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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXVIII

No. 22

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2010

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukrainian National Association holds 37th Convention

by Roma Hadzewycz

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The Ukrainian National Association held its 37th Regular Convention here at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center on May 20-23, re-electing the vast majority of incumbents to positions on the fraternal organization's General Assembly.

Re-elected by acclamation were four Executive Committee members, President Stefan Kaczaraj, National Secretary Christine E. Kozak, Treasurer Roma Lisovich and Director for Canada Myron Groch; and all three Auditing Committee members, Slavko Tysiak (chairman), Gene Serba and Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta. (Mr. Serba, elected in 2006 as an advisor, had been appointed to the Auditing Committee to fill the vacancy created after the death of Dr. Wasyl Luchkiw.)

Also elected by acclamation were the two other members of the six-member Executive Committee, First Vice-President Michael Koziupa (previously the second vice-president) and Second Vice-President Eugene Oscislawski (previously an advisor).

Delegates to the quadrennial convention, who arrived at Soyuzivka from across the United States and Canada, also elected 11 advisors to serve on the General Assembly: Maya Lew (New York state), Andrew Futey (Ohio), Ewhen Osidacz (Quebec), Nicholas Fil (New York), Stephanie Hawryluk (New York), Gloria Horbaty (Connecticut), Lubov Streletsky (Pennsylvania), Andrij Szul (New



Elected by acclamation at the UNA's 37th Regular Convention were (from left): Director for Canada Myron Groch, First Vice-President Michael Koziupa, National Secretary Christine E. Kozak, President Stefan Kaczaraj, Treasurer Roma Lisovich, Second Vice-President Eugene Oscislawski and Auditors Gene Serba, Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta and Slavko Tysiak.

York), Oleh Palaschenko (Ohio), Olya Czerkas (Florida) and Luba Poniatyszyn Keske (California). Messrs. Futey, Osidacz, Szul and Palaschenko, and Ms. Keske are newcomers to the General Assembly.

Two members of the 2006-2010 General Assembly announced they were retiring: First Vice-President Zenon Holubec, who

also served the UNA as an auditor, and Advisor Al Kachkowski, who also held the office of director for Canada.

The convention was opened with a brief ceremony at the heritage center's monument to Taras Shevchenko, where participants heard welcoming remarks from President Kaczaraj. Mr. Kaczaraj noted that this was

the second time the UNA was holding its convention at Soyuzivka, which he described as the American Carpathian Mountains. An opening prayer was offered by Dr. Holubec.

Afterwards, the women members of the

(Continued on page 4)

Ukraine in danger: An end to citizens' monitoring of police?

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

Ukraine in danger: Ukraine's civil society has begun to report on authoritarian policies and rights abuses by the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich. This article, the third in this series, examines threats to citizens' monitoring of government.

KYIV – When Internal Affairs Minister Anatolii Mohyliov met with German Ambassador to Ukraine Hans-Jurgen Heimsoeth in late March, he assured the diplomat that his changes to the country's police department “would only support the improvement of controls to ensure human rights.”

Yet, by then Mr. Mohyliov had already taken swift measures to severely reduce the ability of Ukrainian citizens to monitor the activity of their own police, who have a well-established record for corruption and abuse of the law.

Within a week of assuming office,

(Continued on page 10)



Zenon Zawada

Yevhen Zakharov of the Kharkiv Human Rights Group said Ukraine's new police chief, Internal Affairs Minister Anatolii Mohyliov, has dismissed respected human rights activists from monitoring the country's police.

SBU attempts to pressure rector of Ukrainian Catholic University

by Marta Kolomayets

CHICAGO – In tactics reminiscent of the Soviet era, a Lviv representative from the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU, the successor to the KGB) paid a visit to the rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University on May 18.

The rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, was asked to sign a letter presented by the SBU. Although he did not read the text of the letter and did not sign anything (see memorandum below), the Rev. Gudziak said he assumes it was in the same vein as the message delivered during a 2001 visit from the SBU.

In March 2001 the Rev. Gudziak and his fellow vice-rectors, including Myroslav Marynovych, were visited by officials of the SBU, who were disturbed by student protests hoping to bring down then President Leonid Kuchma. The campaign, known as “Ukraine without Kuchma” began soon after the slaying of Ukrainian journalist and investigative reporter Heorhii Gongadze.

In 2001 the SBU asked the rectorate to

inform the Ministry of Internal Affairs of any planned student actions or unrest, recalled Father Gudziak.

“I was not an informant during the days of the Soviet Union,” said Mr. Marynovych, who was a prisoner of conscience and spent seven years in Perm's labor camps and three years in exile in Kazakhstan. “And I'm not about to start in an independent Ukraine,” he had noted.

Nine years ago, the SBU presented the Rev. Gudziak with a veiled threat of deportation, but pressure from the news magazine *The Economist* and then U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual put an end to actions of the overzealous police.

This week once again (May 23) the *Economist* published a piece on the “spooks of Russia and Ukraine,” noting that “given the way the SBU has been behaving of late, the difference between its tactics and those of the Russia's FSB seems to be narrowing.”

The students of the Ukrainian Catholic University, which reopened in Lviv more than 15 years ago (it had been closed down

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ANALYSIS

The FSB returns to Ukraine

by **Taras Kuzio***Eurasia Daily Monitor*

After the second round of Ukraine's 2010 elections, Russia demanded that President Viktor Yanukovich undertake measures to improve relations between both countries. Moscow demanded that Mr. Yanukovich re-admit the Federal Security Service (FSB) to the Black Sea Fleet (BSF) and "end all cooperation with the Central Intelligence Agency" (Kommersant Vlast, February 22). The Yanukovich administration has agreed to most of these demands, which are beneficial to Russian, not Ukrainian, national security.

One of the Russian demands was for the return of FSB officers to the BSF based in Sevastopol. On May 19-20 in Odesa, following President Dmitry Medvedev's visit to Ukraine two days earlier, Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Chairman Valeriy Khoroshkovsky and FSB Chairman Oleksandr Bortnykov signed documents permitting the return of the FSB officers (Eurasia Daily Monitor, March 12). The agreement will reinstate the same level of SBU-FSB cooperation that existed between 2000 (when Vladimir Putin was first elected as Russian president) and 2009 (marking the point that the FSB were withdrawn from Ukraine). One possible difference would be that the officers in question would have to be agreed with Ukraine, representing only a formality (Ukrayinska Pravda, May 12).

The numbers of FSB officers would be proportionate to the BSF personnel. This could be problematic, as Russia has always provided conflicting data on the number of its naval troops stationed in Ukraine. A more controversial question is whether the FSB officers, who belong to its counter-intelligence department, would be given the right to undertake "operative-search" activities on Ukrainian territory. Russian legislation permits such activities wherever the FSB are stationed, but Ukrainian law outlines the domestic "siloviki" units who have a right to

undertake this activity. Foreign siloviki are banned from undertaking "operative-search" activities on Ukrainian territory.

Former SBU Chairman Valentyn Nalyvaichenko has pointed out that the 2000-2009 stationing of FSB officers in Sevastopol was illegal under Ukrainian law. "The protocol signed in 2000 whereby FSB units were stationed in Crimea never was in conformity with Ukrainian legislation," Mr. Nalyvaichenko revealed, meaning that President Leonid Kuchma had agreed to the stationing of the FSB by violating Ukrainian law (Kommersant-Ukraina, May 12).

The 2000 agreement was annulled by Mr. Nalyvaichenko and the officers withdrew in December 2009 (EDM, July 14, 2009). The FSB re-located to Novorosiysk (www.korrespondent.net, December 1, Ukrayinska Pravda, December 10, 2009).

The first group of FSB officers returned to Ukraine ahead of the signing of the new documents in Odesa. They were preparing joint anti-terrorism manoeuvres with the SBU (Ukrayinska Pravda, May 12). Mr. Nalyvaichenko argued, as he did in 2009, that the SBU has sufficient resources to counter any kind of threats to the BSF. The SBU offered to provide full security for the fleet through a new SBU, "powerful counter-intelligence unit in Symferopol, Sevastopol and other cities of Crimea." This unit would be ideally suited to protect the BSF, he added (Nezavisimoy Gazete, June 15, 2009). The SBU could deal with law and order, and counter terrorism, "We do not need assistance or the physical presence of foreign secret services," Mr. Nalyvaichenko said (Nezavisimoy Gazete, June 15, 2009).

The first deputy head of the State Duma Committee on the CIS, Kostiantyn Zatulyn, stressed the importance of the FSB presence in Crimea to counter terrorism. Mr. Zatulyn claimed the FSB is involved in countering terrorism on a wide scale and, therefore, has greater practical experience than the SBU

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Yanukovich rejects Putin's proposal for Gazprom-Naftohaz Ukrainy merger

by **Pavel Korduban***Eurasia Daily Monitor*

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev met with his Ukrainian counterpart, Viktor Yanukovich, for the seventh time this year, in Kyiv on May 17-18, but contrary to general expectations no new gas agreements were reached. Ukraine rejected Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's April 30 offer to merge the national oil and gas company, Naftohaz Ukrainy, with Gazprom.

Kyiv's position is that such a merger is impossible in principle as it would mean Naftohaz's takeover by Gazprom, given the fact that the latter is much larger. Instead, Kyiv may agree to a joint venture between Naftohaz and Gazprom. Mr. Medvedev signalled his readiness to discuss this option.

Kyiv's reaction to Mr. Putin's proposal has been cautious from the outset. In early May, Kyiv indicated that it would proceed from national interests as far as Mr. Putin's offer was concerned (Eurasia Daily Monitor, May 12). As the opposition and the expert community stepped up criticism of the merger offer, the government also became more outspoken. Ukrainian Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Boiko was the first top official to rule out a "simple" merger of Naftohaz and Gazprom as it would be "unprecedented in scale," he stated during a

TV interview (ICTV, May 12). Mr. Boiko went to Moscow on May 13 to discuss Mr. Putin's offer with Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller, but no agreement was reached.

The Ukrainian president, speaking to Ekho Moskvy on May 13, said that a merger would be possible on the parity principle only. "If I had been there," he said half-jokingly, meaning in Prime Minister Mykola Azarov's place during his meeting with Mr. Putin on April 30, "I would have extended my hand to Mr. Putin saying 'I agree on a 50/50 share.'" Mr. Yanukovich noted that the modernization of gas pipelines was more important for him than a merger. He reiterated that Russia should drop its South Stream pipeline project bypassing Ukraine and help to upgrade its pipelines instead, which would be a cheaper option.

In another interview, on May 13, Mr. Yanukovich said in clear terms that there would be no merger. Russia would not agree to a 50/50 Gazprom-Naftohaz merger given Naftohaz's small size compared to Gazprom, he explained. "However, a merger on any other condition is impossible," said Mr. Yanukovich (BBC Ukrainian Service, May 13).

Serhii Pashynsky, former advisor to Yulia Tymoshenko on energy matters, suggested that Kyiv would prefer the creation

(Continued on page 22)

NEWSBRIEFS

Biden speaks with Yanukovich

WASHINGTON – The White House Office of the Vice-President on May 24 issued the following "Readout of the Vice President's Call with Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich." The full text of the release read: "Vice-President Joe Biden and Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich spoke today by telephone. They discussed the steps Ukraine is taking to put its economy on a stable path to recovery. They also discussed issues of bilateral and regional importance, including Ukraine's progress in forging closer ties with the United States and Europe." A spokesperson for the Office of the Vice-President told The Ukrainian Weekly no further information was available. (Office of the Vice-President)

Pope may visit Ukraine in 2012

KYIV – The Holy See has accepted an invitation for Pope Benedict XVI to visit Ukraine in 2012, it was reported on May 26. The date for the visit is currently being set, said Archbishop Mieczyslaw Mokrzycki at the fourth working meeting of Ukrainian Catholic bishops. In 2012, the 600th anniversary of the transfer of the capital of bishops from Halych to Lviv will be marked in Lviv. The predecessor of the current pontiff, the late Pope John Paul II, paid an official visit to Ukraine in June 2001. This was the first visit by a pope to independent Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

Crimean Rada's new (old) name

SYMFEROPOL, Ukraine – The Crimean Parliament on May 26 introduced amendments to the Constitution of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, according to which the name of the Crimean Parliament when used in text in the Russian language is changed from the Verkhovna Rada (Supreme Council in Ukrainian) of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to the Verkhovnyi Soviet (Supreme Council in Russian). This decision was supported by 76 out of 94 members of the Crimean Parliament registered for voting on May 26. Four members voted against. (Interfax-Ukraine)

PRU preps bill on languages

KYIV – The Party of Regions of Ukraine

(PRU) is planning to table in Parliament next week a bill on basic languages in Ukraine so that the Verkhovna Rada can adopt it before the end of the current session, faction member Vadym Kolesnichenko said in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine on May 25. "It [the bill] will put everything in place and enshrine Ukraine's commitments to the Council of Europe on the Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, ensuring the right of territorial communities, and most importantly, the right of all people to use their own language within the powers that will be provided by law," he said. Mr. Kolesnichenko noted that the document would be based on a bill drafted by former PRU National Deputy Yevhen Kushnariov, who died in 2007, adding that Mr. Kushnariov's bill had been reviewed by European experts and undergone a serious revision. Mr. Kolesnichenko said that the issue concerned not only the use of the Russian language. "Why only Russian? Why don't we talk about Hungarian or Romanian? Why is everything linked only to the Russian language in our country? We have 13 regional languages. We have a sufficient number of communities, and the state pledged to defend their right to use their own language," he said. He added that the bill proposed by the PRU was aimed at protecting the rights of regional minorities. Mr. Kolesnichenko said that after the adoption of this law, regional communities would be able to use their native languages in education, office work and the judicial system. (Interfax-Ukraine)

Kyiv authorities want curfew

KYIV – By the end of May, the capital city's state administration will submit a bill to the Verkhovna Rada proposing to set a curfew for children and teenagers, it was reported on May 9. Earlier, similar restrictions regarding children's presence on the streets in the evening and at night were introduced in several cities. Kyiv authorities propose in their bill amendments to the Administrative Code that will stipulate parents' responsibility for their children staying on the street when it is not permitted. It is expected that children up to 8 years of age

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Caldwell, NJ 07006 and additional mailing offices.
(ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly: UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:

The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Editors: Matthew Dubas
Zenon Zawada (Kyiv)

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com; e-mail: staff@ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, May 30, 2010, No. 22, Vol. LXXVIII

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Russian president's second visit pulls Ukraine closer to Russia

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's May 17-18 visit to Kyiv capped a 10-week campaign to lay the basis for "reintegrating" Ukraine with Russia. It was Mr. Medvedev's seventh meeting with Ukraine's new leaders since early March, not counting Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's similar number of meetings with them. Mr. Medvedev's previous visit to Ukraine, on April 21, had produced the agreement to extend the basing of Russia's Black Sea Fleet on Ukrainian territory in return for Russia subsidizing Ukraine's gas consumption.

Moscow exploits a triple opportunity: Ukraine's regime change through Donetskization of the executive power in Kyiv; the lack of any coherent Western policy toward Ukraine; and the economic crisis that disables Ukraine and the West from resisting, but not Moscow from pursuing Ukraine's economic absorption.

Previewing his visit for Ukrainian media, Mr. Medvedev remarked: "As soon as any vacuum emerges, the temptation arises to fill this vacuum with something. ... This is why Europe and NATO showed an absolutely calm reaction to our agreement with Ukraine to extend the presence of Russia's naval base in Sevastopol. This is wise" (Russia Today, May 17).

During this 10-week period, the only reaction from Brussels was that of EU Energy Commissioner Guenther Oettinger, stating that a takeover of Ukraine's gas transit system would be a purely bilateral matter between Ukraine and Russia (European Union press releases, May 3, 6). Washington's only reaction thus far has

been Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's outright denial (during a NATO meeting) that anything worthy of concern was occurring between Russia and Ukraine (Voice of America, April 22).

