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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## XX Congress of Ukrainians in America meets in Cleveland, elects new leaders

CLEVELAND – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) on October 17-19 held its XX Congress of Ukrainians in America, which was dedicated to the 75th anniversary of Ukraine's Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Close to 100 delegates representing UCCA branches around the country, as well as delegates from Ukrainian national organizations gathered here at the Sheraton Hotel to amend by-laws, hear reports and elect a

new UCCA president and executive board.

For the first time in the 68-year history of the organization, a woman was elected as UCCA president. The long-time executive director of the UCCA National Office, Tamara Gallo Olexy, was unanimously chosen to lead the UCCA for the next four years.

Also elected to the presidium of the UCCA executive board were: Andrij Futey, executive vice-president; Marie Duplak, executive secretary; Stepan Kerda, treasurer; and Stefan Kaczaraj, National Council chair.

Following the official opening of the convention with the singing of the Ukrainian and American national anthems, the first order of business was to elect individuals to preside over the convention. Elected were: Chair Orest Baranyk; Deputy Chairs Roman Kozicky and Kenneth Wanio; and Secretaries Nicholas Duplak (Ukrainian language), Andrij Szul and Eva Zelenko (English language).

The congress also included workshops addressing issues of importance to the Ukrainian American community.

The first workshop, titled "The Future of Our Community," moderated by Larssia Kyj, president of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, included speakers Mr. Kaczaraj, Ukrainian National Association; Bohdan Harhaj, Ukrainian

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Olex Yanchuk

Newly elected UCCA President Tamara Gallo Olexy.

## Gridlocked Rada takes steps to deal with financial crisis



Nikolay Lazarenko/UNIAN

Volodymyr Stelmakh of the National Bank of Ukraine and President Viktor Yushchenko at an October 30 meeting on the financial crisis.

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukrainian lawmakers led by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc approved on October 29 the first reading of legislation to stem the nation's economic implosion, but ongoing attempts by opponents to attach amendments cast doubt on their ability to pass the necessary second reading by week's end.

Ukraine needs new legislation reforming its banking system to fulfill its end of a \$16.5 billion loan extended by the

International Monetary Fund on October 26 to prevent Ukraine's financial system from collapsing.

The Party of Regions of Ukraine and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc indicated they wouldn't support anti-crisis legislation unless their proposed amendments were included, particularly a measure to finance the pre-term parliamentary election.

As efforts to pass the legislation were mired in gridlock, Ukraine's economic dete-

(Continued on page 8)

## IMF to loan Ukraine billions to cope with global crisis

RFE/RL

PRAGUE – The International Monetary Fund (IMF) says it will loan Ukraine more than \$16 billion to help it cope with the global economic crisis.

The loan approval is the latest sign the IMF will try to play a fireman's role in rescuing emerging economies that are too weak to survive on their own.

The loan is to be used over the coming two years to bolster Ukraine's teetering banking sector. IMF Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn said on October 26 that Ukraine is to receive the loan "to maintain confidence and economic and financial stability."

Ukraine has seen its exports, stock market, banks and currency all severely weakened in the global financial crisis.

Mr. Strauss-Kahn said the IMF loan should help to protect companies and families from an almost certain further deterioration of the country's economic condition. "It will guard against a deep decline by insulating households and corporations to the extent possible," he said.

### Fragility in emerging economies

Ukraine's economic fragility – like

that of many countries with emerging economies – has been starkly exposed by the global economic downturn.

Prices for the country's major export, steel, have fallen amid diminishing demand from foreign buyers. At the same time, foreign investors fleeing emerging markets have rushed out of Ukraine's stock market, helping to send it plummeting by 60 percent since the start of September.

And the global credit shortage – which comes as international commercial banks hold on to their capital amid the crisis rather than loan it – is severely limiting the ability of the Ukrainian government, firms and banks to get new loans from abroad to finance their operations.

All these pressures have sent the national currency, the hryvnia, downward in recent weeks. It has fallen from an earlier rate of below 5 hrv to the U.S. dollar to a rate of 6 hrv on October 27. Making things still worse is political turmoil in Kyiv, where President Viktor Yushchenko and his former ally Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko are again deadlocked in a power struggle. Their latest showdown has kept Parliament in disarray for

weeks.

Ihor Burakinskiy, director of the Institute for Economic Studies and Political Consultations, told RFE/RL that the Ukrainian leadership is still far from working out a final anticrisis strategy.

"If we are talking about the plan as a document which has necessary support in the legislative body, in the sense of a draft law, then as of today such a plan does not exist," Mr. Burakinskiy said. "There are a few documents prepared by the government and a document prepared by the National Security and Defense Council" headed by President Yushchenko, he added.

The IMF bailout comes with conditions. Under the deal, Ukraine's fractious Parliament must adopt a raft of likely unpopular anti-crisis measures. The IMF hasn't made the conditions public, but experts expect them to include cutting government wages, pensions and subsidies for household utilities, as well as increasing taxes on gasoline, alcohol and tobacco.

President Yushchenko on October 27 called on national deputies to put their differences aside and approve the pack-

age at that day's parliamentary session. "It would be a bad example for Parliament to block the plan," he said.

Deputies loyal to Prime Minister Tymoshenko, who is again locked in a bitter power struggle with former ally Mr. Yushchenko, nonetheless blocked the vote, forcing an adjournment.

They were demanding that the IMF loan be discussed prior to a draft law to finance early parliamentary elections called by Mr. Yushchenko in December and opposed by Ms. Tymoshenko. It was unclear when deputies would reconvene to examine legislation needed to secure the loan.

Ukraine's political in-fighting means the legislation faces a rough ride in Parliament – each main parliamentary faction has put forward its own anti-crisis draft law.

The IMF package is instrumental in helping Ukraine stay afloat amid global financial turmoil.

The country's economy has enjoyed an economic boom in recent years thanks to a rise in prices for its main export, steel. But a recent slump in international

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## ANALYSIS

## Moscow seeks to prolong naval presence in Sevastopol

by Vladimir Socor  
Eurasia Daily Monitor  
October 23

For the first time since the Soviet era, Russia's Black Sea Fleet undertook an offensive operation in August of this year when it attacked Georgia, landing Russian ground forces in Abkhazia. The Russian Fleet, based mainly in Sevastopol, misused Ukraine's territory and abused Ukraine's neutrality in launching that operation. It did so with impunity, underscoring the deficit of usable power, political leadership and international rule of law in the Black Sea region.

The Russian fleet now plans to use the prized Ochamchire base on the Abkhaz coast, which is legally sovereign Georgian territory (Vremya Novostei, October 21; see Eurasia Daily Monitor, October 22). The Turkish-Russian naval condominium, which exists de facto in the Black Sea, did not inhibit the Russian fleet from attacking Georgia.

In late September and the first half of October, ships of Russia's Black Sea Fleet joined flag-showing exercises by the Russian navy in the Mediterranean Sea and visits to Soviet-era bases located there. While the fleet's overall combat value is very low at present, Russia's leaders think 10 years ahead in terms of ship-building plans, premised on oil and gas revenues, for uncontested naval supremacy over neighboring countries and a possible renewed presence in the Mediterranean.

The Black Sea Fleet, moreover, seems potentially usable in Crimea much as the Russian ground troops proved usable in

Abkhazia and Transdnistria, where their presence helped carve out a zone of Russian control. Crimea has not become a hot spot (conflict zone), as Ukrainian officials such as Security Service of Ukraine Acting Chairman Valentyn Nalyvaichenko correctly point out (Izvestia, October 22). But Moscow holds enough cards to hint at a potential conflict, for political leverage over Kyiv's decisions on the Black Sea Fleet and Kyiv-NATO relations.

In their cumulative effect, these recent developments have clearly enhanced the Black Sea Fleet's value in the eyes of Russia's leadership, lending an added impetus to plans for retention of the Sevastopol base in the future.

On October 22 Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergei Lavrov announced that Russia would ask Ukraine to prolong the stationing of Russia's Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol beyond 2017, when the basing agreement is due to expire. Mr. Lavrov said that Russia would not make its proposal to Ukraine any time soon but "at some later stage, closer to 2017" (Interfax, October 22).

Such timing, however, would leave almost no room for Russian compliance with the deadline, in the event that Ukraine turns down Moscow's proposal. The fleet's physical relocation from Sevastopol to Russian territory would be a multi-year process and could be dragged out longer than necessary by Russia. Starting the discussions with Ukraine "closer to 2017" would, therefore, ensure the prolongation of the Russian fleet's presence in Ukraine beyond the deadline, de facto if not de jure.

The basing agreement, signed in 1997 and valid for a 20-year period, can be prolonged automatically unless either side terminates it with one-year advance notice. This procedure puts the onus on the Ukrainian authorities. Moscow probably hopes that a divided Ukrainian government and body politic may not be able to reach, sustain and enforce a decision to terminate the basing agreement.

Moscow is already laying out the strategy for retaining its naval presence on Ukraine's territory in the future. The strategy includes potentially coercive aspects, as well as inducements.

On the coercive side, Russian officials, including some at the top, are openly questioning Ukraine's territorial integrity (also inspiring the Duma to do this), with particular reference to Crimea and Sevastopol. The possibility of Moscow using local groups to "raise the Russian flag" over Sevastopol and Crimea, if Kyiv no longer accepts hosting the Black Sea Fleet, lurks distinctly in the background to the continuing debates on the basing agreement (see EDM, February 14, April 4, 7, 10, 11, May 13, 14, June 18).

On the inducement side, the Russian government proposes to: a) increase the rent it pays to Ukraine for leasing the Sevastopol base (a paltry \$98 million per year under the 1997 agreements); b) invest Russian funds for the development of the civilian infrastructure in Sevastopol and the Crimea, in the local population's interest (evidently an accompaniment to naval base upgrading, if Ukraine prolongs the basing agreement); c) place Russian state orders with Ukrainian military-industrial plants in Crimea and elsewhere in Ukraine (including the now-idle Ukrainian shipyards along the seacoast,

(Continued on page 22)

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Parliament backs bailout bill

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on October 29 adopted in its first reading a bill on immediate measures to prevent negative fallout of the financial turmoil. The bill, which is supposed to be adopted on October 30, was backed by 248 national deputies. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, a majority of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense factions, the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc and two deputies of the opposition Party of Regions, which suggested its own anti-crisis bill, voted for the document. The Communists did cast votes. The presidential bailout bill envisages the creation of a stabilization fund, which is formed by means of privatization revenues, external and internal borrowings, as well as funds from international financial organizations. The proceeds are supposed to be channeled to financing projects in those sectors that have lost foreign demand in order to ensure development of the domestic market. The president also suggests introducing in the agrarian sector a value-added tax accumulation regime, whereby all the VAT that is earned by villagers (around 7 billion hrv), will remain in their possession. In order to bolster the banking sectors, the introduction is proposed of a mechanism of recapitalization of commercial banks with the help of government and National Bank of Ukraine resources. It is also suggested to earmark from the 2008 budget 1 billion hrv to nationalize PromInvestBank via Ukreximbank. The presidential anti-crisis bill provides for a two-year moratorium on sharp increases of social indicators "with the goal of balancing state finances and the finances of enterprises." This means that the minimum subsistence level and the minimum wage will be increased within the inflation level. (Ukrinform)

### A signal of coalition's revival?

KYIV – Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who optimistically accepted the October 29 vote in the first reading of the anti-crisis bill submitted by the president, predicted its successful adoption in its second reading on October 30. Commenting on the support for the bill by the factions of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc

(YTB), Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc, Ms. Tymoshenko said she viewed this as a positive signal about restoration of the extended democratic coalition. "I think the democratic coalition may be resumed, and the Parliament will be able to work successfully compared to previous months," she said. Last week and earlier this week, deputies of the YTB had blocked the parliamentary rostrum, insisting that the anti-crisis bill be considered before any bill on financing the announced pre-term parliamentary elections. (Ukrinform)

### Catherine II monument vandalized

KYIV – Overnight on October 27-28, unknown persons bombarded a monument to Russian Empress Catherine II in Sevastopol with packets of dye. The likeness of the empress was painted with yellow and blue colors. According to the head of the Ukrainian Community of Sevastopol, Myroslav Mamchak, organizers of the provocation wished to stir up anti-Ukrainian moods on the eve of possible parliamentary elections. Mr. Mamchak confirmed that the Ukrainian Community of Sevastopol had been against erection of the monument to the empress, but it acted openly; it has no connection to this act of vandalism, he added. Sevastopol authorities are investigating the incident. (Ukrinform)

### President's rating declines further

KYIV – According to the results of the public opinion poll conducted on October 7-19 by the Oleksander Razumkov Center, 22.8 percent of people would vote for Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich if the presidential elections took place next Sunday. Coming in second is Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, who has 20.5 percent support. Third is Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko with 5.1 percent, followed by President Viktor Yushchenko with 4.9 percent. Volodymyr Lytvyn, leader of the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc, and Parliament

(Continued on page 14)

## Kyiv denies extension of lease for Russia's Black Sea Fleet

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Associated Press reported on October 24 that Ukraine had turned down a Russian proposal to extend the lease for the naval base on the Crimean peninsula used by the Russian Black Sea Fleet.

Russia wants the fleet to remain in Sevastopol, Ukraine, after the lease expires in 2017.

Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry said a lease extension "cannot be a subject of discussion" and that Russian ships would have to leave Crimea in 2017.

The AP added that Russia has said it might wait to negotiate a new lease when 2017 draws closer in the hope that Ukraine's President Viktor A. Yushchenko, who is pro-Western, will no longer be in office.

## Clarification

The advertisement for the Obama-Biden campaign published in last week's issue (October 26) was printed in error in a smaller size than intended. The advertisement should have occupied a full-page. This week's issue contains the correct full-page version of that advertisement.

– Advertising Department

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# The Holodomor 75 years later: The Kharkiv Oblast

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

VALKY, Ukraine – In the mid-1980s as a budding Soviet journalist in Valky, a rural town outside of Kharkiv, Tamara Polischuk was struck by how the elders would switch to a whisper when mentioning the terrible Famine.

“Whatever they talked about, they somehow ended up on this topic,” said Ms. Polischuk, now director of the Valky Ethnographic Museum. “I didn’t understand what they were talking about or why they spoke of it with such trembling fear.”

Her journalistic itch kicked in, and Ms. Polischuk began digging through Soviet history books and publications, only to find brief mentions of food shortages in 1932 and 1933 caused by drought.

Once the Soviet Union collapsed, however, the whispers became living testimonies to the Holodomor, the man-made famine hatched by the Soviet government to annihilate the foundation of Ukraine, its peasant farmers.

After being recruited in 1992 to become director of the Valky district’s first ethnographic museum, Ms. Polischuk became determined to investigate and document the terror that befell the Valky district, blessed with seemingly endless fields of some of Ukraine’s deepest and richest “chornozem” (black earth).

She began traveling to surrounding villages and writing down testimonies with a simple pen and paper – all that was available at the time of the economic devastation in the early 1990s.

She gathered 50 eyewitness accounts herself and collected 150 from others, many of which eventually made it into her acclaimed account of the Holodomor in Kharkiv, “Stolytsia Vidchayu” (Capital of Despair), published in 2006.

Holodomor activist Marian Kots, a



Zenon Zawada

**Tamara Polischuk began researching the Holodomor in the late 1980s after she noticed that Kharkiv Oblast residents would whisper about it during interviews.**

New York banker who currently resides in Lviv, financed the book, which contains documents from the Kharkiv Oblast State Archives that Ms. Polischuk spent hundreds of hours copying in the early 1990s, not having the luxuries of photocopying machines and digital cameras.

The documents revealed that the Famine wasn’t accidental, or imposed locally, and a chain of documents led directly to Moscow.

Meanwhile, the Security Service of Ukraine denied Ms. Polischuk access to its documents.

Wanting to consult with local historians about her work, Ms. Polischuk was shocked to discover in 1993 that not a single Kharkiv historian had done any research on the Holodomor that devastated the oblast and Russified its inhabitants.

That changed when Holodomor researcher Volodymyr Boichuk of France visited Kharkiv in 1995, read Ms. Polischuk’s manuscript and invited her to join the burgeoning Holodomor Researchers Association.

Much work has yet to be done in assessing the Holodomor in the Kharkiv Oblast, despite Ms. Polischuk’s enormous efforts.

For example, researchers have yet to establish a death count for the oblast, which won’t be ready in time for the Kharkiv Oblast volume of the National Memory Book of Holodomor Victims.

Kharkiv Holodomor historian Yelyzaveta Yatsenko estimates that 2 million were killed in the Kharkiv Oblast, which in 1933 included territory now part of the Poltava and Sumy oblasts.

Ms. Polischuk believes a third of the

## The Holodomor in the Kharkiv Oblast

128,000 known casualties \*  
54,490 known survivors still alive \*\*  
900-plus population centers affected  
192 known mass graves

\* Liunmyla Rovchak, the lead editor of the Kharkiv volume of the National Memory Book of Holodomor Victims, said this figure is based on current evidence and does not reflect the true casualty rate, which is expected to be at least four times higher.

