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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Canadian PM Stephen Harper to receive Shevchenko Medal



Office of the Prime Minister of Canada

Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada during his visit to Ukraine in October 2010.

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress on March 2 announced that Prime Minister Stephen Harper will be awarded the Shevchenko Medal in Toronto on March 25.

The Shevchenko Medal is the highest form of recognition that can be granted by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. It recognizes individuals for their outstanding national contribution towards the development of the Ukrainian Canadian community.

The UCC noted that Prime Minister Harper and his government have made many contributions to the Ukrainian Canadian community, both at home and abroad, including the passage of “An Act to Establish a Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (‘Holodomor’) Memorial Day,” making Canada one of the first countries to adopt legislation to recognize the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as an act of genocide.

The establishment by Prime Minister Harper of the “Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund” in 2008 was the culmination of many years of effort by the Ukrainian Canadian community to recognize the unjust internment of Ukrainian Canadians and others from 1914 to 1920.

Prime Minister Harper has been an active proponent of democratic reforms in Ukraine as evidenced by his recent trip to Ukraine in October 2010 where he

publicly expressed Canada’s commitment to human rights, democratic development, and free and fair elections in Ukraine, the UCC’s release underscored. (This was preceded by Canada sending 200 election observers to Ukraine for the 2010 presidential elections.)

One of the highlights of the prime minister’s trip to Ukraine was the signing of a Youth Mobility Agreement to facilitate travel and exchanges between Canadian and Ukrainian youth. Prime Minister Harper has also been an active proponent of Ukraine’s accession to NATO, and in 2009 his government entered into free trade negotiations with Ukraine and renewed Ukraine’s status as a country of priority for international assistance through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The first prime minister to receive the Shevchenko Medal was John Diefenbaker, who was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the cause of Ukraine and other nations in their struggle for human dignity and liberty.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress will present the Shevchenko Medal to Prime Minister Harper on Friday, March 25, at a tribute event to be held at the Liberty Grand located at Exhibition Place in Toronto. (For information on the event or to obtain tickets readers may log on to www.ucc.ca or call 866-942-4627.)

Ukrainian Catholic bishops gather for historic Synod

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The leaders of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church converged upon Lviv this weekend for the most important Synod of Bishops in a decade, which will determine who will succeed the retiring Major Archbishop Lubomyr Husar in leading the Church.

More than 40 bishops from around the world began meeting on March 18 and 19 for discussion and prayer. The four-day Synod begins March 20, and bishops are slated to cast ballots on March 21-24. The new major archbishop will be enthroned on March 27 in Kyiv at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ.

The Synod will mark the first time in the Church’s modern history that the outgoing primate will participate in the voting process to select his successor. The biggest question is whether the next leader will be a born-and-bred Ukrainian, or if the Synod makes the historic decision to select the first diaspora-born patriarch.

“There could very well be a rift” during the Synod, said Bishop Basil Losten, the eparch emeritus of Stamford, Conn., who will be in attendance. “Whoever supports someone from outside Ukraine is very unwise. It’s time that it’s someone born and raised on the native soil,” he commented.

No Ukrainian Catholic Church patriarch was born outside of Ukraine, including Major Archbishop Husar, who was born in Lviv, and his predecessor, Myroslav Lubachivsky, who was born in the town of Dolyna, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast.

Yet both Church leaders spent much of their careers serving Ukrainian Catholics in the U.S.

Cardinal Husar – whom Ukrainian Catholic faithful call patriarch – has gone to great lengths to avoid advocating any particular candidate in his public remarks, and to leave the decision entirely up to the Synod.

Offering only a general idea of his personal preference, the primate said at his mid-February press conference in Kyiv that his successor should keep the internal unity of the Church a top priority. Additionally, the Church should avoid temptations to expand its activity into other areas and remain a Church.

Andriy Yurash, an associate professor at Ivan Franko University in Lviv, said Patriarch Lubomyr has a clear candidate in mind.

In fact, his sources informed him that the major archbishop postponed his resignation for two years after he first announced his intentions because he didn’t favor the successor candidate preferred by the Vatican.

“As a result of such a schedule within the episcopate, Cardinal Husar had waited for the situation to ripen so that the candi-

date who will surely extend his strategic line would have realistic chances of being selected,” Mr. Yurash said.

While there’s no declared favorite, the selection of Archbishop Ihor Vozniak of the Lviv Archeparchy as the Church’s temporary administrator was very revealing, in the view of Bishop Losten.

“The archbishop of Lviv is a strong candidate,” Bishop Losten said. “The patriarch set the tone when appointing him. You take him and go along the line of anyone in that age category.”

Archbishop Vozniak, 58, was born in the village of Lypytsi, Lviv Oblast. After serving in the Soviet army, in 1973 he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, which met at an underground monastery in Lviv.

The Redemptorists are a Roman Catholic missionary order with Ukrainian Catholic members. Archbishop Vozniak led the congregation in Ukraine between 1990 and 1996. He was enthroned as archbishop in November 2005.

Other strong candidates are Bishop Vasyl Semeniuk, 61, of the Ternopil Eparchy; Bishop Volodymyr Vityshyn, 51, of the Ivano-Frankivsk Eparchy; and Archbishop Yosyf Milian, 54, of the Kyiv Archeparchy.

The disadvantage for this generation of native Ukrainian bishops – born in the 1950s – is that they have limited experience abroad, Church observers told The Weekly. They were born in villages, and much of their education was in the underground monasteries and seminaries that operated during the Soviet period.

Archbishop Vozniak took monastic courses in Rome. Bishop Milian earned a licentiate degree in theology from Lublin Catholic University in Poland in 1997.

“Husar could speak with journalists without any problems,” said Taras Antoshevskiy, the director of the Lviv-based Religious Information Service of Ukraine.

“Most of our bishops don’t know how to do that. That skill is very important in order to communicate beyond the Church. Furthermore, many of our bishops don’t know foreign languages. Many bishops don’t know how to speak on issues or publish books on certain issues. And many don’t have a licentiate degree, which is after the master’s, but before the doctorate,” he explained.

Other strong Ukrainian-born bishops have risen in the Church, Bishop Losten said, but they are quite young: “My opinion is you don’t want someone there for 40 years. I was here for 28 years and people got tired of me.”

Such young candidates include Bishop Bohdan Dziurakh, 43, the secretary of the

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ANALYSIS

A horse-trading mission: Joe Biden in Moscow

by Pavel Felgenhauer
Eurasia Daily Monitor

U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden's visit to Moscow has been planned primarily as a promotion of business ties and Western support for President Dmitry Medvedev's announced modernization efforts. "We see the vice president's trip as trying to expand into new dimensions of reset with a particular focus on ...the business piece," explained the National Security Council's senior director for Russian and Eurasian affairs, Michael McFaul (The Moscow Times, March 9).

Together with First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov, Vice-President Biden visited the Moscow School of Management at Skolkovo, near the place where the government wants to create a Russian Silicon Valley, and chaired a roundtable discussion with U.S. and Russian business leaders.

Later Mr. Biden met Mr. Medvedev in his Gorki-9 residence. On March 10 Mr. Biden was to meet Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, addressing students at the Moscow State University and holding a ritual meeting with a trove of human rights activists to demonstrate that the administration of President the Barack Obama is still concerned about constant repression and rights abuse in Russia, though in reality this is indeed a secondary issue.

During the Skolkovo meeting Mr.

Shuvalov was upbeat about "the U.S. actively working to help Russia join the World Trade Organization in 2011." While meeting with President Medvedev, Vice-President Biden announced that the administration strongly supports Russia's WTO membership and the repeal by Congress of the 1974 Jackson-Vanik amendment that is needed for full Russian participation in the WTO." Messrs. Medvedev and Biden both praised strong progress in U.S.-Russian relations in arms control, on Afghanistan and U.N. Security Council sanctions imposed last year on Iran. Mr. Medvedev offered to discuss Russian proposals to build a joint Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) system in Europe with NATO and the "unrest in the Middle East" (RIA Novosti, March 9).

Russia is the largest world economy outside the WTO. Russia predominantly exports oil, gas and other raw materials that are not much affected by trade tariffs, but still badly needs WTO membership to improve its appalling investment climate. Today the main stumbling block to Russia's speedy WTO entry seems to be a conflict with WTO member Georgia over the customs control on the Russian borders with the former Georgian republics of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, which Georgia claims as its own territory.

After a brief war in August 2008, Russia unilaterally recognized the independence

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U.S.-Russia economic 'reset' is not happening

by Pavel K. Baev
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The visit of U.S. Vice-President Joseph Biden to Moscow last week created a resonance quite out of proportion to its agenda. The hard-won ratification of the START III treaty by the U.S. Senate and the "symmetric" process in the Russian Federal Assembly marked a remarkable success for the "reset" in U.S.-Russian relations launched by Mr. Biden in early 2009 – but also signified an exhaustion of this process (Ekspert, March 11).

Further arms control avenues – including building a joint missile defense system and reduction of non-strategic nuclear arsenals – are being explored but do not promise a fast breakthrough (Nezavisimoye Voyennoye Obozreniye, March 4). Russia's support for the U.S. and NATO operations in Afghanistan has reached its not very tall ceiling, and the cooperation on the Iranian problem is stalled by the introduction of U.S. (and European Union) sanctions, on which Moscow has no say, unlike United Nations resolutions.

Vice-President Biden sought to keep the "reset" on track but the rumor that stirred up Moscow's chattering political classes was that his real aim was to render support to Dmitry Medvedev's bid for the presidency and to discourage Vladimir Putin from going for a third term. The "reliable leaks" about offers to Prime Minister Putin to take instead a high-profile international post, like the president of the International Olympic Committee or the secretary-general of NATO, could have appeared ridiculous if they were not discussed so seriously (www.gazeta.ru,

March 10; Ezhednevny Zhurnal, March 11).

Meeting with leaders of the opposition, Mr. Biden did say something about Mr. Putin's choice and the need to put the country's best interests first (the accounts differ significantly), but on the record, he was impeccably diplomatic (www.besttoday.ru, March 11). His only wit in the exchange with Mr. Medvedev was in the words: "But Mr. President, as you know, when President Obama and I were elect..."

The key point of the message that Mr. Biden brought to Moscow was the need to move from the political "reset" to an expansion of economic ties that would secure a solid foundation for U.S.-Russian relations (Vedomosti, March 11). The problem with this idea is that it cannot be talked into existence but requires from the U.S. business community a leap of faith in the Russian market.

The new inflow of petro-rubles makes the Russian stock exchange interesting for international risk-takers but their input is dwarfed by the massive flight of domestic capital so that the negative balance for the first two months of 2011 is estimated at around \$20 billion (www.newsru.com, March 9; Kommersant, February 28).

The Russian Central Bank keeps explaining away this "unnatural" behavior by citing global volatility but it is no secret that a large part of this outpouring is made of capital accumulated by the bureaucratic nomenklatura, which has concluded that the time has come to make the money safe in Western assets (www.gazeta.ru, March 11).

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NEWSBRIEFS

Kuchma praises Yanukovich's first year

KYIV – Former Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma (1994-2004) has praised Viktor Yanukovich's first year as Ukrainian president. Speaking at a press conference in Dnipropetrovsk (eastern Ukraine) on March 15, he said, "By and large, I estimate the first year of the work of Viktor Yanukovich, the government and all authorities as positive. For the first time in Ukraine, the authorities became closed, not as the case was under me [as president], when everyone was pulling [a cart] like a swan, a crab and a pike" (a reference to a Ukrainian folk tale), the former president said. According to the former president, Mr. Yanukovich's first year as president brought political stability to Ukraine. At the same time, he said that there are a lot of problems in Ukraine, and "euphoria is not needed, and it's unnecessary to say that it will be easier to live tomorrow than today." (Ukrinform)

World's richest Ukrainian: Akhmetov

KYIV – Billionaire Rinat Akhmetov is the richest Ukrainian in the world, according to Forbes magazine. His net worth in 2011 is estimated at \$16 billion (U.S.), and compared to the previous year (\$5.2 billion) it grew by over \$10 billion. He is in 39th place among the world's billionaires. Victor Pinchuk, who, according to Forbes, is worth \$3.3 billion, ranks second in Ukraine, but only 336th in the world ranking. His wealth increased by \$200 million over the past year. The co-owners of Privat Group, Ihor Kolomoisky and Hennadiy Boholiubov, are worth \$2.5 billion each, and they took 459th position in the table. Kostiantyn Zhevago (Finance and Credit Group) doubled his fortune last year, to \$2.4 billion, and is 488th in the ranking. The newcomers from Ukraine in the current ranking are agribusiness representatives: the chairman of Myronivsky Hliboproduct (MHP), Yuri Kosiuk (\$1.5 billion); the founder of Kernel Holding, Andriy Verevsky (\$1.1 billion); and the head of Avangard Agricultural Holding, Oleh Bakhmatiuk (\$1 billion). This year's

ranking by Forbes magazine includes 1,210 people, and their total net worth is estimated at \$4.5 trillion. (Ukrinform)

PM: no reason for government reshuffle

KYIV – Prime Minister Mykola Azarov has said he sees no reason for a personnel reshuffle in the government. Speaking on the Inter TV channel on March 11, he said, "I don't see any need to replace anybody." At the same time, he did not rule out that staff decisions could be taken if officials make serious faults. "If our government fails to ensure sustainable development and improve the welfare of our citizens, I won't cling to the post of prime minister," he said. Mr. Azarov said that the year 2011 would be quite a difficult year. However, he expressed confidence that the government would manage to form sufficient food stocks so as to be able to influence high demand for certain food groups. Furthermore, he assured TV viewers that the exchange rate of the national currency would be stable. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv considers evacuations from Japan

KYIV – Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovich has ordered the government within 24 hours to consider the possible evacuation of Ukrainian citizens from Japan, Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Oleksander Dykusharov said on March 15. "The president instructed the government during the day to work out the evacuation of Ukrainian citizens if the situation in Japan deteriorates, and if the citizens themselves make a request for the evacuation," he said. In addition, Mr. Dykusharov reported that, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, as of 11 a.m. that day, the death toll in Japan from recent earthquakes and tsunamis stood at 2,500 persons and over 3,500 are missing. Japanese immigration officials said there are 1,590 Ukrainians in the country; of these, 511 are in the consular register. "Today there is no information about killed or injured Ukrainians. The Embassy of Ukraine is in constant communication with hundreds of Ukrainian

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NEWS ANALYSIS

EU develops ties with Kyiv despite concerns over democracy

by Pavel Korduban

Eurasia Daily Monitor

It is clear that problems with democracy and slow reforms in Ukraine under President Viktor Yanukovich have not prevented the European Union from developing closer ties with Kyiv.

German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle and EU chief free trade negotiator Philippe Mr. Cuisson confirmed recently that the EU will sign a political association and free trade agreement with Ukraine by the end of 2011. Also, the EU has pledged financial assistance to Ukraine.

The EU, although reminding Kyiv about the need to adhere to democratic standards on occasions such as new arrests of former government officials, prioritizes the economy, just as Mr. Yanukovich wants. One possible explanation is that Brussels is wary of Ukraine's falling back into Russia's orbit.

Mr. Cuisson told a roundtable in Kyiv on February 10 that the EU wanted to sign a free trade agreement with Ukraine by the end of 2011. If the document is signed this year, it would come into force in 2013, and within the following decade Ukraine should be fully integrated into Europe's economy like the non-EU members Switzerland or Norway, the Ukrainian Cabinet's official website quoted Mr. Cuisson as saying (www.kmu.gov.ua, February 10).

Mr. Yanukovich also said on several occasions that the agreement should be signed this year, and on February 9 he

instructed the Cabinet to speed up the talks whose next round is scheduled for April (UNIAN, February 9).

It had been agreed earlier that there will be no free trade agreement without a political association accord, consequently Mr. Cuisson's statement means that Brussels sees no problem in a Ukraine under President Yanukovich becoming a part of Europe politically.

The free trade talks have been difficult. Ukrainian negotiators complain that the EU is reluctant to open its agricultural market to Ukrainian competition. Prime Minister Mykola Azarov even told his Cabinet on March 2 that Ukraine did not need the agreement at any price (Ukrayinska Pravda, March 2).

At the same time, there were no recent reports about serious disagreements on political association. Mr. Westerwelle made it clear during his visit to Kyiv in early March that economic issues rather than concerns over reports of the persecution of the opposition or media freedoms are at the top of the agenda for the EU's most influential economy, Germany. Mr. Westerwelle carefully avoided commenting on Ukrainian domestic developments, and discussions on democracy were not on his agenda (Kommersant-Ukraine, March 2; Zerkalo Nedeli, March 5).