Moscow is in a hurry to capitalize on its perceived free hand in Ukraine while the opportunity lasts. It cannot be certain how long it will last and seeks to advance the process of reintegration quickly, beyond the point of no return.

Heading a governmental and business delegation to Kyiv, President Medvedev proposed a wide-ranging program of industrial joint ventures with Russian capital in Ukraine. Apart from gas, the focus is on the steel, chemical, nuclear, aviation and ship-building industries. The overall concept involves Russian acquisition of stakes in Ukrainian industries, tempting the crisis-hit Ukrainian owners with the prospect of guaranteed Russian markets for the proposed joint enterprises. Overall, Mr. Medvedev proposed that Russia and Ukraine "synchronize the development of their socio-economic relations" (speech at Kyiv State University, Interfax-Ukraine, May 18, 19; www.kremlin.ru, May 19).

Mr. Medvedev and Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich co-chaired a session of the bilateral Interstate Commission, which had been dormant in recent years, but will henceforth convene twice a year at the presidential level. The session considered a raft of investment projects, to be submitted in July of this year to both governments for quick action. It also decided to order the drafting of a 10-year program for the expansion of socio-economic relations (Interfax-Ukraine, May 18, 19; www.kremlin.ru, May 19).

Those investment projects were broached

Moscow exploits a triple opportunity: Ukraine's regime change, the lack of any coherent Western policy toward Ukraine and the economic crisis affecting Ukraine.

with Ukraine's leading industrialists at the business forum, in Mr. Medvedev's presence. At the forum, Mr. Yanukovich remarked on Russia's apparent capacity to invest in Ukraine during the economic crisis, even as "the crisis showed the vulnerability of the U.S. and EU economies" (Interfax-Ukraine, May 18).

In a post-summit interview with Russian and Ukrainian media, Ukraine's Prime Minister Mykola Azarov, expressed his readiness to consider the possibility of Ukraine's accession to the Single Economic Space of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. He described this grouping as a potential market of some 200 million people (including Ukraine's 46 million), where Ukrainian industries could enjoy guaranteed access for their products. Ukrainian steel and chemical producers can join forces with their Russian counterparts in the Single Economic Space, instead of competing against each other on international markets, Mr. Azarov sug-

gested. Ukraine would choose "based on the national interests" (Interfax-Ukraine, May 19).

This has been Mr. Azarov's position all along, not shared to the same extent, if at all, by other Donetsk industrialists and politicians. Many in that group, however, lack a clear definition of national interests as distinct from business and group interests. The economic crisis has increased the gravitational pull of Russia's market and raw-material base vis-à-vis Ukraine.

Mr. Medvedev offered to represent from now on the positions of Ukraine and other CIS countries at G-8 and G-20 summits. Russia would "lobby," he said, to ensure that decisions taken at those summits (on anti-crisis measures, meet the interests of "our friendly neighbors") (Russia Today, May 17; www.kremlin.ru, May 19). Such a promise reflects Moscow's goal to act as leader of a Eurasian bloc of countries and speak to the world on those countries' collective behalf.

As Russian analyst Fedor Lukyanov has remarked (Center TV, May 18), Russia looks more interesting from Ukraine's perspective because the country itself is actually interested in Ukraine, whereas the European Union is apparently not. Within days of President Medvedev's Ukraine visit, the United States is scheduled to host him, hoping for Russian support on multiple U.S. predicaments. Downgraded on the list of Western priorities, Ukraine's current decision-makers must feel that they lack a strategic option other than Russia at this stage.

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Non-bloc status covers Kyiv's shift to Russian-vector orientation

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Opening, alongside Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, the Interstate Commission's session, Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich turned the clock back to 1990. Invoking that year's declaration of Ukraine's state sovereignty (still within the USSR), Mr. Yanukovich selectively underscored the document's stipulation of "non-bloc status" for Ukraine. The country can now "finally achieve this goal," he declared (UNIAN, May 17).

This statement implies more than repudiating the hypothesis of NATO membership. Ukraine's new authorities have already done that, both declaratively and by disbanding the two state commissions that used to handle Ukraine-NATO cooperation programs. Going back to 1990, however, implicitly overrides Ukraine's existing Constitution, which dropped the "non-bloc" clause, so as to open the way toward joining NATO. Mr. Yanukovich's statement also reflects Moscow's and his own government's view, that "non-bloc" is fully compatible with hosting Russia's Black Sea Fleet on Ukrainian territory for decades to come.

Moscow apparently regards Ukraine's "non-bloc" position as applying only toward NATO, but not toward the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). In his speech at Kyiv State University, Mr. Medvedev declared that Ukraine's non-bloc position was perfectly acceptable to Russia at present. "But life does change, and if Ukraine decides to join the CSTO in the future, we would be

happy to open the door for you, and welcome you into our ranks" (Website of the President of the Russian Federation, May 19).

Mr. Medvedev's reference to CSTO's open door sounds like a taunt to NATO's eponymous but failing policy in Ukraine.

In a concluding statement on European security, Mr. Yanukovich joins Mr. Medvedev in pledging to promote a new security system for all states in the Euro-Atlantic space, along the lines of the Russian president's 2009 proposals to create a structure superordinate to NATO. As a distinct feature related to Ukraine, the joint statement includes a call for security "guarantees to non-bloc countries and those that voluntarily gave up their nuclear arsenals" (Interfax, May 17).

This seems to presage Kyiv's own contribution to promoting Moscow's proposals from now on. Relegated to a grey zone between NATO and Russia, the Ukrainian government can from its own perspective feel justified supporting Russia's proposals to create a structure above NATO, if those proposals would on paper "guarantee" the security of "non-bloc" Ukraine.

Following the summit, Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) and Ukraine's Security Service (SBU) initiated an unprecedented program of joint activities. Meeting on May 19 in Odesa, the chairmen of the FSB and the SBU, Aleksandr Bortnikov and Valerii Khoroshkovsky, respectively, signed a framework document for cooperation on a wide range of issues, to be detailed in

compartmentalized agreements. The public announcement singles out "economic and industrial counter-intelligence, as well as protection of Russian and Ukrainian technologies on the internal markets [of the two countries]" (Interfax-Ukraine, May 19).

This aspect of cooperation seems related to the planned entry of Russian capital into Ukrainian industries and creation of joint enterprises there. Mr. Khoroshkovsky himself has had long-standing connections with Russian business in the metallurgical and energy sectors.

A separate protocol, signed at the same meeting, provides for the return of Russian FSB military counter-intelligence officers to Russia's Black Sea Fleet in the Crimea (Interfax-Ukraine, May 19). Those officers' presence had all along contravened CIS-wide agreements that prohibit FSB operations on the territories of member-countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. In 2009 Ukraine ordered FSB officers attached to Russia's Black Sea Fleet to leave Ukraine's territory.

Ukraine is one of the founding countries of the CIS, but has never ratified procedure of the CIS charter and is thus not a full-fledged member. The new government's minister of foreign affairs, Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, has stated more than once since taking office that Ukraine can participate in CIS activities without ratifying the charter and therefore, does not intend to do ratify it. The ministry's new spokesman, Oleh Voloshyn, however, retreated from that position in the

wake of Mr. Medvedev's visit, telling the media: "If we see that some really important issues cannot be resolved without being a [full] member and without ratifying the charter, we will consider this, of course" (Interfax-Ukraine, May 19).

This statement typifies the new Ukrainian authorities' proclivity to put leverage in Moscow's hand, in advance of any negotiation, by displaying their sense of Ukraine's vulnerability. Thus, Mr. Yanukovich and his government have advertised their fear of Gazprom's South Stream pipeline project, inviting Russia's entry into Ukraine's gas transit system, as a price for lifting South Stream's alleged bypass threat. Emboldened, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and Gazprom have raised the pressure by demanding an outright "merger," rather than shared control. Similarly, President Medvedev felt emboldened in Kyiv to raise the prospect of a shift from Ukraine's non-bloc status to entry into the CSTO.

By all appearances, the Ukrainian president and government feel that they must deal with Russia one-on-one, in the absence of Western involvement, which could steady the Ukrainian authorities' nervous hand. Far from the anticipated two-vector policy, Kyiv has drifted far into a single-vector policy toward Russia.

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THE 37th CONVENTION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The UNA General Assembly for 2010-2014

Below are the complete results of both the primary elections and the final balloting for offices on the UNA General Assembly. The names of candidates for office appear in the first column; the results of the primary, which is conducted as a write-in vote, appear in the second column; and the final election results are in the third column.

After the results of the primary were announced, nominees could accept or decline to run; no more than three candidates for each position could run in the final election (i.e., three candidates could run for each of the six executive officers' positions, nine persons could run for the three auditors' slots; and 33 could run for the 11 advisors' positions).

The names of those elected to office appear in bold. Officers who ran unopposed in the final election were elected by acclamation. The new General Assembly begins its term on July 1.

OFFICE/CANDIDATE	PRIMARY	FINAL
PRESIDENT		
Stefan Kaczaraj	73	ACCLAMATION
1st VICE-PRESIDENT		
Michael Koziupa	66	ACCLAMATION
Zenon Holubec	2	
Eugene Oscislowski	1	
Andrij Skyba	1	
2nd VICE-PRESIDENT		
Eugene Oscislowski	72	ACCLAMATION
Michael Koziupa	1	
Maya Lew	1	
Oleh Palaschenko	1	
DIRECTOR FOR CANADA		
Myron Groch	67	ACCLAMATION
Ewhen Osidacz	2	
NATIONAL SECRETARY		
Christine Kozak	73	ACCLAMATION
Roma Lisovich	1	
TREASURER		
Roma Lisovich	74	ACCLAMATION

OFFICE/CANDIDATE	PRIMARY	FINAL
AUDITORS		
Slavko Tysiak	76	ACCLAMATION
Eugene Serba	73	ACCLAMATION
Wasyl Szeremeta	73	ACCLAMATION
Eugene Oscislowski	1	
Andrij Szul	1	
ADVISORS		
Nicholas Fil	68	59
Maya Lew	65	66
Stephanie Hawryluk	64	59
Andrew Futey	63	64
Gloria Horbaty	62	59
Ewhen Osidacz	60	60
Lubov Streletsky	58	58
Olya Czerkas	56	43
Michael Luciw	47	37
Oleh Palaschenko	44	47
Andrij Szul	42	50
Andrij Skyba	21	22
Al Kachkowski	12	
Bohdan Doboszczak	9	
Tamara Kuropas	8	
Stefan Lysiak	6	
Nestor Olesnycky	3	
Markian Hadzewycz	2	
Luba Keske	2	40
Raymond Komichak	2	
George Soltys	2	
Andrii Andriyevsky	1	
Andrij Gavdanovich	1	
(No first name) Holovata	1	
Halyna Kolessa	1	30
Oksana Koziak	1	
Gloria Paschen	1	
Ulana Prociuk	1	
Irene Pryjma	1	
Bohdana Puzyk	1	
Myron Pylypiak	1	
Anna Slobodian	1	
Oksana Stanko	1	
(No first name) Schultz	1	
Stephan Welhasch	1	

UNA holds...

(Continued from page 1)

General Assembly placed flowers before the statue of the Rev. Hryhory Hrushka, first editor of Svoboda and founder of the Ukrainian National Association.

The convention heard reports by the UNA's executive officers, auditors and advisors, as well as the editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, Roma Hadzewycz. Following an extended session for questions and discussions regarding the reports, the UNA Auditing Committee proposed a vote of confidence for the outgoing officers, which was accepted by the delegates with a round of applause.

Convention participants also voted on reports delivered by the Secretaries Committee, Petitions Committee, Finance Committee and Resolutions Committee, which were composed of convention delegates and General Assembly members.

In addition, delegates accepted two of the four amendments to the UNA By-laws proposed by the By-Laws Committee: the positions of UNA president and treasurer will now be referred to, respectively, in Ukrainian as "prezydent" (formerly "predsidnyk") and "skarbnik" (formerly "kasyr"); and the threshold for the minimum number of members needed for a branch to qualify for its own convention delegate was lowered from 75 to 65. For additional delegates branches must have: between 130 and 194 members (previously 150-224) for two delegates; 195-259 members (previously 225-299) for three delegates; and 260 or more members (previously 300 and above) for the maximum four delegates.

During the four days of sessions, delegates also had an opportunity to attend a Secretaries Course, to get advice from the UNA's top organizers, and to hear a presentation about how the UNA's insurance and annuities products can be used in funding a child's college education.

The keynote address at the convention banquet was delivered by Petro R. Stawnychy, president of the U.S. national executive board of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. Ukraine's consul general in New York, Serhii Pohoreltsev, delivered greetings to "the strongest organization of Ukrainians in America."

The convention was conducted by Nestor Olesnycky, chairman, and Raymond Komichak and Roman Hawryluk, vice-chairmen, who were assisted by Dr. Szul as parliamentarian. The secretaries who recorded the minutes of the sessions were Lada Bidiak and Larissa Raphael (dubbed by Mr. Olesnycky as the "Minutewomen"). In addition, the proceedings were recorded on video by Vlodko Artymyshyn and crew.

Instrumental in the convention's success was the Convention Committee chaired by Oksana Trytjak, the UNA's national organizer. Committee members were: Mr. Fil, Mr. and Mrs. Hawryluk, Maxine Hayden, Ms. Lew, Sonia Semanyshyn, Anna Slobodian, Mr. Tysiak and Nestor Paslowsky (general manager of Soyuzivka).

Holding voting powers at the convention were 60 delegates of UNA branches, as well as 17 members and one honorary member of the General Assembly.

UNA recognizes longtime branch secretaries

The following UNA branch secretaries were honored at the 37th Regular UNA Convention for their longtime service.

50 or more years of service to the UNA

Nicholas Bobeczko	60 years
Oleksa Prodywus	58 years
Peter Serba	56 years
Mary Sweryda	53 years
Fedir Petryk	52 years
Petro Pytel	50 years

25 or more years of service to the UNA

Dmytro Galonzka	49 years
Gloria Tolopka	48 years
Ana Twardowska	47 years
Michael Bilyk	47 years
Genet Boland	46 years
Emilia Smal	44 years
Michael Zacharko	44 years
Olga Dudish	43 years
Roman Kuropas	43 years
Semen Hasiak	40 years
Joseph Chabon	40 years
Olga Maruszczak	40 years
Pete Kohut Sr.	39 years
Stephan Shilkevich	38 years

Alexandra Dolnycky	38 years
Janet Bardell	38 years
Gloria Paschen	37 years
Michael Sawkiw	37 years
Mary Hnatyk	36 years
Bohdan Hryshchshyn	36 years
Olga Pishko	35 years
Marguerite Hentosh	34 years
Teodor Duda	34 years
Katherine Sargent	34 years
Vera Napora	33 years
Peter Leshchshyn	33 years
Stephan Chorney	32 years
Peter Hawrylcw	32 years
Eugene Makar	32 years
Myron Groch	31 years
Irene Oliynyk	31 years
Tatiana Miskiv	29 years
Myron Kramarczuk	28 years
Natalia Shuya	27 years
Stephanie Hawryluk	27 years
Rev. Myron Stasiw	27 years
Annabelle Borovitckyy	26 years
Barbara Chupa	26 years
Jurij Danyliw	25 years
Lubomira Szeremeta	25 years
Anna Buriy	25 years
George Pollyniak	25 years

THE 37th CONVENTION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION



Roma Hadzewycz

Participants of the 37th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association.



UNA Advisors are sworn into office (from left): Oleh Palaschenko, Luba Poniatyszyn Keske, Gloria Horbaty, Dr. Andriy Szul, Ewhen Osidacz, Andrew Futey, Lubov Streletsky, Stephanie Hawryluk and Nicholas Fil. (Missing, because they had to leave earlier: Maya Lew and Olya Czerkas.)

Dr. Zenon Holubec, honored for his service as first vice-president and auditor, with National Secretary Christine E. Kozak and Treasurer Roma Lisovich.



Peter Serba is congratulated by Christine E. Kozak after being recognized for 56 years of service as a UNA branch secretary.