\*\* As of 2002, according to Ms. Rovchak.

oblast residents perished – eight times the normal death rate.

Half the populations of certain Kharkiv Oblast villages, such as Snizhky, were eliminated, while those situated near the railroad suffered only 10 percent casualties.

Residents there were able to ride the train to the city of Kharkiv, work in the city’s factories, earn valuable “produktovi kartky” (food cards) and thereby feed their families.

Ms. Polischuk’s grandfather worked as a firefighter in the railway town of Liubotyn and was able to feed his two children because of where he worked.

As peasants starved to death, Kharkiv was becoming a Soviet industrial powerhouse, its residents had work and food, and the massive State Industry (DerzhProm) complex in central Kharkiv was active, Ms. Polischuk said.

When she was researching the Holodomor in the 1990s, Ms. Polischuk’s efforts were largely greeted with encour-

(Continued on page 16)

## President Bush meets with Central and East European Coalition

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – In an unexpected meeting with leaders of the Central and East European Coalition (CEEC), President George W. Bush thanked the ethnic representatives for their support of the NATO enlargement process during a briefing at the White House on Friday, October 24.

Founded in 1993, the CEEC comprises 19 U.S.-based national Central and East European ethnic organizations representing over 20 million Americans in the United States.

The briefing took place prior to a ceremony in which President Bush signed Protocols of Accession to help bring Croatia and Albania a step closer to formal NATO membership in 2009.

In his remarks in the State Dining Room, President Bush spoke to the group of 33 CEEC members for nearly half an hour about the future of NATO, the priorities of his administration and its accomplishments. He thanked the CEEC for its role in supporting previous rounds of NATO enlargement to bring in many of the countries from the Central and East European region.

President Bush emphasized that the work of the CEEC must continue during the next presidential administration and that NATO must take in those countries that aspire to and are ready to share the burdens of membership, including Ukraine and Georgia.

The president also discussed the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, the Visa Waiver Program,



Peter Wendt

**Representatives of member-organizations of the Central and East European Coalition; seated in the first row (second and third from right, respectively) are Ihor Kotlarchuk, chairman of the UCCA’s District of Columbia branch, and Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the Ukrainian National Information Service.**

democracy and security issues facing Ukraine and Georgia, support of democracy-building in Belarus, the upcoming 60th NATO summit in 2009 and U.S.-Russia relations.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America was represented by two of its executive board members: Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the UCCA’s Washington bureau, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), and Ihor Kotlarchuk, chairman of the UCCA’s District of Columbia branch.

Commenting on the president’s

remarks, Mr. Sawkiw reiterated the concerns expressed by the CEEC members during the meeting: “We [the Ukrainian American community, as part of the CEEC] are grateful to have had this opportunity to meet President Bush and discuss issues important to our respective communities. We are hopeful that, with the transition to a new administration in January 2009, granting a Membership Action Plan (MAP) to Ukraine and Georgia, and vigilance of events within the Russian Federation remain in the forefront of U.S. foreign policy.”

Prior to the president’s appearance, the CEEC was briefed by U.S. Ambassador to NATO Kurt Volker and Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiatives and External Affairs Barry Jackson. National Security Advisor Stephen Hadley and Deputy National Security Advisor Judith Ansley were also present at the gathering, along with Damon Wilson, Adam Sterling and Maria Germano of the National Security Council, and Vanessa Beebe from the Office of Public Liaison.

(Continued on page 16)



Stefan Kaczurak

Delegates, UCCA officers and guests at the closing of the XX Congress of Ukrainians in America.

## XX Congress...

(Continued from page 1)

American Youth Association; and Alexander Lushnycky, UCCA Educational Council.

The second panel, "The Importance of Advocacy of Our Community's Interests on the Local and Federal Levels," moderated by Mr. Baranyk, was another hot topic for the XX convention delegates. George Brown, ethnic liaison for Sen. George Voinovich (R-Ohio), Svitlana Sweat, UCCA Georgia branch, and Steve Ostafichuk, Holodomor Project coordinator, League of Ukrainian Catholics, provided advice on how best to advocate issues important to the community, such as Ukraine's Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, and on creating chambers of commerce between UCCA branches and Ukraine.

On Saturday evening, the United Organizations of Cleveland, the UCCA's Cleveland branch, organized a formal banquet for the delegates and guests of the congress. The keynote address was delivered by Sen. Voinovich, a long-time friend and supporter of the Ukrainian community.

Greetings were also received from the two U.S. presidential candidates, Sen. John McCain and Sen. Barack Obama. Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States, also in attendance, addressed the delegates and guests and presented UCCA's outgoing president, Michael Sawkiw Jr., with a special award from Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the conclusion of the banquet, the UCCA presented its highest honor, the Shevchenko Freedom Award, to six prominent individuals within the Ukrainian community: Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky; Askold Lozynskyj, former president of the Ukrainian World Congress; Prof. Dmytro Shtohryn University of Illinois at Champagne-Urbana; Maria Lozynskyj, former president of the Women's Association for the Defense of For Freedoms for Ukraine (WADFFU); Julian Kulas president of the Heritage Foundation; and Daria Stepaniak, long-time activist of the WADFFU.

The evening's entertainment was provided by the local Cleveland dance ensemble, Kashtan, the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus under the direction of its new conductor, Adrian Bryttan, and the UCCA Philadelphia branch's all-male choir, Akkolada.

Addressing the delegates on Sunday, after the election of the UCCA's new leadership, Ms. Olexy expressed gratitude to Mr. Sawkiw, outgoing UCCA president, the UCCA executive board and National Council, as well as UCCA branches for their many years of dedication and hard work.

Ms. Olexy pledged to do her utmost for the good of the UCCA and the Ukrainian American community. She noted that the biggest challenge will be to revitalize the community, through the UCCA's membership and branches, and she outlined her vision for the next four years, which includes reassessing the status of UCCA branches, retooling the UCCA to meet the current needs of the community, including



Julian Kulas accepts the Taras Shevchenko Freedom Award. Looking on is outgoing UCCA President Michael Sawkiw Jr.

utilizing the most up-to-date communications methods, and embracing the newest immigrants from Ukraine.

In closing, the newly elected president

stated, "I look forward to working with you all. We are a team and, with open communication and cooperation, I believe we will have a bright future before us."



Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Shamshur...



...and Sen. George Voinovich address congress delegates.

# Greetings to the XX Congress of Ukrainians in America

## Sen. John McCain

*Following is the full text of Sen. John McCain's October 16 letter to the XX Congress of Ukrainians in America.*

XX Congress of Ukrainians  
in America  
Ukrainian Congress Committee  
203 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10023

Dear Delegates,

Greetings and welcome to all joining this year's Congress of Ukrainians in America. Thank you for allowing me this chance to join you, at least in spirit, as Ukrainian Americans from around our country gather to discuss the many issues that unite your community in common action.

There will be a great deal to consider. Ukrainian Americans have been pivotal in supporting the democratic aspirations of Ukrainians during and following the Orange Revolution, and your continued support will be critical in solidifying the dramatic changes of recent years. During my visits to Ukraine and in my meetings with Ukrainian leaders and citizens, it has been clear that the people of that proud country have a bright future, one that will be all the more promising as America stands by its side.

I would also like to commend the

Ukrainian Congress Committee for its principled stand in defense of Georgia's independence and territorial integrity. These have been difficult times for Georgia and Russia's neighbors. The clear stand adopted by Ukrainian Americans will shape opinion here and abroad, and for the better. As I said during one of the presidential debates, it's not accidental that the presidents of Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine flew to Georgia. They showed solidarity with Georgians, a solidarity born of direct experience of what it is like to be subjected to Russian military action. In that debate, I also pointed out that we had to watch out for Ukraine. Russia must face consequences for its invasion of Georgia, and must understand that the West will not stand by as the Kremlin pressures Ukraine. We must be steadfast and effective in our support for the inclusion of Georgia and Ukraine in NATO.

Thank you for being a strong voice of freedom, of human rights, of spreading democracy, of the cultural heritage of Ukrainian Americans and their current contributions in all these areas. America is enriched by your activities, and Ukraine is strengthened by the linkages you foster between our countries.

Sincerely,

**John McCain**

## Sen. Barack Obama

*Following is the full text of Sen. Barack Obama's October 14 letter to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.*

Michael Sawkiw  
President  
Ukrainian Congress Committee  
of America

Dear President Sawkiw and fellow delegates to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America,

I congratulate you on convening the 20th Congress of Ukrainians in America in Cleveland this week. I regret that I cannot attend, but I look forward to hearing the results of your meeting, particularly as they pertain to bolstering sovereignty, security, democracy and prosperity in Ukraine.

As we have seen in the past months, sovereignty and security must never be taken for granted in Europe. Partnership and cooperation with Ukraine's friends in the West must continue to play a vital role in building a safe and prosperous future for Ukrainian citizens.

I fully support the efforts of Ukraine's citizens to build a stable, independent, and democratic Ukraine, integrated into Europe and contributing to transatlantic security. The United States must work closely with our European allies to accelerate and deepen Ukraine's integration into the West. Ukraine is ready for a NATO Membership Action Plan: I pledge to work with America's NATO allies to build agreement among them for taking this next key step in Ukraine's

efforts to earn its rightful place as a member of the Euro-Atlantic community. I look forward to supporting Ukrainian policies to strengthen the rule of law, reduce Ukraine's energy dependence, improve the business climate, expand U.S. investment in Ukraine's vibrant economy, and create more opportunities for young Ukrainians to study in the United States.

The Ukrainian experiment in democracy must succeed, not only for the well being of Ukrainian citizens, but also to inspire those still fighting for democracy throughout the region, including even inside Russia. Bolstering Ukrainian democracy, development, and security will constitute a central pillar of my foreign policy for dealing with the entire region. I urge you as individual Americans and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America as a whole to remain engaged in helping us achieve this common goal.

In closing, I would like to assure you that Michelle and I are personally aware of the historic importance and meaning of the Holodomor. The tragic famine that took so many lives must never be forgotten. An entire era was shaped by this horrendous crime. For the sake of our common humanity, we must never forget the famine and must always ensure that future generations know this painful history so that it will never be repeated.

I wish you a productive meeting and look forward to hearing the results.

Sincerely,

**Barack Obama**

## President George W. Bush

*Following is the text of U.S. President George W. Bush's October 16 letter to the UCCA congress.*

I send greetings to those gathered for the 2008 Quadrennial Congress of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Our Nation is a land of diversity that has benefited from the contributions of people from all backgrounds. Through hard work and perseverance, Ukrainian

Americans helped build our country and shape our national character.

I appreciate the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America for your commitment to preserving and celebrating your customs, values, and history. Your efforts honor a vibrant culture in our country and set a fine example for future generations of Americans.

Laura and I send our best wishes on this special occasion.

**George W. Bush**

## President Viktor Yushchenko

*Following is the text of Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko's greeting to the participants of the XX Congress of Ukrainians in America. (Translated by The Ukrainian Weekly.)*

To the Participants of the XX Congress of Ukrainians in America

Dear Friends, Dear Ukrainians!

I cordially greet you with the opening of the jubilee XX Congress of Ukrainians in America.

Your contributions to the Ukrainian nation are invaluable. I am deeply thankful for your assistance in establishing and developing Ukrainian statehood and for representing our nation in the world with dignity.

I highly appreciate the contributions of American Ukrainians in acquainting the international community with the horrible truth about the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine and seeking its

condemnation as genocide.

I am moved by the desire of Ukrainians in America to support in their souls the feeling of belonging to the great Ukrainian family and to carefully preserve the cultural and spiritual traditions of their ancestors.

I am convinced that your congress will become a significant step on the road to uniting Ukrainians worldwide around the national idea and will spur their unification in a mighty organism whose heart is Kyiv.

I assure you that Ukraine will always remember its sons and daughters, and considers the strengthening of contacts with them to be a government priority.

I wish you good health, good fortune, inspiration and continued success in the name of Ukraine.

Glory to Ukraine!

Glory to the Ukrainian nation!

**Viktor Yushchenko**

## IN THE PRESS

### Moscow mayor and Russian nationalism

*"Kremlin Rules: Moscow's Mayor Exports Russia's New Nationalism," by Clifford J. Levy, The New York Times, October 26:*

"...Yuri M. Luzhkov is a mayor with a foreign policy. A former Soviet apparatchik who yearns to restore Russia's regional hegemony, he has supported ethnic Russians and stoked separatism in nations along the country's borders. ...

"Over the past decade, Mr. Luzhkov, 72, has spent hundreds of millions of dollars from Moscow's well-padded city budget in Russia's 'near abroad,' several city officials said. He has supported pro-Russian separatists in Moldova, built highways in rebellious Georgian enclaves and constructed housing for the Russian military on the Crimean peninsula in Ukraine.

"His enigmatic role unnerves Russia's pro-Western neighbors because he flouts diplomatic rules that prohibit aid to separatists. When foreign governments protest that he is violating their sovereignty and destabilizing their countries, he says he is merely expanding Moscow's sister-city relationships. The Kremlin says he is acting as a local official or a philanthropist. ...

"But he is the bête noire of leaders who took power in popular 'color revolutions' that swept Eastern and Central Europe over the past six years, especially the Rose and Orange Revolutions in Georgia and Ukraine. ...

"Mr. Luzhkov, who declined to be interviewed for this article, has also

called for Russia to reclaim Crimea from Ukraine. Many Russians consider Crimea, which has an ethnic Russian majority and a Russian naval base on the Black Sea, an integral part of Russia.

"If it becomes the next flash point between Russia and the West, Mr. Luzhkov will in no small part be responsible. He has nurtured separatist groups in Crimea that since the Georgia conflict have a new battle cry: we will be next.

"In May, when Mr. Luzhkov got off a plane in Crimea, he was greeted by Ukrainian security service agents who warned him to stop fomenting separatism. He instead proclaimed in a speech that Sevastopol, the site of the Russian naval base, belongs to Russia. ...

"The next day, Ukrainian officials barred him from Ukraine and began investigating his activities in Crimea. ...

"In Sevastopol, a city of 350,000, Mr. Luzhkov has deepened the Russian presence. He has constructed a branch of Moscow State University, Russian Orthodox cathedrals, schools, a sports complex and other facilities.

"...[Russian Prime Minister Vladimir] Putin has said that Russia respects Ukraine's territorial integrity, but he has not disavowed the separatists or Mr. Luzhkov. In fact, after Mr. Luzhkov was barred from Ukraine in May, the Kremlin lashed back.

"Luzhkov only expressed a view that, incidentally, coincides with the point of view of most Russians who responded painfully to the disintegration of the USSR,' the Foreign Ministry said. ..."

To subscribe to The Ukrainian Weekly: call 973-292-9800 x 3042.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Vote!

What has seemed like the longest campaign ever for the presidency of the United States will soon be over, with the election scheduled to take place two days after the date of this issue. Regular readers of this newspaper surely have noticed that we've published a variety of opinions on the candidates, their qualifications and their positions; indeed, the last batch of them, in the form of letters to the editor, appears on this page and the next. Some of our columnists also have chosen to weigh in on the choices facing American voters, and letters from readers have commented on those columns as well. It must be noted that we've printed 99 percent of the letters we received on the topic of the U.S. presidential race. The unpublished remainder were repeat letters, written by those who'd already had a chance to have their say.

In short, it's been a lively campaign season on the pages of this paper.

As for The Ukrainian Weekly itself, readers may have noticed that the newspaper did not endorse anyone. Nor have we done so in past elections. That's because The Weekly and its sister publication, Svoboda, are published by the Ukrainian National Association. [The UNA is a 501(c)(8) not-profit organization, which – unlike a 501(c)(3) non-profit – is allowed to engage in political activity.] The UNA, realizing that it represents a diverse membership with a variety of political views, has traditionally chosen not to endorse political candidates; however, the UNA and its newspapers have always encouraged members and readers to be politically involved.

As Ukrainian Americans, we care about the same issues other Americans care about; and the diversity of opinions in our community is a reflection of American society as a whole. Perhaps more so than the average American, however, we care about foreign affairs. The good news, as noted in one bipartisan letter on the next page, is that both major party candidates running in 2008 are supporters of Ukraine, and both have visited our ancestral homeland. (Try Googling McCain and Ukraine, and Obama and Ukraine – you'll find a wealth of information.)

For those of you who'd like some extra reading before making up their minds, we suggest taking a look online, or in your local library, at past issues of the eminent journal *Foreign Affairs*. Both Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain authored thoughtful articles on U.S. foreign policy at a time when they were running for the presidential nominations of their respective parties. Mr. Obama's article, titled "Renewing American Leadership," appeared in the July /August 2007 issue of the journal; Mr. McCain's contribution, "An Enduring Peace Built of Freedom; Securing America's Future," was published in November/December 2007. (Log on to [www.foreignaffairs.org](http://www.foreignaffairs.org) and click on the appropriate back issue.)

