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First case of COVID-19 is confirmed in Ukraine

by Roman Tymotsko

KYIV – On March 3, Deputy Minister of Health Viktor Liashko reported that the first case of the new coronavirus had been confirmed in Ukraine. The patient was hospitalized on February 29 after returning from Italy, where he reportedly was infected. Testing by the Public Health Center showed a positive result. All exposed persons are under surveillance by epidemiologists, and samples were sent to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Ukraine became the 73rd country where COVID-19 was confirmed. Ministry of Health authorities reassured the public that the situation is under control.

Ukraine's first coronavirus patient was returning home by plane from Italy to the town of Suceava, Romania, and then continued by car to Chernivtsi, a regional center in the west of the country, with his wife on February 26. The couple underwent temperature screening at the border, and they didn't have any symptoms of acute respiratory disease, according to Deputy Minister of Health Liashko.

"The system has proved its efficiency. While crossing the border, he had had no signs of acute respiratory disease. The husband and his wife decided to self-isolate, according to the care and safety info they had received," Mr. Liashko said. "On

February 29, the man had symptoms of acute respiratory illness. As the information sheet suggests, he contacted his doctor. According to the algorithms, since during the past 14 days he had traveled to Italy, the doctor decided to hospitalize the patient. Transportation was carried out by a special medical team. The symptoms the man has are fever and dry cough. The patient's state is stable, without complications," Mr. Liashko reported at the briefing.

The deputy minister also provided information on the health of the patient's wife: she did not have any symptoms of acute respiratory illnesses, but was self-isolated at home as a preventive measure, in accordance with WHO recommendations. When the home address of the family was leaked to the media, the couple's neighbors protested near their apartment building. They urged local authorities to take the coronavirus patient's wife into observation so that they wouldn't live in the same building with her.

At the briefing, Mr. Liashko also urged the public not to buy medical face masks from pharmacies: "You should only use masks if you have signs of an acute viral illness, or if you are a doctor who works with patients. Masks can create a false sense of safety... They won't provide any benefit to you if you are healthy."

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Shmyhal replaces Honcharuk as Ukraine's prime minister

New Cabinet approved by Rada



Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

Denys Shmyhal speaks for the first time as the new prime minister of Ukraine on March 4 in the Verkhovna Rada.

by Roman Tymotsko

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada – gathered at an extraordinary plenary session convened by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on March 4 – voted to accept the resignation of Prime Minister Oleksiy Honcharuk.

The youngest leader of a Ukrainian government in modern history, 35-year-old Mr.

Honcharuk was appointed on August 29, 2019. Because Mr. Honcharuk's team had a year of immunity dating from the appointment, the Parliament could not dismiss the government without their acquiescence. That is why the prime minister wrote a letter of resignation.

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Oleh Sentsov brings his soft-spoken courage to Canada

by Christopher Guly

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

OTTAWA – Most film directors prefer to tell their stories through their cinematic creations and would much rather be behind the camera than in front of it. But a real-time drama, filled with tragedy, conflict and a relatively happy ending, made Ukrainian filmmaker Oleh Sentsov the unwitting subject of what has become the greatest story of his life, thus far.

Arrested at his home in Symferopol, Crimea, in May 2014, Mr. Sentsov – who three years earlier had released his first feature-length film, "Gamer," shot at a real computer-game tournament – was charged, in part, with plotting a terrorist attack against railway bridges, power lines and public monuments, and was accused of being a radical right-wing extremist. During his July 2015 trial, speaking from the prisoner's box, behind bars, Mr. Sentsov claimed the charges against him were "fabricated and political," based on claims from "two suspects whose testimony was obtained through torture."



At a dinner with Ukrainian community leaders on February 2 in Toronto (from left) are: Ukrainian Canadian Congress Vice-President Olesia Luciiv-Andryjowycz; UCC National President Alexandra Chyczij; Ukrainian World Congress Vice-President Anna Kisil; Oleh Sentsov; UWC President Paul Grod; UWC Vice-President Zenon Poticzny; and Mariia Kupriianova, UWC executive director.

A month later, a Russian court sentenced him to 20 years' imprisonment. Last September, Mr. Sentsov was released as part of a prisoner exchange between Russia and Ukraine after spending four years in prison – half of that term in Russia's northernmost prison in the western Siberian region where, in 2018, he went on a 145-day hunger strike.

Some of the trauma of the time is captured by Russian filmmaker Askold Kurov in a 2017 documentary titled, "The Trial: The State of Russia vs. Oleg Sentsov," which was screened at the Human Rights Watch Film Festival in Toronto on February 3. The 43-year-old defendant in that proceeding was present, and he participated in a question-and-answer session with the audience in which he has unofficially become the prosecution against Russia.

He outlined his case during his trial in which he declared that he did not recognize Russia's annexation of Crimea or the Russian military occupation of land he considers to be Ukrainian territory.

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ANALYSIS

Baltics call for unified European 'frontline' against Russian disinformation

by Olevs Nikers
Eurasia Daily Monitor

In light of the three Baltic states' and other Central and Eastern European countries' continued struggle against Russian disinformation, Latvian President Egils Levits emphasized that international law needs to be improved to promote cybersecurity and limit sovereign countries' vulnerabilities to information warfare (President.lv, February 14). Speaking at this year's Munich Security Conference (February 13-16), Mr. Levits not only described the struggle of Russia's neighbors to deal with Kremlin-backed disinformation campaigns, but he also highlighted obstacles to a credible defense, such as European Union regulations that make it difficult for member states to ban or block TV channels for "only" broadcasting false information.

Last November, the Latvian National Electronic Mass Media Council (NEPLP) suspended the broadcast licenses of nine Russian TV channels in Latvia. The suspension is based on the fact that the nine channels belong to a holding connected to Yuri Kovalchuk, who is sanctioned by the EU for his role in undermining the territorial integrity of Ukraine. (La.lv, November 20, 2019).

News of the Russian television outlet bans highlighted the massive presence of Russian information in the media space of Latvia and other Baltic countries. And while experts argue that the license suspensions will mainly affect niche channel with low numbers of viewers, the list of affected outlets also includes Dom Kino and one of the oldest Russian channels, Peterburg-5 Kanal. According to data from Kantar TNS, these two channels together account for 3.7 percent of total viewing time by Latvian audiences (Lsm.lv, November 20, 2019). Despite the bans, several private telecommunications companies in Latvia have promised to provide other Russian content to their customers. In total, around 50 Russian TV channels are broadcast throughout the Baltics (Nra.lv, November 24, 2019).

Ukrainian political film director Oleh Sentsov, who in 2015 was sentenced by Russia to 20 years in prison on the false charge of terrorism, was released in September and checked into the Vaivari rehabilitation center outside Riga, Latvia. Upon his arrival at the center, he felt uncomfortably surprised. "I was amazed that in Latvia, which is so active in supporting Ukraine and well understands what the Russian Federation is really about, I found that out of the eight TV channels available on the television set in the room of my sanitarium, four were Russian propaganda channels. Why do they not just ban them?" Mr. Sentsov asked rhetorically (Sargs.lv, December 31, 2019).

Blocking a TV channel from broadcasting to the EU is not easy, however. "There are channels that officially are registered in the United Kingdom or in France. Russia is very clever in its use of European Union regulations. As a result, we are effectively not dealing with a Russian propaganda channel but rather with a Swedish or British one or someone else's," noted Inese Lībiņa-Egnere, the chairperson of the National Security Committee in the Latvian Parliament. "This, of course, complicates our work because this single [EU] directive

[on media] is based on safeguarding the principle of freedom of expression. Russia is using it illegally," Ms. Lībiņa-Egnere argued (Lsm.lv, April 16, 2018).

In the past, the NEPLP suspended the channel Rossiia RTR (RTR Planeta) several times: first in the spring of 2014 for three months and then, in the spring of 2016, for six months. Six months is the longest period of time that national authorities of an EU member country are allowed to suspend a "toxic" broadcast. Even during the suspension, many of those Russian broadcasters' official websites and YouTube channels would continue to offer unlimited and free streams of their programs (such as Rossiia 1, Rossiia RTR, Rossiia 24, NTV, Ren TV and TVC), both live and pre-recorded. Currently, the Latvian regulatory framework has no right to monitor or block any website for disseminating "fake news" content (Delfi.lv, April 5, 2018).

Article III of the European Union Audiovisual Media Services Directive (alluded to above by Latvian MP Lībiņa-Egnere) provides that retransmission may be restricted by an EU member state government only if the broadcast incites hatred based on race, sex, religion or nationality, or in order to protect the physical, mental and moral state of minors. Lying and propaganda – as long as they are not fueled by explicit hatred – cannot not be restricted.

Lithuania, which recently announced a ban on Rossiia RTR, has been waiting for several years on the European Commission to deliver its opinion on whether this move was legal. The case is frequently cited as an example of the bureaucratic difficulties of undertaking such defensive actions by EU member states. Estonia, on the other hand, holds a quite liberal attitude on this issue and does not seek to restrict such propaganda programs in any way (Delfi.lv, April 5, 2018).

Ivars Āboliņš, who chairs the Latvian NEPLP, agrees that the three Baltic states have taken divergent approaches to dealing with Russian disinformation broadcasts. Yet, this does not mean that the situation may not eventually reach a "critical mass." He stressed, "However, we must seek a political solution and raise this issue at the EU level. In the case of the [2017] poisoning of Sergei and Yulia Skripal, the EU countries were able to unite their political positions, which shows that unity is also possible on other concerns as well" (Delfi.lv, April 5, 2018).

In 2018, the right-wing faction National Alliance (NA) called on fellow members of the Latvian Parliament to agree to a joint plan for how to restrict Russian propaganda television channels in Latvia. Namely, NA suggested that at least the state-owned Internet service provider Lattelecom (Tet) should not carry Russian channels domestically (Lsm.lv, April 16, 2018). So far, however, Latvian politicians have not been able to prevent Tet from pursuing its own business interests despite those national security concerns. While the chair of the Supervisory Board at Tet, Gatis Kokins, agrees that Russian propaganda is harmful to Latvia, two years ago he argued, "Purely from a commercial standpoint, of course, that would be an absolutely unacceptable decision [to remove Russian channels], and it is clear that the company as a commercial

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NEWSBRIEFS

U.S. to Russia: hand over MH17 evidence

(RFE/RL, with reporting by Mike Eckel)

With their trial set to start in a few days, the United States has called on Russia to hand over suspects in the 2014 downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 (MH17), a disaster that cost the lives of all 298 people on board. "It is long past time for Russia to comply, to reveal what it knows and to turn over those individuals who have been indicated in these cases," U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Christopher Robinson said in an interview with RFE/RL during a visit to Prague on March 2. Russian citizens Igor Girkin, Oleg Pulatov and Sergei Dubinsky, and Ukrainian national Leonid Kharchenko have been charged by Dutch prosecutors with shooting down the Boeing 777 with a Russian-made Buk missile as it flew over territory held by Russia-backed militants in eastern Ukraine. The men are unlikely to be present at their first hearing scheduled for March 9 at a high-security courthouse near Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport. The men are all believed to be hiding in Russia, which does not extradite its citizens, or in separatist-controlled territory in Ukraine. A fifth suspect, Volodymyr Tsemakh, was among 35 prisoners sent to Moscow from Kyiv in the September 7, 2019, swap of 70 people captured during the conflict in eastern Ukraine. The Dutch-led Joint Investigation Team (JIT) has concluded that Russia's 53rd Anti-Aircraft Missile Brigade had transported the Buk in 2014 to and from Ukraine. Mr. Robinson said the array of public information available indicates that the MH17 downing happened in an area under Russian control. Russia denies involvement in the incident. "This is another case where Russia engages in aggression, Russia fails to reveal the truth, it puts out disinformation and lies, and tries to distort the truth," Mr. Robinson said. "I think Russia has behaved reprehensibly in this issue." The JIT had pleaded with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to keep Mr. Tsemakh in Ukrainian custody. Russian President Vladimir Putin reportedly insisted that Mr. Tsemakh be included in the exchange, or the swap would be called off. MH17 took off from Amsterdam for Kuala Lumpur on July 17, 2014. About two-thirds of the passengers were Dutch nationals.

TV channel for occupied territories

Ukraine's Culture Ministry has unveiled a new television channel that has started broadcasting in Russia-occupied Crimea and parts of the easternmost Donetsk and Luhansk regions that the government in Kyiv doesn't control. Called Dom (Home), the channel started the pilot broadcast on March 1, said Yulia Ostrovska, the acting CEO of public broadcaster UATV. During the presentation in Kyiv, she noted that "54 percent of people in the occupied territories don't have access to Ukrainian television channels, and 43 percent can't access Ukrainian websites." One of the channel's goals is the "de-occupation of consciousness" of Ukrainians, Ms. Ostrovska added. It was in reference to Russia's takeover of Ukraine's Crimea peninsula in early 2014 and subsequent support of pro-Moscow militants in eastern Ukraine in a conflict that has killed more than 13,000 people. However, the channel might not be available to residents of Crimea and parts of eastern Ukraine due to electronic warfare methods, said Mykyta Poturayev, a member of Parliament who took part in delivering the presentation. The channel will get its content from the existing major Ukrainian TV networks, including about 15 percent from the studio that brought current President Volodymyr Zelenskyy fame as an actor and comedian. As such, it will be available to digital, not analog, TV owners. Anchors on the channels will speak both Ukrainian, the state language, and Russian, the predominant language spoken in eastern Ukraine and Crimea. News also will be delivered in the Ukrainian and Russian languages and cover national and regional news. Mr. Poturayev said the editorial policy of Dom will not be to repeat Russian propaganda messages. "Nobody on this channel will talk about 'rebels,' 'civil war,' and will not call Russian tanks 'pink unicorns' who came with love, from Russia with love," he said. The combined 2020 budget for the channel and state-run Ukrinform news agency is 257 million hrv (\$10 million U.S.). Among the consultants employed at the channel are people from the 112 Ukrayina channel, a TV

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NEWS ANALYSIS

The role of snipers in the Donbas trench war

by Vera Zimmerman
Eurasia Daily Monitor

In the positional war in Ukraine's eastern region of the Donbas, where enemy trenches are often only 100 meters away from each other, snipers have a target-rich environment and play a critical tactical role. As elsewhere, snipers in the Donbas war proved to be an effective force multiplier on the battlefield, able to precisely strike long-range enemy targets, conduct indispensable reconnaissance of enemy movements and positions, as well as demoralize enemy troops.

Ukrainian military casualties from sniper attacks have been on the rise for months. According to estimates, about a third of Ukrainian soldiers fall to enemy sniper fire. Ukrainian military intelligence and volunteers have been tracing the presence of both Russian professional snipers and their proxies (Tyzhden.ua, July 25, 2019). The latter are trained in Russian military camps to defend the militants' forward line and play a propaganda role to deflect attention

from the presence of Russian professional snipers in the rear (Milnavigator, July 21, 2019).

Russian snipers take shots under the cover of heavy indirect fire, luring Ukrainians with a hail of mortars, machine guns, rocket-propelled grenades and anti-tank systems to reveal their positions (Facebook.com/pressjfo.news, December 22, 2019). And when the hissing of mortars and artillery subsides, snipers line up their targets. In a few cases, the Russian snipers even used locals as human shields to cover their positions (TSN, January 31, 2020).

Ukrainian commanders face a tough choice: fire back and alert an enemy sniper; or show restraint and encourage the enemy to come closer. For shelter, Ukrainians dig deeper trenches and buttress their fortifications. For repelling enemy snipers, Ukraine trains and deploys its counter-sniper teams (Spetskor, April 9, 2019).

At the onset of the war, unlike Russia's battle-tested snipers, Ukraine's Armed Forces had no clear distinction between an

infantry sniper or marksman, and barely had any professional snipers that met North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) standards. The designated marksmen were mainly found in Ukraine's special forces units providing short-range support with precision fire. Ukraine had to build its sniper program from scratch, bringing in foreign instructors to teach state-of-the-art methods (Gazeta.ua, August 3, 2019). Ukrainian snipers in schools like Desna now undergo rigorous selection and training, which greatly improved their ability to strike long-range targets. Today Ukrainian snipers can successfully operate at 2,500 meters.

