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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Yushchenko meets with Bush

*Addresses business leaders, national press*



Official Website of Ukraine's President

Presidents Viktor Yushchenko and George W. Bush meeting at the White House.

by Yaro Bihun

*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – The presidents of Ukraine and the United States, Viktor Yushchenko and George Bush, discussed their countries' developing bilateral relationship and other important issues of shared concern during a meeting at the White House on September 29.

Following the hour-long afternoon session, Mr. Yushchenko expressed his satisfaction at the “very constructive” talks, which, he said, included regional security issues, Ukraine's integration into European and Euro-Atlantic structures, energy cooperation and other matters of bilateral concern.

“We also discussed the domestic political situation in Ukraine, which, in my opinion, is far away from being tragic, and is not dramatic,” he added, referring to the recent break-up of his ruling government coalition. “Ukraine has enough democratic resources and tools to give sufficient response to any crisis that may occur in the Ukrainian Parliament,” he said. “And this is probably where the Ukrainian strength and optimism is.”

In his brief comment following the meeting, President Bush expressed his admiration for President Yushchenko's “steadfast support for democratic values and principles.”

“A lot of Americans have watched with amazement how your country became a democracy,” he said. “We strongly support your democracy. We look forward to working with you to strengthen that democracy.”

The one-day Washington visit was President Yushchenko's second U.S. visit in as many weeks. A week earlier he was in New York City for the opening session of the United Nations General Assembly. While in New York, he also met with the Republican Party presidential and vice-presidential candidates John McCain and Sarah Palin, as well as with representa-

tives of the Ukrainian American community and other groups interested in Ukraine.

While in Washington, President Yushchenko also held a news conference at the National Press Club; a working breakfast with members of the U.S. Ukraine Business Council, an organization of nearly 100 companies already economically involved or interested in business dealings with Ukraine; visited the Newseum, a new museum showcasing the history of journalism; and laid a wreath at the monument to Taras Shevchenko.

Appearing at the National Press Club before a packed briefing room, Mr. Yushchenko explained Ukraine's position on many of the issues he later discussed at the White House and answered a few questions from journalists and others. Intermingled with the journalists in the room were many Washington-area Ukrainian Americans.

He said the agreement Ukraine is working on with the European Union includes the creation of a free-trade zone, a visa-free regime and the affirmation of Ukraine's territorial integrity. This, he said, will be a “super achievement” for Ukraine in its relationship with the EU.

As for Ukraine's “strategic partnership” with the United States, he said, “We respect highly that political, democratic, economic and business character in our relations which we achieved in recent years” and expressed the hope that the relationship will continue to progress in the future.

Not surprisingly, the first question dealt with Russia's military incursion and occupation of Georgian territory and its potential future affect on Ukraine, especially in such areas as Crimea.

As far as Ukraine is concerned, President Yushchenko said, Crimea is not a problem. Like any other area of Ukraine, Crimea “is an integral and

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## Tymoshenko Bloc now in talks with former coalition partner

by Zenon Zawada

*Kyiv Press Bureau*

KYIV – Cutting off its political cooperation with the Party of Regions of Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc returned on October 2 to its former partner, the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc, and promptly abandoned the legislation it passed a month ago to decimate the president's remaining authority.

Whatever deal the Party of Regions was working on with the Tymoshenko Bloc to form the next coalition government, it never materialized, political observers said.

“Tymoshenko and (Viktor) Yanukovich couldn't possibly agree because it was absolutely non-negotiable for [each of] them to become prime minister,” said Ivan Lozowy, a Kyiv lawyer and editor of The Ukraine Insider Internet newsletter. “It's an obvious, simple point, and because they didn't settle

that, they had no future.”

Had Parliament mustered the 350 votes to override the veto that President Viktor Yushchenko applied to the legislation, the Ukrainian presidency would have been stripped of its authority in defense, domestic security and foreign affairs.

The Tymoshenko Bloc surprised political observers on September 2 when it joined with the Party of Regions and Communist Party of Ukraine to pass the legislation, and offered equal surprise when withdrawing its support following the president's veto.

In once again partnering with Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense, Ms. Tymoshenko claimed she was doing so to prevent political chaos and avoid pre-term elections, which Mr. Yushchenko threatened to call as soon as the one-month deadline runs out, which some believe to be October 3.

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## Tensions rise in Crimea in wake of Georgian crisis

by Zenon Zawada

*Kyiv Press Bureau*

KYIV – Both the Russian Federation and Ukrainian nationalists stoked tensions in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea this week, Ukraine's most volatile region that is drawing increasing global attention following the Russian-Georgian war.

More than 200 Crimean members of the Svoboda nationalist party held an outdoor assembly on Symferopol's streets on September 28 to launch a referendum to rescind Crimea's autonomy, only after being prevented from entering a hall by a blockade formed by more than 100 pro-Russian

supporters that led to fighting.

“The provocation sought to set a precedent that the assembly wasn't authentic,” said Eduard Leonov, head of the Crimean organization of the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union. “But expecting such actions, we were prepared to conduct the meeting outside and everyone registered on the street.”

Svoboda held similar assemblies throughout Ukraine's major cities that same day, forming initiative groups to prepare and conduct a national referendum to cancel Crimea's autonomy and Sevastopol's special status.

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Oleksii Suvirov/UNIAN

A pro-Russian demonstrator (left) threatens Ukrainian nationalists in Symferopol conducting an outdoor assembly on September 28 to organize a referendum to rescind Crimea's autonomous status. More than 100 protesters blocked the entrance to a hall reserved by Svoboda party members.



## ANALYSIS

## Surprising and contradictory opinions heard on the streets of Ukraine

by Roman Kupchinsky  
Eurasia Daily Monitor  
September 10

A number of recent public opinion polls in Ukraine reveal that regional differences toward Russia after the war in Georgia remain a factor but are not as extreme as some media reports present them to be.

A poll conducted from August 19-22 by the Taylor Nelson Sofrez Ukraine agency for the newspaper Dzerkalo Tyzhnia showed that, regarding the conflict in the Caucasus, Ukrainian public opinion is divided between support for Georgia and for Russia. The poll questioned 1,200 people and has a margin of error of not more than 3 percent (Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, August 29).

Of those polled, 44.3 percent replied that Russia's actions in Georgia were "an act of aggression against an independent state," while 41.4 percent believed it was a Russian "peacekeeping operation"; 14.3 percent did not know or could not answer the question.

Furthermore, a majority of Ukrainians (57.4 percent) believe that Russia's "emotional reaction" to Georgian "provocations" was unjustified; 61.5 percent in central Ukraine hold this view, 60 percent in Kyiv, 58 percent in the western regions, 56.3 percent in the east, and 53.5 percent in the south.

Russia is perceived as the aggressor in the conflict by 72.9 percent of western Ukrainians, 62.5 percent by respondents in the Kyiv region and by 58 percent of the residents of central Ukraine. In the southern regions, 67.1 percent believed that Russia's role was that of a peacekeeper, while in the Eastern regions, 52.2 percent shared this view.

Only 26.3 percent of respondents believed that Russia used its armed forces to prevent Georgia from joining NATO.

Significantly, 60 percent of those polled in the 18-and 19-year-old age group believed that Russia was the aggressor, while 52.3 of those over 60 years old believed in the "peacekeeping mission" of the Russian army.

Despite the views by the younger (age

18-19) respondents that Russia was the aggressor in Georgia, when asked about Ukrainian membership in NATO, only 23.7 percent in this age group agreed that Ukraine should join the alliance. Overall, 63 percent of those polled by Taylor Nelson were opposed to Ukraine joining NATO. Only 3.3 percent were undecided. Some 65 percent of NATO opponents were age 60 or more years old (Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, August 29).

When asked about the mission of the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Ukraine, 44.1 percent replied that they were convinced it played a role of guaranteeing peace and stability in Ukraine. Interestingly enough, this view is shared not only by those age 60 and over (48.8 percent) but also by those age 18-19 – 47.4 percent. Some 33.5 percent of respondents in the traditionally anti-Russian western regions of the country shared this view.

Different views about the Russian Black Sea Fleet were, however, revealed in a public opinion poll conducted on August 21-26 by the Ukrainian-based Institute for Strategic Research. Almost half of the respondents (48.9 percent) supported the removal of the Russian fleet from Ukrainian territory in 2017, the year the lease expires, while 32.7 percent of respondents disagreed with this view.

According to this poll, 73.1 percent agree that Ukraine should not return the Crimean port city of Sevastopol or the Crimean peninsula to Russia ([www.ia-centr.ru/publications/2163/](http://www.ia-centr.ru/publications/2163/)).

The Institute for Strategic Research poll asked the following question: "The Russian leadership has put forward the condition that, in order for Russia to have good neighborly relations with Ukraine, Ukraine must renounce its intent to join NATO. What do you think, should Ukraine agree to this?" While 45.4 percent supported renouncing the goal of NATO membership, 33.6 percent replied negatively and 21 percent were unable to answer.

A third poll conducted by the Razumkov Sociological Center in Kyiv found that the

(Continued on page 22)

## Nashi call UNA-UNSO terrorists

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Russian Federation's Nashi youth organization asked its government on September 24 to classify the Ukrainian National Assembly – Ukrainian National Self-Defense (UNA-UNSO) as a terrorist organization.

After conducting monitoring surveys in South Ossetia, the government-financed Nashi alleged that members of the nationalist Ukrainian organization had committed war crimes in the region during the Russian-Georgian War.

In an August 22 interview with The Ukrainian Weekly at the ninth Ukrainian World Congress in Kyiv, UNA-UNSO Vice-Chair Mykola Karpiuk said his organization had extended strictly non-military support to Georgia, in spite of offers from about 10,000 members and volunteers to travel and fight.

UNA-UNSO it organized humanitarian aid and established information-correspondence points to distribute accurate information to residents, refugees and the media, said Mr. Karpiuk.

"If it was necessary in 1993 to offer support by traveling with arms in our

hands to defend Georgia's territorial integrity, then they don't have that need today," he explained "This role was quite successfully carried out by (President) Viktor Yushchenko, and that was exceptionally pleasant."

In 1993 UNA-UNSO dispatched its soldiers to Abkhazia to fight separatists attempting to break away from Georgia.

After UNA-UNSO's campaign, in which it inflicted 60 combat casualties according to Mr. Karpiuk, the Ukrainian government made it a crime for citizens to participate in foreign military conflicts without government approval.

UNA-UNSO still conducts monthly "military-type" training exercises outside Kyiv, Lviv and in the Carpathian Mountains, Mr. Karpiuk told The Weekly.

"UNA-UNSO is always in a state of combat readiness," he said. "We launched ourselves as a political organization and a security system for the nation and state, and that's how we remain."

UNA-UNSO was founded in 1991 by Soviet-era dissident Anatolii Lupynis, who spent a third of his life incarcerated for his Ukrainian nationalist views. Its current leader is Yurii Shukhevych.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Pirates capture Ukrainian ship

KYIV – Pirates on September 25 captured the Ukrainian ship Faina with 21 crewmembers onboard near the Somali coast, Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry announced. According to information received by phone from the captain-instructor on duty at the Maritime Coordination and Rescue Center in Odesa, on September 25, at 5:04 p.m., the Maritime Consultation Center of Piraeus, Greece, received a message about pirates seizing the Faina, which flies the flag of Belize and is owned by the Ukrainian company-manager Tomax Team Inc. The Faina's crew comprises 21 persons, including 17 Ukrainians (the ship's captain is a Ukrainian citizen), three Russians and one Latvian. It was sailing to the Kenyan port of Mombasa. Ukraine's Minister of Defense said the ship was carrying 33 T-72 tanks and other weapons, but their final destination was unknown. Ukraine's embassies in Great Britain and Kenya were instructed to keep track of information on the ship's capture. There has recently been a surge of pirate activity off the coast of Somalia. As of September 29, the Faina was being closely observed by several warships, including a U.S. destroyer, whose goal was to ensure that the pirates did not remove the tanks and weapons on board. The Russian missile frigate Neustrashimy was also en route to the coast of Somalia. The captain of the Faina ship, Viktor Nikolsky, said by phone that one of the crewmembers, a Russian sailor, had died as the result of a cerebral hemorrhage. Meanwhile, the pirates who seized the ship decided to decrease the ransom for its release from \$35 million (U.S.) to \$5 million. They made the decision after learning that the Faina belongs to Ukraine, not the United States as they believed. (Ukrinform, BBC)

### Government to sue Communist regime

KYIV – Vice Prime Minister Ivan Vasiunyk disclosed on September 25 that the government plans to initiate legal proceedings on the crimes of Communist rule according to the criteria of the Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted by the United

Nations General Assembly on December 9, 1948. He announced this during an international scholarly conference held in Kyiv on the Holodomor of 1932-1933. According to the vice prime minister, the process will be based on scholarly and investigative findings about the Holodomor that were collected by the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory and other research and archive institutions over the course of several years. Mr. Vasiunyk reminded that Item C, Article 2 of the convention defines genocide as "deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part." On November 28, 2006, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine passed a law on the Holodomor, calling it a genocide of Ukrainian nation. Mr. Vasiunyk said research and investigative work on the Holodomor must continue until all the details of the crime, as well as the names of those who planned it, are uncovered. (Ukrinform)

### Moroz urges union of left

KYIV – The left, including the Communist Party and the Socialist Party, may get 12 to 15 percent support in new parliamentary elections, said the leader of the Socialist Party, Oleksander Moroz, whose party lost the pre-term parliamentary elections in 2007. At present, according to the data of various polls, the Socialist Party is short of the 3 percent electoral barrier, while the Communists have a stable position of about 5 percent. "This is not the first time that the Socialist Party of Ukraine (SPU) has appealed to Communists and other parties of the left with a proposal to unite: it happened both when the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) was successful and at times when their rating was lower than the socialists'. Formation of the left bloc is not a personal request but the will of people. According to sociological data, 35 percent of Ukrainians are ready to vote for the leftist bloc. It is easier and more convenient for voters than the analysis of the programs of left parties. I am convinced that SPU and CPU should not unite into a single party but should create a bloc that will go to the Parliament and each force

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### ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3041  
e-mail: [ukradmin@att.net](mailto:ukradmin@att.net)

Maria Oscislawski, advertising manager

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040  
e-mail: [adukr@optonline.net](mailto:adukr@optonline.net)

Mariyka Pendzola, subscriptions

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3042  
e-mail: [ukrsubscr@att.net](mailto:ukrsubscr@att.net)



# The Holodomor 75 years later: The Kyiv Oblast

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

The following is the first article in the series, "Holodomor: 75 years later," examining the Holodomor's devastation in each of Ukraine's 17 affected oblasts. This week's article highlights the Kyiv Oblast.

KYIV – Determined to abolish the memory of its genocidal crime, the Soviet government issued a directive in April 1933 to Ukraine's village councils forbidding the use of the word "holod" (famine or starvation) in official documents.

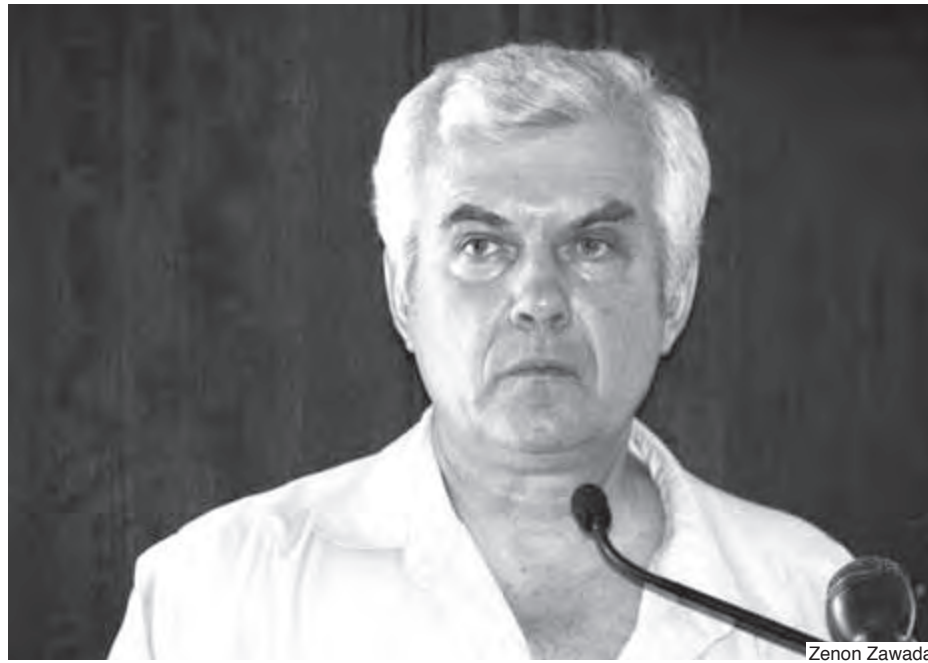
"From that point on, only very brave people, who didn't fear possible repressions, wrote the word 'holod,'" said Anatolii Hai, head of the Editorial-Publishing Group to Create the Kyiv Oblast Volume of the National Book of Memory.

Mocking the absurd directive, medics in one village reported the cause of a 32-year-old man's death as "starist" – old age – rather than the true cause of starvation.

Scores of such defiant moments were uncovered this year by Kyiv Oblast researchers, who are working day and night to complete their volume of the National Book of Memory of Holodomor Victims so that it's published in time for the national commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933.

While demographers such as Prof. Stephen Wheatcroft of Australia have been piecing together the Holodomor's devastation from its planning grounds in Moscow, Ukrainians have spent the last year collecting documents and data in their own towns and villages as part of the National Book of Memory project.