That said, Dear Readers, we leave you with just one piece of advice: get out and vote. In an election year that pundits have labeled transformational, your vote counts more than ever.

Nov.  
2  
2007

### Turning the pages back...

Last year, on November 2, 2007, President Viktor Yushchenko addressed the Cabinet of Ministers and suggested ways to deal with rising inflation, which included introducing new customs electronics and appraisals to regulate the flow of goods across the Ukrainian border.

According to President Yushchenko, economists needed to re-examine how economic sectors relate to one another, especially in terms of supply and demand. Budget spending needed to fall under fiercer control, he continued, and the National Bank of Ukraine should assume tighter controls on the money supply.

The president also suggested updating the methods of gathering inflation data. According to the methods then employed, a minimal standard of living was estimated based on how many socks and coats the average Ukrainian needs, and at what prices they could be purchased.

Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich suggested a short-term fix by halting exports of goods to ease the increase in domestic prices. Mr. Yanukovich previously suggested the same for grain exports, which resulted in significant losses for Ukraine and criticism from international markets.

The State Statistics Committee reported that inflation rose 11.7 percent after jumps of 2.9 percent in October 2007 and 2.2 percent in September 2007. At that rate, economists predicted that Ukraine could end 2007 with its highest inflation rate in seven years, as prices for goods were approaching those in Europe, while salaries were not rising proportionally.

During the election campaign, the major parties promised higher pensions and government salaries, and more payments for child births.

"On the markets, producers have reacted accordingly," said Andrii Novak, a Kyiv economist. "They raised prices, with the expectation that citizens will have more money. They also created artificial deficits by reducing products, also leading to higher prices."

Rising global commodity prices also had an effect, as higher gas prices caused utility bill hikes. Service prices in Ukraine also were a key inflationary factor, reported Moody's Economy.com. The emerging consumer lending boom in Ukraine was another leading cause of inflation, economists said.

The decrease in value of the U.S. dollar on currency markets influenced the Ukrainian economy as well. Many Ukrainians received a significant portion of their salaries in dollars, off the books. At that time the exchange rate was 5.05 hryv per \$1.

The National Bank of Ukraine had stuck with the U.S. dollar as its base to maintain stability in the economy, especially due to the fact that the dollar was the main currency in reserve, economists said.

Volodymyr Stelmakh, chairman of the NBU, said he would take measures to further strengthen the hryvnia's position in order to curb inflation and would consider allowing the hryvnia to appreciate to 4.90 per \$1.

Source: "Rising prices, growing inflation cause for concern in Ukraine," by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, November 18, 2007.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Focus on issues instead of Ayers

Dear Editor:

For some reason Myron Kuropas thinks that Bill Ayers' doctoral dissertation is of such great importance to Ukrainians that he actually spends one-half of a full page discussing it, as well as the benefits of a grant that Mr. Ayers received from the Annenberg Corporation. In the process Dr. Kuropas, a former high school teacher and principal, and now an adjunct professor at Northern Illinois University, comments on doctoral dissertations which go through rather rigorous committee scrutiny at any university. As a professor of education myself, I find the columnist's self-righteous attitude, as well as his dismissal of the Annenberg/PCB foundation as left wing, to be rather disturbing. All educators know of the tremendous education projects that the foundation has supported over the years. I have used a set of physics videos called the "Mechanical Universe" to support courses I teach.

The whole column does not seem to have any point save for Dr. Kuropas's last sentence regarding Barack Obama: "Given the senator's record of dissimulation, do you believe him?" Now that statement is of interest to all Americans, including Ukrainian Americans. Dr. Kuropas should have begun his article with that statement and then gone on to show examples of this dissimulation, but instead he ends with this, leaving readers wondering exactly what dissimulation he is talking about (if he has anything concrete to say about this at all).

If Sen. John McCain supports George W. Bush's policies 90 percent of the time, then over the years Dr. Kuropas has supported them 100 percent of the time, beginning with support for the insane Iraq war on these very pages. We all know where those policies have gotten us.

We have so many issues that actually affect Ukrainian Americans to write about that we would all be better served with an intelligent discussion of these.

**Dr. Oleh George Kolodiy**  
Maplewood, N.J.

*The letter-writer is associate professor of mathematics/science education at Kean University of New Jersey.*

### Pytel employs "ridicule principle"

Dear Editor:

In taking issue with Dr. Myron Kuropas's column of September 14, Ewgen Pytel utilized the "ridicule principle," an old communist rhetorical strategy used to disparage the West. When substantive counter-arguments against America did not seem to be working, the editors of *Izvestia* and *Pravda* typically resorted to an artificial question-answer format laced with sarcasm. Interestingly, the "ridicule principle" was warmly embraced by none other than leftist radical Saul Alinsky in his guidebook on how to replace American capitalism with communism. The 1971 primer, now a left-wing classic, was vividly titled "Rules for Radicals." Basically, Mr. Alinsky's point was that if you can't kill the message, you should discredit the messenger. Fortunately for Dr. Kuropas, he is not a man who can easily be discredited by leftist ideology, and neither is his message. On the other hand,

some basic facts can readily dispel Mr. Pytel's attempts to do both in his article.

Sen. Barack Obama does not have to be a member of the original Daley party to be the product of the Daley machine, for that machine is well-known for advancing candidates by utilizing extreme political tactics bordering on, if not crossing over into, unethical standards. David Axelrod has a long Communist pedigree of constantly promoting and espousing leftist socialist views, the kind that, by the way, led to the redistribution of wealth that resulted in many atrocities, including the Great Famine in Ukraine. Regarding the price of gasoline, it was the leftists who have prevented America's energy independence by blocking drilling in the U.S. and offshore.

The Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae and AIG debacle was the result of leftist social engineering efforts to promote fiscally irresponsible federal housing. President George W. Bush's and Sen. John McCain's efforts to control the two entities were blocked by the Franks, Dodds, Waters and Schumers of Congress. Finally, the \$700 billion bailout required an additional hundred billion or so of Democratic pork to gain passage, including at one time, earmarks for ACORN, the Democratic voter registration machine indicted in many states for fraudulence.

What America needs is de-regulation and private enterprises, and more regulation of Democratic social engineering skills in order to make it possible for our economy to continue to build wealth and not simply to redistribute wealth a la the failed ideology of communism. A Ukrainian who refuses to understand where Sen. Obama is headed turns a blind eye and a deaf ear to the bloody drama of his own people. And that, to me, represents irony at its most bitter.

**Olya Samilenko**  
Baltimore, Md.

### An answer to Kuzma op-ed

Dear Editor:

Re: Alex Kuzma's article (September 28) in support of Barack Obama.

Mr. Kuzma writes, "Sen. Obama understands the kind of devastating impact that economic decisions made in Washington can have on those who have to struggle to survive."

Here's just one example of Sen. Obama's economic reality: He bought property from his neighbor (Tony Rezko) who sold it to him for a fraction of its value. Eventually Mr. Obama was able to repay Mr. Rezko with congressional earmarks of several million dollars. Subsequently Mr. Rezko was convicted of fraud – so much for change you can believe in.

Mr. Kuzma tries to equate Mr. Obama's humble roots with those of most Ukrainian Americans. But how many Ukrainian Americans would spend 20 years going to a church where the pastor ranted: "God d\*\*n America"? How many Ukrainian Americans have the advantage of minority "set-asides" when applying to Ivy League schools?

"Eight years ago Bill Clinton left a \$230 billion surplus," Mr. Kuzma notes. This surplus was developed through drastic cuts in the military budget – cuts that had to be restored after 9/11. And let's not forget that President Clinton had an opportunity to prevent this catastrophe – Sudan offered to hand over Osama bin Laden to us, but Mr. Clinton refused the offer.

Mr. Kuzma references the "economic apocalypse we have witnessed on Wall Street." Let's examine the primary cause of the current financial crisis – the crash/bailout of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, which resulted primarily from sub-prime mortgage

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

lending practices in the banking industry that had a ripple effect throughout our economy. It was the Clinton administration that pressured the banking industry to give more loans to the “financially disadvantaged” – even requiring that food stamps be considered as income when qualifying for a mortgage – and threatened to sue banks for racial discrimination if they did not comply. Any actuary or risk analyst (I have been a risk underwriter for the past 30 years) will tell you that is a recipe for financial disaster.

Three of Sen. Obama’s economic advisers served as Fannie Mae executives and they earned tens of millions in those positions. And, the three largest recipients of campaign contributions from Freddie and Fannie are Democrats: Sens. Christopher Dodd, John Kerry and Obama.

“For most of the past 30 years,” Mr. Kuzma writes, “we have been governed by what George H. W. Bush once called ‘voodoo economics.’” The reality is that for most of those years we have had a Democratic Congress. And what happened to the change that Democrats Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid promised when they came into power in 2006?

From my perspective, neither party is really for the people; they’re looking out only for themselves. Whenever one party controls both the presidency and the legislature we completely lose the “checks and balances” that the Founding Fathers put into the Constitution.

Thus, Sen. McCain clearly is the better choice for America – he will provide the “checks and balances” against an earmark-prone Congress.

**Zin Balaban**  
Farmington, Conn.

## Two-part response to Stefko Kuropas

Dear Editor:

We are responding to Stefko Kuropas’s letter to the editor “Vote for McCain to Save Ukraine” (October 19). We would like to respond in two parts.

First, there is the suggestion that Ukraine needs to be saved by Sen. John McCain. If indeed Ukraine needs to be saved, then Ukraine (an independent country) will need to save itself. We think that this is a great insult to all Ukrainians and those of Ukrainian descent. Is Mr. Kuropas suggesting that Ukraine is so weak and helpless that it needs Sen. McCain to “save” it? We assume Mr. Kuropas means Ukraine needs to be saved from “the expansion of Russian imperialism.”

He then makes reference to the “failed policies of President [Jimmy] Carter.” That was many years ago. Much has changed since then, like the collapse of the Soviet Union (the evil empire), the independence of Ukraine, etc. The expansion of Russian imperialism (as Mr. Kuropas puts it) under Vladimir Putin occurred during the eight years of President George W. Bush’s administration. Messrs. Bush and Putin were soul mates, remember? Perhaps mentioning President Carter but failing to mention President Bush was an oversight.

The second point is about our needs here in the U.S.A. One of us was born in Ukraine, and one of us is a first-generation American. Our parents settled in the U.S.A. in 1949 and were able to instill in their children a love and respect for their homeland. We are active in the Ukrainian community, as are our adult children. Our family is fluent in Ukrainian and embraces our culture and traditions.

So what’s the point? The point is that we live and work in the U.S.A. This is the country that gives us our freedom and lib-

erty. We are concerned about the country that we live and work in, and the state that it is in today. We are very concerned about the future for our children and grandchildren.

Today the picture looks bleak. We do not want more of the same. We are interested in electing a president who will help regain trust, economic stability and respect in the U.S.A. and throughout the world. We want our children to have a brighter future, a healthier environment and a sense of security. We love Ukraine with all our hearts, but we believe that our president needs to take care of matters at home. Once that is accomplished, America will regain the respect in the world that it truly deserves, and then America will be in a better position to help – not save – others.

We need to be concerned about our country. Let’s first and foremost take care of matters at home. Please exercise your right to vote. We have freedom of choice. Vote for whom you wish, and do so based on whatever criteria you feel appropriate. But please do not demean Ukraine by justifying a political agenda with “I’m doing this to save Ukraine.”

**Vira Popel**  
**George Popel**  
Monmouth Junction, N.J.

## There’s good news about the election

Dear Editor:

There’s good news for Ukrainian American voters on November 4 – both Barack Obama and John McCain strongly support a free and democratic Ukraine. Both strongly reject any pretense of Russian hegemony over Ukraine. Both strongly support Ukraine’s entry into NATO. Both also support bilateral security arrangements between the United States and Ukraine.

These positions were voiced by Celeste Wallander, senior national security advisor to Sen. Obama, and Ian Brzezinski, senior national security advisor to Sen. McCain, at the October 15 Conference on Ukraine’s Regional Commitments held in Washington. Ms. Wallander specifically rejected the concept of a “Schumer Doctrine” and clearly stated that it is not the position of Sen. Obama to accept concessions to Russia at the expense of Eastern Europe in exchange for Russian support for U.S.-led sanctions against Iran and its nuclear program.

It is very important for Ukrainian Americans to vote on November 4 and to declare themselves as Ukrainian Americans when they vote. Please tell anyone asking that you are a Ukrainian American voter. As far as Ukrainian security is concerned, it does not matter if you vote for Sen. Obama or Sen. McCain – both are equally strong supporters of Ukraine.

So, make your decision based on any of the other issues in this election. Whichever choice you make, it will be good for Ukraine. In this election, the most important thing you can do for Ukraine is to declare yourself to be a Ukrainian American voter. This time – whoever wins – if you vote, Ukraine wins.

**Peter Borisow**  
Los Angeles, Calif.

**Artur Hryhorowych, M.D.**  
New York

*Both letter-writers are members of the board of the Center for U.S.-Ukraine Relations; Mr. Borisow is an Obama supporter, while Dr. Hryhorowych is a McCain supporter.*

## PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



## Iwan Schuljak (1911-2008)

This is a fairytale, only the story is true. And because it’s true, it ends with death, but it’s a fairytale and therefore has a happy ending. It’s about an elderly man who devoted his life to Ukrainian Culture and how the global village cared for him.

I first met Iwan Schuljak in the early 1960s at the Plast Scouting Home in Cleveland where he was the live-in caretaker. Twenty-five years later, he was still there when I returned to Cleveland to become director of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives (UMA), which had purchased the building from Plast.

In 1987 the UMA was adrift. Having been in the Tremont neighborhood for a century, the Ukrainian community left for the suburbs after highway construction demolished half the houses and nearby factories were closing. UMA leaders had either passed away or retired. And so, a staggering collection of memorabilia, documents, books and artifacts was sitting neglected in an aging wooden building in a neighborhood where the major industry had become arson and insurance fraud.

Mr. Schuljak lived in a spare room on the second floor. Invariably, he sat on the porch reading or prowled the streets of Tremont to let people know the UMA was viable and someone was caring for it. In the winter he shoveled the snow; in the summer, he mowed the grass; throughout the year, he cleaned and was there to welcome the occasional visitor.

I was 39 years old and ready for a change after nearly a decade on Capitol Hill. My father had been UMA director and I felt an obligation to help preserve his legacy. And so, with old friends like Ihor Kowalysko and new ones like Vlodko Storozynsky, we started working on the collection and raising the profile of the institution.

At the age of 76, Mr. Schuljak welcomed the changes and made appropriate accommodations. He announced that he was now restricting his garlic to weekends only and told me that I was to avoid it altogether. People were noticing, he said, and we had to present a certain image.

Before long, the world around us changed dramatically: communism collapsed and Tremont began gentrifying. The arsonists went to jail, and urban pioneers were restoring historic buildings, opening art galleries, coffee shops and restaurants. Developers built townhouses and condominiums. And the UMA was part of all that, with young volunteers and board members. Throughout, Mr. Schuljak was a mainstay: not only a caretaker, but also an advisor, a confidant and a beloved figure in the neighborhood.

He had a thousand stories: you know the guy at the Friendly Bar with no fingers on his left hand? Back in the 1930s, the NKVD demanded he turn his gold over to the state. He didn’t have any, he said, so they chopped off a finger and kept on until they were finally persuaded he was telling the truth... The macabre punch line: the joke was on them! He had the gold all along, and it’s still there, buried in the ground. The guy hated the Communists so much he wouldn’t give them the satisfaction.

Well, Mr. Schuljak, the son of farmers, hated them too. When communism came and with it collectivization and famine, he became a “class enemy.” Arrested and brutally interrogated, he carried scars the rest of his life where a Chekist cracked his skull

with a revolver, depriving him of hearing in his right ear.

Once the Terror subsided, Mr. Schuljak was released to work on the railroad. When the Nazis invaded in 1941, he, along with 2 million other Ukrainians, was forced to work in the German economy. His blue and white OST patch identifying him as a slave is now part of the UMA collection. When the war ended, Mr. Schuljak wisely decided to immigrate to America. There, he maintained contact with his family, exchanging letters and phone calls, sending them money.

As he reached his mid-80s, Mr. Schuljak was slowing down and the village in Cleveland began to pay attention to his plight. Daria Sopka, who worked at the UMA, signed him up for the Cuyahoga County Passport Program for the elderly. Lida, a young immigrant from Lviv, assisted Mr. Schuljak with every-day needs, shopping, etc. At MetroHealth, nurses, doctors and Ukrainian interpreters knew him by name.

Then in January 2007, he slipped and broke his leg. The leg healed, but at 95, he could no longer live unassisted and Myron Pakush – also with the UMA – arranged for him to be admitted to Avon Oaks, a nursing home owned and operated by the Reidys, Ukrainian Americans from Lorain County.

