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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine reacts to the election of Barack Obama

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko of Ukraine congratulated Sen. Barack Obama on his victory in the U.S. presidential elections.

“Congratulations on your election as president of the United States,” wrote Mr. Yushchenko on November 5. “It is my strong conviction that during your term in the office Ukraine-U.S. relations, based on the common values and closeness of interests in the international arena, will develop and strengthen in favor of our people.”

The Ukrainian president expressed confidence that the strategic partnership between Ukraine and the United States will further play a significant role in securing peace and stability worldwide. Mr. Yushchenko wished Sen. Obama good health and success in his work for the benefit of the American people.

Prime Minister Tymoshenko sent a telegram to the president-elect, congratulating him on his election victory. She wrote: “Your victory is an inspiration for us. What seemed impossible is now possible.”

Ms. Tymoshenko said she is convinced that the leadership and enthusiasm of the

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IMF OKs \$16.4 billion loan to Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on December 5 approved a \$16.4 billion loan to the Ukrainian government – its biggest ever credit – to stabilize Ukraine’s shaken financial system and restore public confidence in the nation’s banks.

The first tranche of \$4.5 billion was released after Ukraine’s Parliament agreed to set aside the election financing conflict, after two weeks of fierce wrangling, and approve anti-crisis legislation on October 31, which was signed by President Viktor Yushchenko on November 3.

Besides propping up collapsing banks, Ukrainian leaders hoped the loan would restore public trust in the nation’s financial system, much of which eroded after the government froze access to bank deposits on October 13 and then devalued the hryvnia, causing many depositors to lose money.

“The issue is we need to demonstrate that the National Bank has a reserve in the national currency,” said President Yushchenko, referring to the loan as “psychological credit.”

Though she offered a different proposal, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko eventually agreed to support the president’s anti-crisis proposal, which was ratified by 243 national deputies in the Verkhovna Rada representing the Our

Ukraine – People’s Self-Defense, Volodymyr Lytvyn and Tymoshenko blocs.

The law’s biggest provision involves creating a stabilization fund to raise budget revenues with new measures, such as privatization of state assets, and then using the money to extend credit and financing to insolvent banks and construction firms.

Meanwhile, the IMF funds will enable the state to purchase, or nationalize, shares in stricken banks, thereby giving them a capital injection and stabilizing them.

“The crisis in all the world is being interpreted as a banking crisis,” said Prime Minister Tymoshenko. “And that’s

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ELECTION NOTEBOOK: Ukraine’s elections now postponed indefinitely

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc succeeded in indefinitely postponing the 2008 pre-term parliamentary elections with its leaders apologizing for their brutish behavior in recent weeks but nevertheless vowing to overwhelm the courts to prevent any vote.

“In formal ways, we will practically bury the administrative courts with complaints,” Andrii Portnov, a Tymoshenko Bloc national deputy, said on November 3. “In this period, we will create the most powerful, most extensive legal service throughout all of Ukraine’s regions,

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Website of the Government of Ukraine

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

Kean University conference focuses on Holodomor

by Roma Hadzewycz

UNION, N.J. – Kean University on October 10 hosted an educational conference on the “Ukraine Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933” that featured presentations by historians, educators and Holodomor survivors.

Billed by the university as a human rights conference, the program’s stated aim was “to preserve the dignity of all human beings, to promote human rights around the world and to ensure that food is never again used as a weapon.”

The conference coordinator was Dr. Ruth P. Griffith, who teaches a graduate course titled “Ukrainian Famine-Genocide” that was first offered in the spring semester of 2006. Dr. Griffith is the granddaughter of a Holodomor victim and the daughter of a survivor, Mary Horbatiuk-Demysyn Piatnochka, who spoke at the conference of her family’s experience during the genocidal Famine.

The keynote address at the conference was delivered by Dr. Taras Hunczak, professor emeritus of history at Rutgers University, who underscored that “it was

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Markian Hadzewycz

At the Kean University conference “Ukraine Famine-Genocide” (from left) are: conference coordinator Dr. Ruth P. Griffith; her mother, a Holodomor survivor, Mary Horbatiuk-Demysyn Piatnochka; and Dr. Taras Hunczak, keynote speaker.

Cooper Union stirs Ukrainian community with Picasso’s “Stalin”

by Matthew Dubas

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian community of New York City mobilized to call for the removal of a three-story high portrait depicting Joseph Stalin on display on the southern façade of Cooper Union’s Foundation Building, located at Third Avenue and Seventh Street, in the Ukrainian neighborhood of Manhattan’s East Village.

The banner was 40 feet wide and 52 feet high and was installed on October 26 as part of Norwegian artist Lene Berg’s exhibit inside the Arthur A. Houghton Jr. Gallery. The portrait is a copy of the 1953 charcoal drawing “Stalin by Picasso or Woman with Moustache.”

Originally commissioned by Louis Aragon, editor of the Parisian newspaper Les Lettres Francaises and a member of the French Communist Party, as a memorial tribute to Joseph Stalin after his death, Mr. Aragon wanted to memorial-

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ANALYSIS

Ukrainian cable TV networks ordered to drop Russian channels

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Moscow has claimed that Kyiv's recent decision to banish several Russian TV channels from Ukrainian cable TV networks was a violation of bilateral accords and of the rights of Russian speakers. Kyiv, on the other hand, says that the Russian channels in question violated Ukrainian laws. Ukrainian cable TV operators, backed by pro-Russian politicians, may ignore the ban.

On September 23 the National TV and Radio Broadcasting Council (NRTR), Ukraine's media regulating body, ordered cable networks to stop re-broadcasting the state-controlled Russian channels ORT and RTR and the private Ren TV beginning November 1.

The NRTR explained that RTR and Ren TV had unfairly competed with Ukrainian TV channels by broadcasting the same programs simultaneously, while ORT broadcast "untrue information," such as a report in March 2006 alleging that secret CIA prisons existed in Ukraine and a report in April of this year saying that Hitler dolls were on sale in Kyiv shops (www.telekritika.ua, October 3).

"We demand adherence to the requirements of the laws on copyrights, advertisement, consumer rights protection, broadcasting and several other laws," said NRTR Chairman Vitalii Shevchenko. He recalled that Ukraine's state television (UT1) reported "heavy losses" when Ukrainian cable TV networks re-broadcast RTR reports from Eurovision, the European popular music contest, for two years simultaneously with UT1, resulting in UT1 collecting less money from advertisers (Ukrayinska Pravda, October 6). Many Russian-speaking Ukrainians preferred RTR to UT1 because of the language.

The Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU), the main opposition party, accused the NRTR of discriminating against Russian channels. It noted that the NRTR did not

ban the Russian-language programs of the RTVi and EuroNews channels, which are based outside Russia.

"The powers-that-be want to cut off Ukrainian society from the Russian information space," the PRU said in a statement, "thereby violating freedom of speech in Ukraine and the right of citizens to receive full and true information." The PRU, which is apparently going to play the Russian language card in the forthcoming parliamentary election campaign, also accused the NRTR of violating the right of Russian speakers to receive information in their native language (Ukrayinska Pravda, October 7).

Moscow's reaction has been predictably stormy. The Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry warned that the ban on the Russian channels would badly affect bilateral relations, as "it is in violation of the relevant provisions of the Russian-Ukrainian agreements on cooperation between the two countries' mass media." Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Andrei Nesterenko said that "it will be impossible for millions of Russians and Ukrainians residing in Ukraine to receive information in their native language" (UNIAN, October 9). Russian Communications Minister Igor Schegolev urged Kyiv to "stop discriminating against Russian channels." He said that the ban violated the October 2000 agreement between the Russian and Ukrainian governments on cooperating in TV and radio broadcasting (Interfax, October 24).

The NRTR said that it would invite RTR, ORT and Ren TV back to Ukraine if the three channels committed themselves to adhering to Ukrainian and European broadcasting laws. The NRTR denied violating the rights of Russian speakers, saying that several TV companies based in Ukraine were licensed to broadcast Russian-language programs (Ukrayinska Pravda, October 10). The NRTR recalled that it had warned

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Ship owner says crewmembers of Faina in satisfactory condition

Ukrinform

KYIV – The crewmembers of the Faina, the ship seized by Somali pirates back on September 25, are in satisfactory condition. Drinking water and food were delivered to the ship on November 3, according to Waterlux, the Panama-based company that owns the ship.

According to a press release, the ship's owner and an intermediary company are making all efforts to successfully complete talks with the pirates. It stressed that "the situation requires a weighted approach and a comprehensive decision involving all interested parties. Steps should be taken according to rules drafted by international practice, and agreement should be reached through a party empowered to hold the talks."

Moreover, Waterlux denied reports by Al-Sharq al-Awsat, an Arabic newspaper published in London, concerning a new date for the release of the Faina, the amount of the ransom and details about the negotiating process. The newspaper reported that the pirates could free the crew of the vessel for a \$5 million (U.S.) ransom.

According to the ship's owner, "this information does not represent the facts, and

it is another attempt to spread misleading reports in the media. An impression arises that all this is being done on purpose to cause tension in the settlement process."

The press release adds that Waterlux is a reliable source of information about the situation and that it "has not made and won't make any statements in public about the amount of a ransom and other demands."

The Faina, flying the colors of Belize, was on a voyage from the port of Oktiabrsk (Mykolaiv, Ukraine) to Mombasa, Kenya. It was transporting ammunition and other weapons bought by the Defense Ministry of Kenya. A total of 17 Ukrainians, two Russians and one Latvian citizen are aboard the ship. The captain of the vessel, a Russian citizen, died of natural causes shortly after the ship's seizure.

Foreign Affairs Minister Volodymyr Ohryzko of Ukraine had told a press conference on October 30 that the talks with the pirates were progressing and could be settled within "a couple of hours or days, maximum."

Emphasizing that the talks with the pirates are rather delicate, the minister asked Ukrainian politicians not to interfere with the negotiations. "This could damage the course of the talks," Mr. Ohryzko said.

NEWSBRIEFS

President cuts Secretariat staff

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on November 4 signed a decree on the reduction of budget spending and personnel supporting the activity of Ukraine's head of state. One-fourth of the Presidential Secretariat will be discharged, and a number of presidential institutes will be closed. The staff of the National Institute of Strategic Studies has been cut by 100 to 217 people. The National Institute of International Security and the National Security Institute were united into one scientific center, as a result of which 178 positions were liquidated. From now on, presidential advisers will be appointed exclusively on freelance terms – they will not be registered as civil servants and will not receive salaries. Forty-five employees of the Presidential Secretariat, 50 of the National Security and Defense Council administration, and 43 of the State Affairs Department will be sacked. Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha said the rights of the discharged civil servants would be observed in the course of the reorganization. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko signs anti-crisis bill into law

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on November 3 signed into law a bill on priority measures to prevent negative aftereffects of the financial crisis, which was adopted by the Verkhovna Rada on October 31. The law guarantees the economic security of the state, and the minimization of possible losses to Ukraine's economic and financial systems from the finance crisis that involves the majority of industrialized countries. The law will be in effect until the final settlement of the financial and economic situation in Ukraine, but no longer than until January 1, 2011. (Ukrinform)

President stands firm on elections

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on November 3, during a working visit to the Chernivtsi region, that he will not change his mind about holding pre-term parliamentary elections. Mr. Yushchenko stressed that talks about a

possible revival of the coalition in the Verkhovna Rada are the prime minister's alone. He said that he personally does not see any political force in the Parliament, except the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), that could back the incumbent prime minister to interfere in the formation of a coalition. The president said the democratic coalition "would have worked for a long period... if the prime minister had been honest with the coalition, did not hold back-door talks and consultations how to turn Ukraine's course to the opposite side." The president added that the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense faction has no desire to return to the coalition, and he emphasized that early elections under the current situation are the only constitutional way out. (Ukrinform)

Uncertainty puts pressure on PM

KYIV – The uncertainty about pre-term parliamentary elections is favorable for the opposition Party of Regions and the Ukrainian president, as it helps them pressure Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, commented the director of the Penta Center for Political Studies, Volodymyr Fesenko. Analyzing the development of the political situation in Ukraine, the political expert said on November 3 that under conditions of the economic crisis, the Party of Regions and the president might use the uncertainty concerning elections to decrease the popularity ratings of Ms. Tymoshenko. "It is favorable for them to retain the situation of instability," he said. Mr. Fesenko expressed confidence that new talks on the creation of a coalition would start during the next plenary week of the Verkhovna Rada, adding that such negotiations might be held between the Party of Regions and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB). He said that the YTB is most interested in the formation of any coalition, because a new coalition is a legitimate alternative to early parliamentary elections. Mr. Fesenko also said that the snap elections might not take place at all. "It is clear that they won't be held by late January or early February. However, if there is another delay, the elections won't be held at all, as it is forbidden to hold early parlia-

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Editors: Matthew Dubas
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ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3041 e-mail: ukradmin@att.net
Maria Oscislawski, advertising manager	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040 e-mail: adukr@optonline.net
Mariyka Pendzola, subscriptions	(973) 292-9800, ext. 3042 e-mail: ukrsubscr@att.net

The Holodomor 75 years later: The Luhansk Oblast

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

LUHANSK, Ukraine – The Holodomor was falsified in the Luhansk Oblast in 1933 and it remains falsified today, in the view of Iryna Mahrytska, a Donbas native who has gathered more testimonies and seen more documents than anyone else in the region.