Despite progress made, Ukrainian snipers are underfunded. Ukrainian sniper instructors admit that they can barely afford 1,000 bullets to train each sniper. For comparison, it takes a sniper from the United States about 10,000 rounds to master the tradecraft (Donbas.Realii, December 2, 2019). Overall, a U.S. sniper with a two-year contract costs the United States Army about \$1 million. By contrast, the equip-

ment of a Ukrainian sniper can cost about 1 million hrv (\$40,000 U.S.) – an astronomical figure for a country with a struggling economy. Much of what snipers need, such as night vision devices, camouflage, range-finders, ammunition, thermal sights and silencers, is provided by volunteers or by the snipers themselves. Still, capability gaps remain. For instance, to gauge distances, Ukrainians often must rely on their maps, which can be off by 10 to 20 meters (Donbas.Realii, December 17, 2019).

Throughout the war, Russian snipers have held the advantage, while Ukraine has had to be creative to catch up. Although both began fighting with the same Soviet sniper rifle, the Dragunov (SVD-63), the Russian SVDs had new barrels and PSO-3 scopes, and fired new high-quality rounds. Ukrainians, on the other hand, wielded Soviet-era SVDs with worn-out barrels and old scopes, and were using up the last low-quality SVD sniper rounds and then switching to machine gun rounds. To address

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First case...

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Liashko also updated information about the group under observation in Novi Sanzhary: "All those who are in quarantine, as shown by testing, are healthy. No symptoms of acute respiratory disease have been diagnosed so far. This Thursday, March 5, the observation period will be over, and all of them will return home."

At another briefing on March 4, Deputy Minister Liashko said six more people in Ukraine were being tested for coronavirus and have been isolated.

Ukraine's Health Minister Zoryana Skaletska, who is still in Novi Sanzhary, wrote on her Facebook page that beginning on Friday, February 28, coronavirus diagnosing training started across Ukraine. "Doctors, rescuers, police, local authorities are taking part in the training. The Public Health Center of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, with the support of the World Health Organization, organized and is conducting a two-day training session for epidemiologists and virologists. More than 70 experts from all over Ukraine participated," wrote Minister Skaletska. "The purpose of the training is to develop a COVID-19 outbreak response mechanism. The medical system is completely ready for the coronavirus. We have about 12,000 beds in infectious disease hospitals, 2,000 infectious disease doctors, and 5,000 skilled health-care workers. We must all be united in the fight against the coronavirus," she posted.

Ms. Skaletska, who is spending her last days as the country's health minister while in Novi Sanzhary, also commented on the news of the first confirmed coronavirus case in Ukraine. "The process of isolation and treatment of a man who was diagnosed with coronavirus in Chernivtsi has been done according to all our approved algorithms. Now we can say that the risk of spreading the disease from this person to the territory of Ukraine is minimal," she underlined. "The World Health Organization has handed us 30 test systems, each of which can do 100 tests. At the Ministry of Health level, we communicate daily with WHO experts. We have an agreement: if necessary, Ukraine will receive even more test systems," reported Ms. Skaletska.

In the meantime, ex-Minister of Health



Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

Deputy Health Minister Viktor Liashko confirms the first COVID-19 case in Ukraine on March 3.

Ulena Suprun warned the public about online fakes that only increase panic in society. "Along with the news of the first case of a coronavirus in Ukraine, there was a noticeable increase in advertisements and 'helpful' tips on how to protect yourself in commentaries under posts," Dr. Suprun wrote on Facebook. "Persons who make money from the sale of questionable items that allegedly protect or even cure all probable and unbelievable illnesses tend to intensify against the background of people's concerns. Please do not believe fakes and manipulations. Coronavirus, like any other virus, is not prevented and is not treated with various dietary supplements, onion-garlic broths, cumin oil and homeopathy. That is, the whole arsenal of drugs that are usually sold for the treatment of flu and colds, and now are sold under the guise of protection from the new coronavirus," warned Dr. Suprun.

"Means whose effectiveness has not been proven by any scientific research will not simply take your money, but are also dangerous because they create the illusion of protection and distract from the essential things that help," commented Dr. Suprun, who also shared recommendations approved by the international health-care community. Those are: Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20-30 seconds. When there is no water or soap nearby, use hand sanitizer. The sani-

tizer should cover the entire surface of the hands. Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth with dirty hands and avoid close contact with sick people. Ventilate and humidify rooms, disinfect surfaces. In order to help your body cope with any illnesses, always eat well-balanced food, drink plenty of water, do sports and get enough sleep.

"If you see an attempt to suggest a fake cure, ignore this person," she recommended. "Information hygiene also is an important aspect of combating the coronavirus. The more people know about the true means of protection, the sooner we will overcome the disease."

Ukrainians are undergoing treatment for the coronavirus also beyond Ukraine. "On February 27, one Ukrainian female citizen was discharged from the hospital and

transferred to a hotel," Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry said about a woman who had tested positive for the coronavirus on the Diamond Princess cruise ship off the coast of Japan. "The Ukrainian Embassy in Japan is providing our compatriot with the necessary assistance," the ministry's press service said. As reported earlier, four citizens of Ukraine – crew members of the Diamond Princess – had fallen ill with the coronavirus and were hospitalized. The Foreign Affairs Ministry confirmed that the three other citizens of Ukraine are continuing their treatment in medical institutions; the date of their discharge is still unknown.

As of March 3, a total of 90,937 laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 were registered worldwide, of which 3,117 cases were fatal and 48,017 were recoveries.

Quotable notes

"...the U.S. continues to be a strong supporter of Ukraine in the Ukraine conflict that is going on there, the ongoing conflict. The U.S. Mission and the OSCE is fully engaged in that. There is a special monitoring mission there that is on the ground in eastern Ukraine. There is a Normandy Four process that President Zelenskyy has reactivated for the purpose of trying to bring some type of resolution to that conflict. Look, the United States is the fiercest defender of Ukraine, and we believe that – we believe that we would like to see Ukraine continue to move closer to and to be cooperative with the European Union and also to work cooperatively and be closer to the NATO alliance.

"I'd remind you of Secretary Pompeo's Crimea Declaration, which once again restates that the United States is committed to Crimea being a part of Ukraine. We are supportive of Ukraine's borders within their internationally recognized borders, and we continue – the U.S. Mission continues to speak on that every week in Vienna. You can take a look at our statements usually on the webpage, the U.S.-OSCE Mission web page. We also translate that into Russian and speak directly within our statements – recently the statements we have made speak directly to the Russian people, which once again echoes exactly what I opened this press conference with: We want to speak directly to the people of Russia that want a more positive country and want a more democratic – a more democratic process and system.

"I would point out that this is a grim sixth anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine or an attempt to – an attempt to annex Crimea. Everybody here is aware that the OSCE is – grew out of the Final Act in the Helsinki Accords of 1975. That sets down a set of rules of behavior within Europe for the purpose of trying to avoid war and conflict in Europe. The Russians have violated that by their invasion of eastern Ukraine and by their attempt, purported attempt, to conquer or to take over Crimea.

"I would point out the dreadful situation in Crimea. There are reports that the Tatar indigenous population there is subject to a great deal of pressure – arrest, incarceration, reports of torture. And also the independent media is being blocked and imposed upon in Crimea as well. These are all violations of the principles of the Final Act in the Helsinki Accords, which OSCE purports to stand for. ..."

– The U.S. ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, James Gilmore, speaking at a press briefing in Washington on March 2.

Architect Larysa Kurylas speaks about the making of the Holodomor Memorial

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – The University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation began a five-month exhibition and associated events focusing on the process of creating a public U.S. memorial and, in particular, the work of one of its prominent graduates: the designer, architect and sculptor of the National Holodomor Memorial in our nation's capital – Larysa Kurylas.

The Holodomor was Stalin's infamous Famine-Genocide that killed at least 4 million Ukrainians in 1932-1933.

The exhibit opened at the architecture school's Kibel Gallery on February 12 with a presentation session featuring Ms. Kurylas, and statements by Volodymyr Yelchenko, the ambassador to the United States from Ukraine, which financed the construction of this memorial; and Metropolitan-Archbishop Borys Gudziak, leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States.

Beginning her presentation that afternoon, Ms. Kurylas noted that she asked the organizer of the exhibit what she should focus on and was told "to focus on what I was best qualified to answer, that is, what made the design of the Holodomor Memorial what it is."

And the artistic design, as most visitors see it, is that of a field of wheat appearing wholesome on the left side of the monument and gradually disappearing as it proceeds to the other end.

Growing up as a daughter of post-World War II immigrant parents, "my Ukrainian and American worlds happily existed side-by-side," Ms. Kurylas said. "Never – in a million years – did I think that I would be involved in a project that would overlap the 'ethnic' Ukrainian and the 'professional' American sides of my life so meaningfully."

With the support of the Ukrainian

Congress Committee of America and the Embassy of Ukraine, the U.S. Congress passed a bill, which President George W. Bush signed in 2006, authorizing the government of Ukraine to "establish a memorial to victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 on federal land in the District of Columbia."

The location selected is on a small triangular lot on Massachusetts Avenue, North Capital Street and F Street NW. It is near Union Station, a short walking distance from the U.S. Capitol building and the Victims of Communism Memorial, and two miles south along Massachusetts Avenue from the Taras Shevchenko monument.

Ironically, just behind the Holodomor Memorial along F Street, there are two popular restaurants: the Dubliner Restaurant and Pub and the Irish Times Pub, which has a sign above its entrance stating: "Give me your thirsty, your famished, your befuddled masses."

As Ms. Kurylas pointed out, when Ukraine achieved its independence in 1991 after the break-up of the Soviet Union, its first Holodomor memorial in Kyiv was built in 1993 on St. Michael's Square. In the United States, the building of the first memorial began in the 1950s at the church of the Ukrainian Orthodox cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

"So, I asked myself, what form would a memorial take," Ms. Kurylas continued, that is "dedicated to the victims of a secret famine deliberately created in Ukraine, but built in Washington, D.C., 80 years later on a small triangular site next to two restaurants?"

Chosen to be the artistic designer of the memorial, Ms. Kurylas said, "I began to wonder how one might actually memorialize the Holodomor. Three challenges struck me immediately: resolving the geometry of the triangular lot, mitigating the uncom-



Larysa Kurylas speaks at the University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation on February 12.

fortable proximity ... of the Dubliner Restaurant and the Irish Times Pub and – more philosophically and theoretically – how would one actually convey the idea of a deliberate famine in built form?"

And when the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture and Tourism announced its five-week international "blitz competition" for the design of the Memorial, "as a Ukrainian American architect with this important project happening in my backyard, I felt duty-bound to participate," Ms. Kurylas related.

What do Americans know about Ukraine, she asked herself, and she answered: "If they know anything, it is that Ukraine was the 'Breadbasket of Europe,' a fact that was taught in schools across America." That is why the main sculpture of the memorial is the "Field of Wheat."

She characterized that depiction of the wheat as "dynamic": "It changes from high relief on the left edge to deep negative relief on the right, reflecting the transition from a record harvest to a horrible deficit."

And, as it disappears on the right side, the words "Holodomor 1932-1933" emerge, as does a short paragraph explaining that term and the basic facts about Stalin's genocide.

The sculpture of the wheat is made of bronze. It faces Massachusetts Avenue; behind the rear of the memorial along F Street, a number of Redbud trees help block the view of the two restaurants.

The Ukrainian Embassy hired Hartman-Cox Architects to handle the construction.

An interesting personal part of Ms. Kurylas's story concerned getting some harvested wheat in July 2012, which could no longer be done in the United States. But she remembered that her mother's relative had a wheat farm in Canada, where they harvested their wheat the "old-fashioned way – by hand."

So she and her mother drove three days there (and three days back) to Uncle Mike Kaminsky's farm in Manitoba to pick up

four sheaves of wheat that he had dried and bundled.

It took 17 bronze castings to create the wheat field. And finally, on August 4, 2015, many months after the site preparation began, and only two months before the scheduled dedication ceremony, the five-ton sculpture traveled down I-95, was craned off the truck and bolted into the memorial site.

Ms. Kurylas recalled the historic event on that November 7, 2015, overcast grey day, when 5,000 Ukrainian Americans gathered on Columbus Circle in front of Union Station to dedicate the nearby Holodomor Memorial. Ukraine's First Lady Maryna Poroshenko, whose husband, Petro Poroshenko, was elected president after the Euro-Maidan revolution in 2013, attended the dedication.

In the conclusion of her presentation, Ms. Kurylas noted that not all who visit the Holodomor Memorial today "understand the symbolism of the abstract void in the structure, as representing the nature of the Famine and the tragic loss of life."

"Nevertheless, almost everyone has found some meaning in the Holodomor Memorial, so I feel that it has met the most basic and important requirement of memorials," she said.

Another gallery talk with Ms. Kurylas, representatives of Hartman-Cox Architects, Forrester Construction and a co-sculptor from Laran Bronze Foundry was scheduled for March 2. Columnist and historian Anne Applebaum, the author of "Red Famine: Stalin's War on Ukraine," will deliver a keynote address and participate in a panel discussion with experts on other historic mass famines on April 1.

Also in April, a screening is planned of the new film "Mr. Jones" about the Welsh Journalist Gareth Jones's successful secret attempt to report on the Holodomor in Ukraine while reporting from the Soviet Union.



The Holodomor Memorial designed by Larysa Kurylas that was unveiled in Washington in 2015.

The role...

(Continued from page 3)

these shortcomings, Ukrainian volunteers helped upgrade the SVDs with new silencers, sights and bipods, but the old barrels still impair accuracy (Donbas.Realii, November 25, 2019).

As the war progressed, the dynamics of the battlefield demanded new long-range effective weapons. The SVD is unsuitable as it is designed for suppressive fire at up to 800 meters. Both sides continue to test new rifles and rounds, seeking an edge. Although the SVD is still the main weapon used by local proxies at the forward line of defense, Russian professional snipers at the middle and rear lines use bolt-action sniper

rifles like the ORSIS T-5000 and the large caliber OSV and ASVK that fire three times farther than the SVD (Donbas.Realii, December 25, 2017).

To be effective against Russian rifles requires more powerful weapons than the old SVD. Ukrainian forces are abandoning their Soviet legacy weapons in favor of Western and Ukrainian designs. Volunteers and private companies procured hundreds of carbine hunting rifles and NATO round rifles. The UR-10, manufactured by a Ukrainian company, Zbroyar, has a range of 1,200 meters and is designed to replace the SVD (Expres, December 7, 2019). Its higher-quality optics and .308 caliber rounds improve precision, while a newer PBS silencer better camouflages the fire (Ukrainian military TV, May 27, 2019). The

long-range Savage, Barrett and Canadian PGW LRT-3 are also now used by Ukrainian snipers. However, despite their long-range and hard-hitting capabilities, experts say that in the trench war, Ukrainian snipers need smaller caliber rifles like UR-10, VPR-308, Galatz, or McMillan. Given their lighter weight and usability, they are more effective and allow better mobility (Depo.ua, August 14, 2018).

While replacing the SVD will still take a couple of years, the ammunition to counter Russian powerful bolt-action rifles is needed today. With some volunteer supplies of NATO's commercial version .308 Winchester and .338 Lapua Magnum rounds, the ammunition is short of what is needed for bolt-action rifles in training and in the field (Donbas.Realii, December 2, 2019).

Ukrainian snipers have made significant advances in training and new weapons procurement. Adding sniper teams to each battalion, not just special forces, delivered an immediate force multiplier. Yet, Ukraine may still take another 10 years to fully realize its sniper potential. Poor funding, army bureaucracy and ammunition shortages preclude Ukrainian snipers from reaching their potential today. With proper resources, Ukrainian snipers will be more capable of hindering Russian advancement and forcing Moscow to pay a higher price for its aggression.