Not having heard from him for some time, Mr. Schuljak’s family became concerned and called. When they learned what had happened, they immediately offered to take care of him in Ukraine. Well, Avon Oaks is a gracious and caring community and he had regular visitors, especially Father John Nakonachny from St. Vladimir’s Cathedral, but it was still a nursing home and Mr. Schuljak was ecstatic at the prospect of “going home.”

But there was a problem: he had never become an American citizen and since Ukraine did not exist when he was born, he wasn’t a citizen of that country either. So he couldn’t get a passport.

I explained the situation to Ukraine’s ambassador to the U.S., Dr. Oleh Shamshur, who directed his consular office to help. To establish that Mr. Schuljak had been born in what is today Ukraine, his relatives retrieved his birth certificate from 1911. He also needed an updated “green card.” Alerted to the urgency of his case, the Department of Homeland Security turned things around in less than a week. Ukraine’s honorary consul for Ohio, Andrew Futey, and Roman Andarak at the Embassy in D.C. did the rest and earlier this year, Mr. Schuljak became a Ukrainian citizen. In June, accompanied by Ihor Mychkovsky, he arrived in Kyiv to meet his relatives. His life had come full circle.

Because he was nobody’s responsibility, Mr. Schuljak became everyone’s. People all over helped out, making amends, in a way, for how brutally he’d been treated in the first half of his life and repaying him in part for his dedication and selflessness. He died on October 6, and is buried within walking distance of where he was born. To honor him at the institution to which he had devoted a major portion of his life, the UMA has established an Iwan Schuljak Memorial Fund and welcomes donations.

*Andrew Fedynsky’s e-mail address is fedynsky@sbcglobal.net.*

# Russian TV network carries distortions about Holodomor

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Russian television network RTR Planeta on October 26 broadcast an evening news report replete with lies and distortions about the Holodomor, also smearing the recognition efforts by President Viktor Yushchenko, who “travels around the world speaking only of the Holodomor.”

“In essence, this is speculation on a tragedy with the single goal of creating enmity among us,” the host of the program said.

Among the four-minute report’s distortions are that President Ronald Reagan earmarked \$400,000 for a special commission “with the task of finding testimonies that the Famine of the 1930s was against Ukraine.”

It was then that the term “Holodomor” was invented in the U.S., the news report said, “which didn’t exist in the Ukrainian language earlier” and was used as a weapon against Russia.

“Keti” [Kathy] Chumachenko Yushchenko actively attached herself to this as a U.S. State Department employee, moving to Ukraine into the position as the president’s wife,” the report said.

In fact, the term Holodomor was coined by Ukrainian author Vasyl Barka in his 1963 work “Zhovtyi Kniaz” (“Yellow Prince”), and was later first publicly uttered by Soviet literary icon Borys Oliynyk, according to the Presidential Secretariat.

RTR Planeta accused Holodomor scholars of falsifying photographs, particularly one of an “exhausted girl with a goat in the background,” and charged that

“a different placard will be in export, with the goat carefully disguised.”

The report didn’t indicate when and where this goat was disguised, or what is proven or disproven about the Holodomor if indeed a living goat were captured in the same photograph as a starving girl.

More evidence of falsification is seen in a documentary film distributed to Ukrainian schools that featured photographs of victims of the 1920s famine in the Volga River basin, not the Holodomor of 1932–33 in Ukraine, the report said.

The news report criticized the European Parliament for its October 25 vote recognizing the Holodomor as a crime against humanity, insisting that a famine of equal character and magnitude ravaged regions of Russia and Kazakhstan.

“What’s puzzling is why the European Parliament separated from its sorrowful list only Ukraine alone,” the report said, ignoring the overwhelming documentary evidence that among the Holodomor’s aims was to destroy the Ukrainian culture, language and identity, strongest amongst the peasant class.

The result of the genocide is evident today, as most urban residents of eastern and southern Ukraine have no interest in Ukrainian culture, language and identity after 70 years of Russian chauvinist policies employed by the Soviet government.

The news report also portrayed Russian scholar Viktor Kondrashin as an authoritative Holodomor scholar.

At an international Holodomor conference held outside of Kyiv in late September, Mr. Kondrashin presented his

(Continued on page 16)

# Gridlocked Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

rioration accelerated, with the hryvnia plunging to its lowest-ever values, trading at 6.8 hrv per \$1 at some Kyiv kiosks on October 30.

Since early September the hryvnia has lost 20 percent of its worth against the U.S. dollar, resulting from a 40 percent drop in exports – much of it in the steel sector – and a rash of October withdrawals that deprived banks of \$3.4 billion and triggered the National Bank’s October 20 freeze on withdrawals.

A week later, on October 27, the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) leadership declined to reveal its prognosis for the hryvnia’s future course, only to admit two days later that it would fall to 6 hrv per \$1, sending the national currency careening even further towards 7 hrv per \$1 on the market.

The unfolding financial turmoil sent shockwaves into all areas of the Ukrainian economy.

Savings deposit accounts at all Ukrainian banks remained frozen by the Ukrainian government for the second week, forbidding depositors from withdrawing money to cope with personal financial woes.

NBU Council Chair Petro Poroshenko estimated that Ukrainians withdrew between \$3 billion and \$4 billion in the first weeks of October before the freeze, and since then deposits by legal entities have increased while withdrawals by individuals have declined, indicating some stabilization.

The current crisis brought the nation’s credit market to a virtual halt, already devastating automobile and real estate sales highly dependent on Ukrainian consumers being able to borrow from banks.

As a result, Kia dealers have dropped prices on new models by about \$1,667 (10,000 hrv), Ford dealers offered discounts up to \$4,167 (25,000 hrv) and Porsche cut prices by 9 percent.

The lack of available credit has already lowered once surging real estate prices. For the first time in a decade, for example, prices for office space in Kyiv declined in recent weeks.

Ukraine’s industrial oligarchs, meanwhile, announced they will shut down some of the country’s biggest factories.

The Nikopol Ferroalloys Plant, among the world’s biggest producers of ferroalloys, will cease production as of November 1 because half of the September product hasn’t been sold and is in storage, said Volodymyr Kutsyn, the plant’s general director.

Its 8,000 employees are threatened with losing their jobs, as are those who work at the Zaporizhia and Stakhanovskiy ferroalloys plants, which will also shut their production as of November 1.

Massive layoffs will soon begin in the metallurgy, chemical and construction industries, said Ildar Gazizulin of the Kyiv-based International Center for Prospective Research.

Top German real estate developer ECE Projektmanagement abandoned its plans to build shopping malls in Ukraine’s largest cities, shutting down its ECE-Ukrayina subsidiary and dismissing the staff.

Meanwhile, Donbas coal miners are owed \$16.4 million in unpaid wages from September, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy reported on October 28.

News of the IMF loan didn’t help the decimated Ukrainian stock market, whose value fell another 10 percent on October 27. Its managers again had to stop trading to stem rampant selling of shares in certain companies.

Ukrainian politicians, however, weren’t pressured by the deteriorating economic conditions.

Each of the three leading political forces registered its own anti-crisis legislation in Parliament, with the Presidential Secretariat most recently submitting its own version

that contained earlier proposals, such as the Cabinet of Ministers’ stabilization fund measure.

“The very fact of seven bills testifies to ineffective government,” said Oleksander Paskhaver, a leading economist and advisor to former President Leonid Kuchma. “These are political documents that are not intended to do anything. They are created to interfere with each other.”

The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Party of Regions of Ukraine called for increasing the maximum compensation to depositors of bankrupt banks to \$16,667 (100,000 hrv), thereby doubling the current maximum compensation, a measure not supported by the Secretariat.

“This guarantee is principally important to reduce panic among the people who have deposits,” said Iryna Akimova, a Party of Regions lawmaker and assistant chair of the Parliament’s Economic Policy Committee.

Such bankrupt banks include PromInvestBank, in which 25 million depositors had their savings invested.

The Presidential Secretariat said it wants to spend about \$167 million (1 billion hrv) in state budget funds to buy the controlling stake of shares in PromInvestBank.

Meanwhile, several Russian banks stated their interest in taking control of PromInvestBank, which was founded by Zhytomyr native Volodymyr Matviyenko, whose wealth was valued this year at \$1.4 billion, much of which he may lose, ending up as a minority stakeholder.

PromInvestBank’s collapse directly impacted the Illyich Iron and Steel Works Plant in Mariupol, Ukraine’s second-biggest producer of steel and metal products after Kryvorizhstal.

The plant’s general director, Volodymyr Boiko, whose wealth was valued this year at \$2.3 billion, asked the government to consider buying the plant’s shares, which are owned by an estimated one-third of the company’s 60,000 workers.

“It’s basically ‘durdum’ (madhouse) with PromInvestBank,” Mr. Boiko told an October 29 press conference. “Our money is there, and we can’t withdraw it. A decision needs to be made on its nationalization.”

The government should nationalize, he said, because no private enterprise would be willing to invest in a plant that incurred an expected \$42 million in losses in October alone.

The Mariupol metallurgical plant was among the first to bring production to a virtual halt, also slashing its workers’ salaries by 30 percent.

The Tymoshenko Bloc and the Presidential Secretariat agree on borrowing \$1.7 billion (10 billion hrv) from international financiers to implement social-economic projects, as well as establishing \$6.7 billion (40 billion hrv) in government guarantees on international loans. The Party of Regions rejected these proposals.

The Party of Regions and the Presidential Secretariat agreed on increasing the Depositors Guaranty Fund to 25 percent of the National Bank’s profit, which was not supported by the Tymoshenko Bloc.

The Tymoshenko Bloc offered the most radical proposals, which aimed to increase government revenue by conducting privatization sales, including the nation’s behemoth telephone monopoly UkrTelekom and introduce new taxes on property.

Opponents accused the Tymoshenko Bloc of taking advantage of the crisis to advance its political agenda, also suggesting that Ms. Tymoshenko wanted to sell the national telephone company to Russian businessmen.

As the anti-crisis legislation stalled for a fourth day in Verkhovna Rada, concerned business leaders urged decisive action.

Without the IMF loan, Ukraine faces even worse inflation and the government could default, warned NBU Chair Volodymyr Stelmakh at an October 29 press conference.


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# Ukraine's first Ph.D. program opens at Kyiv Mohyla Academy

by Mychajlo Wynnyckyj

KYIV – The National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy officially opened its Doctoral School on October 8, offering the country's first Western-style Ph.D. programs. This initiative is revolutionary for Ukraine's higher education system, as it represents a radical departure from the Soviet-era system of researcher preparation that persists in Ukraine.

Unlike the traditional Soviet-era "aspirantura," which is highly regulated by the Ministry of Education's Higher Attestation Council (known by its Ukrainian acronym VAK), the Kyiv Mohyla Doctoral School's Ph.D. programs are an embodiment of the principle of university autonomy (i.e., independence from the state) that is fundamental to the Western system of higher education. In time, it is hoped that the Kyiv Mohyla Doctoral School will become a model for the enactment of fundamental reform within Ukraine's post-graduate education system.

## Traditional "aspirantura" system

The fact that Ukraine's current system of post-graduate education (the traditional aspirantura system that culminates in the candidate of sciences degree) is in dire need of reform is widely accepted. According to Ministry of Education statistics, only 7 percent of Ukrainian "aspirants" complete their research degree within the required three year period, and only 25 percent ever submit their dissertations for defense.

This state of affairs reflects serious systemic flaws in the structure of post-graduate training: young aspirants are assigned a single supervisor for their research projects, but are provided with minimal institutional support during their three-year period of study. Course work is not required, nor do any structures exist for the inclusion of aspirants into a global academic community. Upon completion of the three-year period, aspirants are required to publicly defend their dissertations before a specialized defense committee whose members are chosen according to formal criteria (each must be a doctor of science) rather than their real ability to assess the quality of the aspirants' research.

Such a system has led to widespread corruption (buying academic degrees) and to the overall discrediting of Ukraine's system of post-graduate education. For this reason, many young Ukrainian students who plan to embark on academic careers – especially those returning to Ukraine after studying abroad – do not even consider enrolling in the existing aspirantura system.

## European integration

Ukraine became a signatory in 2005 to the Bologna Declaration, a joint declaration of European ministers of education to reform and integrate European systems of higher education. In doing so, Ukraine committed itself to replacing the flawed Soviet-era system by 2010 with a Western-style third cycle of education (i.e., the Ph.D. degree) that conforms to the principles of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). However, in reality, implementation of EHEA-compliant Ph.D. programs has not yet begun in Ukraine.

Without the creation of a working model of a Doctoral School, there is a serious risk that in the near future Ukraine's Ministry of Education will attempt to superficially conform to its Bologna commitments by simply renaming the candidate of sciences degree a Ph.D. without reforming the substance of a system of research training.

*Mychajlo Wynnyckyj, Ph.D. is director of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy Doctoral School and of the Press Office of Kyiv Mohyla Foundation.*

## Ukraine's first Ph.D. program

The Kyiv Mohyla Academy Doctoral School represents a radical departure from the existing system. It is hoped that in time, it will become a real model for reform throughout the country. This year, the Doctoral School enrolled its first 16 doctoral candidates into three EHEA-compliant Ph.D. programs: Management in Public Health (an initiative of the Kyiv Mohyla School of Public Health); Mass Communications (a joint program of the Kyiv Mohyla School of Journalism and department of sociology); finance (a joint program of the department of finance and Kyiv Mohyla Business School).

Each doctoral program was established with extensive international partner cooperation, as Norwegian, American, Spanish and Dutch academics serve as program experts, research supervisors and potential dissertation examiners.

Kyiv Mohyla's Doctoral School plans to launch three additional Ph.D. programs next year: Transition Studies (joint program of the departments of sociology and political sciences); philosophy of literature (joint program of the departments of philosophy and literature); and membrane technologies (joint program of the departments of biology and chemistry). Each program must have the required "critical mass" (including foreign partners, financing and a sufficient number of qualified Kyiv-Mohyla academics within each field) before being approved for launch.

The university's goal is to completely transform the current aspirantura system at Kyiv Mohyla (approximately 55 students per year) into EHEA-compliant Ph.D. programs by September 2010.

## The doctoral curriculum

The structure of training at the Kyiv Mohyla Doctoral School consists of the following. During their first year of studies, in addition to commencing their individual research projects, doctoral candidates enroll in a series of methodological and skills training courses that are organized by the Doctoral School (up to 20 credits), and also participate in thematic courses and seminars organized by each doctoral program (up to 20 credits). During the second year of studies, the number of structured courses is somewhat reduced (total of 30 credits), with research becoming more central to each Ph.D. candidate's activities as he/she proceeds through the four-year doctoral program.

A Kyiv Mohyla doctoral candidate's training culminates in a dissertation defense before an ad hoc thesis committee (not a permanent council whose membership is sanctioned by Ukraine's VAK) organized by the Doctoral School, and composed of five well-known academics from the candidate's research field, including at least one from a non-Ukrainian university. Successful candidates will be awarded the Kyiv Mohyla Ph.D. degree which, for now, is not recognized by the Ukrainian state, but (paradoxically, and in full compliance with Western practice) will be recognized by the worldwide academic community as a legitimate Ph.D. degree.

## Doctoral program administration

The following Kyiv Mohyla professors have been appointed to lead the new program: Mychajlo Wynnyckyj (Ph.D. in economic sociology of post-Soviet transition, Cambridge University associate professor, department of sociology and Kyiv Mohyla Business School), as director of the Kyiv-Mohyla Doctoral School; Volodymyr Morenets (vice-president for research and academic affairs, chair of the department of literature) as doctoral program coordinator for the Philosophy of Literature Ph.D. program; and Tetiana Oharkova (Ph.D. in com-



Mychajlo Wynnyckyj, Ph.D. (left), director of the Kyiv Mohyla Doctoral School, and Serhii Kvit, Ph.D., president of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

parative literature, the Sorbonne, University of Paris) as deputy director of the Kyiv-Mohyla Doctoral School.

## Departure from prior system

The new model of Ph.D. training described above represents a radical change from Ukraine's existing aspirantura system. Whereas the old system was designed by Soviet-era apparatchiks as a means of limiting access for those deemed unworthy or unreliable for distinguished positions in the USSR's academy, the Kyiv Mohyla Doctoral School's system is designed to aid young Ukrainian post-graduate students to gain access to the worldwide scientific and research communities. In order to accomplish this goal, however, financing is needed.

At present, the Doctoral School initiative at Kyiv Mohyla Academy is limited in resources to scarce internal university funding and small grants, and the project is sup-

ported by an enthusiastic group of Kyiv Mohyla faculty who see an urgent need for aspirantura reform.

Background knowledge and training for this group was obtained through a European Union-funded Tempus project in 2006-2007, and a follow-up application to Tempus was submitted for 2009-2010. A grant from the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America financed organization and management training of Ph.D. programs at U.S. universities. In addition, the Ph.D. program in Mass Communications obtained a 560,000 hrv start-up grant from Rinat Akhmetov's Foundation for the Development of Ukraine.