Launched by President Viktor Yushchenko with a March 2007 decree outlining the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, the National Book of Memory is envisioned as the Ukrainian people's record of the genocide, reporting its devastated villages and victims, as well as eyewitness accounts and state documents.



Holodomor researcher Anatolii Hai.

Mr. Hai, an author and native of Birky, a village in the Kirovohrad Oblast, is leading the effort, which he takes very seriously.

"Fate has sent us a unique chance and unique responsibility to do what was silenced for decades, and what absolutely no one will do in a year or two afterwards," he said. "These people will die and, after two or three years, no one will be able to offer these testimonies that we collected."

In meeting with researchers, he urged them to make sure names of villages, and their respective martyrologies, haven't been confused.

The editing team's "eight members worked so much that they slept three hours [a night]," he told them. "It's entirely possible that in their condition, someone didn't properly record something. It's easier for you. You know your villages."

The editing team led by Mr. Hai reviewed 15,720 documents, out of more than 40,000, on the Holodomor in the Kyiv Oblast alone.

Information is still surfacing, as the Security Service of Ukraine released new

documents as late as December 2007 that recorded the Kyiv Oblast's population data, including births and deaths, by district.

Although about 166,000 deaths have been officially determined, creating a martyrology that is more than 700 pages long, those are only victims whose names or surnames have been definitively identified. A better estimate is 245,000, he said, which includes victims whose names were not identified by researchers.

"Some survivors would tell us, 'My neighbor's neighbor who lived down there had 10 children, and they all died,'" Mr. Hai said, explaining that such information increases the estimate of casualties by 30 to 50 percent. "So these are deaths recalled from memory."

It's difficult to estimate what percent of the oblast population was murdered, because in 1933, Ukraine had eight oblasts, and Kyivschyna included parts of modern-day Cherkasy and Kirovohrad, among others.

Some Kyiv Oblast districts had as much as 30 percent of their population eliminated, he said.

## The Holodomor in the Kyiv Oblast:

245,900 known casualties  
65,995 known survivors remaining  
849 population centers affected  
524 known mass graves

Among the most valuable documents uncovered was a diary kept by a high-ranking Communist Party official, by the name of Zavoloka, who opposed the Holodomor and kept a diary as his form of protest.

"The diary, which is a horrid document of this epoch, demonstrates that even among the Communists there were people who saw this horror, foresaw its consequences, but unfortunately did not come forth," Mr. Hai said.

Photographs of persecuted Ukrainians were uncovered, among them a woman sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for possessing ears of wheat in 1932.

The research also revealed that Jews played a significant role in the Torgsin (Torhovyj Syndykat) association, launched in 1931, that acquired gold, jewelry and precious metals surrendered by starving Ukrainians, "and now we know from where the Jews have such large resources," Mr. Hai said.

"We should tell this hard truth," he said. "The Jewish people won't be offended, because this is true and this truth needs to be told, not to argue, but to know history and to find common points in order to build Ukraine together."

In addition to the Kyiv Oblast volume of the National Book of Memory, the oblast will publish, "Kyivschyna Writers on the Holod," a collection of works written by Holodomor witnesses and survivors, among them first-hand accounts written by teenagers at the time of the Famine.

In the meantime, he's aiming to meet a

(Continued on page 16)

## FOR THE RECORD

### FOR THE RECORD: Yushchenko's address at the United Nations

Following are excerpts of President Viktor Yushchenko's September 24 address at the 63rd annual debate of the United Nations General Assembly. The full text is posted on the Official Website of Ukraine's President.

It is an honor for me to address the world community – the United Nations and its biggest representative body – the General Assembly. ...

The principal challenge that stands before us is the neglect and undermining of the standards of the international law and foreign affairs.

We see tendencies toward the demolition of the general system, the cornerstone of which is the collective international will and respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the state borders.

Ukraine has the right to deliver these words. We are a co-founders of the U.N. and co-authors of its Charter. We are a nation that underwent fatal trials and renewed its statehood in a legitimate and acknowledged way. ...

Our greatest concern is invoked by the latest events in the Caucasus. ...

Ukraine condemns all acts of aggression and the use of force that occurred in the region. Ukraine vigorously denounces the violation of the territorial integrity and inviolability of Georgian borders and the forcible annexation of its territory.

Ukraine does not recognize the independence of the self-proclaimed republics of South Osselia and Abkhazia. Ukraine does not acknowledge and condemns attempts of illegitimate and separatist affirmation of statehood of any territories.

This position is fundamental for Ukrainian foreign policy.

Deviation from U.N. principles, such as the use of force, and renewal of Cold War rhetoric elicits our deep concern. ...

Only with common and good will can we consolidate the values and aims contained in the U.N. Charter and the Millennium Declaration.

With responsibility for peace and security, we must stop the incitement of separatist sentiments that can turn into misfortune for the instigators themselves. It is essential to refrain from blackmail and threatening vocabulary.

Ukraine rejects pressure of any kind regarding ways to ensure its own security and to determine its membership in collective security structures. ...

Ukraine supports all efforts aimed at peaceful settlement and unblocking of the situation on the South Caucasus, and will fully cooperate in this process.

We will continue our peacekeeping activities firmly and vigorously and we will participate in the settlement of protracted conflicts based on the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, human rights, and the freedoms

and dignity of every person. ...

The world is waiting for a confident and positive response from the U.N. The world needs a renewal of confidence in our collective efforts, in strict adherence to the norms of the international law, in the United Nations.

...Our national agenda coincides with the main challenges faced by the international community.

As a country that possesses the best black earth soil in the world, Ukraine is going to tangibly contribute to the common goal of solving the global food crisis.

We plan to consolidate all possible efforts for the realization of an effective and just energy policy. ...

We reinforce our call for more active global cooperation in the sphere of ecology.

Ukraine proposes an initiative to develop a framework binding agreement – the World Environmental Constitution – and the establishment under the aegis of the U.N. a single structure for ecological protection with appropriate authority and mechanisms of work.

We plan to revitalize efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other dangerous diseases. This problem remains highly topical for Ukraine.

Ukraine will continue to keep an eye on the whole range of common tasks: from poverty problems to the fight against trafficking in human beings, inter-

national terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. ...

I have the honor of appealing to the world community with a request for solidarity.

This year Ukraine will mark the 75th Anniversary of Great Famine (Holodomor), which took the lives of millions of our compatriots.

Our intention is not directed against any people or state.

We can neither overstate nor understate our sorrow.

The terror via hunger in Ukraine had the goal-oriented character of genocide, which was accompanied by total elimination of the national elite, society's leadership and clergy. The goal was to subordinate nation of many millions because, as the regime recognized, there were too many people to exile to Siberia.

It is important that our steps encourage other countries of the former Soviet Union to seek the truth.

We share the pain of all the people affected – Russians, Belarusians, Kazakhs and dozens of other nations. We invite you to jointly commemorate each national tragedy and not to tolerate new attempts to create a heroic aureole around Stalin and his regime. ...

It is our hope that memories of victims of the Holodomor and other crimes of totalitarian regimes will prevent the world from repeating such catastrophes. ...



# Over 100 meet with President Viktor Yushchenko in New York

by Matthew Dubas

NEW YORK – President Viktor Yushchenko met with over 100 representatives of the Ukrainian community of the United States, here at the Ukrainian Institute of America on September 24 during his working visit to New York.

Arriving on the heels of a political crisis in Ukraine with the collapse of the majority coalition in Ukraine's Parliament, President Yushchenko was optimistic about the natural processes of democracy, but noted "independence is not guaranteed."

Commenting on Ukraine's internal affairs and the current political crisis, Mr. Yushchenko said, "We have no drama and no tragedy...this is a normal process."

Mr. Yushchenko rhetorically asked: "What kind of Ukraine will we leave our children?" Eastern Europe is an example that Ukraine would like to follow, Mr. Yushchenko said, and Georgia was a reminder for all former Soviet states.

"Ukraine needs to overcome its Soviet legacy and learn how to work with the 'new'

Europe," the president said, highlighting respect for territorial integrity and national sovereignty. "Caution must be exercised in the threat of destabilization of Ukraine by Russia," Mr. Yushchenko said.

"Ukraine has accomplished much in the last three years, but we must look ahead to the next three years," Mr. Yushchenko said. "Europe needs Ukraine," and "Ukraine's Euro-integration progress has been greater in the last three years than in the last 15 years," he said.

Europe's borders are conceptual, and the old European mindset needs to change, he added.

Ukraine's role as a gas transit nation for 80 percent of Europe's gas is an example of Ukraine's commitment to Europe, Mr. Yushchenko said. But, he added, Russia needs a standardized pricing system for its gas.

"Points that need to be addressed included Europe-Ukraine relations, Russia-Ukraine relations, the Russian Black Sea Fleet, constitutional conflict, and the law on the Cabinet of Ministers. But all will come



Matthew Dubas

**President Viktor Yushchenko explains the situation in Ukraine at the Ukrainian Institute of America.**

in due time," Mr. Yushchenko said.

Ukraine's economy has problems it needs to address as well, Mr. Yushchenko said, including its lack of reform, agricultural quotas, limited exports and a lack of programs fostering domestic production.

"Ukrainianization in Ukraine is going to be a step-by-step process," according to the president, and a single united Ukrainian Church is part of that process. In his opinion, and with the recent visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, Ukraine is the closest it has ever been to this goal.

In developing Ukraine's national identity, Mr. Yushchenko said Ukraine needs to recognize its own heroes from history and develop its culture and language as a sign of national pride. Steps taken in Ukraine include the national monuments and a national museum dedicated to the Holodomor.

Mr. Yushchenko thanked those present and the diaspora for preserving the wealth of knowledge that Ukraine has forgotten. Mr. Yushchenko recognized the work of diaspora leaders and said he looks forward to the

continuation of working together.

Speaking for approximately an hour and a half, Mr. Yushchenko did not yield his time to questions from members of the audience or the press.

Accompanying the president were his wife, First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko; Mykola Kyrychenko, consul general of Ukraine in New York; Yuriy Sergeev, Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations; Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine's ambassador to the United States; Volodymyr Ohryzko, Ukraine's minister of foreign affairs; and Andriy Honcharuk, deputy head of the Presidential Secretariat.

Mr. Yushchenko distributed awards to Ukrainians in the United States who have contributed to the advancement of Ukraine beyond its borders. The Order of Merit – second degree was awarded to Julian Kulas, a Ukrainian American community activist. The Order of Merit – third degree was awarded to: Taras Hunczak, professor emeritus of history and political science at Rutgers

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**Michael Koziupa, second vice-president of the UNA, Stefan Kaczaraj, president of the UNA, President Viktor Yushchenko, and Orest Fedash with his wife Adya.**

## Houston-area Ukrainian community copes with Hurricane Ike's aftermath

by Eugene Kuchta

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

HOUSTON – Ukrainians of the Houston area are dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, which packed a powerful punch when it made landfall in Galveston, Texas, just south of Houston, on September 13.

As the eye of Ike traveled inland, it followed the route of Interstate 45 through the Houston metropolitan area. Those living in the path of the eye and those living east of the eye were on the dirty side of the hurricane and sustained the most damage to their property. Flooding and wind damage were very typical in this area. Those living to the west of the eye primarily had wind damage, which included trees falling on and into houses.

It appears that no member of Houston's Ukrainian community sustained bodily injury; however numerous members had trees fall in their yards and into their homes and garages. Lucky members of the community only had minor roof shingle damage or broken fences.

Water was out for approximately two days, as water pumping stations lost power. Almost every member of the community lost power, typically for seven to 10 days. However, some members still had not regained electrical power as of September 26.

Protection of the Mother of God (Pokrova) Ukrainian Catholic Church was spared any physical damage to the

church, rectory and parish hall buildings. The church building lost power for a week, while the rectory and other buildings finally had power restored on September 27.

Parishioners assisted the Rev. Mykola Dovzhuk and his family with water supplies. An emergency purchase of a gas generator was also required.

Unfortunately the 40-plus-year-old trees planted on the parish grounds by the Rev. Dmytro Blazejowskyj were not spared the wrath of Ike. The parish grounds were completely littered with limbs of the trees and fallen branches blocked the rectory doors. Parishioners with pick-up trucks and chains were required to move the tree limbs in order for Father Dovzhuk to enter and exit the rectory.

Since the parish buildings had no damage from the trees, the responsibility of tree removal is left to the church, as this is not an insurance claim item. Tree service companies are taking full advantage of the situation and are charging premium prices. (One parishioner, for example, paid \$5,500 to have three trees removed from his property.)

The cutting of the limbs, pruning of the remaining trees and their removal is placing a financial burden on Pokrova Parish, and a special Hurricane Fund has been established to help defray the cost of the tree removal. If any reader of *The Ukrainian Weekly* can contribute, it would be greatly appreciated. Any

amount helps.

Please make checks payable to Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church and write "Hurricane Fund" in the memo section of the check. Checks should be mailed to: Protection of the Mother of God

Ukrainian Catholic Church, 9102 Meadowshire, Houston, TX 77037.

*Eugene Kuchta is an active member of the Ukrainian community of Houston and a parishioner at Pokrova Church.*



**An example of tree damage on the property of the Protection of the Mother of God (Pokrova) Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Houston; all of the large oaks on the property suffered similar damage.**





# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## National University of Ostroh Academy honors UNA president

by Valentyna Romaniuk  
and Viktoria Skuba

OSTROH, Ukraine – Students of the National University of Ostroh Academy on August 28 met with the president of the Ukrainian National Association, Stefan Kaczaraj, during his visit to the university.

The UNA, through its Ukrainian National Foundation, has provided financial support for Ostroh Academy and its students. Nearly 60 graduates of village schools who needed special preparation in order to pursue university studies have benefited from grants that allowed them to enroll in preparatory courses. Most of them later attended Ostroh Academy.

The UNA's cooperation with the National University of Ostroh Academy on such educational endeavors has been ongoing for six years, and through the Ukrainian National Foundation some \$60,000 has been allocated for the education of students from Ukraine's villages, as well as orphans, invalids and other needy students.

During Mr. Kaczaraj's visit to Ostroh Academy, the university's rector, Dr. Ihor Pasichnyk, awarded him the title of hon-

orary academician of the Ostroh Academic Brotherhood.

The executive director of the international Fund for the Rebirth of Ostroh Academy, Ruslana Kalamazh, presented the UNA president with a certificate of appreciation for the financial assistance to needy students who attended preparatory courses at Ostroh Academy.

Mr. Kaczaraj shared his impressions of Ostroh Academy, noting that he is impressed by the work of Dr. Pasichnyk, the university faculty and other Ostroh leaders who succeeded in rebuilding the university and creating a truly Ukrainian environment.

Mr. Kaczaraj also noted that Dr. Pasichnyk had visited the home office of the Ukrainian National Association in Parsippany, N.J., where he spoke about the university's progress and its needs, and especially about the young people of Ukraine who need help in order to pursue university studies. The UNA, through its Ukrainian National Foundation, responded to his appeal.

Mr. Kaczaraj also told his audience at Ostroh Academy, which included students and faculty, that the UNA has also helped those who suffered as a result of



UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj (center), who was named an honorary academician of the National University of Ostroh Academy, with university faculty members.

the air show disaster in Sknyliv (near Lviv), the families of coal miners in the Donbas region, the Vasyl Stefanyk Library in Lviv and the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

He concluded his remarks by noting that he has seen what wonders Rector

Pasichnyk and his colleagues have performed at Ostroh, adding: "I firmly believe that on my next visit here I will see a new campus that will enable even more students to study here."

Translated by The Ukrainian Weekly.

## Diana Dekajlo chosen Miss Soyuzivka for 2009, Zirca Godenciuc is runner-up

by Sonia Semanyshyn

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The annual Miss Soyuzivka weekend was held August 9-10 at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center of the Ukrainian National Association (UNA). Diana Dekajlo of East Meadow, N.Y., was named Miss Soyuzivka 2009, and Zirca Godenciuc of New Haven, Conn., was selected as the runner-up.

August 9 was a bright and crisp day, as candidates for the honored position of Miss Soyuzivka slowly turned in their applications. By the evening there were four applicants.

The coordinator of the Miss Soyuzivka Contest, Stefa Hawryluk, collected the applications and then briefed the contestants. She tried to relax the young women before they went before the panel of judges for their interviews.

The judges were Lydia Chopivsky Benson, a former Miss Soyuzivka; Roman Hirniak, an attorney, a former Soyuzivka employee and director of School of Ukrainian Studies of Bound Brook, N.J.; and Bohdanka Puzyk, director of the Children's Heritage Camp and adoptive parents liaison for Soyuzivka events. The judges diligently asked questions of the candidates for Miss Soyuzivka and then made their decisions.

Meanwhile, inside the recently renovated Veselka auditorium, the Tempo Orchestra had the crowd dancing to a variety of music. After a whirlwind "Kolomyika" – a perennial crowd favorite – Miss Soyuzivka 2008 Alana Lenec gave her farewell speech. She was greeted with cheers and applause from the appreciative crowd.

And then, just before midnight, the results of the Miss Soyuzivka Contest were revealed.

Announced as the runner-up was Miss Godenciuc, daughter of the Rev. Iura Godenciuc and his wife, Iuliana, of New Haven, Conn. She is a high school student and a member of the National Honor Society who is active in SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving), Habitat for Humanity and the Female Empowerment Club. Miss Godenciuc enjoys drawing and track.

Then came the moment everyone was waiting for: the announcement of Miss Soyuzivka 2009. Miss Dekajlo, who hails from East Meadow, N.Y., is the daughter of Oleh Dekajlo and Christine Gerula. She is a sophomore at New York University, where she is majoring in communications and is in the NYU Honors Program.