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

Ukrainian Canadian community honors Roman Waschuk and Oksana Smerechuk

Ukrainian Canadian Congress

TORONTO – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) honored Roman Waschuk, former Canadian ambassador to Ukraine, and his spouse, Oksana Smerechuk, for their contributions to public service and Canada-Ukraine relations at a special tribute gala in Toronto on February 1.

Due to the generosity of sponsors and supporters, \$100,000 was raised to support the Roman Waschuk and Oksana Smerechuk Fund, within the UCC Charitable & Educational Trust, which funds the UCC Parliamentary Internship Program, as well as the UCC Community Development Fund that supports important community programming initiatives.

“Ambassador Waschuk and Ms. Smerechuk have dedicated their lives to public service. They are an example for future generations of Ukrainian Canadian youth to emulate, and the UCC Internship Program will provide our youth with opportunities to start their careers,” stated Alexandra Chyczij, national president of the UCC. “On behalf of our community, I thank Roman and Oksana for kindly agreeing to support the UCC’s programming. Thank

you to all the honored guests, generous sponsors and donors, and everyone attending for making this memorable evening a wonderful success.”

The evening’s program featured greetings from Canada’s Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, and an address by Chrystia Freeland, deputy prime minister of Canada. Also part of the evening: a superb performance of the Huron Christmas Carol “Jesus Ahattonnia” by the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir, and moving and poignant tributes by close friends Velida Kent and Christopher Shapardanov.

Karim Morcos and Sofiya Yusypovych were skillful masters of ceremonies for the evening. But the highlight of the evening was Mr. Waschuk’s and Ms. Smerechuk’s response to the accolades they received.

Mr. Waschuk was presented the UCC Taras Shevchenko Medal for his outstanding contribution to public service. The Shevchenko Medal is the highest form of recognition granted by the UCC.

The Ukrainian Canadian community also paid tribute to Canadian police officers who have been providing training to Ukraine’s police forces as part of Canada’s support for security and democratic devel-



Former Ambassador Roman Waschuk and his wife, Oksana Smerechuk, at a gala held in their honor.

opment in Ukraine as well as Canadian Armed Forces personnel participating in Operation UNIFIER, Canada’s training mission in Ukraine.

As Canada’s longest-serving ambassador

to Ukraine, Mr. Waschuk worked to bring Canada-Ukraine relations to a new level at a time of increased interest in Ukraine. With his depth of knowledge of Ukraine, he was a leader among diplomats in Kyiv and fully developed the Canadian presence in Ukraine. Ambassador Waschuk practiced diplomacy with integrity, openness, sincerity, accessibility and optimism, the UCC pointed out. He was able to articulate the need for a strong Canada-Ukraine relationship both with government officials, in the media and the general public.

As successful public service and effective diplomacy are always the result of teamwork, the UCC also honored Ms. Smerechuk, Ambassador Waschuk’s wife, who was president of the Ambassadors’ Spouses Club of Kyiv. Together, their commitment to community and public service, and their boundless energy provided Canada with a powerful voice in Kyiv, the UCC noted.

A special thank you was expressed to the Tribute Gala Organizing Committee, chaired by Olya Grod, for their hard work and dedication.



Roman Waschuk and Oksana Smerechuk with representatives of Canadian police training missions in Ukraine and representatives of Operation UNIFIER, Canada’s military training mission in Ukraine.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

“A specific disorder of the mind”

“There is no Ukraine. There is Ukrainian-ness. That is, a specific disorder of the mind. A passion for ethnography that has surprisingly been driven to extremes. Such local lore full of blood. A mess instead of statehood. Borshch, Bandera and bandura. But there is no nation. There is the brochure titled ‘Independent Ukraine,’ but there is no Ukraine. The only question is whether Ukraine doesn’t exist any longer or doesn’t yet exist.”

Those were the words of Vladislav Surkov, the Kremlin ideologue and former aide to Russian President Vladimir Putin, in an interview for a Russian media outlet called Actual Comments. Significantly, this man who was often called the “grey cardinal of the Kremlin,” was Mr. Putin’s point man on Ukraine until he was dismissed on February 18. The seven-year period during which he oversaw policy regarding Ukraine was marked by Russia’s occupation of Ukraine’s Crimean peninsula and its invasion of the eastern Ukrainian regions of Donetsk and Luhansk – Russia’s war on Ukraine that has killed 13,000, wounded and maimed untold numbers of Ukraine’s people, and displaced 1.5 million. It was also during this period that the concept of a “Novorossiya,” encompassing Ukraine’s southern and eastern lands, was promoted.

Mr. Surkov’s words should not surprise anyone who has been following Ukraine-Russia relations. Over and over and over again, Russian leaders have denied that Ukraine is a separate country, that Ukrainians are a separate nation, that Ukraine’s history is its own. (Indeed, such a position dates back to tsarist times.)

In 2008, President Putin told U.S. President George W. Bush: “Ukraine is not even a state. What is Ukraine? Part of its territories are in Eastern Europe, but the greater part is a gift from us.” In 2014, Mr. Putin said “the Russian and Ukrainian peoples are practically one single people,” and he has repeatedly made that outrageous claim. Russians and Ukrainians, he reiterated most recently, are “one and the same.” In an interview with TASS, he stated that Russia and Ukraine should unite. “Some like dividing Ukraine and Russia,” he told TASS. “Since any integration of Russia and Ukraine, along with their capacities and competitive advantages, would spell the emergence of a rival – a global rival for both Europe and the world.”

In Mr. Surkov’s aforementioned interview, the former behind-the-scenes machinator said: “Strangely enough, I’m an Ukroptimist. That is, I think that Ukraine doesn’t yet exist. But over time, it will come into existence. ‘The ‘khokhly’ [a derogatory term for Ukrainians] are stubborn guys, they will do this. However, what kind of Ukraine it will be, in what borders it will exist, and maybe even how many ‘Ukraines’ will appear are open questions. And one way or another, Russia will have to participate in resolving these issues.” He added threateningly that the only effective method in Russia’s relations with Ukraine is “coercion by force into fraternal relations” – a method that he said “has historically proven effectiveness in the policy towards Ukraine.”

Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Steven Pifer was on the mark when he tweeted on February 26: “With Surkov as Putin’s main advisor on #Ukraine, little wonder that Kremlin policy over past 6 years has done more than anything else to forge Ukrainian national identity, push Ukraine away from #Russia and toward West, and broaden Ukrainian public support for joining NATO.”

However, at the same time it must be underscored that statements like those of Mr. Surkov, who has been replaced, and President Putin, who intends to remain in power indefinitely, do not bode well. As Taras Kuzio wrote last month on the Atlantic Council’s UkraineAlert blog: “Putin’s plans for lifelong rule look particularly ominous when viewed from Ukraine, which faces the prospect of perpetual imperial aggression at the hands of an adversary who views much of modern Ukraine as historically Russian and continues to ask fundamental questions about the country’s right to exist. For Ukrainians, Putin forever means war without end.”

March
9
2000

Turning the pages back...

Twenty years ago, on March 9, 2000, 11 young adults (aged 19 to 24) who forcibly occupied the Communist Party headquarters in Kyiv surrendered after a 13-hour stand-off with Internal Affairs Ministry police. The protesters issued a series of demands, including a ban on the Communist Party of Ukraine, and threatened to immolate themselves in the building if their

demands were not met.

After the stand-off, none of the demands were met and the protesters were escorted to police vehicles after they voluntarily left the building. However, a member of the group said that its occupation had succeeded in bringing attention to the group’s cause.

The protesters were charged with forcible occupation of a building and assault with inflictment of bodily injury, which carried a maximum of eight years’ imprisonment. Among the protesters were six students of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy and Kyiv State University, as well as a young high school teacher, with all being members of a political organization known as Independent Ukraine. Four of the protesters were members of the National Rukh of Ukraine Party.

Their demands included the lustration of government bodies of former and current Communist Party members, the complete reorganization of state law enforcement bodies, official recognition for veterans of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists as World War II veterans with the right to all benefits associated with such status, and the immediate payment of wage and pension arrears.

Inspired by the nationalist Mykola Mikhnovsky, the protesters unfurled a 20-meter banner from the building that read, “A single, united, free and independent Ukraine from the Carpathian Mountains to the Caucasus.” In preparation for the stand-off, the protesters poured nearly 120 liters of gasoline on the floors of the building.

Serving as negotiators were: Hennadii Udovenko, leader of the National Rukh of

(Continued on page 7)

INEWS AND VIEWS

“In my native Donetsk, someone is being savagely tortured right now”

by Halya Coynash
Kharkiv Human Rights Protection
Group

There has been strong reaction from many distinguished public figures to the outrageous “12-Step Plan on Ukraine” published on the eve of the 2020 Munich Security Conference. Perhaps the most compelling and poignant, however, was given by Stanislav Aseyev, a Donetsk writer and journalist freed in the last exchange of prisoners after the 31 months he was held in the self-proclaimed “Donetsk people’s republic.” Almost all of that time, he was held in Izolyatsia, the former art center turned into a secret prison where Russian and Russian-controlled militants torture with impunity.

He writes:

“In 2012 my native city Donetsk greeted the European Football Championship with a new airport, a new railway station and stadium. Now, in 2020, there is none of that in Donetsk.

“There is, however, something else. Right in the center of the city there is a special ‘ministry of state security’ prison called Izolyatsia. It was there that I spent 28 months of my captivity, and it is specifically that place which gives a very clear understanding of what we are dealing with when we speak of our war today. This is not just about Russian aggression when the Russian Federation looks at this country like a desirable country residence. It’s now about whether you are a human at all.”

He cites two examples. One an elderly woman hostage, who was forced to crawl under the bunk because she had dared go up to a window that was ever so slightly open. The other – a grown man forced to bark like a dog just because one of the militants felt like demanding that.

He continues:

“I am not saying this to get sympathy. I don’t need sympathy. It’s those who are still in Izolyatsia that need sympathy. I’m telling you this so that when we engage in negotiations with the Russian Federation about this territory, we clearly understand that we are not just talking about the border or economics, although that is also very important.

“We are talking about freedom in the highest sense of the word, which cannot be up for bargaining. And when some of our Western colleagues do not understand this because they feel safe thanks to the thousands of graves of my compatriots, we Ukrainians do not have the right to forget. After all, every minute, right now, while I’m speaking in this room in such amazing company, right now in the center of my Donetsk somebody is being savagely and inhumanly tortured,” he states.

There are no grounds for seeing anything figurative in Mr. Aseyev’s words about Izolyatsia. Although the DPR militants have never admitted to having this prison, and prevent international observers from seeing any hostages believed to be held there, Mr. Aseyev is not the only person to have testified to the horrific, and sometimes fatal, methods of torture used there. As reported, one of the militants, Roman Lyahin, is currently on trial in Ukraine for his key role in the seizure of Izolyatsia. There is little sign of progress in the trial, and former hostages have from the outset expressed concern that Mr. Lyahin could reach a deal with the prosecutor and/or be released as part of a prisoner exchange.

Until Russian and Russian-armed militants seized control of Izolyatsia in June 2014, it was a former factory complex that was used as a vibrant art and cultural center. The militants are reported to have immediately put a sniper in place and turned it into a secret prison of the so-called “DPR ministry of state security.” The Media Initiative for Human Rights quotes a Donetsk woman as saying that everybody knows there is such a secret prison, however nobody dares say it aloud. Even if a person’s relative has ended up there, they refer to Izolyatsia as “the place where people disappear.”

The reasons are clear, since this is a prison which those who were held there have called a real concentration camp, where the militants use beatings, electric shocks, as well as all types of psychological torture. Over the last five years, several hundred people may have been imprisoned in Izolyatsia, with this figure including both militants and civilian hostages suspected of “spying.” Mr. Aseyev has pointed out that the militants do not separate the prisoners – according to whether they are “their own people” or outsiders, “and in that sense, it’s like 1937 there,” he adds. From his account, it is clear that, as in the worst year of the Soviet Terror, you can be a so-called “DPR minister” one day, and a prisoner in Izolyatsia the next.

It must be said that the forms of torture that former hostages mention are those which the Russian FSB are known to have used against many Ukrainian political prisoners, and to which hostages held in the so-called “Luhansk people’s republic” have also been subjected. The level of sadism, as well as the horrific conditions and forced labor are presumably worse, since the militants are clearly eager to conceal all information about this prison in the center of Donetsk.

The publicity and campaign for Mr. Aseyev’s release meant that the militants needed to at least ensure his physical survival. Judging by the account of another former hostage, this was not always the case.

Stanislav Pechonkin was seized in January 2017, and sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment at the beginning of 2019 for “spying.” He was released as part of the December 29, 2019, prisoner exchange.

The beatings and other forms of torture began before Mr. Pechonkin was taken to Izolyatsia. He recounts, for example, how he was beaten and interrogated for 10 days in the “police station.” On one occasion, this was by so-called “DPR anti-terrorist officers,” including a former Ukrainian police detective, Vitaly Kolesnikov. He was interrogated and beaten, and then heard the words: “Put the kettle on.” They poured boiling water onto his head, which, he believes, caused second-degree burns, and then threw him into a cell without any medical help. Instead he was told to “think.”

It was after this that he was taken, with a bag over his head, to Izolyatsia and placed in a tiny cell for two days. Although he had admitted to providing information for Ukraine’s SBU [Security Service], the militants’ lie detector said he was not telling the truth, and they began “working on him,” with this including beatings while he was held against the wall, with his arms and legs stretched out, and electric shocks. In his case, the militants only attached the

(Continued on page 17)

IN THE PRESS

Endless imperial aggression

"Putin forever: Ukraine faces the prospect of endless imperial aggression" by Taras Kuzio, UkraineAlert blog, Atlantic Council, February 13 (<https://atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/putin-forever-ukraine-faces-the-prospect-of-endless-imperial-aggression/>):

Vladimir Putin's plans to change the Russian Constitution are not yet finalized, but few doubt that his true intention is to remain in power indefinitely. ...

Putin's plans for lifelong rule look particularly ominous when viewed from Ukraine, which faces the prospect of perpetual imperial aggression at the hands of an adversary who views much of modern Ukraine as historically Russian and continues to ask fundamental questions about the country's right to exist. For Ukrainians, Putin forever means war without end.

Putin's imperial ideology is not simply the revival of 200-year-old doctrines. His brand of imperialism is hybrid in nature, incorporating elements from both the Soviet and tsarist eras. During his first year in power, Putin made his revanchist intentions clear by reinstating the Soviet national anthem. This set the tone for further efforts to rehabilitate the Communist period and draw a line under the soul-search-

ing of the early post-Soviet years. ...

...Putin's other great borrowing from the tsarist era is his broad interpretation of Russian nationality, with Ukrainians and Belarusians also seen as part of the three-branch Russian people. In his public statements, Putin has repeatedly stressed his personal belief that Russians and Ukrainians are "one people." ...

Ukrainian society may have passed the ultimate statehood test in 2014, but the country looks set to remain a target of Kremlin hostility and hybrid aggression for many years to come. Putin's embrace of tsarist imperialism and his desire to remain Russia's national leader mean there is little chance of a sustainable peace in Ukraine. On the contrary, Ukraine's centrality to Putin's understanding of Russian identity and national interests makes it difficult to imagine a settlement that would leave both parties satisfied. ...

Vladimir Putin is now the uncrowned tsar of Russia. His reign is likely to last for as long as he lives. Given that he is currently 67 years old and in good health, the Putin era could extend into the future for decades to come. This means Russian aggression against Ukraine will also continue indefinitely, serving to destabilize the wider geopolitical environment until it is decisively confronted.