## Financing the new program

However, these prior grants are insufficient to implement a full-scale best-practice model of Ph.D. education at Kyiv Mohyla

(Continued on page 10)



The first class entering the new Ph.D. program at the Kyiv Mohyla Doctoral School.

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## European Parliament recognizes Famine of 1932-1933 as crime against humanity

*European Parliament*

STRASBOURG, France – In a resolution on the commemoration of the Holodomor, the artificial famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933, members of the European Parliament (MEPs) describe it as “an appalling crime against the Ukrainian people, and against humanity.”

According to the resolution, the Holodomor of 1932-1933, which caused the deaths of millions of Ukrainians, “was cyni-

cally and cruelly planned by Stalin’s regime in order to force through the Soviet Union’s policy of collectivization of agriculture against the will of the rural population in Ukraine.”

MEPs believe that “recalling crimes against humanity in European history should help to prevent similar crimes in the future” and they stress that “European integration has been based on a readiness to come to terms with the 20th century’s tragic

history and that this reconciliation with a difficult history does not denote any sense of collective guilt, but forms a stable basis for the construction of a common European future founded on common values.”

The resolution, therefore, makes a “declaration to the people of Ukraine and in particular to the remaining survivors of the Holodomor and the families and relatives of the victims.”

It “recognizes the Holodomor (the artificial famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine) as an appalling crime against the Ukrainian people, and against humanity.”

The text then “strongly condemns these

acts, directed against the Ukrainian peasantry, and marked by mass annihilation and violations of human rights and freedoms.”

It also “expresses its sympathy with the Ukrainian people, which suffered this tragedy, and pays its respects to those who died as a consequence of the artificial famine of 1932-1933.”

Lastly, the resolution “calls on the countries which emerged following the break-up of the Soviet Union to open up their archives on the Holodomor in Ukraine of 1932-1933 to comprehensive scrutiny so that all the causes and consequences can be revealed and fully investigated.”

## Series of events in NYC to commemorate 75th anniversary of Ukraine’s Genocide

NEW YORK – The annual national observance to commemorate Ukraine’s Genocide of 1932-1933 – one of the worst cases of man’s inhumanity to man and perhaps the most extreme example of the use of food as a weapon – will take place at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City on Saturday, November 15, at 2 p.m.

As this year marks the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, as the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 is known, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America is urging the Ukrainian American community to attend the ecumenical service to honor the millions of innocent victims who perished as a result of deliberate Soviet policies.

Prior to the ecumenical service, the New York City Branch of the UCCA, on behalf of the National Committee to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Ukraine’s Genocide of 1932-1933, will hold a food drive at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza (East 47th Street, between First and Second avenues). From there at 1 p.m. participants

will begin a solemn walk to St. Patrick’s Cathedral (Fifth Avenue, between 50th and 51st streets).

“We decided that there is no better way to memorialize our brethren who were starved to death 75 years ago, than by collecting food for today’s hungry in New York City,” stated Andrij Dobriansky, a UCCA New York member and one of the initiators of the food drive project.

Goods donated at the food drive can include: dry food, baby food and all types of canned goods (as long as they are within the expiration date and in their original packaging).

The National Committee to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Ukraine’s Genocide of 1932-1933 is urging the Ukrainian American community to participate in the various events scheduled for November 15.

For more information readers may contact the UCCA National Office either by telephone at 212-228-6840 or by e-mail at [ucca@ucca.org](mailto:ucca@ucca.org).

## National Holodomor Awareness Week slated for November 16-23 in Canada

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is launching the first National Holodomor Awareness Week on November 16-23. The goal is to annually unite the Ukrainian community and all Canadians in remembering the victims and raising awareness of this tragedy.

“As a community in Canada we have been successful in drawing the attention of Canadians to this often forgotten genocide,” noted Irka Mycak, chair of the UCC National Holodomor Commemoration Committee.

Among the successes Ms. Mycak cited was the International Holodomor Remembrance Flame that toured 17 Canadian cities in the spring. In May Canada became one of the first Western nations to recognize the Holodomor as an act of genocide, and Alberta’s Ministry of Education has decided to include the Holodomor in its high school curriculum.

In addition, Ms. Mycak noted that the Toronto School Board will include the Holodomor in its 2009 curriculum and the fourth Friday of every November will be

marked in the schools as Holodomor Memorial Day.

There is, however, a great deal of work still to be done, she cautioned. “We must continue working with our provincial ministries of education and local school boards to ensure that our students in Canada learn about the Holodomor. We have a moral obligation to ensure that the personal stories of our survivors are documented and preserved for future generations. Internationally, the United Nations must recognize the Holodomor as an act of genocide.”

The UCC has called on Ukrainian Canadians to:

- on Saturday, November 22, in solidarity with Ukraine, honor the memory of the victims with a moment of silence at 9 a.m. and light a candle of remembrance in your home;
- on Sunday, November 23, participate in memorial services that will take place in their local churches; and
- participate in events organized by their local communities.

## Ukrainian Canadians elected to Canada’s new Parliament

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – At least nine members of Canada’s Parliament elected on October 14 are of Ukrainian descent. According to Ukrainian News of Edmonton, many of the elected MPs could be Ukrainian, but it is unknown based upon their surnames.

Among the Ukrainian MPs are: Borys Wrzesneskyj and Gerard Kennedy in Toronto; Judy Wasylcia-Leis and James Bezan in Manitoba; Tom Lukiwski and Ed Komarnicki in Saskatchewan; Rona Ambrose in Alberta; and Alex Atamanenko and Mark Warwara in British Columbia.

Mr. Kennedy, the Liberal candidate, narrowly defeated incumbent Peggy Nash in Toronto’s Parkdale-High Park area with a margin of just 3,385 votes.

Also in the Toronto area, Mr. Wrzesneskyj, a Liberal, defeated Axel Kuhn for Etobicoke Center by 5,699

votes.

In Manitoba, Ukrainian candidates saw easier victories. Ms. Wasylcia-Leis, of the New Democratic Party (NDP), earned 62.6 percent in Winnipeg North, and Mr. Bezan, a Conservative, won 60.6 percent in Selkirk-Interlake.

In Saskatchewan, Mr. Lukiwski, a Conservative, won 51.1 percent in Regina-Lumsden-Lake Center, and Mr. Komarnicki, a Conservative, swept the Souris-Moose Mountain riding with 70.5 percent.

Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Ambrose (née Chapchuk), a Conservative, easily won Edmonton-Spruce Grove with 68.5 percent of the vote.

Mr. Atamanenko, of the NDP, was re-elected to British Columbia’s Southern Interior, and Mr. Warwara, a Conservative, won in Langley with 61.4 percent.

## Ukraine's first Ph.D. ...

(Continued from page 9)

that can also become an example for wider Ukrainian reform. Additional funds are required for the Doctoral School’s infrastructure, faculty, journals and books, and stipends. In particular, the Kyiv Mohyla Doctoral School is appealing to the Ukrainian diaspora for its support of the Philosophy of Literature Ph.D. program – an

area of research that finds little support among institutional and private donors, but is of utmost importance to the worldwide Ukrainian community.

For more information about the Kyiv Mohyla Academy’s Doctoral School, see: [www.gradschool.ukma.kiev.ua](http://www.gradschool.ukma.kiev.ua). In the United States, tax-deductible donations to the new Ph.D. program can be directed to: Kyiv Mohyla Foundation, P.O. Box 46009, Chicago, IL 60646-0009. For more information see: [www.kmfoundation.com](http://www.kmfoundation.com).

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# Three-day event on the Ukrainian Famine held in Colorado

## Symposium at the University of Denver attracts teachers, students and community members

by Ania Savage

DENVER — The 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine was marked in Denver by a three-day event on October 10-12 at the University of Denver and in the Ukrainian community.

An estimated 200 people attended the events, which were organized by the Denver chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) and its Holodomor committee.

Three experts on Ukraine and the Famine highlighted the all-day symposium on October 11 titled "Politics of Food: Past and Present."

The speakers were Dr. Mark von Hagen, chairman of the department of history at Arizona State University and former director of the Harriman Institute at Columbia University; Dr. David Marples, director of the Stasiuk Program on Contemporary Ukraine at the University of Alberta; and Dr. Roman Serbyn, professor emeritus, Université du Québec à Montréal.

They examined the causes and the aftermath of the Famine, as well as the view that the Famine was genocide aimed at the Ukrainian nation.

In order to broaden the discussion on "the politics of food," these three experts were joined by two other scholars who examined food manipulation and shortages in the 20th century and today.

Daniel Abebe, dean of First College, Metropolitan State University of St. Paul and board member of African Relief and Development Initiative, spoke on the famine in Ethiopia in 1985 and the present food disruption and imminent famine in Darfur.

Dr. Carol Helstosky, associate professor of history at the University of Denver, who specializes in the history of food supplies and nutrition, spoke about food supply manipulation during World War II.

Kicking off the symposium at 9 a.m. was Dr. von Hagen, who traced the long history of famines, starting with the Irish "potato blight" famine in the 19th century through the three famines in Ukraine in 1922-1923, 1932-1933 and 1947, to the famine in China following World War II.

"One of the lessons of the Ukrainian

Famine is that food has been used through history as a means to coerce a people," Dr. von Hagen pointed out.

Dean Abebe continued the discussion on famines by discussing the tragic consequences of European colonialism that contributed to the famine in Ethiopia in 1985.

Dr. Serbyn focused on documenting how the Holodomor was genocide since Stalin not only destroyed the Ukrainian peasantry but also the intellectual and religious leadership of the nation.

After lunch prepared for symposium participants by UNWLA members, Dr. Helstosky spoke about how Hitler and Mussolini manipulated food supplies in Western Europe during World War II.

Dr. Marples analyzed the different perceptions of the Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine and by the diaspora, and how the Famine is being used in Ukraine's current political stance toward Russia. He pointed out that for decades the Famine was an "unmentionable" in Soviet Ukraine and that it was first referred to publicly only in 1966. Subsequent mention of the Famine in Soviet Ukraine and in Russia often blamed its occurrence on drought and a bad harvest.

Dr. Marples said, "The narrative of the Famine as the destruction of the Ukrainian nation did not begin until 1990," when Congress created the U.S. Commission on the Ukrainian Famine. He said that scholarship on the Famine is current and ongoing both in Ukraine and abroad, although in Russia historians tend to ignore the Ukrainian aspect when studying the events of 1932-1933.

Moderating the symposium was Ania Savage, professor of journalism at the University of Denver and chair of the Holodomor committee. The symposium was advertised to metro Denver's high school teachers of history and social science who were able to earn one continuing education credit from the university by participating in the symposium. Teachers attending the event were given a CD of materials on the Ukrainian Famine that could be used in the classroom. The CD was prepared by Taras Bugir.

The evening before the symposium, the



At the symposium on the Holodomor held at the University of Denver (from left) are: speakers David Marples (University of Alberta), Roman Serbyn (University of Quebec at Montreal) and Mark von Hagen (Arizona University) with Dr. Carol Helstosky (University of Denver) and Daniel Abebe (First College, Metropolitan State University of St. Paul).

documentary "Harvest of Despair" was screened at the Josef Korbel Graduate School of International Studies. The evening event included a roundtable discussion of the film and the Holodomor by Drs. Von Hagen, Marples and Serbyn. The Association of Human Rights Students and its president, Roxolana Wynar, organized the screening. About 35 students, mostly students of international relations, attended the screening and sampled Ukrainian food prepared by Tatiana Gajecy-Wynar.

On Sunday, Drs. von Hagen, Serbyn and Marples participated in a community meeting at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Transfiguration. The discussion was held after the liturgy and panakhyda (requiem service) in memory of the victims of the Holodomor. The church hall was filled to capacity for the discussion and a light meal.

During the entire month of November the UNWLA is staging an exhibit on the Holodomor at the Koebel Library, the main library of the Arapahoe Library District in metro Denver.

Inya Saldyt, president of the UNWLA's Denver chapter, pointed out that preparations for the Famine commemoration began two years ago. "We held bake sales, a picnic and solicited donations in order to bring to Denver experts whose scholarship would enable us to mount a symposium at the university level," she said.

The symposium was co-sponsored by the University of Denver's Center for Teaching International Relations and the Program in Humanitarian Assistance at the Josef Korbel school. A generous grant from the humanitarian program defrayed the expenses of the Famine commemoration.

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# Parish in Manchester, N.H., celebrates 100th anniversary

by Peter T. Woloschuk

MANCHESTER, N.H. – One hundred years ago on Saturday, October 17, 1908, Bishop Soter Ortynsky arrived at the Manchester, N.H. railroad station accompanied by the Revs. Dwulit and Chaplinsky to meet the local Ukrainian community and to dedicate their newly erected church of the Protection (Pokrova) of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the next day.

According to the account in the city's main newspaper, the Manchester Union Leader, the three were met by a delegation of the city's Ukrainian Catholics, the Manchester city band and members of the local Polish military organization with their band.

"There were two hacks waiting for the clergy," the newspaper reported, "and the one for the Bishop was drawn by four white horses." A festive parade set out from the station for the new church, parish hall and rectory, and "there was a large concourse of people on the streets to witness it."

The entire parish had assembled around the church property and Bishop Ortynsky was formally welcomed by the pastor, the Rev. Julian Levinsky, the Rev. John J. Lyons, P.R. representing the Latin rite Bishop of Manchester, and Rev. Puchala of St. Hedwig's Polish Catholic Church. A moleben was then celebrated in the church and was followed by benediction. The actual consecration of the building was performed on the next day and was followed by the celebration of a pontifical divine liturgy in the new edifice.

The commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Manchester's Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church also was a two day affair.

On Saturday afternoon, October 4, the pastor, the Rev. Robert Smolley, welcomed Bishop Paul Patrick Chomnycky, OSBM, eparch of Stamford, Conn. Later that evening there was a dinner in the parish hall in honor of the bishop which was attended by the parish trustees, Anniversary Committee members and their spouses, along with several invited guests.

On Sunday, October 5, at 9 a.m. some 200 parishioners and guests filled Protection church to celebrate its centennial anniversary with a solemn pontifical divine liturgy. Joining them in the festivities were Bishop Chomnycky, the principal celebrant of the liturgy; Archpriest Edward Canon Young, Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Ludlow, Mass.; Archpriest Yaroslav Nalysnyk, Christ the King Parish, Jamaica Plain, Mass., and Dean of the Boston Deanery; the Rev. James Morris, St. John the Baptist Parish, Salem, Mass.; Archdeacon Mykola Droyfych, Eparchy of Stamford; Msgr. Alfred Daniszewski, St. Hedwig Parish, Manchester; the Rt. Rev. Andre St. Germaine, Melkite Eparchy of Newton, Mass.; the Rev. Thomas Steinmetz, Our Lady of the Cedars Melkite Catholic Church, Manchester; the Revs. Sullivan, OSB, and Benedict Guevin, OSB, St. Anselm Abby, Manchester; the Rev. Jerome Day, OSB, St. Anselm Abbey and St. Raphael Parish, Manchester; the Rev. Joseph Gurdak, OFM Cap, St. Augustin-St. Anne Parish, Manchester; the Rev. Charles DesRuisseaux, St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Manchester; and the Rev. Christian Tutor, OSA, All Saints Anglican Parish, Concord, N.H.

The clergy gathered in the parish hall

(Continued on page 19)



Bishop Paul Chomnycky of Stamford, Conn., celebrates the liturgy.



Photo taken of the members of St. Mary's Ruthenian Catholic Brotherhood (which raised money for the construction of the church) during the two dedicatory events. Bishop Soter Ortynsky is seated in the middle of the second row between the two priests.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Chairman Arseniy Yatseniuk each garnered 4.6 percent support. Other potential candidates had the support of less than 1 percent of respondents. (Ukrinform)

### World Bank to revise program

KYIV – The World Bank will revise its program of cooperation with Ukraine, Country Director of the World Bank for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova Martin Raiser said on October 28. In particular, he said that the matter involves restructuring and recapitalizing the banking sector, providing support to vulnerable strata of society, safeguarding critical capital investments and deepening structural reforms to restore sustainable economic growth in Ukraine. The World Bank also welcomed agreements reached between Ukraine and the International Monetary Fund aimed at tackling the negative impact of the global economic crisis. The World Bank approved a new Country Partnership Strategy for Ukraine in December 2007, foreseeing around \$4 billion (U.S.) in assistance over four years (2008-2011). (Ukrinform)

### Holodomor Flame now in Ukraine

KYIV – The final stage of the International Holodomor Remembrance Flame began in Ukraine on October 27. Solemnities started in the village of Ivankiv, Boryspil district of the Kyiv region, with a religious service and lighting of the Remembrance Flame with a torch that had traveled to 32 countries around the globe. The Holodomor torch was delivered to Ukraine by a delegation led by Ukraine's Ambassador to Georgia Mykola Spys. The Remembrance Flame in Georgia traveled from Tbilisi to Batumi, Poti and other cities, where religious services, exhibitions, conferences and commemorative meetings were held. "We hope that like the Holocaust, the genocide of the Ukrainian people – the Holodomor of 1932-1933 – will be recognized all over the world. This is our genetic memory. We have to remember the terrible tragedy of the Ukrainian nation, and we hope that all the people of the world will share this historic memory with us," said Vasyl Boyechko of Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The International Holodomor Remembrance Flame will travel to all of Ukraine's 25 regions. The torch relay will end on November 22 in Kyiv when the Memorial to Holodomor Victims will be unveiled. Then Remembrance Flame will then be delivered to the Holodomor Museum to be opened within the memorial complex near the Kyiv Pecherska Lavra. (Ukrinform)

### Direct foreign investment grows

KYIV – The volume of direct foreign investment in the Ukrainian economy totaled \$36.45 billion (U.S.) in the first half of 2008 – an increase of \$6.9 billion. Minister of the Economy Bohdan Danylyshyn told representatives of U.S. Business Executives for National Security that the United States remains one of Ukraine's investment partners. U.S. investment in the Ukrainian economy grew by \$30.6 million over the period to \$1.4 billion (6.7 percent of the total volume of direct foreign investment). A total of 1,408 companies with U.S. assets currently operate in Ukraine. Also discussed during the meeting were the economic situation in Ukraine and the United States and ways out of the global financial crisis. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine blames Russia at U.N.