Members of the convention's Election Committee (from left): Stefan Zacharko, Andriy Gavdanovich, Markian Hadzewycz, Sofia Derzko, Dr. Andrew Hrechak (chairman), Motria Milanytch, Dr. Zenon Holubec, Ulana Prociuk, Anna Slobodian and Tamara Kuropas. (Missing from the photo: Eli Matiash.)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

UCU takes a stand

The May 18 meeting between an agent of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) and the rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, is the latest disturbing evidence of authoritarianism returning to Ukraine under the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich.

The request made of UCU's leadership – that students “should be warned by the university administration that those involved in any illegal activities will be prosecuted” – is nothing less than an attempt by the SBU to recruit university leaders into intimidating students from taking part in anti-government protests.

There is no need for university leaders to tell their students that doing something illegal will lead to prosecution. That's a basic lesson in civics that one learns in elementary school.

What the SBU really needs is for those annoying young people – with all their childish notions of democracy, justice and a fair and prosperous nation – to keep their ideas to themselves while the neo-Soviet oligarchs who run Ukraine continue cutting deals and reaping their profits.

Father Gudziak handled the incident well. Not only did he decline to read the letter offered by the SBU agent, let alone sign it, but he also immediately made public the details of the incident in a well-documented account widely distributed in the news media and on the Internet.

Perhaps foolishly, the SBU decided to make its request on the eve of the General Assembly of the Federation of European Catholic Universities that was hosted by UCU on May 20-22. More than 50 prominent university administrators from throughout the world are now aware of the neo-Soviet tactics of the Yanukovich administration. Moreover, the incident received attention in the online political publications of prominent political magazines, such as *The Economist* and *The National Review*.

It must be hard spinning public relations for Mr. Yanukovich's SBU. Spokeswoman Maryna Ostapenko claimed her agents were merely explaining to the Rev. Gudziak “that involving students in illegal activity, in possible mass disturbances, is against the law.” In her brief statement, she neglected to mention the letter that the SBU wanted signed. And her claim raises another question: What rector of a university with Western standards would involve himself in controlling the nonviolent, political activity of his students? The Rev. Gudziak has far more relevant matters to deal with.

In supporting UCU since its revival in 1994 (as the Lviv Theological Academy), the Ukrainian diaspora has made one of its wisest investments in Ukraine. With its bold stance in defense of Western values such as freedom of association and freedom of assembly, UCU remains a solitary beacon of promise amidst a Ukrainian university community that all but folded to the Yanukovich administration's suppression of civil liberties and opposition activity.

As the Rev. Gudziak acutely pointed out, no other university has yet to speak out about the SBU campaign, despite the likelihood that they've all been visited and have signed on, particularly in Lviv. This includes otherwise well-regarded universities such as Ivan Franko National University in Lviv and Lviv Polytechnic University. Unlike its counterparts, UCU hasn't forgotten the sacrifices of those who shed their blood and died in the Soviet gulags for a free and democratic Ukraine that has integrated Western values.

In declining to comply with the SBU – which refused to even provide a copy of the letter it wanted signed – UCU's leadership demonstrated it will defend against any slide towards authoritarianism and a neo-Soviet Ukraine where civil rights and liberties would be suppressed.

This would not have been possible without the support of the Ukrainian community that is thriving in the Western world, which has given us economic opportunity and freedom. The Rev. Gudziak asked for our prayers and support, and we must rally to support the university's principled stance and help defend it against any future attempts to pressure or persecute the university's leadership.

We must send the message – to the Ukrainian government and to the world – that we won't give up what has been gained in the last five years and we won't allow Ukraine to slide into a neo-Soviet system of governance. We will stand alongside the Ukrainian Catholic University to ensure that any such attempts will be strongly repulsed.

May
31
1997

Turning the pages back...

Thirteen years ago, on May 31, 1997, Presidents Boris Yeltsin and Leonid Kuchma signed the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership at the Mariinsky Palace in Kyiv. The agreement outlined Russia's formal recognition of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, which for centuries was the centerpiece of the Russian Empire and later, the Soviet Union.

This was President Yeltsin's first visit to Ukraine, and his seventh attempt at a state visit to Kyiv. “I could not come to Kyiv until we had an agreement on the Black Sea Fleet,” he said. “Ukraine is an independent country, and we will hold this premise sacred,” President Yeltsin stated, adding that Russia “does not lay claim on any part of Ukraine or on any of its cities.”

During the signing ceremony, the two leaders also signed a statement on the Black Sea Fleet and an agreement of cooperation in the development of a common space industry.

The treaty had an original life of 10 years, but has been automatically extended unless either side calls for its cancellation. The treaty called for far-reaching coordination in areas of military, political, cultural and economic relations on the basis of “non-

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WINDOW ON EURASIA

Closing Soviet archives: “Ukrainians know all they need to know about their past”

by Paul Goble

The decision of new Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich to declare that the Terror-Famine was a mass murder in which Ukrainian peasants suffered alongside Russian and Belarusian ones rather than a Moscow-orchestrated genocide directed against the Ukrainian nation has attracted a great deal of attention in Ukraine, Russia and the West.

But a far more serious development is the decision of one of the Ukrainian leader's aides to re-close Soviet-era archives because in his words, “that truth which it was necessary to bring to the Ukrainian people has already been brought to its attention,” a policy and a statement with much more far-reaching consequences (www.polit.ru/institutes/2010/05/06/memory.html).

In a comment posted online on May 6, Roman Kabachiy, the editor of the history section of Kyiv's “Ukrainskyi tyzhden,” says that this action by Valerii Khoroshkovskiy, the new head of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), means that “the memory [of the Ukrainian people has been again] stolen.”

According to Mr. Kabachiy, “Soviet archives again are returning to their customary status – closed to outsiders. One can understand the new head of the SBU: the popularization of history cannot be the basic direction of the work of that organization. But if earlier there existed a small chance of state enlightenment in the historical sphere, now it will be blocked.”

“More than that,” the historian says, “the de-Sovietization [of the history of Ukraine] will be changed in the direction

Paul Goble is a long-time specialist on ethnic and religious questions in Eurasia who has served in various capacities in the U.S. State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the International Broadcasting Bureau, as well as at the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He has also been director of research and publications at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, vice-dean for the social sciences and humanities at Audentes University in Tallinn and a senior research associate at the EuroCollege of the University of Tartu in Estonia. Mr. Goble writes a blog called “Window on Eurasia” (<http://windowoneurasia.blogspot.com/>). This article above is reprinted with permission.

(Continued on page 11)

ACTION ITEM: Intimidation by the SBU

By now, many Ukrainian Americans have learned that the current regime of Ukraine is trying to intimidate free expression by students, academics, clergy and others. The Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, received a visit from a representative of the SBU (former KGB) who wanted him to sign a letter concerning possible future student protest activities. Father Gudziak was told he could not have a copy of the letter even if he signed it. He therefore refused to even read the letter, let alone sign it.

A massive campaign protesting these types of Soviet scare tactics has begun. Please keep up the pressure on your representatives and senators in the U.S. Congress to protest in the strongest language to the Embassy and Consulates of Ukraine here in the United States, as well as to President Viktor Yanukovich that such actions are unacceptable in a modern democratic state.

Below is a sample letter constituents may write to their senators and representatives. A similar message urging President Barack Obama to express his administration's objections to such undemocratic behavior in an ally may be telephoned to the White House comments line: 202-456-1111. (This line is staffed by volunteers during weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; callers need not leave their names if they do not wish to,

(Continued on page 11)

NEWS AND VIEWS

The politics of appeasement

by Askold S. Lozynskyj

Russian muscle flexing in Georgia in August 2008 and more recently in Ukraine, installing its lackeys as rulers, has caught the attention of the international community. However, the reaction has been to acquiesce with little manifest indignation and no protest.

What is largely unknown is how the Kremlin internally has directed police tactics against its ethnic communities in Russia. Russia has never manifested much love for its non-Russian population, but recent steps have become brazenly hostile, yet with seemingly no protest from international structures in which Russia is a member.

Clearly emboldened, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and President Dmitry Medvedev have taken on the Ukrainians in Russia. According to leaders of Ukrainian community organizations in Russia, since 2004 Ukrainian culture in Russia has felt undue pressure, particularly in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Surgut, Voronezh and Ufa. The library of Ukrainian literature in Moscow was cleansed of "Ukrainian nationalists"; the Ukrainian educational center at Middle School No. 3124 in Moscow closed its doors. The Russian Justice Ministry conducted an audit and suspended the activity of the leading Ukrainian federal structure called the Federal National Cultural Autonomy of Ukrainians in Russia. The Ministry's directive relied on the complaint of a third party which alleged the following:

"V.A. Semenenko, representing the Ukrainian non-governmental organizations in Russia in the name of the Federal National Cultural Autonomy of Ukrainians in Russia (FNCA UR), regularly participates in events organized by foreign non-governmental structures – the 'Ukrainian World Coordinating Council' (UWCC), the 'Ukrainian World Congress' (UWC) on 'matters concerning the Ukrainian nation.' The leaders of those organizations act from a position of nationalism and separatism... The activity of V.A. Semenenko... is aimed at propaganda glorifying the Ukrainian nation... The FNCA UR aims to discredit the current activity and the political course of Russia uniting nationalities and in its activity constitutes a danger to the existing constitutional order..."

The allegations are striking even for Russia, since they manifestly contradict international civilized norms for ethnic minority activity, the rights of association and assembly. The UWCC is legally registered in Ukraine and the UWC is legally registered in Canada. The Ukrainian community sought judicial redress. However, on May 12, the Moscow regional Tversky court supported the position of the Justice Ministry and went on to affirm the liquidation citing three violations of the suspension:

"On October 29, 2009 V. Semenenko in the name of the Ukrainian community participated in a public event of Radio Liberty... On November 11-12, 2009 co-chairs V. Babenko and V. Semenenko organized and hosted in Moscow an

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

international educational-practical conference titled 'The history, status and future development of Ukrainian studies in Russia'... On November 26, 2009, V. Semenenko represented the FNCA UR and presided over an event commemorating 'the victims of the Holodomor and killings of Ukrainians in the 30s,' which was organized in support and to honor the victims with 'an eternal flame' and a documentary-artistic exhibit about the 'Holodomor 1932-1933 genocide of the Ukrainian nation,' which opened in Kyiv on November 25, 2009."

The Russian law on Public Associations provides:

"Article 42. Suspension of Public Associations' Activity. If a public association violates the Constitution of the Russian Federation, or the legislation of the Russian Federation, and if it performs actions, contradicting the statutory goals, the federal body state registration or its corresponding territorial body, or the procurator general of the Russian Federation or the corresponding public prosecutor, subordinated to him, shall make a presentation on the above-said violations to the leading body of the given association and shall fix a time term for their elimination. If these violations are not eliminated within the fixed time term, the body or the official person, which (who) made the corresponding presentation, shall have the right to suspend by its (his) order the activity of the public association for a term of up to six months. The decision on the suspension of the activity of a public association may be appealed to the courts before the courts consider an application for its liquidation or for the prohibition of its activity.

"Article 43. Consequences of the Suspension of the Activity of a Public Association. If the activity of a public association is suspended, its rights as a founder of the mass media shall also be suspended, and it shall be prohibited from organizing and holding get-togethers, meetings, demonstrations, processions, picketing and other kinds of mass actions or public events..."

Incredibly, it would appear that Russian law supports the actions taken by the ministry and the court. Yet, even with such legislation in force, Russia remains a respected permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, a member of the Council of Europe and the first addition to what was once the G-7.

In May 1945 a delegation from the Ukrainian community in the United States (the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America) met with D. C. Poole, associate public liaison officer of the United States delegation to the San Francisco Conference. The delegation remarked that the United States was the champion of oppressed people and that they felt confident of American official interest in the cause of Ukrainian independence. Mr. Poole answered that the interest of the American people in all who felt oppressed was well-established in history. However, he pointed out that it was necessary above all to work out a friendly accommodation with the USSR and that nothing should be done to disturb that effort. Little or nothing was done for almost half a century.

One can only pray that today we live in a different world.

Monuments and memory

by Jurij Dobczansky

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich recently starred in several hilarious YouTube clips. On inauguration day the doors of the Parliament practically close on him as he enters the building. In a record-breaking most frequently viewed clip, he is attacked by a wreath at Kyiv's Tomb of the Unknowns. This blockbuster clip has taken on a life of its own – reminiscent of the 2004 egg-throwing incident in Ivano-Frankivsk.

However, a clip of Mr. Yanukovich's April visit to Washington's Taras Shevchenko Monument illustrates the pathetic nature of the current administration of Ukraine. It calls to mind Shevchenko's 1847 poem "Meni odnakovo..." – roughly translated as "I am indifferent to it all."

After watching someone else lay the wreath at the foot of the Shevchenko statue, President Yanukovich appears clueless. He chats about the lovely warm weather, his three grandchildren and his own singing voice. How quaint! "Why am I here?" he must have wondered.

Unexpectedly he presents a bandura to the meager gathering and says absolutely nothing of significance. Are we supposed to take turns playing a bandura belonging to no one in particular? He might have announced the opening of a school of bandura in Donetsk.

Poor Mr. Yanukovich! His PR handlers are trying so hard to pass him off as Shrek, the lovable ogre. They didn't bother to brief him on the significance of Shevchenko.

But joking aside, don't let the Shrek image fool you. Shevchenko's brief poem concludes: "Still, while I live, I cannot bear to see wicked people rob Ukraine, while

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she's lulled asleep, and awaken her amid the flames they set..." These words remain ominously relevant today.

Mr. Yanukovich and his sinister gang were not sore losers sitting idly since the 2004 election. They immediately began planning their takeover strategy. And they're now playing for keeps. With the velocity of the well spewing oil into the Gulf of Mexico, the Yanukovich gang has begun to reverse the gains of Ukraine's fragile democracy – a democracy that allowed for their coming to power. Hastily setting up an illegitimate coalition, Ukraine's "guarantor of the Constitution" brazenly violated the very foundation for the rule of law.

On the night of the inauguration, the page documenting the Holodomor Genocide of 1932-1933 was removed from the presidential website. The Security Service of Ukraine closed its archives department, which had earlier released documentation of Stalin's crimes, including the Famine. Speaking before the Council of Europe in Strasbourg Mr. Yanukovich declared the Famine was not genocide. Tossing historical memory to the wind, the president of a post-genocidal nation shamelessly prostrated himself before the leaders of the Russian Federation, who stubbornly refuse to recognize the facts of history.

Liberty and independence require vigilance. As the Ukrainian saying goes: No sense in closing the stable doors – when the horses have run off. Shortly after the Orange Revolution, Ukraine was lulled asleep in a false sense of security and well-being. President Viktor Yushchenko's administration mandated the documentation of the Holodomor, but little was done to ensure the preservation of these materials in Ukrainian libraries and abroad. By contrast, many years earlier the U.S. government routinely distributed the Famine Commission's publi-

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let's all protest under one flag

Dear Editor:

On May 3 I took part in a protest in front of Ukraine's Mission to the United Nations in New York City against President Viktor Yanukovich's treasonous agreements with Russia and other anti-Ukrainian policies of his government. We were a small group from Philadelphia and were joined by others from New York and from New Jersey. It was then that someone brought a large red-and-black flag of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists.

After protesting in front of the Ukrainian Mission we marched toward the Russian Mission. However, we were not allowed near their building. Three young boys, age 10, 12 and 13, threw eggs at its entrance and were arrested. The story was that the boys did it on their own initiative and that one of the boys had dreamed about doing this since the egg incident with Mr. Yanukovich prior to the Orange Revolution. Most of us did not know the exact location of the Russian Mission building so it is interesting that these youngsters knew exactly where to throw the eggs. The applause after one child reappeared with his mother hours later was not a sign of approval or admiration, but of relief that this child was all right and had been released by the police. These boys' parents should not feel any pride over this act of vandalism and hooliganism, and

should instill in their children the rules of civility and explain what peaceful protest means. What better example than the Orange Revolution?