She is active in Global Young Leaders Conference, is an International Scholar and works with the



Miss Soyuzivka 2009 Diana Dekajlo



Runner-up Zirca Godenciuc.

Mano Amiga Volunteer humanitarian assistance program. Miss Dekajlo is an organizer of the 2009 conference of the Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America that is to be held at NYU, is treasurer of the NYU Ukrainian Club, a dancer with the Syzokryli Ukrainian dance ensemble and an instructor with the Stage Theater Company of Long Island. She enjoys playing the flute, softball, volleyball and acting.

Once the name of Miss Soyuzivka 2009 was announced, UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj escorted Miss Dekajlo to the dance floor for the traditional Miss Soyuzivka waltz. They were joined by Soyuzivka General Manager Nestor Paslawsky and Miss Godenciuc.

Afterwards everyone gathered around the winners to congratulate them and pose for photographs. The party at Veselka then continued into the late night hours.

Take a look at the past

Log on to

[www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com)



# 75 years of THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### The Weekly's 75th anniversary

*"With this number we begin the publication of a regular weekly supplement to the Svoboda, to be known as the Ukrainian Weekly and to be devoted exclusively to the benefit of the American-Ukrainian youth.*

*"The Ukrainian National Association has undertaken to bear the extra cost of this publication, in order to give our youth the opportunity of having an exclusive organ of its own; written in its own style and language; wherein it can meet, exchange its thoughts and ideas, come to a better understanding of each other, and perhaps point out those paths of endeavor which shall lead to a newer and better life.*

*"The Ukrainian Weekly is for the youth. The youth alone shall be its master. Its voice alone shall be heeded here."*

Those were the opening lines of the editorial, "To Our Youth," published in the Ukrainian Weekly's (then written with a lowercase "t" in "the") premiere issue dated October 6, 1933.

When that first issue of what today is The Ukrainian Weekly rolled off the presses in 1933, it was geared to the new generation of Ukrainians born and raised far from their ancestral homeland. The Weekly sought to keep this generation engaged in the Ukrainian community. The new publication also saw itself as a tool that could be used by Ukrainian Americans to tell the story – and the truth – about Ukraine to the English-speaking world around them.

The latter was particularly significant at the time of The Weekly's founding: a genocidal Famine was raging in Ukraine and Stalin and his henchmen were deliberately starving millions to death. At the same time, the Roosevelt administration was preparing to grant diplomatic recognition to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Weekly's young editor, 25-year-old Stephen Shumeyko, saw the new publication as a newspaper of record. In the first year of the paper's existence he published documentation about the Great Famine of 1932-1933, and memoranda and protests regarding recognition of the USSR. He strove to counter Soviet disinformation and news reports by some journalists (most prominently Walter Duranty of The New York Times) that denied the Famine, and he told the story of Ukraine's subjugation.

The Weekly of 1933 reported on the Ukrainian American community, which by then had established itself in the U.S. and had the self-confidence to speak out about its concerns and show off its culture. The new newspaper covered Ukrainians protesting the U.S. decision to recognize the Soviet Union, and their marches calling attention to the Great Famine; it reported on the Chicago World's Fair of 1933, where the Ukrainian Pavilion – the only one not financed by a government – proudly introduced countless visitors to the rich Ukrainian heritage.

Since then, The Weekly has changed, grown and matured along with its readers. During the course of seven and a half decades, it has published approximately 3,900 issues thanks to the efforts of its dedicated and hard-working editors. It has printed innumerable stories written by correspondents and local community activists; and its datelines have ranged from cities in North America to places in Australia, Europe, South America, Africa and Asia.

The Ukrainian Weekly today, at age 75, in many ways carries on the mission of its founders. Though no longer for the young generations alone, it continues to keep its readers informed about Ukrainian affairs and engaged in the work of our community. At the same time, it continues to inform the world about Ukraine – both its past and its present as an independent democratic state now 17 years old. And The Weekly's job is far from done. So, as we celebrate our birthday, we also carry on our work – both in our print edition and online – thanks to the support of our publisher, the Ukrainian National Association, our financial supporters and our loyal subscribers who believe in our founding mission.

## Celebrating The Ukrainian Weekly

by Stefan Kaczaraj

President of the Ukrainian National Association

on behalf of the UNA Executive Committee

On October 6, 2008, The Ukrainian Weekly will celebrate its 75th anniversary. The first issue of The Ukrainian Weekly appeared as a supplement to the 40-year-old Ukrainian-language Svoboda; later it emerged as an independent newspaper – both physically, as a separate publication, and in terms of its editorial staff.

At the time of its founding, the mission of the paper – indeed it's *raison d'être* – was dual: to keep Ukrainian American youth involved in the Ukrainian community and to disseminate to the world the truth about Ukraine. That truth, it must be underscored, included information about the Famine-Genocide then ravaging Ukraine and killing millions of our kin.

The Ukrainian National Association, publisher of Svoboda, heeded the advice of Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Dr. Luke Myshuha and recognized the needs of the Ukrainian community at the time, and began publishing The Ukrainian Weekly to reach those who could not read its Ukrainian-language newspaper.

The Ukrainian Weekly and its pioneering editor Stephen Shumeyko knew that there is a place within our great Ukrainian nation for those sons and daughters who do not know Ukrainian, that what matters is a Ukrainian heart and soul. And, they also knew that if they did not act to reach out to this segment of our community, it could well be lost forever due to assimilation processes.

Since its founding in 1933 to the present day, The Ukrainian Weekly has served all readers who are interested in Ukraine and Ukrainians, including members of the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities, Ukrainians around the globe, scholars interested in Ukrainian affairs, policy-makers and opinion leaders. Every member of the U.S. Congress receives a free copy of The Ukrainian Weekly, as this newspaper is well aware of its role in representing Ukrainian Americans and their concerns.

In seven and a half decades The Ukrainian Weekly has grown from a four-page tabloid-format newspaper to issues that today are as large as 24, 28 and 32 pages (with special issues as large as 56 pages). Since early 1991 – even before Ukraine re-established its independence – its Kyiv Press Bureau has provided news from Ukraine as reported by our own Ukrainian American journalists.

The Ukrainian Weekly has always been a powerful force in our community and among Americans. Through the decades, it has rallied our community behind Ukrainian national causes, such as the defense of human rights activists in the USSR, the ultimate goal of independence for Ukraine, the erection of a monument in Washington to Taras Shevchenko, the establishment of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine and the international recognition of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as genocide.

It can be said without exaggeration that The Ukrainian Weekly has played a crucial role in reporting developments in our ancestral homeland, whether that was back in the 1930s, when Ukraine was subjugated by foreign powers, or today, 17 years after Ukraine renewed its independence.

On behalf of the Executive Committee and General Assembly of the Ukrainian National Association Inc., I greet the editors and correspondents of The Ukrainian Weekly on this auspicious anniversary. Congratulations on your efforts through the 75 years of The Ukrainian Weekly's illustrious history and may all your future endeavors be successful.

Mnohaya Lita!



Oct.  
6  
1983

### Turning the pages back...

Twenty-five years ago, on the occasion of The Ukrainian Weekly's 50th anniversary, this newspaper published an editorial titled "Reflections at 50: what of tomorrow?" Following are excerpts.

"...The Ukrainian Weekly was born 50 years ago on October 6. It began as an English-language offshoot of Svoboda aimed,

as outlined in its inaugural editorial, specifically at Ukrainian American youth. In those early years, its editor was keenly aware of the difficult balancing act confronting Ukrainian American young people who were caught between the lure of assimilation and the instinctive desire to maintain the culture of their parents. He knew that the future of the Ukrainian American community depended on its young people and the ability of the older generation of community leaders to make way for youth and entrust it with that future. Stephen Shumeyko, who became the first editor of the Weekly at age 25, was instrumental in the formation of the Ukrainian Youth League of North America, and maintained his interest in the problem of Ukrainian American youth his whole life.

"Although The Weekly is no longer geared primarily for young adults, having grown into a wholly independent paper covering a broad range of community concerns, both domestic and international, it remains aware of the relevance of its founding principles and their underlying truisms. With a staff that averages 27 years of age, The Weekly remains committed to looking ahead to the future of the community.

"But, as it was 50 years ago, the future is clouded with uncertainty. What is clear is that our community – here defined as an aggregate of institutions such as fraternal organizations, credit unions, civic, cultural and political groups – is facing a crisis of leadership. It is showing signs of age and attrition. Young people have not, in any appreciable

way, stepped in to assume responsible roles in the community. ...

"This is an old story. Fifty years ago, Stephen Shumeyko and his associates were confronted with a similar situation, and his response is as pertinent now as it was then. He felt that Ukrainian Americans could be just that, Ukrainians and Americans, and that serving the Ukrainian community need not impede integration into American society. In fact, he was convinced that Ukrainian Americans could only be effective community leaders if they were successful Americans and managed to work their way to influential positions in the non-Ukrainian world. In effect, he could see the uselessness of becoming a big fish in a little ghetto pond, and encouraged young people to aspire to bigger things as the best means of helping their Ukrainian community and the Ukrainian nation.

"... If the Ukrainian community is to survive into the 21st century, it needs the input of today's young adults and their expertise. Someone has to take over the credit unions, the fraternal organizations, the cultural, civic and other groups. It is an inevitable part of ethnic community life that some young people will be irretrievably lost to the community. It is also true that our community's past and present political bickerings have alienated some young people, as has the reluctance of a generation of community leaders to step aside. But if young people feel that the community is worth salvaging, they will step in and make changes. If they don't, it will continue to flounder and then slowly disintegrate. What is needed is a commitment to the future. Given the political situation in Ukraine, it is doubtful that a new wave of immigrants will arrive to give the community a shot in the arm.

"For 50 years The Ukrainian Weekly has reflected the changing face of the Ukrainian community. It has been the voice of myriad Ukrainian causes. The question is simple: will our future entail reporting on the rebirth of the community or its slow and irreversible demise?"

Source: "Reflections at 50: what of tomorrow?" (editorial), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, October 23, 1983.



# 75 years of THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

## Looking back through the decades

It is traditional to commemorate an anniversary by looking back at where you've been. Following are examples of news stories, articles and editorials published in The Ukrainian Weekly during the past 75 years – one for each decade from the 1930s through the 2000s. The selections demonstrate how The Weekly has focused on Ukraine and the Ukrainian community throughout its history.

October 6, 1933

### Ukrainians Protest Deliberate Starvation of Ukraine by the Bolsheviks

A series of mass meetings are being held by the Ukrainians throughout America and Canada, protesting against the barbaric attempts of the Bolshevik regime to deliberately starve out and depopulate the Ukrainian people in Ukraine.

The purpose of this international starvation by the Bolsheviks is to forever quell the Ukrainian struggle for freedom.

Since the overthrow of the Ukrainian National Republic by the Bolsheviks fifteen years ago, the latter have used every conceivable terroristic weapon to stamp out the Ukrainian attempts to free themselves. Thousands of Ukrainians have been summarily shot for the slightest political offense; other thousands were sent to certain death to Siberia and the notorious Solovetsky prison Islands. But to no avail. The Ukrainian spirit of independence still burned on.

The Reds therefore finally hit upon the most inhuman plan ever conceived, in order to achieve their end: and that is the deliberate carrying out of Ukraine practically all the grain and other foodstuffs, with the result that over five million Ukrainians have died during the past year from starvation.

The Bolsheviks are trying to screen this deliberate starving by declaring that poor crops are responsible for this great famine. This excuse is rather a grim jest when we consider that Ukraine, the home of the famed "chornozem," is one of the most fertile lands on this earth.

Scenes of extreme horror are described by eyewitnesses. There is absolutely nothing to eat. Even the rodents have all been eaten up. People die in their tracks, and are left to rot. Many instances of cannibalism have been reported.

Dr. Ewald Amende, secretary of the Congress of National Minorities at Bern, Switzerland, has recently described this famine in Ukraine as the "shame of the twentieth century." His Holiness Pope Pius XI has recently expressed his deepest sympathy and an offer to help. Cardinal [Theodore] Innitzer, Archbishop of Vienna, issued on August 19 a protest against the Bolshevik barbarity and an appeal for help for the Ukrainians to the International Red Cross. The head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky, together with Ukrainian Archbishops and Bishops, has issued a protest against this persecution of unprecedented and inhuman character.

At the present time the Bolsheviks have forbidden Ralph B. Barnes of the Herald Tribune, W. H. Chamberlain of the Christian Science Monitor, the correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, and many other leading correspondents to enter Ukraine. Only a few extreme Bolshevik sympathizers such as Walter Duranty of The New York Times are permitted to do so. Even Duranty has admitted that the famine has decimated the Ukrainian population.

Practically all of the leading press of England and the Continent has been filled for the last four or five months with descriptions of the pitiful scenes throughout Ukraine.

Appeals are being made to the Red Cross to establish a base in Ukraine in order that all Ukrainians can send their aid through this base. At the present time such aid is impossible, as the Bolsheviks will not permit it.

Further appeals are being made to the U.S. Government not to recognize this Communist dictatorship, as it is founded upon principles that are contrary to all rules of humanity and civilization. Appeals are also being made to the Government to send a Special Mission to Ukraine in order to study the conditions under which the Ukrainian people are living under this tyrannical and oppressive Bolshevik dictatorship.

### January 27, 1945 "Ukraine Pays the Bill" (Part I)

"No single European country has suffered deeper wounds [in this war] to its cities, its industry, its farmlands and its humanity" than has Ukraine, says Edgar Snow, Saturday Evening Post editor in a dispatch from Kiev [today spelled Kyiv], Ukraine published under the above heading in the current January 27 number of the magazine. And not only has Ukraine suffered the most from the Nazis, but it also needs more reconstruction than any other part of Europe, Snow writes, basing his conclusion on an exhaustive personal survey of the terrible situation in Ukraine today.

When the Post editor left the Soviet Union in 1943, most of Ukraine was still in Nazi hands. Following Soviet victories over the Nazis and the driving of the latter out of Ukraine, he returned to it.

"Yet it was not until I came here on this sobering journey into the twilight of war," he writes from Kiev "that I quite realized the price which 40,000,000 Ukrainians have paid for Soviet victory. This whole titanic struggle, which some are so apt to dismiss as 'the Russian glory,' has in all truth and in many costly ways, been first of all a Ukrainian war."

Human Loss – 10,000,000

And the greatest of Ukraine's sacrifices, Snow stresses, "one which can be assessed



The first edition of The Ukrainian Weekly, dated October 6, 1933.

in no ordinary ledger, is the toll of human life. No fewer than 10,000,000 people, I was told by a high Ukrainian official, have been 'lost' to the Ukraine since the beginning of the war." That figure excludes men and women mobilized for the armed forces.

Snow points out that a "relatively small part of the Russian Soviet Republic itself was actually invaded, but the whole Ukraine, whose people were economically the most advanced and numerically the second largest in the Soviet Union, was devastated from the Carpathian frontiers to the Donets and Don rivers, where Russia proper begins. No single European country has suffered deeper wounds to cities, its industry, its farmlands and its humanity."

The Ukrainians have not forgotten how large a role American engineers and machinery played in the industrialization of their country, Snow says, and so today they are hoping for equally important American industrial help to aid them to recover from the catastrophe. "The postwar Soviet market for American goods is to a major extent a Ukrainian market. In the same degree, the heaviest Soviet war claims against Germany are Ukrainian claims. And in the mind of every Soviet diplomat, when he talks about postwar Europe, is the thought that this union's Ukrainian frontier must be flanked by such dependable structures of security that the cataclysm cannot be repeated."

"Because of that, if for no other reason," Snow declares, "we should become more familiar with the Ukrainian people, which has its own language and culture and history, older than and quite distinct from that of great Russia. And possibly partly because of that also, I have found, during my visit here [Ukraine], an extraordinary spirit of cordiality and frankness, and an almost unique readiness to supply facts and figures where they seem available."

The economic importance of Ukraine is then emphasized by the Post editor. The rest of the Soviet Union, he says, is fifty times the size of Ukraine, but formerly Ukraine accounted for about half the giant nation's key industry. "One district alone produced more pig iron and steel than Japan, Belgium, Italy and Poland taken together. Ukrainian mines supplied half the hard coal and three-fourths of the cooking coal for the entire Soviet Union. The [sic] Ukraine produced 62 percent of Soviet iron ore and its bauxite mines furnished 70 percent of prewar Soviet aluminum."

Snow then goes on to list other pre-war industries and resources. Hitler thought that "if he would close his fist over the black soil of Ukraine he could force Russia to her knees." But the scorched-earth policy and the removal of much industrial equipment eastward prevented him from capitalizing on his advances into Ukraine.

(Continued on page 8)



# 75 years of THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

## “Ukraine Pays the Bill”

(Continued from page 7)

Since, however, the removed equipment will probably remain in Siberia and Central Asia and since what the Reds left behind (“the greater part of the industry”) the Nazis in turn removed into Germany, Ukraine will have to start from scratch after the war on reconstruction.

### Huge Material Losses

Estimating some of the damage caused by the Nazis in Ukraine, Snow says that, according to the rough figures supplied him by the Ukrainian Gosplan, or State Planning Commission, in the towns alone, about 2,000,000 square meters of living space have been destroyed. In Poltava, a typical rural district, about 100,000 peasant homes were destroyed out of an original total of 362,000. In a single industro-agrarian region, Kamenets Podolsk [Kamianets-Podilskiy], 470,000 civilians were killed and 103,000 were deported to Germany, out of an original 2,000,000 population; 562 villages were destroyed, 18,000 peasant homes and 6,000 kolkhoz buildings were destroyed, and 310,000 horses and cattle and 1,700 tractors were carried off. One Soviet authority stated that at least 50 percent of all means of livelihood and production were gone. In the case of [Dnipropetrovsk] Dnepropetrovsk alone, the replacement cost in such terms will run to 350,000,000 American dollars.”