EU enlargement commissioner Stefan Fule echoed Mr. Westerwelle, speaking in Slovakia one day later. Mr. Fule said that, although "some described the situation in Ukraine as democratic stagnation," the EU remained committed to deepening ties with Kyiv and that Ukraine recently

made important steps in its political and economic development (Interfax-Ukraine, March 3).

This statement contrasted with Mr. Fule's own warnings issued two months earlier against using criminal prosecution for political purposes, following the arrest of former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko (Europe Daily Monitor, January 14).

Mr. Fule did discuss "basic freedoms and human rights" with Ukraine's First Vice Prime Minister Andrii Kliuyev in Brussels earlier this month, saying that the EU wanted Ukraine to develop not only economically but also as a democracy. Yet, this did not prevent the two officials from signing a deal according to which Ukraine should receive 470 million euros (\$654.28 million U.S.) in assistance in 2011-2013 (UNIAN, March 2).

The figure is incomparable to the amount of loans that Ukraine receives from the International Monetary Fund and Russia, but the deal has an important symbolic meaning. It is tantamount to the EU acknowledging Ukraine's progress in reforms as, during the last years of Viktor Yushchenko's presidency and after Mr. Yanukovich's election as president one year ago, the EU made it clear that there would be no assistance without reforms in Ukraine.

In order to qualify for the assistance package, President Yanukovich's administration reportedly had to promise the EU to amend the state procurement law, which is conducive to corruption in its current form. According to the amend-

ments to the law that were passed last January, tenders are not necessary for buying gas, electricity, heating and related transport services. The EU was promised that tenders would be reintroduced (Kommersant-Ukraine, March 2).

It is significant that the EU chose to believe those promises, although Kyiv has failed to adhere to its international obligations spelled out in official documents, let alone promises, on many occasions in the past.

The influential Ukrainian weekly Zerkalo Nedeli suggested that the West, although it does not want Ukraine to repeat the fate of Belarus, has been deliberately avoiding lecturing Kyiv on democracy so as not to anger Mr. Yanukovich (Zerkalo Nedeli, March 5).

Perhaps the newspaper meant that, if angered, Mr. Yanukovich would turn his back on the West and allow Moscow to draw Kyiv back into its orbit. Kyiv may choose this option if the political association and free trade talks with the EU fail.

Russian officials keep inviting Ukraine to join the Russia-dominated customs union. The most recent such invitation came from visiting Russian Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov, who claimed that Ukraine would benefit from joining the customs union and then negotiating free trade with the EU as part of the customs union (UNIAN, March 3).

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Sen. McCain and EPP President Martens comment on travel ban for Tymoshenko



European People's Party

U.S. Sen. John McCain and European People's Party President Wilfried Martens (right).

BRUSSELS – U.S. Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and European People's Party (EPP) President Wilfried Martens on March 7 released a statement urging Ukrainian authorities to lift the travel ban on Yulia Tymoshenko.

They jointly called on the Procurator General's Office of Ukraine to lift the travel ban imposed on Ms. Tymoshenko, leader of the Batkivschyna Party and former prime minister.

The travel ban was originally imposed on January 31 and would preclude Ms. Tymoshenko from attending the Summit of the EPP scheduled to take place on March 24, in Brussels.

Ms. Tymoshenko had already been barred from traveling to Brussels in December 2010 and in February of this year and attending EPP meetings.

"We jointly call on the Ukrainian authorities to allow Yulia Tymoshenko to attend the EPP Summit in Brussels on March 24, 2011. Mrs. Tymoshenko's party, Batkivschyna, is an observer member of the EPP and she is, therefore, invited to participate in the Summit. We also call on the authorities to reconsider what could be viewed as selective prosecution of members of the opposition in Ukraine," Messrs. McCain and Martens said in their joint statement.

Quotable notes

"I think that the authoritarian elements that we can observe in Russia and in a much worse way in Belarus and now in a certain way in Ukraine are of a different nature than the pure totalitarian system as we remember it.

"They are different because they are more sophisticated and are motivated by economic interests. It's a dictatorship in gloves. But it is also necessary to come to terms with this. I would say it's a typical post-communist phenomenon."

– Vaclav Havel, former president of the Czech Republic and a world-renowned advocate of democracy, speaking with CNN, as reported by the Kyiv Post on March 9.

Ukrainians disappointed (and disenchanted) with regime of Viktor Yanukovich

by Roman Solchanyk

After a year in power, President Viktor Yanukovich and his government have suffered a drastic reduction in popularity among Ukrainians.

The results of the latest poll conducted by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology on February 9-18 show that 57.1 percent of the population feels that things are going in the wrong direction in the country; only 13.4 percent say that things are going in the right direction.

In June of last year, views were more or less evenly split, with 34.5 percent on the negative side of the ledger and 38.2 percent saying things were proceeding as they should.

More important perhaps is the current regime's fall from grace in its traditional strongholds in the east and south of Ukraine.

In the eastern oblasts, 49.3 percent of respondents last month

claimed that things were going in the wrong direction and 44.8 percent asserted that they viewed or were inclined to view the policies of the regime negatively. The corresponding figures for the southern oblasts were 48.7 percent and 44.7 percent, respectively.

Last summer only 15.9 percent in the eastern oblasts and 23.1 percent in the southern oblasts declared that things were going in the wrong direction. In both regions, absolute majorities of 60.5 percent in the east and 52.1 percent in the south were convinced that things were moving in the right direction. Moreover, then 69.8 percent in the east and 68 percent in the south were positive about the policies being pursued by the authorities.

Today, in the western and central parts of the country, positive ratings for President Yanukovich's administration are in the single digits.



Darek Barcikowski/Courtesy White Eagle Media

Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski of Poland. The audience at the Polish affairs foreign minister's talk at Harvard University.

At Harvard, Polish foreign minister touches on problems with the Yanukovich government

by Peter T. Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – Radoslaw Sikorski, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Poland, on February 28 delivered the annual August Zaleski Lecture in Modern Polish History at Harvard University on the topic “European Security: Does It Still Matter to the U.S.A.?”

In response to a graduate student's question about relations with Ukraine and Russia, he outlined some of the major issues pertaining to Ukraine from the Polish perspective.

“Recently, we had a series of regularly scheduled meetings between myself and the Ukrainian foreign minister and our two staffs,” Mr. Sikorski said in a clipped Oxford accent. “During the course of the meetings, I was very direct and pointed out to my Ukrainian counterpart, Foreign [Affairs] Minister Konstantyn Gryshchenko, that all of the major international indices have recently shown that Ukraine is regressing and losing ground in the areas of democracy, media, the opposition and even basic freedoms. I emphasized the fact that this development was going to make it much more difficult for Ukraine in its dealings with the European Union and the West, and that it also makes it much more difficult for Poland to act as an advocate for the country.”

Mr. Sikorski continued: “The Ukrainian side maintained that there had been no changes in the country, that the organizations taking measures were wrong and that such reports were generated by the domestic opposition as well as by anti-administration sources outside the country.”

“They were adamant in their position and repeatedly stated that anything else was pure propaganda,” he related.

“However, when a member-state of the European Union, after due deliberation and consultation, grants political asylum to one of the major ministers of a former government administration in a neighboring country, you can be sure that something is seriously amiss,” Mr. Sikorski stressed.

“We have been actively working on the issues of visas with Ukraine,” Mr. Sikorski said, “and have come to an agreement that allows residents of either country living within 50 kilometers of the border free entry into the other country without any type of a visa. We are also working on lowering the fee structure for all visas with Ukraine.”

“As a member of the European Union, Poland is not always in control of its own policies,” the urbane Mr. Sikorski pointed out. “Visa regulations and border control are dictated by Brussels, for example, and

we have to follow their lead. Recently we were confronted with a sizable number of Belarusian refugees fleeing [Alyaksandr] Lukashenka's repressive regime. Brussels was not particularly interested in admitting them to lands within the [European] Union and it took some serious negotiating on our part before we were able to open our frontier and admit them.”

Minister Sikorski came to the United States for meetings in Washington with State Department, Congressional and administration officials. Among the issues discussed were terrorism, security, energy and visas.

The foreign minister pointed out that Poland, as a democracy, can play a role with the democratic movements in various parts of the world because of its own successful move from totalitarian communism to freedom without bloodshed and without major upheaval.

“We are a small country,” he noted “and we are not in a position to dominate anyone. As a result, unlike the United States, we are perceived as having no ulterior motives. Our transition was so peaceful, that there are still major arguments in Poland as to what actually marked the end of communism and what should be celebrated as the pivotal event.

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IN THE PRESS: Democracy in Ukraine

“Ukraine's Non-Foreign Non-Policy,” on the blog “Ukraine's Orange Blues” by Alexander J. Motyl (<http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/new/blogs/motyl>), February 25:

“Pity Ukraine's foreign [affairs] minister, Kostyantyn Gryshchenko. He's a powerless official with a powerless portfolio claiming to speak for a government with no foreign policy. Small wonder that President Viktor Yanukovich has turned him into a one-man PR firm with the impossible job of improving Ukraine's dismal image in the West.

“After Ukraine's Constitution was amended last fall and Yanukovich grabbed control of the entire government, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was effectively transformed into a handmaiden of the president and Gryshchenko, a highly respected career diplomat, became Yanukovich's front man. And since Yanukovich has no foreign policy, Gryshchenko has nothing to do but mouth bromides and smile a lot. ...

“Since a nothing policy transforms Gryshchenko into a non-foreign minister, it's not surprising that his other two forays into the Western press, a February 12 letter to the Wall Street Journal and a February 14 interview with Foreign Policy, have almost nothing to do with foreign policy. Instead, Gryshchenko tries in his letter to paint Yanukovich as a reformist democrat. ‘Since it took office nearly one year ago, 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.’ As Gryshchenko knows, scores of independent international and domestic Ukrainian observers have documented severe backsliding with respect to democracy, elections, and rule of law under his boss. Which means that, if Gryshchenko is right, the rest of the world is bonkers. If the world is right, then Gryshchenko is, er, veracity-challenged. ...”

“Ya-nuking Democracy in Ukraine,” on the blog “Ukraine's Orange Blues” by Alexander J. Motyl (<http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/new/blogs/motyl>), March 4:

“What's the condition of democracy in Ukraine after one year of Viktor Yanukovich's presidency? He and his supporters say democracy is alive and well. His critics say it's dead or decaying. Who's right? ...

“... For the sake of convenience, let's assign scores of 3, 2, 1, or 0 for each of these categories [(1) balance of power among the branches of government, (2) rule of law, (3) fair and free elections, (4) freedom of assembly and speech] with 3 representing fully democratic and 0 fully non-democratic for both Yanukovich and his predecessor, former President Viktor Yushchenko.

“(1) Yanukovich has concentrated all power in his hands, thereby making the Parliament a rubber-stamp institution and the courts, anything but independent under Yushchenko,

(Continued on page 10)

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: February

Amount	Name	City
\$100.00	A. Mulak-Yatzkivsky Yaroslav and Karen Ann Chelak (in memory of Petro Mochun)	Los Angeles, CA Morristown, N.J.
	Thomas Urchuk	North Bergen, NJ
\$55.00	Mychayilo Kopynec	Zakarpattia, Ukraine
\$50.00	Orest Deychakiwsky Larissa Fox (in memory of Natalie Dubyk)	Beltsville, MD Stirling, NJ
	Eugene and Irene Kuchta Ihor and Olga Sydor	Houston, TX Cos Cob, CT
\$45.00	Basil Danczuk	River Edge, NJ
\$25.00	Walter Bilynsky Bohdan and Lisa Czmola Ksenia Kolcio Marta Kuzmowycz Myron and Christina Melnyk Maria Oharenko Zenon Stakhiv	Baldwinsville, NY Verona, PA Seattle, WA North Scituate, R.I. New Haven, CT Redondo Beach, CA Fairfax Station, VA
\$20.00	Alex Chuchra Michael Sosiak Irene Szymanskyj Kristina Zaluckyj	Arnold, MD Curitiba, Parana, Brazil Schiller Park, IL Hugo MN
\$15.00	Zenia Kuzel	Rochester, NY

	Ewhen Pytel Stefania Shtompil Oksana Veryha Zenon Wasyliv	Twin Lakes, WI Randolph, NJ Toronto, ON Ithaca, NY
\$10.00	Olena Bankston Marian Bellinger Andrew Fenchak Myron Hirniak Eugene Sagasz Julie Sydorowych Sophia Wusawych-Lule	La Mesa, CA Riverton, WY Dublin, OH Naples, FL Mt. Pocono, PA Dewitt, NY Glenn Ellyn, IL
\$5.00	Myron Boyko Joseph Jacus Natalia Kowal W. Lysko Pauline Stasiw	Avondale Estates, GA Roselle, NJ Riverside, CT Cranbury, NJ Spencerport, NY
\$2.00	Frank Stuban	Seymour, CT

TOTAL: \$1,052.00

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

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation receives award from Open World Leadership Center

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) was presented with the 2011 National Grantee of Merit Award by the Open World Leadership Center, the U.S. Congressional agency working to increase U.S.-Eurasian understanding partnerships. The presentation took place during a gala reception at the Library of Congress on the evening of February 8.

The evening's award presentation was headed by Dr. James H. Billington of the Open World board of trustees and Librarian of Congress, and Ambassador John O'Keefe, executive director of the Open World Leadership Center. The award was accepted by USUF President Nadia Komanyckyj McConnell.

In her acceptance speech, Mrs. McConnell thanked Dr. Billington and the Open World Leadership Center for their support, and attributed the foundation's success to its staff, local partnering organizations, and the "hundreds of Americans, particularly non-hyphenated American volunteers, who welcome our guests from Ukraine [in their homes] ... and let them see the best of America."

She cited the role and incredible value of the U.S. "citizen diplomat" in assisting Ukraine's civil society.

Mrs. McConnell added, "Therefore, given the current state of affairs around the world, programs like Open World are priceless and I hope that those responsible for U.S. foreign assistance policy will take the time to understand and appreciate a program like Open World – what it accomplishes for the U.S. ... and I hope they will realize that such a program should not only be continued but their funding should be increased."

Open World's national grantees are competitively selected non-governmental organizations and nonprofits; local hosts provide professional grassroots programming, as well as home stays for individual delegates. The work of the national grantees and local hosts are integral to the Open World program.

The U.S. Congress established Open World in 1999 to enhance understanding and capabilities for cooperation between the United States and Russia. In 2003 Congress made all post-Soviet states eligible for the program. Open World promotes partnerships and continued communications between delegates and their American hosts and professional counterparts.

Open World has introduced more than 16,500 current and future decision-makers from Ukraine, Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union to American political and civic life, and to their American counterparts. Open World delegates range from first-time mayors to veteran journalists, from nonprofit directors



U.S.-Ukraine Foundation President Nadia K. McConnell holds the 2011 National Grantee of Merit Award. With her (from left) are; USUF Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer John A. Kun, Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Olexander Motsyk, USUF Vice-President/Ukraine Director Markian Bilynskyj, Open World Executive Director Ambassador John O'Keefe and Open World Program Coordinator Oksana Yakovenko.

to small-business advocates, and from political activists to judges at all levels.

A history of excellence

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) has provided effective programming and family hosting for over 200 emerging Ukrainian leaders for Open World since 2006. The foundation has received an Open World grant of \$156,000 for 2011 and will be responsible for the program activities for another 60 Ukrainian officials this year.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's role in administering "people-to-people" exchanges between the U.S. and Ukraine has been an integral part of its 20 year history. The program component of "citizen diplomacy" has been a characteristic in its many projects, including most notably the U.S.-Ukraine Community Partnerships Project of 1997-2007, issued through the U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue Exchange Project (2003-2006), issued through the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Citizen diplomacy is the idea that the individual citizen has the right, even the responsibility, to help shape United States foreign relations "one handshake at a time."

USUF Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer John A. Kun noted: "The foundation's work, especially that of our own Oksana Yakovenko in Washington and Markian Bilynskyj in Kyiv, with a network of partnering organizations throughout the

United States has aided the foundation's efforts with Ukraine, and the success of our partners in excellent program implementation and hosting is a key reason behind the Open World Leadership Center award."

He highlighted some of the groups and their leaders.

- The Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute (UCHI - www.uchi.us) of Carnegie, Pa., handled an NGO Development/Governance Program with a public health focus in March 2010. Local host coordinator Stephen Haluszczak directs UCHI in its mission to develop contacts between the U.S. and Ukraine on cultural, educational and humanitarian levels. It also serves to develop cross-cultural understanding between the people of the U.S. and Ukraine.