Ukrainians in the diaspora, as well as in Ukraine, are a very diverse group with many different political convictions. Ukrainians have many organizations that believe faithfully that their past leaders were the best. While convictions vary, all share their love for Ukraine and they hope and wish that Ukraine remains an independent and democratic country. We protested many times in front of the Soviet Embassy in Washington against Soviet tyranny and domination with one voice, united under the Ukrainian flag. The protest on May 3 started as such, but soon changed when the red-and-black flag appeared. After seeing the photos on the Internet, I saw that the red and black flag was between the Ukrainian and American flags at the head of the procession. This gives the false appearance that this was not an all-Ukrainian protest but only that of the organization represented by this flag.

If any organization plans to lead a protest with its flag, they should inform everyone in advance so that people are not misled and may decide whether they want to participate. I hope that when we feel impelled to protest against injustices in Ukraine in the future, it will be under one flag, with one voice, peacefully and civilly without any acts from children or adults that will reflect badly on us and of which we all should be ashamed.

Marianna Wakulowska
Philadelphia

Philadelphians continue to support Ukrainian Catholic University

by Marta Kolomayets

PHILADELPHIA – The “city of Brotherly Love” is no stranger to the Ukrainian Catholic University; its citizens have supported the institution since the 1960s, when Patriarch Josyf Slipyj revived the university in Rome and called on the Ukrainian diaspora to help cultivate the future leaders of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Over the years, Philadelphia has been fertile ground for fostering a close relationship between the Church and its brethren. Such community leaders as the late Dr. Romana Nawrockyj and the late Prof. Myroslav Labunka, as well as the tireless Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky have always kept the dream of Patriarch Josyf alive through their support of the university, now reborn in Lviv.

The Rev. Dr. Andriy Onuferko, the Rev. Mykhailo Loza and Prof. Mykhailo Petrovych, native sons of Philadelphia, and alumni of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Rome, continue to work to educate minds and shape souls for the benefit of not only Ukraine, but for Ukrainians worldwide.

Now, more than 40 years later, Philadelphians are heeding that call again, raising close to \$70,000 to support the university – the only Catholic institution of higher learning on the territory of the former Soviet Union.

The lion's share of these funds is earmarked for the 2010 academic programs at the UCU Rome Center and donated by the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics, Inc.

During the past four years, the St. Sophia Association has contributed over \$1.5 million to the Rome affiliate of the Ukrainian Catholic University and its Institute of St. Clement Pope.

“Rome is the center of world Catholicism and, thus, the Ukrainian Catholic University in Rome is the window to Europe and a formidable education and academic factor in education for students in Ukraine and the diaspora,” commented Dr. Rudnytsky, president of the St. Sophia Association.

During a Sunday afternoon, April 25, benefit dinner held at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pa., more than 175 people gathered to listen to former political prisoner Myroslav Marynovych, vice-rector of UCU, speak about “Ukraine as a Fledgling Democracy: The Ukrainian Catholic University Perspective.”

Mr. Marynovych offered news of the current political situation in Ukraine and answered the many questions posed from guests who are concerned by the activities of the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich. Troubled by the appointment of Dmytro Tabachnyk as the government's Minister of Education, Mr. Marynovych explained that he spearheaded a campaign of protest on the Internet, which was later published in Ukrainian newspapers and aired on Ukrainian television. UCU was later joined by the National University of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy and Lviv State University in denouncing the Soviet historian and Ukrainophobe.

What was most shocking to Mr. Marynovych was the fact that a number of rectors (university presidents) from western Ukraine went to Kyiv to greet Mr. Tabachnyk in his new role. “It is shocking to me that after almost 20 years of independence and five years post-Orange Revolution, we still have ‘homo-Sovieticus,’” said the founding member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group who continues to be a staunch advocate of human rights.

“Our university was born of freedom, and



Benefactors are seen at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pa., during a fund-raising event organized on April 25 by the Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University.

it only makes sense for it to thrive in an atmosphere of freedom,” Mr. Marynovych told the audience, adding that the students of UCU continue to take part in peaceful protests. They have been advised by the University's leader that the current government may try to provoke violent actions to put the students and the university in a compromising situation.

Citing recent statistics regarding the political situation in Ukraine today, Mr. Marynovych said that 55 percent of those surveyed said they believe that the moral decline in Ukraine today has led to the political chaos in

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Myroslav Marynovych, vice-rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University (left), presents a gift to Taras Lewyckyj, head of the Organizing Committee of the Philadelphia Friends of UCU during the fund-raising event on April 25.

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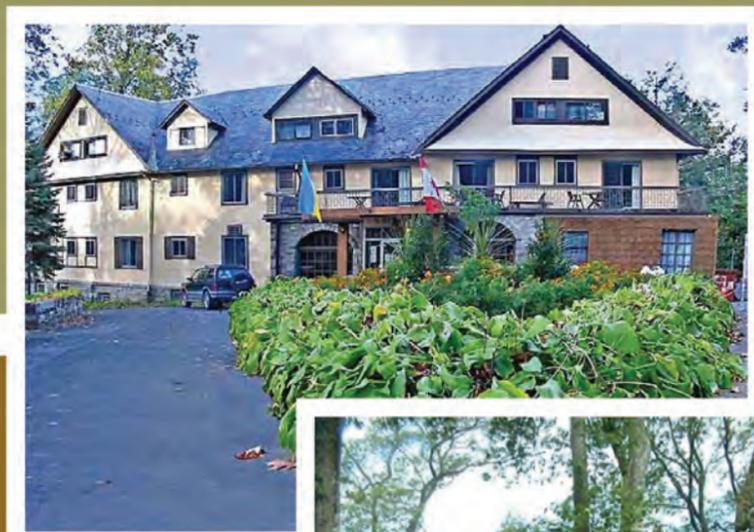
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SBU attempts...

(Continued from page 1)

in 1945 by the Soviet regime, which banned Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church), have always been civically conscious, often peacefully protesting the lack of reform in Ukraine. They were also very supportive of the Orange Revolution, spending time in Kyiv on Independence Square (the Maidan) to see that justice prevail. Many of the students have said they considered this peaceful revolution a "living course in democracy."

When President Viktor Yanukovich and the Cabinet of Ministers led by Prime Minister Mykola Azarov took power earlier this year, the students of the Ukrainian Catholic University and Lviv State University were the first to speak out against Education Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk, who wants to revert to a Soviet style of education, going as far as rewriting modern Ukrainian history.

President Yanukovich was scheduled to visit Lviv on May 27. The Rev. Gudziak said he would gladly meet with him, but no invitation had been extended by the Ukrainian president.

Below is the text of a memorandum regarding the visit to the Ukrainian Catholic University of a representative of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) responsible for contacts with Churches in Lviv. The memorandum, dated May 19, is from the rector of UCU, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak. The SBU's visit took place on May 18 at 9:50-10:34 a.m.

At 9:27 in the morning Father Borys Gudziak received a call on his private mobile phone from a representative of the Security Service of Ukraine requesting a meeting. The meeting was scheduled for 20 minutes later at the rectorate of UCU. This official had had contacts with the UCU rectorate a year ago at the time of the visit to the university of the then president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko. He had made a visit to the rectorate in the late afternoon on May 11 with regard to a request of the Ecumenical and Church History Institutes to sign an agreement to use the SBU archives. At that time members of the rectorate were away from the office. He had, what Dr. Antoine Arjakovsky, director of the Institute of Ecumenical Studies, called a "very good meeting."

Upon arrival on May 18, in a polite manner the agent related that certain political parties are planning protests and demonstrations regarding the controversial (and in some cases inflammatory) policies of the new Ukrainian authorities. Students are to be engaged in these protests. There is a danger that some of these manifestations may be marred by provocations. He stated that, of course, students are allowed to protest but that they should be warned by the university administration that those involved in any illegal activities will be prosecuted. Illegal activities include not only violent acts but also, for example, pickets blocking access to the work place of government officials (or any protests that are not sanctioned by authorities).

After his oral presentation the agent put on the table between us an unfolded one-page letter that was addressed to me. He asked me to read the letter and then acknowledge with a signature my familiarity with its contents. He stated that after I had read and signed the letter it would be necessary for him to take the letter back. Since I could see that the document was properly addressed to me as rector (I also noticed that it had two signatures giving it a particularly official character) I replied calmly that any letter addressed to me becomes my property and should stay with me – at least in copy form. Only under these conditions could I agree to even read

the letter (much less sign).

The agent was evidently taken back by my response. It seemed that the situation for him was without precedent because in my presence using his mobile phone he called his (local) superiors to ask for instructions on how to proceed. The superior refused permission to leave me either the original letter or a copy, saying that the SBU fears I "might publish it in the Internet." I questioned this entire procedure and the need for secrecy, and refused to look at the letter and read its contents. The young official was disappointed and somewhat confused but did not exert additional pressure and did not dispute my argumentation.

Our conversation also had a pastoral moment. I cautioned the agent of the fact that the SBU, as the former KGB with many employees remaining from the Soviet times, has a heavy legacy of breaking and crippling people physically and morally, and that he as a young married person should be careful not to fall into any actions that would cause lasting damage to his own identity and shame his children and grandchildren. I sought to express this pastorally as a priest. To his credit, he both acknowledged the past and declared his desire to serve the needs of Ukrainian citizens. He also asked that I indicate to him if I feel that he is exercising improper pressure.

Finally, I expressed my and the general population's profound disappointment that the work of the SBU is so uneven, that security and police officers live lavishly on low salaries because they are involved in corrupt activities, and that the legal rights of citizens and equal application of the law are severely neglected. I gave the recent example of my cousin, Teodor Gudziak, mayor of Vynnyky, who in February 2010 (three days after the election of the new president) was arrested in a fabricated case of bribery that was set up by a notoriously corrupt political rival and former policemen through the regional and city police. Despite the fact that two weeks before the fabricated affair the mayor, based on a vote of the Town Council, had given the SBU a video of plainclothes policemen breaking into his office and safe in City Hall in the middle of the night and using town seals on various documents, the SBU took no action. (The leadership of the Church, specifically Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, fears that by manipulated association this case may be used as a device to compromise the rector of UCU and the whole institution which has a unique reputation of being free from corruption.) I also related that I had reliable testimony and audible evidence that my phone is tapped and has been for many months.

The population of Ukraine continues to fear and distrust both state security and police personnel because of the woeful track record of law enforcement and because of the diffuse practice of police intimidation of honest politicians, journalists, common citizens and the wanton extortion practiced by security institutions and police with respect to middle and small business. I asked the young agent to convey these concerns to his superiors. I had the impression that personally he is open to moral argument but that he also was simply doing his job. It was clear to me that he was dutifully "following orders."

During our conversation, the agent asked me about the imminent (May 20-22) General Assembly of the Federation of European Catholic Universities (FUCE) that will be hosted by UCU in Lviv. He characterized it as an important event (it has received considerable publicity) and asked about the program and whether it is open to the public. It was clear that he would have been interested in participating in the proceedings. I said that the main theme, "Humanization of society through the work of Catholic universities," was announced in a press release as will be the outcome of the deliberations. The working sessions of the university rectors, however, are not open to



The Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak

the public. I explained that the 211 members of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) and the 45 members of FUCE follow closely the development of the only Catholic university in the former Soviet Union. They will be monitoring the welfare of UCU, especially since in Japan in March at the annual meeting of the Board of Consultants of IFCU I had the opportunity to describe some of our socio-political concerns and the threats to the freedom of intellectual discourse (imposition of Soviet historical views, rehabilitation of Stalin and Stalinism, to whom a new monument was unveiled in Zaporizhia 5 May 2010) and new censorship of the press and television that are incompatible with normal university life.

Subsequently, as had been arranged at

the beginning of the meeting, I called in the UCU Senior Vice-Rector Dr. Taras Dobko to whom the official repeated the SBU's concerns.

Besides noting the SBU's solicitude for stability in Ukrainian society there are a few conclusions to be drawn from the encounter and the proposals that were expressed:

1. Signing a document such as the letter that was presented for signature to me is tantamount to agreeing to cooperate (collaborate) with the SBU. The person signing, in effect, agrees with the contents of the letter and their implication. In KGB practice, getting a signature on a document that was drafted and kept by the KGB was a primary method of recruiting secret collaborators.

2. Such methods have no known (to me) precedent in independent Ukraine in the experience of UCU and of the Lviv National University whose longtime rector (and former Minister of Education, 2008-2010) Ivan Vakarchuk I consulted immediately after the meeting. These methods were well-known in the Soviet times.

3. The confiscation of the letter after signature makes the letter and signature instruments to be used at the complete discretion of the SBU.

4. The possible scenarios for the exploitation of such a document include the following:

a.) In case of the arrest of a student, the SBU could confront the rectorate and charge that the university was informed of the danger to students and did not take necessary measures to protect them from violence or legal harm. In this case, the university administration could be charged with both moral and legal responsibility. A charge with legal ramifications could become an instrument to try to

(Continued on page 21)

BACKGROUND: The SBU and UCU

SBU spokeswoman responds

In its response to the Ukrainian Catholic University rector's statement, Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) spokeswoman Maryna Ostapenko said the meeting with the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak conformed to the law and had the intent of "preventing violations of the law."

"The norms of the law were explained to the rector, in particular, that involving students in illegal activity, in possible mass disturbances, is against the law," Ms. Ostapenko told Deutsche Welle in an interview published on May 26.

Radio Liberty report

In contrast to the UCU, the majority of Lviv's university rectors signed the SBU's letter, Radio Liberty reported on May 25, citing "informed sources."

Additionally, Ihor Derzhko of the Lviv Oblast State Administration, which is controlled by the Presidential Administration, denied placing a telephone call to the Rev. Gudziak, as latter claimed, to find out how many students were participating in the May 11 protest at the Verkhovna Rada.

The Lviv Oblast State Administration chair, Vasyl Horbal, told Radio Liberty he never gave such an order. "I gave no one no commands, and my deputy Ihor Derzhko called this a provocation," said Mr. Horbal, a Lviv native and active leader in the pro-presidential Party of Regions.

THE SBU's chief

The SBU is led by Valerii Khoroshkovskiy, one of Ukraine's biggest oligarchs, whose wealth was estimated at \$223 million in 2009 by the

annual Dragon Capital-Korrespondent survey.

Mr. Khoroshkovskiy is the largest shareholder in Ukraine's largest television network, Inter, whose daily news programs cast the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich in a positive light and offer little to no criticism, particularly from the opposition.

Since taking the helm of the SBU in March, the 41-year-old magnate has been accused of attempting to take over the broadcast licenses of TV networks committed to objective political coverage, particularly the TVi network owned by Russian exiles Vladimir Gusinsky and Konstantin Kagalovsky.

"The biggest problem of freedom of speech in any country is when an oligarch, who simultaneously leads the SBU, uses his government position to pressure regulatory organs, and simultaneously tries to gain the licenses of all other television networks in an illegal way, which we know is happening currently," Vitalii Portnikov, a prominent Ukrainian journalist, said at the May 21 Stop Censorship Forum hosted by the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. "That's true encroachment of freedom of speech from oligarchic capital, which is in power in Ukraine."

Among Mr. Khoroshkovskiy's first moves as SBU head was to close the organ's archives, which were opened to the public by his predecessor, Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, in a campaign to enhance freedom of information and establish historical truth about the KGB and its deeds. "The truth has been established," Mr. Khoroshkovskiy said of his decision to close the archives.

— Kyiv Press Bureau

Ukraine in danger...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukraine's new police chief on March 18 signed a decree cutting 27 of the ministry's regional human rights monitors, after which three citizens remained to keep track of a 250,000-plus national police force.

"As it turned out, the order to significantly reduce the minister's aides was already 'secretly' signed at the very time when the minister spoke with the German ambassador," said Volodymyr Yavorsky, the executive director of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union for Human Rights. "Human rights activists who protested the minister's decisions have yet to receive a response to two open letters, one of which was signed by 250 citizens and organizations."

The ability of Ukrainian citizens to monitor the police is critical, in the view of human rights activists.