“I know the mentality of my ‘zemliaky’ (fellow natives),” well Ms. Mahrytska said. “About 10 percent believe it was genocide against Ukrainians, and the rest begin to yell or say that there wasn’t any Holodomor, that it was all invented by the Banderites and the Americans. Our people have been made to think like zombies.”

Perhaps no other oblast’s memory of the Holodomor has been erased as much as that of Ukraine’s easternmost oblast, where the majority of local officials and residents deny its genocidal nature and aren’t much interested in learning the facts being uncovered by Ms. Mahrytska, the region’s foremost researcher.

This year, after she published her book “Vriatovana Pamiat” (“Rescued Memory”), the most authoritative account of the Holodomor in the Luhansk Oblast, she could not find a single copy on local bookstore shelves despite getting assurances from local leaders, most of whom belong to the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU).

Not only does the pro-Russian Party of Regions control more than 80 percent of the seats on the Luhansk Oblast Council, but President Viktor Yushchenko struck a deal to appoint their man, Oleksander Antipov, as chair of the Luhansk Oblast State Administration, the organ that is supposed to represent the Presidential Secretariat’s interests.

While most other oblast state administration chairs adhere to the Presidential Secretariat’s agenda, Mr. Antipov has followed the Party of Regions line, Ms. Mahrytska said, subverting Holodomor awareness and education efforts.

When Ms. Mahrytska inquired why “Rescued Memory” was absent from one of the city’s biggest textbook stores, the clerk



Zenon Zawada

The pro-Russian Party of Regions of Ukraine, which controls the city and oblast governments in Luhansk, has taken steps to prevent Iryna Mahrytska’s books and film projects about the Holodomor in Luhansk from reaching the public.

replied that the store had indeed received the book but didn’t get the necessary permission from oblast officials to distribute it to students with their standard texts.

Instead, officials made sure the children received “Sieverodonetsk – Unresolved,” a Russian-language book carefully detailing the PRU’s political history and goals.

The second book given to schoolchildren, “The Truth About OUN-UPA,” featured on its cover Oblast Council Chair Valerii Holenko standing next to two Red Army veterans.

The book teaches Luhansk’s next generation that Ukrainian Insurgent Army soldiers were betrayers of the Ukrainian people, Nazi collaborators and fascists.

“They form the public thinking, and parents raise their children on such ‘truth,’” Ms. Mahrytska said of the lies contained in the book.

So while the Security Service of Ukraine financed the publishing of “Revealed Memory,” on the direct command of

President Viktor Yushchenko who was impressed by Ms. Mahrytska’s work, it could not ensure its distribution to Luhansk students.

Censorship was more severe when Ms. Mahrytska tried to produce a documentary film about the Holodomor in the Luhansk Oblast, which included video testimonies she collected in 2005 after an Our Ukraine politician offered a cameraman and transportation.

Ms. Mahrytska made the most of Oleksii Danylov’s generosity, traveling to no less than 60 Luhansk Oblast villages to collect eyewitness accounts.

Desperately wanting to produce a film in time for the 75th anniversary global commemoration of the Holodomor in November, Ms. Mahrytska found a single willing sponsor in Mr. Antipov, who earmarked a mere \$2,760 in oblast funds.

Given her humble finances, she also had to accept an oblast-appointed director. Her husband, Oleksander Kramarenko, also a

Holodomor researcher, wrote the script.

After she worked with him for several months, the director began avoiding Ms. Mahrytska, eventually admitting that he gave the soon-to-be-completed film to Vadym Zheleznyi, the Oblast State Administration’s information and press administration chair.

“The film ceased to be ours,” she said. “The administration decided to do whatever it wanted with it, censor it and erase certain parts.”

Mr. Zheleznyi and Mr. Antipov denied Ms. Mahrytska’s demands to get her film back. Only after informing the Presidential Secretariat of the oblast administration’s censorship campaign did officials return the film – but only the edited version.

Undaunted, Ms. Mahrytska is striving to re-produce the film in preparation for the November 22 commemoration day.

“But where would I even screen it?” she wondered aloud, immediately eliminating the Russian-controlled local television stations.

The Luhansk government’s refusal to uncover the truth about the Holodomor will be apparent in that oblast’s volume of the National Memory Book of Holodomor Victims.

Ms. Mahrytska learned that the editorial team plans to submit a figure of about 32,000 Holodomor victims for her oblast – an insultingly low figure which doesn’t take into account the deaths that she and other researchers confirmed verbally in interviews with survivors.

“Let’s say five or six dead bodies were found in a house, for example,” she said. “Some guy with a cart came across to collect these dead people and dumped them in a mass grave. What would he have recorded and who died? Those weren’t registered at all.”

Nor does 32,000 take into account the fatalities that were falsified by officials who were ordered not to write “starvation” as a cause of death.

Ms. Mahrytska came across Ukrainians who purportedly died from a headache and

(Continued on page 22)

Rusyn separatists, with support from Russia, seek autonomous republic in Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – With support from the Russian Federation, Rusyn separatists declared their goal of forming an autonomous Podkarpatska Rus’ republic in the Zakarpattia Oblast at their second European Congress of Subcarpathian Rusyns held on October 25 in Mukachiv.

The declaration drew immediate rebuke from Our Ukraine People’s Union and the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union, which called for criminal prosecution of the conference organizers and laid full blame on the Russian government.

“The actions of separatists in Crimea and Zakarpattia are directed from abroad,” said Ivan Stoiko, an Our Ukraine–People’s Self-Defense national deputy from Ternopil. “Pro-Russian forces organize and support separatist movements in Ukraine, laying the basis to assert a planned special operation to destabilize the situation in Ukraine developed by the Kremlin.”

More than 10,000 Ukrainians identify themselves as Rusyns, according to the 2000 census; they claim a separate ethnicity, language, culture and church.

The overwhelming consensus among Ukrainian scholars is that Rusyns speak a dialect of the Ukrainian language, not distinct enough to be considered a separate language.

The Mukachiv conference was organized

by the two leading Rusyn organizations, the Soim of Podkarpatski Rusyns and the Zakarpattia Rusyns People’s Council, who approved an “Act of Declaring Renewed Rusyn Statehood and Creating a State Executive Government.”

The Rusyns seek to regain the autonomy declared in November 22, 1938, but shy away from independence claims since they “take into account the political and economic crisis in the state and in Europe.”

The act takes effect in the event of a state of emergency declared “on Rusyn territory,” attempts at territorial or administrative changes “on Rusyn territory,” threats of annihilation from the Ukrainian government, security services or terrorist organizations, attempts at occupation from “nationalist, terrorist organizations” and further attempts by the Ukrainian government to deny Rusyns their statehood.

Though constantly broadcasting propaganda denigrating Ukrainian history and culture, smearing nationally conscious Ukrainians as rabid nationalists and Nazi sympathizers, Russian television networks gave the conference of 109 Rusyns gathered on the farthest western edge of Ukraine unusually large and positive attention.

In its news program, RTR Planeta cast the Rusyns as victims of Ukrainian nationalists in Zakarpattia, who pressured Rusyn book store owner Ivan Petrovets to re-write his store signage from Rusyn to Ukrainian.

(It should be noted that Russian-language

store signage overwhelms the urban landscapes of eastern Ukrainian cities such as Luhansk, Donetsk and Kharkiv.)

“The Ukrainian government is at the point of cutting cable (television), where Russian television can be watched, but the ancient link won’t be torn,” said a Rusyn woman.

The news story appeared the day after the conference, indicating Russian government officials played a role in promoting on the media what would have been an otherwise small political rally for an obscure cause in a foreign country that wouldn’t much interest the Russian public.

It concluded with a threat against Ukraine.

“Ukraine has time to think, but not all that much,” said Vladyslav Lytsovych, leader of the Great Podkarpatski Rusyns Society.

Much evidence points to Russian support for the Rusyns, Ukrainian news media reported.

Rusyn Congress Co-Chair the Rev. Dymytrii Sydor, a priest in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church–Moscow Patriarchate, served in the campaign of Russian radical Natalia Vitrenko’s People’s Opposition Bloc in the 2006 parliamentary election, reported Ukrayina Moloda, a national daily newspaper.

The priest issued the threat that if the Rusyns’ verbal demands are ignored, “we will find other paths to renewing statehood.”

Security Service of Ukraine spokes-

woman Maria Ostapenko said the conference will be investigated, but no Rusyn leaders were convicted following charges filed in 2006 for encroaching on Ukraine’s integrity.

Instead of blaming the Kremlin, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) issued statements asking the Security Service of Ukraine and the Procurator General’s Office to investigate whether Zakarpattia native and Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha is involved in financing the Rusyn separatists.

“The basis for investigations should be numerous publications in the mass media, in which fairly authoritative journalists report that Baloha’s political and business partners offer financial support for the Podkarpatski Rusyn movement,” the YTB said.

Meanwhile, Svoboda nationalists blamed Zakarpattia Oblast Council deputies of the Party of Regions of Ukraine, the Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine, the Socialist Party and two Hungarian parties for voting for a bill to recognize the Rusyn nationality in March 2007.

“It’s revealing that Deputy Yevhen Zhupan of Our Ukraine, which initiated the Rusyn issue at the session, opened the congress of separatists this time around,” said an October 26 Svoboda press release. “Tomorrow, they will implement the ‘Georgian scenario’ in Ukraine, armed with Russian passports and Kremlin money,” the statement said.

UCCA presents Shevchenko Freedom Award to Paula Dobriansky

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) at its XX Congress of Ukrainians in America held in Cleveland on October 18-19 presented the Shevchenko Freedom Award to individuals who have dedicated their efforts for the advancement of Ukrainian issues within the Ukrainian community or in American society.

Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky was among those singled out for the honor, but she was unable to attend the congress. Ms. Dobriansky is the daughter of the UCCA's long-serving former president and former U.S. ambassador to the Bahamas, Dr. Lev E. Dobriansky.

Members of the outgoing UCCA executive board traveled to Washington on October 28, to present the Shevchenko Freedom Award to Undersecretary Dobriansky at her State Department office.

Present at the ceremony were former UCCA President Michael Sawkiw, Jr., former UCCA Executive Vice-President

Larissa Kyj and UCCA Executive Secretary Marie Duplak, as well as Dr. Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine's ambassador to the United States.

Mr. Sawkiw presented the award, whose citation read: "The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America has the honor to present the Shevchenko Freedom Award to the Honorable Paula Dobriansky for her commitment to pursuing steadfast relations with Ukraine in recognition of Ukraine's vital importance to the peace and security of the European continent."

Ms. Dobriansky said she was honored to receive the award and thanked the UCCA for its diligent and determined efforts in representing the Ukrainian American community for nearly 70 years.

She mentioned her father's efforts to establish the Shevchenko monument in Washington, and how proud he was to see that Ukraine finally regained its independence after decades of communist rule and tyranny – a goal he tirelessly worked towards during his many years of service to the Ukrainian community.



U.S. Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky (center) with (from left) Larissa Kyj, former UCCA executive vice-president; Dr. Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S.; Michael Sawkiw Jr., former UCCA president; and Marie Duplak, UCCA executive secretary.

OSCE meeting in Ukraine supports fight against trafficking of humans

KYIV – Promoting cooperation between Ukrainian authorities and Kyiv-based embassies and consulates to fight human trafficking was the purpose of a meeting organized in Kyiv on October 24 by the office of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine.

Consular officials and diplomats from 20 participating states of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Ukrainian government representatives discussed coordination of anti-trafficking efforts, including support abroad for Ukrainians who could potentially be trafficking victims and prosecution of traffickers.

Participants also developed a mechanism for closer cooperation between consular services and Ukrainian authorities in the fight against human trafficking.

Lubomir Kopaj, the OSCE project coordinator, said the meeting was organized as part of the office's work to help Ukraine implement the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, which says immigration authorities and consular and diplomatic personnel should be informed about trafficking risks so that they can use this knowledge in their daily contacts with potential victims.

"By working together with Ukrainian authorities and foreign embassies here in Ukraine, we are helping consular sections reduce the risk for trafficking and exploitation – something that has become part of life for many Ukrainian women, men and children," he said.

The meeting was organized by the office of the OSCE Project Coordinator in cooperation with the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Canadian Embassy in Ukraine. This was the sixth such event organized with the support of the Embassy of Canada.

Cooper Union...

(Continued from page 1)

ize Joseph Stalin on the front page of the newspaper. In its original release, Picasso's portrait of Stalin wreaked political havoc in the Communist Party, the art world and the press.