PACE's winter session

"PACE risks becoming a watchdog with no bite," by Oleksiy Goncharenko, UkraineAlert blog, Atlantic Council, January 27 (<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/pace-risks-becoming-a-watchdog-with-no-bite/>):

The winter session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) got under way on January 27 in Strasbourg. The agenda includes a controversial resolution that would significantly complicate the body's future ability to apply sanctions. With the scandal still simmering over an unrepentant Russia's return to PACE in summer 2019, opponents say the move could further undermine the legitimacy of an organization dedicated to upholding human rights, democracy and the rule of law across Europe. The Ukrainian delegation, which is returning to PACE following an autumn 2019 boycott, is leading calls to block the new sanctions regulations.

...Ukraine sees these efforts to revise sanctions procedures as a continuation of the steps that caused a crisis within PACE last year. In the summer of 2019, the Russian delegation returned to PACE despite the fact that Moscow had not fulfilled any of the conditions set when sanctions were first imposed in 2014 over

Russian aggression against Ukraine. ...

The Ukrainian PACE delegation will do everything in its power to ensure that the current resolution proposing to complicate existing sanctions mechanisms is amended to become more realistic. The Council of Europe must be able to effectively defend human rights and European values throughout Europe, as well as respond to challenges and crises that arise within the organization. This means taking the interests of all members into account rather than becoming an instrument for the political agendas of individual states.

Unless PACE offers equal rights and a level playing field to all its members, it risks becoming a parody of itself and making a mockery of its stated mission to defend human rights and democracy equally across all Europe.

Turning...

(Continued from page 6)

Ukraine Party, and Oleksander Chornovolenko, head of the party in Kyiv, as well as Mykhailo Ratushnyi (Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists) and Oleksander Yemets (Reforms and Order Party).

The Communist Party of Ukraine, led by Petro Symonenko, said the occupation was "an organized effort by the government." The CPU also accused Mr. Udovenko and other organized political parties of involvement.

Mr. Udovenko stated: "The National Rukh of Ukraine is being condemned because it took part in negotiations with [the students]. Meanwhile the Communists in Ukraine are not being held accountable at all for those crimes they perpetrated against the Ukrainian nation."

Source: "Youths who seized Communist Party HQ surrender after 13-hour stand-off with militia," by Roman Woronowycz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 19, 2000.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A thank-you to letter writer

Dear Editor:

I write to voice agreement with Andriy Melnyk, M.D., whose letter in *The Ukrainian Weekly* (April 14, "Trump deserves credit for helping Ukraine") contained interesting information. Thank you, Dr. Melnyk.

Vadim Kapustiansky
Covington, Ky.



The ugly face of Russian propaganda

One of the most consistent falsehoods that Russian propaganda levels at Ukrainian nationalists is that they are "fascists" and "Nazi collaborators" who were responsible for the murder of Jews during the Holocaust. While there were individuals involved in crimes against humanity among Ukrainians, the proportion is not any bigger than that of any other European nation - in fact it is smaller than most. As for the number of people listed as "Righteous Among Nations," the title bestowed by Israel on those who saved Jews during the Holocaust, Ukraine ranks fourth behind Poland, the Netherlands and France.

But Moscow does not care about any such details, instead tarring anybody and everybody who opposed the totalitarian Soviet Union in the past, and its successor regime, the Russian Federation, in the present with the brush of fascism. The objective is twofold: first, to drive wedges between the Ukrainian and Jewish communities; and second, to rationalize its own continued aggression against Ukraine. In this campaign Moscow often relies on various proxies and surrogates.

The Ukrainian community in Canada, particularly in Edmonton, Alberta, has been subjected to a number of such false accusations in the media lately. So much so that the Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provincial Council has set up a special committee to respond to such charges.

First came a grossly distorted report titled "Canadian officials honor Nazi collaborators in Ukraine, angering Jewish groups," published in the *National Post*, flagship of Canada's largest newspaper chain - *PostMedia*. The article by David Pugliese, who has quite a reputation for writing anti-Ukrainian drivel, was subsequently reprinted in a number of other *PostMedia* papers. Using very selective snippets of information, Mr. Pugliese quoted Eduard Dolinsky, director-general of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee, to back up his contention that Jewish groups are supposedly angered by the ceremony. The Ukrainian Jewish Committee is a marginal group and not representative of Ukraine's Jewish community at large. Its president, Oleksandr Feldman, is a member of Parliament for the pro-Russian Our Land party that was created as a refuge for former members of the Party of Regions headed by Viktor Yanukovich. Mr. Dolinsky himself is a contributor to the separatist website, *Nova Rossiya Today*.

What Mr. Pugliese conveniently ignored was the fact that the ceremony of sanctification in Sambir of the future "Remember" Memorial Complex to victims of World War II in Ukraine (which was held a month before his report) was organized by the Kyiv City Jewish Committee and the Toronto-based Ukrainian Jewish Encounter. It was attended by the primate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, Patriarch Sviatoslav; the primate of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, Metropolitan Epiphaniy; and the chief rabbi of Ukraine, Yaakov Dov Bleich.

The ceremony was held to seal the compromise achieved earlier to move three crosses from the territory of the Jewish cemetery and to erect a monument to 17 young Ukrainians, members of the

Marco Levytsky may be contacted at ukrnews@shaw.ca.



Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex
The defaced bust of Roman Shukhevych in Edmonton. (Photo taken the morning after the act of vandalism).

Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), who were shot by the Nazis in July 1944. While two of the three crosses still remain at the Jewish cemetery, both parties are working to correct this.

The writer also ignored the fact that the mainstream organization of Jews in Ukraine, the Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine, issued a statement in which they expressed "full confidence in and support of the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter, the Kyiv City Jewish Community and Rabbi Yaakov Dov Bleich in their efforts to memorialize Nazi victims and organize the mourning ceremony in Sambir."

Two months later, on the eve of this year's Holodomor commemoration, a University of Alberta assistant lecturer wrote a Facebook post in which he went far beyond the usual refuge of contemporary genocide deniers, who claim the Holodomor was really a crop failure and not a genocide against Ukrainians because members of other nationalities died as well, and denied that there even was a famine. Instead, he said, it is a "myth" created by "Hitlerite Nazis," part of an "even larger myth that millions died in the Soviet Union." He added that that "in Canada, former Nazi collaborators and their spawn have long led the phony Holodomor campaign." Although the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and many other Ukrainian community organizations as well as members of the community at large, called upon the university to censure and fire Dougall MacDonald, it did not. "As a private citizen, Mr. MacDonald has the right to express his opinion, and others have the right to critique or debate that opinion," said Deputy Provost Wendy Rodgers. Many in the Ukrainian community wondered whether the result would have been different had he written a similar comment on the Holocaust.

Late last year, the *Edmonton Jewish News* attacked the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex for having a monument to the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) Commander-in-Chief Roman Shukhevych, who they claimed was active in the genocide of Jews. When the

(Continued on page 18)



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Oleh Sentsov...

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Sentsov amplified his position while in Canada in an interview with The Canadian Press in which he told reporter Mike Blanchfield that he feels responsible for "continuous Russian aggression," which is why, he said, "I can't stop."

As he wrote while incarcerated, "if we are supposed to become nails in the coffin of a tyrant, I'd like to be one of those nails," vowed Mr. Sentsov. "Just know that this particular one won't bend."

While in Canada, he hammered home his belief that continued global pressure on Russia will convince the country's citizens to drive Vladimir Putin from power because, as Mr. Sentsov told Mr. Blanchfield, the Russian president "only understands the language of force."

The filmmaker-turned-political activist's message received support on Parliament Hill, where Mr. Sentsov met with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland, a Ukrainian Canadian, who as foreign affairs minister had issued a statement in which she welcomed the release on September 7, 2019, of Mr. Sentsov and 34 other political prisoners held by Russia.

As Mr. Blanchfield reported, at the start of the February 4 sit-down between Mr. Trudeau and Mr. Sentsov, the prime minister praised his 6-foot-4, ethnic-Russian Ukrainian guest for his "strong voice" and "commitment to sharing [his] story in a way that advances the cause of a strong Ukraine."

During his time in Canada, from February 2 to 5, Mr. Sentsov attended an event organized by the League of Ukrainian Canadians in Toronto, and participated in a community meeting in Ottawa co-hosted by three Members of Parliament – including two of Ukrainian descent, Liberal Yvan Baker and Conservative James Bezan – and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress's Ottawa branch.

He spoke of the plight of the more than 90 Ukrainians – many of them Crimean Tatars – jailed in Crimea and Russia, along with the hundreds of Ukrainians imprisoned in the besieged eastern Ukrainian regions of Donetsk and Luhansk.

But Mr. Sentsov is not loquacious, as his Canadian hosts discovered.

"He is reserved and soft-spoken," said John Packer, an associate professor of law and director of the Human Rights Research and Education Center at the University of Ottawa. Along with the Chair of Ukrainian Studies, the center presented what was billed as "A Conversation with Oleh Sentsov" on February 5. Dominique Arel, who holds the Ukrainian Studies Chair, had the task of trying to elicit a dialogue with the filmmaker who relied on Russian-to-English translation during his appearance.

"He responded to questions with one word or a shrug of the shoulders," said Prof. Packer in an interview. "You've got this major figure that we're all on the edge of our seats to hear, and Dominique asked him three times to comment



Alexandra Chyczij, national president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, presenting Oleh Sentsov a memorable gift (pysanka gift coin) on behalf of the Ukrainian community.

on what he meant when he called for people to act with courage in his closing remarks before he was sentenced at his trial."

Mr. Sentsov, casually dressed in a sweater and jeans, didn't elaborate.

"Oleh is a very straight-speaking guy and not a man of many words – but his words are direct," said Prof. Packer. "So when Dominique asked him about what it means to be courageous, Oleh didn't know how else to describe it. It seems self-evident to him: you speak out and do the right thing."

In the documentary about the trial, Mr. Sentsov tells the court that "the greatest sin on earth is cowardice."

"I don't know what the point of having principles is if you aren't prepared to suffer or even to die for them," he says.

As Ukrainian World Congress President Paul Grod explained, Mr. Sentsov's North American visit was a matter of "taking his story to the road."

"He has a very powerful story. He's an ethnic Russian, who grew up in Crimea, who stood up for the Maidan – the Revolution of Dignity – and stood up for the cause of the Ukrainian people and stood up to Russian tyranny when they invaded Crimea, and paid the political price of being imprisoned for a long time," said Mr. Grod, former president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. "He wants to make sure that the world is aware of the current situation in Ukraine – that it's not a separatist movement, but a

Russian-engineered aggression meant to destabilize Ukraine."

Mr. Grod, who is on a list of 13 Canadians, among them Deputy Prime Minister Freeland, barred from entering Russia, described Mr. Sentsov as an "intellectually deep person" and recalled when he first met him at the 16th annual Yalta European Strategy (YES) meeting in Kyiv last September.

"He was the surprise speaker, and in fact spoke before the president of Ukraine, who when he got up to speak, said that he wanted to yield his time to somebody who is very important to the Ukrainian people and introduced Oleh Sentsov," said Mr. Grod, who was left with an impression similar to that of Prof. Packer.

"He's a pretty monotone speaker and not a very dynamic orator. He's not your Anthony Robbins-type of speaker, but he delivered a very powerful statement," Mr. Grod remembered. "He brought out this jar, and it was painted blue and yellow, and he said he took it everywhere, when he was transferred from prison to prison, and it was his symbol of hope. He presented this jar to [President Volodymyr] Zelenskyy and said, 'This is what kept me alive in Russian prisons and despite the fact the guards constantly took it away from me, I want you to have this so you remember what we the Ukrainians have gone through as a result of Russia's aggression.'"

Mr. Grod said Mr. Sentsov presents himself as a "pro-Ukrainian, pro-civil society, pro-human rights individual who is not beholden to any political interests."

And while he might have used his words sparingly in Canada, they packed considerable meaning.

"He's in favor of an inclusive, not uni-national Ukraine," explained Prof. Packer, who in 2018 was named the inaugural Neuberger-Jesin Professor of International Conflict Resolution at the University of Ottawa and in 1995-2004 served first as senior legal advisor and then the first director of the Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's High Commissioner on National Minorities.

"I worked a lot in Crimea, and I don't see how you could be otherwise. Aside from Crimean Tatars, you've had Armenians, Bulgarians and Greeks in Crimea historically for thousands of years."

"I'm not sure people grasped what he was saying. But he's really anti-authoritarian – and a proud Ukrainian in the civic sense of the word," said Prof. Packer.

"Oleh is a person of an uncommon courage – but he is also reminding us of the necessity of it," added Prof. Packer, harkening back to the words of 18th-century Irish philosopher and British parliamentarian Edmund Burke who said that "the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Mr. Sentsov, said Prof. Packer, is "a flesh-and-blood example of a good man doing something by standing up and speaking the truth. And he does it without fanfare – just walking the talk – and not even talking much, which is very impressive in its simplicity and clarity."

"The world needs people like him."

THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF UNA BRANCHES OF PHILADELPHIA, PA

announces that its

Annual District Committee Meeting

will be held on

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 6 p.m.

at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center
700 N Cedar Rd., Jenkintown, Pennsylvania 19046

Obligated to attend the organizing meeting
are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates
and two delegates from the following Branches:

10, 83, 153, 162, 163, 173, 247, 362, 397, 501

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Members of the UNA General Assembly

DISTRICT COMMITTEE
Maria Luba Walchuk, Chairperson
Roksolana Luciw, Secretary



THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF UNA BRANCHES OF THE NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

announces that its

Annual District Committee Meeting

will be held on

Saturday, March 28, 2020, at 2:00 pm

in the lower hall of the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford, Inc,
961 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06114

Obligated to attend the organizing meeting
are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates
and two delegates from the following Branches:

59, 67, 206, 238, 241, 253, 254, 277, 387, 414

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting

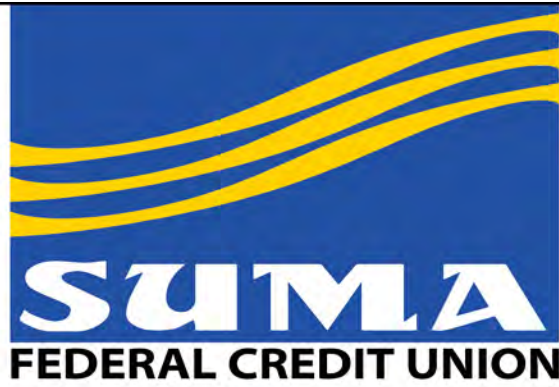
MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:


Yuriy Symczyk - UNA National Secretary
Gloria Horbaty - UNA Advisor

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Myron Kolinsky, District Chairman
Christine D. Melnyk, Vice Chairwoman
Bohdan Doboszczak, Secretary
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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Palatine holds memorial evening in honor of "Nebesna Sotnia"

by Maria Korkatsch-Groszko

PALATINE, Ill. – The Ukrainian community of Chicago and Illinois suburbs gathered at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Palatine on February 8 to commemorate the "Heavenly Hundred" ("Nebesna Sotnia") heroes that perished at the onset of the Euro-Maidan Revolution or Revolution of Dignity in Ukraine in 2014.

The event was initiated by the Organization for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Branch 31 (Roman Holowka, president); in cooperation with the School of Ukrainian Studies (Iryna Tsenglevych, director) at the Ukrainian American Youth Association, Dmytro Vitovsky Branch; American Ukrainian Youth Association, Dmytro Vitovsky Branch (Myron Wasiunec, president); and the Women's Association for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, Olena Pchilka Branch (Nadiya Hnatyuk, president).

Ukrainian American Veterans Post 32, under the direction of Commander Maj. Peter Bencak, posted colors. Representatives of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America-Illinois Division, Suburban Council of Ukrainian Voters, St. Joseph the Betrothed Ukrainian Catholic Church, Genocide Famine Foundation-U.S.A. Inc., St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, and Branch 8 of the Organization for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine honored the defenders of Ukraine with their attendance at this important solemn observance. In addition, Oleh Ivakhniuk, former member of a volunteer battalion in the Donbas, was acknowledged for his service. He is being sponsored by St. Joseph the Betrothed Ukrainian Catholic Church for his 29th surgery and rehabilitation under the auspices of Revived Soldiers Ukraine.