KYIV – The Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine believes that the United Nations General Assembly on October 23

postponed its decision on whether to put the issue of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine on its agenda due to Russia's position. "The Russian Federation, using its instruments of influence as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council and applying open pressure and blackmail, is seeking to deprive a U.N. member-state of its right to put an issue that is important to it on the agenda of the U.N., the largest international organization in terms of its representation," reads the statement. The Russian Federation's unconstructive position contradicts the international community's approaches toward assessing the nature of the Famine, for example the resolution commemorating the victims of the Holodomor that was unanimously passed by the European Parliament on October 23. That resolution recognized the Famine as "an appalling crime against the Ukrainian people and against humanity." The European Parliament also noted that it "expresses its sympathy with the Ukrainian people, who suffered in this tragedy, and pays its respects to those who died as a consequence of the artificial famine of 1932-1933." Ukraine's Foreign Ministry said that work would continue on putting the issue of the Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine on the agenda of the U.N. General Assembly. (Ukrinform)

### NATO support on the rise

KYIV – Ukrainian First Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Volodymyr Khandohiy met with NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy Jean-Francois Bureau on October 23. The two discussed the course of an information campaign dedicated to the Euro-Atlantic integration of Ukraine and its cooperation with the alliance. Mr. Khandohiy said that an increase in public support for the idea of Ukraine joining NATO was the result of active work in the information sector. He said that the number of NATO supporters in Ukraine grew by over 10 percent in October as compared to June of this year. (Ukrinform)

### New poll on pre-term elections

KYIV – According to a national phone survey on early parliamentary elections in Ukraine conducted by the Horshenin Institute, 79 percent of Ukrainian citizens believe that the snap elections won't help find a way out of the current political crisis. About half of respondents (48.9 percent) said that the Ukrainian president would benefit most from the early elections to the Verkhovna Rada. Some 61 percent of those polled slammed the dissolution of the Parliament. Another 53.5 percent of Ukrainians believe that parliamentary elections should be simultaneously held with early presidential elections. As compared to 2007, this year there is an increase in the number of those who are sure the election results will be rigged. A total of 67.6 percent of respondents said prior to the 2007 parliamentary elections that they did not believe the elections would be transparent, while this year's figure is 81.1 percent. Nonetheless, 58.5 percent of respondents are planning to go to the polling stations. The survey was conducted in all regional centers in Ukraine and the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol on October 15-18. Participating were 1,000 respondents over the age of 18. The poll's margin of error does not exceed 3.2 percent. (Ukrinform)

### Experts cite harm to country's image

KYIV – According to a study conducted by the Sociovymir Center for Sociological and Political Studies on October 20-23, half of experts believe that snap elections to the Verkhovna Rada will worsen the foreign political image of Ukraine. A total

(Continued on page 15)

## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

of 30 leading political experts participated in the survey. Moreover, the specialists said the elections would weaken the image of government institutes in society (43.3 percent) and could bring strengthened authoritarian trends in Ukraine (37.7 percent). A third of the experts polled said they are confident that the early elections will escalate political confrontation in Ukraine, while 13.3 percent said that the political crisis would be settled after the elections. (Ukrinform)

### Experts offer advice on savings

KYIV – Presenting recommendations for mitigation of the financial blow to average citizens, Ukrainian experts have advised keeping savings in the hryvnia, dollar and euro simultaneously, to restrict spending and take credits in the currency that is a source of one's permanent income. In addition, the government and the National Bank of Ukraine are recommending the nationalization of problem banks and then selling them to private investors, the diversification of gold and foreign currency reserves and pursuit of a course of gradual devaluation of the hryvnia. Experts consider a deficit-free budget and reduction of social programs to be the first necessary steps. (Ukrinform)

### Ombudswoman on fighting poverty

KYIV – Referring to statistics concerning violations of citizens' rights to proper living standards, Nina Karpachova, the Verkhovna Rada's commissioner for human rights, said on October 20 that 27.3 percent of the Ukrainian population still suffers from poverty and about a half of those from extreme poverty. "Overcoming poverty, which leads to a range of systemic violations of citizens' constitutional rights, should be the state's strategic goal, and no one should stand aside," said Ms. Karpachova. (Ukrinform)

### Yanukovich to run if...

KYIV – Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich, who was in his native Donetsk region on October 16, said that if there is broad support for his party in the pre-term parliamentary elections, he will run for the presidency. Speaking live with the local First Municipal Channel TV and Radio Company, Mr. Yanukovich said: "If I see the support of the Ukrainian people – and that is essential – I believe the party will make the decision to put forth my candidacy." The opposition leader also promised that the Party of Regions, if it comes to power, would overcome the economic crisis and return the deposits once blocked in former Soviet savings bank accounts. Mr. Yanukovich also said the Russian language would become the second national language in Ukraine if the Party of Regions wins a constitutional majority in the Verkhovna Rada after the snap elections. "Then we will immediately solve this task," he stated. (Ukrinform)

### Monument honors Red Army, UPA

KYIV – An unusual monument to villagers who died in World War II was unveiled in the village of Mayaky, Luts district of Volyn region, it was reported on October 23. This is the first monument in Ukraine that is dedicated to soldiers of

both the Red Army and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA). The monument's main sculptures are the figures of a Red Army soldier holding a machine-gun and an UPA soldier with a submachine gun. They are depicted defending a woman with a child who symbolizes mother Ukraine. The inscription on the monument reads: "To the soldiers of united Ukraine who died in wartime." (Ukrinform)

### Court decision on Sknyliv case

KYIV – The Supreme Court of Ukraine has left unchanged the not guilty verdict handed down to four ex-generals of the Ukrainian air force for the Sknyliv air show tragedy, it was reported on October 23. Around 200 victims of the 2002 tragedy – which killed 77 people, including 28 children, and injured 500 when an Su-27 aircraft crashed during an air show at the Sknyliv aerodrome outside Lviv – are planning to challenge the verdict in a European court. On June 20 the Ukrainian Procurator General's Office had filed an appeal with the Supreme Court of Ukraine of the not guilty verdict announced by the Military Appeals Court of the Central Region of Ukraine acquitting four generals who were involved in the organization of the Sknyliv air show. The Military Appeals Court handed down its verdict on six pilots in Lviv on June 24, 2005. The Procurator General's Office launched separate criminal proceedings against four generals. On June 11 of this year the Military Appeals Court of the Central Region found the four generals not guilty. (Ukrinform)

### Bubka honorary citizen of Rio

KYIV – The president of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine (NOCU), a member of the International Olympic Committee's executive board and first vice-president of the International Association of Athletic Federations, Serhiy Bubka, has become an honorary citizen of the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro. An Olympic champion who broke the world record for men's pole vaulting 35 times, Mr. Bubka has already been named an honorary citizen of the Ukrainian cities of Donetsk and Luhansk, as well as other cities around the world, including Bratislava (Slovakia), and Padua and Abano Terme (Italy). The honors are granted in recognition of the sports achievements of Mr. Bubka and his significant contributions to the development of international sports and the popularization of the Olympic movement. (Ukrinform)

### Investors and Ukrainian real estate

KYIV – Western investors are interested in investing funds into commercial real estate in Ukraine since Western markets are congested, while the Ukrainian market is only at 20 percent capacity, according to the chairman of the board of directors of both the Ukrainian Construction Association and the XXI Century Investments, Lev Partskhaladze. "Investors that want long-term professional investments will invest money into the commercial real estate of Ukraine today, since the Ukrainian real estate market is the most capacious and thin market in Europe," he noted. Mr. Partskhaladze emphasized that holding the Euro-2012 in Ukraine generates great interest on the part of investors. "Euro-2012 is a good

stimulus for the development of the real estate market. And those investors who will enter commercial real estate projects earlier than others will be able to raise money on these projects," he said. Today, according to Mr. Partskhaladze, partnership with local developers is the most optimal variant for Western investors to quickly enter the Ukrainian market, since it will ensure the most effective and prompt implementation of real estate projects. (Ukrinform)

### NBU issues Bartholomew coin

KYIV – The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) has put into circulation a commemorative jubilee coin titled "In honor of the Visit by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I to Ukraine," issued on the 1,020th anniversary of the conversion of the Kyivan Rus' to Christianity. The 85-milimeter-diameter .999 fine silver coin, with a face value of 50 hrv, is of special uncirculated quality released in an edition of 1,000. In 2008 the NBU is planning to put into circulation 32 commemorative and jubilee coins (40 kinds), while in 2007 the bank produced 31 coins (39 types). Since 1995 the bank has put into circulation over 282 commemorative and jubilee coins (351 kinds), including over 30 gold coins. (Ukrinform)

### Third of unemployed are youth

KYIV – Youths account for one-third of the total number of unemployed people in Ukraine as of September 1, the State Statistics Committee reported in late October. The level of unemployment among economically active population age 15-70 is 6.2 percent, and 6.8 percent among the working-age population, the committee noted. Every other unemployed is a laborer, every third is a serviceman, and every fourth had no profession. In September the number of jobless citizens

rose to 513,600, which is 4,100 more than in August. (Ukrinform)

### Ukrainians among Eastern Europe's rich

KYIV – The Polish weekly Wprost in October presented its ranking of the richest residents of Central and Eastern Europe. This year, 24 Ukrainians were among the top 100 of the European rich. Rinat Akhmetov appeared to be the richest man among them; his wealth has been estimated by the Polish publication at \$23 billion (U.S.). He is No. 2 in the ranking, while last year he was in fourth. The year 2008 was successful also for Igor Kolomoisky, who ranks the seventh among the rich. The assets of the Privat Group owner have been valued by Wprost at \$11.4 billion (U.S.). In general, Ukrainian businessmen increased their assets despite the world financial crisis. In 2008 only one Ukrainian multimillionaire became poorer: the owner of the Illich Mariupol Metallurgical Works, Volodymyr Boiko. Last year his wealth was valued at \$2.3 billion, while in 2008 it is \$2.1 billion. (Ukrinform)

### Lviv's tourism development center

KYIV – A new municipal enterprise, the Tourism Development Center, has been set up in Lviv. The Lviv City Council's Culture and Tourism Department says the center will work under the TACIS program and will receive a grant of 700,000 euro from the European Commission for the development of the tourist infrastructure in Lviv. The project envisages the appearance in Lviv of "multilingual" names of streets and monuments for foreign tourists. The center will perform the functions of a tourist information center; it will provide free information and consultations about tourist routes, locations of hotels and restaurants, etc. (Ukrinform)



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## Russian TV...

(Continued from page 8)

view that the famine in Russia's grain-producing regions was just as devastating as the Holodomor in Ukraine, particularly in terms of casualties.

The RTR Planeta news report also smeared the president's older brother Petro, who is "working on the schism of

the Russian Orthodox Church."

It concluded in a disturbingly vicious tone. Communist Party Central Commission First Secretary Stanislav Kosior "sent an encryption to Stalin to increase the confiscation of bread among the Ukrainian population for the benefit of general state interests," the report said. "But a Kosior monument stands in Kyiv to this day. And there you have such grimaces amidst nationalist propaganda."

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## The Holodomor...

(Continued from page 3)

agement. Since then, the Holodomor has become highly politicized, she said, with the Communist Party of Ukraine doing the utmost to undermine efforts to shed light on the genocide.

In Kharkiv last year, a retired prosecutor who actually arrived in Ukraine to serve the Communist Party during the Holodomor, asked local prosecutors to arrest Ms. Polischuk for "inflaming inter-ethnic tensions."

Her book, "Capital of Despair," includes survivors' testimony that the Soviets transported Russians to replace the murdered Ukrainians, and placed them in authoritative government posts.

"It wasn't me, but [Ivan] Shekhovtsov who was inflaming enmity," she said. "He wanted to stir the Russian-speaking

population and ignite that same interethnic tension against which he protested."

District prosecutors indeed summoned Ms. Polischuk for questioning, but never filed criminal charges against the ethnography museum director.

Although tensions have increased in recent years, largely inflamed by Russian chauvinists, Ms. Polischuk said she considers herself fortunate to be able to research the Holodomor in an independent Ukraine, because she would have asked the same questions during the Soviet era and the reaction to her inquiries would have been much more severe.

"I am lucky that I came around in the right place at the right time," she said. "I had no idea how they punished such people for this. I needed to do this because it was a cover-up that I wanted to discover and uncover - uncover this matter that they hid from me and then tell others how it truly was."

## President Bush...

(Continued from page 3)

The CEEC presented to White House officials its October 2008 Position Statement, covering many of the issues brought up at the briefing and including concerns about funding assistance to the Central and East European region; U.S. international broadcasting; energy security; human and minority rights; and totalitarian crimes and genocide.

In particular, the Position Statement noted: "It is incomprehensible why Georgia and Ukraine have not been offered MAP status, or even a timetable, especially as Russia's unmistakable aggressive designs toward its neighbors have become apparent. The CEEC believes that this lapse must be immediately remedied before the West, including the United States, is confronted with exacerbated crises and the gains made at the end of the Cold War are further jeopardized."

As well, the statement underscored: "The CEEC also unqualifiedly opposes any cuts with respect to Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty broadcasting into the region, including Russian programming. The Russian people are being denied access to objective information by their government, as are other people in the region, such as those in Belarus. With the Kremlin feeling emboldened, deprivation of rights such as free speech becomes a heightened threat. Thus, not only is it ill-advised to eliminate or cut programming, but it is also a mistake not to increase funding for VOA and RFE/RL and other free media broad-

cast into the region. The reasons are different in Georgia, versus Ukraine, versus Belarus, for example, but access to free media is most important in new democracies/non-democratic states."

The statement concludes by noting: "The United States declared a democratic victory much too early in the CEE [Central and East European] region, and we are paying the price. We need to stay engaged and not declare victory too soon."

Following the briefing and remarks by President Bush, members of the CEEC joined others in the East Room of the White House for a signing ceremony of the Protocols of Accession for Croatia and Albania into the NATO alliance. NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer joined President Bush in comments at the ceremony. All 26 NATO members must sign and ratify the amendments to the NATO Treaty in order to bring in new members to the alliance. Ambassadors from Croatia and Albania also attended the event, along with Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.), foreign policy leaders, congressional staffers and members of the diplomatic corps.

In related news, CEEC members also attended an October 17 event in the Rose Garden at the White House at which President Bush announced that seven countries (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary South Korea) had completed the requirements to join the Visa Waiver Program. Citizens of those countries will be eligible to travel without visas to the United States starting in the year 2009.

## IMF to loan...

(Continued from page 1)

demand for steel has forced the country to tap into its foreign currency reserves to support its currency, the hryvnia. The central bank has bailed out several banks and the Ukrainian stock market has lost more than 70 percent of its value this year.

The IMF loan to Ukraine is the latest sign that the international body - much criticized for failing to sound the alarm ahead of the global crisis - is now assuming a key role as a rescue service for economies hardest hit by the crisis.

The fund has announced a \$2.1-billion

package for Iceland, a bailout deal for Hungary, and is in talks with Belarus and Pakistan. Other countries touted as possible IMF aid recipients include Romania, Estonia, Latvia and Bulgaria.

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## Rada approves first reading of bill needed for IMF bailout

PARSIPPANY, N.J. - As reported by various news media, the Verkhovna Rada on October 29 passed the first reading of legislation that would secure an emergency loan from the International Monetary

Fund.

Two hundred forty-eight national deputies voted for the legislation. Two more votes by the Rada are required for final approval of the measure.

# UKRAINIAN-AMERICANS FOR OBAMA-BIDEN '08

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IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE!