Cooper Union's exhibit was to feature video screenings on Stalin and historic footage about art and propaganda during the Cold War – specifically, "Encounter," founded in 1953 as a project of the Congress of Cultural Freedom (1950-1967), an anti-Communist advocacy group initiated by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Ukrainian community began an action campaign with e-mails and telephone calls to protest the huge Stalin portrait. Engaging the younger portion of the Ukrainian community, the "Stalin Go Home" group, initiated by Andriy Dobriansky on the social networking website Facebook, attracted over 140 people to the cause. Mr. Dobriansky is an active member of the New York branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

On Friday, October 31, Tamara Gallo Oleksy, national president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ronya Lozynskij of the UCCA, Peter Shyshka, principal of St. George Academy, and Marco Shmerykowsky, a professional engineer who is a Cooper Union alumnus, met with Cooper Union's Ronnie Denes, vice-president of external affairs, Claire McCarthy, director of public affairs, and Jolene Travis, assistant director of public affairs and media relations.

Mmes. Gallo and Lozynskij explained to the Cooper Union officials why the banners were offensive and how it could be seen as an assault on Ukrainian community. Cooper Union suggested as an option that on November 15 (the date of the Holodomor march in New York), a black banner would be hung over the portrait of Stalin. This was unacceptable to the Ukrainian delegation and was not an option in their opinion.

This was not the first time that Cooper Union had triggered a row between the



Picasso's "Portrait of Stalin or Woman with Moustache" on the southern façade of Cooper Union's Foundation Building on Seventh Street and Third Avenue.

school and the Ukrainian community. In 2001 the school attempted to demap Taras Shevchenko Place, which runs from Seventh to Sixth streets between Third and Second avenues.

According to some members of the Ukrainian community, the placement of the Stalin banner showed a lack of sensitivity on Cooper Union's part and was akin to displaying banners of Hitler in the predominantly Jewish neighborhoods of Williamsburg in Brooklyn.

"Art is intended to be provocative," said Markian Surmach of the Surma Ukrainian gift shop, located several yards from the exhibit. "I do not believe the exhibit was meant to celebrate Stalin the man, but more for shock value."

Two hours after the meeting conclud-

ed, the banners were removed due to the swift actions of the Ukrainian community. Just as quickly, as people were notified of the removal, thanks were sent to the parties responsible at Cooper Union.

In an official e-mail sent to students, Cooper Union claimed that the banners were removed because the city's Department of Buildings informed the school that the three banners were in violation of city permit regulations. The school is in the process of resubmitting permit applications to determine if the banners can be reinstated, but would wait until after the Holodomor commemorations "as a gesture of respect for our neighbors." Until such time, the exhibit, which included two videos and two books projects, will be closed.

Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Monument in Sault Ste. Marie commemorates internment operations

SAULT STE. MARIE, Ontario – On Saturday October 25, a monument was unveiled here to commemorate the internment of Ukrainians in Canada from 1914 to 1920.

This latest marker is the 21st such monument in Canada. This recent one is at the site of the Sault Ste. Marie Museum, which was the location where individuals were processed before being sent to internment camps.

Over 100 people attended the unveiling, among them Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, chair of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association; Olya Grod of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress; Mayor John Rowswell, an ancestor of Ukrainian-Polish immigrants; and members of the Ukrainian Cultural Centre of Sault Ste. Marie.

Father Jaroslaw Lazoryk performed the “panakhyda,” or memorial service. The plaque is inscribed in English, French and Ukrainian.

Following the unveiling, the attendees gathered for a reception at St. Mary’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, after which Dr. Luciuk presented a very informative talk on the internment camps across Canada.



At the unveiling ceremony of a monument dedicated to the 1914-1920 internment of Ukrainian Canadians (from left) are: Olya Grod of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Veronica Refcio, Lucy Konkin, Cathy Beaudette, Father Jaroslaw Lazoryk, Bob Plotycia, Amelia Deplonty, Anne Logtenberg, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and Dr. Irene Oktaba.

Buyer beware: Canadian investor tells a tale of Lviv real estate woe

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Falling Ukrainian real estate prices might entice investors to buy a downtown apartment, but Canadian Ihor Krut urges potential buyers to take time to find out just who the neighbors are.

After enduring alleged verbal threats that culminated in a nasty beating, he found out the hard way that investors are largely unprotected in contemporary Ukraine, where crimes not only go unpunished but authorities can serve as accomplices.

“Instead of protecting me, a police officer stood by and did nothing,” said Mr. Krut, echoing the frustration of hundreds of investors who have suffered from Ukraine’s absent law enforcement.

After immigrating to Toronto from Ukraine in 1989, the 45-year-old Mr. Krut had always harbored hopes of returning to his homeland to work as a photographer, cameraman or video producer.

Finally able to fulfill his dream about four years ago, Mr. Krut bought a first-floor apartment in a two-story home built in 1932 on the posh Gen. (Myron) Tarnavskiy Street on Lviv’s central hills.

Mr. Krut got the impression that his neighbor, Taras Lysheniuk, was a reasonable, peaceable local businessman.

They agreed Mr. Krut could build a basement and outdoor terrace, while Mr. Lysheniuk could add a new floor above his second-floor apartment, more than doubling his total space to 145 square meters (1560 square feet).

As the months passed, however, Mr. Lysheniuk became interested in Mr. Krut’s property, indicating on several occasions that he wanted to buy it, but making no concrete offer, Mr. Krut said.

After spending two years trudging through bureaucracy, Mr. Krut secured the necessary permit in mid-May and hired workers to build a new basement and terrace, drawing Mr. Lysheniuk’s wrath.

“Stop the reconstruction or I will complicate your life,” Mr. Lysheniuk allegedly threatened Mr. Krut at the end of August. “If you need problems, I will create problems.”

About 10 days later the Architectural-Construction Control of Lviv sent Mr.

Krut a notice alleging its officials found inconsistent figures in his documents, which required that he cease construction.

By then, Mr. Krut said he cut most of his heating, electricity and plumbing to perform the reconstruction, making his apartment largely uninhabitable.

“The institution that gave me permission four months ago suddenly changed its mind ‘until further reconsideration,’” he said. “I assume he [Mr. Lysheniuk] paid someone. He told me I will have problems and it happened literally in 10 days. I can’t live in the apartment because of artificially created obstacles.”

Events took a turn for the worse on September 22 when Mr. Krut entered his apartment only to find Mr. Lysheniuk, who appeared inebriated, accompanied by a police officer and officials who claimed to be from the procurator’s office.

He slung his professional video camera over his right shoulder and began asking who they were.

“So what? I am in your apartment! What’s the problem?” Mr. Lysheniuk shouted, before allegedly punching the left side of his head, sending Mr. Krut and his camera to the floor.

When contacted by The Weekly, Mr. Lysheniuk avoided commenting on whether he assaulted Mr. Krut or bribed officials at the Architectural-Building Control.

Instead, he said Mr. Krut violated his end of the deal, building the terrace in different proportions than what they had agreed upon and what was permitted. For this, the Halych District Administration is suing Mr. Krut, he alleged.

The evening he was in Mr. Krut’s apartment, Mr. Lysheniuk said his daughter smelled natural gas in the corridor so he called utility officials to investigate a potential gas leak.

“He’s creating a conflict for the administration to legalize all his construction,” Mr. Lysheniuk said. “He is provoking all this in order for me to allow him to keep doing this illegally.”

After Mr. Lysheniuk left with his alleged entourage of police officers, Mr. Krut went to the nearest hospital, where he was treated for head injuries. A judicial-medical expertise issued by the hospital confirmed Mr. Krut was beaten.

“I couldn’t imagine this would happen to me,” he said. “I thought these things only happened to people with shady dealings. I wasn’t connected to anything. But this happened in my own living room.”

Soon afterwards Mr. Krut sent letters to every possible official about the incident – the Lviv Oblast Security Service, Minister of Internal Affairs Yuriy Lutsenko, the Lviv Oblast Police Chief, Lviv Mayor Andrii Sadovyi, the Halych District Police Chief, the Halych District Administration chair and the National Radio and Television Broadcasting Council chair.

An October 10 response from the Halych District Police confirmed that a conflict occurred between Mr. Lysheniuk and Mr. Krut, but reported that Mr. Lysheniuk denied intentionally inflicting injuries.

The report also stated that there were no witnesses even though Mr. Krut has a video recording that proves a police officer was present. Therefore, the police would not arrest Mr. Lysheniuk for absence of criminal evidence.

Meanwhile, the Security Service in Lviv informed Mr. Krut they would ask the oblast procurator to investigate the incident since it wasn’t in its competency.

Since the incident, Mr. Krut’s mother tried to appeal to Mr. Lysheniuk’s wife to resolve the conflict, in what proved to be a futile attempt. “I think he treated him rather humanely because other people would have killed him by this time,” Mr. Lysheniuk’s wife allegedly told Mr. Krut’s mother.

Mr. Krut said he wants to finish his

reconstruction because he bought \$10,000 in materials that are sitting in his apartment waiting to be installed.

He also wants to continue working on his projects, including a video archive of testimonies from Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) veterans.

Mr. Krut is also working on a black-and-white photo project called, “Presence,” which captures unique moments in everyday life in Lviv.

“I fear for my life,” Mr. Krut said. “You can imagine what kind of conversations are taking place between them if that’s what his wife said to my mother.”

Mr. Lysheniuk didn’t comment on whether his wife made the statement, saying only that Mr. Krut made similar threats against them.

Since the beating, Mr. Krut has lived without heating in the single room in his apartment that has electricity.

Some hope of resolving the conflict was restored when Mr. Krut received an October 8 letter from the Architectural-Construction Control, acknowledging that the mathematical inconsistency in his plans was minor and granting him permission to continue work.

However without honest government officials and law enforcement authorities who abide by the law, Mr. Krut said he’s unsure of his future in his native land. When he picked up his renewed permit at the agency its officials criticized his letters to the Security Service.

“If I knew what I know today, I would be much more careful about buying an apartment,” he said. “But I was naive.”

500,000 more Ukrainians could be jobless

Ukrinform

KYIV – Petro Petrichenko, member of the Board of the Social Unemployment Insurance Fund (SUIF), predicted on November 3 that another 500,000 Ukrainians might lose their jobs by the end of 2008.

He said those who fail to find new jobs quickly would apply for assistance with the SUIF, which will put a severe strain on the fund.

Meanwhile, government officials claim they are ready for this. According to Pavlo Rozenko, first vice minister of labor and social policy, the current budget of the SUIF has a surplus, allowing it to make payments to the growing number of applicants.

Furthermore, an employment center might quickly find jobs for the employed, since the number of job openings has exceeded the number of potential employees on file, Mr. Rozenko said.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

"If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer.

"... tonight we proved once more that the true strength of our nation comes not from the might of our arms or the scale of our wealth, but from the enduring power of our ideals – democracy, liberty, opportunity and unyielding hope. ..."

– President-elect Barack Obama, November 4.

"I urge all Americans who supported me to join me in not just congratulating [Sen. Obama], but offering our next president our good will and earnest effort to find ways to come together, to find the necessary compromises, to bridge our differences, and help restore our prosperity, defend our security in a dangerous world..."

"Tonight more than any night, I hold in my heart nothing but love for this country and for all its citizens, whether they supported me or Sen. Obama. I wish Godspeed to the man who was my former opponent and will be my president."

– Sen. John McCain, November 4.

America speaks

History was made on November 4 when Sen. Barack Obama was decisively elected the 44th president of the United States. He won with his message of change and hope in a country desperately in need of both. Addressing those who did not vote for him, the president-elect pledged: "to those Americans whose support I have yet to earn, I may not have won your vote tonight, but I hear your voices, I need your help, and I will be your president too."

Many challenges lie ahead – both at home and abroad. Here in the U.S., there are concerns about the economy, health care, education, the environment. Beyond the borders of the U.S. there are conflicts in Iran and Afghanistan, and America's diminished image.

And the first foreign policy test has already come from Moscow. Just hours after Mr. Obama's election was announced, President Dmitry Medvedev threatened that Russia might deploy short-range missiles in the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, located in the Baltic region between Poland and Lithuania, to counter what Russia perceives as a threat from the proposed missile defense shield in Eastern Europe.

The saber-rattling from Moscow underscored that, while Americans celebrate the historic election of 2008 and ponder the significance of their choice, Sen. Obama and his team must move quickly to make the transition to a new administration smooth and effective. The good news is that we are already hearing about the make-up of the Obama administration, that Sen. McCain in his concession speech pledged "to do all in my power to help [the new president] lead us through the many challenges we face" and that President George W. Bush is already providing his administration's assistance to that of his successor.

There is hope that the new administration will bring with it also a new spirit of cooperation that will benefit all Americans, no matter their political affiliation, their skin color, their ethnic background, etc.

We offer congratulations to President-elect Barack Obama. May he lead our beloved country wisely and responsibly, and, as he said in his victory speech, may he succeed in "renew[ing] this nation's promise."

Nov.
10
2004

Turning the pages back...

Four years ago, on November 10, 2004, the Central Election Commission officially announced that Viktor Yushchenko had won the first round of voting in Ukraine's presidential election by just over half a percentage point.

This was inconsistent with the CEC's report on October 31, 2004, which indicated that the opponent, Viktor Yanukovich, was

headed toward a win.

Minutes after the official results were released Mr. Yushchenko said, "We, along with you, have achieved a victory, even with the brutal use of inappropriate tactics by the authorities."