In 2008, following many years of cooperation with the police, they succeeded in establishing the Human Rights Monitoring Administration, which worked within the Internal Affairs Ministry, with the goal of ensuring a policy of openness and transparency within Ukraine's police force.

"Hundreds of common citizens who complained of the police's illegal actions received help from the administration's aides," stated a March 18 letter signed by 32 leading human rights organizations. "With their help, serious police abuses were revealed."

"Obviously, without such an administration, it won't be possible to build a contemporary European police that respects human rights in its activity," the statement said.

Judging from his first months in office, Minister Mohyliov has good reason to ensure that his police aren't being monitored for abuses. Scores of Ukrainians have complained of police abuses ever since the government of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov

took office in early March.

They include physically aggressive and even violent tactics in dealing with demonstrators and restrictions on citizens attending political gatherings. Meanwhile suspected evidence of Ukraine's notorious police brutality endures.

In the latest case, a drunk university student in Kyiv, celebrating his 20th birthday, was sent to a local police station on May 17 and died in custody. The Internal Affairs Ministry claimed the student "fell several times, from which he suffered hemorrhaging and traumas to his brain and skull."

The 1+1 television network reported that an ambulance was called four times to the police station, but paramedics declined to take the student each time.

Students also claimed that police pressured them to state that the victim, identified only as Ihor, had already suffered a broken skull from fighting, prior to his arrest, the 1+1 news report said.

Activists said it's precisely such incidents of suspected police brutality that the Human Rights Monitoring Administration was established to prevent and, if necessary, investigate.

The administration also prevented such Soviet-era practices as requiring the purchasers of train tickets to provide identification so that their names are printed on tickets and stored in computer databases.

The Internal Affairs Ministry under the government of Yulia Tymoshenko refrained from re-introducing the practice, but Mr. Mohyliov is now reportedly considering its re-implementation, reported human rights activists.

While President Yanukovich publicly admonished Mr. Mohyliov in late March for liquidating the Human Rights Monitoring Administration, advising him "not to save money on human rights," nothing has changed.

"The recommendation was ignored, and instead the minister stated that he would cre-

ate a Citizens' Council on Human Rights and would appoint known human rights activists to lead it," said an April 22 open letter to the president, signed by leading activists.

"We want to remind you that citizens' councils have already been working for four years, and their leaders are chosen by the citizens themselves – not by the department head. Besides that, all 'known human rights activists' already belong, or once belonged, to the citizens' councils in the Internal Affairs Ministry and its regional administrations," they wrote.

By then, the ministry announced that Eduard Bahirov would lead its newly created Citizens' Council on Human Rights.

"We never worked with him," said Yevhen Zakharov, co-chair of the Kharkiv Human Rights Group and a veteran of Ukraine's human rights movement.

"Bahirov is a member of a great number of various citizens' councils and calls himself a human rights activist. But I don't see the results of his work in human rights," Mr. Zakharov noted. "There were many complaints about his actions."

London Ukrainians concerned about developments in Ukraine

by Myroslava Matwijiwskyj

LONDON – Ukrainians in London, including representatives from the Ukrainian Orthodox and Catholic Churches, began gathering at 6:30 p.m. on May 11 for a public meeting by the statue of St. Volodymyr located outside St. Sophia.

The meeting was organized to express the deepening concerns of Ukrainians living in the United Kingdom, regarding the current political administration in Ukraine and, in particular, actions already taken by President Viktor Yanukovich. It was planned to coincide with the demonstration on the same day in Kyiv, being led by the opposition movement in Ukraine.

The public meeting was presided over by Yuriy Tymoshenko. A resolution addressed to the president of Ukraine was read out and endorsed by those present, which expressed the concerns of the Ukrainian community regarding:

- The disregard of democratic processes and the blatant disregard of the Ukrainian Constitution.

- The increasing rapprochement with Russia, both economically and politically.

- The denial of the Holodomor as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people and the removal of the Holodomor page from the official website of the president of Ukraine.

- The appointment of well-known Ukrainophobes to key positions within the government.

- The proposed reversal of National Hero of Ukraine titles.

Those present at the meeting then made the short journey from outside St. Sophia to the Embassy of Ukraine, where the resolution addressed to the president was handed over and accepted by a representative of the ambassador.

During the meeting, the Committee for the Defense of Ukraine's Integrity and Honor began the process of collecting signatures on a petition addressed to the president of Ukraine that will also be sent out nationally. This petition will be formally lodged with the Embassy of Ukraine at a later date.

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Vera Farmiga and Nina Arianda to co-star in new film

by Helen Smindak

NEW YORK – Award-winning actresses Vera Farmiga and Nina Arianda will co-star in a Farmiga-directed film this summer. The movie “Higher Ground” is scheduled for shooting next month in upstate New York, before Ms. Arianda leaves for France to take part in the summertime shooting of Woody Allen’s latest film, “Midnight in Paris.”

Both actresses have been in the news in recent months, Ms. Farmiga for her Motion Picture Academy’s nomination as best supporting actress in the comedy drama “Up in the Air,” in which she co-starred with popular actor George Clooney, and Ms. Arianda for her critically acclaimed professional debut in the Off-Broadway play “Venus in Fur.”

In April, Ms. Arianda received the Actors Equity Foundation’s Henry Derwent Award for the most promising female performer in the New York metropolitan scene. She was also nominated for the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Achievement Off Broadway and the Drama League Award for Distinguished Performer.

The Henry Derwent Award and the nominations came on the heels of Ms. Arianda’s stunning performance in the Classic Stage Company production of

“Venus in Fur” earlier this year, in which she portrayed, by turns, a kooky wannabe actress and a charming, self-assured countess. The play is said to have a good chance of going to Broadway in the winter.

“Higher Ground,” which marks Ms. Farmiga’s directorial debut, is based on “This Dark World,” a memoir by Carolyn Briggs, who joined a born-again Christian hippie contingent and later found herself at odds with her faith due to her Church’s increasingly dogmatic practices. The role of Carolyn will be played by Ms. Farmiga, while that of Carolyn’s sister will be performed by Ms. Arianda. Ms. Farmiga’s sister Taissa Farmiga will take on the role of Carolyn as a young girl.

Included in the cast are Joshua Leonard, Dagmara Dominczyk and Ebon Moss-Bachrach. Matthew Dubas, an editor of The Ukrainian Weekly and an accomplished accordionist, will appear in the film as an accordion salesman.

Ms. Farmiga, who played a police psychologist in the 2008 movie “The Departed” with Martin Sheen, Matt Damon and Leonardo Di Caprio, was nominated for the Motion Picture Academy’s award for best supporting actress for her role in “Up in the Air.” Previously, she starred in numerous independent films, including “Down to the



Vera Farmiga



Nina Arianda

Bone,” for which she won the Los Angeles Film Critics’ Association award for best actress and a Special Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival.

Both Ms. Farmiga and Ms. Arianda, who come from Ukrainian families in New Jersey, were members of the Syzokryli Ukrainian dance workshops directed by the late Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, though at different times. Both lived in Manhattan’s East Village while auditioning for acting roles, with Ms. Farmiga exiting the Village several years before Ms. Arianda entered the scene. They met for the first time when Ms. Arianda auditioned for “Higher Ground.”

“I’m very excited to work with her Ms. Farmiga! I couldn’t be more grateful for

all these nominations, and I’m so honored to be supported by the community,” Ms. Arianda told The Ukrainian Weekly.

For Mr. Allen’s romantic comedy “Midnight in Paris,” Ms. Arianda joins an all-star cast that includes Michael Sheen, Owen Wilson, Marion Cotillard, Rachel McAdams, Kathy Bates, Adrien Brody and France’s first lady, Carla Bruni-Sarkozy.

According to the official press release, the movie centers on a family traveling to Paris on business. The group includes a young engaged couple forced to confront the widely held illusion that a life different from their own is better.

“Midnight in Paris” will be released in 2011.

Intimidation...

(Continued from page 6)

but please be polite.)

While letters are good, faxes are better; telephone calls also are a good way to get one’s point across. Congressional coordinates are available on the Internet: <http://www.house.gov> or <http://www.senate.gov>.

Letters to President Yanukovich can be addressed to: President Viktor Yanukovich, c/o Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW, Washington, DC 20007.

– Submitted by Ihor Gawdiak, president, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council (ukrdc@aol.com).

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Senator/Congressman(woman) (Name):

Ukraine is undergoing a backward slide in its commitment to democratic values under the leadership of President Viktor Yanukovich. We have received a memorandum written on May 18, 2010, by the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, an American-born cleric of Ukrainian descent who is now the rector of the

Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine. In the memo, Father Gudziak explains that he had a visit from a representative of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU, successor to the KGB). The aim of the SBU’s visit was to try to keep students from future possible protests. Father Gudziak was told he should sign a letter that was being presented to him for purposes of intimidation — holding him responsible should UCU student protests arise. This is obviously part of the tired, despotic modalities of the former Soviet Union, now apparently being revived.

Other members of the clergy and other educational institutions in Ukraine have already been visited by the SBU with similar demands. An excerpt of Father Gudziak’s memo may be read online in The Economist (the full text may be accessed by clicking on the link within the article located at <http://www.economist.com/blogs/easternapproaches/2010/05/ukraine>).

I urge you to denounce such tactics on the part of the leaders of Ukraine, a country that wants to be a partner with democratic governments in the community of civilized nations.

Sincerely,
(Your name)

Reportedly, he says, “[Vladimir] Putin [earlier] called Yushchenko and asked to close [it].”

Closing the archives and closing such institutions will do far more damage to Ukraine and its future than even Mr. Yanukovich’s declarations about the events of 1932-1933. After all, the new Ukrainian leader does concede that a Moscow-sponsored mass murder took place then, even if that horror does not meet the definition of genocide.

But if Ukrainians cannot research their history in directions the current powers that be in Moscow do not like, then the future of that country is truly bleak — all the more so if Western scholars and governments do not denounce this transparent effort to push the tragic 20th century history of Ukraine down an Orwellian memory hole.

Closing Soviet...

(Continued from page 6)

the Communist Party of Ukraine.

Volodymyr Vyatrovych, who headed the archive of the institute under President Yushchenko, says that he and his colleagues backed the idea of the creation by the Council of Ministers of an Archive of National Memory. But that did not happen because then-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko decided not to offend the communists in the Parliament.

Another historian, Roman Krutysyk, points out that politics has dominated archival policy in Ukraine. The former head of the Ukrainian Memorial and founder of the Ukrainian Museum of the Soviet Occupation, Mr. Krutysyk warns that it is possible that his museum won’t survive under President Yanukovich.



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Session 2 - Aug 1-7

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REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA

KYIV PRESS BUREAU



Asking "Why?" in Zaporizhia

ZAPORIZHIA, Ukraine – Reporting in Ukraine for five years, I never had a reason to go to Zaporizhia, Ukraine's sixth most populous city with about 800,000 people.

The decision of the local Communists to build a monument to mass murderer Joseph Stalin seemed as good a reason as any to visit to the city otherwise known for its industrial might.

The question that seared my mind, which I sought to answer at least partially by the end of the day, was: "What is it about this city that would allow for a Stalin statue to be erected?"

I gained my first hint at the newsstand at the train station. As I examined the covers, one woman asked for a copy of the Bulvar newspaper, and another fellow asked for Segodnya.

That gave me an idea of what the people of Zaporizhia are interested in reading: the first is Ukraine's biggest gossip tabloid (published by Dmitry Gordon) and the second is the Party of Regions propaganda rag (also Ukraine's most widely read newspaper), which smears anything Ukrainian.

My impression didn't improve after hopping the tramcar to head downtown. I noticed a teenager, not older than 16 years old, whose oily head was slumping against the window. The conductor (who collects the fares in the tramcar) tried waking this kid out of his drunken coma. She seemed to be in a familiar situation, and tried several tried-and-true techniques to wake him – juggling his head side-to-side, fiercely tugging his ears and even pinching them. She eventually gave up, and sent him back slumping.

Riding along the central thoroughfare, Prospekt Lenina (Lenin Avenue), I noticed statues dedicated to Vladimir Lenin and Felix Dzerzhinsky. Fortunately for Zaporizhia (and humanity's sake), the city's new Stalin monument isn't joining Vlad and Felix along the main avenue.

Fortunately, it's not so much a statue as a bust on a red granite pedestal. So there's a silver lining to the dark cloud of Ukraine's first public Stalin monument to emerge since independence.

(There are a total of six Stalin monuments in Ukraine, most of which were established before independence, according to a Wikipedia page devoted to Stalin

monuments. However a Donetsk district judge established a Stalin monument in his own home last year, the site reports.)

Yet I couldn't help but notice the irony that it's independent Ukraine's private property laws that made a Stalin statue possible. It was erected not only on the property of the headquarters of the Zaporizhia Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine, but on the front, outdoor porch of the very building itself.

So one can argue the Communists exercised some modesty in their otherwise vile political statement, although they could just as easily have placed their Stalin monument inside their headquarters, out of public view, like the Donetsk judge did.

At 9 a.m., four hours before the monument was to be unveiled, more than 15 Communists were already standing guard to prevent any troublemakers from ruining their Stalin shindig. I decided to play it safe and perched myself on a concrete wall opposite the guards.

Looking several hundred yards behind them, I saw the red hammer-and-sickle flag waving over the modern, three-story headquarters, which I learned opened just last year from an older fellow with a rather pleasant, easygoing demeanor who came and sat next to me.

Oleksander, born in 1950, shared the same view as many of the older Ukrainians I've met, who deeply regret the collapse of the Soviet Union. His claims were those I've heard again and again throughout Ukraine: that the Brezhnev years of the late 1960s and 1970s were the best economically, that Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika was a disaster foisted on the duped Soviet people, that "independent Ukraine showed she's nothing without Russia."

Like many older Ukrainians, he suffers from the cognitive dissonance that prevails in eastern Ukraine, acknowledging the evils and mass murders that occurred under the Soviet system, yet admiring it at the same time.

Stalin ordered mass repressions and fierce punishments, Oleksander said. Yes, he killed millions. "So many good people were sent to die in the gulags," he said. Yes, Stalin was responsible for the Holodomor, he said. He confiscated mil-



Zenon Zawada

Seniors pose with Zaporizhia's new monument to Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin at its May 5 unveiling.

let and flour from the peasants and left them to starve. "It was taken, and for every ear of wheat someone was shot. It was forbidden to steal, and you had to give everything to the state."

"And die?" I asked.

"And die," he responded.

"And that was correct?" I asked.

"Of course, I don't believe so."

"So how can someone so horrible be respected and have a monument placed in his honor?" I asked.

Oleksander breathed a deep sigh. "Because there wasn't anyone better, except maybe Brezhnev," he responded. "In my memory, there wasn't anyone better."

He recollected his father's love and reverence for the genocidal dictator. "If not for Stalin, there wouldn't be us, there wouldn't be America, there wouldn't be England!" he said. "There would have been fascism. And we would have been slaves."

"But weren't people slaves under Stalin?" I responded.

"They were," he said, adding, "Some were. Everyone has their view."

He added that if not for Stalin, there would have been no Soviet Union.

Yes, Oleksander certainly had a point. To keep people enslaved in the nightmarish prison that was the Soviet Union, Stalin had his work cut out for him in killing the millions who opposed him. And he certainly succeeded in keeping the prison intact until his death in 1953.

Yet, in the last election, Oleksander said he voted for Yulia Tymoshenko. I asked him why he didn't support Viktor Yanukovich, who is believed to have won the vote partly because of his promise to raise pensions.

"He will steal and nothing more," he replied.

When I asked him why he didn't support the Communists, he suddenly got nervous and immediately changed the subject.

Indeed someone from the Communist crowd had walked by, perhaps to overhear our conversation. Even in independent Ukraine, Oleksander had a subconscious fear of the party.

Soon enough, I saw a group of photographers from Kyiv approach the Communist Party headquarters. I decided to tag along so that I wouldn't stand out. Noticing me leave, Oleksander asked me for two hrv. I gave him four, the equivalent of 50 cents, which impressed him.