- The International Visitors Council of Greater Kansas City, Mo., has been partnering with USUF in its projects since 1998. It has hosted Open World groups through USUF over the past three years. Executive Director Barbara Dolci leads the

KCIVC (www.kcivc.org) team in promoting excellence in citizen diplomacy.

- The Baltimore Sister Cities Committee hosted a delegation from its sister city of Odesa in October 2009. Mark and Anna White, along with Renee Samuels from the Baltimore Mayor's Office, were instrumental in organizing the training on accountable governance and family hosting of the six visiting Ukrainians (<http://baltimore.org/visitors/international/sister-cities>).

- The foundation's Texas partner is in the rapidly developing Longview area. Brad Bunt, director of the Kilgore College Small Business Development Center (www.kilgore.edu/sbdc.asp), has been collaborating with the foundation since the late 1990s. During 2010, Bunt hosted Ukrainian mayors and local officials interested in economic development, under the Open World program theme of accountable governance.

(Continued on page 14)

OSCE special representative focuses on trafficking for domestic servitude

VIENNA – OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, called for greater awareness of trafficking for the purpose of domestic servitude and more effective action to tackle the crime, during the February 28 launch of a new publication focusing on domestic servitude.

The publication, titled "Unprotected Work, Invisible Exploitation: Trafficking for the Purpose of Domestic Servitude," is the fourth in a series of Occasional Papers focusing on trafficking for labor exploitation that have been prepared by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

"Domestic workers are part of our daily life and often the primary providers of care to our loved ones," said Ms. Giammarinaro. "Most of these courageous and hard working people – mainly women and girls – migrate to support their families and find a decent job. But those workers who fall prey to unscrupulous people – people who sub-

jugate them to take advantage of their unpaid work – must be protected."

Domestic servitude is a particularly invisible form of trafficking for labor exploitation, which is difficult to detect due to the hidden nature of the work provided, she said. Given that it takes place out of sight in private households, it poses special challenges for investigation and prosecution, as well as for providing assistance to victims and ensuring their access to justice. Furthermore, the problem of domestic servitude in diplomatic households should be effectively tackled.

Ms. Giammarinaro also drew attention to social norms and gender roles affecting the understanding of what constitutes decent domestic work.

"We have to challenge discrimination, the perception of domestic workers as low-status workers, and the undervalued nature of domestic work as such, which is often not considered as real work," said Ms. Giammarinaro. "All these social and cultural patterns contribute to increasing the vulnerability of workers to domestic servitude."



An Open World delegation in Birmingham, Ala., in June 2010.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A historic synod

It's "the end of an era," proclaimed the noted senior correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter, John L. Allen Jr. He was referring to the resignation of the major archbishop of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, Patriarch and Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, which was announced on February 10. As a result, the Synod of Bishops of the UGCC is gathering in Lviv beginning this weekend, at a historic meeting during which a new leader of the Church will be elected. Archbishop Ihor Vozniak of Lviv, who was tapped as the administrator of the Church upon its leader's resignation, has called for prayer for the success of the electoral Synod.

Mr. Allen noted in reporting on Major Archbishop Husar's departure: "This is a moment of special anxiety for the Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine. After a rebirth in the 1990s, the Church played a key role in Ukraine's Orange Revolution. Today, however, a pro-Russian regime is once again running the show in Kyiv, and the Church has been experiencing some not-so-subtle intimidation from the state Security Service." Indeed, since day one President Viktor Yanukovich has openly favored the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, which George Weigel, distinguished senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, says is, "for all intents and purposes, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Patriarchate of Moscow."

There is anxiety as a result of other developments as well.

Russian Federation President Dmitry Medvedev recently visited the Vatican, where he met with Pope Benedict XVI. Some observers have already opined that this is evidence the once-chilly relations between Moscow and the Vatican, and contacts between the Catholic Church and the Russian Orthodox Church are on the verge of a breakthrough, and that a papal visit to Russia may be on the drawing board. What this means for the Ukrainian Catholic Church or Ukrainians in general is not known, but it is sufficient to recall the detrimental results of the Vatican's earlier Ostpolitik.

Furthermore, Mr. Weigel reported that Metropolitan Hilarion, who is in charge of external church relations for the Moscow Patriarchate, had a "disturbing" response to his question about the notorious 1946 synod staged in Lviv by Soviet authorities to incorporate the UGCC into the Russian Orthodox Church. Metropolitan Hilarion responded in the affirmative when asked in February in Washington whether this was a "theologically legitimate ecclesial act" and went on to say, in Mr. Weigel's words, that it was "legitimate for straying members of the Russian Orthodox flock (as he regarded Ukrainian Greek-Catholics) to return to their true home (i.e. Russian Orthodoxy)." Thus, 65 years after the pseudo-synod of 1946, the Russian Orthodox Church still stands by the Soviet-orchestrated attempted destruction of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. So, the writer asks, is the Russian Orthodox leadership "functioning as an arm of Russian state power" today as it did in 1943-1991? Readers of this paper would no doubt answer "yes," being familiar with Moscow Patriarch Kirill's repeated visits to Ukraine and his comments on religious and secular matters promoting both a Russian worldview and Russian hegemony.

And so, as the UGCC Synod of Bishops convenes in Lviv, it is truly a time of anxiety. However, that anxiety is tempered by the knowledge that this former Church of the Catacombs has survived and thrived through many trials and tribulations, thanks to the wisdom and courage of its leaders – Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, Patriarch Josyf Slipyj, Archbishop Volodymyr Sterniuk and Major Archbishops Myroslav Lubachivsky and Lubomyr Husar. May the Synod succeed in electing the leader the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church needs for today's times.

March
22
1991

Turning the pages back...

Twenty years ago, on March 22, 1991, Reps. David Bonior (D-Mich.) and Jerry Lewis (R-Calif.) introduced HR 1603, to "support democracy and self-determination in the Baltic states and the republics within the Soviet Union."

The legislation, with 19 sponsors, was prepared with a working coalition of East European American ethnic organizations, including the Ukrainian National Association, the Armenian Assembly of America, the Joint Baltic American National Committee, the Lithuanian American Community, the Congress of Russian Americans, the American Latvian Association, the Estonian American National Council and Project for Peace (supporting democracy in Georgia).

Rep. Bonior collaborated with Sens. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) and Paul Simon (D-Ill.) for identical legislation that was introduced in the Senate.

According to Rep. Bonior, the bill was "designed to encourage a peaceful resolution of conflicts between the central Soviet government, and the Baltic states and Soviet republics. It also serves notice to Moscow that the threatened or actual use of force to suppress the democracy movement will be viewed as an obstacle to full normalization of relations with the United States. Finally, it requires the State Department to submit a comprehensive report to Congress on the actual and threatened use of force against the Baltic states, Soviet republics or autonomous regions within the Soviet Union."

The bill also stipulated that the United States should shape its foreign assistance to help those republics whose governments are democratically elected.

Eugene Iwanciw, UNA Washington office director, said "this bill is important in that it requires that all U.S. assistance to the Soviet Union be given directly to the republics and not Moscow, and it supports the rights of republics to independent representation in international organizations."

In its letter of endorsement, the UNA wrote: "... The Soviet Union, as an example, is simply incapable of democratic reform, as Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski recently testified at a CSCE [Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe] hearing, democracy and empire are inconsistent. ... The long-term interests of the United States will only be served if it is identified with the democratic movements in the republics and not the repressive policies of the central government."

Source: "Bill to promote democracy in USSR," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 31, 1991.

FOLLOW-UP ON THE NEWS

Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Group supports Ukrainian community on CMHR

OTTAWA – Concern among members of Parliament about the content and governance of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights is growing. Following a recent meeting between the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) and the all-party Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group (CUPFG), the Friendship Group passed a motion supporting the Ukrainian community and has written to express its concerns to the board of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

The CUPFG moved: "That the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group endorse that a prominent exhibit of the Holodomor Genocide be part of the Canadian Museum of Human Rights; an exhibit which would fully tell the story of this genocide and that a board of directors include representations submitted by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress."

"We are pleased that the friendship group has, in a non-partisan manner, unanimously voted to support the Ukrainian community," UCC National President Paul Grod stated on March 2. "I would like to thank the friendship group for supporting the community on this critical issue".

The group has written to Mr. Arni Thorsteinson, Chair of the CMHR's Board of Trustees, to request that the Board consider the importance of the Holodomor to the proper understanding of human rights and to the prevention of extreme human rights abuses. They asked that it be specifically considered when planning the content at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, and that the Holodomor genocide be given a unique and prominent place in the CMHR to truly reflect Canadian values within the museum.

The letter was signed by CUPFG Chair Mark Warawa, member of Parliament for Langley, British Columbia.

* * *

In related news, on March 9 another 15 Liberal members of Parliament added their names to the "Statement of Liberal Members of Parliament on the Canadian Museum for Human Rights," calling for the establishment of a permanent gallery on the Holodomor in Canada's national human rights museum.

The 15 new Liberal Members of Parliament are (in alphabetical order): John Cannis, MP (Scarborough Center, Ontario), Denis Coderre, PC, MP (Bourassa, Quebec), Sukh Dhaliwal, MP (Newton-North Delta, British Columbia), Marc Garneau, MP (Westmount-Ville-Marie, Quebec), Mark Holland, MP (Ajax-Pickering, Ontario), Maria Minna, PC, MP (Beaches-East York, Ontario), Brian Murphy, MP (Moncton-Riverview-Dieppe, New Brunswick), Shawn Murphy, PC, MP (Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island), Joyce Murray, MP (Vancouver Quadra, British Columbia), Bernard Patry, MP (Pierrefonds-Dollard, Quebec), Todd Russell, MP (Labrador, Newfoundland and Labrador), Mario Silva, MP (Davenport, Ontario), Michelle Simson, MP (Scarborough Southwest, Ontario), Judy Sgro, PC, MP (York West, Ontario) and Lise Zarc, MP (LaSalle-Émard, Quebec).

This brings the total number of Liberal MPs that have publicly called for a permanent zone (exhibit) on the Holodomor in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights to 30.

As of March 10, Canadian Heritage Minister James Moore had not responded to the statement.

UCC meets with heritage minister

OTTAWA – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress met with James Moore, minister of Canadian heritage, on February 15 to discuss the concerns of the Ukrainian Canadian community regarding the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress delegation that met with Minister Moore included Ukrainian Canadian Congress National President Paul Grod and UCC Executive Director Taras Zalusky.

"We had a candid and frank discussion with Minister Moore regarding our community's difficulty with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights," Mr. Grod related. "Specifically, we expressed concern over the governance, content and layout of the museum. Despite assurances that the content has not been finalized, the museum is proceeding with procurement based on the discredited report of the Content Advisory Committee where the Holodomor and Canada's First National Internment Operations are not displayed permanently and prominently in their own zone."

Specifically, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress is asking the government of Canada to:

- Reconstitute the museum's board of trustees – The UCC calls upon the minis-

ter of heritage to disband and replace the board of trustees with appointees who are impartial and representative of Canadian society.

- Conduct an independent review – An independent review should be conducted of the design, layout and content of the museum in a public and transparent manner to ensure that the museum's content and design are decided upon and displayed in a fair and equitable manner. The contents of the CMHR should be reviewed by a newly appointed, independent and impartial Content Advisory Committee, and all work and procurement relating to content, design or that may impact on these aspects, should be immediately suspended until its design, layout and content have been publicly presented.

- Suspend incremental funding – The government should suspend any further funding for the museum until issues surrounding the governance and content of the museum are reviewed. Furthermore the government should require the suspension of any procurement that is predicated on a design, layout and content until an independent review is concluded. No further funding should be extended to the museum by any branch of government until these issues are resolved.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Blaming cogs

by Askold S. Lozynskyj

This year's recipient of Ukraine's highest literary award, Vasyl Shklar, a determined and patriotic fellow, decided to manifest his disdain for Ukraine's politics in the humanitarian sphere.

He wrote to President Viktor Yanukovich: "I express my respect and request in connection with the decree awarding recipients of the Shevchenko Prize that my receiving the Shevchenko Prize be delayed until such time as the Ukrainophobic Dmytro Tabachnyk is no longer in power in Ukraine. My position, Mr. President, is not related to you personally, but as long as Dmytro Tabachnyk is in power, I cannot accept the prize."

This noble gesture was misdirected. What Mr. Shklar failed to recognize was that his disdain was misplaced. Sure, Minister Tabachnyk deserves nothing but contempt. But he serves at the pleasure of President Yanukovich. Were there no Yanukovich there would be no Tabachnyk.

Recently, the West has started to wake up to the Yanukovich nightmare. Naturally, its concerns, as manifested by the recent comments of Vice-President Joe Biden, are tempered by a certain justification – Ukraine's unilateral transfer of weapons grade uranium to its "less dangerous" neighbor. After all, the West endorsed Mr. Yanukovich before the electoral second round and disingenuously acknowledged the propriety of his election.

Mr. Yanukovich has taken every advantage of the West's endorsement and moved swiftly to consolidate authoritarian power with little regard for democracy and human rights. Suddenly, another Lukashenko lurks on the buffer of Europe and Russia – this time a buffer of much greater significance.

Ukraine's foreign affairs minister has been quick to rebut any allegations made by the West against the Yanukovich administration. Mendacity was rarely a problem in Soviet diplomacy and Gryshchenko has learned that lesson well. In a recent rebuttal to The Wall Street Journal's editorial "Orange Crushed," the foreign affairs minister wrote quite unabashedly: "Since it took office nearly one year ago, 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."

Seriously, that's what he wrote.

Arresting the opposition, curbing freedom of the press, turning Ukraine into an essentially one-party system during the October 2010 local elections judged by anyone who matters as being deeply flawed, making the judicial branch simply an implementer of his policies – all of these phenomena are the attributes of Yanukovich's one-year tenure.

In support of "social and economic reform" the foreign affairs minister even submits his own statistics, most of which are not verifiable:

"For the first time in Ukraine's history, influential public figures – from

the opposition and the government as well – have to actually face investigation for committing corruption. There are over 360 ongoing criminal investigations on corruption charges against representatives of the current government, 166 of them at a senior level. The bureaucracy is being cut by 30 percent to 50 percent. Up to 90 percent of state-issued licenses for various entrepreneurial activities have been lifted. Bridges and roads are being built. New subway stations are being unveiled. The GDP grew by 4.5 percent, with an equally good outlook for 2011," wrote Mr. Gryshchenko.

These numbers are meaningless without some specificity. Thus far, the only reports of investigations and prosecutions into high level corruption have identified representatives of the opposition. The reductions in bureaucracy, if in fact accurate, have come only at the expense of the humanitarian sphere, i.e., the Institute of National Memory and other institutions germane to making Ukraine in any way Ukrainian. Revocation of licenses means nothing unless they pertain to those illegally procured, and building bridges and roads is not an extraordinary function of government.

The GDP figure may be accurate. In any event, largely due to the global economic meltdown Ukraine's GDP fell by 12 percent in 2009, essentially because Ukraine's steel export declined by 16 percent. Thus, its only possible direction was upward. The world's economy improved, thus enabling Ukraine to export more steel in 2010, an increase in double figures, and so the GDP grew by a modest 4.5 percent. None of this had anything to do with Mr. Yanukovich or Mr. Gryshchenko. Still, Ukraine's current GDP falls far short of what it was in 2008.

Mr. Gryshchenko does not offer any evidence of the advancement of democracy or human rights. Because he can't. Generalizations like "Ukraine's ultimate success – preserving democracy," with which he concludes his letter, are very easy to compose for a man of his diplomatic training. Specific examples are more difficult, particularly when the entire world has witnessed Ukraine's tremendous regression in that sphere in only one year.

Using Mr. Shklar's logic, I could submit that the problem with the current situation in Ukraine is the disingenuousness of its foreign affairs minister. Sure Mr. Gryshchenko is as odious as Mr. Tabachnyk. But he serves at the pleasure of President Yanukovich. Were there no Yanukovich there would be no Gryshchenko. Or at the very least a very different one. He was normal some time ago. Even Tabachnyk had moments of normalcy in the past.

What's important is to recognize the root of the problem. After all, were President Yanukovich truly intent on fighting corruption and criminality, he would have started with himself. Attempting to steal 3 million votes in the 2004 presidential elections would be merely the first count in an indictment that would prove to be quite lengthy.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



One people, one Church

One reason Volodymyr the Great brought Christianity to Ukraine in 988 was to unite his people. One people, one Church.

