

Napoleonic wars still alive

Borisov may become a member of the European Federation of Napoleonic Cities

By Andrey Fiodorov

The Borisov District Executive Committee hosted a meeting with the President of the Federation, Charles Napoleon, the Director of the organisation of cities-participants of the war of 1812, Jacques Mattei, and the Consul of France, Christoph Bramouille. During the visit, the guests visited the Borisov State Museum, which houses an exhibition hall on the history of the war of 1812. Another object of attention was the house and estate of historian, Ivan Kolodiev, which boasts the largest European collection of materials about the two hundred year old war.

The foreign visitors suggested to the Belarusian side that they continue co-operation on the entry of Borisov into the European Federation of Napoleonic Cities. The French experts will determine the list of directions for popularisation of the theme of Napoleon which may be carried out in Belarus.

Created in 2004, the European Federation of Napoleonic Cities includes about 50 cities of Belgium, Germany, Italy, Poland, Russia, Czech Republic and other



Re-enacting Napoleonic army's crossing of River Berezina, from November 1812

European countries. All of them are historically connected with the activity of the well-known French commander. The main aims of the Federation are the development of tourist contacts, the organisation of

joint cultural projects and the co-operation of researchers, historians, educational institutions and youth. The Federation develops tourist programs, and in particular, works on the creation of a virtual 'Napoleon's Road' across cities and countries connected with the history of the Napoleonic wars. It is hoped that Borisov, and the surrounding area, will become part of this tourist route.

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Calls under unified tariff

By Vladimir Samsonov

Mobile roaming charges might be removed in the Single Economic Space



Calls become cheaper

The Eurasian Economic Commission has prepared a draft document on the abolishment of mobile roaming charges in the CES member states: Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. "A regulation on roaming removal is based on the EU agreements," explains the Deputy Director of Competition Policy and Public Procurement Department of the Eurasian Economic Commission, Boris Parsegov. "It's actually a kind of a retaliatory agreement, when Beeline and MTS apply different tariffs in their joint work, and when liaising with Beeline-Kazakhstan."

Mr. Parsegov also stressed that a competitive mechanism makes it possible to abuse the market situation even in Europe — although many more operators are registered there.

In 2010, Kazakhstan was the first to voice a desire to the removal of mobile roaming charges in the territory of the three states. In recent times, international roaming has been much criticised, especially due to different tariffs on international calls between Belarus, Russia and Kazakhstan.

Indomitable force of Silich

Well-known Belarusian power engineer becomes main hero of the book

By Nikolai Semenov

The presentation of the artistically-biographic book by Grigory Andreevets, *Going to a Thunder-Storm*, issued by the Gomel Polespechat Publishing House, was held in the regional library with the participation of true professionals of the branch and outstanding representatives of science. Many of them were personally familiar with the main hero of the book, Piotr Silich, and therefore their recollections on the presentation were really interesting to listeners.

This future energy expert comprehended elements of education in Telusha school of the Bobruisk District. It is known that it was constructed by the granddaughter of the great poet, Alexander Pushkin. She lived in the next manor, Vavulichi, with her husband, Pavel Vorontsov-Veliaminov, the officer of 13th Narvsky Hussar Regiment.

Everyone who knows Silich says that he was the type of person who created a factor of safe-

ty for the whole system, managing every small or mundane element during his life. However, when the time comes, these small daily accomplishments are highlighted as a bright flash and become a worthy example for his followers and the young generation. The catastrophe at the Chernobyl nuclear power-station is such an example. The Director General of Gomelenergo enterprise, Piotr Silich, appeared on the front line of that scale work to minimise the consequences of the accident.

Twelve times he appeared at Chernobyl station's mouth, breathing its deadly radionuclides. He spent hundreds of days directly in that '30 kilometres zone', where among empty structures-hosts of evacuated villages, he worked with his subordinates — the power engineers.

The erection of the Mozyr heating plant fell to the time of Silich. Then, in late 70s to 80s of last century, in connection with the construction of the plant, there was an important question about the launch of the Gomel heating plant. These and other important objects, figuratively speaking, have passed through the flesh and blood of Piotr Silich.

The current Director General of Gomelenergo, Alexander Petukh, noted at the book presentation that the collective already cherishes an intention to create the next book about a no less legendary person, the third former director of the enterprise, Oleg Rykhter, who was at the helm of the power branch from 1999 to 2008.