According to the CEC, results showed Mr. Yushchenko with 39.7 percent of the vote and Mr. Yanukovich with 39.32 percent support. Sixteen of Ukraine's 25 oblasts supported Mr. Yushchenko, but because neither candidate received 50 percent voter support, a run-off election was held.

Mr. Yanukovich, upon learning the results, told journalists, "I'm satisfied... As for the first round, I compare it to a soccer match, one in which I was playing on foreign territory."

Campaign Manager Serhii Tyhypko said Mr. Yanukovich would win the run-off by 2 to 3 percentage points considering the dynamic increase in his popular rating over the course of 2004.

In explaining the CEC's October 31, 2004, discrepancies, the CEC claimed technical problems which resulted in incomplete results and delayed the tabulation process.

"The vote was falsified, but not in a qualitative manner," said Yuriy Kliuchkovskiy, Mr. Yushchenko's representative to the CEC. "We still have many unanswered questions. And for that reason we do not believe this was an accurate result."

The CEC voted 13-1 with one abstention to nullify the results, after a recommendation from one of its members.

President George W. Bush asked Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) to travel to Ukraine as his personal representative. Mr. Bush noted that the run-off vote would be decisive for the future of the country and that a democratic and secure Ukraine "goes in line with the national security interests of the United States."

Source: "It's official: Yushchenko wins first round," by Roman Woronowycz, November 14, 2004.

APPEAL OF UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS

Seventy-five years ago

This year the people of Ukraine and Ukrainians worldwide mark the 75th anniversary of one of history's greatest tragedies and certainly one of its most heinous crimes – the Great Famine of 1932-1933 (Holodomor). This event, which was the direct result of the then Soviet regime's policy of collectivization carefully orchestrated by Joseph Stalin from Moscow, resulted in the deaths of 7 million to 10 million people, among them 3 million children.

The demise of the USSR in 1991 and the resulting accessibility of documents from Soviet archives have shed much light on this event. The forced collectivization and grain requisition resulted in many deaths. However, additionally, the regime used these circumstances and conditions to perpetrate genocide against the Ukrainian nationality both in Soviet Ukraine and the Ukrainian concentrated Kuban region in the Northern Caucasus.

Perhaps the single most significant document that has appeared is the previously purged census of 1937. Statistics of that census regarding nationalities in the USSR reveal that in 1937 there were 26 million Ukrainians in the USSR. The previous census in 1926 had indicated 31 million Ukrainians. Thus, there was a direct loss over 11 years of 5 million men, women and children. The non-Ukrainian nationalities within the USSR grew by 17 percent over that same period of time, which percentage would have increased the Ukrainian population to 36 million in 1937. Thus, there is a discrepancy of 10 million, including unborn children.

The aforesaid statistics constitute the corpus delicti, and two recently unearthed Soviet documents, in particular, support both the mens rea and the actus reus of the genocide. On August 11, 1932, Joseph Stalin wrote to his personal representative in Ukraine, Lazar Kaganovich, of the

need to deal with the Ukrainian problem of nationalism, including the necessity of purging even Ukrainian Communists.

On January 22, 1933, Joseph Stalin and Viacheslav Molotov issued a decree closing off the borders of Soviet Ukraine and the Ukrainian concentrated Kuban region in the North Caucasus in order to prevent peasants from leaving that republic and that region in search of bread. No other republics or regions in the USSR were addressed.

The United Nations' Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948 defines genocide inter alia as: "...acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such ...Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part."

The convention codified what had been deemed abhorrent prior thereto, in particular, the Armenian Genocide of 1915, the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 and the Jewish Holocaust during the second world war. Today the convention serves not only as a legal obligation upon the U.N. member-states and signatories, but more importantly as a moral imperative for mankind represented in this venerable institution.

We appeal to the U.N. member-states and all U.N. affiliates to follow both their collective conscience, as well as their duty under the Genocide Convention and remember the 7 million to 10 million victims of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 (Holodomor) on this 75th anniversary.

Ukrainian World Congress:

Eugene Czolij, president

Askold Lozynskyj, chair of the U.N. Committee

Stefan Romaniw, general secretary

FOR THE RECORD

CEEC Position Statement

Following is the text of the Position Statement of the Central and East European Coalition dated October 2008 and sent to the press on October 29.

From the beginning of its formation in the 1990s, the CEEC has steadfastly supported the continued engagement of the United States in Central and Eastern Europe as the best policy to advance American geostrategic interests in the region. This engagement requires, among other things, U.S. support for democratic institution-building and promotion of security and stability throughout the region. The prerequisites for security and stability include respect for the rule of law; respect for human and minority rights; prevention of totalitarian crimes and genocide; learning from the lessons of past crimes such as the Armenian and Ukrainian genocides, the Holocaust, and communist crimes; and the integration of the new democracies into Western institutions.

Paramount among these institutions is NATO, which explains why the CEEC has vigorously supported the enlargement of that alliance to include those states that want to join NATO and are able to assume the responsibilities associated with membership. An indispensable step is to move such candidate-countries to the MAP [Membership Action Plan] stage

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

The CEEC welcomes the recent expansion of the Visa Waiver Program. However, we believe that current U.S. regulations concerning visa-free travel to the United States reflect neither the existing strategic relationships between the United States and many Central and East European nations, nor the close historic bonds – some of which began during the American Revolution – between the United States and peoples of these nations. It is in the strategic interests of the United States to expand the Visa Waiver Program in a manner that is compatible with current immigration policy and U.S. homeland security principles, while adequately recognizing the numerous contributions of CEE countries in fighting terrorism and in supporting American military operations and initia-

(Continued on page 20)

IN THE PRESS

Personality politics in Kyiv

“Kiev’s [sic] Crack-up: Personality politics means a repeat of Ukraine’s troubles,” by Adrian Karatnycky, Wall Street Journal Europe, October 29:

“Once again, Ukraine’s fractious and confusing politics are on display. Early elections have been called – but one major party has been blocking the parliamentary tribunal, stuffing paper and chewing gum wrappers into voting machines, and using the courts to keep the poll from going forward. The IMF may be stepping into the financial breach with a \$16.5 billion loan – but not as long as the aid package and comprehensive legislation to deal with the crisis remain hostage to the personal ambitions of Ukraine’s leading politicians.

“This is nothing new. Partisan bickering and electoral rivalries have long trumped political compromise and stalled reforms, earning Ukraine an image as a country beset by crisis and instability. ...

“So bitter are relations among the country’s political elite, in fact, that they cannot set a date for elections. The poll originally was slated for December 7, but

that date has been put in doubt by a combination of court challenges by the Tymoshenko bloc, the necessary “freezing” of the decree dismissing Parliament so that lawmakers can tackle emergency financial legislation and growing anxiety in the president’s camp over very poor showings in recent public opinion polls.

“...two international crises: Russia’s invasion of Georgia and the global financial crisis. These crises ... have further fragmented an already messy political scene, creating new cleavages among Ukraine’s Orange politicians and within the major opposition Party of Regions. ...

“Given the toxic personal relations and climate of mistrust among Ukraine’s key leaders, political stability will come only with the emergence of new voices and new parties. And given the fact that polls indicate that the majority of Ukraine’s citizens are unhappy with the political choices on offer, this perhaps is Ukraine’s best hope for long-term success. In the meantime, we can count on more of the same Ukraine: radical rhetoric and Byzantine political jockeying that concludes in a centrist compromise and just averts the country’s collapse.”

Extend a hand to Ukraine

“Time to Extend Hand to Ukraine,” by Alexander Motyl, website of The Atlantic Council, www.acus.org, September 24:

“Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has staked his and his country’s future on Ukraine’s integration into Euro-Atlantic institutions, even going so far as to say, at an Atlantic Council luncheon on September 23, that Ukraine’s independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity can be preserved only with ‘international guarantees.’ ... Yushchenko is right to imply that a sovereign Ukraine could be Finlandized or that its territorial integrity could be threatened were the United States and Europe to permit [Vladimir] Putin’s Russia to extend its bear hug to Ukraine’s gas pipelines or the Crimea.

“Yushchenko’s domestic political skills and commitment to radical reform may leave much to be desired, but his international instincts have always been on the mark. He has, since becoming president, consistently tried to move Ukraine closer to the United States and Europe, while maintaining good relations with Russia. In reality, all Ukrainian presidents have since 1991 pursued a ‘two-vector’ foreign policy aimed at balancing between East and West – with Leonid Kravchuk leaning toward the West, Leonid Kuchma leaning toward Russia, and Yushchenko leaning back toward the West. Such a policy of asymmetric balancing makes perfect sense for Ukraine and should in principle be palatable to both Russia and the West – but only if all three sides are genuinely com-

mitted to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. ...

“While Ukraine’s commitment to independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity is as unsurprising as Russia’s revisionist attitude thereto, ‘old Europe’s’ extreme reluctance to side with Ukraine is surprising. As Yushchenko and many other Ukrainians never fail to emphasize, Ukraine shares Europe’s values, while Russia does not. Since the European Union and NATO actually define themselves above all in terms of democratic values, their interest in integrating Ukraine should be a no-brainer. That doesn’t mean immediate membership for Ukraine in either institution, but it does mean telling Ukraine, in no uncertain terms, that it will be able to join both if and when it meets all membership criteria.

“The good news is that the global economic crisis and the fall-out from the Georgian invasion have refocused Moscow’s attention on Russia’s domestic problems. That gives Ukraine time to get its house in order and accelerate its efforts to join Euro-Atlantic structures. That also gives Europe time to come to its senses and extend a hand to Ukraine. The bad news is that Ukraine’s squabbling political elites – and Yushchenko, alas, belongs to them – seem ill-equipped to do anything but squabble. And old Europe seems ill-prepared to do anything but kowtow to an authoritarian Russia. Not coincidentally, perhaps, the Munich Agreement that made appeasement so notorious a concept took place exactly 70 years ago, in September 1938.”

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



And now for Ukraine

So, my fellow political junkies, now that our raucous presidential race is over, do you feel bereft? Are you experiencing symptoms of withdrawal?

Good news! Ukraine is the antidote.

Question. How many times have we read that Ukraine is in political trouble? Trouble? Ukraine is heading for a train wreck!

How many times will we read that the Orange coalition is fractured? Fractured? The coalition is dead! Viktor hates Yulia. Yulia hates one Viktor but is making eyes at another Viktor while courting Vladimir. Ukraine’s myopic cult of personalities marches on. Calamity looms.

In this “me, me, me” toxic arena, no one seems concerned about the “common good,” loosely defined as the greatest possible benefit for the greatest number of people. With little concern for “the greatest number,” today’s otaman class is frittering away what little support it may still enjoy.

“So bitter are relations among the country’s political elite,” writes Adrian Karatnycky, “that they cannot set a date for elections.” That may be, but at least they’re not shooting each other.

Ukraine was hard hit by the recent international economic downturn. According to an article by Oleksiy Boiko in the Kyiv Post: “A consumer lending boom, which in recent years fueled purchases of cars, apartments and appliances, has come to an abrupt end. The country’s banks are wobbly. Declining exports and rising imports have worsened the nation’s current account deficit, putting pressure on the country’s currency which is already at an historic abyss. To make matters worse, the pockets of Ukrainians are being squeezed by Europe’s highest inflation rate.”

In October Ukraine’s central bank plowed some \$3 billion into the currency market to stabilize the hryvnia, but the value of the hryvnia, once worth 4.6 against the dollar, fell to 7 hrv per \$1. The IMF offered a loan of \$16.5 billion to keep the hryvnia stable, but guess what: ain’t gonna happen unless the government cuts expenditures.

More bad news. Unemployment is up. Layoffs are up. Heating bills are up. Credit rates are up. Inflation is up.

Is it time to panic? Panic no, despair yes. Ukraine will ride out the storm. Elections will be held and there will be a cleansing. If I’m reading the “a pox on all their houses” mood of the people, some of the old guard will fall off the national stage. New leaders may emerge.

Will Russia take advantage of Ukraine’s weakness? Possible, but not probable. Russia has its own problems. Oil prices, a significant part of Russia’s economy, are down, at least for now, and Vladimir Putin has other concerns at the moment.

Want to help Ukraine? Start by weaning yourself of the delusion that we Ukrainian Americans can influence Ukrainian politics. We can’t. Many politicians over there know how to play us. They often tell us what we want to hear. Listen to them but, as the old Ukrainian saying goes, weave what they say around your whiskers, or as we say on this side of the Atlantic, take everything they say with a grain of salt.

Second suggestion: stay cool when observing Ukraine’s political circus. Don’t become anxious. Suck up the pain. Offer it up. Stop wondering why they can’t be

like us. They may look like us and speak like us, but they’re not like us. There is a gap between our understanding of nationhood and theirs. Our ideas of how best to govern have been molded somewhat by our experiences in America. Although America is far from perfect, our system of checks and balances guarantees a modicum of civility.

Ukraine needs civility. Civility promotes the common good. Most Americans have a sense of what constitutes the common good, loosely defined here as a good to which we all have access – private property, clean air and water, public safety and security, a just legal and political system, an open communication network. “In civility lies the difference between a well-ordered society and disordered liberal democracy,” Edward Shils (1910-1995), a professor of sociology, writes in “The Virtue of Civility: Selected Essays on Liberalism, Tradition and Civil Society.”