The choir of the American Ukrainian Youth Association of Palatine, Ill.

The panakhyda (memorial service) was officiated by Ukrainian Catholic Bishop Venedykt Aleksyichuk of St. Nicholas Eparchy; participating clergy were the: Very Rev. Victor Poliarny (pastor) and the Rev. Mykhailo Leschyshyn, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral; the Rev. Mykhailo Kuzma (pastor), the Rev. Yaroslav Mendyuk and the Rev. Andriy Kuzniak, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Byzantine Catholic Church. The responses were sung by the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Choir under the direction of Taras Rudenko.

Bishop Venedykt, in his brief remarks, stated: "These hundred were not military trained individuals, these were regu-

lar Ukrainian civilians from the many walks of life, joined by Georgians and Belarusians, who made a decision that this was the time not to back away in fear, but, rather to move forward against the force of Russian domination of Ukraine and toward an independent, sovereign and democratic society... They were martyrs for Ukraine and all Ukrainians... He who dies in battle, forever lives in our hearts."

Remarks were delivered by Ukraine's Consul Andriy Danyluk; Ihor Diaczun, President of UCCA-Illinois; Bohdan Yurynets of ODFFU Branch 31; and Rostyslav Saciuk of

(Continued on page 17)

Ukrainian Student Club at Syracuse U. marks day of the Heavenly Hundred



The Ukrainian Club of Syracuse University at the screening of the documentary "Winter on Fire" (from left): Taras Colopelnic, Arsen Khanin, Linh Nguyen Phan Bao, Pat Burak (faculty adviser), Yuliia Popyk, Sami Al Abed (president) and Dmytro Kuchirka.

by Lida Hvozda Buniak

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – On February 20, the Day of the Heavenly Hundred, the Ukrainian Club of Syracuse University planted 100 Ukrainian flags with informational placards on university grounds to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the fallen Euro-Maidan activists who lost their lives at the hands of the Berkut special (riot) police force. These heroes of the Euro-Maidan are now known worldwide as the Heavenly Hundred.

The Euro-Maidan, or Revolution of Dignity, began as a student protest at Independence Square in the fall of 2013. Throughout the winter of 2014, hundreds and thousands continued to gather in this public square to protest the abrupt cancellation of an Association Agreement with

the European Union (EU) by the pro-Russian president of Ukraine at that time, Viktor Yanukovich.

February 20, 2014, was the most violent day of the confrontation between civilians and the Berkut, when protesters en route to Ukraine's Parliament fell victims to a shootout on Instytutska Street by barricaded riflemen.

The members of the Ukrainian Club of Syracuse University also marked Heavenly Hundred Day by showing the award-winning 2015 documentary "Winter on Fire," which tells the compelling story of the 93-day civic movement that ousted President Yanukovich. The film depicts the extraordinary courage and determination of a diverse yet united populace that included Russian speakers, Ukrainian speakers, Muslims, Christians and Jews.

The diversity of Maidan participants is reflected in this academic year's Ukrainian Club members from Ukraine and Romania: Lin Nguen, Yuliia Popyk, Dima Kuchirka and Sami Al-Abed from Kyiv; Zhanna Lotkina from Kharkiv; Arsen Khanin from Ternopil; and Taras Colopelnic from Sighetu Marmatiei, Romania.

Syracuse University brings thousands of international students to campus every year. According to Prof. Patricia Burak, the Ukrainian Club's faculty advisor, "Students from Ukraine have traditionally sought out each other, and the Ukrainian student club provides a locus for these interests."

The Ukrainian Club was originally founded in the fall of 1994 by Gregory Lisnyczyj, who is now the vice-president of the Syracuse branch of the Ukrainian

Congress committee of America. Accredited by the university the following year, the club initiated numerous events with various guest speakers, among them professors from Kyiv Mohyla Academy and Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S., Yuri Shcherbak. Mr. Lisnyczyj noted: "I think, most importantly, we brought a bond between students that still lasts today."

Mr. Lisnyczyj's thoughts ring true, for 26 years later on a visible snowy knoll, the significance of the Heavenly Hundred was made known thanks to the efforts of students from the Ukrainian Club of Syracuse U.

Lida Hvozda Buniak is president of the Syracuse branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.



One hundred Ukrainian flags were placed in remembrance of the Heavenly Hundred on the knoll between the Student Center (behind construction on the left) and the Newhouse School of Public Communication, on the main pedestrian pathway to the campus. The majestic building in the background is the original building erected on the Syracuse University campus in 1870, the Hall of Languages.



SOCCER

Shakhtar advances to Round of 16

Shakhtar Donetsk advances to the UEFA Europa League Round of 16 against Wolfsburg, Germany, with matches scheduled for March 12 (Germany) and 19 (Ukraine), following the draw in Nyon, Switzerland, on February 28. Shakhtar won against Benfica in the Round of 32, having won 2-1 in the first-leg on February 20, and tied 3-3 with the Portuguese club on February 27. A goal aggregate of 5-4 Shakhtar earned its spot in the next round.

YOUTH OLYMPICS

Four medals at Youth Olympics

Ukraine's junior hockey teams won gold and silver at the third Winter Youth Olympic Games on January 9-22 in Lausanne, Switzerland. The 3x3 boys' "green" team won gold, and the "red" team won silver. Volodymyr Troshkin was named player of the tournament and Denis Pasko was named vice-champion. Green won against red in the final 10-4. Ukraine's figure skaters Sofiia Nesterova and Artem Darenskyi won bronze medals in National Olympic Committee mixed pairs skating (Team Vision, 18 points), finishing in seventh place overall. Freestyle skier Orest Kovalenko won bronze in the big air competition, with a final score of 179.5 points.

DEAFLYMPICS

Ukraine third in medal standings

Ukraine finished in third place in the medal standings with 11 medals (four gold, four silver and three bronze) at the 2019 Winter Deaflympics on December 12-21 in Valtellina-Valchiavenna, Italy. The competition included events in Alpine skiing, snowboard, cross-country skiing, ice hockey, chess and curling. Dmytro Mazhaiev and Andriy Andriyishyn won gold (13:24.0 seconds) and silver (13:24.1 seconds), respectively, in the men's individual 5-kilometer cross-country skiing race. Mazhaiev also won gold in the men's 10-kilometer cross-country skiing race (26:37.9 seconds) and Yelizaveta Nopriienko won bronze in the women's 5-kilometer cross-country skiing race (15:47.4 seconds). Mazhaiev won gold (39:10.8 seconds) in the men's 6.6-kilometer pursuit and Ruslan Denysenko (39:56.8 seconds) won bronze in the same event. In the women's 3.3-kilometer pursuit and Nopriienko won bronze (26:02.0 seconds). Ukraine, represented by Anastasiia Lavryk and Volodymyr Pyshniak, won silver in the team sprint free (17:21.0 seconds). Pavlo Mandziuk won silver in the men's sprint classic (2:44.50 seconds). Ukraine's women's chess team won gold and Tatiana Baklanova won silver in the women's blitz chess tournament. Ukraine's men's curling team stayed alive until it lost 6-8 against South Korea in the 14th round; the women's team lost 6-11 against Canada in the sixth round. Snowboarders competed in the giant slalom, but did not medal.

SNOOKER

Boyko wins silver medal at Worlds

Yulian Boyko won silver at the world snooker championships (WSF Open) in Malta on January 4-17. In the semifinal, Boyko won 4-1 against Ross Muir of Scotland, and in the final, Boyko lost 3-5 against Ashleigh Hahilli of England.

ATHLETICS

Two golds at World Athletics Indoor Tour

High jumper Yaroslava Mahuchikh won gold on February 15 in Glasgow with a

height of 1.93 meters as part of the World Athletics Indoor Tour. This season, Mahuchikh's jump included 2.02 meters in Karlsruhe, Germany. Long jumper Maryna Bekh-Romanchuk won gold in Glasgow on February 15 and Lievin, France, on February 19, both times jumping 6.90 meters. She had her best jump this season in Torino, Italy, (6.96 meters).

Four medals for Ukraine in Karlsruhe

Maryna Bekh-Romanchuk won gold in the women's long jump (6.92 meters) at the IAAF Indoor Meeting in Karlsruhe, Germany, on January 31 through February 2. High jumpers Yaroslava Mahuchikh and Yuliya Levchenko won gold and silver, respectively, in the women's high jump (2.02 meters and 1.99 meters). In the men's long jump, Vladyslav Mazur won silver (7.84 meters).

Mahuchikh sets record at U-20 meet

Yaroslava Mahuchikh won gold in high jump at the U-20 Demianiuk Memorial on January 18 in Lviv. Her third attempted jump of 2.01 meters, set a world U-20 record. In the men's high jump, Oleh Doroshchuk won gold with 2.21 meters.

JUDO

One silver, three bronze int Warsaw

Karo Manrandian (66 kg) won silver at the European Judo Open in Warsaw on February 29 through March 1. In the final, Maradian lost against Carmine Maria Di Loreto of Italy, and in the semifinal, the Ukrainian won against Thomas Macrez of France. Artem Bubyk (81 kg), Anton Savyt'skiy (100 kg) and Anna Surova (52 kg) won bronze medals. The tournament attracted 407 athletes from 40 countries; and Ukraine was represented by 42 male and seven female athletes.

Nhabali wins silver in Dusseldorf

Quedjau Nhabali (90 kg) won silver at the Grand Slam in Dusseldorf, Germany, on February 21-23. In the final, the Ukrainian won against Davlat Bobonov of Uzbekistan in just under one minute (0.59 seconds). Ukraine was represented by six athletes (four men, two women) at the tournament that attracted 659 athletes from 115 countries.

Tsurkan wins silver at cadet European Cup

Igor Tsurkan (66 kg) won silver at the Cadet European Judo Cup in Follonica, Italy, on February 7-9. Tsurkan lost the final against Nikolai Tsvetkov of Russia, but won the semifinal against Maxime Glatier of France. The tournament attracted 485 athletes from 25 countries.

Bilodid wins Grand Slam in Paris

Daria Bilodid (48 kg) won gold against Wakana Koga of Japan in the final at the Grand Slam in Paris. Georgii Zantaraia (66 kg) won bronze against Bogdan Iadov of Ukraine in the third-place match. Ukraine was represented by 11 athletes (six men and five women). The tournament attracted 680 athletes from 115 countries.

Khachatryan wins silver in Sofia

Hevorh Khachatryan (73 kg) won silver in the European Judo Open in Sofia, Bulgaria, on January 31 through February 2. The Ukrainian won the semifinal against Mickael Dubois of France, but lost the final against Salvador Cases Roca of Spain.

Khammo wins bronze in Tel-Aviv

Yakiv Khammo (+100 kg) won bronze at the Grand Prix Tel Aviv 2020 on January 24-26. In the bronze medal match, Khammo defeated Stephan Hegyi of

Austria. The event, with 83 countries represented, had 545 competitors.

KARATE

Terliuha wins gold in Dubai

Anzhelika Terliuha (55 kg) won gold at the Premier League in Dubai on February 15. With the win, Terliuha qualifies for a spot at the Summer Tokyo Olympic Games. During the tournament, she won against competitors from Chile, China, Poland, Turkey and Egypt.

Terliuha wins silver in Paris

Anzhelika Terliuha won silver in the girls 55-kg kumite division at the Karate1 Premier League championship in Paris. Terliuha won the semifinal against Hulmira Ussenova, and in the final she lost against Anna Chernyshovi of Russia. Terliuha was named athlete of the month for January by the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, and her coach also received the same recognition in the coach's category.

POWERLIFTING

Ukraine medals at World Cup

Dmytro Chumack (109 kg) won gold at the World Cup of weightlifting in Rome on January 31 through February 2. He lifted a total of 405 kg, (180 kg in the snatch, and 225 kg in the clean and jerk). Iryna Dekha won gold in the women's 76-kg division with 106 kg in the snatch and 130 kg in the clean and jerk. Silver medalists were Kamila Konotop (55 kg; 90 kg in the snatch and 106 kg in the clean and jerk) and Anastasiya Lysenko (87 kg; 124 kg in the snatch and 142 kg in the clean and jerk).

CURLING

Ukraine opens its first curling rink

The National Olympic Committee of Ukraine and its president, Serhiy Bubka, officially opened the first specialized curling arena in Ukraine on February 5 in Kyiv. Also participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony was Oleksiy Perevezetsev, president of the Ukrainian Curling Federation, who is a member of the NOC executive committee. Mr. Bubka said the rink will solve several issues at once: Ukrainian athletes will have good training conditions, the country will be able to host prestigious curling tournaments, and average citizens will have an opportunity to try their hand at the sport. Mr. Bubka also ceremoniously threw the first stone to inaugurate the rink. Mr. Perevezetsev thanked the NOC of Ukraine for its support and assistance in making this arena available to Ukraine's athletes.

BASKETBALL

Mykhailiuk a rising star in Detroit

In a season filled with many losses (players lost to injury and games lost without those players), the trade for Sviatoslav Mykhailiuk by Detroit has emerged as a clear win. On track to be one of the Pistons' core pieces as far as shooting accuracy, creating plays off the dribble and running pick and rolls, the very coachable Ukrainian was named to the World Team for the NBA's All-Star weekend Rising Stars Challenge. Through games of February 5, the second-year pro has seen action in 46 games with a 43.3 percent field goal percentage, 42.5 percent three-point percentage, 85.2 percent at free throw and 8.9 points per game. In January, when he saw more playing time due to the team's injuries, he averaged 13-plus points in 29 minutes per game. Mykhailiuk is a different player these days than he was even a couple of months ago, mostly at the defensive end. More minutes

mean more confidence, which translates into a stronger comfort level and greater productivity.

WRESTLING

Novikov wins gold at European championships

Semen Novikov (87 kg) won gold in the Greco-Roman final against Victor Lawrence of Hungary at the European Wrestling Championships on February 10-16 in Rome. Ukraine won 13 medals – two gold, three silver and eight bronze. Lunur Temirov (63 kg) and Mykola Kuchmii (63 kg) won bronze medals in Greco-Roman, and Erik Arushanian (65 kg) and Vasyl Mykhailov (79 kg) won bronze in freestyle. In women's freestyle, Yuliya Tkach (62 kg) won gold; Solomiia Vynnyk (55 kg) and Alina Akobiia (55 kg) won silver medals; and Anhelina Lysak (59 kg), Iryna Koliadenko (65 kg), Alla Cherkasova (68 kg) and Alina Berezhna (72 kg) won bronze. Ukraine's women's team finished in second place in the team standings with 155 points.

SKYDIVING

Ukrainians set record in group jump

Four Ukrainian skydivers Illya Balashov (Kharkiv), Maryna Mchedleshvili (Kyiv), Oleksandr Pieliekhov (Kharkiv) and Yaroslav Shtyker (Kharkiv) set a new record in group parachute acrobatics on February 13-14 by the International Aviation Federation. The record-setting jump had 130 parachutists from 28 countries in a new "large format in group parachute acrobatics in free fall."

BALLROOM DANCING

Ukraine pairs win gold and silver in Lviv

Serhiy Yefremov and Viktoriya Antoniuk won gold in the Latin-American program and Andriy Zinchenko and Kateryna Baisarova won silver in the European program at the European Championship of Sports Dancing in Lviv on February 14-17. Based on the Ukrainian team members' performance, it is expected that they will advance to world competitions and higher levels of competition.

SPORTS MINISTRY

Levchuk to head new State Sports Agency

President of the Ukrainian Karate Federation Serhiy Levchuk was appointed head of the State Sports Agency. The State Sports Agency will implement policies of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, including preparation for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, sports reform, construction of modern sports infrastructure and others.