Snow further states that Pierre Cot, the Frenchman who made an extensive tour of the liberated areas, “gave me 250,000,000,000 old rubles, or \$50,000,000,000, as his estimate of the damage done during the war. That includes only physical plant[s], of course. If it is near the truth, then one might venture to guess that the Ukrainian part of it will be between \$30,000,000,000 and \$40,000,000,000. And the mechanical equipment needed to restore it might then cost something like \$10,000,000,000.”

Trying to determine what has been accomplished at recovery since the Nazis have been driven out, Snow questioned several Ukrainian authorities and made spot investigations at a number of farms and factories. “I did not find anybody minimizing the tasks or inclined to exaggerate what has been done,” he says. However, “I sensed a good deal of impatience with clumsy [Communist] party propaganda that has attempted to convince the outside world what full scale ‘reconstruction’ has already begun. Everywhere there was emphasis on the complexity of the difficulties, the volume of work to be done.”

Then Snow proceeds to bring out what he considers as perhaps the most important feature of his report.

“It is that the [sic] Ukraine seems likely to recover its former position more quickly than any other war-torn country of Europe. It is that not long after industrial production has been fully restored here, the Soviet Union may be much farther along the road toward abundance than it was before 1941”

But right now, he states, the picture is bleak, mainly on account of the labor shortage, caused by the Germans who drove millions of Ukrainians into Germany. Among them were many of the nation’s best workers. And then some Ukrainian workers went eastward, and will remain there. “In one factory,” Snow writes, “that I visited, only 220 workers out of an original 6,000 were back to work.” On the farms there are relatively fewer men than in towns. As a result, and the fact that able-bodied men are in the army, women are doing most of the salvaging. Then there is an acute lack of transportation facilities as well as of various materials. As a result most of the salvaging work has been done thus far mostly with hands “and feet, it seems.”

(continued in issue of February 3, 1945.)

## September 15, 1956

### Rhode Island Bridge to be Named after a Ukrainian

On Armistice Day, November 11, 1956, a new bridge linking Cumberland, R.I., and Lincoln, R.I., will be dedicated in memory of Theodore Suptelny, U.S. Marine of Ukrainian descent, who was killed in action on Saipan Island, in World War II.

The initiative in this matter was undertaken by the Michael Drahomaniw UNA Branch 181 in Manville, R.I. An “Open Letter” to all UNA branches and Ukrainian American Veterans posts in the USA and Canada appeals:

“Permission to dedicate this bridge to the memory of T. Suptelny was not an easy matter. We are a very small minority of Ukrainians in this area and after permission was granted we were pleasantly surprised to learn how many organizations wanted to help in both fund-raising and sponsorship, which gesture we deeply appreciate. However, after a special meeting of Michael Drahomaniw, Branch 181 of the UNA, we decided that rather than have the veterans and other organizations help us with fund raising and sponsoring, we would much rather that they give us their full cooperation in other respects.

“Because Theodore Suptelny was a Ukrainian, our branch decided to act as sponsors hoping to raise the money needed from Ukrainian organizations in the United States and Canada and in this way keep the dedication an all-Ukrainian sponsored affair. We felt that such dedication was indeed to be considered an honor to the Ukrainians. Other organizations, of course, are needed and we will greatly appreciate their cooperation at the time of the dedication. They understand our feelings and have promised to back us fully in every respect.

“Our intention is to erect a solid granite monument on a granite base at the Manville, R.I., end of the bridge as Manville, R.I., was Suptelny’s home town. This monument will have a bronze plaque with a likeness of Suptelny and a dedication inscription below it, and will be erected in a small lawn area which the State of Rhode Island gave us permission to use. We do hope that with the help of Ukrainian organizations in the United States and Canada that we can make this dedication something to be proud of and remembered. All contributions, no matter how small, will help greatly and will be deeply appreciated.”

Sergeant Theodore Suptelny enlisted in the Marine Corps at Boston, Mass., on May 10, 1935, and during his years in service he saw four years of active duty in China during the Sino-Japanese hostilities before World War II. He received the China Service Medal for service in China after the outbreak of World War II. Relieved from China duty, he served for two and a half years as recruiting officer for the Marines in Providence, R.I., before going on to duty against the Japanese in the Pacific.

The son of Dimitri Suptelny and the late Antonia (Gerula) Suptelny, he was born in Manville, R.I., on February 23, 1912, and was one of the first Manville boys to be killed in action during the invasion of Saipan on June 10, 1944.

Sergeant Suptelny was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, Asiatic and Pacific Campaign Medal, American Defense Medal, a Presidential Unit Citation from the late President F.D. Roosevelt and campaign bars for action at Gilbert, Marshall, Tarawa, Guam and Samoa Islands and Saipan, the last posthumously.

Theodore Suptelny lies buried in St. Stephen’s Cemetery in Manville, R.I. He rests in peace here – far from the shores on which he died. We don’t have him, back as we’d like to have him but nevertheless – he’s home.

Contributions should be sent to: Walter Lubinsky, 52 Manville Road, Manville, R.I.

At some future date – names of all donors and contributions will be published in the Svoboda and in The Ukrainian Weekly and if through our good fortune and your generosity we should go over the almost \$2,000 that we’re trying to raise, then the remainder would be used for upkeep of the small park area on which the monument will stand.

Please let us hear from each and every Ukrainian organization.

For Michael Drahomaniw Branch 181 UNA,  
Walter Lubinsky, Secretary

## September 17, 1960

### Our Answer to Khrushchev (Editorial)

Soviet Dictator Nikita S. Khrushchev, alias “Hangman of Ukraine” and the “Butcher of Budapest,” will land on the shores of this land of freedom on September 19. It is true that we Americans cannot deny him the right to visit the United Nations. But because of his conduct, his uncivilized and hooligan-like behavior in Paris and his subsequent campaign of slander and vituperation against our Chief Executive and against the American Nation as a whole – we can deny him the privilege of coming to the United States and enjoying the hospitality of the American people.

Khrushchev is coming here purposely to discuss disarmament at the U.N. General Assembly. He has the audacity to come here after grossly insulting our President and our country. He comes here after instigating anti-American riots in Japan and after subverting Cuba into a Muscovite satellite. He is coming here after he and his government openly defied the U.N. in the Congo turmoil by sending arms and military personnel into that country.

#### Challenge to American Honor and Pride

Last year when Ukrainians and Americans of Ukrainian descent demonstrated and marched in protest against the “Hangman of Ukraine,” most Americans were passive onlookers, wondering why these “refugees” were so incensed against Khrushchev who, they said, came to this country in good faith to alleviate world tensions.

This year, we are sure, he comes as an uninvited impostor to use the U.N. forum for his anti-American venom and slander. To abet him in this purpose he is bringing an array of his minions and puppets: top communist leaders from Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Ukraine and Byelorussia. It is also announced that Fidel Castro, the latest puppet of Hangman Khrushchev, will also visit the United Nations General Assembly. We can imagine what Khrushchev has in mind when he has ordered all the subservient minions of his empire to join him at the U.N. He is planning a general psychological attack upon the United States and its allies in the very heart of the United States – New York City.

#### Bold Step Must Be Taken Against Russian Dictator

There is no doubt that much depends upon the attitude of the United States whether Khrushchev’s great design – to humiliate and compromise the United States before the eyes of its own people and those of the entire world – will be realized.

We know, of course, that the entire anti-Communist America will march in protest against the totalitarian boor of Moscow. Organizations such as the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, similar groups from other American segments with Eastern European backgrounds and American war veterans will peacefully demonstrate against the criminal Russian Communist dictator.

But this will not be enough, to say the least. The United States Government, and particularly President [Dwight D.] Eisenhower, has a wonderful and crystal-clear opportunity to cut the unabashed boor to his size and set the Russian and quislings reeling. It is because we fail to seize such opportunities that Moscow has gained a reputation for propaganda superiority.

In practical terms, the U.S. Government should make no effort to meet him either on the national or local government level; there should be no official notice or recognition of his arrival, no U.S. personnel should be assigned to accompany or guard him, and his travel should be limited to the U.N. building exclusively. Furthermore, our propaganda media, especially the “Voice of America” should inform all the Captive Nations behind the Iron Curtain that Khrushchev is a persona non grata, unwanted and hated by the American people.

The matter of Khrushchev’s coming to the U.N. General Assembly is no longer the sole concern of Eastern European exiles and anti-Communists. His bluffing and blustering require more than the habitual defensive shadow-boxing.

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# 75 years of THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

## Our Answer to Khrushchev

(Continued from page 8)

There are times when the American people should unite decisively and show their strength as Americans. This is such a time.

### November 28, 1976 Form Ukrainian Helsinki Monitoring Committee in D.C.

A Ukrainian American Committee to Monitor Compliance with the Helsinki Accords was established here as a result of a similar group formed by Ukrainian dissidents in Kiev [Kyiv].

Last week, Radio Liberty reported that a Citizen's Committee to Monitor Compliance with the Helsinki Accords was established in the Ukrainian capital. It is headed by poet Mykola Rudenko.

#### Activists

The Washington-based group consists of Ukrainian Americans who were active on various levels of the Moroz defense movement, among them: Dr. Ihor Koszman, Ulana Mazurkevich, Dr. Andrew Zwarun, Ihor Olshaniwsky, Andrew Fedynsky and Bohdan Yasen. More activists are expected to join soon.

The Kievan counterpart consists of, according to Radio Liberty, Lev Lukianenko, Nina Stokata, Oles Berdnyk, Ivan Kandyba and Oksana Meshko.

The American committee will monitor compliance with the final act of the Helsinki Accords in Ukraine and will report all violations to the signatories.

The group will review information about such violations from its Kievan counterpart and other international sources.

Members of the Washington committee said that they will be in close consultation with specialists of Soviet reality. They will also periodically report on their work to other Ukrainian American organizations.

The committee here will be particularly interested in:

- Repression against individuals for their national, political, ideological and religious beliefs;
- Violations of national and civil rights in Ukraine;
- Restrictions on the Ukrainian government from entering into international relations with foreign governments;
- The lack of independent news sources in Ukraine;
- Repressions against political prisoners;
- Denial of visas to Ukrainians and impeding the reunifications of families;
- Repressions for religious beliefs;
- Lack of freedom of the press.

### July 11, 1982 The real E.T.

by Roma Sochan Hadzewycz

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — As movie-goers across the country have learned, E.T. is a somewhat strange-looking, grey-green, amphibian-like creature who finds himself stranded on Earth some 3 million light years away from home.

Few of them know, however, that the very human quality E.T. possesses is due to a 45-pound, 2-foot-10-inch dwarf [little person] named Pat Bilon. And, that this unknown star is Ukrainian.

Yes, you read that correctly.

The Weekly learned the true identity of the title character of Steven Spielberg's blockbuster movie, "E.T. — The Extra Terrestrial," on Friday, July 2.

The story of how The Weekly learned this information is almost as remarkable as the story itself.

It began as any normal Friday would. The Weekly (July 4 issue) was fresh off the presses, and we, the editors, were searching for our desks beneath those piles of papers that had accumulated during the routine hectic week. It was the staff's traditional "day of rest" — a time to catch up on reading and prepare for that always-busy Monday morning.

In walked a middle-aged couple — LUC'ers (members of the League of Ukrainian Catholics) by the look of the booklets they carried. The woman acted as spokesperson.

"Our son is E.T.," she calmly said to this writer.

My astonished look must have resembled ignorance.

"You've heard of the movie?" she asked.

Yes, I certainly had heard...and heard and heard. Weekly associate editor George Zarycky had seen the movie only four times and couldn't stop talking about it. (By the time this story was written the count was up to five, since he insisted on accompanying assistant editor Marta Kolomayets when she went to see "E.T.")

I simply didn't know how to react. "What do you mean?" I asked, while instinctively reaching for a pencil and plenty of paper.

The couple explained that their son is a dwarf and that it's him the audience sees in the E.T. costume.

Costume? Well, this was the first we'd heard that E.T. was human. All news reports to date had described the alien as a mechanical creation composed of foam rubber, fiberglass and polyurethane, and brought to "life" through an intricate system of electronic and hydraulic controls.

As if this wasn't enough, we then learned that E.T. is Ukrainian, speaks Ukrainian and is a member of the Ukrainian National Association Branch 119 in the Youngstown, Ohio, area.

No, it wasn't going to be a normal Friday.

The visitors were Esther and Michael Bilon, a housewife and steelworker from Youngstown. They said their 34-year-old son Michael Patrick, who goes by the name of Pat

(or Petrush in Ukrainian) is the real star of "E.T.," the box-office smash that earned \$87 million in 25 days — over \$17 million of that during Independence Day weekend alone.

The Bilons, who happened to be out East for the LUC's annual sports rally, then proceeded to tell The Weekly the fantastic story of Pat Bilon. Later, The Weekly contacted E.T. himself to get the complete picture. More precisely, Weekly phone E.T. — to use the alien's syntax.

#### One of the smallest dwarfs

At 2 feet 10 inches, Pat Bilon (pronounced Bilan) is one of the smallest adult male dwarfs in the country, his parents explained, adding that he doesn't consider himself handicapped, but there are some disadvantages. "We're not bragging, but we're truly proud of his accomplishments," Mrs. Bilon said.

A third-generation Ukrainian American, he was born and raised in Youngtown and still lives there with his parents. He is active in Ukrainian community organizations, including the League of Ukrainian Catholics, St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church and parish organizations.

As a youngster he was an altar boy and boy scout. He attended parochial school and Catholic high school, and studied drama in college.

He has been a performer since childhood. Pat began tap dancing at age 7 and, according to his mother, he appeared in many shows, sometimes with celebrities, and became well-known for appearances in regional stage productions.

While still in elementary school, in the late 1950s, Pat had offers to appear on the Jack Parr and Perry Como shows, but Mrs. Bilon said, "we didn't want to expose him." He did perform a song-and-dance routine with the June Taylor Dancers.

More recently Mr. Bilon was emcee at a banquet for the late Mike Yarosh, a Ukrainian running for county sheriff, and appeared with film and TV star Mike Mazurki who was a guest speaker at the event.

Mr. Bilon has also appeared at such events as car shows, once going on a five-city promotional tour for the Dodge Omni.

Three or four years ago he was on stage with TV actress Loni Anderson at a Loni look-alike contest sponsored by WKBN radio in Youngstown. He played the station's mascot, the KBN Kid. He has also done commercials for WKBN radio and TV, a CBS affiliate.

Mr. Bilon's activity has also touched the Ukrainian community. "About seven or eight years ago," he said, he started a Ukrainian gift shop called Petrush's Ukrainian Arts on what used to be the patio of the Bilon home.

In 1974 he founded and began hosting the Ukrainian Radio Hour on WKTL-FM in Youngstown.

For some 20 years now, Mr. Bilon has been involved with Little People of America, a 4,000-member organization for dwarfs and their families. There are between 50,000 and 75,000 dwarfs in the United States, and LPA's goal, according to Mr. Bilon, is "to promote our stature and to prove that we're no different from other people." LPA members are doctors, lawyers, persons of all occupations.

The group provides opportunities for dwarfs to meet each other, to discuss problems, and it promotes measures such as barrier-free architecture. However, Mr. Bilon is quick to say that little people have no real problems in life, they just encounter nuisances like reaching things and buying clothes.

The organization is divided into 12 districts nationwide, and Mr. Bilon was director of District 5, which encompasses seven states. He often addresses groups on behalf of LPA.

LPA holds annual conventions in July, as well as golf tournaments in September which support programs on genetics and growth. Among the stars who have teamed up with LPA members in the tourneys are Mickey Rooney, Jack Albertson, Lee Majors, Efram Zimbalist Jr. and Morey Amsterdam.

The organization also holds medical symposia throughout the year, many of them in affiliation with Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore.

The 1982 LPA convention, incidentally, marks the organization's 25th anniversary, and it

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#### The Ukrainian Weekly editorial staff, 1933-2008

Stephen Shumeyko	1933-1959
Helen (Perozak) Smindak	1957-1958
Walter Prybyla	1959-1960
Walter Dushnyck	1959-1965 (intermittently)
R.L. Chomiak	1960-1961
Zenon Snylyk	1962-1978
Ihor Dlaboha	1973-1980
Roma (Sochan) Hadzewycz	1977-present
Ika Koznarska Casanova	1980-1981, 1990-February 2006 (part time)
George B. Zarycky	1980-1985
Marta Kolomayets	1982-1984, 1988-December 1996
Natalia Dmytrijuk	1984-1985
Michael Bociurkiw	1985-1987
Natalia Feduschak	1985-1987
Chrystyna Lapychak	1986-1992
Marianna Liss	1987-1988
Khristina Lew	November 1990-January 1998,
Tamara Tershakovec	1991-1992
Roman Woronowycz	June 1992-December 2004
Andrij Wynnyckyj	June 1992-December 1999
Irene Jarosewich	December 1996-November 2000
Andrew Nynka	April 2001-February 2006
Zenon Zawada	February 2005-January 2008, August 2008-present
Matthew Dubas	March 2006-present



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## The real E.T.

(Continued from page 9)

is being held in Reno, Nev., the site of LPA's establishment.

It was through the Little People of America that Mr. Bilon was able to break into movies.

### First movie role

At the 1979 LPA convention in Lancaster, Pa., Mr. Bilon was spotted by talent scouts and was one of the first persons picked to appear in "Under the Rainbow" with Chevy Chase and Carrie Fisher.