Ukraine received its religious beliefs and traditions from Constantinople at a time when there was but one Christian Church. As Constantinople's political significance rose, tensions with Rome increased, resulting, in time, in a formal split along doctrinal, theological, linguistic, political and geographic lines. The "Great Schism" of 1054 led to the eventual emergence of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches. At the time, Ukrainian prelates remained committed, both liturgically and politically, to their Byzantine roots.

Efforts at reconciliation between Rome and Constantinople lasted on an on-again-off-again basis until the 4th Crusade. Betrayed by the perfidious Venetians in 1204, a motley group of French knights diverted their efforts to wrest Jerusalem from the Muslims – a goal successfully achieved by the knights of the 1st Crusade – and decided stop at Constantinople. Angered by perceived Byzantine treachery, they sacked and desecrated the city. Pope Innocent III quickly excommunicated the renegades. Never able to completely recover from the pillaging, Constantinople fell to the Turks in 1453. The conqueror, Mehmed II, declared himself "Kayser-i-Rum," or Caesar of the Romans.

Muscovy, meanwhile, had rid itself of the Mongol yoke and was now on the rise. With Rome's power still weak and Constantinople an Islamic city, Moscow reinvented itself as the "Third Rome." The idea was initially floated by Filofei, a monk in 1521 who argued that God had willed the collapse of first two Christian capitals to allow Moscow to become the third and final center of Christianity. By the time of Ivan the Terrible (1533-1584), this concept was firmly in place. At Ivan's coronation, the title of "tsar" (Caesar) was incorporated into the ceremony.

Some historians argue that it is Russian Orthodoxy, along with tsarist autocracy and Russian nationalism ("narodnichestvo"), that are the bedrock of Russian imperialism. These three pillars changed little during Soviet times. Religious orthodoxy was replaced by Marxist-Leninist orthodoxy, and narodnichestvo was replaced by the concept of the "new Soviet man," whose prototype was a Russian.

Which brings us to 16th century Ukraine. Byzantium, now thoroughly Islamic, no longer offered political or religious protection. The Ukrainian people, moreover, were divided between Catholic Poles and Orthodox Russians, both of whom who were busily converting Ukrainians to their respective faiths. In 1595, a group of Ukrainian prelates, fearful that their unique religio-cultural identity was in grave danger, responded to Rome's renewed call for reconciliation and recognized the primacy of the pope. With the Muscovites held at bay militarily by the Poles and the Poles prevented from proselytizing by Rome – and later the Hapsburgs – the fledgling Church survived. Today, the Ukrainian Catholic Church is defined as an Orthodox Church in communion with Rome.

While Ukrainian Catholics received de jure recognition from Rome, de facto recognition was harder to achieve, especially in the United States, where Irish Catholic bishops initially shunned Ukrainian Catholics as "heretics." There was a dramatic change following Vatican II.

Meanwhile, the Vatican has never abandoned its efforts to have Moscow's Orthodox recognize the primacy of the bishop of Rome. I don't believe this will happen because Moscow has resurrected the Third Rome ideal under Vladimir Putin. The Vatican keeps trying, however. Even during Soviet times, the Vatican launched "Ostpolitik," ostensibly to assist imprisoned bishops and the underground Church. One of the beneficiaries of this policy was Metropolitan Josyf Slipyj, released from prison by Nikita Khrushchev. The pinnacle of recognition for Ukrainian Catholics occurred during Pope John Paul II's 2001 visit to Ukraine and his beatification of 30 Ukrainian martyrs for the faith. Any lingering doubts about the canonical legitimacy of Ukrainian Catholics were finally removed.

Fast forward to 2011. Moscow now has a dynamic new patriarch who spends much time in Ukraine. More ominous are Vatican whispers that at the top of Pope Benedict's bucket list is greater communion with the Russian Orthodox. Add that to the fact that the multilingual, Oxford-educated Russian Orthodox Metropolitan Hilarion regularly meets with Pope Benedict XVI and bells begin to ring.

The metropolitan has praised the pope's "new evangelization" outreach to a de-Christianized Western Europe, adding that the Russian Orthodox Church is "no longer a competitor, but an ally." How about that! We now have Moscow willing to "help" Rome rebuild Christianity in Western Europe.

Asked why this is suddenly possible, the metropolitan replied that it was due to "the positive regard of the entire Russian Orthodox world for the pope," as well as the common challenges faced by both faith expressions. Metropolitan Hilarion also believes that once certain "disagreements" in Ukraine are ironed out, a meeting between Patriarch Kirill and Pope Benedict is possible.

Questions: Was the surprise resignation of Major Archbishop Lubomyr Husar voluntary or requested? Was the sudden transfer of Archbishop Ivan Jurkovic from papal nuncio in Ukraine to papal nuncio in Moscow a mere coincidence, or the direct result of a request by his close friend, Metropolitan Hilarion?

Do I trust the pope? I do. In 2006, on the anniversary of the infamous 1946 Soviet-orchestrated "synod" during which Ukrainian Catholic priests were forced to recant their allegiance to Rome – and Ukrainian Catholic bishops were imprisoned – Pope Benedict XVI praised Ukrainians for bearing "witness to the unity, sanctity, catholicity and apostolicity of the Church of Christ." He also expressed hope that the anniversary would stimulate the Greek-Catholic community in Ukraine to "strengthen its intimate and committed bond with Peter's successor."

And Moscow? As in the past, the Russian Orthodox Church is willing to begin a serious dialogue with Rome, but only if the Vatican abandons its centuries-long support of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. I don't believe this pope will budge on this issue. I'm not sure about his successor, however. Nor am I certain about members of the Curia, or even certain Ukrainians that I know.

Will Ukraine ever be one people, one Church again? Not in my lifetime!

Myron Kuropas's e-mail address is kuropas@comcast.net.

Askold S. Lozynskyj is an attorney based in New York City. He is a former president of the Ukrainian World Congress.



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SPORTSLINE

Soccer

• Shakhtar Donetsk was recognized by the International Federation of Football History and Statistics (IFFHS) as the world's best-promoted team in the 21st century, as announced in February 2011. Shakhtar Donetsk moved on to the quarterfinals of the UEFA Champion League after the team defeated Roma 3-2 on February 16 and 3-0 on March 8. The draw for the quarterfinals was held in Nyon, Switzerland, on March 18 and the results were unavailable at press time, but will appear in the next Sportsline.

• Dynamo Kyiv defeated Manchester City 2-1 in Kyiv on March 10 in the first leg of the UEFA Europa League. Andriy Shevchenko (25th minute) and Oleh Gusev (77th minute) scored for Ukraine during the match. Dynamo lost to Manchester City 0-1 in the second leg on March 17 in Manchester, England. Dynamo advances to the quarterfinals beginning on April 7.

• Ukraine defeated Romania 4-2 in an international friendly tournament on February 8-9 in Paralimni, Cyprus, by penalty shootout after the match ended in a 2-2 draw in regulation time. Coach Yuriy Kalitvintsev kept goalkeeper Oleksandr Sovkovsky in the net for the penalty saves. Scoring for Ukraine in regulation time were Yaroslav Rakitsky in the 23rd minute and Artem Milevsky in the 32nd minute. Ukraine also defeated Sweden at the tournament after drawing 1-1 in regulation time. Marc Devic equalized for Ukraine in the 20th minute with a penalty shot after being taken down in the penalty area by Sweden's goalkeeper Andreas Isaksson. Ukraine won on penalty shots 5-4. The tournament attracted four teams, Ukraine (first place), Sweden (second place), Romania (third place) and host country Cyprus.

• The Dnipro soccer club from Dnipropetrovsk won the Marbella Cup international soccer tournament in Spain on February 2-8. In the final match, which was determined by penalty kicks after a 0-0 draw against Poland's Polonia Warszawa, Dnipro won 5 to 4.

• Anatoliy Tymoshchuk, who plays for the Ukrainian national team and Bayern Munich, has been recognized by Sport-Express magazine as the best player in the CIS and Baltic states for January 2011. Tymoshchuk was awarded 57 points, with his closest competitor nine points behind.

• For the first time in the history of Ukrainian soccer championships, a match in the Ukrainian Premier League was to be officiated by a female referee, Natalia Rachynska. The March 18 match was to feature Metalurh Donetsk versus FC Tavriya Symferopol. Rachynska, 40, has been officiating soccer games for more than 11 years and was a professional soccer player until she retired with the birth of her son in the late 1990s. She is certified by the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) as a referee.

Futsal

• After three games played, Ukraine leads Group 5 of the UEFA Futsal Euro 2012 qualifying round with nine points. Ukraine defeated Belgium 4-3 on February 24, Turkey 12-2 on February 25, and Hungary 4-1 on February 27. The tournament will be hosted by Croatia, where Ukraine, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Russia, the Czech Republic, Serbia,

Azerbaijan, Romania, Slovenia and Turkey will compete for the knockout phase of the tournament. The draw will be determined on September 9 in Zagreb, Croatia, with matches to be held in Zagreb Arena and Spaladium Arena in Split, Croatia.

• Ukraine's national team won second place at an international tournament held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on February 5-9. Ukraine defeated Latvia (5-1) and Uzbekistan (1-0), but lost to the hosts (0-3) to finish with six points. This was the last tournament before the 2012 UEFA European Championship qualifiers against Belgium, Turkey and Hungary.

Boxing

• Ukrainian middleweight Sergiy Dzinziruk (37-1, 23 KO) was defeated by knockout in the eighth round on March 12 at the MGM Grand at Foxwoods Casino in Mashantucket, Conn., by Argentine-born American Sergio Martinez (47-2-2, 26 KO). Referee Arthur Mercante Jr. stopped the fight at 1:43 in the eighth round after Martinez sent Dzinziruk to the canvas a third time. Dzinziruk went down in the fourth round after a strike to his head; he argued that he slipped but it was ruled a knockdown. The second time he went down was in the fifth round before the bell. The fight was for the WBC Diamond Championship, which included a \$50,000 diamond-encrusted belt. Dzinziruk holds the WBO super middleweight title and this was only his second fight since 2008 due to management issues.

• Victor Chernous (12-1, 4 KO) defeated New Zealand's Steve Harmaia (16-6-1, 7 KO) at the Melbourne Pavillion in Flemington, Victoria, Australia on March 4. The eight-round welterweight bout was scored in favor of Chernous, with judges scoring 77-76, 79-74 and 77-77.

Tennis

• Mariya Koryttseva and Romanian Ioana Raluca Olaru defeated Spaniards Lourdes Dominguez Lin and Arantxa Parra Stanonja in women's doubles 3-6, 6-1, 10-4 at the Aierto Mexicano Telcel tournament in Acapulco, Mexico, on February 21-26. Alexander Dolgopov was eliminated in the men's singles semi-final match against David Ferrer of Spain 7-5, 1-6, 1-6. Ferrer went on to win the men's singles tournament.

• Sergiy Stakhovsky of Ukraine and Mikhail Youzhny of Russia defeated Jeremy Chardy of France and Feliciano Lopez of Spain 4-6, 6-3, 10-3 to win the Dubai Duty-Free Tennis Championship, held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, on February 27 through March 3. In men's singles Stakhovsky lost to Roger Federer of Switzerland in the quarterfinals 3-6, 4-6.

• Alexander Dolgopov of Ukraine and Igor Andreev of Russia finished reached the semifinals in men's doubles at the Copa Claro in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on February 14-20. In the quarterfinals, the duo defeated Australian-Argentine duo of Peter Luczak and Maximo Gonzalez 6-0, 4-6, 10-3. The Ukrainian-Russian team was eliminated in the semifinals by Oliver Marach of Austria and Leonardo Mayer of Argentina 2-6, 1-6.

• Alexander Dolgopov finished in second place at the Brasil Open in Costa do Sauipe on February 7-13. Dolgopov lost to Nicolas Almagro of Spain 3-6, 6-7(3) in the final match.

Chess

• Yuriy Kuzubov won the Reykjavik Open 2011 on March 16 with 7 points, defeating Ivan Sokolov of Russia. Vladimir Baklan of Ukraine won third place. Illya Nyzhnyk finished in sixth place.

• Alexander Moiseenko finished in 10th place out of 246 participants at the 19th Fajr Open in Mashhad, Iran, on February 26 through March 7. Moiseenko scored 8 out of 11 points and had a rating of 2670.

• Ruslan Ponomariov finished in second place at a rapid chess tournament in Moscow on February 17 and qualified for the 2011 World Blitz Championship. The qualifier attracted 194 players that competed for six spots to the championship tournament.

• Igor Varitsky and Anatoly Kharkov were named international arbiters and FIDE (World Chess Federation) referees, as approved by the executive board of the World Chess Federation in Antalya, Turkey, on February 10.

• Vasyl Ivanchuk won the 2011 Tradewise Gibraltar Chess Festival at the Caltea Hotel in Gibraltar on January 24 through February 3. The tournament attracted 231 players from 45 countries. In the final round Ivanchuk defeated Daniel Fridman, a grandmaster from Germany.

• Vasyl Ivanchuk is rated in fifth place by the World Chess Federation (FIDE) and Kateryna Lahno is in seventh place in the women's ratings for March 2011.

Hockey

• The Transcarpathia Cup international ice hockey tournament was held in Uzhhorod, Ukraine, for the first time in 20 years. Teams included HC Karpatsky Vedmid (Uzhhorod), HC Shakhtarsky Bars (Uzhhorod), HC Eurotek from Kosice, Slovakia, and HC Poper from Svidnik, Slovakia. The tournament was resurrected after 20 years when construction of a modern ice rink facility in Uzhhorod, capable of hosting the tournament, was completed.

• Ukraine's women's indoor floor hockey team defeated Belarus 4-2 and won third place at the Indoor Hockey World Cup in Poznan, Poland, on February 13.

Olympiad

Ukraine finished in third place at the 25th World Winter Universiade in Erzurum, Turkey, and collected 15 medals – six gold, five silver and four bronze medals. Gold medal winners included Serhiy Semenov in men's biathlon sprint and Viktoria Semerenko in the women's biathlon 7.5-km sprint event.

Martial arts

• Mariia Buiok (52 kg) won a bronze medal at the European Judo Union World Cup in Oberwart, Austria, on February 12-13. Buiok defeated Yu-Jin Choi of the Republic of Korea in the third-place match. Ukraine finished in 11th place in team classification.

• Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, hosted the second Martial Arts Olympic Games on March 12, with more than 35 countries participating in Horting, Sambo, Combat Jiu-Jitsu, Kyokushin Karate, Kurash, Taekwondo, Wushu Sanda, Sumo, Fighting and Strongmen competitions.

Fencing

• Olga Harlan won the final against compatriot Olena Khomrova 15-8 at the Saber World Cup stage in Istanbul, Turkey, on March 13.

• Yana Shemyakina won a bronze medal in individual competition in épée at the Fencing Grand Prix and Women's Team World Cup in Doha, Qatar, on February 12-14. In the semifinal match Shemyakina lost 13-15 to Anna Sivkova of Russia.

Billiards

• Oleksander Palamar won the silver medal in the Combined Pyramid event at the Billiards World Championship in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on February 23. The Ukrainian was eliminated by Nikita Livada of Russia. Yaroslav Tarnovetsky of Ukraine won the bronze medal. The tournament attracted 64 participants from 14 countries.

• Oleksander Palamar won a silver medal at the World Billiards Cup in the Free Pyramid event held in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, on February 11. Palamar lost to Vijay Dragnoi of Moldova in the final match.

Diving

• Illya Kvasha won a silver medal in the one-meter springboard event, and Oleksandr Bondar and Oleksandr Gorshkovoz won silver medals in the men's synchronized 10-meter platform event at the Second Arena European Diving Championship held in Torino, Italy, on March 8-11. Yulia Prokopchuk and Alina Chaplenko won bronze medals in women's 10-meter platform synchronized diving, with a total score of 315.24 points. Olena Fedorova and Oleksandr Gorshkovozov won bronze medals with 358.40 points after six jumps on the three-meter springboard and 10-meter platform events.

• At the FINA Grand Prix in Spain, on February 20, Illya Kvasha and Oleksiy Prygorov won bronze in the men's synchronized three-meter springboard event, while Olena Fedorova and Hanna Pysmenska won bronze in the women's equivalent event. Alina Chaplenko and Yulia Prokopchuk won bronze medals in platform synchronized diving. In individual events, Kvasha won a gold medal in the three-meter springboard and Oleksander Bodnar won bronze in the individual platform diving event.