Patience is my third suggestion. The common good doesn’t just appear by itself. It requires education and the cooperative efforts of all segments of society. It’s like keeping a public park clean. Everyone needs to pick up after himself/herself.

We also need to remember that Ukraine was once Soviet. The mindset and designs of that society still linger. “According to Marxism-Leninism,” writes Prof. Shils, “what was called civil society was in fact a highly stratified, coercively maintained arrangement, the ruling class of which, as a means of its self-protection and self-aggrandizement, has used the apparatus of the state to protect its property and therewith its exploitative dominion over the rest of society.” Ukraine’s present elites were nurtured and formed during Soviet times. Why should we be surprised that “self-protection and self-aggrandizement” define Ukraine’s current leadership?

“The hallmark of a civil society,” notes Prof. Shils, “is the autonomy of private associations and institutions, as well as that of private business firms. Alongside business firms there are moral, religious and intellectual institutions and societies, as well as civic and political associations.” The Soviets destroyed all such independent institutions in Ukraine. It takes time to reconstruct them according to civil specifications.

It also takes time to restore a collective self-consciousness, a national community, a sense of nationhood in a post-Soviet society. Prof. Shils reminds us that: “A national collectivity is in part constituted by having a common language and by the common participation in the... symbolic configurations expressed in language... There is a profound necessity for a nation to develop and maintain educational institutions in which the national language is used as a medium of instruction... and in which the history and literary, artistic and musical culture of the nation is taught.” Comprehensive national education is the key.

So, dear reader, if you really want to help Ukraine, adopt a school, a church, a seminary, a university, a library, a museum, an orphanage. Some Ukrainian Americans have already done so. More about these “faces” in future columns.

Myron Kuropas’s e-mail address is kuropas@comcast.net.

MAY WE HELP YOU?

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Political boxing in Ukraine

by Oksana Bashuk Hepburn

While Vitali Klitschko brought honor to Ukraine by winning another world heavyweight boxing title recently, an equally prominent bout in Ukraine's political arena is discrediting Ukrainian politicians. The nasty attempt by President Viktor Yushchenko to yet again knock out Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko has precipitated a snap election called, now, for December 14. Few other than the president want it.

The political run-up to the elections is not unlike a boxing match. In his corner, President Yushchenko is wearing gear decorated with patriotic symbols. But the betting is against him because some four years after the Orange Revolution, which gave him the presidency, he has yet to honor its key promises: punish the criminals and bring Ukraine closer to Europe.

Now, despite nearly 80 percent opposition nationwide, he has called a snap election. This caused a split in his Our Ukraine party and political chaos throughout the land. Even friends and neighbors like Poland and the United States disapprove his move. Russia, on the other hand, thinks this to be a fine idea.

The president is punching away at the prime minister, hoping for a win. But whose? Our Ukraine is split and its ally, People's Self-Defense, has severed ties. It's doubtful whether Our Ukraine will pull off the humbling numbers it received during the last parliamentary elections.

Hoping to garner support, the president talks of creating a new party named

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn is a political commentator and former senior policy advisor to numerous Canadian governments.

after him and planning a door-to-door campaign. This is hardly the stuff that impresses voters who are living below poverty levels, working abroad to subsidize their families and seeing the politicians benefit at the taxpayer's expense.

Apparently he's going ahead. The price tag – some \$80 million dollars for his campaign alone – is to be financed by his brother Petro Yushchenko, one of the beneficiaries of Ukraine's murky energy deals with Russia under Yuri Boiko, the minister of energy in the former pro-Russian government of Victor Yanukovich. Mr. Boiko oversaw soaring energy prices and the transfer of Ukraine's energy autonomy through middlemen like RosUkrEnerg to Russia.

In the opposite corner of the political ring, Prime Minister Tymoshenko's fighting attire is decorated with high ratings from Ukrainians. Despite endless punches from the president – he has knocked her out from the prime ministerial post twice before – she comes back. Furthermore, she forgives him for the political abuse, swallows her pride and forces him to give Ukraine an Orange Parliament despite his attempts to keep her out of the prime ministerial seat following the last parliamentary election. That round is hers; her feistiness resonates with the people.

The president is determined to knock Ms. Tymoshenko out of politics or at least into the opposition. Her demise is the main reason for precipitating the elections. He is counting on the Party of Regions winning and forming a coalition with what remains of Our Ukraine. Is this likely to happen? Ms. Tymoshenko's ratings have moved up to a close tie with the Regions. She has a reputation of behaving like a lady, working like a

horse, thinking like a man – not a compliment in all cases – and delivering for the people. A punch for her.

The president, on the other hand, has a reputation of devoting himself to antiquity and symbolic gestures; a bloodied nose.

One such symbol is Mr. Yushchenko's support for the recognition of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) that fought the Poles, Germans and finally the Soviets. Another, the global recognition of the Holodomor, which starved to death some 10 million Ukrainians as an act of genocide. Also, the president wants one Orthodox Church for Ukraine; although it's unclear under whose leadership. (This summer, for his own reasons, the president invited the aggressive Moscow patriarch – who calls down the wrath of God on Ukrainians who exercise their right to religious freedom and adhere to the leadership of the Kyiv patriarch – to the 1,020th anniversary celebrations of Christianity in Ukraine.) And, Mr. Yushchenko hopes to score by announcing that the Russian Black Fleet must depart Ukraine in the middle of the next decade.

Some of these symbolic assertions of Ukraine's nationhood, although highly controversial, are much-needed and find support among Ukraine's patriots and, in particular, the global Ukrainian diaspora. Unfortunately, bad timing and the controversy surrounding them work against Ukraine's economic and political stability. The symbols bruise the president as his words fail to translate into results.

On energy, Ms. Tymoshenko has the president on the ropes again. She beat him to the punch last week by negotiating with her Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, for lower energy prices for Ukraine. She managed this by knocking out the middleman, RosUkrEnerg, from the process. A fine one-two for Ms. Tymoshenko, providing the quid pro quo is not too costly. Incredulously, the prices

at Kyiv's pumps have soared.

In the final analysis the people will vote in the winner. President Yushchenko wants his own person as prime minister to run the country his way. It is common to hear some Ukrainians say that Mr. Yushchenko wants to be like Belarusian President Alyaksander Lukashenka, however, many say "no way."

Yulia Tymoshenko may come out well whether she wins the snap election outright or leads the next opposition. Here's the thinking. First, she's in tune with the 80 percent that are against the election. If she wins and wins big, she'll be back with greater support. If she loses and heads the opposition she'll still maintain prominence in the press. It is expected that the economic situation in Ukraine will be somewhat difficult in the next few years for the government in power. She'll be able to use this to her advantage in the presidential elections coming up in 2009.

Whereas Ukrainians have much to be proud of in their heavyweight champion Vitali Klitschko, this is no so of the political bouts. Most agree that politics has become a corrupt game benefiting a select few at the expense of many. They are realizing their politicians are not of the Klitschko caliber.

It takes time to produce a boxing champion. It will take time to produce a political one. The hope of the people is that with each punch and bout a political champion is in training.

And, although they are served poorly by wealthy political opportunists in ostrich leather shoes, Rolex watches and billion-dollar energy stashes in the Maldives, Seychelles and American banks, Ukrainians can still count on a dynamic and vibrant free press to help them make the best choice under the circumstances should the snap elections actually take place.

Stay tuned.

The end of the Yalta epoch in Church matters?

by Myroslav Marynovych

The notion of status quo can be applied to Church life even more than to political life. In politics, this is a question of spheres of influence; in the Eastern Church, they speak about canonical territories.

The Moscow Patriarchate claimed almost all the regions gradually incorporated into tsarist Russia or the Soviet Union as its canonical territory. It was convenient, but it laid down a delayed-action minefield. After all, when the Soviet Union collapsed the legitimacy of such a Church monopoly immediately hung poised in mid air.

A few years ago, both the Ecumenical and Moscow patriarchs found themselves on the verge of breaking off their relations in rivalry for the right to grant autocephaly (self-governance) to the Estonian Orthodox Church. Both have formally preserved the communion, but many

Prof. Myroslav Marynovych is director of the Institute of Religion and Society at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, western Ukraine. He spent 10 years in the Soviet gulag for exposing human rights abuses in Ukraine.

observers agreed that what happened in Estonia was only a prelude to what is going to happen in Ukraine.

The Kyivan Church (988) brought Christianity to Moscow (founded in 1147), but, with time, it went aside into its shadow. Since that time, the evident or hidden struggle between the two Slavic Church centers has been waged and has been officially described as the struggle between "Russian Orthodox universalism" and "Ukrainian Church nationalism."

In the 20th century the monopoly of Orthodox Moscow rested on the NKVD-KGB terror. When religious freedom came back to Ukraine at the start of the new millennium, it was obvious that the orientations toward Constantinople, Rome and Moscow were natural for the majority of Ukrainian Christians. It is toward these centers that the three segments of the now-split historical Kyivan Church are oriented toward.

The segment of the Kyivan Church that is oriented toward Moscow still remains powerful. In Ukraine, it is the monopoly of Moscow on the spirituality of Ukrainians that is questioned, not the right of some Ukrainians to worship according to the Moscow Orthodox

model.

The 1988-1989 revival of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church restored, in the Kyivan Christian tradition, the segment oriented toward Rome. It was this restoration that caused the turbulence in relations between Moscow and the Vatican in the 1990s.

However, religious freedom made politics withdraw. This was symbolized by Pope John Paul's II visit to Ukraine that became possible due to the good will of Ukrainian Greek-Catholics and Roman Catholics, and in spite of the strong opposition of Moscow.

Today, the third segment of the Kyivan Church – that oriented toward Constantinople – is being formed. The July visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I in commemoration of the 1,020th anniversary of the Constantinople baptism of Kyivan Rus', became the main intrigue in world Orthodoxy. Will the patriarch recognize the canonicity of the independent branch of Ukrainian Orthodoxy, as he was asked to do in Ukraine, or will he subordinate himself to the ultimatum of Moscow that explicitly opposes that?

This time, Patriarch Bartholomew I made a compromise. But will it be so in the future? In the long run, he publicly announced that the Constantinople Patriarchate, as a mother-Church to the Church of Kyiv, preserves its right to promote reconciliation between the Ukrainian Orthodox. Thus, the third center of Christianity, Constantinople,

entered the field of rivalry.

Did Ukraine really benefit? After all, the split of the Kyivan Church remained, and the attachment of Ukrainian Christians to the three centers was strengthened.

In reality, the end of Moscow's monopoly on Ukraine as its canonical territory is a radical step forward. This is actually the end of the Yalta epoch in Church matters.

Pope John Paul II legitimately called Ukraine a "laboratory of ecumenism." It is here that the model of "unity in multiplicity" for the three segments of the Kyivan Church has been, sometimes unconsciously, tested.

Indeed, the models of a unified Kyivan Church on the agenda today might trouble Ukrainian Christians who do not belong to the Kyivan tradition, i.e., Roman Catholics and Protestants. Under post-totalitarian circumstances one powerful and administratively united Church would eventually expect more preferences. It would undermine the balance of religious freedom.

The Church "united in multiplicity" won't be a threat for religious freedom. After all, the parity of forces between the parts of this multiplicity would be the main guarantee of this freedom.

It's clear that the realization of such unity is a matter for the future. In Ukraine, it needs radically different, supra-confessional thinking, which is not an easy thing to do. But the farewell to the Yalta epoch in Church matters is an indispensable condition for that.

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UCU hosts youth conference reconciling historical horrors

by Olena Kulyhina
and Yulia Zavadzka

LVIV – The Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) co-organized a conference that gathered Polish, Jewish and Ukrainian youth in Univ. Lviv region of Ukraine, on August 17-25. The theme of the event, held for its third year, was “The Ark 2008: Ukrainians, Poles, and Jews in Years of Trial (1939-1947).” But the gathering had a catchier motto: “We’re all in one boat [ark].”

According to the organizers, it was no accident that the main site of the event was the “lavra” (major monastery) of the Studite order of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Univ. During World War II, priests and monks at Univ, with the blessing of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, saved Jewish children from the Holocaust and also provided help to Ukrainian and Polish children. One of those rescued Jews was Adam Rotfeld, who, among his other accomplishments, served as the foreign minister of Poland in 2005.

Approximately 30 young people, mostly college students, from various regions of Ukraine – Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporizhia, Lviv and Kyiv – and a few from neighboring Poland, were joined at various times by some 20 professors, historians, psychologists, philosophers, journalists and political leaders.

As part of the program on international reconciliation, participants of the seminar visited sites of tragedy for the three nations during World War II. Participants traveled to the concentration camps in Belzec and Pawlokoma, both in Poland, and the site of the village of Hut Peniatskii, in northwestern Ukraine’s Volyn Region. Only memorials and graves remain.

“The life of a human being is more important than nationality, and when we understand this, we will be able to go further,” said Ihor Shchupak, director of the Tkuma Center for Holocaust Studies, a co-organizer of the conference. He added that the maturity of a society is demonstrated by its preparedness to admit its errors and repent.