Mr. Bilon describes the movie as "a slapstick comedy, like the Marx Brothers, with a spy plot." It is set in the early 1930s and it tells of what happened to the dwarfs who arrived for the shooting of "The Wizard of Oz."

Mr. Bilon said he played "one of the sub-major roles" and "did a lot of scenes" in the movie. He was billed as Little Pat.

The filming, which took place in Hollywood in October 1980, took four to five months to complete and Mr. Bilon took a leave of absence from the job he then held as dispatcher for the Mahoning County Sheriff's Department.

"Under the Rainbow" was released in the summer of 1981 and it led Mr. Bilon to his role as E.T.

### Good family movie

In her typically understated style, Mrs. Bilon described "E.T." as "a good family movie." Well, it certainly is that – and much, much more – judging by the nationwide response. Described by many as a modern-day version of the "boy and his dog" story, its appeal is universal.

E.T., the title character, has become the newest darling of America, yet he is not even listed as a star.

The clue to the strange E.T.'s true identity appears at the end of the credits seen on the screen at the conclusion of the movie. Listed under a category slugged "Special E.T. Movement" are six persons, the first one being Pat Bilon.

Mr. Bilon is the real E.T. According to his own estimate, that's him we see about 90 percent of the time E.T. appears on screen. The other 10 percent is a purely mechanical E.T. – the one with the telescoping neck.

The E.T. voice is reported to be an electronically distorted woman's voice, and Mr. Bilon noted that it was produced in George Lucas's studio.

What of the other five persons listed under "Special E.T. Movement"?

"They're doubles and stand-ins," Mr. Bilon explained. Some were in the costume when the lighting and cameras were being adjusted; others played the extraterrestrials seen in the opening scene of the movie.

One of those who played in that particular scene was Tamara De Treaux, the 22-year-old, 40-pound dwarf who made headlines this week when she announced to the press that she was the real E.T.

Mr. Bilon pointed out, however, that Ms. De Treaux's claim to fame is based only on her role as one of the aliens who descend from the spacecraft in the movie's beginning.

Ms. De Treaux was quoted as saying that she got the part of E.T. when the original was injured. Mr. Bilon corrected her version of the story: "I am the original E.T. I hurt my back, and she was there in case I couldn't work." She was "an understudy."

"But it's all me – 100 percent. I did everything except the mechanical parts (moving head, neck and fingers) and the voice," he continued. "I worked in pain."

"They're upset at Universal (Studios) about Tamara saying that she's E.T. She can mess up the works," Mr. Bilon said. He also revealed that he has been phoned by Mr. Spielberg who asked him to fly out to Hollywood on Tuesday (July 13) in relation to this problem of E.T.'s real identity. "I believe it's for a picture-taking session for People magazine," he added.

### Hired as a stunt man

Though hired as a stunt man to wear the 50-pound E.T. costume that outweighed him by five pounds, Mr. Bilon said: "My acting made him a personality. I did all the reaching and the walking – it's like a duck walk with a limp at times."

When Mr. Bilon was in the \$1.5 million outfit there were two other persons controlling the face and fingers. When E.T. was purely mechanical, it took seven or eight persons to control its diversified movements, he explained.

Being inside E.T. was "very difficult," he said. He was in the outfit for up to six hours at a time, there was no ventilation, and he couldn't see out of the costume. Mr. Bilon's head reached only up to the shoulders of E.T., and his hands reached down to the creature's elbows.

"They had to direct me and tell me which way to walk." But there was one problem, he said, "they would forget that their left was not mine."

Security on the E.T. set was extremely tight, and Mr. Spielberg was very secretive about his movie. He was especially concerned that no one besides those on the set would find out that there was a person in the E.T. costume.

"Spielberg wanted to make the whole thing a fantasy," Mr. Bilon noted. In fact, Mr. Bilon said that he was taken out onto the set in a wheelchair covered in blankets.

### A perfect fit

By now, you're probably asking: Yes but how did Mr. Bilon get the part of E.T.?

Well, it was largely a matter of size (no joke intended). The E.T. costume was actually made first. Then, someone had to be found to fit it.

In July 1981, while Mr. Bilon, a member of the Screen Actors Guild, was at the convention of Little People of America, a casting agent called him and asked him to audition for a movie. Universal Studios flew Mr. Bilon from Minnesota, where the convention was being held, to Hollywood and then back home to Youngstown.

He auditioned – in the E.T. costume – on a Thursday, he recalled, and the next day he was told that he got the part.

Shooting began in Hollywood in September and continued through the first week in December. After that location shots were done in California.

Asked which scenes in "E.T." were most memorable for him, Mr. Bilon described the chase

scene on bicycle. "I was in a yoga position in the basket of Elliot's bike, and a truck with a camera was pulling the bike. I couldn't see how fast we were going, but I could feel the breeze and I could tell it was very fast." He said he recalls Mr. Spielberg yelling "faster, faster."

But the scenes he liked most were the ones in which 10-year-old Elliot, the protagonist, treats E.T. "like a brother," when he puts a muffler around him and when he talks to him. He said he also enjoyed doing the "bag-lady" scene because "it was different."

The real E.T. said he has seen the movie four times and has cried at each showing, but during different scenes. Most recently he cried when Elliot was saying goodbye to E.T. before he boarded the spaceship.

"E.T.," according to Mr. Bilon is such a success because it "shows the love of children for all things," and because "it gets people back to the old-time movies that showed love" – like that between a boy and his dog. "There's a lot of love to show in films, instead of rioting and other violence," he added.

"I'm thrilled to have a movie like this so successful" and "to have something like this for future use," he commented. He said he's also happy that he "had something to do with its financial success."

As for personal financial gain, Mr. Bilon said he does not know how much he will earn thanks to his all-important role.

(Abridged)

## December 27, 1992 "Capitalism" in Ukraine (Column)

by Myron Kuropas

For a second year in a row, Ukraine will be celebrating Christmas as a declared independent and sovereign nation-state.

I say "declared" because, thus far, Ukraine is not truly independent and sovereign.

Ukraine still is dependent upon the old nomenklatura, that class of government bureaucrats inherited from Soviet Ukraine who still run the state, not because they are the most competent, but because few people outside the bureaucracy have any management experience. Ukraine will remain dependent until a new breed of government managers, committed to assistance rather than resistance, is in place.

Ukraine still is dependent upon a Parliament dominated by former Communists, many of whom seem to be on the take. One hears horror stories of Ukrainian officials bragging about the amount of money they are salting away in Swiss bank accounts. They're preparing for a future in which they will no longer be in power.

Ukraine still is dependent upon the outside world for economic assistance and political education. The United States remains a model, but that model may not be best for Ukraine today. At a time when Ukraine struggles to develop a strong bourgeoisie, long vilified by Bolshevik cant, the middle class in the United States is disappearing.

Ukraine will remain dependent as long as its economy is dominated by greed, corruption and a social order in which the few become richer and the many become poorer. A moral vacuum exists in Ukraine as the nation moves from a command to a market economy.

Ukraine is not alone. According to an article by Jonathon Luxmoore in The National Catholic Register of December 6: "Three years after the euphoria of 1989, the social mood in Eastern Europe remains deeply troubled. The attempted transformation has brought corruption, apathy, insecurity and confusion. Threats to democracy, stability and the impetus of change appear as dynamic as ever."

These pessimistic remarks were delivered at a November 10 conference on the topic "Business and Moral Standards in Post-Communist Europe." Sponsored by England's Cardinal Basil Hume, the conclave brought together some 150 Church and business representatives including Jacques Attali, president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. What appears to be emerging in Eastern Europe, Mr. Attali emphasized, is the emergence of a "mafia economy" rather than a market economy. Totalitarianism has been broken, he noted, but unless another framework, one "based on clear ethical principles is put into place, there will be no peace in Europe."

Is capitalism the answer? Absolutely. But capitalism with a human face.

In her book "Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal," Ayn Rand argued that democratic capitalism is the only system that protects the sovereignty of the individual. "Capitalism," she wrote, "is a social system based on the recognition of individual rights, including property rights, in which all property is privately owned."

Ms. Rand is right, but her statement is incomplete. It ignores the moral, ethical and religious aspects of capitalism. As Michael Novak points out in "The Spirit of Democratic Capitalism," the economic and political successes of capitalism are based on certain moral structures.

With no moral foundation, Mr. Novak argues, capitalism can spawn hedonism, decadence, economic irresponsibility (the root cause of a U.S. national deficit in the trillions of dollars), an ambitious adversarial class always demanding more from the government, indecency ("free to choose, a democratic people luxuriously manifests vulgarity") and a disenchanting intellectual class that has been displaced by a rising and increasingly crass commercial class.

"When the necessary work of society is so organized as to make the acquisition of wealth the chief criterion of success," a group of Protestant theologians declared in 1937, "it encourages a feverish scramble for money, and a false respect for the victors in the struggle, which is as fatal in its moral consequences as any other form of idolatry."

It is precisely this view of capitalism as unrestrained greed, which the Soviets described in their Marxist treatises for decades, that now appears to be flourishing in Ukraine. Ironically, it is those Ukrainians who have retained some sense of "Marxist" rectitude in Ukraine who still believe having too much wealth is improper, if not immoral.

Given its tendencies towards excess, can capitalism make things better in Ukraine? Yes, but only if more changes take place. Mr. Novak argues that democratic capitalism is not a free enterprise system alone. "It cannot thrive apart from the moral culture that nourishes the virtues and values on which its existence depends." Democratic capitalism, he argues, is "a way of life" based on a moral structure and "a sense of sin," a special evolution of plural-

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# 75 years of THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

## “Capitalism” in Ukraine

(Continued from page 10)

ism, and a new and distinctive conception of community, the individual and the family.”

The necessity of a moral core in democratic capitalism is emphasized by Richard John Neuhaus in his 1992 book “Doing Well and Doing Good: The Challenge to the Christian Capitalist.” Elaborating on Pope John Paul II’s 1991 encyclical on democratic capitalism, “Centessimus annus,” the Rev. Neuhaus points out that although there is the so-called “preferential option for the poor,” when it comes to entering the Kingdom of God, this does not mean, as some liberal Catholic theologians argue, that we must all become poor to go to heaven. The solution lies not in destroying markets but in “widening the circle” so that all people can take part.

To succeed, the Rev. Neuhaus argues, capitalism must be based on certain economic, political and moral ideals circumscribed within a solid juridical framework dedicated to the service of human freedom and based on certain ethical and religious principles.

Ukraine has made many political changes and some economic changes. It is in the ethical arena that problems remain.

As we in the affluent West reflect on Christmas in Ukraine in 1992, let us pray for our people’s deliverance from the evils of the past, and the government’s acceptance of the new moral order heralded by the birth of Jesus nearly 2,000 years ago.

July 9, 2006

## World Cup soccer action unites people of Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada

KYIV – Oblivious tourists sipped cocktails in the Khreschatyk’s outdoor cafés on June 30 as a cacophony of car and soccer horns proclaimed the humid night’s national gravity.

On Independence Square, teenage girls adorned young men’s faces with blue and yellow war paint in preparation for the night’s fierce struggle.

In a half hour, “nashi” were to face soccer powerhouse and three-time world champions Italy.

“It’s too bad our boys aren’t playing Spain,” snickered Volodymyr Korbash, 33, referring to the team that beat Ukraine 4-0 but didn’t make it to the quarter-finals of the World Cup.

By the game’s start, more than a thousand youngsters had jammed Independence Square, draped in blue-yellow flags, clenching Ukrainian beer bottles and stretching their vocal cords to their limit.

“U-kra-yi-na!”

“Pa-bic-da bu-diet na-sha!” (Victory will be ours.)

How loud was it?

“I feel it’s more like a revolution than a soccer game,” said Elizabeth Clark, an American visiting from Moscow.

But all it took was six minutes for the patriotic zeal and alacrity invigorating Independence Square to be abruptly extinguished with a nifty goal by a fellow named Gianluca Zambrotta, a defender no less.

Subdued tension swept like a wave over the soccer fans, who spent half-time tensely pondering and pleading for a rejuvenated Ukrainian team, a prayer that wouldn’t be answered.

Below the raucous maidan, the food court of the Globus shopping mall had a dozen or so patrons, oblivious to the history taking place above.

“It’s all the same to me,” said Elena Taran, munching on a salad while chatting with a girlfriend. “The whole world may be watching, but we’re here drinking beer.”

Our husbands are watching it somewhere, they said laughing. “We’re not going out on the maidan!”

At 59 minutes into the match, Luca Toni’s goal hushed the maidan’s enthusiasm, but the fans refused to give up hope.

“Sche ne vmerla Ukrayina,” the young boys began singing.

And just when they reached their third or fourth rendition of that valiant anthem, Toni banged the final nail in Ukraine’s coffin, 10 minutes after his first goal in the game.

Stark lucidity overwhelmed the maidan’s throngs. But there wasn’t any cursing, beating, breaking, or looting.

A few left the maidan in disgust.

The stalwarts refused to give up hope until the final minute elapsed. Then they embraced, broke out in song and basked in Ukraine’s glorious achievement of reaching the quarter-finals in its World Cup debut.

They chanted “Blo-khin” and “Mo-lod-tsi” and “U-kraine” amidst a melody of feet crunching broken glass, drunken-sounding Dynamo Kyiv soccer hymns and ear-piercing soccer horns.

“Nothing bad happened,” said Ihor Zakharenko, 34. “Ukraine became known throughout the world and the fans are shouting ‘molodtsi!’ So we ought to tip our caps to our boys.”

And, while some women hid out in the Globus mall, others did begin to appreciate the sport.

“I was never into soccer until Monday,” said Nadia Kondratovets, 19, a Ukrainian living in Vancouver, Wash. “Monday was my first time watching soccer. By the end of the game, we were really cheering.”

Forward Andriy Shevchenko did get his fair share of detractors who felt he hadn’t played as hard as he could have.

Roman Abramovich is paying him millions for his legs, one fan said of the Chelsea Football Club owner. Shevchenko wasn’t going to risk hurting them for Ukraine.

Upon their return the night of July 1, more than 3,000 fans ambushed the Team Ukraine players at Boryspil Airport, congratulating, thanking and embracing the boys.

It was triple the number of fans who greeted them when they returned from Albania after qualifying for the World Cup in October 2005.

“Regardless of the coalition they’re trying to form in Parliament, we managed to unite the people,” defender Vladyslav Vaschuk told a television reporter.





## CONCERT NOTES: *Love and death in Baroque Ukraine*

by Alexander J. Motyl

NEW YORK – “Kozak Ukraine” almost naturally brings to mind galloping horses, swirling sabers, and piercing war cries, and yet the Kozaky were, after all, also human beings. And, like all human beings, they did all the mundane things that make us human, such as fall in love, suffer from unrequited love, and, perhaps worst of all, suffer from requited love. They could also be gentle – even gentlemen – and, in sharp contrast to Franz Waxman’s rousing score in Hollywood’s adaption of “Taras Bulba,” could enjoy the dulcet sounds of the kind of music we usually associate with European courts.

All those stereotypical images of Ukrainian Kozaky were exploded – though gently – at the September 19 performance of “Love Songs and Dances from Cossack Ukraine” at The Ukrainian Museum in New York. The stereotype-bashing was the work of Julian Kytasty (voice, bandura, F sopilka) and five other performers – Mike Andrec (voice, bandura), Natalka Honcharenko (voice), Roman Turovsky (baroque lute), Andrew Cordle (recorders, dulcian, viola da gamba) and Andriy Milavsky (sopilka, recorders) – who played a variety of mostly bittersweet tunes, along with one rousing beer-drinking song, from the 17th and 18th centuries.

The songs and singing were tight, persuasive, joyful and authentic. But Mr. Kytasty did more than arrange a bunch of, as he called them, “pop songs” from the Ukrainian past. He also cleverly wove two moving narratives of unrequited love into the musical selections. The result was a fascinating look at both love songs and dances of Kozak Ukraine.

The first such unrequited love was between Ukraine and the West. That could have ended in marriage, but, instead, ended in disaster. Musicians don’t usually celebrate international agreements, but Kytasty’s favorite is the draft treaty of Hadiach – signed 350 years ago, on September 16, 1658 – which foresaw a union of Poland, Lithuania and Kozak Ukraine that would be “governed by an elective monarchy balanced by a strong parlia-

*Alexander J. Motyl, a political science professor, artist and novelist, occasionally comments on Ukrainian politics and culture for The Ukrainian Weekly.*



Julian Kytasty (standing) and collaborators present Kozak songs.

ment and the rule of law, and built on the principle of ethnic and religious tolerance.”

Kytasty’s hero is Yuriy Nemyrych, a cosmopolitan Ukrainian nobleman who defended the treaty with a stirring defense of freedom: “We are born in freedom raised in freedom, and now as a free people we return to it.” Unfortunately, as with all unrequited loves, this one ended in tragedy. The treaty was rejected, Nemyrych was killed, and Ukraine was plunged into decades of war and civil war that left it prostrate until a second tragic hero emerged.

Hetman Ivan Mazepa’s efforts to join the West ended on the fields of Poltava, but the love story that interests Mr. Kytasty concerns the 60-year-old hetman’s requited love for the 16-year-old Motria Kochubei. He loved her, she loved him, but since Ukraine isn’t England or France, the dalliance had to end tragically. Still, it did inspire Mazepa to produce some almost embarrassingly

intimate letters and poems that dispel whatever residual notions one might have had of all Kozaky as savage warriors.

Who but a love-sick boy could write the following? “I am sick at heart that you pass by so close to me and I cannot see your eyes and your fair face. Through this note I bow deeply and kiss all your delightful members.”