Biathlon

• Ukraine's women's team – sisters Valentyna and Viktoria Semerenko and Olena Pidhrushna – won a silver medal in the 4x6.5 km relay at IBU World Championship Biathlon 2011 in Khanty Masiysk, Russia, on March 1-13. Viktoria Semerenko won bronze in the women's 15-km individual race and Ukraine's men's relay team won bronze medals in the 4x7.5 km race, with team members Oleksandr Bilanenko, Andriy Deryzemlia, Serhiy Semenov and Serhiy Sednev.

• Roman Pryma won silver in the men's 20-km individual race at the International Biathlon Union Cup Biathlon 8 in Annecy-Le Grand Bornand, France, on March 8-13. The competition attracted 86 participants.

• Olena Pidhrushna won the silver medal in the women's 15-km individual race at the International Biathlon Union Open European Championships Biathlon

(Continued on page 18)

Democracy...

(Continued from page 4)

completely subordinate to the all-powerful president's whims. Yushchenko: 2, Yanukovych: 0.

"(2) Under Yanukovych, as under Yushchenko, some laws are honored, some are not. The Constitution and judicial independence are adhered to when it's convenient for the president and violated when it's not. Yushchenko: 1, Yanukovych: 1.

"(3) The elections that brought Yanukovych to power were fair and free, but the October 2010 local elections that produced Party of Regions' hegemony were not. The regime is doing its best to destroy the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, to support the extremist Svoboda Party, and to entrench the Party of Regions as the only game in town. Yushchenko: 3, Yanukovych: 1.

"(4) As a whole range of independent international observers have noted, freedom of assembly and speech has taken a big hit under Yanukovych. Yushchenko: 3, Yanukovych: 1.

"Add up the scores and you get 9 for Yushchenko (out of a possible 12) and 3 for Yanukovych. That's quite a difference, and Ukrainians feel it. ..."

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BR. 194

will be held on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. at the Selfreliance Association, 98 2nd Ave., New York, NY. All members are asked to attend.

Alexandra Juzeniv, Pres.
Oksana Lopatynsky, Sec.

Ukrainian Catholic...

(Continued from page 1)

Synod of Bishops; and Bishop Venedykt Aleksichuk, 42, the auxiliary bishop of the Lviv Archeparchy.

Should the Synod decide it needs a leader with extensive international experience and command of several languages, three candidates from the diaspora have been mentioned most often by 10 church observers contacted by The Weekly. All spoke strictly on background.

Bishop Hlib Lonchyna, 57, the administrator of the Exarchate of Great Britain, has served the Church in Spain and Italy, besides his native United States. Between 2000 and 2002, he served as the attaché to the papal nuncio in Kyiv, a member of the Vatican's diplomatic corps.

He earned his theology degrees from the Pontifical Urbaniana University in Rome, and will soon publish the doctoral dissertation he defended at the Pontifical Oriental Institute.

Bishop Dionisij Liakhovych, 64, currently leads Ukrainian Catholics in Italy and Spain. He studied in Rome and his native Brazil, where he served as rector of the seminary in Curitiba. He became rector of the Basilian Institute in Zolochiv in 1994 and led the Order of St. Basil the Great from Rome between 1996 and 2004.

Bishop Lonchyna was born in Steubenville, Ohio, and Bishop Liakhovych was born in Curitiba. No Ukrainian Catholic Church primate thus far was born outside of Ukraine.

"Husar was from the diaspora, but understood many problems," Mr. Antoshevskyi said. "The new leader can't be a person who arrives, doesn't know anything and believes everything he's told. He should also take citizenship to draw closer to the situation, since most of his

time and attention have to be directed towards the Church here."

Born in Syracuse, N.Y., the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, 50, is the rector of Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. Since his election in 2000, he led the university through a period of extensive growth, which has made him popular among the young intelligentsia of Halychyna, observers told The Weekly.

He earned a licentiate in theology from Pontifical Urbaniana University in Rome and a doctoral degree from Harvard University. His language fluency includes Italian, French and Polish. Not a bishop, he would have to be consecrated in order to become the primate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.

In a video interview posted on the Kyrios Christian website (www.kyrios.org.ua), Patriarch Lubomyr said he wants his successor to be chosen from among the Synod. "I think there are already people in our episcopate who have an understanding of the needs of our Church, its future, and are taking part in the vision of its future," he said in the video, posted on February 10.

"Our Church today is working on this consciously and consistently – to plan the future, to imagine how we would like to see our Church in 10, 20 and 30 years. This thinking is already here. Now I hope the Synod will choose someone from the acting bishops who, having participated in developing such a vision, can take on the responsibility."

Political skill is among the most significant qualifications the bishops will consider at the Synod, in the view of Mr. Antoshevskyi.

As unfortunate as it may be, religion and politics are deeply intertwined in Ukrainian society, particularly following the emergence of President Viktor Yanukovych and his policy of favoring the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow

Patriarchate (UOC-MP) over all other Churches in Ukraine.

Mr. Yanukovych has abandoned the tradition of previous Ukrainian presidents in holding interconfessional state ceremonies. Clergy of the Moscow Patriarchate are exclusively invited, and any religious ceremonies tied to state ceremonies are held at Moscow Patriarchate churches.

Local councils – which have the ability to approve or deny land sales – regularly deny non-Moscow churches permission to build new structures, especially in the oblasts of eastern and southern Ukraine, where the Moscow Patriarchate dominates religious life, Mr. Antoshevskyi said.

When land is earmarked, it could be a provocation against churches not affiliated with the Moscow Patriarchate, he said. For example, the Odesa City Council designated land for construction of a Ukrainian Catholic church. But it was near a Jewish monument, which would have led to an international scandal if the construction began.

"Leadership in these times requires wisdom," Mr. Antoshevskyi said. "There will be lots of challenges, which if met unwisely, could make problems even worse. His Beatitude [Lubomyr Husar] raised the bar quite high, and now repeating it will be quite difficult. But our Church has to be more than just holding liturgies and praying."

The bishops will take an oath of silence during the Synod, which will consist of two rounds of voting on each day. The final round of voting is scheduled for fourth and last day, during which the winning candidate needs a simple majority of votes.

"It's very significant because we weren't called because the patriarch died," Bishop Losten said. "We were called because the patriarch is alive and well and following canonical procedure. So it's critical that it's upheld."



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A friendship bonded in defense of human rights: Taras Shevchenko and Ira Aldridge

by Robert McConnell

While February is Black History Month, a month when attention is given specifically to the contribution of Afro-Americans to our country, our society and culture, March is the month that Ukrainians worldwide honor Taras Shevchenko. For Ukrainian Americans, both months are a time of reflection on a very special and unique friendship between one of Ukraine's greatest historical figures, Taras Shevchenko, and a famously talented black American, Ira Aldridge.

Although both men died in the 1860s, one in Russia and the other in Poland, and though both are little known to the general public in America, both of their images are present in the capital city of the United States. A mere two and a half miles apart here in Washington stand monuments to Taras Shevchenko and to Ira Aldridge.

The first was born a Ukrainian serf who was purchased out of bondage in order for his immense talents to blossom; the second was born a Negro in New York who, because of the color of his skin, had to leave his country to find the full glory of his God-given talent.

At the corner of 22nd and P streets in northwest Washington stands the figure of Shevchenko, a monument to the man, his writing, his profound commentaries on human dignity, his pleas of help for the plight of the downtrodden and his aspirations for his country, struggling under tsarist repression. Engraved in the granite is his hope for Ukraine: "When shall we get our Washington, to promulgate his new and righteous law?"

On the other side of the city stands The Ira Aldridge Theater on the Howard University campus, constructed in memory of a great thespian talent and as a symbol of challenges overcome, paths revealed for other talents to follow.

Portraits of both men hang in that theater. They are copies, made by Ukrainian American artist Miroslav Hryhorijiv, of portraits painted by Shevchenko.

The Shevchenko self-portrait was donated to Howard University by the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the United States, while the Aldridge portrait was a gift from the Washington Shakespeare Summer Festival Society and the Washington Shakespeare Society. The presentation was made jointly on August 27, 1967, on the occasion of the university's centennial and the 50th anniversary of Aldridge's death.

[Editor's note: For details, we refer

readers to the September 16, 1967, edition of The Ukrainian Weekly and the September 13, 1967, issue of Svoboda, which may be read online.]

A serf, Shevchenko was destined for a lifetime of servitude. Yet, when his owner left Ukraine for St. Petersburg, Russia, he took the young Shevchenko along. In St. Petersburg, Shevchenko's artistic talents were revealed. In 1838, the city's artistic circles succeeded in raising 2,500 rubles to purchase Shevchenko's freedom.

Once free, he became a student at the Imperial Academy of Arts, and his artwork and poetic writing flourished. His poems glorified Ukraine, and demanded freedom and justice for all oppressed nations and classes of people.

Shevchenko returned to Ukraine in 1845 to find great injustices. His poems criticized the tsarist regime and chided the aristocracy's oppression of the peasants. For these expressions, he was arrested and deported from Ukraine to exile in a remote part of Asian Russia, incarcerated in a military penal facility and, by decree of the tsar, denied writing and drawing materials.

Despite the tsar's orders and the incarcerations at terrible cost to his health, Shevchenko secretly composed some of his most powerful works while imprisoned and in political exile. Moreover, at the same time, Shevchenko's Ukrainian and Russian friends, including Count and Countess Fyodor Tolstoy, worked to again secure his freedom.

Finally, 10 years after his arrest, Shevchenko was released. Forbidden to return to Ukraine, he returned to St. Petersburg, where he soon met the American Ira Aldridge.

Although Aldridge had been born in New York, as his immense talents became apparent, he found his opportunities limited due to the significant discrimination against blacks. He chose to emigrate to England in 1824 and began acting in small London theaters.

Receiving notice and praise, he was soon performing in England's finest theaters and began to tour outside London. By 1852, Aldridge, the first black to act in white roles in Shakespeare's plays, left for his first European tour. Receiving acclaim everywhere he traveled, he returned to London a theater hero.

In 1858 Aldridge accepted an invitation from the Russian Imperial Theater to perform in St. Petersburg.

Shevchenko attended the opening performance, and the two men were introduced.

There are numerous letters and notes commenting upon their meeting and friendship. One of Tolstoy's daughters, Katherine, served as an early translator between Aldridge and Shevchenko, and she wrote about the experience and their friendship. Shevchenko attended Aldridge's performances; Aldridge visited Shevchenko's studio and posed for the artist. They visited one another often and spent time in the same social circles, one that included many artists, performers and intellectuals.

Their friendship was unique since they had in common not only the creativity of their personalities and their love of the arts, but their shared experiences of social oppression and their dreams of a better future for their people. Though free, famous, with powerful friends, living in the world of Russian aristocracy, neither seemed able to forget his past on the plight of his people.

Those who wrote about their friendship noted that they often sang together. Aldridge greatly appreciated the sorrowful and melodic Ukrainian songs that captured the unfortunate plight of the people of Ukraine. Shevchenko, in turn, loved the songs of the Negro South, no doubt to great extent for the same reasons.

When Aldridge returned to England, he took with him a portrait of Shevchenko by a Russian artist. Aldridge returned to Russia several years later, but by then Shevchenko had passed away.

Between 1861 and 1866, Aldridge made several tours of the tsarist empire, including three trips to Ukraine, to Shevchenko's homeland, trips that had been denied to the great poet, artist and patriot. Aldridge never returned to the United States, however, he did live to know of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the end of the Civil War.

Both of these men – historic giants in their artistic fields and in their messages about the struggles of mankind for dignity and the perseverance of individuals – died on foreign soil far from their homelands. Aldridge's body remains in Poland. Eventually, Shevchenko's body was returned to Ukraine from Russia.

Their unique friendship remains a story for the ages; it is fitting that among the monuments to their lives and contributions there are the two in Washington,



A self-portrait by Taras Shevchenko.



Shevchenko's 1858 depiction of Ira Aldridge.

just two and a half miles apart. A friendship that brought them together thousands of miles from here, eventually finds them in the capital of Aldridge's native land, respected and honored, with Shevchenko's question still unanswered: When will Ukraine get its "new and righteous law?"

AUTHOR'S NOTE: There are many references for information about Aldridge and Shevchenko and about their special friendship. One in particular is "Taras Shevchenko and Ira Aldridge: The Story of Friendship between the Great Ukrainian Poet and the Great Negro Tragedian" by Demetrius M. Corbett, The Journal of Negro Education, Vol. 33, No. 2 (spring, 1964), pp. 143-150.

The original version of the article above was published in the March 8 issue of U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Update, an e-mailed newsletter.



A view of the ceremony honoring Taras Shevchenko held near his monument in Washington.

Ukrainians in D.C. honor Shevchenko

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – As the March 9 sun was setting behind storm-foreboding clouds on the 197th anniversary of poet Taras Shevchenko's birthday and the eve of the 150th anniversary of his death, some 50 Ukrainian Americans and diplomats gathered at his monument in Washington to honor his memory and role in the development of Ukraine's culture and nationhood.

The brief memorial ceremony began with a joint prayer service led by the pastors of the Washington area's Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox churches and concluded with Ukraine's Ambassador Olexander Motsyk laying a floral wreath

at the monument and recalling Shevchenko's significance for Ukraine and its people.

Afterwards, the group relocated to the Embassy of Ukraine, where they joined with others to continue marking Shevchenko's anniversaries with a program that included a presentation by Bohdana Urbanovych, who heads the local branch of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, the reading of his poems, and musical selections performed by the Kalynonka duet and a local choir.

On this occasion the Embassy also featured an exhibit of paintings by Ukrainian American artist Andrei Kushnir, which included renditions of Washington's Shevchenko monument.

“Settling on an entirely new place is always hard. Having our own house was a dream that seemed to never be accomplished. But thanks to the help of the consultants from Ukrainian National, we got the mortgage and we got our home! It’s huge and bright and warm... But what’s more important, it’s full of a child’s laugh and happiness!”



Ihor T. and Tetyana T. with their son, Andriyko.
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Ivano-Frankivsk becomes Arlington's newest sister city

by Ed Lytwak

ARLINGTON, Va. – The Ukrainian city of Ivano-Frankivsk has just become the newest sister city of Arlington, Va. The ceremonial signing of the sister city charter took place here on Friday, March 4, during the 55th Sister Cities International Annual Convention.

Representing Arlington County, Board Chairman Chris Zimmerman joined with Ivano-Frankivsk Mayor Viktor Anushkevychus in pledging to build stronger economic and cultural ties between the two communities.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr. Zimmerman spoke of Arlington's global outlook and warm embrace of multicultural diversity. For its size, Arlington is one of the most diverse communities in the world – its 20,000-plus student body comes from 127 countries and speaks 105 different languages.

Following the signing, there was a reception for members of the Ivano-Frankivsk sister city delegation and the Arlington Sister City Association (ASCA) including its board chair, Karl



At the signing of the sister city charter between Arlington, Va., and Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine (from left) are: Christopher Zimmerman, chairman, Arlington County Board; Bill Boerum, Sister Cities International board member and president of the Sister Cities of Sonoma, Calif., and Kaniv, Ukraine; Viktor Vintoniak, Ivano-Frankivsk Sister City Association board member; Chrystia Sonevytsky, co-president ASCA Ivano-Frankivsk committee; Karl VanNewkirk, chairman of ASCA; Barbara Donnellan, Arlington County manager; Viktor Anushkevychus, mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk; and Xenia Jowyk, co-president, ASCA Ivano-Frankivsk committee.

Luella VanNewkirk

VanNewkirk, and the co-presidents of the Ivano-Frankivsk Sister City Committee, Chrystia Sonevytsky and Xenia Jowyk.

Mayor Anushkevychus spoke on how important the sister-city relationship is to his city and presented Arlington with a portrait of Ivano-Frankivsk's founder, Andrey Potocki. Mr. Zimmerman reciprocated by giving the mayor a beautiful vase handcrafted by an Arlington artist. The formalities concluded with a sparkling wine toast to the new sister cities. In this case, the traditional Ukrainian toast to "your" health gave way to "our" health.

Throughout the day, Washington's public broadcasting classical radio station, WETA, 90.9 FM, talked about Arlington's new sister city and played selections by the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine. That evening, the festivities continued with a gala party celebrating the twinning relationship.

A joint exhibit prepared by the two sister city committees featured beautiful pictures of Ivano-Frankivsk courtesy of Viktor Vintonyak and a tree whose leaves depicted prominent people from Ivano-Frankivsk such as comedian Jerry Seinfeld's grandfather and Arthur S. Burns, former chairman of the Federal Reserve.