**Barack Obama**  
for President  
**Joe Biden**  
for Vice President

**Barack Obama and Joe Biden**

- have a plan to revitalize our economy, provide for education, maintain Social Security, offer affordable health care, and recover job growth;
- are committed to Ukraine's independence, territorial integrity, and NATO Membership;
- will keep Russian hegemony in check, Eastern European countries free, and the United States secure;
- will repair relations with our allies, and will reclaim America's international leadership position.



We, your friends, neighbors, and family, will vote for Barack Obama for President on November 4, 2008.

**VOTE WITH US!**

## NOTES ON PEOPLE

### Inducted into WSU's Engineering Hall of Fame

DETROIT – Andrew Jerome Haliw III, corporate general counsel and executive vice-president of internal operations with Lakeshore Engineering Services, Inc., was inducted into the Wayne State University College of Engineering Hall of Fame.

The Wayne State University College of Engineering boasts 75 years of training talented students to take the lead in the engineering workforce. Each fall, the college has hosted its Night of the Stars, an event marking noteworthy contributions to the college's mission of excellence in engineering.

This year, it celebrated professional achievements and inducted members into its Hall of Fame at the Detroit Institute of Arts, one of Detroit's cultural gems. In addition to Mr. Haliw, this year's honorees included Thomas Amato, Bilal Kaafarani, William Osborne, Rob Rutenbar and Anthony Mong-On Tai.

Mr. Haliw of Farmington Hills, Mich., is a 1968 Wayne State graduate in electrical engineering. He also holds a Juris Doctor degree from Wayne State (1972). While in law school, Mr. Haliw was divisional electrical engineer in charge of the Jones and Laughlin Stainless Strip division and worked as a software designer for General

Electric and Westinghouse. He later founded Advanced Systems and Designs Inc., specializing in statistical process control for the automotive industry, and co-founded American Supplier Institute.

Mr. Haliw, whose parents were forced to work as laborers in Nazi Germany during World War II, immigrated to the U.S. as a displaced person, was raised in Detroit and attended Cass Technical High School before earning a bachelor's in electrical engineering from Wayne State. Upon graduation, by working the midnight shift at Jones and Laughlin Steel, Mr. Haliw put himself through Wayne State's Law School.

In his long professional career as an attorney and as a registered professional engineer, he has served on many boards and has done significant charitable work in many arenas. He has served as commissioner for SMART Oakland County, chairman of the Farmington Hills Board of Zoning Appeals, chairman of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, member of the Lions Club, Member of the Inner Circle of the OCRC, board member of Wayne State University Board of Alumni, member of the Executive Club of Detroit, member of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society, member of Walsh College President's Advisory Council, member of the Oakland County Intellectual Properties Section and chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee for the Farmington/Farmington Hills



Andrew Jerome Haliw III (center) is honored by his alma mater.

Chamber.

He also has been very active with Veselka, the Ukrainian Museum and Archives and Ukrainian Catholic schools. As well, Mr. Haliw has been generous with his assistance and contributions to U-Care (aide orphans), the Rosa Parks Geriatrics Center at the DMC, New Wave (assistance to immigrants of Ukraine), Special Olympics programs, the Exchange Club, and other community projects. He has served on the WSU Alumni Association.

With his engineering and law back-

ground he is recognized as a patent and trademark attorney. He has also been registered as a professional engineer for many years, has been published in a number of journals and presents regularly on topics of professional interest. He has also been recognized by the Bar Register of Pre-eminent Lawyers and is designated by his "AV" rating by Martindale Hubbell for his skill and integrity.

As captain of the WSU Fencing Team in 1966-1968, he led WSU to a national championship and was a two time All-American in sabre in 1967 and 1968.

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



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## Parish in Manchester...

(Continued from page 13)

around the corner from the church and then solemnly processed to the main doors of the church escorted by Knights of Columbus Council 92, the oldest council in New Hampshire. The council recently appointed the Rev. Smolley as its co-chaplain and officially became affiliated with the parish. At the entrance to the church they were greeted by children of the parish with the traditional bread and salt.

### Bishop's homily

During his homily Bishop Chomnycky praised the parishioners and pointed out that it was his first visit to the parish, to Manchester and to New Hampshire. He wondered: "In the past 100 years how many joyous and sad events have taken place within the walls of this sacred building? How many people have come through its doors? How many Mnohaya Litas have been sung? How many Vichnaya Pamyats? How many Khrystos Voskreses?"

The bishop went to say, "I have a great affinity for parishes dedicated to the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary because my home parish in Vancouver, British Columbia, was dedicated to the Pokrova and because I was ordained on the feast of the Pokrova on October 1, 1988."

Bishop Chomnycky then went on to talk about the recent Synod of Ukrainian Catholic Bishops that he attended and the discussions on the role of the bishop as head of the eparchy and in evangelization. "It is the bishop's obligation to make sure that the gospel is preached, that the good news is spread, and that the proper example is given," the bishop concluded, "but it is also the responsibility of each member of the Church to reach out and be a missionary."

After the liturgy a gala banquet at the Puritan Restaurant was attended by more than 200 people. During the course of the afternoon a video loop was played showing photographs from the 10 decades of the parish's existence. After the guests were seated, the Knights of Columbus escorted all of the assembled clergy into the hall and Bishop Chomnycky delivered the invocation.

### Parish trustee's address

He was followed by Jaroslaw Maksymowych, parish trustee and co-chair of the anniversary celebration, who welcomed everyone in Ukrainian and said, "One hundred years ago a group of Ukrainian immigrants gathered in Manchester with their bishop, clergy and guests to celebrate the dedication of their new Ukrainian Catholic church. Today we are gathered in similar circumstances with our bishop, clergy, guests and parochial family to remember the good that

the founders of parish began, to honor the successes of past parishioners during this 100-year journey, and to surround the future of our parish with hope and enthusiasm."

"Our parish can be proud of its many accomplishments in the past 100 years," Mr. Maksymowych continued, "particularly when we consider that it arose out of the humble wish of our immigrants to worship God in their Byzantine Rite and to foster our Ukrainian traditions, customs and culture in the free lands of America."

"No one can argue that the 100-year journey of our parish has been easy, but our parish has been able to overcome all difficulties because of the dedication, sacrifices and solid work of our parishioners, as well as the grace which God has given us," he continued.

"We need to be grateful and remember our predecessors for their sacrifices in building our parish," Mr. Maksymowych said, "and, at the same time, we need to remember that there is still much that needs to be done and the future of our parish now lies with us, our children and our grandchildren."

"No one knows what the future holds for our parish as we begin its second century, but we can be sure that there will be difficulties, possibilities, happiness, successes, as well as failures." Mr. Maksymowych said. "We can never forget that we, as members of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, are the architects of its future and we have a sacred obligation to preserve, cherish, nurture and perpetuate our traditions, customs, rituals and language, and all this makes us unique as members of the Catholic Church."

Co-Chair John Terninko then gave welcoming remarks in English and presented an allegory of the first meeting of the bishop of Manchester with the pastor of the Ukrainian Catholics in the city.

Ronald Morale gave the toast for the event. After the dinner the children of the parish under the direction of Christina Vogel gave a presentation outlining the history of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the parish in Manchester. Father Smolley then made brief remarks thanking everyone and introducing his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Smolley of Hookset, N.H., who, he pointed out, have been married 62 years.

Bishop Chomnycky then spoke and presented Papal blessings to Olga Senenko, the parish's oldest member, and to Mr. Maksymowych, church trustee and cantor. Parishioner Marjorie Connolly then presented the bishop with a framed painting



Bishop Paul Chomnycky presents the oldest active parishioner, Olga Senenko, with a papal blessing.

play; Brian Bailey and Mr. Morales, publicity; the Rev. Smolley and Brother Francis Marchese, liturgy; the Rev. Smolley and Kathy Cusson-Cail, anniversary book; Ms. Vogel, children's program; Ms. Cusson-Cail, photography; John Hanula, videography; and Jeff Stone, D.J.

The church's Parish Council, which worked with the Anniversary Committee, includes Trustees Messrs. Maksymowych and Terninko; Parish Council President Kenneth Komisarek; Brother Marchese, Parish Council member and adult religious education director; Mr. Young; Mr. Morales; religious education director Ms. Vogel; and Karen Maksymowych, parish hospitality and functions director.

### 19th century immigrants

Ukrainians from Halychyna and Zakarpattia first began arriving in Manchester during the last decade of the 19th century, drawn by the fact that there was plenty of work for both able-bodied young men and women in the

Amoskeag and Stark textile mills.

At first religious needs were met in the local Latin Rite Catholic parishes, and an occasional visit was made by an itinerant Ukrainian Catholic priest.

By 1906 the community had grown large enough to support a full time pastor, the Rev. Roman Volynets, and Bishop Dennis Bradley allowed the Ukrainian liturgy to be celebrated regularly in the chapel of St. Joseph's Cathedral.


Upon hearing the news of the appointment of Bishop Soter Ortynsky as exarch for Ukrainian Catholics in the United States, the parishioners in Manchester

of the church in winter that she had done, and then the eparch ended the formal portion of the program by giving the Benediction.

Members of the 100th anniversary celebration committee, which was formed in 2007 and worked for more than a year on the planning and execution of the anniversary celebrations, included Messrs. Maksymowych and Terninko, co-chairs; Karen Maksymowych and Jenna Young, hospitality co-chairs; Tanya Morales, invitations; Mr. Maksymowych and Kenneth Komisarek, parish history; Mr. Terninko and Shawn Young, pictorial dis-



Parish children greet the eparch of Stamford at the doors of the church.



**Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute**  
Announces a Two-Day International Conference

**The Great Famine in Ukraine:  
 The Holodomor and Its Consequences, 1933 to the Present**

**17-18 November 2008**

The year 2008 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933, now often referred to by its Ukrainian name Holodomor (extermination by hunger). This man-made affliction ravaged, most devastatingly, Soviet Ukraine and the areas primarily settled by Ukrainians in the North Caucasus (the Kuban region) at the height of forced collectivization in the USSR.

Earlier projects at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute pioneered studies in the history of the Great Famine. It is the aim of this conference, however, to move beyond revisiting the background, course and analysis of the events of 1932-33. Instead, it aims to forge forward to investigate the momentous subsequent impact of the Holodomor in Ukraine, in a framework which will examine its short, mid, and long-term consequences that reach, indeed, to our own day.

We are pleased to invite you to the conference which will be held at the Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy St., Cambridge. For a full program with participants, on-line registration, travel information and information about related Famine events, please see HURI website: <www.huri.harvard.edu> The conference is open to the public and free of charge. However, seating is limited and pre-registration is strongly advised. You may register on-line or by calling HURI at 617-495-4053.

**Concert:** Premiere Performance of Selections from the Opera *Red Earth (Hunger)* by Virko Baley. Monday, November 17 at 8:00 p.m. at Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St., Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Conference Venue:**  
 Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy St., Cambridge, Massachusetts

## Contemplative Nuns of the Order of St. Basil celebrate golden jubilee

CAMPBELL HALL, N.Y. — Contemplative Nuns of the Order of St. Basil the Great, who are based in Middletown, N.Y., on September 20 celebrated the golden jubilee of the founding of their Sacred Heart Monastery.

Approximately 200 guests filled St. Andrew the Apostle Ukrainian Catholic Church in Campbell Hall, N.Y., to praise and thank God for all the blessings of the 50 years of Sacred Heart Monastery.

The jubilee celebration began with a pontifical divine liturgy of thanksgiving, at which Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of Philadelphia was the main celebrant, and Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, eparch of Stamford, Conn., delivered the homily.

Concelebrating were Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia John Bura, Bishop-Emeritus Basil Losten of Stamford, Bishop Dominick Lagonegro, episcopal vicar of Orange County, N.Y.; the Rev. Msgr. Peter Waslo and the Rev. Msgr. Myron Grabowsky of Philadelphia; the Rev. Msgr. George Valastro, co-vicar of Orange County; the Very Rev. Philip Sandrick, OSBM, provincial superior of the Basilian Fathers, the Very Rev. Yaroslav Kostyk, pastor of St. Andrew Church, the Rev. Robert Moreno of Lancaster, N.Y.; and the Rev. John Lundberg of Middletown. Also in attendance were the Revs. Mykhaylo Dosyak of Staten Island and Volodymyr Komitsky of Sloatsburg, N.Y.

Mother Miriam Claire Kowal, OSBM, general superior of the Order of St. Basil the Great, and numerous Basilian Sisters from Fox Chase Manor, Pa., New York City and Uniontown, Pa., were in attendance. Also present were Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate from Sloatsburg, and Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God

from Philadelphia. State Sen. William Larkin and his wife joined in the celebration.

The Dumka Chorus from New York City contributed much to the beauty of the liturgical celebration as their glorious music filled the church.

In his homily, Bishop Chomnycky used St. Luke's Gospel reading about Martha and Mary to explain the significance, purpose and fruits of the contemplative monastic life. He summed up the monastic life in one word, "prayer," and showed how greatly the values of this contemplative life differ from the values of the world and therefore, are so sorely needed in this world and in the Church.

At the conclusion of the divine liturgy, Mother Georgianna Snihur, OSBM, superior of Sacred Heart Monastery, extended the community's thanks to the clergy, guests and parishioners for their participation and assistance in the celebration.

She also summarized the letter received from the Ukrainian Catholic Patriarch Cardinal Lubomyr Husar in which he expressed his joy at this jubilee, underlined the great value and his deep appreciation for the life of prayer in the Church, and imparted his Patriarchal blessing upon both Sacred Heart Monastery's contemplative community and all those participating in the solemn thanksgiving to God.

Mother Miriam Claire gave a beautiful talk to the contemplative nuns, after which Sister Maria Rozmarynowycz, OSBM, speaking on behalf of Sister Laura Palka, provincial superior of the Basilian Sisters of Jesus, Lover of Humanity Province, presented Mother Georgianna with a plaque commemorating the jubilee.

(Continued on page 22)



Contemplative Nuns of the Order St. Basil with hierarchs and clergy.

## Manchester, N.H. ...

(Continued from page 19)

decided that it was time to build their own church. They intensified their fund-raising efforts and also took a mortgage for \$5,000 in February 1908. Many of the parishioners volunteered their time as part of the construction crew and the building was finished by September of that year.

In 1914 a bell tower was added to the front of the church to house the bell "Simeon," which was specially poured for the parish, and in 1920 a baroque iconostas was installed.

As a result of the changes caused by World War I, Ukrainian immigration to Manchester ceased and the church became the center and focus of the entire community. A reading room, a band, a choir, a dramatic group, a Vasile Avramenko dance group and a school that boasted 42 students in its first year were started.

The various organizations were busy, and, in addition to class and regular meetings sponsored a round of annual events, including commemorations of Ukrainian Independence in January, Taras Shevchenko in March and of Western Ukraine's independence in November. In 1930 the Manchester Ukrainian Citizens' Club was formed and by 1938 it had its own building and more than 300 members.

In 1933 the parish celebrated its 25th anniversary with a special pageant of Ukrainian song and dance that featured more than 70 dancers from Manchester and Boston, as well as choirs from both cities.

During the 1930s and 1940s parishioners established a Ladies Sodality, a branch of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, and a branch of the Ukrainian National Association (UNA). Classes were run in Ukrainian music, folk arts, embroidery and pysanky writing.

During World War II, 60 members of the parish served in the U.S. armed forces. Immediately after the war the mills in the Manchester area began to close, and many younger people were forced to move to find employment. By 1960 census figures showed 113 Ukrainians living in Manchester, down from the 600 recorded in 1916.

Despite this exodus the parish persevered and began to adapt and reach out into the local public arena as a way of ensuring the parish's future viability. In 1958 the golden anniversary of the parish was celebrated by Bishop Ambrose Senyshyn, the newly installed eparch of Stamford, and Bishop Matthew Brady of

Manchester, along with an honor guard of fourth degree Knights of Columbus. A new Ukrainian-style tabernacle was installed and blessed, and a gala banquet was held.

The parish regularly participated in major civic events, including the jubilee celebration of the Manchester diocese and



The Church of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Manchester, N.H.

the annual commemoration of Captive Nations Day and the Intercultural Arts Festival. It also contributed to the campaigns for the construction of the Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington, and the establishment of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University.

In the 1980s the size of the parish and the shortage of priests in the Stamford Eparchy combined to force the community to rely on the services of a number of visiting priests. However, in 1990, Parish Deacon Joseph Lazor travelled to Ukraine and was secretly ordained by Metropolitan Volodymyr Sterniuk in his residence. Father Lazor immediately took over as pastor and served until his retirement in 2003. He stabilized the community and was able to launch a period of rebuilding and growth.

In 2001 the parish hosted Ukrainian Catholic Bishop Slavomyr Miklos of Croatia, who visited his relatives living in the parish. The year 2006 saw the appointment of the Rev. Smolley as pastor. In the summer of 2007 a group of "pyrohy ladies" was started to help generate funds for various projects, and in the fall Knights of Columbus Council 92 became affiliated with the parish. Many parish organizations have been revitalized, and an effort has been made to foster Ukrainian traditions and celebrations.