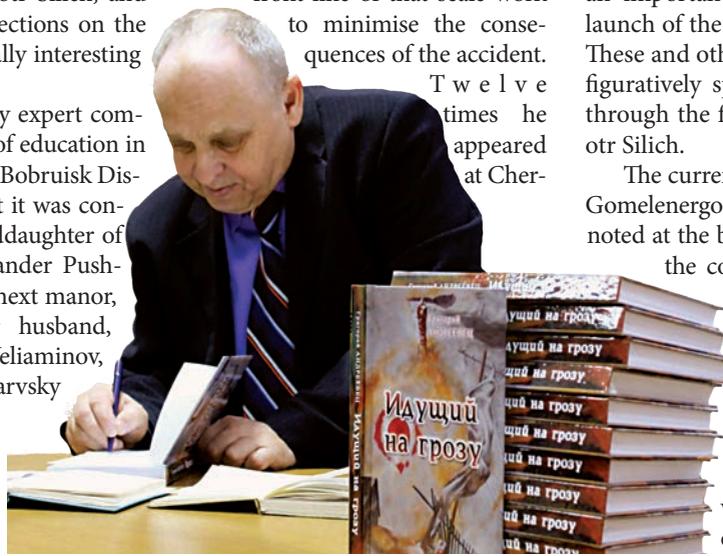
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Students at higher educational institutions across Belarus will take part in the survey until May, with answers processed in summer and added to an international database. Mr. Titovich notes, "We'll look at the quality assurance of this data and prepare national reports. The results will be officially reported at Yerevan in May, 2015."



Grigory Andreevets and his book

Students to answer questions

By Sergey Ivanov

More than 3000 Belarusian students to take part in international research-poll Eurostudent

The Pro-rector of the National Institute of Higher Education, Igor Titovich, tells us, "The programme is part of a long-term research-poll of students across more than

25 European countries, covering such spheres of interest as access to higher education, social and economic aspects of living conditions and international mobility."

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Following new routes with audio guides

By Valery Smirnov

Grodno and Druskininkai implement joint project to promote tourism

According to the city authorities of Belarusian Grodno and Lithuanian Druskininkai, the joint project should encourage tourism flow in both directions. *Promotion of Tourism through Increasing Awareness of the History and Culture of the Regions* aims to create several tourist routes for cars, bicycles and walkers.

There are also plans to develop and promote new tourism routes in the nearest time, including four new routes for tourists travelling by car, by bike and on foot. Moreover, the project partners will develop a mobile guide to Druskininkai, as well as guidelines to develop a mobile guide to Grodno. In addition, there are plans to publish an information edition, entitled *The Guide along the Adjacent Territories of the Cities of Druskininkai and Grodno*, and a tourist map, featuring new routes.

The total cost will be about 300,000 Euros, with all work completed by the end of 2014.

Adrenaline on snow slopes

1.5 million people have visited skiing sports and fitness complex Logoisk over the past ten years

The formal opening of the skiing complex, the first in Belarus, took place on January 24th, 2004. The basic slope, with chairlifts and two operating alpine skiing slopes were opened at that time. Since then the complex has developed year on year. Today, it is a modern skiing resort, meeting strict European standards and a real adrenalin paradise for fans of an active lifestyle.

More than 1,500,000 people have visited Logoisk over the past 10 years. The visitors were not only Belarusians, but also fans of winter rest from Russia, Ukraine and Poland. In 2011, a business centre was opened, which contributed to the development of business tourism here and in the autumn of 2013 the Hare Glade, the skiing-biathlon sports base, was annexed to the skiing complex.

Animal census successful

Traditional winter calculation at Belovezhskaya Pushcha counts more than 460 aurochs

The number of rare animals has quadrupled since last year, although only 46 calves were counted: far fewer than last year. Every winter, aurochs in the Belovezhskaya Pushcha are counted, to keep track of the adult population: 350 is considered to be suitable for the Pushcha. Additional adults can then be rehomed elsewhere. Last year, 11 aurochs from the Belovezhskaya Pushcha were sent to the Vitebsk District and it's now possible that two may be sent to the Vladimir Region of Russia and five more to Kazakhstan.