library at 2-4 p.m. There is no charge for admission. The library is located at 700 N. North Court, Palatine, IL 60067. For additional information, call Col. Roman G. Golash (retired), 847-910-3532, or e-mail romangolash@sbcglobal.net.

(Continued on page 23)

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

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