And who but a mature man, fearful of losing something he may never have fully expected to find, could have written this, his last letter to Motria? “I bow deeply before you, Your Grace, o my darling, and with my bows I send Your Grace a little book and a jeweled ring. I beg you to accept this gracefully and to hold me in your love unchangeably, until, God grant, I can send happier greetings, and with this I kiss your coral lips, your fair hands and all the little parts of your darling body, my love, my desire.”

Mr. Kytasty and his colleagues deserve kudos for an excellent performance.

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# Yaroslava Surmach Mills, artist whose work was inspired by Ukraine, dies at 83

DENVER – Yaroslava Surmach Mills, folk art painter, stained-glass window designer, iconographer, children’s book illustrator, calligrapher, teacher and artist, who dedicated 32 years to designing the stunning stained-glass windows at St. Demetrius the Great Martyr Ukrainian Catholic Church in Toronto, died on September 17.

A world traveler, Mrs. Mills was raised in New York City and spent most of her life in the house she and her husband, the late sociologist C. Wright Mills, built in West Nyack, N.Y. The cause of death was complications from Alzheimer’s disease. She died in an Alzheimer’s facility in Denver.



Yaroslava Surmach Mills in her youth.

Mrs. Mills’ work on the stained glass windows for the St. Demetrius Ukrainian Catholic Church began in 1974 when the Rev. John Tataryn attended a show of her reverse glass-paintings depicting colorful scenes of traditional Ukrainian life. The Rev. Tataryn loved the paintings, met the artist, and asked her if she could design

stained-glass windows featuring Ukrainian Byzantine themes and symbolism for the church.

Yaroslava (as she signs her paintings) accepted the job, warning the Rev. Tataryn that it would take a long, long time. Throughout the project she worked closely with her life partner of 38 years, accomplished stained glass artist Robert Pinart. After 32 years, the St. Demetrius Ukrainian Catholic Church and two affiliated chapels were transformed by over 70 stained glass windows designed by Yaroslava.

The church celebrated and documented these windows by publishing a book titled “Windows at Heaven: Stained Glass Windows at St. Demetrius the Great Martyr Ukrainian Catholic Church by Artist Yaroslava Surmach Mills,” compiled by the Rev. Peter Shumelda (2008).

Yaroslava was born in Queens, N.Y., in 1925, the daughter of Ukrainian immigrants. Her father, Myron Surmach Sr., founded the Surma Book and Music Store, the anchor of the Ukrainian community on East Seventh Street in Manhattan. Her mother, Anastasia Babij Surmach, was the elder artist in the family; she painted floral murals on the walls of her homes and gave Yaroslava her first drawing lessons.

At Cooper Union College of Art Yaroslava excelled in calligraphy and carved lettering while continuing to practice Ukrainian customs including pysanky, the ancient batik process of decorating Easter eggs, which she promoted by designing a do-it-yourself kit, which sells to this day at the family store.

The New York Times columnist Meyer Berger wrote a feature about her and the Ukrainian Easter eggs. At the shoot for the article, photographer Eve Arnold’s husband dropped a set of lamps on a dozen of Yaroslava’s best pysanky. He tried to make it up to her by giving her a lead on a job



One of Yaroslava’s reverse glass-paintings, “Christmas Eve in the Carpathian Mountains.”

opening; he knew someone who was starting a magazine to be named Humpty Dumpty’s Magazine For Little Children. Yaroslava worked at the magazine for 10 years as art director, during which time a young Andy Warhol applied to her for employment. She found him a unique individual yet unqualified for the job.

While art director at Humpty Dumpty, Yaroslava taught part-time at Manhattanville College, giving classes in Gothic and Celtic illumination and calligraphy. With summers off, Yaroslava traveled extensively. Among the first Americans to travel behind the Iron Curtain, she researched Eastern European folk art, gathering information and building an extensive library to which she would later refer to for her work in reverse glass-painting and Eastern

Orthodox iconography.

On one of her summer research trips Yaroslava met C. Wright Mills, an internationally known author and professor of sociology at Columbia University who was interviewing dissident Polish intellectuals. Two years later, in June of 1959, they married. They lived together in the house they built themselves in West Nyack, N.Y. – with extended stays in Cuernavaca, Mexico, and London, England – before the death of Prof. Mills in March 1962.

In the mid-1960s Yaroslava began her career as a book illustrator. She illustrated a dozen picture books for children, mostly folk tales, including a book known to many generations of children – “The Mitten,” an

(Continued on page 22)



Yaroslava’s art work graced the centerfold of the May 21, 1978, issue of the Sunday News Magazine, which published a story on the Ukrainian community New York City’s East Village.



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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

will defend its own positions and principles," Mr. Moroz commented on September 25. He said that if the CPU does not agree to the proposal on creating a leftist bloc, the SPU will participate in the elections independently and "will succeed in entering Parliament." (Ukrinform)

### Three-member coalition possible

KYIV – The leader of the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc confirmed in Lviv on September 25 that his force, which has 20 parliamentary votes, would join a possible new coalition of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc. Mr. Lytvyn said a new coalition of three forces would be normal and that other configurations are groundless. "A union of the YTB and the Party of Regions would lead to a dead end," Mr. Lytvyn said, adding it would mean a redistribution of posts and spheres of influence. The YTB and the OU-PSD continued talks on restoration of the democratic coalition on September 25. Six of OU-PSD's nine member-parties called for signing a new coalition agreement on September 27. Oleksander Kozhemiakin, deputy head of the YTB faction, was also optimistic about the potential coalition. Earlier, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said she would do everything possible to prevent early parliamentary elections. (Ukrinform)

### PRU ends coalition talks with YTB

KYIV – The presidium of the political council of the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) decided to terminate talks with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) on formation of a coalition. The consultations were suspended on September 25 because the YTB and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc (OU-OSD) resumed negotiations on creation of a coalition. "We terminate the talks until representatives of so-called democratic coalition sort out their relationship," said the deputy head of the PRU parliamentary faction, Oleksander Yefremov. The Verkhovna Rada has five factions: the PRU is the largest, with 175 deputies; the YTB has 156; the OU-PSD, 72; the Communist Party of Ukraine, 27; and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc, 20. (Ukrinform)

### OU-PSD parties want to meet

KYIV – Seven of the nine political parties forming the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc are demanding an immediate meeting of the bloc's political council. National Deputy Yurii Karmazin, leader of the Defenders' Party, said after the September 25 consultations on the creation of a coalition of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc that all parties had agreed on the need to form a coalition of the three factions on the basis of the previous coalition agreement. Mr. Karmazin said the YTB met the OU-PSD halfway and did not put on the agenda any bill to demand overriding presidential vetoes. "This is a serious move toward trust," he emphasized. Mr. Karmazin said that a political council should be called immediately, as the country cannot remain in conditions of uncertainty any longer and he expressed hope that a compromise would be reached by September 29 on the path toward signing a coalition agreement. (Ukrinform)

### Seven votes short of coalition

KYIV – By the evening of September 28, 30 of the 72 members of the parliamentary faction of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc had signed on for the formation of a coalition with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the

Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc. The OU-PSD still lacks seven signatures to form the coalition. On September 26 OU-PSD deputies started collecting signatures in support of a coalition of the three factions. As a decision is valid when supported by a majority of the faction, 37 signatures are required. "Those who added their signatures, notwithstanding the opinion of the remaining OU-PSD members, will then be able, along with the YTB, to agree with Volodymyr Lytvyn. The latter has preliminarily agreed to join the coalition," reported the Delo newspaper. (Ukrinform)

### Yanukovych spikes rumors of split

KYIV – The leader of the opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU), Viktor Yanukovych, denied the possibility of a party split. Speaking with the press on September 25, he also refuted hearsay about his alleged sharpening confrontation with PRU National Deputy Rinat Akhmetov, who is the party's main sponsor. Mr. Yanukovych stated he had always had and would have "absolutely normal relations" with Mr. Akhmetov. "We have much in common, and nobody will ever succeed in breaking up the Party of Regions. It has been and will remain strong," Mr. Yanukovych emphasized. "There are different rumors. Yet, neither Akhmetov nor I set them afloat... We realize that rumors are spread by our opponents and rivals," the PRU leader stressed. Mr. Yanukovych also denied any conflicts with National Security and Defense Council Secretary Raisa Bohatyriova, who was expelled from the PRU on September 1 for a number of statements conflicting with the party's stance. "She just took her own path, and is following it. And the party expressed a different viewpoint; that is all." "We have taken different political positions," Mr. Yanukovych said in response to press reports that Ms. Bohatyriova is Mr. Akhmetov's teammate in a new political project allegedly being formed on the basis of some PRU members and supporters. (Ukrinform)

### Snap election will cost 400 million hrv

KYIV – The cost of possible early elections to the Verkhovna Rada would be about 400 million hrv, Central Election Commission member Oleksander Shelestov said on September 25. This is 100 million hrv more than the 2007 pre-term elections cost. Mr. Shelestov attributed the increase to objective reasons like inflation and more expensive services, particularly printing, as well as a Cabinet of Ministers resolution that raised the wages of election commission members. (Ukrinform)

### 23.6 percent ready to support Yulia

KYIV – According to a poll conducted by the Sofia Social Research Center on September 9-17, a total of 23.6 percent of Ukrainian citizens are ready to vote for the leader of the eponymous bloc, Yulia Tymoshenko, in presidential elections if such elections were held soon. A total of 2,005 respondents age 18 and over from all Ukrainian regions participated in the poll. The poll's margin of error does not exceed 2.2 percent. The survey showed that 23.1 percent of those polled would back Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovych, 6.5 percent incumbent President Viktor Yushchenko, 5.4 percent Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko, 4.4 percent ex-Verkhovna Rada Chairman and National Party Leader Volodymyr Lytvyn, and 4.3 percent incumbent Parliament Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk. Anatolii Hrytsenko, Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense Bloc national deputy and former defense minister, and Natalia Vitrenko, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine, would each

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

receive 1.4 percent of support, while some 1.2 percent of respondents would vote for Kyiv Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi. A total of 10.1 percent of respondents said they would not participate in presidential elections, 5.5 percent would vote against everybody, 4.6 percent would support other presidential candidates, and 8.5 percent were undecided. (Ukrinform)

### Ukrainian president addresses UN...

KYIV – Addressing the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 24, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said Ukraine is ready to take part in responding to global challenges. Particularly, Ukraine aims at making a tangible contribution to the joint settlement of the global food crisis. Ukraine is also ready to contribute to consolidation of international efforts for implementation of effective and just energy policy. The principles to be observed are simple: mutual profit, uninterrupted observance of duties and prevention of energy pressure, he said. The president called for strengthening the role of the U.N. Security Council, as in his opinion the main challenge of today is negligence of international law, which is proved by the latest developments in the Caucasus. Ukraine condemns all acts of aggression and interference in that region, violations of territorial integrity in Georgia and armed annexation of its territories; Ukraine does not recognize independence of the self-proclaimed republics of South Ossetia and Abkhazia; Ukraine criticizes attempts at illegitimate, separatist endorsement of statehood on any territories, including in the European space, Mr. Yushchenko stressed. He noted that ignorance of U.N. principles, use of force and restoration of Cold War rhetoric in the Caucasus are of deep concern in Ukraine and pose a potential threat both to Ukrainian statehood and to other countries in the region. (Ukrinform)

### ...speaks about Holodomor...

KYIV – While bringing to the whole world the truth about the Holodomor of 1932-1933 and paying tribute to the memory of millions of its victims, Ukraine is ensure that remembrance of this and other crimes of totalitarian regimes will prevent new catastrophes, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko told the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 24. The president noted that the Terror-Famine in Ukraine had the charac-

ter of purposeful genocide, accompanied by elimination of the national elite and clergy. Its purpose was to suppress a nation of tens of millions, all of whom simply could not be taken to Siberia. Mr. Yushchenko emphasized that Ukraine shares the pain of all other nations affected by famine – Russians, Belarusians, Kazakhs and dozens of others, and that its efforts to disseminate the truth about the Holodomor are not aimed against any specific nation or state. On behalf of Ukrainian state, Mr. Yushchenko asked the United Nations to remember each national tragedy and prevent new attempts at the glorification of Stalin's dictatorship. (Ukrinform)

### ... meets with U.N. secretary general

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, meeting in New York on September 24, discussed a range of mutually beneficial issues of cooperation. These included Ukrainian initiatives on the agenda of the 63rd session of the U.N. General Assembly, including honoring the memory of the victims of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 and Ukraine's proposals on the drafting of The president and the secretary general stressed the importance of continuing work on drawing up a 10-year U.N. action plan on Chernobyl for 2006-2016, which is aimed at the recovery and sustainable development of areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster. The Ukrainian president invited the UN leadership to participate in an international forum dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine, which is to be held in Kyiv on November 22-23. The secretary general, in turn, focused on the matter of Ukraine's technical support of U.N. helicopters that are performing peacekeeping and humanitarian missions under the aegis of this organization. Commenting on this proposal, Mr. Yushchenko said that Ukraine "possesses powerful repair depots" and produces helicopter engines and equipment ensuring the control, security and navigation of these aircraft. (Ukrinform)

### SBU cites Russian disinformation

KYIV – The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has said that Russian special services have made attempts to discredit Ukraine with the help of forged documents on the alleged participation of Ukrainian citizens in military operations in the Caucasus. The press secretary of the SBU, Maryna Ostapenko, spoke about some of these facts

on September 25. She said that Russian law enforcement bodies had under "mental pressure" deposed a Ukrainian citizen who had crossed the Ukrainian-Russian border in a state of alcoholic intoxication. "This citizen then wrote in his explanatory notes that he was made to give testimony that he underwent sabotage training at UNA-UNSO [Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian National Self-Defense] in the Lviv region and that he allegedly came to Russia to participate in terrorist operations in the composition of illegally militarized Chechen formations," Ms. Ostapenko said. This citizen was also forced to provide evidence that he allegedly knew about secret training bases for Islamic terrorists in Crimea. Following checks conducted by the SBU, these reports were not confirmed and it became clear that this citizen had never been to Lviv or Crimea. A Russian television channel tried to shoot a video in Crimea about the base allegedly training terrorists of the Hezbollah extremist organization. Journalists hired several Crimean Tatars to stage the training of militants. (Ukrinform)

### Yushchenko on global financial crisis

KYIV – "Ukraine will cope with the challenges currently being faced by our neighbors, and we will find, with dignity, an answer to tackle threats to the Ukrainian business stock market and other markets," Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko told Ukrainian journalists in New York on September 24. He said that the latest global financial crisis had not yet had a strong negative effect on the national economy of Ukraine, but said there are certain negative trends. These include a decrease in exports linked to the response of the Ukrainian market to falling business activity around the world, Mr. Yushchenko said. He noted that the export of metals, rolled metal and steel had decreased by around 17 percent. Speaking about the situation on the Ukrainian stock market, Mr. Yushchenko

said that the volume of trade had not significantly decreased, but that a "substantial fall" was observed in the volume of the emissions of securities by economic entities. The president said that everything should be done so that a currency crisis and a stock market crisis do not combine with each other, as that could "seriously test" the national budget and trade balance of Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

### Ukraine signs pact on invalids' rights

KYIV – Ukraine has joined the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, the presidential press service reported on September 25. President Viktor Yushchenko signed the document at the U.N. headquarters in New York on September 24. (Ukrinform)

### NBU again increases value of dollar

KYIV – As of September 26, the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) set the official hryvnia exchange rate at the level of 486.1700 hrv for \$100 (U.S.) and 714.6699 hrv for 100 euros. The previous rate was 485.5100 hrv per \$100 (U.S.) and 715.2048 hrv per 100 euros. (Ukrinform)

### Financial crisis will not affect Ukraine

KYIV – The international financial crisis will not affect Ukraine, the World Bank's country director in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, Martin Raiser, said on September 24. Mr. Raiser said the Ukrainian financial system is not integrated enough in the international system, but is gradually entering the market of European Union financial services. "In order to minimize the consequences of the international financial crisis, a mechanism of independent regulators of financial markets should be introduced," Mr. Raiser said, adding that it should be independent both from market participants and authorities. (Ukrinform)



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ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в неділю, 14 вересня в похоронно-му заведенні Музука Funeral Home, 15 вересня в Українській католицькій катедрі св. о. Миколая в Чикаго, Іл., а відтак на цвинтарі св. Миколая.

Вічна йому пам'ять!



## Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations

### Syracuse, N.Y.

by Dr. Patricia A. Burak

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – The heart of New York state was the site of a joyful celebration of Ukrainian Independence Day on August 21.

A joint proclamation prepared by Syracuse Mayor Matthew Driscoll and Onondaga County Executive Joannie Mahoney was read and the Ukrainian flag was raised by the president of the Ukrainian Cultural Center, Nykola Lucak, and the assistant director of the Odesa Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Chrystya Bobesky, in front of an enthusiastic crowd of Ukrainian Americans who joined together to sing the Ukrainian national anthem.

The morning event was organized by Orest Hrycyk, who served as master of ceremonies.

The benediction was offered by the Rev. Robert Batcho, pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church. An introduction of dignitaries by Mr. Hrycyk was followed by the keynote address by Julia Sydorowych, vice-president of Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 68, who provided both historical and cultural substance for the gathered crowd.

Mrs. Sydorowych enthusiastically affirmed that "17 years ago, the Soviet Socialist Republic of Ukraine ceased to exist, and in its place arose an independent democratic nation simply called Ukraine. We, in the diaspora, believe that a country known as the 'Borderland,' 'Ukrayina,' will grow and flourish."