The evening's multi-cultural entertainment included spirited dance ensembles from the Mexican and Bolivian communities, offset by the exquisitely ethereal voices of the Ukrainian Folk Ensemble directed by Andrew Mariyanich.

This was the first time in America for Ivano-Frankivsk's city delegation, which besides the mayor, included his wife, Lydia; Vasyl Gumenyuk, president of the Ivano-Frankivsk Chamber of Commerce; Oleksandr Kulyk, a member of the city's executive committee, Tetiana Ivanushyn, board member of the Ivano-Frankivsk Sister City Association, Viktor Vintonyak, president of the financial firm Dekra, and his wife, Olena.

Among the highlights of their visit was a tour graciously provided by a connoisseur of all things Arlington, Mr. VanNewkirk. Later, a trip to the waste-to-energy plant illustrated Arlington's commitment to green living. With its plan for energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse emissions, Arlington is a model for its Ukrainian sister city to emulate in dealing with the pressing crisis of climate change.

(Continued on page 22)

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U.S.-Russia...

(Continued from page 2)

The rise of oil prices in the election year is not taking Russia back to 2007, but delivering it to a new and better kind of mousetrap. The symptoms of a chronic "Dutch disease" are unmistakable, high inflation and rising social costs among them, but they are aggravated by the deep corruption of the executive power leading to its diminishing efficiency, which could perhaps be called the "Russian rheumatism."

This combination of economic maladies was on display last week at the meeting of the State Council presidium on the development of the electricity sector, which President Medvedev held near the Sayano-Shushenskaya hydro-power station undergoing restoration after the catastrophe in August 2009. Partial privatization of this sector has left it seriously under-invested, and the non-negotiable demands from the government to limit the increase of tariffs mean that modernization – trumpeted as the strategic imperative and indeed badly needed – becomes unattainable (Vedomosti, March 11).

Another striking feature of the deformed economic recovery in Russia is the extreme concentration of revenues in the top of the social pyramid, so Moscow has again become the top city in the world in the population of extra-rich hosting 79 billionaires (www.forbes.ru, March 10).

The wealth accumulated by the 101 Russian billionaires (only 32 were listed in March 2009) has grown much faster than GDP, which could reach the pre-crisis level by the end of 2012 in the absence of new shocks, and the government's attempts to soften the income disparity by raising pensions are erased by inflation (Rossiyskaya Gazeta, March 11).

Unlike in the mid-2000s, neither the rich, who are becoming spectacularly richer, nor the poor, who are just edging from the poverty line, believe that the new oil boom will last (The New Times, March 7).

This skepticism informed by painful experience translates into very different personal choices, as the "haves" seek to hedge against looming risks by demonstrating loyalty but moving money to "safe havens" in the West, while the "have-nots" feel that they are missing out on the last chance to improve their lot and so increase demands for more social benefits.

Mr. Biden's best economic intentions are not very relevant for this slow-growing but overheating economy, where the only sector generating profits comparable with oil is metal mining and smelting, but these export revenues are also at risk from the global slowdown caused by overpriced oil. Modernization projects, like the Skolkovo high-tech "wonder-village," become in this extraction-and-export economy just schemes for privatizing budget disbursements or for plain money laundering.

What makes Mr. Biden's agenda even less practicable is the widespread perception that it is U.S. financial policy that has pumped the bubble into the oil market, so the inevitable tightening of this policy would result in its burst, perhaps in the most delicate moment during the Russian election cycle (www.gazeta.ru, March 9).

As for Mr. Biden's non-existent "hidden" agenda, the readiness of Moscow's "informed" political circles to believe in his vetting of Mr. Medvedev's flaccid presidential bid testifies to the deep disillusionment among the overachievers of the 2000s in Mr. Putin's leadership. They have a lot to lose from political turmoil leading to a redistribution of property and are collectively arriving at the understanding that his return to supreme power might reduce the immediate risk of such turmoil but greatly increase its probability and scale in the mid-term.

Vice-President Biden has in fact asked them without asking: Is that really your best bet?

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U.S.-Ukraine...

(Continued from page 5)

• The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Detroit Regional Council, welcomed a group of pre-school educators from Ukraine in April 2010 under the Open World banner. The Warren, Mich., area team is led by Lydia Jachnycky, Lydia Kazewych, Lydia Taraschuk, Natalia Hewko, Sophie Koshiw and Vera Andrushkiw.

• Birmingham Sister Cities (www.birmingham-sistercities.com) of Alabama claims an honorary counsel of Ukraine, Scotty Colson, who also serves as the Assistant to the Mayor of the City of Birmingham. Mr. Colson became involved with USUF through the U.S.-Ukraine Community Partnerships Project (1997-2007). He has traveled to Ukraine and has welcomed many Ukrainians to Alabama. Recent Open World groups have focused on accountable governance and Public Health. Their most recent group was in June 2010.

• Little Rock local host coordinator Walter Nunn leads the Arkansas Council for International Visitors (http://arkciv.com) in planning for Ukrainian Open World groups. The Arkansas contingent has been working with USUF since the late 1990s, originally through the U.S.-Ukraine Community Partnerships Project. Walter Nunn is now organizing for a Ukrainian group focused on a state legislative program theme that is to arrive this month.

• The Arlington Sister City Association (www.arlington-sistercity.org) has hosted Open World groups from Ivano-Frankivsk in 2009 and 2010. Local coordinator Chrystia Sonevsky has been the motivating force behind the Arlington and Ivano-Frankivsk relationship and she has worked closely with ASCA President Karl Van Newkirk in this regard. Their dedication culminated in the official sister cities signing between both communities at the 2011 Sister Cities International Conference. USUF has supported the Arlington-Ivano-Frankivsk relationship.

• The Chicago Sister Cities International (Kyiv Committee) (www.chicagosistercities.com) hosted an October 2010 Open World delegation, which focused on accountable governance. The visit was organized by coordinators Vera Eliashevsky and Vera Halicki.

• Omaha's Heartland Family Service (www.heartlandfamilyservice.org), the oldest and largest human services agency in the Omaha region, managed a 2010 Open World delegation from Ukraine which concentrated on accountable governance for community and economic development. President John H. Jeanetta has been active in USUF's exchanges for over 10 years. Mr. Jeanetta also had worked with the Applied Information Management

Institute (www.aiminstitute.org) of Omaha in hosting many foundation and Open World delegations from Ukraine.

• Louisville's World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana (www.worldkentucky.org), a partner of USUF since 1998, has programmed Open Groups since 2007. Led by Benjamin Jones and Matt Madden, the council hosted an accountable governance group from Ukraine in June 2010.

• A somewhat different type of Open World exchange – focusing on no-till farming techniques and biofuel production – was coordinated through Penn State University in State College, Pa. Both topics presented by Penn State are important to Ukraine's agricultural and environmental future. Long-time foundation supporter Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj inspired the foundation to administer such an exchange with Penn State in October 2009.

• USUF has partnered with the Springfield (Ill.) Commission on International Visitors in programming exchanges with Ukraine since 1998 (http://www.springfieldinternational.org/home.htm). SCIV's Open World exchanges in 2006, 2008 and 2011 have been coordinated by Alicia Erickson, international program manager.

• In Des Moines, Iowa, the foundation has organized Open World visits with ITEBS & Associates LLC, coordinated by Ann Schodde, and with Iowa Sister States (www.iowasisterstates.org), directed by Phil Latessa. Iowa's relationship with Ukraine has been strongly tied to Cherkasy for many years.

• Another long-running U.S.-Ukraine relationship has been with Cincinnati, and Kharkiv. The foundation has supported this relationship through U.S.-Ukraine Community Partnerships Project exchanges since 1998 and most recently through Open World groups in 2007 and 2009, implemented by the Cincinnati Ukraine Partnership (www.cincy-ukraine.org).

USUF will be initiating new Open World relationships in 2011 with Modesto, Calif., and Montgomery County, Md. Modesto Sister Cities International (www.modestosistercities.com), which is partnered with the Ukrainian city of Khmelnytsky, will be hosting Khmelnytsky Oblast officials in March. Later in the year, USUF plans to work with Montgomery County Sister Cities leaders in developing an exchange with Luhansk.

"One must remember "that Open World programming is in effect a two-way exchange dialogue, meaning that not only are Ukrainians learning from Americans, but our citizens are also learning from our Ukrainian guests." Mr. Kun explained." It is definitely not a one-way instructional program – and our expert translators can attest to that. Both sides benefit today and through developing, personal relationships, both countries will benefit tomorrow."

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

citizens in Japan.” Mr. Dykusharov said, adding that all Ukrainians who want to fly home will be able to do so from the airport in Tokyo, which is functioning. In recent days, only two Ukrainians have left the territory of Japan. Mr. Dykusharov also noted, “The Ukrainian Ministry of Emergencies teams and nuclear specialists are ready within a few minutes to leave for Japan if it responds positively to the request of Ukraine’s readiness to provide such assistance.” Of the 100 countries that have offered assistance to Japan, 30 countries’ representatives are currently involved in disaster relief operations. (Ukrinform)

37 percent for union with Russia, Belarus

KYIV – According to a survey conducted by the Socis Sociological Center, 37 percent of Ukrainians support Ukraine’s accession to a union with Russia and Belarus. The largest number of supporters of such a union is in Crimea (60 percent), in the eastern regions (50 percent), in the southern regions (48 percent), in the northern regions (32 percent), in the central regions (27 percent) and in the city of Kyiv (25 percent). In Ukraine’s western regions support for a union with Russia and Belarus was 6 percent. Prof. Yuriy Sayenko, an economics and sociology expert, said that the rating correlated with the percentage of ethnic Russians in those regions. The survey also revealed that the number of supporters grows proportionally with the age of respondents: from 28 percent among young people age 18-29 to 43 percent among citizens age 60 and older. News of the survey was reported on March 10. (Ukrinform)

Officials fired for bread shortage

KYIV – Two officials of the Luhansk Regional State Administration will be dismissed because of the lack of adequate measures to ensure flour supply for bakeries in the cities of Antratsyt and Sverdlovsk in the Luhansk region. As stated in the executive order, the instruction was given because of the deficit in the trading network in the two cities of breads enjoying high consumer demand in the region. Earlier, the media had reported that Sverdlovsk was without bread. On March 14 Minister of Agricultural Policy and Food Mykola Prysiazhniuk said the Luhansk region was provided with a sufficient quantity of grain to make bread. Later, the press service of the regional prosecutor’s office reported that “the OJSC Karavay CEO was detained for warrantless stop of a structural unit of the Sverdlovsk bakery.” (Ukrinform)

Russian gas price to rise

KYIV – The price of Russian gas for Ukraine in the fourth quarter of 2011 will be \$347 per 1,000 cubic meters, Minister of Energy and Coal Industry Yuriy Boiko told Channel 5. “If you take the formula, in the first quarter we have an input price of gas \$264 [per 1,000 cubic meters], in the second – \$293, in the third – \$313, and in the fourth quarter – \$347. This is a great price even with discounts of \$100,” Mr. Boiko stressed. He said the government increased gas reserves in first quarter of 2011 in order to balance the price of natural gas and prevent a sharp rise in price for households and businesses. “To get out of this situation, we have bought maximum gas volumes in the first quarter, when it was more or less cheap, and due to this we plan to balance the year and avoid a sharp rise in gas prices for household networks and businesses,” the minister emphasized. (Ukrinform)

Azarov on inter-Church dialogue

KYIV – The Ukrainian government will contribute to establishing an inter-Church dialogue, Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said on March 13 in Istanbul during a meeting with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Ukrinform reported, citing the Cabinet of Minister’s press office. “We certainly cannot help but worry that our Orthodox Church is divided into three Churches. However, we believe that this is the affair of the Church itself – to find a way to unity and unification. I want to assure you that the Ukrainian government is ready to contribute to harmonizing state and Church relations, establishing an inter-church dialogue,” Mr. Azarov emphasized. The Ukrainian prime minister praised the contribution of the ecumenical patriarch to the development of Christianity and the spread of Christian values. Mr. Azarov said that people in Ukraine cordially remember his visit to Ukraine in 2008. The head of the Ukrainian government also thanked the patriarch for the assistance to Ukrainian pilgrims during a visit to Mount Athos. In turn, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew said that he prays for peace and stability in Ukraine, and the unification of Orthodox Churches: “We are ready to provide any assistance to achieve this union,” he stressed. Mr. Azarov’s meeting with the ecumenical patriarch took place as part of his two-day working visit to Turkey. (Ukrinform)

Russian Church supports Qaddafi

LVIV – Representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church have supported and approved the actions of Muammar Qaddafi, it was reported on March 10. Protopriest Vsevolod Chaplin, who is known for his scandalous initiatives, stated that the authorities have a right to suppress mutinies by force. Tsn.ua reported that he said mutinies should be distinguished from people’s uprisings and suggested that this function is to be fulfilled by the secret services and intellectual elite. The Rev. Chaplin was commenting on statements by one of the ideologists of the pro-Kremlin movement, the head of its Orthodox branch, Borys Yakymenko, who supported the cruel actions of Col. Qaddafi against rebel Libyans. “A state can use force in certain situations, for instance, in suppressing mutinies – I mean mutinies, not people’s uprisings – or conspiracies, or attempts to subdue people against their will. When such things happen, the authorities, with support from society, should return force for force,” stated the priest. Father Chaplin explained that the line between a mutiny and people’s uprising should be defined individually in each situation. According to an ROC spokesman, a people’s uprising is “a reflection of deep contradictions in the life of the society,” when the authorities do not fulfill their responsibilities and people cannot live under them any more. Mutineers or plotters act not only against the will of the authorities but also against the will of the people, and, in that situation, “society with the help of the authorities must be able to defend itself.” “If they cannot defend themselves, woe to them,” stated Father Chaplin. In answer to the question about how to determine if people in the streets are participants of a people’s uprising or mutineers, the priest responded that “for that, there are public and state institutions: police, secret services and the part of the intellectual elite which is able to unmask a plot or mutiny and call the spade the spade.” The priest noted that people’s uprisings took place in the world many times. One vivid example is “what has recently happened in Egypt.” (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Yushchenko unlikely to be PM

KYIV – Volodymyr Fesenko, director of the applied research center Penta, said on March 9 that former President Viktor

Yushchenko’s appointment to the post of prime minister is not likely. He believes a reshuffle in the Ukrainian Cabinet is possible only if the government fails to neutralize the growing discontent among the population. “If the government fails to solve the current problems in the nearest future, in the nearest few months, and if these tendencies of discontent are not neutralized on the consumer market, some government officials may find themselves at risk for dismissal or staff reshuffle,” Mr. Fesenko commented. Assessing the first year of Mykola Azarov’s tenure as prime minister, the political scientist said the unpopular decisions taken by the government are new political challenges to him. Specifically, he pointed to the negative reaction of the population to the increase in housing and utilities fees, the shortage of buckwheat and flour in some regions, and the rising gasoline prices. At the same time, the expert said the government’s main achievement is the fact that it has managed to maintain economic stability. “But thanks to what? One of the main reasons is IMF money,” he said. Mr. Fesenko also said the role of the government has increased dramatically over the past year and that the government is now more of an economic than a political institution. “The role of political government is fulfilled by the presidential government,” he said. Speaking about the possibility of Mr. Azarov’s dismissal from the post of prime minister, Mr. Fesenko said that would be “an extreme option.” He added, “If they want to strengthen the reforms, they will have to look for a person who will be associated with the role of a reformer. It’s not likely that Yushchenko is now associated with this role,” the expert said. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Tax protester on hunger strike

KYIV – A Ukrainian activist detained for destroying city property during a demonstration against tax reforms has gone on a hunger strike to protest the charges against him, RFE/RL’s Ukrainian Service reported on March 2. Ihor Harkavenko has been in pretrial detention since he was arrested in January together with several other activists for “premeditated destruction of city property.” Several thousand business owners as well as opposition activists protested from November 22-December 3, 2010, in central Kyiv, with many camping on Independence Square (the maidan) for several days. They were opposed to a tax code adopted by the Verkhovna Rada in mid-November. The protesters’ tent camp was forcibly cleared by police on December 3. Police say that after the tents were removed it was discovered that protesters had hammered iron spikes into the stone tiles on the square, resulting in considerable damage. Mr. Harkavenko’s public defender, Artyom Belov, told RFE/RL that on March 3 the Kyiv City Court of Appeals would start hearings into Mr. Harkavenko’s appeal challenging the legitimacy of his arrest. Oleh Levitsky, a lawyer for Harkavenko, told RFE/RL that his client’s case is politically motivated and that the charges against him are “ridiculous.” Mr. Levitsky said that if his client is charged with the destruction of the stone tiles on Independence Square, then the same charges should be brought against President Viktor Yanukovich’s Party of Regions, which set up similar tents during protests on Independence Square in 2007. (RFE/RL)

Is Ukraine attractive to tourists?