In addition, three days of the seminar were dedicated to presentations of the national culture and traditions of the three nations. “We are not the hostages of his-

tory, and this means that we can do something in a different way than our parents did,” said Krzysztof Stanowski, Poland’s deputy education minister, speaking on the Polish national day.

Myroslav Marynovych, vice-rector for university mission of UCU, and Dr. Oleh Turii, chairman of UCU’s department of Church history, were among those speaking on the Ukrainian national day. Mr. Marynovych spoke about Ukrainian national values under the conditions of globalization, and Dr. Turii about the religious life of Ukrainians.

Both the Polish and Ukrainian days ended with a traditional bonfire.

On the Jewish national day, Adel Dianova, director of the Lviv regional Jewish charitable fund Hesed Arieh, gave a presentation about Jewish cultural life and theater in western Ukraine in the 20th century. Siva Faynerman, assistant to the head rabbi of Ukraine’s Progressive Jewish community, did not simply describe but presented for the youth the Jewish ceremony of meeting the Sabbath with songs, prayers and religious rituals.

“Something wonderful happened here! Youth of three nationalities and various religious beliefs in a monastery with icons in the background met the Sabbath. When I tell them about this in Israel, people will not understand how this could be possible,” said Dr. Aaron Weiss, scholarly advisor for the Tkuma Center and coordinator of the Joint Social Program.

Dr. Weiss, who comes from Boryslav and now lives in Israel, survived the Holocaust thanks to his Ukrainian and Polish neighbors, who risked their own lives to shelter his family from the Nazis.

“Each of us traveled here with his own preconceived notions and – I’ll speak candidly – prejudices regarding representatives of another part of Ukraine,” said Artur Zvirianskyi, a history student from the Drahomonov National University in Kyiv. “But, with time for interaction, we have started to see one another simply as people, friends, and now we don’t even remember who came from Kharkiv, who from Lviv, and who from Poland.”

On the last day of the conference, representatives of eastern Ukraine admitted that this was the first time they truly felt that Ukrainian blood flows in their veins.

Speaking at a summary press confer-



Myroslav Marynovych, vice-rector for university mission of the Ukrainian Catholic University (right), speaks at a conference for Polish, Jewish and Ukrainian youths organized by UCU at the monastery in Univ. Dr. Oleh Turii, chairman of UCU’s department of Church history (center), and Roman Chmelyk, director of the Museum of Ethnography in Lviv (left), look on.

ence on August 25, Emilia Khmelova, head of the Federation of Polish Organizations in Ukraine, another co-organizer of the conference, said: “We are involved with the growing younger generation. And we want to inform the widest circle of people about this, so that our government looks carefully at what non-governmental organizations are doing.”

According to Mr. Marynovych, the conference sets an example of tolerance and understanding for Poland and Ukraine.

“One cannot overestimate the significance of this event,” said Mr. Marynovych at the press conference. “The very site of the conduct, the Univ monastery, and the

theme of this seminar are very important for our society. All Ukraine should be such a camp of tolerance and learn these lessons in history, in order to build its future.”

Further information about UCU (in English and Ukrainian) is available on the university’s website at www.ucu.edu.ua. Readers may also contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, which raises about half of UCU’s annual operating budget of approximately \$2.5 million, at 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; phone 773-235-8462; e-mail, ucef@ucef.org; website, www.ucef.org. The phone number of the UCEF in Canada is 416-239-2495.

UVAN to mark centennial of George Shevelov’s birth

NEW YORK – On Sunday, December 7, the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in New York and the Ukrainian Institute of America will mark the centennial of the birth of the late George Shevelov, world-renowned Slavic linguist and literary critic, with a conference devoted to his life and work.

The conference will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 79th Street and Fifth Avenue. It will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will consist of two sessions.

The first features the principal speakers Prof. Pavlo Hrytsenko, direc-

tor of the Ukrainian Language Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv, and Bohdan Rubchak, prominent poet, literary critic and professor emeritus of Slavic studies at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

In the second session, a panel comprising Drs. Assya Humecky, Andriy Danylenko, Albert Kipa, Theodore Kostiuk and Larysa Onyshkewych will highlight selective aspects of Shevelov’s legacy. (Further details will be published in an advertisement to appear later this month.)

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IMF OKs...

(Continued from page 1)

precisely why it's necessary today to defend the national banking system, which is practically the circulatory system of the economy. In essence, if we're able to stabilize the national banking system, we can say Ukraine will return to a normal life."

The anti-crisis law also provides for annual budget financing for the State Mortgage Agency, state credit guarantees, the capitalization of banks and the Physical Persons Guaranty Fund (to protect individual investors), also raising its ceiling to 150,000 hrv (\$25,000 U.S.).

The law also gives the Ministry of Finance the ability to extend interest-free loans to local government organs.

For the entire week, Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) fought to attach an amendment to the anti-crisis legislation to finance the pre-term parliamentary elections.

Parliamentary Economic Policy Committee Chair Serhii Teriokhin, a Tymoshenko Bloc member, denied all attempts and OU-PSD eventually settled for a separate bill for election financing, which was rejected by Parliament in an October 31 vote.

The Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) and Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) are staunch critics of the anti-crisis legislation.

The law doesn't provide mechanisms for creating new jobs, which could lead to massive unemployment, said Anatolii Kinakh, a PRU lawmaker.

Mr. Teriokhin has already predicted half a million employed by the year's end, while Minister of Labor and Social

Policy Liudmyla Denysova assured the public that the government has enough funds to offer all dismissed workers unemployment compensation.

Former Finance Minister Mykola Azarov said the law opens the door to corrupt schemes from which the government gains the right to uncontrollably expend resources at its own discretion.

"The approved law is empty, because it doesn't offer points for developing our economy," said Mr. Azarov, a top-ranking PRU deputy. "All the hopes of the bill's authors are only on one thing – gaining an IMF loan in order to spend it. They aren't concerned about what's further down the road."

In response, the Party of Regions announced it will lead special sessions of city councils, including professional unions, to review the socio-economic situation and create an anti-crisis program with corresponding working groups to mobilize efforts to save the regions from economic crisis.

Among the issues to be examined are the government's \$167 million debt to city budgets, denying 5 million Ukrainians and the entire city of Kharkiv heating; layoffs and wage cuts; timely payment of student stipends and pensions; and prevention of increased utility and energy bills.

As for her own solution, Ms. Tymoshenko again raised concern among Ukraine's oligarchs and businessmen, this time calling for nationalization of industrial firms that conduct mass layoffs or risk shutting down.

That October 31 comment on live national television drew a sharp rebuke from President Yushchenko, who scolded the prime minister to not throw around



Website of the Party of Regions of Ukraine

Opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich greets International Monetary Fund Resident Representative in Ukraine Balazs Horvath on December 3.

the word "nationalize" again.

In a more pragmatic step, Ms. Tymoshenko reached agreements with gasoline executives to lower prices in November and December in order to ease the economic pain.

Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk flew to Washington on November 4 to finalize the IMF loan. He met with IMF Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn and World Bank President Robert Zoellick.

The loan is based on a floating interest rate that would change with the economic climate, the IMF reported.

Among the IMF's conditions are increasing tariffs on locally produced natural gas and modifying the social welfare system, said Balazs Horvath, IMF resident representative in Ukraine.

He predicted inflation would be reduced to single-digit rates by the time the loan's two-year standby arrangement concludes.

During a December 3 meeting with Mr. Horvath, opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich urged the IMF to create a system to closely monitor the use of the credit, echoing Mr. Azarov's concern about corruption.

Ukraine's elections...

(Continued from page 1)

which will appeal the smallest formal and factual events that occur in the election process."

Throughout the special sessions to pass legislation to cope with Ukraine's financial crisis, Parliamentary Economic Policy Chair Serhii Teriokhin, a Tymoshenko Bloc deputy, thwarted Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense Deputy Ksenia Liapina's attempts to attach an election-financing amendment to the bill.

Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense, the pro-presidential parliamentary faction, surrendered its efforts to finance the elections because its leaders likely realized they stood to suffer public backlash for not supporting the anti-crisis legislation, which was a compromise between Ms. Tymoshenko and the president, experts said.

"Our Ukraine (deputies) had no choice but to support it," said Yurii Syrotyuk, a political analyst at the Western-financed Open Society Foundation. "But it's also a tactical move to wait until after the winter in expectation the crises would get to her. If they couldn't defeat Tymoshenko themselves, they think the financial crisis can damage her."

Delaying the elections also buys Our Ukraine more time to create a new political vehicle for the president, he said.

Financing pre-term elections remains an "exceptionally relevant issue," said Oleksander Shlapak, as assistant chair of the Presidential Secretariat. However, he wasn't able to offer any proposal for an election date, or explain how the Presidential Secretariat expects to finance them.

Ever since President Viktor Yushchenko dismissed Parliament and called for pre-term elections on September 2, the Tymoshenko Bloc has viciously fought any attempt to hold the vote on all fronts.

The Cabinet of Ministers led by Ms.

Tymoshenko blocked election financing from the state reserve fund, while Tymoshenko Bloc deputies almost daily swarmed the Verkhovna Rada rostrum to prevent any vote that would finance the pre-term elections, even provoking a skirmish in Parliament on October 29.

Tymoshenko Bloc deputies also instigated havoc and brawling in several Kyiv courts to prevent any court ruling that would legitimize the elections, or overturn an October 12 judgment by the District Administrative Court Volodymyr Keleberda, believed to be a Tymoshenko ally, that ruled the president's election decree invalid.

The conduct of Tymoshenko Bloc deputies led the prime minister to apologize on national television, followed by a second apology offered on October 31 by the bloc's parliamentary faction chair, Ivan Kyrylenko.

"In the presence of all the people, I want to apologize to my colleague (Our Ukraine faction chair Viacheslav Kyrylenko) for possible offenses in those months in which we engaged in conflicts and possibly in appropriate discussions in the eyes of the people," Ivan Kyrylenko said on national television.

Since the October 12 ruling, Mr. Yushchenko liquidated Mr. Keleberda's court, filed three criminal charges against him through the Procurator General's Office and created a substitute court that upheld his election decree.

The war for control of Ukraine's courts, which are supposed to be unbiased and uphold the law, escalated on November 5.

Just two days after Mr. Portnov vowed the Tymoshenko Bloc would create a far-reaching legal affront to derail election efforts, former President Leonid Kuchma's right-hand man Viktor Medvedchuk was reinstated to Ukraine's Higher Justice Council by Supreme Court Chair Vasyl Onopenko, a close Tymoshenko ally.

Mr. Portnov belongs to Mr. Medvedchuk's army of lawyers, and the oligarch's re-appointment to the council gives him immense influence on appointing and dismissing Ukraine's judges, said Yurii Syrotyuk,

"Tymoshenko wants to change the balance of power in Ukraine's courts," he said. "She hopes this will help her on the judicial front in her war with Yushchenko and block his influence on the courts."

Mr. Medvedchuk has become one of

Ms. Tymoshenko's key advisers ever since her return as prime minister, playing a central role this year in forging enhanced relations between Ms. Tymoshenko and Russian Federation Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

With his appointment, "Tymoshenko is sending a clear message – either follow our orders or face the consequences," Mr. Syrotyuk said. "And no one wants to have problems with Medvedchuk, who is notoriously ruthless."

Ukraine reacts...

(Continued from page 1)

new U.S. president may change the world for the better. "You start work in this post at a time of trouble for the whole world, but your talent as a leader, I have no doubt, is what is needed now," her telegram read.

Various political forces in Ukraine expressed different views about what the election of the new U.S. president will mean for the country's relations with Ukraine.

The Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc said they believe the election of Sen. Obama will bring big positive changes in the world and in bilateral relations.

National Deputy Hanna Herman of the PRU predicted that Ukraine-U.S. relations would become more productive.

OU-PSD faction member Taras Stetskiy expressed his opinion that the new president would bring new approaches to the global order. "And these new approaches may help Ukraine finally hold a proper position in the world, in the system of collective security," he underscored.

The Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc and the Communist Party of Ukraine were more restrained in their expectations. National

deputies of the Lytvyn Bloc and CPU factions noted that they do not expect any serious changes in U.S. relations with Ukraine.

Speaking about Mr. Obama's foreign policy, Lytvyn Bloc National Deputy Oleh Zarubinskyi stated that in the United States "attention to the post-Soviet space was always great under the Democrats."

CPU Deputy Oleksander Holub said that relations between Ukraine and the United States will depend in many instances on the policy Mr. Obama will follow in relations with Russia. "If he chooses a confrontational policy, Ukraine will surely become one of active instruments of this confrontation," he noted.

U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William B. Taylor commented that the election of Sen. Obama will have a positive influence on relations between Ukraine and the U.S. Speaking during the traditional election night party in Kyiv, Mr. Taylor said he knows a lot of Sen. Obama's aides who may become part of the new presidential administration.

"Many of these advisors either used to work in Ukraine or have been to the country. Some of Barack Obama's chief advisors are my predecessors – that is, they were ambassadors to Ukraine. So I am sure that cooperation between the U.S. and Ukraine will be intensive," the ambassador added.

Kean University...

(Continued from page 1)

not grain procurement or collectivization that was the reason for the Holodomor." Stalin, he said, "wanted to transform the USSR into a great power" and he "saw the USSR as a centralized state based on the Russian language and culture."