Her conclusion was supported by a carefully constructed chronology of the struggle for independence: "In December 1991 more than 90

*Dr. Patricia A. Burak is director of the Stutzker Center for International Services, and assistant professor of literature at Syracuse University.*

percent of Ukrainians voted 'yes' for Ukraine's independence in a referendum, ... the Orange Revolution at the end of 2004 forced the authorities to overturn a rigged election, which led to a new election which was internationally monitored, and swept into power the 'dioxin poisoned' Viktor Yushchenko." She included the "comeback of Viktor Yanukovich, who, after parliamentary elections, became prime minister in 2006," and noted that "in 2007, after a political crisis in the spring, an early legislative election brought the formidable, eloquent and elegant Yulia Tymoshenko as head of the Orange coalition."

The commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, known in Ukrainian as the Holodomor, which saw the passing of a torch around the globe, traveling through cities of 33 countries from Australia to Ukraine (including Syracuse in May), was also evoked by the keynote speaker, whose astute and heartfelt speech was well received by the audience.

The Odesa Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, directed by Slawa Bobesky, greeted the crowd with a beautiful and lively rendition of "Pryvit."

A newly arrived graduate student from Syracuse University, Yuliya Chorna, her husband, Dmytro, and young son, Pavlo, were in the audience. They were impressed and moved by the love of Ukraine demonstrated by this event and the people, gathered to commemorate Ukraine's independence, who have so warmly received them into the Syracuse Ukrainian community.

Closing remarks were made and a prayer was led by the Rev. Vasyl Sendeha, pastor of St. Luke Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Syracuse. The respect and love of their homeland shared by the assemblage, who ranged in age from 2 to 90, was strong and palpable. It was a day that made one proud to be Ukrainian.



Dmytro Kyslyak

The Odesa Ukrainian Dance Ensemble performs.



At the Ukrainian Independence Day celebration in Syracuse, N.Y., (from left) are: Halya Duplak, Julia Sydorowych, Yaroslava Gudziak, Patricia Burak, Pavlo Kyslyak, Dmytro Kyslyak, Yuliya Chorna and Irene Nedoshytko.

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## New York



Lev Khmelkovsky

NEW YORK – Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations and its Consulate General in New York on September 10 celebrated the 17th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence with a reception at the Ukrainian Institute of America. The event was attended by diplomats, Ukrainian community members and representatives of other countries, among them Russia's Ambassador to the U.N. Vitaly Churkin. Seen in the photo above (from left) are: Olena Kyrychenko, Ukraine's consul general in New York; Ukrainian National Association Treasurer Roma Lisovich; Nataliya and Yuriy Sergeev, Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations; and UNA National Organizer Oksana Trytjak. Among other notables present was Gen. Leonid Holopatiuk, Ukraine's military attaché and the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's representative at the U.N., with his wife, Valentyna.

## The Holodomor...

(Continued from page 3)

November 1 deadline set for all the oblast volumes so that the National Book of Memory will be published by the fourth Saturday of November, or Holodomor Victims Remembrance Day, which falls on November 22 this year.

"The book won't only be archival. I am

sure it will be read by people because we made it so that it not only offered facts, but gave people the emotions and perspective of this tragedy from which it's difficult to even imagine how we were able to read all this," Mr. Hai said.

"This misery and tragedy burst onto us like an avalanche, and it was necessary to conquer it in our spirit and present it in a form so that it reached those who will read this book," he explained.



# Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations

## Clifton, N.J.

by Matthew Dubas

CLIFTON, N.J. – Approximately 400 people attended the Ukrainian Picnic, hosted this year by Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church and sponsored by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) – Bergen/Passaic Branch, here on Sunday, September 14.

The event commemorated the 17th anniversary of Ukraine’s independence, which was officially declared on August 24, 1991. The anniversary was celebrated later due to the conflicting summer schedules of the active Ukrainian community. Many observe Ukraine’s independence during “Ukie Week” in Wildwood, N.J., at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y., or other Ukrainian destinations. The picnic, which is hosted by St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, N.J., and Holy Ascension on an alternating schedule, is a shining example of community unity.

The picnic featured a stage show, entertainment for children, an assortment of vendors, and, of course, Ukrainian and American fare.

Local politicians showed their support for the Ukrainian community of Clifton; among them were: Thomas Giblin, assemblyman of the 24th district; Clifton Mayor James Anzaldi; and U.S. Rep. William Pascrell (D-N.J.).

Kenneth Wanio, president of the local UCCA branch, welcomed guests to the picnic and, in his remarks, described a hypothetical scenario for listeners to ponder as Ukraine celebrates its 17th year of independence. In urging Ukrainian vigilance and solidarity, Mr. Wanio explained how a demonstration in Sevastopol, the Crimean port city of the Russian Black Sea Fleet, could have the potential to escalate into a situation similar to what recently occurred in Georgia.

Mr. Wanio called upon Ukraine’s leaders to “demonstrate a united front and speak with one voice for the good of the country, instead of promoting personal ambitions and oligarchic interests” and “seek quicker integration into the European community and the global market.” The Ukrainian government needs to stop “its petty disagreements and present a united and compelling portfolio for membership into NATO,” he underscored.

The Ukrainian community was called to action by Mr. Wanio, who asked his listeners to “urge our relatives in Ukraine to press their government to do the right thing to preserve independence” and to “petition our representatives to realize



The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble performs the Hopak.

Christine Syzonenko

the gravity of the problem.”

An international response led by the United States, Mr. Wanio continued, “demonstrates to the Kremlin that there are economic, diplomatic, social and perhaps military consequences to such reckless conduct.”

Members of Ukraine’s diplomatic corps were in attendance, including Volodymyr Protsko, deputy head of the Trade and Economic Mission for the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States, and Yuriy Sergejev, Ukraine’s ambassador to the United Nations, along with his wife.

In speaking with The Weekly, Mr. Sergejev said, “I’m pleased to see so many Ukrainians, both new immigrants and old, come together and support community events such as this... It is a symbol of hope for the next generation to continue this legacy of Ukrainian traditions.”

The stage program, emceed by Ania and Mykola Lusak, parishioners at Holy Ascension, featured dancers from the Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Whippany, N.J., and Passaic Ukrainian dance groups, as well as renowned vocalists Ivo Bobul, Stepan Ben and others.

Peter Velychko, a longtime parishioner of Holy Ascension in Clifton, said, “Twenty years ago we used to have church picnics, but nothing like this.”

“The community has grown so much,” Mr. Velychko continued, “with the influx of Ukrainian immigrants, and we are working together more with other local Ukrainian parishes and organizations.”



A Transcarpathian dance by Iskra’s younger dancers.

Christine Syzonenko



Kenneth Wanio addresses the attendees at the Ukrainian Picnic.

Christine Syzonenko



Matthew Dubas

Stefan Tatarenko, Thomas Giblin, Kenneth Wanio, Rep. William Pascrell, Yuriy Sergejev and his wife Nataliya (seated).



Mykola and Ana Lusak, who emceed the stage program, perform a duet.

Christine Syzonenko



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## REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA  
KYIV PRESS BUREAU



### Of principles and no regrets

I was darting through the Globus shopping mall under Kyiv's Independence Square a month ago when I saw a familiar face out of the corner of my eye, only he was limping.

It was my friend from Yevpatoriya, Eduard Leonov. His name might not sound Ukrainian, but he loves Ukraine and is doing more on its behalf than most of us can ever imagine.

It's been one year since Mr. Leonov endured an attack that would cripple him for life.

On September 24, 2007, Mr. Leonov was exercising his right to express his political views by campaigning for the Svoboda nationalist party in Symferopol

for the next week's parliamentary election.

Granted, some might argue that only a man with a death wish would espouse Ukrainian nationalism on the streets of Symferopol, the capital of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

But Mr. Leonov believes in those ideas, and the Constitution of Ukraine not only provides for his right to believe in those ideas, but also express them publicly.

Needless to say, Crimeans loathe the Svoboda party because it advocates eliminating their republic's autonomous status.

For Crimea's business and political leaders, autonomy means far more than



Zenon Zawada

Eduard Leonov in a file photo.

the cultural and linguistic independence that they claim motivates them. Autonomy gives them free reign to flagrantly flaunt Ukrainian laws, indulge in corrupt business schemes and run the peninsula as their own private plantation.

In order to set up a campaign tent, Mr. Leonov submitted his request to local officials, who dutifully dispatched a few hundred pro-Russian protesters to shout their anti-Ukrainian slogans.

Little did Mr. Leonov know that an evil plot was to unfold as well.

Accompanied by his fellow party members, Mr. Leonov was setting up his campaign tent when he noticed three Communists dousing the city's Victims of OUN-UPA monument with red paint. Mind you, this is the monument that Crimea's Communists established themselves to honor the alleged 4,500 Crimeans killed while fighting on behalf of the Red Army in western Ukraine.

(Interesting logic, by the way – the Red Army invades and rapes western Ukraine, but its soldiers are somehow the victims.)

Amused by this clear provocation, hatched with the intent of eventually accusing the nationalists of dousing the monument with paint, Mr. Leonov rushed to the scene with his video camera to capture proof that neither he nor his colleagues were responsible.

He fell right into the trap of the Communists, who shoved Mr. Leonov, from behind his back, off a 10-foot ledge, causing him to break both his legs.

Demonstrating the depths of savagery and depravity to which the Crimean Communists will stoop, the same sociopath who shoved Mr. Leonov burst into his hospital room one hour later, taunting and cursing him (while videotaping him no less) and threatening further injury.

The same evening, the Symferopol police chief went on local television to declare Mr. Leonov's arrest for vandalizing the Victims of OUN-UPA monument with red paint. Crimean Communist Party Chair Leonid Grach repeated the lies, which the Russian-owned media ate up and regurgitated for the public. These lies remain on the Internet to this day, portrayed as fact by Crimean media.

Further demonstrating that Crimea is run by sociopathic criminals, Mr. Grach urged the hospital's doctors on live local television not to allow Mr. Leonov out alive, urging Crimeans to visit the hospital and inflict further injuries.

Though Mr. Leonov and his allies reported the criminal statements by Mr. Grach to the police and the Security Service of Ukraine, no investigation or charges have been pursued.

To this day, the police have questioned no one about the whole incident – not even the same Mr. Leonov they claim to have arrested, and no one has been prosecuted.

Mr. Leonov is trying to pursue criminal charges against the thugs who crippled him, among them a close assistant to Mr. Grach, but in the closed circle that is Ukrainian law, an investigation can only begin when the victim is released from medical supervision, at which time the results of a forensic-medical exam can be submitted.

Mr. Leonov hopes his case will become the first successful criminal prosecution against the Communist Party in Crimea.

As the local party leader, Mr. Grach most likely gave the green light for the provocation, in addition to his criminal statements on television. But under no circumstances will he be brought to justice. As a member of the national Parliament, he enjoys immunity from prosecution, enabling him to hatch and commit crimes and get away with it.

And this is why many Ukrainian businessmen and criminals want to become members of the exclusive country club known as the Verkhovna Rada.

Mr. Leonov's medical rehabilitation cost him "several thousand euros," an astronomical sum for average Ukrainians. He lost a centimeter off his height, his legs swell at night, he suffers arthritis and his doctors don't expect he will ever walk again normally. Mind you, he's 34 years old.

When I asked Mr. Leonov whether I could help set up a fund to raise money for his medical expenses, he declined in his typically altruistic fashion. Instead, he asked that I establish a fund to support the Svoboda party's efforts to rescind the autonomous status of Crimea.

"Banditism, corruption and bureaucracy are synonyms for Crimean autonomy," Mr. Leonov said. "That's why autonomy is beneficial for bandits, corruptioneers and bureaucrats."

Among the Ukrainians that President Viktor Yushchenko honored with the Order of Yaroslav the Wise, for outstanding personal service on behalf of the Ukrainian state, are Borys Kolesnikov, who led the separatist calls for a southern-eastern Ukrainian republic during the Orange Revolution.

Mr. Kolesnikov deserves no state awards. The real personal service on behalf of Ukraine is performed by people like Mr. Leonov – average, decent Ukrainians who sacrifice all they have and get little in return from its deceitful, worthless leaders and corrupt government.

"In no way do I regret my political activity," Mr. Leonov said. "That they were able to exclude me from the political struggle further strengthened the desire of my allies to try to establish order. We aren't fighting for anything too complicated, abstract or extraordinary. We simply want constitutional order in Crimea, and that Crimea at last becomes a part of the unitary state of Ukraine."

### Tensions rise...

(Continued from page 1)

To launch a referendum, initiative groups of at least 200 members must be formed in two-thirds of Ukraine's oblasts, demonstrating an ability to collect the necessary 3 million signatures.

Rows of police officers and Berkut special forces separated the groups and attempted to limit the fighting, but pro-Russian protesters broke through several times to exchange blows.

Besides brawling, those forming the blockades made obscene gestures, yelled insults and held signs stating, "Crimea Against NATO" and "Crimea Against Bandero-Fascists."

Most Ukrainian leaders, including Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk, oppose Svoboda's proposal to rescind Crimean autonomy, and view the referendum campaign as a public relations effort aimed at mobilizing support for the nationalists ahead of possible pre-term elections.

Svoboda has a better chance this year of garnering 3 percent of the electorate necessary to qualify for Parliament, particularly among voters disappointed with the Yulia Tymoshenko and Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense blocs, experts said.

"What role the idea of canceling autonomy plays in the further escalation of tensions in Crimea is not hard to foresee," said Oleksiy Haran, a political science professor at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. "Tiahnybok's actions in Crimea are in concert with those who want to destabilize the situation in Ukraine and take advantage of his results."

Critics of Mr. Tiahnybok accuse him of taking financial support from the pro-Russian Party of Regions of Ukraine, a charge he denies.

Meanwhile, the Russians have also been busy recently in Crimea.

A Crimean Tatar leader, Vasvi Abdurayimov, sent a recent letter to the Russian Consulate in Symferopol requesting that Russian President Dmitry Medvedev take measures to defend ethnic minorities in Crimea against genocide, repeating the accusations made by South Ossetians that motivated Russia to invade.

In the letter, Mr. Abdurayimov claimed to lead the Milli Firka party, which fought against the Bolsheviks during the Russian Revolution and has since been revived.

The Milli Firka letter asks Mr. Medvedev to "defend the native and other small ethnicities of Crimea against genocide, which doesn't cease from the nationalist official government of Ukraine" because "all possi-

ble methods of defense in Ukraine" are exhausted. Crimean Tatars should be defended in the same way as the small peoples of the Caucasus – Abkhazians and Ossetians, the letter noted.

The letter drew suspicion from Ukrainian political experts because Crimean Tatars almost unanimously oppose Russian rule in Crimea, preferring to be part of the Ukrainian state or, ideally, form their own independent state.

In response, more than a dozen Crimean Tatar organizations signed a statement condemning the Milli Firka letter as a provocation hatched by Russia.

"We don't deny the facts of ethnic and religious discrimination on the part of the official authorities of Ukraine and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea directly," the statement said. "However such appeals to state leaders, who played an unequivocally negative role in the history of the Crimean Tatar people, arouse a natural protest."

Pro-Russian political forces in Crimea, receiving every kind of support from Moscow, including financial, regularly make anti-Tatar statements and actively work against restoring our rights, the statement said.

Rather than defending the rights of Crimean ethnic minorities, Milli Firka is aiming to provide the pretext for Russia to intrude in Ukraine's domestic affairs, the statement said. "We regard the appeal as a provocation, just as Russian government methods to resolve inter-ethnic problems, well known for their severity, arouse serious apprehension for the safety and lives of Crimean Tatars," the statement said.

Following the letter, the leadership of Milli Firka, gathered at a special meeting, dismissed Mr. Abdurayimov from his post.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs sharply criticized the Russian delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) for distributing an appeal titled "On Ukraine's Ruling Regime's Gross Violation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea's Fundamental Constitutional Authority," issued by a Crimean organization.

"It's not worth pausing on the obviously provocative motives of such a statement, inspired by anti-Ukrainian forces that are trying to demonstrate in any way their devotion to a foreign client," the ministry said in a September 30 statement.

"It's obvious that representatives of the 'fifth column' haven't ceased in their attempts to disturb the citizenry against the politicians of the democratically elected government of Ukraine and resorted to an attempt to blacken it before the world community," stated the Foreign Affairs Ministry.



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# Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 1)

inseparable part of Ukraine," he stressed, adding that Ukraine will not take part in any negotiations about its territorial integrity.

On the question of Ukraine's future membership in NATO, he said the issue should be determined by its people and not just a few politicians, some of whom are afraid to even utter the name of the organization. And every politician and citizen must ask himself this question: "How would I want my children to live and what would assure their livelihood and welfare five and 10 years from now?"

The answer is "quite simple," he said. One does not have to "reinvent the bicycle" by talking about nonalignment and the like, he said. Ukraine has been down that road already and lost its independence five times in the past.

One has a choice of goals, he said. "Either you are thinking about the next election or about the life of future generations."

Asked if he plans to meet with U.S. presidential candidates, Mr. Yushchenko noted that he met with Sen. John McCain the previous week in New York and that he would certainly like to meet with his Democratic challenger, Sen. Barack Obama, as well.

"Quite frankly, I am happy to note that American policy places relations with Ukraine at such a high level" that it now is a matter for discussion during a presidential election campaign, the president commented.

President Yushchenko said that the recent development of U.S.-Ukrainian relations reminded him about how bilateral relations between Ukraine and Poland developed over the past eight-10

years into what today is a truly strategic partnership.

Among those accompanying President Yushchenko on this visit were Foreign Affairs Minister Volodymyr Ohryzko, and the his national security advisor, Raissa Bohatyriova, who was thrown out of the opposition Party of Regions because of her remarks about its leader, Viktor Yanukovich, during her recent visit to Washington.