KYIV – Ukraine is 85th in a ranking of the The Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report 2011 released by the World Economic Forum, it was reported on March 14. Thus, it ranks alongside Azerbaijan and Namibia. In the two years since the previous travel and tourism report was released, Ukraine’s ranking

dropped by 8 points. In both 2009 and 2011, Switzerland was the highest-ranking country among the 139 rated. Germany and France were ranked second and third. They were followed by Andorra, Austria, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Spain and Singapore. Among countries formerly subjugated by the Soviet Union, Estonia ranked highest – earning 25th place in the world ranking. Russia was 59th, Tajikistan was 118th. Chad was the lowest ranked country in both 2009 and 2011. (RFE/RL)

Ukraine sixth at tourism exchange

KYIV – The Ukrainian stand has taken sixth place in the Best European Stand category at the ITB International Tourism Exchange in Berlin, the National Agency on Ukraine’s Preparations for UEFA Euro 2012 (UkrEuroInfraProject) reported on March 15. A total of 12,000 visitors to the exhibition participated in a poll conducted by students of the Cologne Business School. They chose from 60 European stands the best one in terms of its creative design, the level of services, as well as the overall impression of the stand. One of the organizers of the Ukrainian stand at ITB, the head of the Ukraine-Universe state enterprise, Roman Kozhara, said that, through the exhibition in Berlin, many foreigners, as well as ordinary people and officials, had discovered Ukraine as a state with a rich history, traditions, interesting places and nature, and as a country hosting the 2012 European soccer championship. (Ukrinform)

State Property Fund sells Ukrtelecom

KYIV – The State Property Fund (SPF) of Ukraine and Epic Services Ukraine (ESU) LLC have signed a contract for the sale of a 92.79 percent stake in Ukraine’s fixed-line telephone monopoly Ukrtelecom. State Property Fund Chairman Oleksander Riabchenko and ESU representative Wolfgang Herritsch signed the contract on March 11. Earlier, the SPF had received written confirmation from ESU about its agreement to buy a 92.79 percent stake in Ukrtelecom for 10.757 billion hrv (about \$1.35 billion U.S.). The price was set after an independent assessment made by the Ostrov consulting firm. (Ukrinform)

Mika Newton headed for Eurovision

NEW YORK – “Scandal and Ukraine’s participation in Eurovision, Europe’s top pop song contest, seem to go hand in hand. In sticking with tradition, this year shaped up to be no different,” wrote Oksana Faryna in the Kyiv Post on March 4. Mika Newton was officially recognized as Ukraine’s choice for this year’s contest, but the results of the national final are being questioned as many observers think the contest was rigged. Jamala, considered the hot favorite and already an established star, came in third in the final runoff that was televised on February 26. As Ms. Faryna reported, voting was conducted by a panel, on the Internet and by SMS. Ms. Newton won all three, but her victory in the SMS poll aroused suspicions after it emerged that, on average, each phone that voted for her sent 14.5 messages. For Jamala, the figure was 1.7 per voter. Jamala, whose given name is Susana Jamaladynova, sings a mix of jazz, soul, blues and gospel. The 27-year-old singer was born in Kyrgyzstan to a Crimean Tatar family that was deported by Joseph Stalin from Crimea. Her family returned to Ukraine a year after Jamala was born. Also in the running was Zlata, whose full name is Zlata Ognevich, 25, from the Crimean city of Sudak. Ms. Newton, 24, born Oksana Hrytsay in the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, will represent Ukraine at the final in Dusseldorf, Germany on May 10-14. (Kyiv Post)

Ukraine's literature is topic of lecture at Wilson Center



Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Olena Haleta, associate professor and director of literary theory and comparative studies at Ivan Franko Lviv University and scholar at the Kennan Institute, discussed the important role anthologies played in the Ukraine's literary tradition during her presentation on February 8 at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. Sitting next to her, and leading the discussion is moderator William Pomerantz.

A horse-trading...

(Continued from page 2)

of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, while diplomatic and trade relations between Moscow and Tbilisi have been severed. This week Russian and Georgian diplomats began consultations in Bern, Switzerland, where Tbilisi offered a compromise based on the procedure that currently allows self-proclaimed Transnistria to trade legally in agreement with Chisinau passing the border with Ukraine – an EU observer mission or EUBAM (European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine). But Moscow says this is unacceptable without the agreement of Abkhazia and South Ossetia and that Georgia must negotiate with them (Kommersant, March 10).

Before Vice-President Biden's arrival, President Medvedev's foreign policy aide, Sergei Prikhodko, told journalists there are "signals coming from the Americans" the U.S. may help put pressure on Georgia for it not to oppose Russian WTO membership. In exchange, Moscow may not oppose in the United Nations the imposition of a no-fly zone over Libya to stop forces loyal to Col. Muammar Gaddafi

from bombing the opposition (Kommersant, March 9).

It is not clear if the Obama administration can persuade the Georgians to capitulate on the issue, but even if it does, it will hardly manage to organize the repeal of the Jackson-Vanik amendment by a Congress it does not control. Vice-President Biden does not seem to have the merchandise for an effective horse-trading mission in Moscow.

The BMD controversy seems impossible to solve. Russia has strongly opposed former and current U.S. and NATO plans to build a BMD system in Europe. Mr. Medvedev has demanded the status of an "equal partner" in any future European BMD and has threatened to "make unpleasant decisions to deploy an attack nuclear missile force," apparently aimed at Europe (Interfax, January 25).

The U.S., in turn, is placating Russia on all fronts: a top Russian general told Jamestown that the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, promised to immediately personally telephone Russia's first deputy defense minister and chief of the General Staff, Gen. Nikolai Makarov, "as soon as a decision is made in Washington to send Georgia a single bullet" and "the General Staff confirms there have been no direct arms shipment from the U.S. to Georgia."

Mr. Biden has promised to "push hard to develop a work plan for cooperation on missile defense" (ITAR-TASS, March 9). But political and military-technical incompatibilities make a truly joint U.S./NATO/Russian BMD impossible. This is fully understood in Moscow, despite all the bluff. In a recently published interview, Yuri Solomonov, the constructor-general of Russia's most modern land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) SS-25 Topol, SS-27 Topol-M and the submarine-based missile SS-NX-30 Bulava, announced that previous plans to deploy BMD interceptors in Poland, a radar in the Czech Republic as well as present BMD plans "do not and cannot threaten Russia's ICBMs in any way."

Mr. Solomonov described Mr. Medvedev's proposal to form a joint "sectoral BMD" in Europe as a "dead-end and absolutely unfeasible." Mr. Solomonov believes it is reasonable to build a limited BMD in Russia and the U.S. to guard against possible unauthorized launches of single ICBMs. At the same time, Mr. Solomonov described as an "outright provocation aimed at receiving an inevitable negative Western response" the proposal by then President Vladimir Putin in June 2007 to jointly use the Russian early warning radar in Gabala, Azerbaijan for BMD (VPK, March 2).

A top Russian general told Jamestown "the General Staff has intelligence that U.S. BMD interceptors [GBI and SM-3] will be dual-use" – armed with nuclear warheads and deployed close to Russian borders to attack cities and other strategic targets on Russian territory. Hence, it appears that Russian military chiefs are deliberately producing and feeding their political masters with fabricated intelligence and unacceptable "cooperation" proposals on BMD to promote constant military tension and confrontation. These efforts have been highly successful: defense spending has skyrocketed and a massive defense procurement program worth some \$670 billion has been approved (Eurasia Daily Monitor, February 24).

According to the first deputy defense minister in charge of rearmament, Gen. Vladimir Popovkin (retired): "The main priority of the new procurement program is to develop new nuclear strategic weapons" – aimed, of course, at the U.S.

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SPORTSLINE

(Continued from page 9)

on February 22 in Ridnaun, Italy. Ukraine's women's team won the 4x6 km relay and Artem Prima won gold in the men's individual race.

Wrestling

Stanislav Bondarenko (+100 kg) won the heavyweight division title at the European Judo Union Judo World Cup in Warsaw, Poland, on February 26-27. In the final match Bondarenko defeated Adrien Pin of France.

Basketball

Budivelnyk, a club based in Kyiv, leads Group J of the Basketball Eurocup, with four wins and two losses, with 417 points for and 413 points against, for an aggregate of +4 points. Budivelnyk will face Cajasol Svilla of Spain on March 23 and March 30 in a quarterfinal match. In their previous match on March 1, Budivelnyk defeated BG Goettingen of Germany 63-61.

Skiing

The Bukovel Ski Resort in Ukraine hosted the International Ski Federations (FIS) Freestyle European Cup on March 4-5, with teams from Belarus, Kazakhstan and Switzerland participating. The competition centered on aerial skills, and Olga Polyuk won second place with 153.42 points and Olga Volkova won third place with 150.14 points. Oleksandr Abramenko won first place in the men's division, with 191.50 points, followed by fellow Ukrainians Enver Ablav with 189.29 points. On the second day of competition, Polyuk and Nadiya Didenko won first and second

place, respectively. In the men's division, Abramenko won first place and Mykola Puzderko won third place.

Snowboarding

Ukraine's Annamari Chundak won the gold medal in the women's division of the International Ski Federation (FIS) Europa Cup (parallel slalom) in Kyiv at the Protasiv Yar skiing complex on March 10-13. The competitions attracted participants from Russia, Austria, Bulgaria, Switzerland, Georgia and Italy.

Athletics

Lesya Povkh won the gold medal at the 2011 European Athletics Indoor Championship, hosted by the International Association of Athletics Federations on March 4-6 in Paris.

Shooting

Vladlen Onopko won the men's junior 10-meter running target event at the ISSF European Junior Shooting Championships held in Brescia, Italy, on March 1-7. In the men's division, Vladyslav Prianishnikov won the 10-meter running target event, and Galina Avramenko and Viktoriya Rybovalova won first and second place, respectively, in the same event for women, while Mariia Kramar won the junior women's event. In the men's 10-meter mix running target event, Prianishnikov won third place, while Onopko won second place in the junior division and Polina Barvinova and Kramar won in the women's junior mixed event. Ukraine's Darya Tykhova won third place in the 10-meter air rifle women's event, Olena Kostevych won third place in the women's 10-meter air pistol event, and Oleg Omelchuk won third place in the men's 10-meter air pistol event.

— compiled by Matthew Dubas

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Yonkers UNWLA branch members enjoy a good read

by **Olia Rudyk**

YONKERS, N.Y. – What constitutes a good book? The answer depends on the reader. Most of us will agree that a book needs a few basic elements to entertain our interest, i.e., plot and characters. We can be enlightened by either or both of these elements and often relate to them.

Such a book was read by the members and friends of Ukrainian National Women’s League of America Branch 30 of Yonkers, N.Y.

“A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian” by Marina Lewycka was



Marta Iwanchyshyn-Pushka leads the discussion on the book “A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian” by Marina Lewycka.

reviewed and discussed at a meeting held on February 16. The event was open to guests and attendance totaled 15.

The author was born of Ukrainian parents in a refugee camp in Germany after World War II. Eventually, the family moved to England and tried to assimilate into their new world. It wasn’t easy for Ms. Lewycka. Having been born in Germany she was abused with anti-German rhetoric from school children, and her Ukrainian language and customs were ridiculed as well.

Feeling secluded, Ms. Lewycka turned to writing. She became extremely observant of others, their behavior and habits. Her writing was a world of her own where she felt comfortable. As an adult she came to realize the importance of her heritage and decided to explore her roots by returning home to learn all she could from her now elderly parents. These conversations, along with observations of current immigrant behaviors, are the foundation for her novel.

The book is a narration by the character Nadia, one of two daughters of a widower. Although the two women are not exceptionally close and have differing views on most things, they unite with a common goal. The sisters set out to prevent the upcoming marriage of their elderly father to a divorced and much younger blond bombshell from Ukraine.

As the story progresses the author explores the relationships of the family members as well as the intruder who attempts to invade their home. While dealing with her father, whose eccentricities include a passion for tractors, Nadia



Ron Liteplo

The group that attended UNWLA Branch 30’s meeting: (standing, from left): Areta Woroch (president), Nadia Spiak, Oksana Porodko, Luba Kuver, Iryna Hoshovskyj, Nadia Howansky, Marta Iwanchysyn-Pushka, Irena Hlushewsky, Marta Wacyk, Christine Sapka, (seated) Olia, Rudyk, Nadia Liteplo, Christina Cottler, Roma Wasyliw and Maria Zenecky.

learns much about past history and the social and political events that led to the hardships her parents endured during the war.

Ms. Lewycka uses humor to reveal family secrets, while exposing horrific historical events of Ukraine to the reader.

The book review and discussion was led by Marta Iwanchyshyn-Pushka, a

librarian at the Mount Kisco library. It was interesting to hear the myriad views voiced during the evening on the book’s characters and plot.

All in all, the event was a lovely evening. UNWLA Branch 30 members were grateful to Ms. Iwanchyshyn-Pushka and they look forward to the next book assignment.

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Summer is approaching. It s time to make reservations for Seniors Week at Soyuzivka!

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New executive board of Vovcha Tropa prepares for Plast's 2011 summer program



The newly elected members of the managing committee of the Vovcha Tropa Plast Camp (from left): Lida Chernichenko, Natalie Salek, Darka Temnycky, Joe Patti and Tunia Bilyk-Shatynski.

by Natalka Firko

SOMERSET, N.J. – The new executive board of the managing committee (Okruzhna Taborova Komisia – OTK) of the Vovcha Tropa Plast camp in East Chatham, N.Y., has been busy at work preparing for an active spring and summer season.

A continuing collaboration between the OTK, the National Executive Board of Plast USA and regional officers of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization is part of the OTK's mission to ensure adherence to the Plast philosophy, guidelines and principles.

One of its biggest projects this year is preparing for the Plast jamboree in August that will kick off celebrations of the organization's centennial. An international Plast jamboree will take place in Ukraine in 2012.

Biennial elections of the OTK executive board were held on October 29, 2010. Darka Temnycky, a long-time OTK member from Clifton, N.J., was elected as president, succeeding Katria Harasewych of Flourtown, Pa. Tunia Bilyk-Shatynski of Pennington, N.J., was re-elected for a second term as vice-presi-

dent for counselor staffing and education. The position of vice-president of operations was assumed by Joe Patti of Clifton, who replaced his wife, Darka Halaburda-Patti. Rounding out the OTK executive team are Natalie Salek of Morris Plains, N.J., the newly elected secretary, and Lida Chernichenko of Chester, N.J., who continues in her role as treasurer.

The managing committee comprises approximately 25 volunteer members, who serve in such various capacities, such as registration, medical affairs, inventory, communications and field trip coordination – all areas required to successfully operate multiple Plast camps and other events at the Vovcha Tropa facilities. Also part of the OTK is a three-person audit group that oversees funding and expenses.

Vovcha Tropa is the largest of several Plast camps in the United States. Over the past 50 years, thousands of Plast members have enjoyed its rolling hills, fragrant forests and flowering fields, and the camp has been the venue for many international jamborees. More information about Vovcha Tropa can be found on its website <http://www.vovchatropa.org/>.

Yara Arts Group up close at UACCNJ

WHIPPANY, N.J. – On April 3, the Arts, Culture and Education Committee of the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ) will present "Yara Arts Group Up Close." The event will feature a multi-media presentation on Yara by its artistic director, Virlana Tkacz, and a screening of Amy Grappell's film "A Light From the East." The event begins place at 1 p.m.

For over 20 years, Yara Arts Group, under the direction of Ms. Tkacz, has staged original theatre productions at La MaMa Experimental Theater, the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute and throughout Ukraine. In addition it has regularly held events at the Ukrainian Institute of America and The Ukrainian Museum in New York.

"Yara Arts Group Up Close" will introduce New Jersey audiences to the unique events the artists have created. Ms. Tkacz will begin by describing her work with Nina Matvienko on Yara's acclaimed show "Scythian Stones," which performed at La MaMa and in Kyiv last year. New York critics Michael Bettencourt wrote "The performance

builds what good theater should always build: an alternate world that allows us to re-learn and reflect upon the great questions at the core of our being human." Reviewing the production for the Kyiv Courier, Olena Morozova wrote: "Virlana Tkacz wove this theater piece out of traditional songs and poetry, creating a virtuoso intertwining of lines from the works of Mary Karr, Maria Meyerchik, Yurko Pozaiak and Oksana Zabuzhko."