The Communists set up rows of lawn chairs in front of the porch where the covered Stalin bust was to be unveiled.

As noon approached, more Stalin admirers filled up the viewing area. The event began looking more and more like a picnic gathering of old friends and rela-

tives – people shook hands and embraced each other as they arrived, one after the other.

Many had Communist party sun visors, T-shirts, tote bags and lapel pins. A woman began distributing Stalin portraits, which were eagerly accepted and hoisted up.

Yet perhaps the most bizarre scene was when a white Volkswagen Touareg arrived and parked in the driveway. Besides being a pricey luxury mid-size SUV (in the \$40,000 range), it's made by a German firm.

Yurii Hudymenko, a local patriot activist, later told me such inconsistencies are nothing new with the Communists. Last year, the Communists staged a political event featuring an airplane with the slogan, "Yushchenko – Go Back to America," he explained. Yet the plane to America was attached to two American-made Dodge jeeps. Flying red Communist flags.

Indeed the Communist Party of Ukraine is a business project with a simple model – convincing those Ukrainians who are utterly dissatisfied with their lives that the cause of their misfortune is an independent Ukraine and, of course, the United States.

While Ukraine's other businessmen have to invent some kind of ideology to sell their political product, all the Communist businessmen need to do is regurgitate the decades of Soviet propaganda that remains rotting in people's heads.

Leading up to the ceremony, the Communists belted out the music of Stalin admirer Aleksandr Kharchikov, who authored such catchy tunes as, "Stalin! Rise From the Grave!" The lyrics included:

"Stalin! On the right path you led your state!

"Stalin! When you'd return, we wouldn't be overrun in battle!

"Stalin! The honest Soviet people are calling you!

"Stalin! The country is dying! Stalin! Lead us forward!"

Considering that among Mr. Kharchikov's other hits are "Kill the American" (I'm not making this stuff up – honest), I tried my best to keep a low profile.

Finally, the sound of church bells filled the air, signaling the start of the ceremony. Once again, I'm not sure if the 1,500-plus Stalin admirers realized that their "vozhd" had destroyed thousands of churches during his reign.

Soon we heard Stalin's grandfatherly voice being replayed from a 1945 announcement declaring the Soviet victo-

(Continued on page 14)



Zaporizhia hasn't changed from Soviet times, said city native Yurii Hudymenko, 22.

Asking "Why?" ...

(Continued from page 13)

ry in the Great Patriotic War, drawing applause.

No Communist gathering would be complete without a military hardware parade, no matter how small. This one had two jeeps and marching Red Army veterans.

Local Communist Party chiefs extolled the accomplishments of Stalin, which included everything from singlehandedly defeating the Nazis, boosting the literacy rate and eradicating communicable diseases, to launching the world's first successful space exploration program.

We entered the realm of the absurd when the politicians claimed that Stalin raised life expectancy in the Soviet Union and boosted the population – of the Soviet Union, that is. They avoided the statistics on Ukraine.

If a dictator reduces living conditions to mass starvation, and then raises conditions in the post-war period to "barely liveable," then in that case, I suppose you could say he raised life expectancy. But, of course, you'd have to exclude all those tens of millions who died to come up with that estimate.

Once the veil was removed from the 10-foot monument to the tune of the Soviet anthem, admirers took turns placing rose bouquets at Stalin's bust and

snapping family photos with the dictator, depicted with his trademark pipe.

Finally it became apparent why hundreds of pensioners came.

The crowd was invited into the backyard of the headquarters, where bowls of steamy buckwheat were distributed from a Soviet-styled field kitchen to Zaporizhia's destitute elderly, who have to pay their utility and medical bills, and buy food and clothing on pensions that range between \$90 and \$110 a month.

Among those in the crowd was my friend, Oleksander, who voted for Ms. Tymoshenko. I heard a man speaking Ukrainian, and he told me he favored the national democrats. Indeed, ideology isn't an issue when you're hungry.

The more outspoken took turns shouting angry political diatribes into a megaphone being passed around.

An elderly woman approached me and asked me about a local event, and I replied that I didn't know because I came from Kyiv. She asked if I was a "Rukhivets," to which I said, "I'm an American and I come in peace."

"You Americans don't like peace all that much," she said. "Many of you are with the FBI." I explained that I am an independent journalist, yet I understood that was probably my cue to leave. On my way, I bumped into Oleksandra Shvets, 79.

She said she remembered writing a let-

ter to Stalin in the first grade because her family needed money, "and Stalin sent us the money." But now the Ukrainian government doesn't offer accessible education or new jobs, forcing the youth to leave Ukraine for economic opportunity abroad. That was never the case under Stalin, Ms. Shvets said.

She said her granddaughters, Iryna and Tetiana Bychkova, are in the United States, and pled with me to help find them because they stopped calling a year ago. Last she heard, they worked for a year and couldn't save up much.

I spoke with Petro Hryhorets, a 75-year-old dressed in a wrinkled blazer and worn Converse sneakers, who said that Stalin led human civilization towards unprecedented progress and achievement, particularly in science and space exploration. Soon a crowd started to form around me.

Glancing over the heads of elderly pensioners voicing their grievances, I noticed the approach of the type of "Ukrainian" that I see in my worst nightmares – a vodka-filled, muscle-bound sailor who was eager to give the first American he's ever met a piece of his mind.

Digging his finger into my chest, bringing his face an inch away from mine, the sailor let the American have it: "If it wasn't for Stalin, I wouldn't be standing here in front of you! Stalin gave us birth! He gave us warmth! We have a Russian mentality, which is different than your mentality!"

The sailor's aggressive tone made the crowd uneasy, and some tried to pull us apart. It was hard to interrupt his rant, but eventually he was peeled away, upon which another elderly fellow approached me with a pile of statistics demonstrating Ukraine's demographic collapse since independence.

I agreed with him, that Ukraine is suffering a demographic catastrophe. But Stalinism isn't the answer, I said. Yet the fellow continued his 10-minute lesson, repeating another view I often hear in Ukraine, that we should be concerned about the present-day genocide, instead of what happened 75 years ago.

Then, someone apparently informed the local party leadership that the folks leaving their Stalin celebration had taken an American journalist hostage. A handsome, well-dressed fellow approached me, as I was still surrounded by half a dozen elderly people shouting their political diatribes. He asked if I needed his help. The look on his face indicated that he was offering me an escape, and I shouldn't decline.

I felt like a Hollywood star. As he

escorted me away from the throng, he had to physically push people away, including the muscle-bound sailor, as we began speed-walking towards the nearest bus stop.

I had to kill the five-minute walk with conversation. But what can an American journalist say to a local Communist functionary?

"I came to cover the event to see your perspective on things," I explained. "For the last five years, we've been hearing from the government that Stalin was only capable of horrible things. So now I had the chance to hear another view."

Yes, he responded, Stalin's achievements have been overlooked.

"Yes, without Stalin's leadership, we might not have defeated Nazi Germany," I added. "And ironically, it was Stalin that united Ukraine into the state that currently exists." (Hey, there's some truth to these statements. Perhaps I was beginning to appreciate some of Stalin's accomplishments myself).

My escort shook my hand before I hopped the bus on Lenin Avenue.

Like most cities in eastern Ukraine, Zaporizhia hasn't replaced the Soviet model with something new, not economically, politically or culturally. Without new ideas, Zaporizhia's residents remain clinging to a past that has taken on mythological proportions.

"I've observed how poor people, most often alcoholics who lost their humanity, yell that everything was better earlier and everything was great under the Communists," Mr. Hudymenko, 22, explained to me. "They don't understand the problem is within themselves. Instead they look for the guilty ones, and the Communists give them the enemy they need, which is practically the whole world, but especially America, because they live better."

And the city's oligarchy isn't interested in offering its residents new ideas. Keeping the city's residents longing for a mythical past, rather than pragmatically building a better future, maintains the status quo they so desperately need to preserve their power and wealth.

"Practically nothing has changed since the Soviet Union in Zaporizhia," Mr. Hudymenko said.

"Just as people were passive, they've remained passive. They were utterly indifferent during the Orange Revolution. Many oppose the Stalin statue, but the protest remains in their apartments. The city's residents don't have a culture of defending their rights."

I suppose we have Stalin to thank for that as well.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

will be forbidden to appear on the street unaccompanied by adults after 8 p.m., those up to age 14 will have a curfew of 9 p.m. and teenagers up to age 17 will have a 10 p.m. curfew. Policemen will exercise control over children in the evening. If they find a child on the street, they will draw up reports and fine parents or assign them to public works, such as street cleaning. (Ukrinform)

Draft election code is presented

KYIV – A draft unified Election Code, developed with the support of the Project Coordinator in Ukraine (PCU) of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, was presented in the Parliament on April 28 by the Parliamentary Committee on State Building and Local Self-government. The presentation of the draft Election Code, developed by a special working group established in 2008, brought together key stakeholders and experts, including representatives of the parliamentary factions and domestic and international

organizations. "Introduction of a unified Election Code was a long-standing recommendation of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and domestic election observers. I am happy to see progress towards fulfilling this recommendation and hope that this work will continue. The OSCE PCU stands ready to provide further assistance for the development of the Election Code," said Ambassador Lubomir Kopaj, the OSCE project coordinator in Ukraine. The elaboration of the Election Code and its presentation were supported as part of the "Assistance in Further Strengthening of Election Processes in Ukraine" project funded by the European Union, the Canadian International Development Agency, the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency, Irish Aid and the Strategic Program Fund of Britain's Foreign and Commonwealth Office. (OSCE)

Elton John praises Pinchuk

NEW YORK – Time magazine, which

(Continued on page 15)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

named Ukrainian businessman Victor Pinchuk among its 100 most influential people for 2010, listed him in the "Thinkers" category in its May 10 issue. The essay about Mr. Pinchuk was written by Elton John, who noted that "Victor Pinchuk came into my life through a discovery of shared values. Together with his wife Elena Franchuk, Victor, 49, partnered with my foundation in the fight against HIV/AIDS in his home country of Ukraine, staging a nationally televised concert in Kiev's [sic] Independence Square to raise awareness of HIV and attack the stigma that surrounds the disease." Mr. John notes Mr. Pinchuk's "passionate dedication to the arts," and then goes on to say: "Victor's allegiance to Ukraine also knows no bounds. He is the leading advocate for bringing his country into the European Union. He is heroic in his fight against anti-Semitism as well, and he collaborated with Steven Spielberg on a film that calls attention to the plight of the Ukrainian Jewish community during the Holocaust. Through his work in all these fields, Victor shows his love of our planet and makes the world a better place to live." (Time)

Eliminating explosive remnants of war

KYIV – The Project Coordinator in Ukraine (PCU) of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is supporting the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Ukraine in the elimination of threats posed by large quantities of explosive remnants around Kerch, Sevastopol and Bila Tserkva. The OSCE PCU conducted training courses for pyrotechnic specialists from the explosive ordnance detection (EOD) units of the ministry. The training seminars focused on familiarizing specialists with new explosive ord-

nance detection equipment that will be provided to the ministry with OSCE support. Instruction on use of the equipment was provided by the EOD team of the U.S. European Command, as part of the U.S. in-kind contribution to the project. The first small batch of EOD equipment was delivered to Ukraine's Ministry of Emergency Situations prior to the training. The remaining equipment will be handed over by the OSCE PCU to the ministry in early June. The OSCE project will help accelerate clearance of areas contaminated by explosive remnants of war near large populated areas and important infrastructure in Ukraine. (OSCE)

Population down to 45.9 M

KYIV – In March, the population of Ukraine shrank by 0.04 percent, or 17,900 people, since February and totaled 45,905,300 as of April 1. Citing the State Statistics Committee, Ukrainian News reported on May 17 that, as of April 1, Ukraine's urban population was 31,493,800 people (a decrease of 0.04 percent or 11,200 people, from a month earlier), while its rural population was 14,411,600 people (a decrease of 0.05 percent or 6,700 people). According to the nationwide census conducted in December 2001, Ukraine's population was 48,415,500, including 32,538,000 living in urban and 15,877,500 in rural areas. In related news, the country's Ministry of Justice in May released new statistics on the birth and death rates. During the first quarter of 2010, 101,000 births were registered. At the same time, there were 153,000 deaths nationwide. Experts at the Institute of Demography and Social Research at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine said that if the demographic situation in Ukraine continues to deteriorate, by the year 2050 the country's population will be 36 million. (Ukrainian News, RFE/RL)



It is with deep sorrow that we inform you that our beloved husband, father, and grandfather, brother and son

Bohdan Theodore Nowakiwskyj, MD



passed unexpectedly into eternal rest on Sunday, May 2, 2010.

He is survived by his loving family:

- wife - Valentina (Klokiw)
- daughter - Lisa Arnott with husband Mark and children Parker and Hunter
- son - Drs. Theodore and Klaudia Nowakiwskyj and children Zachariah and Nina
- mother - Ewdokia Nowakiwskyj
- sister - Dr. Vera Nowakiwskyj with daughter Victoria

with many cousins, nephews, nieces and their families including relatives in Australia, the US and Ukraine

Funeral services were held on Thursday, May 6, 2010, at St. Andrew's Cemetery in South Bounf Brook, NJ.

Вічна йому пам'ять!

Contributions may be made to:

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Вічна йому пам'ять!



In memoriam

Marijka (Krywaczuk) Dudycz



Ten years ago, on June 8, 2000, we lost Marijka Dudycz – a loving wife, caring and devoted mother, cherished daughter, loyal sister and kind aunt.

Marijka was a member of Nativity of the BVM Ukrainian Catholic parish located in Palos Park, Illinois, and also a member of Sts. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic parish in Chicago. She was a former Ukrainian School teacher and a CYM counselor at the southside CYM (Ivan Bohun Branch). She also played the guitar in the CYM Band "Lira" and worked for the Selfreliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union in Chicago.

Marijka was a devoted wife to Petro and a loving mother to her two sons Andrij and Petro; she was the daughter of Mykola and Katharina Krywaczuk. Marijka also left two sisters: Irka Kozak (deceased) and Stefania Mroz and their families. We all miss and love you, Marijka. You are always in our thoughts and prayers.

May her memory be eternal! – Вічна пам'ять!

Petro (husband), Andrij (son), Petro Ivan (son), Katharina (mother), Stefania (sister) and family, Orest Kozak (brother-in-law) and family, and the extended Dudycz family.

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Open World delegates from Poltava visit Irondequoit

by Christine Hoshowsky

IRONDEQUOIT, N.Y. – A delegation of educators from Poltava, Ukraine, arrived here on April 16 for a week-long stay to learn about the American system of education and to promote cultural understanding. This visit was one of many such exchanges sponsored worldwide yearly by the Library of Congress and the Open World Leadership Center.

The local organization hosting the Poltava delegation was Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities. The Poltava delegates were fortunate to have wonderful host families who provided food, lodging, conversation, gifts and transportation during their stay. The hosts included: Stephania Wowkowych, Nickolas and Ludmila Labash, Tamara and Volodymyr Denysenko, Christine Wasgenblass, Kristina Madonia, and Christine and Ihor Hoshowsky.

Every effort was made to show the delegates a cross-section of American cultural, political, professional and community life. Community roundtable discussions, a children's concert by the students of the Taras Shevchenko Saturday Ukrainian School ("Ridna Shkola") under the direction of Zhanna Polyanska Wirlo, tours of several Ukrainian churches, visits to local colleges and universities, trips to the New York State Legislature and to Niagara Falls, along with introductions to community members, university professors and administrators, and political leaders comprised the mix of activities.