First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko came along as well, accompanying the president on his visit of the Newseum, a new museum dedicated to the history of journalism, where they viewed some of its exhibits and presented the museum with selections of Ukrainian newspapers, among them the oldest Ukrainian newspaper in the world, Svoboda, published by the Ukrainian National Association, which this year celebrates its 115th anniversary.

She also accompanied him to the Shevchenko monument, where, in addition to laying the traditional wreath at the poet's statue, they took the time to individually greet and talk with the Ukrainian Americans who came to witness the event.

The Ukrainian president's Washington visit and meeting with President Bush was overshadowed that day by the House of Representatives vote against the \$700 billion Wall Street rescue plan and the subsequent stock market plunge of close to 800 points.

Earlier that day, President Bush also met with Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus. He praised the Lithuanian leader's courageous stance in supporting Georgia in its conflict with Russia and stressed that the United States takes seriously its NATO commitment to come to the aid of a member country under attack. "We mean it," he stressed.



Yaro Bihun

During their visit to Washington's Taras Shevchenko monument, President Yushchenko and his wife, Kateryna (standing next to him), spent some time greeting and conversing with the Ukrainian Americans who came to witness the wreath-laying ceremony, among them this toddler, Nadia Kozij, and other children brought there by their parents. Kneeling on the left is Nadia's mother, Irena Kozij. Ukraine's ambassador to Washington, Oleh Shamshur, stands behind the first lady, on the extreme right.

Watch Fr. Borys live on EWTN Nov. 12 at 8 pm EST!

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## Kean University to host conference on Holodomor

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Kean University, located in Union, N.J., will be hosting its first conference on the Holodomor, titled “The Ukraine Famine-Genocide (1932-1933) Educational Conference.”

The conference, which is scheduled for Friday, October 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., will feature film clips, artwork, poetry, discussions with survivors and a panel discussion on Holodomor curriculum for high school and middle school teachers. Prof. Taras Hunczak, professor emeritus of history and political science at Rutgers University – Newark, will deliver the keynote address.

This conference is the result of Kean University’s course “The Ukrainian Famine-Genocide, 1932-1933,” and is part of the Graduate Program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. This is the first three-credit course of its kind in the United States and is taught by Prof. Ruth Pianotchka Griffith, the granddaughter of a victim of the Famine and the daughter of a young survivor.

For more information about the conference and to register for free, please contact Dr. Griffith at 908-737-0387 or by visiting [www.kean.edu/~ukrconf](http://www.kean.edu/~ukrconf).

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

Following the lectures. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003; telephone, 212-228-0110. For additional information visit [ukrainianmuseum.org](http://ukrainianmuseum.org).

Sunday, October 12

**NEW YORK:** Screening of the 2007 Canadian documentary film “A Kingdom Reborn: Treasures from Ukrainian Galicia” (in Ukrainian), a fascinating look at Galicia and its capital, Lviv, through rare footage of the region’s art and architecture. Admission (includes reception): \$15; members and seniors \$10; students \$5. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003 telephone, 212-228-0110. For additional information visit [ukrainianmuseum.org](http://ukrainianmuseum.org).

Sunday, October 26

**SOMERSET, N.J.:** A Ukrainian Fall Festival will be held at 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., (Somerset/South Bound Brook, N.J.). There will be performances by the Iskra Ukrainian Dancers and the Barvinok Dance Group from New Jersey, as well as the Kalynonka Bandura Duo from Pennsylvania; children’s activities; a marketplace featuring amber and beaded jewelry, Ukrainian embroidery, ceramics, pysanky, glass art, scarves, Ukrainian crafts and souvenirs, CDs DVDs, videos, T-shirts and athletic gear; a food court; a raffle; and museum tours. This is a great opportunity to get your Christmas shopping done early. Admission is \$5 for adults; free for children. For more information contact [sophiabilinsky@cs.com](mailto:sophiabilinsky@cs.com) or Luba Shevchenko, 908-725-5322.

## Tymoshenko Bloc...

(Continued from page 1)

While talks to form a renewed coalition between the two blocs, and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc, continued throughout the week, lawmakers said the union was unlikely largely because a faction of Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense deputies most loyal to the Presidential Secretariat isn’t interested in the coalition.

“Our bloc entirely agrees to accept the Lytvyn Bloc into the coalition,” Ms. Tymoshenko said on October 1. “But there’s no reaction to this from the president.”

Ms. Tymoshenko’s back-and-forth tactical partnerships with the Party of Regions and Our Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense bloc reveal desperation, Mr. Lozowy said.

“She’s running very scared of new elections,” he said. “Her only goal is to remain the person who pulls the budget strings. New elections carry the danger she won’t be prime minister, and will stop her capabilities of being acting prime minister.”

On the day of the renewed pact, Taras Chornovil provided another surprise by declaring his split from the Party of Regions.

Mr. Chornovil, the son of the legendary Soviet-era dissident Vyacheslav Chornovil who led the Ukrainian independence movement, had abandoned the Our Ukraine bloc in September 2004 to align himself with the pro-Russian Party of Regions.

Western Ukrainians and Ukrainian patriots immediately branded him a traitor, and Mr. Chornovil remains a target of taunts, derision and protest when appearing in western Ukraine.

Explaining his decision to leave the Party of Regions, Mr. Chornovil stated he was disappointed with the Party of Regions for abandoning coalition talks with the Tymoshenko Bloc, laying full blame on his party comrades.

However, Mr. Lozowy said he suspects that Mr. Chornovil didn’t get a post in the party or that its leadership might have adjusted his salary.

## Surprising and contradictory...

(Continued from page 2)

majority of Ukrainians believed the use of force in Georgia by both Russia and Georgia was illegal. Only 10.3 percent of those polled felt that the use of force by Georgia was legitimate, while 60.5 percent did not (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 2).

The Taylor Nelson survey found that 47 percent of those questioned believed an armed conflict with Russia was possible, while 42 percent replied that such a scenario was not only possible, but probable. Unexpectedly, 44 percent of respondents in eastern Ukraine shared this view. The majority of younger Ukrainians believe that a war with Russia is possible while 60 percent of senior citizens age 60 or over rejected this possibility.

When asked about the need to increase military preparedness in Ukraine, 37.9 percent (including 32.8 percent in eastern regions) were categorically for increasing the defense budget. A further 18.5 percent replied that they were “more for than against” greater defense spending (Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, August 29).

The results of these polls would seem to indicate that the president of Ukraine, a firm advocate of Ukrainian membership in NATO and a strong supporter of Georgia, and the opposition Party of Regions (PRU) are both out of touch with the views of the majority of the population. Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich’s call to recog-

nize the independence of South Ossetia and Abkhazia will most likely be rejected by his core base of supporters in the eastern and southern regions, while Mr. Yushchenko’s call for Ukrainian membership in NATO has not gained any support after the Russian-Georgian war.

Only the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc has benefited from recent events by refusing to endorse the president’s pro-Georgian stance and limiting itself to statements supporting Georgian territorial integrity and by taking a neutral view of future membership in NATO.

The greatest loser in the eyes of the Ukrainian public appears to be the Russian leadership, which failed to win overwhelming support from the allegedly “pro-Russian” eastern and southern regions of Ukraine for its actions in Georgia. And while the Putin-Medvedev policy appeals to elderly Ukrainians, many of whom might be nostalgic for the Soviet Union, younger Ukrainians by and large condemn the Kremlin’s aggressive actions as well as NATO membership. Apparently the up-and-coming Ukrainian elite will opt for neutrality for their country, while increasing efforts to join the European Union, which is not seen as a traditional enemy but as a path to prosperity.

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

## Over 100 meet...

(Continued from page 4)

University; Roman Zayets, a Ukrainian American community activist; Jaroslav Kryshchalsky, president of the Ukrainian Institute of America; and Vasyl Markus, editor-in-chief of the Encyclopedia of Ukrainians in the Diaspora. The Order of Princess Olga – third degree was awarded to Marta Kokolsky, a Ukrainian American community activist, and Zenia Chernyk, presi-

dent of the Ukrainian Federation of America.

Mrs. Yushchenko spoke to the audience and reminded them to support humanitarian organizations, such as the Ukraine-3000 Foundation, which she founded, and other organizations that are based in the diaspora. She encouraged Ukrainian Americans to come and visit Ukraine. Mrs. Yushchenko donated a photograph of an inverted rainbow that appeared above St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv. The rainbow was seen by many as a good omen for Ukraine.

## Yaroslava...

(Continued from page 13)

old Ukrainian folk tale, retold by Alvin Tresselt (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1964) – and a story that featured Ukrainian Easter egg-making, titled “An Egg is For Wishing” by Helen Kay (Abelard – Schuman, 1966).

In Rockland County, N.Y., Yaroslava taught art to both adults and children, inspiring students of calligraphy, traditional Ukrainian pysanka decorating and Eastern Orthodox icon painting. To develop her

knowledge of authentic Byzantine artistic methods, Yaroslava studied icon painting with Vladislav Andreyev at the School of Sacred Arts in New York City for seven years. Teaching icon painting in her home studio in West Nyack was one of her favorite activities in her later years.

Yaroslava’s brother, Myron Surmach Jr. of New York, predeceased her. She is survived by her son, Nikolas Mills of Denver, and two stepdaughters, Kathryn Mills of Boston and Pamela Mills-Milman of Rio de Janeiro.

### Two-day Symposium at The Ukrainian Museum

#### Putting Ukraine on the Map: Cossacks, Cartography, and Controversy

in conjunction with the exhibitions *The Mapping of Ukraine: European Cartography and Maps of Early Modern Ukraine, 1550-1799* and *The Cossacks: Their Art & Style* (closing October 12)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2008

10:00 a.m.

- George T. Gajecy, Ph.D, historian  
*The Cossack Administration of the Hetmanate*
- Prof. Frank Sysyn, University of Alberta  
*The Image of the Hetman: Contending Historical Evaluations of Bohdan Khmel'nyts'kyi*
- Presentation of the Mykhailo Hrushevsky *History of Ukraine-Rus'* vol.9, book 2, part 1: *The Cossack Age, 1654-1657* (CIUS Press)

12:30 - 2:00 Lunch break

- Prof. Serhii Plokhii, Harvard University  
*The Missing Mazepa: (Mis)understanding the Cossack Icon*
- Prof. Steven Seegel, University of Northern Colorado  
*European Visions of Ukraine: Introducing The Bohdan and Neonila Krawciw Ukrainian Map Collection*

4:00 p.m. Reception

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2008

2:00 p.m.

- Prof. Natalia Pylypiuk, University of Alberta (Edmonton)  
*The 'Look' of Early-Modern Ukrainian Poetry*
- Prof. Oleh Ilnytzkyj, University of Alberta (Edmonton)  
*Debunking a Myth: Gogol's Taras Bul'ba as a Manifestation of "Russian Nationalism"*

Symposium admission

All sessions: \$35; members and seniors \$25; students \$15  
One-day: \$20; members and seniors \$15; students \$10

Sunday participants are welcome to remain for the film screening and reception following the lectures.

RSVP: 212.228.0110 or [info@ukrainianmuseum.org](mailto:info@ukrainianmuseum.org)

FILM

Sunday, October 12, 2008 at 3:30 p.m.

*A Kingdom Reborn: Treasures from Ukrainian Galicia (in Ukrainian)*  
Admission (includes reception): \$15; members and seniors \$10; students \$5



The Ukrainian Museum

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# OUT AND ABOUT

- |  |  |                             |   |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---|
| October 10<br>Union, NJ                  | Holodomor Conference, Kean University, 908-737-0387 or <a href="http://www.kean.edu/~ukrconf">www.kean.edu/~ukrconf</a>  | October 17-26<br>Cleveland  | Trade Center, 202-691-4000  |
| October 11<br>Wayne, NJ                  | "Coming to America," benefit dinner for Ukrainian Orthodox Orphanages in Ukraine, Ukrainian Orthodox League - Holy Ascension Chapter (Clifton, N.J.), Grand Chalet, 201-437-2833 or <a href="mailto:maj0722@aol.com">maj0722@aol.com</a> | October 18<br>New York      | Iconography exhibit, featuring works by Daria Kulchytsky, Ukrainian Museum-Archives, 216-781-4329   |
| October 11<br>New York                   | Lecture by George Gajecki, "Hetman Ivan Vyhovsky," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130   | October 18<br>Etobicoke, ON | Symposium in conjunction with exhibitions, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110   |
| October 11-12<br>Glen Spey, NY           | Oktoberfest, Mountain View Resort, 845-856-1105  | October 18<br>Stamford, CT  | Niagara Wine Tour, Ukrainian Canadian Professionals and Businesspersons Association, 416-231-5641   |
| October 12<br>Sacramento, CA             | Parish celebration, Feast of the Virgin Mother of God, Protector of Ukraine, and the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church, 916-381-2329  | October 18<br>Ottawa        | 50th anniversary gala, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, <a href="mailto:Ukiemandm@aol.com">Ukiemandm@aol.com</a> |
| October 13<br>Paterson, NJ               | Fourth annual Beefsteak Dinner Fund-Raiser, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School, The Brownstown Inn, 973-779-0249   | October 18<br>New York      | John Stech Trio, Café Paradiso, 613-565-0657  |
| October 14-November 30<br>Oceanville, NJ | "Abstract Intrigue" art exhibit, featuring Ilona Sochynsky, The Noyes Museum of Art, 609-652-8848 or <a href="http://www.noyesmuseum.org">www.noyesmuseum.org</a>  | October 18<br>Ottawa        | Book presentation by Askold Melnyczuk, "The House of Widows," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130   |
| October 15-16<br>Washington              | Conference, "UA Roundtable IX: Ukraine's Regional Commitments," Center for U.S.-Ukrainian Relations, Library of Congress, 212-473-0839   | October 19<br>Barrie, ON    | Ukraina Band with Sofia Bilozor and the Felines, Babylon, 613-594-0003  |
| October 16<br>Washington                 | Lecture by Timothy Snyder, "The Red Prince: The Ukrainian Mission of a Habsburg Archduke," Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Ronald Reagan Building and International  | October 19<br>Scranton, PA  | Ninth annual Ukrainian Festival, Barrie Central Collegiate, 705-436-4343  |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in *The Ukrainian Weekly*. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows; photos will be considered. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each. Please send e-mail to [mdubas@ukrweekly.com](mailto:mdubas@ukrweekly.com).



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## Soyuzivka's Datebook

October 4 - 5 – Private function  
 October 10 - 13 – Private function  
 October 18 - 19 – Private function  
 October 24 - 26 – Halloween weekend festivities

November 1 - 2 – Private function  
 November 7 - 9 – Orlykiada  
 November 27 – Thanksgiving dinner; rooms available in Main House building only



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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, October 11

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Prof. George Gajecki titled "Hetman Ivan Vyhovsky." The lecture will be illustrated with slides. It 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.

Saturday, October 18

**SYRACUSE, N.Y.:** The Syracuse Ukrainian National Home is celebrating 75 years of Ukrainian tradition with a Diamond Jubilee Champagne Reception and Zabava beginning at 7 p.m. The featured band will be Vorony. The event includes a performance by the Odesa Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, a formal cocktail hour, midnight hors d'oeuvres and a complimentary champagne toast. Tickets are \$25 for adults; free for those age 12 and under. For additional information or directions call 315-478-9272 or e-mail SYRACUSEUNH@hotmail.com. The Syracuse Ukrainian National Home is located at 1317 W. Fayette St., Syracuse, NY 13214.

**ARLINGTON, Va.:** A Screening of the documentary film "Folk!" — chronicling the unique, high-flying world of Ukrainian folk dancing in North America and offering an often funny look at what it's like to grow up in a Ukrainian American community — will be held at 7 p.m. (doors open at

6 p.m.) at the NRECA Conference Center, 4301 Wilson Blvd. (enter on North Taylor Street). Free parking is available; venue is accessible by Metro (Ballston). Cost: \$10; \$5 for children under age 12. A reception with the film's producers will follow. Light desserts and refreshments will be available for purchase from Natalie's Elegant Creations of Falls Church. The event is hosted by the Arlington Sister City Association (Ivano-Frankivsk Committee).

Saturday-Sunday, October 11-12

**NEW YORK:** A two-day symposium will focus on "Putting Ukraine on the Map: Cossacks, Cartography and Controversy." Saturday sessions begin at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. with a reception. Papers will be presented by George Gajecki, Ph.D., historian; Prof. Frank Sysyn, University of Alberta; Prof. Serhii Plokhii, Harvard University; Prof. Steven Seegel, University of Northern Colorado; and will include a special presentation of the new volume of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus'." Sunday sessions begin at 2 p.m. with presentations by Prof. Natalia Pylypiuk and Prof. Oleh Ilnytskyj from the University of Alberta (Edmonton). All sessions: \$35; members and seniors, \$25; students, \$15. One-day admission: \$20; members and seniors, \$15; students, \$10. Sunday participants are welcome to remain for the film screening and reception fol-

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## 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](mailto: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.**

## Call for Ukrainian Christmas Cards

Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre in Winnipeg is hosting an exhibition of Ukrainian Christmas cards in December 2008.

To this end, Oseredok invites you to donate or loan your Ukrainian Christmas cards. Of particular interest are cards by Ukrainian Canadian and Ukrainian American artists from the mid-1900s to the present. Oseredok will take good care of your Christmas card treasures.

Deadline for submission: October 20, 2008

Please contact Sophia Kachor at (204) 942-0218 or [ucec@mts.net](mailto:ucec@mts.net)

Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre  
 184 Alexander Ave. E,  
 Winnipeg, MB R3B 0L6 Canada