After briefly tracing major themes in Yara's recent work, Ms. Tkacz will screen "A Light From the East" about Yara's first theater project in Ukraine in the summer of 1990.

Yara Arts Group is a resident company at the internationally acclaimed La MaMa Experimental Theater in New York. The group has created 24 original theater pieces that celebrate the cultures of the East, especially that of Ukraine.

"Yara Arts Group Up Close" will be the first cultural event that Yara has presented at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, located at 60 N. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981.



The UNA announces Scholarships and Awards for students attending college in the 2011-2012 academic year.

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The application for a UNA scholarship or award must be postmarked no later than **June 1, 2011**.

For complete details and applications, please call the UNA headquarters or visit the *Our Benefits* page on the UNA website at:

www.UkrainianNationalAssociation.org

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Women's Day 2011 to spotlight God's presence in a woman's life

PHILADELPHIA – On Saturday, March 26, the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, in partnership with the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great, the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate and the Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God, will sponsor a special Women's Day event, which will be held at the Ukrainian Catholic Immaculate Conception Cathedral Hall on Franklin Street in Philadelphia, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The day will feature four sessions corresponding to the four seasons of the year. Three guest speakers will focus on the seasonal theme, creating a sequential view of a woman's life in spring, in summer and in fall. The event is an opportunity for women of all ages to experience God's presence in their lives and the self-discovery that comes with recognizing and acknowledging that presence.

The "Spring" speaker is Lada Pastushak, who presently works as program director at the U.S.-Ukrainian Business Council. Headquartered in Washington, this organization includes over 100 major American



Lada Pastushak



Christine Hayda



Dr. Zenia Chernyk

companies that do business in Ukraine and works with federal agencies, Congress and Ukrainian government officials to enact better business practices and laws to improve business relations between the two countries.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Ms. Pastushak has a master's degree in foreign relations and has held an internship position with the Ukrainian Federation of America. She is active in the Ukrainian community and has taught Ukrainian as a second language to children at Philadelphia's Ukrainian Saturday School. The energetic and enthusiastic Ms. Pastushak is an excellent example of a young woman in the springtime of her life.

The "Summer" speaker is Christine Hayda, a Chicagoan by chance and by choice, with close ties to the local and national Ukrainian community. The mother of four children, she earned her M.S. in organization development from Loyola University and is currently completing a second master's degree, exploring the identity crisis of women who have experienced events that have reshaped their personal identity and their role within the community.

Her work with the Ukrainian Catholic community has included chairing eparchial conferences, serving as general secretary for Encounter of Eastern Churches, and facilitating retreats for eparchial clergy and parish councils. She exemplifies the summer woman who has harnessed youthful exuberance and given it a deliberated focus and purpose.

The "fall" speaker is Dr. Zenia Chernyk, who is well-known in the Philadelphia area as a physician and a dedicated humanitarian. Born and raised in war-torn and occupied Ukraine, she pursued medical studies in two languages (Polish and English) in two countries (Poland and the United States). While serving as staff physician in various hospitals in the Philadelphia area, she also ran a private practice, specializing in diseases of the kidney and hypertension. She is currently part of a group practice specializing in this field.

Dr. Chernyk's passion for humanitarian and charitable work is balanced by a keen awareness of administrative logistics and a knowledge of cultural, legal and professional differences between those capable of providing aid and those desperately needing aid. Since 2001, she has served as chair of Ukrainian Federation of America, working to strengthen ties between the U.S. and Ukraine to promote democracy in Ukraine, and especially to promote better health care in Ukraine. She is the recipient of numerous certificates of appreciation, awards and other tributes from colleagues in the medical profession, from presidents (Leonid Kuchma and Viktor Yushchenko), and from a succession of ambassadors representing a grateful Ukrainian government. A gentle and refined lady, Dr. Chernyk has also been shaped by widowhood and the loss of a child. She is the mature woman of autumn, one who has seen great successes and suffered great hurts, and has risen above both to do what needs to be done.

Each of the hourlong presentations will be followed by a group workshop and feedback. The day will end with a continuation and culmination of the seasonal theme – the focus on how each of the three stages of a woman's life align and how the journey into the winter season is not an ending but merely another step toward resurrection.

To pre-register, readers may contact Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, OSBM, 215-663-9153. The fee for the event is \$25 (with pre-registration) or \$30 (at the door).



KANDINSKY STRING TRIO

Saturday, April 2, 2011 at 8 pm



Kathrin Rabus, violin; Hartmut Rohde, viola; Jens Peter Maintz, cello

SCHUBERT: String Trio Movement in B-flat Major;

REGER: String Trio in A Minor;

BEETHOVEN: String Trio in G Major.

A reception will follow the performance

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Mayor Viktor Anushkevychus (left) gives a portrait of the founder of Stanyslaviv – today's Ivano-Frankivsk – to Christopher Zimmerman, chair of the Arlington Country Board.

Ivano-Frankivsk...

(Continued from page 22)

Also on the Ukrainians' busy schedule was an evening reception hosted by the Arlington Sister City Association at the Embassy of Ukraine. Invited guests included Arlingtonians from the county's cultural, educational, government and business life. The reception provided a good opportunity for the civic leaders to get acquainted while savoring the tasty culinary experience prepared by the Embassy's chef.

Bridge building, exemplified by the meeting of the two presidents of the respective chambers of commerce is at the heart of sister city citizen diplomacy. Special thanks are due to Marina Zlobina the Embassy's sister city liaison, for putting together a most cordial affair.

No visit to Arlington would be complete without seeing some of the sites of Washington. The Ukrainian guests began their tour with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and then a visit to the Library of Congress, where Mr. Vintoniak donated several beautiful books about Ivano-Frankivsk to the library's collection. Bohdan Kantor and Juri Dobczansky provided a most informative guided tour of the Library of Congress. During a stop at Voice of America, Mayor Anushkevychus was interviewed for the program "Chas Time."

At Arlington County Board member Walter Tejada's initiative, he and Board Chairman Chris Zimmerman met with members of the delegation. The city leaders had a most lively and productive exchange about the challenges of managing such dynamic and vibrant world-class cities.

Some members of the group also had an opportunity to visit the office of Rep. Jim Moran. The meeting with the congressman's aide was arranged by Ms. Jowyk. It

provided a good opportunity to discuss how the two sister cities could work together to improve relations between the U.S. and Ukraine and to thank Congressman Moran for his help with visa problems on several occasions.

The last of the Ukrainians' three days in Arlington was a chance, at least during the day, for the group to relax a bit from the first two hectic days. A visit to the School of Ukrainian Studies was a reminder of how the large diaspora is maintaining Ukrainian culture in North America.

During a long lunch, Mr. Zimmerman and Mayor Anushkevychus had a chance to really get to know each other better. The wide-ranging and convivial discussion over more than two hours bodes well for the future of what has already become a strong and vibrant relationship between the new sister cities.

The final evening provided a good way for Arlington's new sister city to get better acquainted with one of their other "sisters" by attending the sister-city charter re-signing with Coyoacan, Mexico, at the new cultural arts center, the Artisphere.

The March 4 signing of the sister city agreement is the beginning of building bridges between the people of Arlington and Ivano-Frankivsk. On May 20 to 29, a delegation from Arlington will be traveling to Ukraine for a reciprocal signing. Anyone interested in being a witness to history and learning more about the incredible Ukrainian culture and people is invited to attend. The trip to Ukraine includes visits to Kyiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, the Carpathian Mountains and Lviv.

The committee also welcomes anyone interested in getting involved with citizen diplomacy and developing ties to Arlington's Ukrainian sister city.

For more information readers may visit www.arlingtonstercity.org/.



After the champagne toast celebrating the agreement (from left) re: Olena Vintonyak, designer from Ivano-Frankivsk, Arlington County Board Chair Christopher Zimmerman, Lydia Anushkevychus and Mayor Viktor Anushkevychus of Ivano-Frankivsk.

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OUT AND ABOUT

- March 23 Ottawa Lecture by Charles King, "Odesa: Genius and Death in a City of Dreams," University of Ottawa, chairukr@gmail.com
- March 25 Toronto Taras Shevchenko Medal presentation to Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada, Ukrainian Canadian Congress, The Liberty Grand, 416-323-4772 or 416-805-2011
- 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
- March 26 Baltimore, MD Flower mart and flea market, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-697-4981
- March 26 New York Movie night, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, 212-228-6840 or uccany@ucca.org
- 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
- March 26, April 2 Kenmore, NY Pysanka Workshop, Ukrainian National Women's League of America - Branch 97, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, 716-885-0399 or www.ukrainiansofbuffalo.com
- 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
- April 1 Ottawa Film screening, "Hot Summer in Norilsk" by William Burtniak, Embassy of Ukraine, 613-230-2961 ext. 104
- April 1 - May 7 Lakewood, OH Art exhibit, featuring works by Andrij Maday, Virginia Marti College, 216-221-8584
- April 1-3 Jenkintown, PA Ukrainian Beadwork "Gerdany" Workshop, Ukrainian National Women's League of America - Branch 88, Manor College, 215-885-2360 ext. 293
- April 3 Plymouth, PA Exhibit and craft sale, Ss. Peter and Paul Church hall, 570-759-2824
- April 3 New York Silent art auction, Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-533-6419 or marta@ucef.org
- April 3 Whippany, NJ Presentation by Virlana Tkacz, "Yara Up Close," Yara Arts Group, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-585-7175
- April 4 Cambridge, MA Lecture by Tatyana Bureychak, "Nationalism, Gender and Social Change in Contemporary Ukraine," Harvard University, 617-495-4053
- April 8-10 Philadelphia Conference, Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America, Drexel University, www.ukrainianstudents.org

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.

Mishanyna: a correction

This month's Mishanyna, published in UKELODEON on March 13, was truly a Mishanyna. In fact, the grid did not match the words to be found. Due to a computer glitch, the wrong grid was inserted. Below is the correct version of March's Mishanyna. (We apologize to Mishanyna fans for this error.)

In honor of poet Taras Shevchenko – commonly referred to as the bard of Ukraine – on the 197th anniversary of his birth (March 9, 1814) and the 150th of his death (March 10, 1861), this month's Mishanyna challenges readers to find the hidden titles of some of Shevchenko's works.

- | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| HAIDAMAKY | NEVOLNYK | TARASOVA NICH |
| HAMALIYA | PRYCHYNNA | TOPOLIA |
| KAVKAZ | ROZRYTA MOHYLA | TRY LITA |
| KOBZAR | RUSALKA | UTOPLENA |
| NEOFITY | SON | VELYKYI LIOKH |
| | | ZAPOVIT |

T	R	Y	U	S	I	D	K	Y	N	L	O	V	E	N
R	R	O	T	S	H	Y	U	T	O	P	L	E	N	A
Y	R	Y	O	R	O	K	T	O	A	T	I	L	P	L
H	A	N	E	O	F	I	T	Y	A	A	K	Y	O	Y
A	Z	E	L	E	V	O	L	I	D	A	A	K	L	H
M	B	O	T	O	P	O	L	I	A	Y	R	Y	I	O
A	O	F	P	S	I	Y	S	Y	A	I	R	I	I	M
D	K	A	V	K	A	Z	K	E	R	L	E	L	D	A
A	Z	K	A	V	A	K	L	A	N	A	Y	I	N	T
K	A	T	R	Y	L	I	T	A	M	M	V	O	I	Y
H	C	I	N	A	V	O	S	A	R	A	T	K	P	R
B	U	L	S	O	M	A	N	A	S	H	D	H	R	Z
O	L	U	O	N	D	Y	O	V	O	L	U	I	O	O
L	R	O	A	K	L	A	S	U	R	H	I	B	A	R
P	R	Y	C	H	Y	N	N	A	C	U	R	K	I	H

At Harvard...

(Continued from page 4)

Was it the partially free parliamentary elections? Was it the presidential election?"

"As a recent economic basket case, we are also in a strong position to assist other countries in their move toward stability and prosperity," Mr. Sikorski stated. "After the fall of communism, Poland's economy was in a shambles, and yet we were able to pull out of the chaos and we did it on our own."

On the issue of American visas, Mr. Sikorski said, "It is clear that Washington for some reason favors South American and Asian immigration and is not interested in the workers of Europe. The administration blames Congress, and Congress blames the administration and the State Department. Our policy is to encourage our people to stay within the European Union. Most of the time, they will get higher wages than in the United States and they are much closer to home."

Now, we always encourage our people to keep their Polish contacts and to come home when the time is right for them."

"It is ironic," Mr. Sikorski added, "that as an ally of the United States, we have sent our troops for various joint maneuvers with the American armed forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is all right, but if these same troops wanted to come to a reunion with their American comrades in the United States, for example, they might not receive a visa."

Minister Sikorski concluded that Poland, by itself, could not have any major impact on U.S. policy but "as part of the European Union, which needs to begin thinking of itself as the potential equal of America, it could play a role."

The annual Zaleski Lecture is co-sponsored by Harvard's Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, and the Harvard Club of Poland. This year's session was chaired by Grzegorz Ekiert, professor of government at Harvard.

Mr. Sikorski, 48, was a student activist in the Solidarnosc movement and fled to England during the government crackdown. He holds both bachelor's and master's degrees from Oxford University in philosophy, political science and economics, and has worked as a journalist. He was a member of the Polish Sejm and has served as deputy minister of defense.

He is married to Anne Applebaum, famed author, historian and columnist for The Washington Post, who is currently working on a new book looking at the Holodomor, the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, in light of the most recent documentary evidence. She is working on the book in conjunction with the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI). The couple live in Warsaw and have two sons.

UNA BRANCH 37 ANNUAL MEETING Saturday, April 2, 2011

Branch 37 of the UNA Inc. will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, April 2, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in the Chomomorska Sitch's room at the Ukrainian-American Cultural Center, 60-C North Jefferson Rd., Whippany NJ.

For more information please call Oksana Stanko, Branch Secretary, at 908-872-2192 or 800-253-9862 x 3039.

A Ukrainian Summer

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Tuesday, March 22

CHICAGO: A benefit dinner for "Life in the Dead Zone: The Documentary about Chernobyl" will feature as guest speaker Irene Zabytko, filmmaker and author. The event will be held at Paul Harnas Zakopane Restaurant, 2943 N. Milwaukee Ave. (at Central Park). Suggested donation: \$35 per person; \$60 per couple. The benefit is sponsored by the Nuclear Energy Information Service (NEIS). For information contact Dave Kraft, NEIS director, 773-342-7650 or neis@neis.org. Tax-deductible donations are welcomed via the NEIS website www.neis.org.

Sunday, March 27

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America, New York Bandura Ensemble and The Center for Traditional Music and Dance present "Saints and Sinners." New York Bandura's Collegium Musicum explores Ukraine's rich heritage of devotional and moralistic songs, from formal baroque compositions by Danylo Tuptalo (1650-1709) and his contemporaries to the kanty and psalmy collected from itinerant blind singers (kobzari and lirnyky). The concert is at 2 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St.; a reception will follow. Tickets are \$15. For more information call the UIA, 212-288-8660.

Sunday, April 10

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum will be celebrating its 35th anniversary with a luncheon to be held at 1-5 p.m. at the Battery Gardens at Battery Park. Featured will be a jazz performance by the Askold Buk Trio and a silent auction. Tickets are \$150 per person; space is limited. Valet parking is available. RSVP by March 28 to The Ukrainian Museum, 212 228-0110 or info@ukrainianmuseum.org. For more information log on to ukrainianmuseum.org.

Sunday, April 10

BETHESDA, Md.: The Washington Conservatory and The Washington Group Cultural Fund present the young Ukrainian pianist Alexej Gorlatch, winner of the silver medal at the prestigious 2009 Leeds Piano Competition "for a performance of Beethoven's 'Emperor Concerto' that was immaculate in its poetry and aggression" (The Guardian). Mr. Gorlatch will perform works by Beethoven, Bartok, Debussy and Chopin at 3 p.m. at Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ, 1 Westmoreland Circle (Westmoreland Circle is located at Western and Massachusetts avenues, at the border of Maryland and the District of Columbia), Bethesda, MD 20816. Admission is free, seating is unreserved; donations are welcomed. For information contact the venue, 301-320-2770.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Items should be **no more than 100 words long**.

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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