Several people lent outstanding support, which made this Poltava exchange a suc-

Christine Hoshowsky, Ph.D., is project coordinator for Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities.

cess. Among these individuals are: Anna Kornylko, the president of Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities; Tamara Denysenko, CEO of Ukrainian Federal Credit Union and last year's coordinator of this exchange; Alexander Etlin and Oksana Samodurov, the official translators; Olena Dilai, assistant professor of Mathematics at Monroe Community College, who coordinated the MCC portion of the program; Dr. George Eisen, director of international education and associate vice-president for academic affairs at Nazareth College, who explained how international education contributes to the total program of higher education; Dr. Eugene Lylak, associate professor of English at the Rochester Institute of Technology, who organized the visitation to RIT; Wolodymyr Pylyshenko, the department chair in art (emeritus) at the State University of New York at Brockport, who compiled the Rochester Ukrainian Archives now housed at the Rush Rhees Library at the University of Rochester; Nancy Martin, a librarian at the Rush Rhees Library, who explained the archives' value and how the manuscripts are being digitized, Dr. Randall Stone, the director of the Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies at the U of R, who met with the delegates and host families and expressed his willingness to promote joint projects with members of the Ukrainian community.

Among the highlights of the week-long program was a presentation made by Jodie Oriel, the associate director of Monroe Community College's Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Project. She explained that the HGHRP was initiated 20 years ago by MCC students, she being among them. The HGHRP sponsors special programs such as concerts, lectures and candlelight vigils to commemorate



With State Sen. Michael Nozzolio are: (from left, bottom row) Oleksandra Sokolova, Dr. Christine Hoshowsky, Larysa Tyutyunnyk, (second row) Yaroslav Fatyak, Oksana Kudrya, Sen. Nozzolio, Olena Dilai, Nadiya Didenko, Krystyna Dobrovolska, Christina Dilai, (third row) Yuriy Dzekun, Alexander Etlin and Mykola Orlovskyy.

poignant examples of crimes against humanity. She further explained that at MCC the topic of genocide is covered in history, English, psychology and sociology classes.

Ms. Oriel then introduced Oleg Vyshyvetskyj, a foreign exchange student from Ukraine, who is both an honors student at MCC and a leader of the HGHRP. By coincidence, the members of the HGHRP at MCC are working with two members of the Ukrainian community in Rochester, Halyna Lisova and Dr. Christine Hoshowsky, to commemorate the Holodomor as part of MCC's Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights

Project. The Poltava delegates expressed an interest in this genocide program, even suggesting correspondence on the topic.

At mid-week, the delegates traveled to the New York State Legislature in Albany. Having visited Mary Joyce D'Aurizo, the Irondequoit town supervisor on Monday, this was an opportunity to meet legislators at the state level. In Albany, the group met with State Sen. James Alesi, representing the town of Irondequoit, State Sen. Joseph Robach, representing the town of Greece, and Sen. Michael Nozzolio, representing the town of Webster. These townships all have large Ukrainian American constitu-

(Continued on page 22)

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USCAK EAST 2010

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Philadelphians...

(Continued from page 8)

the country.

He commented on the fact that in September 2008, at the beginning of the academic year, the Ukrainian Catholic University issued a decisive statement regarding moral standards. Questioning the political powers in Kyiv, the university leadership asked: How can academic institutions in Ukraine educate a new, post-Soviet and moral generation, when the examples set in the corridors of power are cynical and ignorant of God's commandments and immorally twist the truth?

In today's political climate, the Ukrainian Catholic University is challenged in its work as it tries to educate a European, intelligent, spiritual and ethical citizen of Ukraine, a responsible and democratic patriot of his homeland.

"UCU is a world class-academic institution founded on moral principles," commented Taras Lewyckyj, who headed the Philadelphia Friends of the UCU committee this year. "Often during my working visits to Ukraine, I have run into stumbling blocks while trying to achieve some of the most simple of tasks. It becomes quickly evident that there is a counter-productive cycle that has lingered since Soviet times in the educational, business and political systems. Institutions like UCU are tangibly breaking this cycle by using the most time-proven method; quality programmatic and ethical education," he explained.

"In trying to assess what help we can give Ukraine, it becomes evident that the Ukrainian Catholic University is one institution with the potential of building a healthy society," said Ihor Shust, co-chairman of the Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University Committee, which spearheaded the fund-raising event with the help of the Chicago-based Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation.

"I feel that my efforts are not wasted, that fund-raising results will not be misdirected, that they are used in a very efficient way and that I can ensure a more promising tomorrow for those who seek to rebuild honesty in Ukrainian society," he added.

Those who attended the afternoon event were also able to learn more about the future of the university, as three galleries at the center highlighted videos and slide shows about plans for a new campus at Striyskii Park in Lviv, about the students and what is being done to develop leadership for the 21st century and about the Kyiv fund-raiser in 2009 which is helping to create a philan-

thropic culture in Ukraine.

"When we support the Ukrainian Catholic University, we participate in the growth and formation of young minds. We enable the development of future scholars and leaders, who in turn will inspire others. God richly blesses those who generously assist the endeavors of the Ukrainian Catholic University," wrote Metropolitan Stefan Soroka in a greeting to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation delivered at the benefit dinner.

Unfortunately, the hierarch was unable to attend the fund-raiser because he was attending celebrations of the 125th anniversary of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Shamokin, Pa.

Another highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of a patriarchal award to attorney John F. Kurey, who served as the president of the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation for seven years and continues to serve on the board as both secretary and director. Mr. Kurey was greeted by Mr. Marynovych, and the dinner guests acknowledged the honoree, who has become a close friend of the Philadelphia community. In the certificate, Patriarch Lubomyr Husar noted that Mr. Kurey was recognized for "his commitment and belief in the Ukrainian Catholic University, his dedicated work at the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation and his unfaltering dedication and support of the Catholic Church in Ukraine."

Video greetings were delivered by the rector of the UCU, the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, to those assembled at the dinner, and the new executive director of the UCEF, Alex Kuzma, extended his gratitude to all the benefactors who give generously of their time and financial support to the mission of the Ukrainian Catholic University.

The Philadelphia Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University Committee is headed by Mr. Lewyckyj and co-chaired by Vera Andryczyk and Ihor Shust. Other officers are: Ihor Bilynsky, secretary, Lubomyr Pyrih, treasurer, and Nadia Petryk, assistant treasurer. Also serving on the committee are: Ihor Chyzowych, Roman Fedorak, Orysia L. Hewka, Ulana Mazurkevich, Borys V. Pawluk, Prof. Rudnytzky, Chrystia Charyna Senyk, Ihor Sydoryak, Oksana Woroch and Borys Zacharczuk. Metropolitan Soroka serves as the honorary chair.

Donations to the Ukrainian Catholic University can be made to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622. For more information about UCEF, readers may write to the foundation at matuszak@ucef.org or call 773-235-8462.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

use of force or threat of force, including economic or any other means" and "not to conclude with third parties any agreements aimed against the opposite side."

The treaty also underscored compliance with the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Accords and its subsequent agreements, and reaffirmed adherence to the Tripartite Statement signed by the presidents of Ukraine, Russia and the United States in January 1994 and the Budapest Memorandum of security guarantees given Ukraine by the nuclear states in December 1994.

"Ukraine is a smaller country than

Russia, but there are fewer politicians in Russia now who think that Ukraine can be strangled by force and kept as a vassal," President Kuchma said.

At the time of Mr. Yeltsin's visit to Kyiv, Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko signed the Ukraine-NATO charter in Sintra, Portugal, on May 29, 1997, with all 16 ministers of NATO present.

Ukraine also signed agreements on June 2, 1997, with Belarus and Romania, delineating the existing borders with each neighboring country.

Source: "Ukraine, Russia sign long-awaited bilateral treaty," by Roman Woronowycz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 8, 1997.

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Plast's Chortopolokhy sorority holds its 20th general conference

by Nadia Nynka

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The young adult and senior groups of the Chortopolokhy sorority of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization held their general conference (velyka rada) on April 24-25 here at the Hudson Valley Spa and Country Club. Forty-one members gathered to share plans of work for the next year, enjoy the beautiful surroundings and catch up with old friends.

A good number of Chortopolokhy got together Friday night to socialize and explore the hotel, managed by a good friend to the Ukrainian community, Orest Fedash. That weekend a Polish Polka Festival also took place and the hotel was filled with the rhythm of Polka music.

On Saturday, the Chortopolokhy formally opened their conference, presided over by their leader, Darka Temnycky. Twenty-five seniors and 16 young adult members attended the opening. One of the main topics discussed was the organization of a fashion show as a fund-raiser to benefit the Vovcha Tropa Plast camp.

The fashion show will take place on March 20, 2011, at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany. Co-chairs Lida Lewycky and Katia Steciuk prepared the initial plans, and members were asked to review, provide input and sign-up for subcommittees and generally support the activities that go into planning a successful fund-raising event.

The Chortopolokhy also carried out their ritual induction of candidates into full membership. The seniors added as full members: Chrystia Chraplyvy of Matawan, N.J.; Roma Klufas of Chester Springs, Pa.; and Renata Zajac of Scarsdale, N.Y. The young adults added Roxanna Kobziar of Pelham, N.Y.; Lida Mulyk of Rego Park, N.Y.; Lesia Wroblewski of Troy, Mich.; and Nadia Mostovych of Baltimore.

After dinner, the program continued on a lighter note with a "vinkopletania," a traditional ritual in honor of young girls engaged to marry that year. This year, the young ladies being honored were Xenia Horczakivskyj and Larissa Oprysko.

Every Chortopolokha conference is known for its campfire, which includes skits, singing and lots of laughter. This year the young adult members held a friendly competition to see how well seniors knew a variety of songs and challenged them to sing the next verse after they sang the first. Laughter was the order of the evening as the seniors held a mock fashion show of hats demonstrating lots of creativity, imagination and humor. Finally, the traditional Plast songs "Sirily y Sumerku" and "Nich Vzhe Ide" were sung softly by the Chortopolokhy as they gathered in a circle to mark the official end of the day's events. However, the cama-



Members of the Chortopolokhy sorority of Plast at their general conference.

raderie continued as many Chortopolokhy gathered informally to chat and catch up with those they haven't seen since their last meeting.

Early on Sunday the Chortopolokhy gath-

ered for liturgy at the church near the Soyuzivka Heritage Center. This was followed by a panakhyda (memorial service) in memory of all Chortopolokhy who have passed away. After the services, the confer-

ence continued with a discussion of miscellaneous items and the weekend ended with a formal closing ceremony.

The next Chortopolokhy conference will be held in the spring of 2012.

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Boston branch of UCCA elects new board of directors

by Peter T. Woloschuk

BOSTON – Members of the Boston branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of American (UCCA-Boston) held their annual meeting on February 21, elected officers, reviewed activities of the past year, put together a provisional calendar of events for the upcoming year, and discussed strategies for encouraging greater participation in Ukrainian events by the local community.

For the first time in its 60-year history, the members of the Boston Branch elected an American-born leader, Vsevolod Petriv, 55, of Malden, Mass., as president, and a non-Ukrainian, Patricia Libby of Salem, Mass., as an organizational coordinator and member of the auditing committee.

Commenting on his election, Mr. Petriv said, "I am humbled by the trust placed in me. The Boston branch of UCCA has a long tradition of excellence. I hope to be able to build on that solid foundation and meet today's challenges while looking towards the future."

"Unfortunately, we Ukrainians have

reached another pivotal time in our history," Mr. Petriv continued. "It is a time when the diaspora may again need to be the flame of hope, serving both as a reminder, and as a strong supporter, of what should be an independent, prosperous, and self-sustaining Ukraine, a nation that is the master of its own territory."

"If we are to succeed," Mr. Petriv concluded, "it is very important that our support be factual, well grounded and consensus based. In addition, we must also refocus ourselves on supporting the needs of our local members and community, while building stronger bridges with the communities in which we live. This is a tall order. We will see what the future brings. Our success or failure will depend on all of us."

The newly elected board of directors include: Mr. Petriv, president; Paul Rabchenuk, vice-president, external affairs; Zenoviy Prots, vice-president, internal affairs; Luba Gentek, vice-president, cultural affairs; Luba Demchyk, secretary (Ukrainian); Maria Saxe, secretary (English); Vera Bokhenik, treasurer; Victor Bokhenik, Ms. Libby and Yuri



Among the attendees of the 2010 UCCA-Boston meeting are: (seated) Vsevolod Petriv (front row, from left) Pelahia Bashenska, Vera Bokhenik, Maria Saxe, Yaroslava Prots, Anna Hoshovska, Luba Gentek, Maria Panchyshyn, Stefania Zarytsky, Patricia Libby, Paul Rabchenuk, (back row) Victor Bokhenik, Zenoviy Prots, Nadia Hoshovska, Yaroslav Hoshovsky, Bohdan Panchyshyn and Yakim Bokhenik.

Onyskiv, organizational coordinators; Oksana Palenga and Zoryana Tyrpych, cultural-educational coordinators; Walter Hetmansky, Ms. Libby, and Slavia Prots, Auditing Committee; Pelahia Bashenska and Mr. Rabchenuk, Arbitration Committee; Michajlo Frankiowskyj and Ms. Saxe, archival administration; and Ms. Bashenska, librarian.

At the conclusion of the meeting 13 members of the Boston community were presented with certificates honoring them for their work on behalf of the greater Boston Ukrainian American community and of Ukraine. They included: Ms. Bashynska, Yakim Bokhenik, Ms. Demchyk, Anna Hoshovska, Nadia

Hoshovska, Yaroslav Hoshovsky, Oksana Iwaszczenko, Bohdan Panchyshyn, Maria Panchyshyn, Yuri Petriv, Peter T. Woloschuk, Maria Yashchishyn and Stefania Zarytsky.

Founded in 1950, UCCA-Boston's mission is to support cultural, educational and humanitarian activities that emphasize the Ukrainian American heritage and provide support for Ukraine and its newly developing democracy. It also attempts to coordinate organized Ukrainian life in the greater Boston area, to liaise with the broader American community, and to interface on behalf of the local community with elected officials and government institutions.

SBU attempts...

(Continued from page 9)

force the university to compromise on some important principle (freedom of expression, forms of social engagement and critique, even religious practice, all of which have precedent in recent history). Furthermore, the authorities could use such a pretext to exert a high degree of pressure on the university to curb any and all protest by students.

b.) After a hypothetical arrest of a student or students, the students and their parents, as well as other members of the university community, could be shown the document with which the administration was warned and counseled to curb student activities. Since the administration did not stop the students from the activities that became the pretext for the arrest, parents or others could draw the conclusion that the university does not have adequate concern for the welfare of its students. This would be a most effective way of dividing the university community and undermining the university's reputation among its most important constituents – students.

5. The apparent genuine surprise of the agent at my refusal to do as requested could mean that he is not used to such a reaction. He had explained to me that he works with clergy on a regular basis. It could be assumed that other clergy (who work with youth, students, etc.) have been approached and that they have not refused to sign such documents.

6. Measures of this nature create apprehension and unease. They are meant to intimidate university administrations and students. They are part of a whole pattern of practice that is well-known to the Ukrainian population. The revival of such practices is a conscious attempt to revive the methods of the Soviet totalitarian past and to re-instill fear in a society that was

only beginning to feel its freedom.

7. Since only two of the approximately 170 universities of Ukraine have been voicing their protest regarding recent political and educational developments and many rectors have been marshaled/pressured to express their support regarding the turn of events, it is clear that in recent months fear and accommodation are returning to higher education at a rapid pace. It can be expected that UCU will be subject to particular attention and possible pressure in the coming months. The solidarity of the international community, especially the academic world, will be important in helping UCU maintain a position of principle regarding intellectual and social freedom.

8. Speaking and writing openly about these issues in the most peaceful and effective manner of counteracting efforts to secretly control and intimidate students and citizens. As was apparent during this incident, state authorities are particularly sensitive about publicity regarding their activity. Information can have a pre-emptory, corrective and curing role when it comes to planned actions to circumscribe civic freedom, democracy and the basic dignity of human beings.

It should be noted that on 11 May 2010, when Ukrainian students were organizing protest activity in Lviv as well as Kyiv, a representative of the office of Ihor Derzhko, the deputy head of the Lviv Regional Administration responsible for humanitarian affairs, called the rectorate and asked for statistics on the number of students participating in the demonstrations. UCU's response was that the university does not know how to count in that way.