There was no room in this scheme for Ukrainianization, for national sovereignty, Dr. Hunczak explained. As early as 1926 Stalin wrote to Lazar Kaganovich, secretary of the Communist Party of the Ukrainian SSR, "about Ukrainianization as a crucial problem that would alienate Ukraine from Moscow and Russia," he said. "And from that letter to Kaganovich begins an ever-intensifying campaign against Ukrainianization."

Thus, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, then the intelligentsia of Ukraine, and then the "kurkuls" (well-to-do peasants) were targeted for elimination. The same policies were applied by Stalin and his cohorts in the Kuban region, which was ethnically Ukrainian.

Even after reports emerged from Ukraine about villages where people were dying, Stalin told Kaganovich and Viacheslav Molotov to not even think about lowering quotas for grain, Dr. Hunczak related. All foodstuffs were confiscated. The people began to flee in search of food, but Stalin's decree of January 22, 1933, forbid anyone from Ukraine and the Kuban to travel outside the region. Roads were blocked, train tickets were forbidden to be sold, and those who tried to travel were captured by the secret police and the military.

"Stalin's principal objective in 1932 was to crush the Ukrainian spirit of independence and to make Ukrainians submissive," Dr. Hunczak emphasized. "We really won't ever know how many people died – many died on trains en route to deportation," he noted, and many more in the Kuban. "But at least 6 million died in Ukraine alone."

"The Famine was an instrument of genocide by other means," Dr. Hunczak concluded, adding that this was recognized by Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide" in 1943, in his essay "Soviet Genocide in the Ukraine" that was part of his monumental history of genocide written in the 1950s.

Moving accounts of the Holodomor were given by Mrs. Piatnochka, a survivor, and by Victor Rud, who spoke on behalf of his parents, Wasy and Pelahia Rud, both survivors of the Holodomor.

Mrs. Piatnochka, née Horbatiuk, hailed from Shkarbinka in the Odesa region. Her family was branded as "kurkuls" because they owned a cow and a horse. Although she was barely a year old in 1932, Mrs. Piatnochka said her mother told her the story of what happened during those horrible years of the Holodomor.

She noted that her father died and her mother, who was sent to work elsewhere, survived. Her mother returned to the village to find her little daughter close to death with a swollen belly.

In 1993, Mrs. Piatnochka related, she and her daughter Dr. Griffith returned to the village and visited the mass grave where her father was buried.

Mr. Rud stated that his parents, who came from the Kharkiv and Poltava regions – the epicenters of the Holodomor – were teenagers at the time. Today they are frail and in poor health, and therefore cannot speak for themselves at a conference such as this one.

He went on to relate how many relatives of each of his parents died as a result of the Famine – "they were killed, they were starved to death intentionally," Mr. Rud stressed. He noted that it was only in 1990 that the family learned that his father's father, who had succeeded in crossing the border to Russia in search of food, was arrested and shot on the spot.

"My father's overwhelming observation [about the Holodomor] was about the viciousness with which food was confiscated, how children were made to spit out food or else be beaten or killed," Mr. Rud said.

"My mother remembers distinctly the death cart that was used to carry away corpses," he continued. "And she thought she recognized a young girl trying to raise her head and hand, and then her hair got caught in the spokes [of the wheel] and ripped off her scalp and broke her neck. That girl was her best friend from school, whom she hadn't seen for half a year because school was closed."

Mr. Rud concluded his presentation by noting that he had spoken with several hundred, probably even 1,000 survivors. "They need to tell the world," he stated.

Other speakers during the main session of the conference included Dr. Keith Nunes, who welcomed all on behalf of the master's program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and Dr. Henry Kaplowitz of the university's Human Rights Institute, who noted that the Holodomor was a "double tragedy," as it was both murder and a cover-up.

Dr. Kaplowitz stated that "we owe it to the victims" to tell the story of the Holodomor, "we owe it to the students" to teach them about this genocide, and "we owe it to future generations" to prevent similar occurrences.

The president of Kean University, Dr. Dawood Farahi identified himself to the audience as hailing from Afghanistan, "a country where one in four people were killed between 1989 and 2008" and noted that "one in every three refugees is from Afghanistan."

He explained that Kean has one of the best Holocaust resource centers in the nation and that courses in the genocide program are filled through 2013. Our goal is to



Markian Hadzewycz

Holodomor survivor Rostyslaw Wasylenko recalls the events of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933.

educate the world about genocide, to do research to uncover the facts and to disseminate that research, Dr. Farahi explained, adding that Kean University is investing \$15 million to build a Human Rights Institute that is to be opened in May.

"You may be specially connected to the Holocaust, the Holodomor, the genocide in Bangladesh, but you need to become connected to all of these to prevent the next one from happening," he underlined.

A one-act drama

Also featured at the conference was the premiere of a new play about the Holodomor written by Susan Halmi, a recent graduate of Kean University, who wrote the work as her final project for the course taught by Dr. Griffith.

Ms. Halmi wrote in "A Note from the Playwright" that the assignment was to create something that would "demonstrate what you have learned." She added, "I knew right away that, with my background in theater, I wanted to write a script to help tell the story of the Holodomor."

Titled "It Began With a Dream," the play tells the Holodomor story from the point of view of several people, "a young child who lost his father, a man and his Ukrainian mother, a young woman who learns of her family's past, and ... an activist, a man who brought death to many, many innocent Ukrainians," Ms. Halmi told *The Tower*, a Kean University newspaper that carried a story about the debut of her play.

The play weaves together stories from the past and the present, and incorporates texts taken from accounts of Holodomor survivors into song. The character of the activist, for example, says at the beginning of the play, "I believed in Stalin. I believed in the plan." At the conclusion of the play, the activist says: "I believed until the bodies started piling up, until it became my job to collect not the food, but the bodies."

Ms. Halmi's one-act drama was very well received by members of the audience in Kean's Little Theater, among whom were her proud parents.

Break-out sessions

After a break, during which sample lesson plans for high school and middle school students, and an exhibit of art on the topic of the Holodomor were displayed, the conference resumed with several break-out sessions that allowed participants to become involved in the discussions.

One of these, moderated by Dr. Oleh Kolodiy of Kean University, was devoted to eyewitness accounts, as delivered by survivors, written down by Kean graduate students and captured on videotape by

filmmaker Damian Kolodiy.

Survivor Rostyslaw Wasylenko, who was 12 at the time the Famine began in his village outside of Pereyaslav, spoke movingly of the "millions of ghosts that still walk the fields of Ukraine" – phantoms who are always on his mind, even 75 years later. "The crime of the Holocaust," he noted, was identified and condemned by the world, but the Holodomor was not. The Soviet regime was not called upon to condemn what happened."

Rosemary McCann then read a survivor's account she had elicited from Eugene Bashirov, who was born in 1928. Excerpts of video interviews recorded by Mr. Kolodiy as part of an oral history project initiated in July by a small group of Ukrainians were then screened.

A concurrent session covered using film to teach about the Holodomor and offered a preview of "Holodomor: The Movie."

The third session focused on issues in teaching about the Holodomor, with Dr. Bernard Weinstein, founder of the master's program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, serving as moderator. The panelists were Mr. Rud and teacher Dan Silva, a Kean alumnus.

Joanne Sliwa, a graduate of the Kean's Holocaust and Genocide Studies master's program, led off the fourth session, which discussed the effects of the Holodomor on children.

Handouts for conference participants included background information about the Holodomor, a copy of House of Representatives Resolution 1314 about the Ukrainian Famine (passed on September 23), news about the soon-to-be-erected Ukrainian Genocide Memorial in Washington and sample lesson plans for teaching about the Holodomor at various grade levels as part of the curricula for English and history courses.

The conference was free and open to the public. Middle and high school teachers attending were eligible to receive professional development credits, while Kean University students could apply for co-curricular credits.

The day's program was sponsored by Kean University's Office of the President in cooperation with the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies and the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies programs.

The conference received support also from the university's department of English, the Design Studio, Art Ukraine, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, Ukrainian National Women's League of America and the International Holodomor Committee of the Ukrainian World Congress.



Dr. Dawood Farahi, president of Kean University, addresses the educational conference.



A scene from the one-act drama "It Began With a Dream," written by Susan Halmi.

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GENERATION UKE

Edited and compiled by Matthew Dubas and Yarema Belej

Verkhovyna attracts hundreds for Oktoberfest weekend



Bohdan Porytko and Stefan Sikorskyj early in the beer-pong tournament.

by Yarema Belej

PARSIPPANY, NJ – As a chill grew in the air, hundreds of people gathered at the Verkhovyna MountainView Resort to celebrate Oktoberfest against the backdrop of the beautiful autumn colors and among the company of great friends.

“This was our first true Oktoberfest at Verkhovyna, and it was a great success,” said Orest Blanarovich of the resort. “We exceeded our planned attendance and we’re very happy with the turnout.”

Spanning the three days of October 10-12, many locals and Ukrainians from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania came to drink the specially imported Oktoberfest beers and the popular Jagermeister, which was the event’s sponsor. Many of the attendees danced to Fritz’s Polka Band, the official polka band of Jagermeister, that played in the hall. In addition, the Jagermeister girls were giving away plenty of paraphernalia and creating a great buzz around the bars.

The largest numbers of attendees were young adults who had a very festive mood throughout the weekend. One of the highlights of the weekend was a beer-pong tournament that included over 28 teams of two. The tournament lasted over four hours, and the winners eventually went home with some nice prize money.

“There was a nice group of enthusias-

tic players of all skill levels,” said Roman Lukiw, the tournament organizer. “It was great to see Ukrainians, locals and out-of-towners playing together and having a great time.”

Soon after the beer-pong tournament, many of the fest’s attendees gathered to watch the Vitali Klitschko fight. With great interest the crowd rejoiced with the massive Ukrainian’s victory over Samuel Peters to win the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight title.

Part of the beauty of Verkhovyna is getting there. Driving down the picturesque Route 97 toward Verkhovyna is a pleasure on its own, as there are few roads in the country that are as pleasing. Snaking along the Delaware River several hundred feet in the air, the highway offers some of the most beautiful views you will see on the side of a road. The view is spectacular year-round, but perhaps it is at its best in autumn as nearly every color is visible along the way.

Verkhovyna is currently booking weddings for 2009 and 2010. “We have been very fortunate that people seem to like our renovations and our wedding packages,” said Mr. Blanarovich. “We have only limited dates available for 2009. We are currently working on other special events, and we will be updating our website as soon as information is available.”

Nykola Lucak inspires Ukrainians of Syracuse to become active

by Matthew Dubas

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Nykola Lucak, 22, is the youngest person in the 75-year history of the Syracuse Ukrainian National Home (UNH) to serve as president and chairman of the organization. Elected in July 2007, Mr. Lucak previously served four years as vice-president. The Syracuse UNH has over 400 members with the majority under 30.

In addition to his duties as president and chairman, Mr. Lucak is active in Syracuse’s Odesa Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, sings baritone in the local Surma Ukrainian Men’s Choir, is an active member of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, who serves on the controlling commission for the Holodnyi Yar UAYA camp, serves as secretary of the Ukrainian National Association branch in Syracuse, financial secretary for the Syracuse branch of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine and is a member of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

The Syracuse UNH celebrated its 75th anniversary on October 18 with a banquet and dance. The program included performances by the men’s choir, the Odesa Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and a “zabava,” with music by Vorony of Syracuse. The event attracted over 200 people, including dignitaries such as the mayor of Syracuse and state senators, who presented proclamations honoring the organization’s long-standing history in the community.

Seven years ago, explained Mr. Lucak, a fire damaged the UNH’s building structure and crippled the organization’s growth. But seeing the struggling organization, the community mobilized and rebuilt quickly. The dark chapter in the UNH’s history inspired many, including Mr. Lucak, to become more active in the organization and the community. During the year of the fire, Mr. Lucak was elected to his first term as



Nykola Lucak

vice-president of the UNH.

Events such as the Orange Revolution in Ukraine, Mr. Lucak noted, also inspired national pride in the Ukrainian immigrant population, with many becoming active members of the UNH and signing up their children to the UAYA, the dance ensemble and other Ukrainian activities.

As chairman and president of the UNH, Mr. Lucak is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organization, officially represents the UNH at Ukrainian functions and, along with his committee, plans monthly events. The next big event is a New Year’s Eve celebration that will feature performances by Surma and Odesa, prior to a zabava.

For more information on the UNH, readers may contact Mr. Lucak at 315-478-9272 or visit www.syruc.org/unh.html.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



NEW YORK – Lydia Doll, 21, a senior at Barnard College at Columbia University, rings the bell at the New York Stock Exchange during her internship at Market Data.

Send photos to: design@ukrweekly.com or The Ukrainian Weekly, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.