Arts, Culture & Education Committee of UACCNJ and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America - Morris County, NJ Branch

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PO Box 517, Whippany, NJ 07981-0217

**EVENT LOCATION**  
Ukrainian American Cultural Center of NJ  
600 C. North Jefferson Road  
Whippany, NJ 07981

# Reunion of Immaculate Conception School donates proceeds to museum

by Roma Dockhorn

PHILADELPHIA – On September 27 the Immaculate Conception School at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Philadelphia celebrated the first reunion of all its classes since the school closed its doors in 1993. Over 300 alumni, teachers and parents participated in this historic event, making it a great success.

A few weeks later, on October 18, members of the reunion committee met with the Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God at the Archieparchial Museum to make a donation of some of the proceeds from the event.

The reunion started with a self-guided tour of the old school building at 810 N. Franklin St., presently The Treasury of

Faith Museum. The Missionary Sisters who run the museum welcomed the attendees. Many participants recognized these nuns because many years ago they ran the nursery school just down the street from the school.

At registration each guest received a commemorative booklet published for the occasion. Everyone then had the opportunity to recognize former classmates and meet informally – some for the first time in 50 years.

After the event one former student wrote that she was glad the program included “a tour of the museum and all its treasures. Instead of a building being left unoccupied it was put to excellent use.”

At 4:30 p.m. participants attended the



Ken Hutchins

Alumni peruse the commemorative booklet in the hallway of the school.



The Reunion Committee with Missionary Sisters on October 18 after donating some of the proceeds from the event to the museum: (seated, from left) Sister Timothea, Oksana Wanchycka Woroch, Mother Nadia, Sister Evhenia, (standing) Maria Mykietiuch Fisher, Daria Nowakiwska Lissy, Bohdan Bobjak, Myrosia Nowakiwska Voloshin and Roma Skoczylas Dockhorn.

divine liturgy celebrated by Bishop John Bura along with Msgr. Myron Grabovsky, the Rev. Ivan Demkiv and Deacon Theophil Staruch. Lisa Stasiuk Oprysk (class of 1979) sang the responses; the congregants joined her, adding a festive tone to the occasion. Many people had not been to the cathedral for a long time and commented that it was an uplifting experience.

The festivities continued with a banquet at Dugan's Restaurant in Philadelphia. Among the attendees besides Bishop Bura and the Rev. Demkiv were three Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (former teachers) who traveled from Sloatsburg, N.Y., 10 former teachers and a few parents. Mr. Staruch (class of 1953) was the master of ceremo-

nies, and Dmytry Turcheniuk (class of 1975) provided the entertainment.

Students were grateful for the opportunity to reunite. Many came from the Philadelphia area and some traveled from afar – California, Utah, South Carolina, Florida, Virginia and Canada.

After the event, one participant wrote, “Though there were only about seven or eight people from my graduating class, I talked to so many other former students whether I knew them or not. And seeing the last graduating class of ‘youngsters’ made me realize that they care as much for the school as we do.”

For a tour of the museum or additional copies of the commemorative booklet readers may call 215-627-3389 or e-mail tofmuseum@catholic.org.

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## UCCLA approves Parks Canada plans for interpretive museum at Banff

CANMORE, Alberta – The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) held its 2008 annual conclave in Canmore, Alberta.

For three days at the end of September, members of the non-profit group from across Canada gathered in the Rocky Mountains to spend a few hours touring Banff's Cave and Basin, the site of an internment camp for Ukrainians and other Eastern Europeans during Canada's first national internment operations during and after World War I.

While there, the group received a short presentation by Rob Harding of Parks

Canada. He detailed his department's plans to spend the \$2.5 million it received from the federal government in 2008 to commemorate the details of the internment operations, including the building of an interpretive center near the site of the actual camp. The UCCLA was pleased to learn that Parks Canada's work toward the development of an interpretive center and museum at the Cave and Basin in Banff is proceeding well.

The UCCLA further discussed the nature of the endowment that was received by the Ukrainian community from the government of Canada during a

briefing from the Shevchenko Foundation, and was brought up to speed on developments with the Spirit Lake Corporation's plans for a separate internment interpretive center in the Abitibi, Quebec.

The UCCLA also discussed the presence of alleged Soviet war criminals in Canada, and laid down plans for the further pursuit of justice regarding Soviet war crimes.

The UCCLA also made preliminary plans to install memorial plaques at the four Canadian internment sites that have not yet been commemorated: Edgewood, British Columbia; Lethbridge, Alberta; Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Montreal.

Preliminary plans were laid for holding next year's UCCLA conclave at Vernon, British Columbia. For more information, readers may log on to [www.uccla.ca](http://www.uccla.ca).

## New Hope for Children to hold benefit for Ukraine's orphans

by Bozhena Olshaniwsky

NEWARK, N.J. – On Sunday, November 9, New Hope for Children is sponsoring a brunch benefitting orphans in Ukraine. The event will take place at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 199 River Road, New Milford, NJ 07646.

New Hope for Children is a subsidiary of the Cross Cultural International Institute under the directorship of Maryanne Olsen.

Ms. Olsen, founder and executive director of the organization, has personally traveled to Ukraine and visited children's homes and orphanages. Every year in November she organizes a benefit

brunch to raise money and send help to children in Ukraine at Christmastime.

Each year Ms. Olsen appeals to the Ukrainian community for support. One of the honored guests at this year's fundraiser will be Ambassador Yuriy Sergeyev, who represents Ukraine at the United Nations and UNESCO.

Entertainment will be provided by the sisters Nadia and Natalia Pawlyshyn of Queens, N.Y., who perform Ukrainian songs of their own composition and appear in beautifully embroidered stylized costumes from Ukraine.

For further information readers may contact Ms. Olsen via phone, 201-262-7544; fax, 201-262-7579; or e-mail, [CCIKids@optonline.net](mailto:CCIKids@optonline.net).

## Moscow seeks ...

(Continued from page 2)

as well as certain favored plants on the Ukrainian mainland). Russian Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov has held out this package of incentives twice recently (Interfax, September 23; Vremya Novostei, October 21).

Mr. Serdyukov also supervises (alongside Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov) the naval base construction program. That program's Black Sea dimension focuses on the expansion and modernization of the Novorossiysk base until 2020. It now seems likely to include re-

commissioning and modernizing the ex-Soviet submarine base at Ochamchire.

The Black Sea Fleet also expects to be reinforced with new ships, some new and others transferred from other Russian fleets. If those reinforcements do materialize at Novorossiysk and Ochamchire, the Kremlin will undoubtedly argue that it has nowhere to move the fleet from Sevastopol ahead of 2017 and will use that additional excuse for prolonging its naval presence on Ukrainian territory.

*The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, [www.jamestown.org](http://www.jamestown.org).*

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## Contemplative Nuns...

(Continued from page 20)

Following the divine liturgy, clergy and laity enjoyed a reception prepared by Maria Kostyk and the parishioners of St. Andrew Church. The beautiful weather and delicious food, enjoyed under the newly purchased tent, contributed to a joyous continuation of the jubilee celebration.

The celebration concluded at Sacred Heart Monastery in Middletown, where guests enjoyed the monastery and grounds, socialized with the nuns and one another, enjoyed coffee and dessert, and viewed a pictorial history of the monastery. The Very Rev. Sandrick and the Rev. Moreno celebrated a panakhyda (memorial service) in the monastery chapel for the deceased sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery.

Sacred Heart Monastery was founded on September 8, 1958, in Astoria, N.Y. Prior to that date, the Order of St. Basil the Great did not have a contemplative monastery in the U.S. The foundation of this contemplative community of Basilian nuns continued the tradition of the order's founder, St. Basil the Great, who had


established his first monastery 1,600 years earlier in Asia Minor.

St. Basil's sister, St. Macrina, had founded a contemplative women's monastery nearby, in which she and other women followed the monastic rule of St. Basil. As monasteries grew in number, they spread through Asia Minor, Europe and finally to America in 1911.

Circumstances and the needs of the people required the Basilian Sisters in the U.S. to become actively involved in apostolic work. However, in order that at least one Basilian monastery in the U.S. might be dedicated to the contemplative life, Sacred Heart Monastery was established.

The purpose of this foundation was to foster the early monastic Basilian tradition in which all the hours of divine praises would be celebrated daily, and in which each monastic would grow personally in "the contemplation of divine things," with the help of sacred studies in Holy Scripture and the Fathers of the Church.

In 1992, Sacred Heart Monastery relocated to Middletown, N.Y. Here, away from the noises and distractions of the city, the nuns of St. Basil the Great live their contemplative monastic life in a setting more like that of their founders, St. Basil and St. Macrina.



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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

**NEW YORK:** The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, The Ukrainian Museum and New York Bandura Ensemble/Bandura Downtown present "Songs of Truth: The Art of the Kobzari," a tribute to the art of Ukraine's blind epic singers. Music director Julian Kytasty presents their ancient epics and laments, humorous burlesques, religious and moralistic songs, sparkling instrumental dance tunes and songs of social commentary. The concert begins at 7 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues), Manhattan. Admission: \$15; member/student/senior discounts are available. For reservations call 212-228-0110. For

further information call 212-571-1555 ext. 35.

**Sunday, November 16**

**WARREN, Mich.:** The Michigan Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to support this uniquely important institution at a benefit luncheon at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan Road. The Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of UCU, and other special guests will give an informative update about this university serving the people and strengthening the Church in Ukraine. Tickets are \$30. For details, contact Nell at [nell@ucef.org](mailto:nell@ucef.org) or 773-235-8462.

# OUT AND ABOUT

- |                                   |  |                                 |   |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| November 5<br>Cambridge, MA       | Lecture by Christoph Mich, "Lviv, November 1918: War and Remembrance," Harvard University, 617-495-3549  | Yonkers, NY                     | Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 914-968-3842  |
| November 7<br>Winnipeg            | Conference, "The Holodomor as Genocide: Reflections of the Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine," University of Manitoba, 204-474-9681                               | November 12<br>Stanford, CA     | Lecture by Steven Pifer, "Ukraine Again Mired in Political Turmoil," Stanford University, 650-723-3562 or <a href="http://fce.stanford.edu/events/registration/5418/">http://fce.stanford.edu/events/registration/5418/</a> |
| November 7<br>Whippany, NJ        | Ecumenical Holodomor prayer service, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-585-7175  | November 14<br>Alexandria, VA   | Recital featuring bayan and domra virtuosos Volodymyr and Natalya Marunych, Washington Balalaika Society, The Lyceum, 703-549-0760  |
| November 7<br>New York            | Film screening, "'Eternal Memory: Voices From the Great Terror,'" The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110   | November 14<br>New York         | Concert, "Songs of Truth: The Art of the Kobzari," featuring the New York Bandura Ensemble, Center for Traditional Music and Dance, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110  |
| November 8<br>Warrington, PA      | Holiday Bazaar, St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church, 215-343-4310   | November 14<br>New York         | Concert, "A Cabaret Evening with John Stech," Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660  |
| November 8-9<br>Whippany, NJ      | Holodomor commemorations, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-590-8026 or <a href="mailto:aceholodomor@gmail.com">aceholodomor@gmail.com</a> | November 15<br>New York         | Requiem service for the 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, St. Patrick's Cathedral, <a href="http://www.ucca.org">www.ucca.org</a>   |
| November 9<br>Chicago             | Benefit luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University, Ukrainian Catholic Educational Foundation, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 773-235-8462                     | November 15<br>Washington       | Holodomor commemoration, Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies, Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, 202-526-3737  |
| November 9<br>University Park, PA | Holodomor commemoration, Penn State University, 814-865-1675   | November 16<br>Detroit          | Benefit luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University, Ukrainian Catholic Educational Foundation, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 773-235-8462  |
| November 9<br>Baltimore, MD       | Feast day dinner and dance, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-675-7557  | November 17-18<br>Cambridge, MA | International conference, "The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Holodomor and Its Consequences, 1933 to the Present," Harvard University, 617-495-3549  |
| November 9<br>Alexandria, VA      | Myroslav Skoryk 70th anniversary concert, The Washington Group Cultural Fund, The Lyceum, 301-229-2615   |                                 |   |
| November 9<br>Warren, MI          | Holodomor commemorative events and concert, featuring the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 586-757-8130                                  |                                 |   |
| November 9                        | Holodomor march and commemorative service,   |                                 |   |

*Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each. Please send e-mail to [mdubas@ukrweekly.com](mailto:mdubas@ukrweekly.com).*

Arts, Culture & Education Committee of UACCNJ and  
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EVENT LOCATION  
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**November 7 - 9** – Orlykiada  
**November 27** – Thanksgiving dinner; rooms available in Main House building only



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### THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

announces that its

#### CONNECTICUT DISTRICT FALL ORGANIZING MEETING will be held on

Sunday, November 23, 2008 at 12:30 P.M.  
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 569 George St. New Haven, CT 06511

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members  
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MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:  
 Christine E. Kozak – UNA National Secretary  
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 Myron Kuzio, Vice-Chairman  
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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### Sunday, November 2

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in New York will host a lecture by Dr. Vita V. Susak, curator of the Department of European Art at the Lviv Gallery of Arts and currently a Fulbright scholar at Columbia University. The lecture, " 'Re-Animation' and Others: Recent Art Projects in Ukraine," will be held in the academy's building, 206 W. 100th St., at 3 p.m. All are invited. For more information contact the academy, 212-222-1866.

### Saturday, November 8

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by physicist Dr. Leo Chirovsky titled "Vid Hlybyn Hen u Prostory" ("From the Depths out into Space"). The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

**WHIPPANY, N.J.:** The Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Morris County Branch, will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor with a Holodomor Poster Exhibit at the UACCNJ, followed by a presentation of the monodrama "Sin of Starvation" ("Holodnyi Hrikh"). The event will take place at the UACCNJ, 60-C North Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981. The program begins at 5:30 p.m., with the opening of Holodomor Poster Exhibit, followed by a light buffet/dinner and refreshments (available for purchase). At 8 p.m. the U.S. premiere of "Sin of Starvation" will be staged. To order tickets for the monodrama call 973-590-8026; e-mail aceholodomor@gmail.com; or send mail to: ACE at UACCNJ, P.O. Box 217, Whippany, NJ, 07981

### Sunday, November 9

**WHIPPANY, N.J.:** Commemorations of the Holodomor will continue at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 60-C North Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981. Please come and view the Holodomor Poster Exhibit, and at 3 p.m. attend the presentation of the monodrama "Sin of Starvation" ("Holodnyi Hrikh"). To order tickets for the monodrama call 973-590-8026; e-mail aceholodomor@gmail.com; or send mail to: ACE at UACCNJ, P.O. Box 217, Whippany, NJ, 07981.

**YONKERS, N.Y.:** A Holodomor March will be held beginning at 1 p.m. from the Ukrainian Youth Center, 301 Palisade Ave., with a procession to St. Michael's

Ukrainian Catholic Church (half a mile away). The march will culminate in a moleben at the church. All participants are asked to wear Ukrainian embroidered shirts. The event is sponsored by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; residents of Westchester, Rockland, Orange and Fairfield counties are encouraged to participate. For more information call 914-968-3842.

**CHICAGO:** The Chicago Area Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to support this uniquely important institution at a benefit luncheon at 1 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. The Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of UCU, and other special guests will give an informative update about this university serving the people and strengthening the Church in Ukraine. Tickets are \$35. For details, contact Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

### Thursday, November 13

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University invites all to the program "New Films and Film Makers from Ukraine: Potrukh, Vroda, Pysmenny, Sukholytky-Sobchuk." This selection of short feature films by directors coming from various corners of Ukraine each with a distinct cinematic vision, interest and style offers a kaleidoscope of stories, images and cinematic languages. Vitaly Potrukh's "The Law" is a dramatic episode of the Ukrainian war for independence of 1917-1920. Maryna Vroda's "Rain" is a portrait of an old married couple attached to each other and their land. In his "Thirteenth Kilometer" Ihor Pysmenny weaves, without a single word uttered, a narrative about everyday existence and dreams of a stationmaster in a remote part of eastern Ukraine. Dmytro Sukholytky-Sobchuk in his much-talked-about "Adolescence" depicts a boy about to enter adulthood. The program is at 7:30 p.m. at 703 Hamilton Hall, Columbia University. All films will be screened in their original Ukrainian-language versions with English subtitles. Free and open to the public.

### Friday, November 14

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Institute of America is pleased to invite you to "A Cabaret Evening with Jazz Pianist John Stetch" beginning at 8 p.m. The event will take place at the Ukrainian Institute, 2 E. 79th St. at Fifth Avenue. Tickets: \$15. For more information contact the Ukrainian Institute, 212-288-8660.

(Continued on page 22)

## 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.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be **no more than 100 words long**; longer submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

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