BIATHLON

Gold, silver and bronze in Belarus

Valj Semerenko, Yuliia Dzhima, Artem Pryma and Dmytro Pidruchniy won gold in the mixed relay (1:11:32.1 seconds) at the European Championships in Minsk-Raubichi, Belarus, on February 26-27. Olena Pidhrushna won silver in the women's super sprint final (16:34.6 seconds), and Pidruchniy won bronze in the men's super sprint final (14:13.3 seconds). Anastasiya Merkus'hyna and Ruslan Tkalenko won bronze in the single mixed relay (47:24.0 seconds).

SHOOTING

Second-place in standings at Euros

Ukraine finished in second place in the medal standings (seven gold, five silver and

(Continued on page 13)

SportsShorts

(Continued from page 12)

five bronze medals) with a total of 17 at the European Shooting Championship 10-meter (rifle, pistol and running target) on February 23 through March 2 in Wroclaw, Poland. The event is hosted by the European Shooting Confederation. Gold medalists were Galina Avramenko (women's 10-meter running target mixed), Hlib Kihitov (junior men's 10-meter air pistol), Kristina Hilevych (junior women's 10-meter running target), Marharyta Tarkanii (junior women's 10-meter running target mixed), Viktoriya Rybovalova, Avramenko and Valentyna Honcharova (women's 10-meter running target), Denys Babliuk, Danylo Danilenko, Andrii Drachuk (junior men's 10-meter running target), and Babliuk, Danilenko, Drachuk (junior men's 10-meter running target). Silver medalists included Oleh Tsarkov (10-meter air rifle), Rybovalova (10-meter running target mixed), Babliuk (junior men's 10-meter running target mixed), Avramenko, Rybovalova, Honcharova (women's team 10-meter running target), and Avramenko and Ihor Kizyma (mixed team 10-meter running target). Bronze medalists were: Rybovalova (women's 10-meter running target), Babliuk (junior men's 10-meter running target), Marharyta Tarkanii (junior women's 10-meter running target), Anastasiia Zhuchenko (junior women's 10-meter running target mixed) and Rybovalova-Danilenko (mixed team 10-meter running target).

FREESTYLE SKIING

Mokhnatska wins gold in Almaty

Nadia Mokhnatska won gold in freestyle skiing at the FIS Freestyle Skiing World Cup in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on February 27-28. This was Mokhnatska's first medal in her freestyle pro career.

HOCKEY

Hawryluk joins Ottawa Senators

The Ottawa Senators claimed forward Jayce Hawryluk off waivers from the Florida Panthers on February 17. The 24-year-old had one goal and two assists in 15 games with the Panthers this season. In six games with the AHL's Springfield Thunderbirds he tallied one assist. Senators G.M. Pierre Dorion described the young Ukrainian as "a highly competitive two-way forward whose addition we're looking forward to seeing in our line-up. He's an energetic, puck-pursuit-type player who should mesh well with our current roster." In his first six games with his new club, Jayce notched three assists.

Injury forces Brodziak to retire

His body of work was extremely impressive as a seventh-round draft pick playing over 900 NHL games until a damaged piece of that body told Kyle Brodziak it was time to retire. A disc degeneration caused him to fail his camp physical and step away from the game at age 35. He hurt his back at an Edmonton Oilers morning skate on April 1, 2019, when shooting pucks. The back never recovered, not even with a summer of rest. Brodziak will be paid his \$1.15 million salary in 2019-2020, which eases the pain for his wife and three children. Edmonton put him on injured reserve, then long-term injury status for salary cap reasons. He skated in his first NHL game on October 15, 2005, in Calgary and played his final NHL game on March 30, 2019. In 2005-2019 he totaled 917 games, 129 goals, 167 assists, 296 points and 462 penalty minutes. In 57 playoff games he added 5-17-22-16.

Red Wings select Timashov

The Detroit Red Wings claimed Dmytro

Timashov off waivers from Toronto on February 24 and finally got him in their line-up the following Saturday. Timashov had remained in Toronto because of immigration issues and was able to make his debut in Ottawa on February 29, a 4-3 Detroit loss. The Red Wings are intrigued by what the Ukrainian forward, 23, could add to their line-up. In 39 games with the Leafs, Timashov had four goals, five assists (nine points) and a +1 rating. He is a 5-foot-10, 192-pound left wing who played on the fourth line. He will get a bigger opportunity in Detroit, where his skills could have room to flourish. He had 49 points (14 goals) in 72 games for the AHL Marlies last season, then added 10 points (four goals) in 13 playoff games. He is strong on his skates, brings physicality, but also has good hands and can create plays. Timashov wanted out of Toronto with the lack of playing time and opportunities, so a fresh start with Detroit may kick start his production. He is a restricted free agent this summer who will get a long look in Detroit where roster spots are available for the taking.

Bellows scores in NHL debut

When he realized he was putting too much pressure on himself and was able to alter his mindset entering his second pro year, Kieffer Bellows went back to moving his feet, utilizing his deft puck awareness and winning battles in small places. Bridgeport's leading scorer (16 goals, 24 points) received a call-up from the parent New York Islanders and debuted on February 4. He proceeded to tally his first NHL point on a secondary assist on Derick Brassard's game-tying goal in the second period. Kieffer logged some nine minutes of ice time on 13 shifts while playing on Brassard's third forward line. In his second game, Bellows recorded the first two goals of his NHL career - including the game-winner - to propel his Islanders to a 5-3 win over the Los Angeles Kings on February 6. His first was a second-period shot off a pass from Anthony Beauvillier to bring the Isles to within a goal (3-2), his second when Kings goalie Jonathan Quick got caught too far out of the net. At an odd angle to the right of the goal, the rookie threw it on net and the puck trickled in as the decisive marker. The Islanders offense was in need of a boost and the club believes the 21-year-old Bellows' scoring capability can provide a necessary jolt as the team makes its playoff push. Two goals and three points in his first two NHL games was a most solid start.

Pelech lost for rest of the season

The New York Islanders lost the services of stalwart defenseman Adam Pelech for at least the remainder of the regular season when he suffered an Achilles' tendon injury during pre-game warm-ups on January 2. The Ukrainian was seeing regular duty on the team's top defense pairing with Ryan Pulock. Prognosis for recovery was approximately four months, which could mean no availability until a potential third playoff round. Pelech, 25, had one goal and nine points in 38 games this season.

Pysyk steps up with hat-trick

Coming into the game against Toronto on February 3 Florida Panther Mark Pysyk had scored three goals as a defenseman. Shifted to forward because of injuries, Pysyk scored twice in the third period to complete the first hat trick of his NHL career and help the Panthers to a 5-3 victory. He opened the scoring by taking a pass from Mike Matheson and sending a quick one-timer past Frederik Andersen from in close for a 1-0 lead in the first period. Down 3-1 after three consecutive Maple Leafs' tallies, Florida came back with three goals in a row of its own, starting with a second Pysyk goal at 2:20 of the third period. Mike Hoffman had the game-winner at 10:13 and Pysyk finished off his hat trick with an emp-

ty-net marker with under a minute left. Florida's fourth line, comprising Ukrainians Pysyk and Jayce Hawryluk plus Denis Malgin, came up big with Pysyk spending a lot of time in front of the opposition's net. United as a line for the first time all season, the trio brought a ton of energy to the ice while combining for four points, five hits and three takeaways. Enjoying a spike in his offensive numbers since the transition from defense to forward, Pysyk set a career high in goals with seven (four as a forward). The 28-year-old dual threat had scored nine points (5G, 4A) in his last 11 games.

Pateryn back on Wild defense

After undergoing bilateral core muscle repair surgery on October 1, 2019, Greg Pateryn's season finally got going on January 12 in a 4-1 loss to Vancouver. Pateryn suffered through a couple of setbacks in his return from surgery, which had an initial timeline of six weeks. He was forced to watch the first 44 games of 2019-2020, feeling frustrated while itching to take advantage of his opportunity to get back on the ice. The 6-foot-3, 220-pound veteran of 248 NHL games is a classic defensive defenseman with the size and willingness to engage in combat in front of the net. His return to the line-up saw him receive 12.5 minutes of ice time with four hits, one blocked shot and an even plus/minus.

Tkachuk plays in All-Star Game

Matthew Tkachuk of the Calgary Flames was the team's lone representative at the 2020 NHL All-Star Game in St. Louis on January 25. This was Tkachuk's first time playing in the All-Star Game, and it was recognition of his evolution from notorious pest to complete player. In his fourth season with Calgary, he was named an alternate captain at the start of the 2018-2019 season, and showed how a few years' experience in the league has refined his skill set.


He cut his penalty minutes from 105 in his rookie year to 61 the following year and now is at 34 in the 2019-2020 season. In 29 games this season, Tkachuk has tallied 15 goals and 23 assists, and tied for the team lead in points with 38.

Makar sets franchise scoring record

Cale Makar, in his 40th game of the 2019-2020 season, broke the franchise record for goals scored by a rookie defenseman when he recorded his 11th of the season, breaking a 2-2 tie for the Colorado Avalanche and helping the club to a 5-3 win over the St. Louis Blues on January 18. The 21-year-old moved past John-Michael Liles (10 goals in 79 games in the 2003-2004 season) for the first in goals by a rookie defenseman in Avalanche/Quebec Nordiques history. The Avalanche have 34 matches remaining in the season. Makar tied the record against the Detroit Redwings on January 20 to tie the franchise record (Bruce Bell's 37 points in 1984-1985), and Makar was eight points shy of breaking Bell's franchise record for most assists by a first-year blueliner (31 assists, 1984-1985).

U-20 team wins bronze

Ukraine's U-20 men's team won bronze in the International Ice Hockey Federation Division 1, Group B world championships in Kyiv on December 18. Ukraine won 7-3 against Estonia, won 2-1 against Italy on December 17, lost 1-3 against France on December 15, won 3-0 against Poland on December 14 and lost 1-5 against Hungary on December 12. Artur Ohandzhanian was awarded the best goalkeeper of the tournament with a 90.98 percentage of saves per game average, allowing an average of 2.37 goals per game. Ukraine finished with a record of 3-2 after five matches played, with 14 goals for and 12 against. Hungary advanced to Division 1, Group A, and Italy was relegated to the lower division.



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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

network affiliated with pro-Russian lawmaker Viktor Medvedchuk, whose daughter's godfather is Russian President Vladimir Putin, according to the deputy head of the Presidential Office, Kyrylo Tymoshenko, who also took part in the presentation. (RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service, with reporting by Ukrayinska Pravda and Hromadske)

Prisoner swap may be held in March

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's chief of staff, Andriy Yermak, said Moscow and Kyiv intend to carry out another prisoner swap later this month. Mr. Yermak made the comments on March 1 following a meeting in Minsk with Dmitry Kozak, Russia's chief negotiator to peace talks in eastern Ukraine, according to a statement posted on the Ukrainian president's website. Mr. Zelenskyy has made ending the nearly six-year war in eastern Ukraine that has killed more than 13,000 people a priority since coming to power in May. President Zelenskyy and Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed in December 2019 to a ceasefire in eastern Ukraine and additional swaps of prisoners. Mr. Zelenskyy has already overseen two prisoner exchanges during his first nine months in office. In

September 2019, Russia and Ukraine each exchanged 35 prisoners. In December 2019, Ukraine turned over 124 prisoners to the Russian-backed rebels in exchange for 76 Ukrainians they held. (RFE/RL)

Marie Yovanovitch signs book deal

Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch, who played a key role in the House of Representatives hearings on the impeachment of President Donald Trump last November, has signed a deal to write a book about her career. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt told the Associated Press news agency on February 21 that it had struck a deal with Ms. Yovanovitch to publish her planned memoir. The book, currently untitled, will focus on her long diplomatic career, in which she served in places such as Kyiv and Mogadishu, Somalia. It is expected to be published in early 2021. Ambassador Yovanovitch was abruptly recalled from Kyiv in May 2019 following an intense campaign to oust her that was coordinated by Mr. Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani. After her recall following a 33-year career in the foreign service, Ms. Yovanovitch retired from the State Department in January. In November 2019, Ms. Yovanovitch testified before the House impeachment inquiry into President Trump's actions with Ukraine, accusing Mr. Giuliani of organizing an "irregular chan-

nel" of diplomacy in Ukraine that was aimed, in part, at promoting Mr. Trump's domestic political interests. "Shady interests the world over have learned how little it takes to remove an American ambassador who does not give them what they want," the 61-year-old Ms. Yovanovitch told the inquiry. Mr. Trump denied any wrongdoing and was acquitted in a historic Senate impeachment trial. Ms. Yovanovitch was appointed U.S. ambassador to Kyiv in 2016 by President Barack Obama. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by AP)

One soldier killed, four wounded

One Ukrainian soldier was killed and four were wounded during an artillery attack on March 3 in the eastern part of the country, where a conflict with Russia-backed militants is in its sixth year. Ukraine's military reported that mortar rockets were fired on Ukrainian positions and high-caliber machine guns were also used. Fifteen Ukrainian service members were killed in January-February of this year and more than 13,000 people have been killed in the conflict since March 2014. The war in Ukraine has uprooted more than 1.5 million people from their homes in the easternmost regions of Donetsk and Luhansk. (RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service)

Poroshenko: Opposition being persecuted

Former Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has called on his successor, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, to stop "persecuting" the opposition and instead carry out his presidential duties. Speaking before he was questioned at the State Bureau of Investigation (DBR) on February 28, Mr. Poroshenko told his supporters that a judge of Kyiv's Shevchenko district court had ruled to close the case he was summoned to be questioned about, as there were no elements of crime found. Mr. Poroshenko also compared Mr. Zelenskyy with former Russia-friendly President Viktor Yanukovich, who was toppled in deadly anti-government protests in February 2014. Mr. Poroshenko was summoned for questioning as a witness in a case about alleged interference into court activities. "Volodymyr Oleksandrovych [Zelenskyy], do your job as president. Defend the country, strengthen the world's solidarity, help solve social problems of the people and do not turn into a Yanukovich. He had a very bad past and his future doesn't look rosy either. Leave judicial and law enforcement systems alone as their goal is to be independent," Mr. Poroshenko said, adding that his

questioning looked like an attempt by President Zelenskyy's team to distract attention away from the country's social problems. Mr. Poroshenko's lawyer, Ilya Novikov, said later in a televised interview to Pryamyi television that his client was questioned for six hours. The DBR had asked prosecutors to be allowed to forcibly bring Mr. Poroshenko in for questioning, but the former president arrived on his own. Mr. Poroshenko, who is currently a national deputy in the Verkhovna Rada, was questioned as a witness several times last year in cases looking into several other investigations launched after he failed to win a second term as president. The DBR said on January 20 that it was looking into 13 possible cases where Mr. Poroshenko or his associates were implicated. (RFE/RL)

Semena removed from "terrorist" list

RFE/RL contributor Mykola Semena – a journalist who was convicted of separatism in Ukraine's Russia-occupied Crimea region before a court there expunged his criminal record – has been removed from Russia's list of "terrorists and extremists." The news was reported on February 27 by Graty, a Ukrainian non-profit that receives funding from the Czech People in Need foundation to monitor judicial and law enforcement issues. Mr. Semena, 69, is listed in the section of individuals who have been "removed" from the list on the website of the Russian Federal Financial Monitoring Service. Rights groups in Ukraine say that, in its current form, the terrorist and extremist list is an additional method of pressuring people Russia deems objectionable because, contrary to the principle of presumption of innocence, it allows authorities to impose sanctions before court decisions are made. The Crimean journalist is currently seeking medical care in Kyiv for a heart condition and damaged spine. In 2017, Mr. Semena was convicted of separatism and handed a two-and-a-half-year suspended sentence together with a ban from "public activity" for three years. On January 14, a court in Crimea's capital, Symferopol, ruled to prematurely terminate Mr. Semena's sentence period and expunge his criminal record. The journalist has said he has plans to "indefinitely" stay in mainland Ukraine. "As long as part of Ukraine is occupied, I cannot consider it my home. My family thinks the same," he said of Crimea, which Russia invaded and annexed in 2014. (RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service)

(Continued on page 15)

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MAY 1, 2020

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

Former Aidar member detained by Greece

A Ukrainian who founded and led a volunteer battalion in eastern Ukraine has been detained by Greek authorities while crossing over from Bulgaria on March 2 with his pregnant wife and 9-year-old child. Serhiy Melnychuk, 48, posted a video on Facebook from the alleged detention center in Greece, saying that his arrest was based on a notice requested from Russia through Interpol, the world's international police force. A search through Interpol didn't reveal Mr. Melnychuk's name as a wanted person but not all notices are made public. In early 2014, Mr. Melnychuk established and led the Aidar Battalion, which was composed mostly of natives of the easternmost Luhansk region. Aidar fought Russian-backed militants that year and took part in liberating towns and cities in the industrial region. Before it was incorporated into the armed forces in September 2014, Mr. Melnychuk and the battalion he led faced allegations of human rights abuses, looting and marauding in the early phases of the war in which more than 13,000 people have been killed. He was voted into Parliament in 2014 with the Radical Party, then headed by Oleh Lyashko, whose political movement has no seats in the current legislature. Mr.