Please keep UCU and all the students and citizens of Ukraine in your thoughts and prayers.

Father Borys Gudziak

Rector, Ukrainian Catholic University
19 May 2010

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

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Monuments...

(Continued from page 7)

cations to an established network of federal depository libraries.

It is painful to read accounts of Holodomor book presentations in local Ukrainian media. Authors thoughtlessly distribute their works – often in minimal editions of 200 or less – to those in attendance. Have they even considered sending a few copies to research libraries? And what happened to the much-touted oblast-level National Books of Memory registering Famine victims by name? Are they still available?

Education Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk, who in 2003 edited the proceedings of the Holodomor hearings in Parliament, now displays utter contempt for Ukrainian sensibilities. He promotes a common interpretation for Russian and Ukrainian history textbooks. Denying the genocidal nature of the Holodomor is one thing. Shevchenko's words come to mind once more: "By God, I cannot remain indifferent..." as we watch Mr. Yanukovich and his government allow monuments to Stalin to be built in the very regions that suffered death by starvation.

In the early 1960s the Ukrainian diaspora community successfully erected the Shevchenko monument in Washington, marking the 150th anniversary of his birth. It came to symbolize his poetic legacy and Shevchenko's dream of Ukrainian statehood.

Several years ago, the government of Ukraine agreed to erect a monument to the 1932-1933 genocide in our nation's capital. Congress even set aside a parcel of land which was solemnly dedicated in December 2008. In its final months in office the Yushchenko government held a "blitz-competition" for proposals. The land is still available, but the deadline is approaching. Will the genocide-denying government of Ukraine merely let the clock run out? If so, it appears the Ukrainian American community will again be called to erect a monu-

ment relying on its own resources.

Yet, there is an alternative monument that is not so easily dismissed. This monument will outlast bronze or stone and will reside in the realm of information: a universal database dedicated to the memory of the Holodomor. Members of Congress have taken an interest in the Holodomor since the 1980s. They held hearings, gathered eyewitness testimony and published their findings. Their very own Library of Congress is surely the most appropriate place to build such a database.

Last summer I surveyed the library's sizeable Holodomor collection and published a report in the journal *Holodomor Studies*. Among the most recent acquisitions is a booklet containing the story of how the Commission on the Ukraine Famine was created. Bozhena Olshaniwsky's essay "The Commission that almost wasn't" (originally published in *The Ukrainian Weekly* in 1993) candidly describes the struggle to establish the commission. Led by her late husband, Ihor, supportive Members of Congress championed the legislation through myriad political mazes. The work of this commission paved the way to open the long-suppressed discussion of the Holodomor among scholars and politicians in a soon-to-be independent Ukraine.

As long as the people's memory of the Holodomor endures, a hollow denial of genocide by the current president of Ukraine before the Council of Europe matters little. The ongoing debate on whether or not the Famine was genocide will continue. Governments will come and go. However, the facts of the events will remain as long as there are books, films and recorded information to document them.

Readers interested in learning about the Library of Congress Holodomor collection are encouraged to visit <http://catalog.loc.gov>. Publications not yet in the collection may be sent to: East Central Europe Section, Germanic and Slavic Division, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540.

Open World...

(Continued from page 16)

cies.

The state legislators welcomed the Poltava educators and spoke with them at length. The delegates walked away from these interviews impressed by the visibility and accessibility of American elected officials and more aware of the complexity of funding public education in a federated system.

On Friday, the delegation traveled to Niagara Falls to unwind and enjoy the beauty of a warm sunny day before joining the Buffalo delegation for a farewell dinner. As a special surprise, Prof. Pylyshenko invited Wolodymyr Petlura and both of his sons, Yuriy and Oles, to join the group at the Falls for the afternoon. Fortunately, they live just across the border in Hamilton, Ontario, and were able to make it. Wolodymyr Petlura is the nephew of Symon Petliura and the cousin of Patriarch Mstyslav of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

The informality of the setting allowed the delegates and other guests to engage in congenial conversation.

They talked about the past, the present and about Ukrainians' hopes and dreams for the future. All shared a moment of unencumbered Ukrainian solidarity.

Late in the afternoon, the group left Niagara Falls and headed to the Dnipro Café in Buffalo, toured the local credit union and had some light refreshment before continuing the journey to the farewell dinner at the Holiday Inn. There they were welcomed by Marta Pereyema from the U.S. Department of State, who spoke highly of the Open World Leadership Center and of the delegates selected for the exchange program. After the Ukrainian delegates were honored with certificates, gifts, good humor and words of appreciation, all headed back to the Rochester area. As night became day, it was time to say good-bye. The delegates and their hosts parted flush with fond memories, new friends and concrete plans to meet again, perhaps even in Ukraine.

Yanukovich rejects...

(Continued from page 2)

of a joint venture with Gazprom where 50-60 percent would belong to Ukraine and include hydrocarbon deposits in Russia (Kommersant-Ukraine, May 14). Former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Valerii Chaly, confirmed that such an option was discussed (Channel 5, May 17). Ukraine could contribute its gas storage facilities and pipelines to such a joint venture. Current Ukrainian laws prohibit this, but the pro-Yanukovich majority in parliament can easily amend them. Recently, a bill which if passed into law, will allow foreign participation in the gas transport network was registered in parliament (Ukrainski Novyny, May 14).

Mr. Medvedev, speaking in an interview to Ukrainian TV channels on the eve of his visit, agreed that a joint venture could be an option. The Russian president admitted that as Naftohaz is much smaller, a proper merger with Gazprom, whose value he estimated at \$150 billion to 200 billion, would hardly be realistic. He suggested merging some assets of the two companies instead, but did not elaborate (Inter, 1+1 TV, May 16). Mr. Putin's merger proposal was not discussed at the May 17 meeting of the Russian-Ukrainian interstate commission, which is co-chaired by President Medvedev and Mr. Yanukovich, according to Andrii Honcharuk, an aide to Mr. Yanukovich (Channel 5, May 17).

Mr. Miller, who accompanied Mr. Medvedev to Kyiv, indicated that he understood that a merger (or rather Naftohaz's takeover by Gazprom) would not happen soon. He suggested a "stage-by-stage" merger (Ukrayinska Pravda, May 17). This probably means that a joint venture will be set up after all, though Russia and Ukraine must assign different meanings to the pro-

cess. While Moscow would view this as only the first stage in Naftohaz's takeover, Kyiv would prefer that integration between the two countries' gas sectors stops at that stage for the time being. The metals and chemical tycoons who are behind Mr. Yanukovich are uninterested in passing control of Naftohaz to Russia and consequently dominance on gas prices, on which their industries heavily depend.

Mr. Yanukovich, speaking at a joint press conference with Mr. Medvedev, signaled that Kyiv was unable to keep pace with Moscow regarding economic integration plans. "We have concluded that it's impossible to work like this when seven meetings [between Mr. Yanukovich and Mr. Medvedev] took place over such a short period, so the heads of our working groups have to prepare different decisions in a hurry," said Mr. Yanukovich (Inter TV, May 17).

The honeymoon period between Mr. Yanukovich and Moscow may soon be over. While Moscow wants to expand its economic interests in Ukraine as rapidly as possible, not sure of how long a friendly government will rule in Kyiv, Mr. Yanukovich's approach must be increasingly viewed in Moscow as too cautious. No important economic agreements were reached between Russia and Ukraine this time. Among the five documents signed in Kyiv only one – on land border demarcation – is really significant as it was the result of many years of difficult talks. However, Moscow's earlier offers on deep integration in the sectors of nuclear power generation, aerospace and shipbuilding were left unanswered.

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The FSB returns...

(Continued from page 2)

(Kommersant-Ukraine, May 12). Ukrainian critics of the stationing of the FSB and BSF on a long-term basis point out that they will attract terrorism and therefore increase security threats towards Ukraine.

"More importantly," Mr. Nalyvaichenko said, "Russian counter-intelligence have undertaken on our territory unfriendly actions, including the covert collection of, and steps towards, collecting secret information and thereby infringing the Criminal Code of Ukraine" (Kommersant-Ukraine, May 12). In 2009 Ukraine expelled several Russian intelligence officers (EDM, July 31, 2009). Russian intelligence has provided covert support to separatists, and anti-NATO and anti-American groups in Crimea and Odesa. Beginning in 2005, these "protesters" and Russian Crimean separatist groups began to undermine Ukraine's joint military exercises with NATO under the Partnership for Peace (PfP) program. The FSB provided covert cover for BSF personnel who wore civilian clothes and camouflaged themselves as "locals" during the protests.

Mr. Nalyvaichenko revealed that one factor behind the 2009 decision to terminate the right of the FSB to maintain its presence in Sevastopol was that they did not restrict themselves to the BSF naval base. "Foreign special services operate in the city of Sevastopol. And this is against Ukrainian law," he said (www.bbc.co.uk/ukrainian, June 18, 2009).

The SBU demanded that FSB officers within the fleet withdraw from Crimea by the end of 2009 (Ukrayinska Pravda, June 2, Interfax-Ukraine, June 28, 2009). Mr. Nalyvaichenko warned the FSB if they had not left by that date, "they would bear criminal responsibility. The Criminal Code contains an article on 'espionage'" (Ukrayinska Pravda, June 28, 2009).

The return of the FSB to Crimea leads to three conclusions. First, the question that many in the opposition are asking is why it took President Viktor Yushchenko so long to address Ukrainian national security in Crimea? The FSB stationing agreement was not annulled until his fourth year in power. A question was only sent by the president in his last month in office to the Constitutional Court, asking it to issue a legal ruling on the article in the Constitution relating to foreign bases. The court refused to rule on the question, arguing it was not prepared by the president's legal advisers in the correct manner. On April 27 of this year the Ukrainian Parliament voted to ratify a treaty to extend the BSF base by 25 to 30 years.

Second, the return of the FSB has nothing to do with countering terrorism, but in tying Ukraine and Russia's security policies closer, the ramifications of which will be threefold. It will reduce the level of Ukraine's cooperation within PfP and increase joint Ukrainian-Russian military programs. The surrounding Black Sea states will regard Ukraine as facilitating Russian espionage from its territory. Finally, it will end Ukraine's two-decade-long close relationship with Georgia. The Party of Regions that Mr. Yanukovich led in 2008 was the only CIS political force to wholeheartedly support the 2008 Russian invasion of Georgia, ignoring the use of BSF vessels in the invasion and supporting Georgia's dismemberment through resolutions in the Ukrainian and Crimean Parliaments.

Russia's ultimate aim over the next three decades is to establish a joint condominium over Sevastopol and Crimea. Such a step would permanently restrict Ukrainian sovereignty and its ability to conduct an independent foreign policy.

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OUT AND ABOUT

Through July 11 Chicago	Art exhibit, "NeoSymbolism: Bridges to the Unknown," Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522	June 18 Dedham, MA	Fund-raiser, Children - Our Future, And the Future is in Our Hands," Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation of Boston, VFW Post 84, 508-423-4585 or 508-245-1890
June 6 Brooklyn, NY	Children's Festival of Ukrainian Art and Culture, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, info@nationalpearls.org or 646-894-8534	June 18 Perry Hall, MD	5th annual Ukrainian Crab Feast, Baltimore Ukrainian Festival Committee, Columbus Gardens Hall, 410-591-7566 or daria.kaczaniukhauff@verizonwireless.com
June 6 Boston	Annual commemoration of Ukraine's heroes, Ukrainian American Youth Association - Boston Branch, featuring divine liturgy, requiem service and picnic, Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church, www.ukrainiancenter.org or boston@cym.org	<p><i>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.</i></p>	
June 11 Washington	Discussion with Capt. Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, Shevchenko Scientific Society, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 240-205-1889		
June 11 Webster, NY	Pub Night, featuring accordionist Matthew Dubas, Ukrainian Cultural Center of Rochester, 585-872-0240		
June 12 New York	Concert, "Seven Deadly Sins," Ukrainian Women's Voices and the New York Bandura Ensemble, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110		
June 12 Horsham, PA	Golf outing and banquet, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412		
June 12 Yonkers, NY	Kozak Tournament, Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian Youth Center, Samuel.warycha@ey.com or 914-476-6781		
June 13 Horsham, PA	Youth Day, Ukrainian America Youth Association, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-627-4519		
June 18 Syracuse, NY	Acoustic Night with Sean and Nick of Vorony, Ukrainian National Home, 315-478-9272		

To: Our advertisers

Re: Upcoming events

Due to the substandard delivery by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) of The Ukrainian Weekly, we are compelled to advise our advertisers – as well as those who submit listings for our "Preview of Events" and "Out and About" columns – to submit their information well in advance.

We respectfully suggest that events should be advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly three to four weeks in advance (please judge by the newspaper delivery in your area and the location of your target audience) in order to allow readers who subscribe to our print edition enough time to plan on attending or participating in your events.

To be sure, online subscribers of The Ukrainian Weekly will always be able to view information about upcoming events in a timely manner.

In the meantime, please be assured that our administration is in touch with officials of the USPS and is continuing to seek a resolution to the problem of poor mail delivery.

We thank you for your patience and your cooperation.

– Editorial staff and administration of The Ukrainian Weekly

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Congratulations, Graduates!

Every year tens of thousands of students throughout North America receive undergraduate and graduate degrees at colleges and universities, cresting a pinnacle of personal achievement.

The Ukrainian Weekly's special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – offers readers of The Ukrainian Weekly the opportunity to place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This annual section will be published on July 4, 2010.

To place an ad congratulating a recent graduate, please send us the following by June 22:

- your note of congratulations, in Ukrainian or English, which should be no more than 50 words, including names;
- in English, the full name of the graduate, the degree completed or diploma received, along with the date it was presented, a list of awards and honors given the graduate, and the name and location of the school;
- a photo of the graduate (optional);
- payment for the ad;
- your daytime phone number.

The ad sizes for the greeting are a 1/8 page horizontal for \$100 or a 1/4 page ad for \$180.

Please make checks payable to The Ukrainian Weekly and mail along with above information to:
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Attn. Maria Oscislawski

Or e-mail: adukr@optonline.net

For further information, please call 973-292-9800 ext. 3040 or visit www.ukrweekly.com

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 6

BROOKLYN, N.Y.: The second annual Children's Festival of Ukrainian Art and Culture will take place at Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, 160 N. Fifth St., Brooklyn, NY 11211 at noon to 6 p.m. The festival venue is in the heart of the most eclectic place in the U.S. – the Northside of Brooklyn, between Bedford and Driggs avenues. The highlight of the event is Ukrainian dance, singing and instrumental performances, and arts and crafts expositions by talented Ukrainian children from all over the country. Also featured: food vendors of Ukrainian and international cuisines, workshops, exhibits, screening of Ukrainian cartoons, clowns, games and fun for all – adults and children. For information log on to <http://nationalpearls.org/festival2010> or call 646-894-8534 or call 646-894-8534.

Friday, June 11

WASHINGTON: Capt. Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper (U.S. Navy) will speak on her experiences as a NASA astronaut at 6:30 p.m. at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1701 K St. NW, Suite 903 (located near Metro Farragut North, McPherson Square). The event, to be conducted in English, is sponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific

Society, Washington, D.C., branch, and The Washington Group. Admission is free; donations are welcome. For further information call 240-205-1889.

Sunday, June 13

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) of Philadelphia cordially invites the Ukrainian American community in the Philadelphia area to attend its traditional annual "Youth Day" and picnic on the grounds of the Ukrainian American Sport Center Tryzub, located at Lower State and County Line roads in Horsham, Pa. The official program will commence at 10:30 a.m. with flag-raising and opening ceremonies, commendations and awards for active members of the UAYA branch, and a divine liturgy. The public is invited to participate. Sports will include soccer, volleyball and track-and-field events. The artistic program in the afternoon will feature the winners of national competitions. There will also be a performance by the branch's well-known Vesna dance ensemble. Throughout the day, there will be a picnic with plenty of delicious food, and hot and cold drinks. There will also be music in the evening for the public's entertainment and dancing. For information call 215-627-4519.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

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

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