Melnychuk is from Ukraine's west-central region of Vinnytsia. He said in his Facebook post that he was detained for unknown reasons. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by Hromadske and Ukrayinska Pravda)

More U.S. Javelins for Ukraine

The U.S. Defense Department has signed a new contract for the production of Javelin anti-tank missile systems for partner countries, including Ukraine, Ukrinform reported on March 3. The U.S. Army contract is dated February 28, is worth more than \$18 million, and was awarded to Raytheon and Lockheed Martin, with work to be performed in Arizona. The category of the award is for "guided missile and space vehicle manufacturing." It has an estimated completion date of June 25, 2020. The beneficiary countries listed as part of the award include Georgia, Ukraine, Australia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Indonesia, Ireland, Jordan, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Qatar, Turkey and United Arab Emirates. The State Department in October approved the sale of \$39.2 million in military equipment to Ukraine, including a second batch of Javelins, the world's most effective anti-tank missiles, to help Kyiv in its ongoing six-year war against Russia-backed separatists. The deal reportedly included 150 Javelin missiles and 10 launch units, adding to the 210 missiles and 37 launchers that Ukraine bought from the United States in 2018. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by Ukrinform)



With deep sadness we announce that our beloved mother, grandmother and aunt

Alexandria Morawsky (née Gnyp)

was welcomed into the arms of Our Lord after a prolonged illness on February 21, 2020 at the age of 83. Alexandria was born in Ukraine in 1936.



A Divine Liturgy was held at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Campbell Hall, New York on Tuesday, February 25. Alexandria was laid to rest next to her husband Teofil and her sister-in-law Mary Garbachewsky (née Morawsky) at the Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery in Campbell Hall, New York.

Remaining in deep sorrow:

- daughter - Sonia with husband Paul Haley of Richmond, Virginia;
- grandsons - Dr. Erik Haley of Richmond, Virginia and Alexander Haley of Atlanta, Georgia;
- daughter - Natalie with husband Paul Mudge of Citta di Castello, Italy;
- daughter: - Lesia with husband Roman Kruchowy of Hillsborough, New Jersey;
- sisters-in-law - Carol Gnyp and Stefania Pokora;
- many nieces and nephews with their families.

Alexandria was preceded in death by her parents Mykyta and Helena (née Huntlacht), sister Millie Pochtar, brothers Mykola and Andrew, and cherished husband Teofil.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to the following:

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church,
141 Sarah Wells Trail, Campbell Hall, NY 10916

Eternal memory!

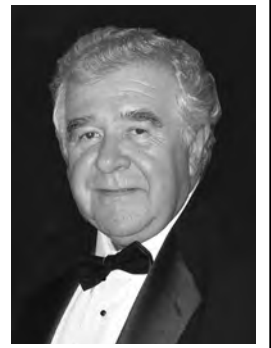
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Deadline: Tuesday noon before the newspaper's date of issue.

For further information call 973-292-9800, ext. 3040.



With great sorrow we announce the passing of

Bohdan Korzeniowski

on November 2, 2019 in Southampton, PA, at the age of 77.

He was the son of Alexander and Irena (née Glowa) born December 19, 1941 in Jaroslaw, Ukraine.

Parastas services took place on November 7, 2019.

The Funeral Liturgy was held on November 8, 2019 at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Melrose Park, PA, followed by interment at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery, Elkins Park, PA.

Remaining in deep sorrow:

- wife - Ksenia (née Fedoriw)
- children - Katria with George Kowal
Luka with Christina
Pawlo with Elizabeth
Matej with Karen
- grandchildren - Maya, Roman, Zoriana, Joseph, Nadia, Lily and Ava
- sister - Maria with Dr. Yuriy Boszko with daughters
Ariadna, Alexandra Offermann, Natalia
and grandchildren Alyssa and Ashton

families in US, Ireland, Sweden and Ukraine:
Korzeniowski, Antoniak, Rudakewych, Blackwell,
Fedoriw, Moch, Pylyp, Jaremko

Bohdan was a three-decade employee of the City of Philadelphia, the Deputy Director of Aviation of the Philadelphia International and Northeast airports. He was a founding member of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, PA and helped found the Ukrainian Federation of America (UFA), a non-profit humanitarian organization, which he led for ten years as its first president. Bohdan was an active member of PLAST Ukrainian Scouting Organization's "Lisovi Chorty" and the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America.

He was preceded in death by his infant brother Roman and parents, Alexander and Irena.

Bohdan was born in Jaroslaw, Ukraine on December 19, 1941. During World War II the family was forced to flee their homeland and eventually settled in Australia, where Bohdan spent his formative years. After a decade in Australia, the family reunited with Alexander's siblings in Philadelphia and Bohdan graduated as a member of the 213th class of Central High School. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Drexel University in 1966 and began his career with the City of Philadelphia in the Water Department.

As the long-time Deputy Director of Aviation, Bohdan was responsible for airport operations, planning, security and maintenance, and oversaw the expansion of the PHL International Terminal. During his tenure he was often seen interviewed on television during snowstorms, bomb threats, and taxi strikes. In 1991, Bohdan was instrumental in organizing the UFA humanitarian relief flight of medical equipment for Ukraine on "Mriya", an Antonov 225, the world's largest cargo plane.

Bohdan was an active volunteer and deeply committed individual who provided critical leadership to the cause of freedom and peace for the people of Ukraine and to the well-being of the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States. He played a critical role in the efforts to create awareness and develop support for Ukraine in the US Congress - an effort that resulted in the formation of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and major advocacy for Ukraine.

In February 2019, Bohdan was awarded The Alexander B. Chernyk Medal by the Ukrainian Federation of America, where he joined such distinguished leaders as former Congressmen Jim Gerlach and Mike Fitzpatrick and Ambassador Taylor, reflecting the esteem, gratitude and respect given him by the Ukrainian community.

An avid bowler with The Men of St. Matthew, Bohdan was a dedicated family man who enjoyed fishing, camping, cooking, gardening, reading science fiction and model train building. He preserved his Ukrainian heritage and traditions and hosted many family events, serving his versions of Ukrainian cuisine. He was a dedicated volunteer and member of the Annunciation BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church in Melrose Park, PA.

Donations in Bohdan's memory can be made to the following:

- Annunciation BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church
1206 Valley Road, Melrose Park, PA 19027
- Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center
700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046
- Ukrainian Federation of America
700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046
- Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Philadelphia Branch
700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046

May his memory be eternal!

Shmyhal...

(Continued from page 1)

Soon after the vote to accept Mr. Honcharuk's resignation (353 voted for, 49 abstained and nine did not vote), a total of 291 lawmakers approved Denys Shmyhal as the country's new prime minister and appointed the new government (59 were opposed, 46 abstained and nine did not vote).

Prior to the votes, President Zelenskyy addressed the Verkhovna Rada. "This [Honcharuk's] government has achievements. Those are reduction of inflation, the fight against shadow markets, including gambling and illegal gas stations. These are the beginning of the privatization of state-owned enterprises that have been looted all these years. These are loans to small and medium businesses, reducing the role of the state in the economy of our country. But the truth is that's not enough for Ukrainians today," the head of state stressed.

Mr. Zelenskyy noted that the government of Prime Minister Honcharuk did not have corruption at the top, but added that not stealing is not enough.

"This government knows what to do, but it is not enough to know. And we must not fear the truth, we must admit mistakes.

Because on the day we dive into the warm bath of illusions, the whole country will sink," the president said. According to Mr. Zelenskyy, the government did not provide tools to stimulate domestic production and new production capacity. "Ukraine's industrial glory is gradually becoming a memory. We risk speaking about our industrial potential people will soon say: 'That was a long time ago, and that was not true,'" the president said.

"Almost every day, we have protests in various medical institutions. People are afraid of closing hospitals. Doctors are afraid of dismissals. Local authorities are sometimes not ready to take power. There is not enough funding. There are big questions about tariffs, medical equipment, and a huge question about staffing," Mr. Zelenskyy said. "So, the main question is: Why are we in a hurry? Where are we flying? Doesn't it seem that with this approach, reform is flying into the wall?"

The president thanked Ukraine's international partners for their support and assured them: "Our course remains unchanged, and our priorities are the same. We all want and do everything every day to end the war in the Donbas and return all our territories. Because this is our country, and we will continue to move through

reforms in all spheres. The course of Ukraine is not a mistake. But some mistakes were made during the course."

He noted that he was not ashamed of Prime Minister Honcharuk's government, but would like to have a Cabinet of Ministers of which he could be proud and that is why the current Cabinet should resign.

Ukraine's new prime minister also addressed the Rada, underscoring that he will continue all the undertakings and reforms of the previous government. However, Mr. Shmyhal noted that many fields of government policy require strengthening. He said it is necessary to enhance the economic bloc in the government to prevent a financial and budget crisis. "We need to review the 2020 budget, especially concerning social payments and pensions of ordinary Ukrainians, there are expenditures that need to be reduced – this concerns salaries and bonuses of officials, including ministers of the new government, members of several supervisory boards and other officials," Mr. Shmyhal explained.

The newly appointed prime minister also stressed the importance of the fight against the coronavirus outbreak. "The government must work in two directions. The first is medical support for the detection and treatment of the virus. Much has already been

done for this purpose: in each region, there are defined medical institutions that are ready for admission of potential patients; family doctors and others have been briefed; there are 12,000 beds in infectious hospitals and 2,500 isolation rooms. But this is not enough. There should be a comprehensive program designed to react to the spread of the coronavirus, and it will become the first brick in building a system to protect the population from biological, climatic and human-made threats. The second is to raise awareness of the people, not only about what to do in case of illness, but also about what the state does for the safety of its citizens. Ukrainians need to know and see that the state is protecting them."

Summing up, Mr. Shmyhal said that there are simple things to understand that do not require a Ph.D. in economics: that is the simple desire of Ukrainians to have a decent and well-off life. He underlined that "expectations are high, patience is wearing thin, and the deadline for reforms was yesterday."

The prime minister then submitted the composition of the new Cabinet of Ministers, and the deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine backed his proposal, as well as the president's nominations of the ministers of defense and foreign affairs. The following were approved as members of the Shmyhal government:

- Vadym Prystaiko as deputy prime minister for European and Euro-Atlantic integration of Ukraine.

- Dmytro Kuleba as minister of foreign affairs.

(Messrs. Prystaiko and Kuleba switched positions.)

- Andrii Taran as minister of defense, replacing Andriy Zahorodniuk.

- Oleh Nemchynov as minister of the Cabinet of Ministers, replacing Dmytro Dubilet.

- Oleksiy Reznikov as deputy prime minister, minister for reintegration of the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine. This position is new.

- Serhiy Bessarab as minister of veterans affairs, replacing Oksana Kolyada.

- Vadym Huttsait as minister of youth and sports. This ministry was separated from the larger Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, which was led by Volodymyr Borodiansky.

- Ilya Yemets as minister of health of Ukraine, replacing Zoryana Skaletska.

- Maryna Lazebna as minister of social policy, replacing Yulia Sokolovska.

- Ihor Umansky, as minister of finance, replacing Oksana Markarova.

- Oleksiy Chernyshov as minister for communities and territories development, a position previously held by Mr. Shmyhal.

Four ministers remained in their previous positions:

- Arsen Avakov as minister of internal affairs.

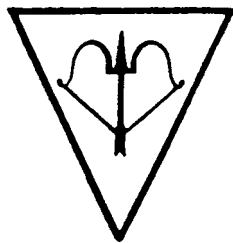
- Vladyslav Kryklii as minister of infrastructure.

- Denys Maliuska as minister of justice.

- Mykhailo Fedorov as deputy prime minister, minister of digital transformation.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is still incomplete, and Mr. Shmyhal is searching for ministers of education, energy, culture and the agro-industrial complex. The new position of the deputy prime minister of the economy also is vacant.

"During these years, we have had a lot of governments – the technocrats' government, the embezzlers' government, the experienced managers' government, the government of the rescue of the experienced managers, and so on. I believe that we will finally have a government for the people," President Zelenskyy said in his speech at the Verkhovna Rada. "The previous government did its best, but today Ukrainians need a government that will do the impossible. I hope that the next Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine will do that."



ПЛЕМ'Я ПЛАСТУНОК „ПЕРШІ СТЕЖІ“ влаштовує „ДЕННИЙ ТАБІР ПТАШАТ ПРИ ПЛАСТІ“ для дітей від 4 до 6 років, які володіють (розуміють і розмовляють) українською мовою

- Дитина мусить мати закінчених 4 роки життя до 31 серпня 2020 р. Вийнятків немає.
- Дитина мусить мати усі приписані щеплення.
- Дитина, яка склала Заяву Вступу до новацтва, не може брати участі в таборах для Пташат.

**Табір відбудеться на Союзівці
від неділі, 28 червня, до суботи, 4 липня 2020 р.**

У справі кімнат просимо порозуміватися безпосередньо з Адміністрацією Союзівки:
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- Таборова оплата: \$150.00 (\$20.00 незворотні)
- Зголошення і таборову оплату (чек виписаний на Plast – Pershi Stezhi) надсилати до:

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- Реченець зголошень: **15 травня 2020 р.** • Після реченця зголошень не приймаємо.
- Лікарську посвідку НЕ пересилати з анкетною зголошення. Просимо передати при реєстрації.

КАРТА ЗГОЛОШЕННЯ НА ТАБІР ПТАШАТ-2019

Ім'я і прізвище дитини
по-українськи і по-англійськи

Дата народження

Адреса

Телефон E-mail

Просимо залучити посвідку дати народження дитини, яку вперше вписуєте на табір, що відбудеться від 28 червня до 4 липня 2020 р.

- Розмір таборової сорочки дитини: 6-8, 10-12, 14-16.
 Залучую чек на суму \$..... Резервую кімнату на Союзівці

.....
ім'я і прізвище матері (подати дівоче прізвище)

Завваги

.....

.....

..... Підпис батька або матері

Ukrainian family history conference returns in April

by Justin Houser

SOMERSET, N.J. – Are you interested in learning more about your family history but don't know how to start? Have you taken a DNA test but don't know how to interpret the results? Since 2014 the Ukrainian History and Education Center's Nashi Predky Family History Group has been helping Ukrainian Americans and others worldwide learn how to trace their family roots, whether they are just beginning to search for their grandparents who immigrated to North America before World War I or whether they themselves immigrated in the 21st century.

Many who begin their search for Ukrainian ancestors are surprised to learn that despite the ravages of time, war and repressive regimes, church, military, land and tax records detailing the lives of peasants, nobles and everyone in between survive for most regions of Ukraine and neighboring countries as far back as the late 18th century and in many cases even earlier, making it possible to trace one's roots back to the time of the Kozak Hetmanate and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. It is now easier than ever before to pass on a legacy of one's own family story as part of the history of Ukraine. The secret is knowing how to find these records and how to use them. Many are in fact available online, if one knows where to look.

On April 3-4, the Nashi Predky Family History Group will host its sixth annual conference at the Ukrainian Cultural Center at 135 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873. Friday evening will feature a "Knowledge



Scene in the village of Yares'ky in the Poltava region (early 20th century), Konstantyn Moshchenko papers, UHEC Archives.

Cafe," where attendees can interact with the members of the Nashi Predky Committee and each other in an informal setting to receive one-on-one guidance with beginner, intermediate and advanced family history questions. Many attendees at past conferences have discovered distant cousins as a result of networking. For those who are interested, an informal workshop on advanced handwritten Cyrillic will also be offered.

On Saturday, the following presentations will be offered:

- "Finding Ukrainian, Polish, Belarusian and Russian Records on FamilySearch," by Joe Everett, Family History, Local History, and Microforms Librarian at the Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library.
- "The Genealogical Value of Royal, Government and Private Estate Inventories of Galicia" by Daniel Bučko, Polish genealogist.

- "Fraternal Organizations, 1890-1918," by Fr. Ivan Kaszczak, Ukrainian Catholic priest and author.

- Documentary film: "Our Ukrainian American Legacy," a showing by Roman M. Brygider, three-time Emmy Award-winning producer/director of documentary films that have aired nationally since 1993.

In addition, attendees will participate in a guided tour of the UHEC exhibit, "Visible Music: The Art of Yukhym Mykhailiv (1885-1935)," the first significant exhibit in 30 years of the work of one of the most original, idiosyncratic and undeservedly obscure Ukrainian artists of the early 20th century, who met an untimely death in exile in the Russian Arctic during the rule of Joseph Stalin.

Registration for one or both days is now available online at the UHEC website: <https://www.ukrhec.org/nashi-predky-conference-2020>. Questions can be directed to the Nashi Predky Family History Group at genealogy@ukrhec.org, or by calling the UHEC at 732-356-0132.

Growing from roots going back to the 1960s, the UHEC is dedicated to telling the many-layered stories associated with the artifacts in its collections, educating Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike about Ukraine and its culture, supporting teaching and research, and serving as a venue for educational and cultural programs locally and throughout the world on the Internet.

Justin Houser is a board member of the Ukrainian History and Education Center and co-founder and member of the Nashi Predky Family History Group.

Palatine holds...

(Continued from page 11)

ODFFU 31 and the Suburban Council of Ukrainian Voters.

Congressman Sean Casten's (D-Ill.) letter of support expressed the spirit of the evening: "Today, we honor those who stood courageously to defend freedom, democracy and human rights. We pay tribute to those who lost their lives during the Revolution of Dignity, as well as during Russia's invasion and occupation of Crimea and the Donbas. It is important for all of us in the United States and the rest of the world to remember the suffering, sacrifice and courage of Ukrainians who died simply because they were seeking a brighter future for their country. The best way to honor them is to continue to seek a free, fair, united and democratic Ukraine."

Program participants in this very emotional evening were students of the School of Ukrainian Studies, children's choirs, choreographic and vocal groups (Iskra and Elehia), the vocal ensemble of St. Joseph the Betrothed Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Panchyshyn sisters vocal duo. Music coordinators were Olha Dopilko, Maria Kyrychenko, Kalyna Wasiunec, Svitlana and Vita Polyak. Lyuba Halatyma and Rostyslav Saciuk were masters of ceremonies for the event.

The Organization for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine was formed on October 27, 1946, at a conference of Ukrainian Americans in New York City under the leadership of Yevhen Liakovych, to support the struggle for a free and independent Ukraine. The name and ideology of ODFFU are based on President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms" address before the U.S. Congress on January 25, 1941, in which he spoke of freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

Seton Hall University to present dialogue on Ukrainian Church

Seton Hall University

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. – Seton Hall University's Catholic Studies Program will present "Freedom and Dialogue: The Trajectory of the Ukrainian Church" on Wednesday March 25, at 1 p.m. in the Chancellor Suite (University Center – lower level).

After centuries of struggle, the Ukrainian Church has reached an inflection point. As a newly recognized autocephalous Orthodox Church, it is poised to push ecumenical dialogue to the next level – both locally and globally. As an Eastern Catholic Church, legal in Ukraine since 1990, it has made

inroads in Eastern Europe right up to the Russian border.

At an accelerated rate in the 20th and early 21st centuries, the political situation of Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora have shaped the history and development of this Church. Will political decisions regarding freedom of religion and the supremacy of individual conscience continue to exert a strong influence on the trajectory of the Ukrainian Church? Is there reason for optimism about the future of ecumenism as it pertains to this Church? Will the Church continue to grow or will it be stifled by forces from the East, i.e. Russia?

Speakers at the event will be:

- The Rev. Dr. Ivan Kaszczak, pastor of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, who will present "The Concept: Freedom of Religion in Ukraine, Russia and the United States – A Historical Perspective of the Ukrainian Church and Freedom"; and

- Anatolii Babynskyyi, research fellow from St. Michael College and the University of Toronto, who will speak about "Ukrainian Autocephaly: New Opportunities and Challenges."

The event is open to the public; online RSVPs are requested at https://events.shu.edu/view/event/event_id/7874. For more information, readers may e-mail Gloria Aroneo at gloria.aroneo@shu.edu.

Baltics call...

(Continued from page 2)

entity will never do that" (Delfi.lv, April 18, 2018). The situation has changed little since then.

Baltic politicians understand that in order to generate a more effective response to Russian disinformation and propaganda broadcasts, specific EU regulation will first need to be rewritten. And a united effort by all Central and Eastern European frontline states will be crucial to achieve that goal. In the meantime, it is up to each sovereign country to strengthen its own national policies toward private and state-owned TV companies where it can.

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

"In my native..."

(Continued from page 6)

electrodes to his fingers, but he knows of electrodes having been attached to prisoners' toes, to their earlobes (Mr. Pechonkin notes that they did this to Mr. Aseyev), and to a person's genitals. Virtually nobody can endure this, he says, and people sign what is demanded of them. In his case, he had already admitted the real extent to which he provided information to the SBU, but under such torture, he invented new details and "admitted" anything the militants wanted.

The account both Mr. Aseyev and Mr. Pechonkin give is horrific also because of the evident sadism of many of their torturers. One of Mr. Aseyev's interrogators, a man who was present but did not take part in the torture, admitted to Mr. Aseyev that "of course, you can't call a person normal if during the day he attaches a wire to a per-

son's genitals and sends an electric current through it, then in the evening goes home to his wife, has dinner and sleeps with her." He added, "Sure, for such work we choose a particular psychological type of person. So that they themselves don't go crazy, and so that they do what we need."

Mr. Pechonkin describes what was evidently "entertainment" for some of these individuals. They would force prisoners to beat one another. According to Mr. Pechonkin, the prisoners learned to simulate pain. They were permanently under total observation, he adds, with videos in each cell, so that if you wanted to say anything important to another prisoner, it had to be in a whisper. Sometimes, when drunk, the torturers went too far and killed prisoners.

Throughout all of this, the jailers would constantly repeat that everybody had forgotten the hostages, that nobody needed them. It's hard to describe all of this, Mr. Pechonkin adds, you have to experience it.

ATTENTION, Debutante Ball Organizers!

In keeping with our tradition, The Ukrainian Weekly will publish a special section devoted to the Ukrainian community's debutantes. The 2019 debutante ball section will be published on **April 5.**

The deadline for submission of all materials – stories and photos (with captions and photo credits) – is **March 30.** Please e-mail materials to: staff@ukrweekly.com



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- Zhytomir: City orientation bus tour
- Lviv: Walking tour of city center and orientation bus tour

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- Severodonetsk (Luhansk): Pastoralna Misija
- Kyiv: Ivan Bohun Military Academy
- Kyiv: Trokhsviatykh Dukhovna Seminaria
- Zhytomir: Military Hospital
- Zhytomir: Children's Hospital
- Zhytomir: Monastery of Sisters of St. Basil
- Lutsk: Volynska Pravoslavna Akademia
- Lviv: Dzherelo Rehabilitation Center
- Lviv: Orphan Center
- Lviv: Okhmadyt Children's Hospital
- Lviv: Ukrainian Catholic University: Prostir Nadii and Women's Studies
- Lviv: Sts. Peter & Paul Garrison Church

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The ugly face...

(Continued from page 7)

Youth Unity Complex sent in a reply – noting that Shukhevych initially joined the German forces invading the USSR because they were fighting against the Soviets due to the old adage that the enemy of my enemy is my friend, but quickly turned against the Nazis when they too began committing atrocities against the people of Ukraine; that a declassified internal NKVD document clearly stated that Shukhevych gave an order to Ukrainian troops not to participate in a 1941 pogrom against Jews as it was a German provocation; and that his wife hid and saved a Jewish girl – the paper refused to print it. Instead, vandals desecrated the monument – the entire bust was covered with red ribbons and the caption "Nazi Scum" was spray-painted on the base of the statue. The matter is under investigation by the Hate Crimes and Violent Extremism Unit of the Edmonton Police.

This ongoing campaign is something members of our community in both Canada and the United States have to take very seriously. We must redouble our efforts to ensure the public at large is made aware of the true history of Ukraine and not be deluded by Russian propaganda.

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OUT & ABOUT

- March 10
New York Presentation by Leah Batstone, "Between Serialism and Suprematism: Nikolai Roslavets' Modernist Music," Columbia University, 212-854-4697 or ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu
- March 11
Cambridge, MA Petryshyn Memorial Lecture, a book talk with Larry Wolff, Harvard University, 617-495-4053
- March 12
Ottawa Presentation by Oleksandr Boron', "Newly Discovered Facts Concerning the Life and Creative Output of Taras Shevchenko," League of Ukrainian Canadians, Shevchenko Scientific Society (Ottawa), Ukrainian Credit Union Limited, 613-288-0206
- March 13
Toronto Presentation by Volodymyr Mezentsev, "Baturyn Excavations in 2018, 2019: Newly Found Coats of Arms of Hetmans Mazepa and Orlyk," Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, St. Vladimir Institute, 416-923-3318 or 416-516-8223
- March 14
Shrewsbury, NJ Wood-carving presentation by Yuriy Kostiv, Ukrainian National Women's League of America (Branch 98), Monmouth County Library, unwla98@gmail.com
- March 14
Toronto Tribute dinner honoring Ukrainian Heroines, with special guest Hanna Hopko, to benefit Ukrainian Women Veterans' "ReHub," King's Garden Banquet Hall, 647-401-6985 or 416-316-7079
- March 14
North Port, FL Presentation, "Shevchenko as an Artist," Ukrainian Community Organizations of Southwest Florida, St. Andrew's Religious and Cultural Center, drdanvirra@yahoo.com
- March 15
New York Concert, featuring pianist Julania Osinchuk, Ukrainian National Women's League of America (Branch 113), The Ukrainian Museum, www.ukrainianmuseum.org or 212-228-0110
- March 15
Alexandria, VA Concert, featuring violinist Nazar Pylatyuk, The Washington Group Cultural Fund, the Lyceum, www.twgcf.org or twgcfund@gmail.com
- March 15
Montreal Presentation by Oleksander Boon', New Facts - Biography of Works of Taras Shevchenko," Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada (Montreal Branch), 514-481-5871
- March 15
Lehighton, PA Pysanka Workshop, Ukrainian Homestead, www.ukrhomestead.com
- March 15
Toronto Taras Shevchenko Concert, featuring bandurist Ostap Stakhiv, Old Mill Toronto, Brule Ballroom, 416-763-7002 or 647-713-6257
- March 17
Stanford, CA Presentation by Michael O'Hanlon, "Beyond NATO: A New Security Architecture for Eastern Europe," Stanford University, www.stanford.edu
- March 20-22
Kerhonkson, NY Wellness Retreat, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, www.soyuzivka.com or 845-626-5641
- March 21, 22,
April 4, 5,
New York Pysanka workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, www.ukrainianmuseum.org or 212-228-0110
- March 22
Calgary, AB Gala event, film screening of "Recovery Room" by Adriana Luhovy, and performance of "Heroyam Slava" by the Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and the Korinya Folk Ensemble, Canada-Ukraine Foundation, Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association, Shevchenko Foundation, Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Seton YMCA Theater, www.tryzub.ca or www.recoveryroomthemovie.com
- March 22
Luskville, QC Recital, "Ironwood Quartet," featuring violinist Carissa Klopoushak, Pontiac Enchanté, Venturing Hills Farm, 819-455-2574 or venturinghillsmusic@gmail.com
- March 22, 24, 29
Somerset, NJ Pysanka Workshop, Ukrainian History and Education Center, info@ukrhec.org or 732-356-0132
- March 22 through
April 12
Toronto Art exhibit, "Icons - A Window to Heaven," by Pavlo Lopata, Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation Gallery, 416-766-6802 or www.kumfgallery.com

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.



The UNA announces Scholarships and Awards for students attending college in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Students wishing to apply for a UNA scholarship or award must meet the following criteria:

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- Be enrolled in an accredited college or university in USA or Canada.

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

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, March 14

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture, "Mykola Bytnskyi's Album of Uniforms of the Ukrainian Army and Fleet for the Age of the Liberation Struggle 1917-1921: Artistic, Heraldic and Historical Aspects," by Dr. Yuriy Savchuk, a researcher at the History Institute of Ukraine, National Academy of Science of Ukraine. A Fulbright scholar in 2019-2020 at the Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford, Conn., Dr. Savchuk is a specialist in heraldic and vexillology fields. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

SHREWSBURY N.J.: During a program titled "The Art of Ukrainian Riz'ba," woodcarving master Yuriy Kostiv showcases this unique art form through a lecture, demonstration and exhibit of works. The venue is Monmouth County Library, 1001 Route 35, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702, at 2 p.m. There will be art works for purchase and light refreshments; admission is free. The event is sponsored by Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 98. For more information call 866-941-8188.

Saturday, March 21

NEW YORK: At 7 p.m., The Ukrainian Museum presents a gallery talk with Vasyl Makhno, guest curator of the retrospective exhibition "From Darkness to Light: The Paintings of Mikhail Turovsky." Joining the discussion are Myroslava Mudrak, professor

emeritus of art history at The Ohio State University, and Alexander Motyl, professor at Rutgers University - Newark. This is an opportunity to meet the artist, Mr. Turovsky, and the last chance to see "From Lightness to Dark." The exhibition, with nearly 60 large-format works from the artist's collection, spanning the years 1979 through the present, closes on Sunday, March 22. Admission (includes gallery access and light reception): \$15, members/seniors, \$10, students, \$5. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St.; telephone, 212-228-0110; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Sunday, March 22

WHIPPANY, N.J.: A Designer Bag Bingo and Tricky Tray event will be held at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey at 60 N. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981, at 1 p.m. (Doors open at noon.) Enjoy a fun afternoon at our spring fund-raising event. There will be many chances to win fabulous prizes: Play bingo to win gorgeous designer bags (Coach, Kate Spade, Tory Burch and more), purchase tickets to win our sought-after grand prize tricky tray baskets (cash, TV, theater tickets, to name a few) and of course, a 50/50 raffle. Delicious refreshments will be available for purchase throughout the afternoon. Event tickets are \$35 per person and will include 10 bingo cards; additional cards and tickets will be available for purchase at event. Order event admission tickets in advance at UACCNJ.org; for more information call 973-590-8026. (Sorry, no children at this event.)

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events 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**. Preview items must be received **no later than one week before the desired date of publication**. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Information should be sent to: preview@ukrweekly.com.



Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 7 p.m.
GALLERY TALK

with guest curator VASYL MAKHNO,
 Prof. MYROSLAVA MUDRAK (Ohio State Univ.),
 Prof. ALEXANDER MOTYL (Rutgers-Newark).
 Meet the artist, Mikhail Turovsky!
 Discussions will take place in Ukrainian.

LAST CHANCE!
 Exhibition closes
 Sunday,
 March 22, 2020

Admission (includes gallery access
 and light reception) \$15;
 members, seniors \$10; students \$5



**From Darkness to Light:
 The Paintings of Mikhail Turovsky**

Години Музею:
 від середи до неділі
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 Museum hours:
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