Fresh pints of Oktoberfest beers poured to perfection.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

mentary elections six months before presidential elections," he said. (Ukrinform)

PRU cancels congress

KYIV – Party of Regions National Deputy Hanna Herman reported on October 30 that the Party of Regions canceled its congress planned for October 31, where it was to compile the election list for the pre-term parliamentary elections. "We will not hold this congress since the date of the elections is not set

and generally it is not known whether these elections will take place," she said. (Ukrinform)

PRU official on coalition with YTB

KYIV – Andrii Kliuev, national deputy of the Party of Regions, said on October 30 that it would be better to hold the pre-term parliamentary elections in February 2009. "Judging by the latest developments, the elections slated for December 7 or 14 are unlikely. And it is unreasonable at all to hold them at the end of December – the 21st or 28th," he said in an interview with the newspaper Delo. The turnout could be too low on an elec-

tion date before the holidays, Mr. Kliuev noted. Moreover, the risks of the elections being rigged are higher over this period. That is why, he added, if no sweeping changes take place in the coming few days, it would be better to delay the elections until February. Mr. Kliuev emphasized that "a snap election in this situation is no remedy," and the Party of Regions would go there just to "settle a new political collapse," despite thinking "this is not the best time for early elections." Commenting on the probability of the creation of a coalition between the PRU and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) in the new Parliament, Mr. Kliuev did not rule it out, saying that "unfortunately, the Party of Regions and the YTB were rivals for a long period of time. There is a mass of problems to be settled. Naturally, it is physically impossible to solve those problems in a short time." He added, "There are a number of questions on which we reached a consensus. We must morally agree that we should trust one another. It takes time. I believe, if after the polls or without them, a YTB-Party of Regions coalition takes shape on some terms, this country will convert from an unstable [country] into a surefooted one." Such a coalition, according to Mr. Kliuev, is possible "on condition of realizing that in the end we must form an effective authority that would work stably for a minimum of four or five years." (Ukrinform)

were released on October 28. Migration flows from Ukraine to Germany, Great Britain, Spain, the U.S. and Canada may essentially increase, the poll showed. Fewer migrants are expected to go to Russia, Poland and the Czech Republic. Experts say this tendency is due to the fact that the level of wages in Ukraine is gradually approaching that in post-Soviet neighbor states. Earlier, Natalia Kryvtsova, head of the information department at the Ukraine office of the International Migration Organization, said that 37.2 percent of Ukrainian migrant workers are seeking employment in Russia. The study also showed that 27 percent of the Ukrainian population between the ages of 18 and 40 are seriously considering prospects for going abroad in the next two years. Most of these potential migrants are planning to leave for a year or two, and just 9 percent wish to emigrate forever. Eighty-seven percent of respondents cited low wages as the main reason for leaving the country and believe that emigration will improve their financial situation. At the same time, 56.5 percent are sure foreign experience will improve their chances for effective employment in Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko meets ecumenical patriarch

KYIV – Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko, while on an official visit to Turkey, met on October 28 with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I in Istanbul. Mr. Yushchenko expressed appreciation to the ecumenical patriarch for his participation in celebrations of the 1,020th anniversary of the conversion of Kyivan Rus' to Christianity. According to Mr. Yushchenko, the visit of Patriarch Bartholomew has instilled confidence that one united Orthodox Church could be established in Ukraine. The Ukrainian president expressed his support for a proposal to hold the next meeting of leaders of all the world's Orthodox in 2009 in Kyiv at the St. Sofia Cathedral. He stressed that a meeting in Kyiv would be of great significance for the Ukrainian people as it would demonstrate an inseparable tie with the global Orthodox community. Mr. Yushchenko also discussed the 75th anniversary of Holodomor in Ukraine and asked the patriarch to encourage Orthodox Churches to hold divine services in memory of the innocent victims of the Famine-Genocide. (Ukrinform)

Most Ukrainians for EU membership

KYIV – According to a survey conducted on October 7-19 by the Oleksander Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Studies, 59.5 percent of Ukrainians do not support their country's membership in NATO. Some 11.4 percent of those polled said they support and a like number oppose Ukraine's accession to the alliance; 8.2 percent said they somewhat support Ukraine's membership in NATO. A total of 10.6 percent of Ukrainians said they fully support their country's entry into the alliance. Asked whether Ukraine needs to join the European Union, 47.2 percent of respondents welcomed this step, while 30.2 percent were against it and 22.7 percent were undecided. Moreover, the respondents were asked with whom, first and foremost, should Ukraine get closer – with Western countries or with Russia. A total of 44.6 percent said Ukraine should become closer to both the West and with Russia, 31.2 percent with Russia and 12.6 percent with the West; 6.7 percent were undecided. According to 4.9 percent of respondents, Ukraine should not become closer to anybody. A total of 10,865 respondents over the age of 18 from all Ukrainian regions participated in the poll. The poll's margin of error does not exceed 1 percent. (Ukrinform)

Barka exhibition opens in Kyiv

KYIV – A literary-artistic exhibition called "Ocean of Vasyl Barka's Spirituality," which is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the birth of the well-known Ukrainian writer, opened at the National Museum of Literature on October 30. According to the Culture and Tourism Ministry's press service, manuscripts, documents, unique publications and paintings by the writer are on display. Exhibits have been presented by the manuscript department of the Taras Shevchenko Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the National Museum of Literature. Barka (1908-2003) is a well-known writer of the Ukrainian diaspora, who authored such novels as "Paradise," about the Soviet "paradise," and "Yellow Prince," about the Holodomor of 1932-1933. (Ukrinform)

Birth rate up in Ukraine

KYIV – Ukraine has seen a trend towards improvement of its demographic situation, Yuriy Pavlenko, minister for family, youth and sports, said on October 30 during a panel held at the ministry. He reported that Ukraine's population was reduced (due to deaths and other factors) by 180,826 people, while the number of children born was 328,782. Thus, births have exceeded population losses. There are 46.201 million people living in Ukraine today. The minister also said that a growing number of children have been adopted by Ukraine's citizens: 1,505 children gained families during the period of January through September of this year, which is up by 227 from the same nine-month period in 2007. The country now operates 347 family orphanages, with 2,335 children deprived of parental care being educated there. Ukraine also has 2,216 foster homes educating 3,701 children. (Ukrinform)

Labor migrants' preferences

KYIV – The most popular countries among potential Ukrainian labor migrants are Russia, Germany, Italy, the United States and Great Britain, according to the results of a study on the development of human resources and migration policy in Ukraine conducted by the GfK Ukraine company for the European Foundation of Professional Training. The study's results

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International conference at Harvard to analyze ongoing impact of Holodomor

by Peter T. Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute's (HURI's) mid-November international conference "The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Holodomor and its Consequences, 1933 to the Present," commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Great Famine, will draw some 30 of the most noted experts on the Holodomor in the world today who will analyze the ongoing impact of this cataclysmic tragedy.

"Harvard was the first academic institution in the world to pioneer studies on the Holodomor in a scholarly fashion," HURI's Associate Director Dr. Lubomyr Hajda pointed out. "A special scholarly project undertaken by the institute in 1982-1983 to commemorate the 50th anniversary resulted in the publication of Robert Conquest's groundbreaking 'The Harvest of Sorrow' – the first book-length study of the man-made catastrophe inflicted on Ukraine that ranks high among the horrors in a horror-filled 20th century."

"Conquest's work," Dr. Hajda continued, "forced the world's academic and political communities to look at the reality of the government-inflicted starvation of millions of people in Ukraine by the government of the Soviet regime. Up until that time the 1932-1933 Famine in Western Literature was the subject of one major scholarly article, a handful of serious, though limited, short pieces, slightly more numerous tangential references in general studies and a few publications, including eyewitness accounts, published – with an intense sense of mission but with little critical analysis – by the Ukrainian diaspora."

"When the institute began its work and Conquest wrote his book there were few primary sources available to scholars in the

West," Dr. Hajda emphasized, "and all research rested primarily on the testimony of eyewitnesses. However, HURI, which had developed a reputation for cutting-edge Ukrainian scholarship, was determined to push the envelope and encouraged a number of young scholars to work on various aspects of the Famine Project. They included James Mace, who became a major voice in the discourse on the Famine; Leonid Heretz, who was especially active in recording interviews with living witnesses of the Famine, and Oksana Procyk, who organized a large-scale exhibit on the Famine, with an important published catalogue at Harvard's Widener Library."

"After this, it was possible to accept the Famine, dispute its causes and even argue about it, but it was now impossible to ignore it," Dr. Hajda stressed. "A major development in the early 1990s was the opening of archives and the development of Famine studies in Ukraine itself following the collapse of the Soviet Union, and, as a result of this activity by the 70th anniversary in 2002-2003 scholarly interest in the Holodomor had reached a new peak. Discussion forums, seminars, symposia, and conferences proliferated in the international academic arena on an unprecedented scale, and HURI again played a major role, hosting a symposium that looked back at the scholarship of the previous 20 years."

"Prof. Andrea Graziosi, history professor at the University of Naples 'Federico II,' delivered one of the major presentations giving an overview of the scholarship of the time and offering fresh insights into the historical significance of the Holodomor and the scholars who studied – or ignored – it," Dr. Hajda said. "He maintained that the facts of the Holodomor are incontrovertible and called scholars to move beyond revisiting the background, course and analysis of

the events of 1932-1933 and to investigate the subsequent consequences, some of which have lasted to this day."

"Prof. Graziosi has been tireless in his call for taking Holodomor studies to the next level," Dr. Hajda added. "He has devoted countless hours encouraging scholars to look at the ongoing impact of the Holodomor and to see it as one of the major events in 20th century Europe."

"His ideas, as expressed at the HURI symposium and subsequently published in Harvard Ukrainian Studies (HUS), provided the conceptual framework for the upcoming conference. As a result, this year's conference commemorating the Holodomor's 75th anniversary will look at the Famine in a framework which will examine its short-, mid-, and long-term consequences that reach to our own day," Dr. Hajda noted. "It is time to look at the Holodomor's impact on the psyches of Ukrainians; their psychological make-up and their religious beliefs; the re-enslaving of Ukrainian villagers; and the impact on Soviet officials during the Holodomor and in the decades following it."

The conference will be held on Monday and Tuesday, November 17 and 18, at the Harvard Faculty Club. Each day will consist of three major sessions beginning at 9 a.m. and concluding at 6 p.m. Among the broad themes to be covered are: the contextual dynamics of the Holodomor tragedy; the short-term consequences of the Holodomor; the mid-term aftermath of the Famine: the World War II period; population losses and demographic impact; and the long-term impact on society and politics.

On Monday evening at 8 p.m. in Cambridge's Swedenborg Chapel, located next to HURI, there will be a concert featuring the premiere performance of selections from the new opera "Red Earth (Hunger)" by noted composer and musicologist Virko

Baley who will also provide commentary. The concert will bring the Holodomor theme into the wider context of the North American cultural scene. Mr. Baley is a former Jacyk Fellow at Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. Red Earth (Hunger) with a libretto by Ukrainian American poet, Bohdan Boychuk, is the only opera about the genocidal Terror-Famine in Ukraine.

On Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. Nicolas Werth, research director of the National Center for Scientific Research in Paris, will deliver the keynote address, and will be followed by Prof. Graziosi and Michael S. Flier, Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology and Director of HURI, who will make the concluding remarks.

Conference participants will include scholars from the United States, Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Canada, France and the Netherlands. Among them are: Liudmyla Hrynevych, senior research fellow, Institute of History of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU); Hennadii Yefimenko, senior research fellow, Institute of History of Ukraine, NASU; Terry Martin, George F. Baker III Professor of Russian Studies, Harvard University; Yuri Shapoval, head of the Department of Ethnopolitics, Kuras Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies, NASU; Mark Kramer, director, Cold War Studies Program, Harvard University; Roman Wysocki, assistant professor, Institute of History, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland; Karel Berkhoff, researcher and associate professor, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Amsterdam, Holland; Roman Serbyn, professor of history (Emeritus), University of Quebec at Montreal; Hennadii Boriak, head of the Department of Historiography and Special

(Continued on page 20)



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It is with deepest sadness that we inform
our friends of the loss of a beautiful human being –
our Husband, Father, Son, Brother and Uncle

Danylo E. Husiak



Danylo was born January 28, 1947 in New York City. He was long time member of Plast, "Lisoviy Chorty", served in the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone, held a Ph.D. in Chemical Physics, and co-founded Strativa a business management consulting firm in Irvine, CA where he lived with his wife of fifteen years, Luba Dmytryk-Husiak.

He passed away October 18th, 2008 in Newport Beach, CA, at the age of 61.

Danylo Husiak was a person who touched many lives with kindness and generosity. He was a bright shining light in the lives of his family and friends. Danylo always brought the spirit of joy, optimism and laughter to honor and celebrate the meaning of Family. He was respected by his business associates who appreciated his integrity, intelligence, creativity and ability to bring opposing views together to work towards a common goal. He will be sadly missed and never forgotten.

In bereavement are:

Wife	Luba Dmytryk-Husiak
Daughter	Laryssa Husiak
Mother	Tekla Husiak
Brothers	John Husiak with wife Carole and children Emily, Kathryn and Elias Stephen Husiak with son Michael

And other family members in the US, Canada and Ukraine.

The Panachyda was held at Peter Jarema Funeral Home in New York City on Friday October 24th, 2008. Requiem services were held on Saturday, October 25th, 2008 at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in Manhattan, followed by internment at Holy Spirit Cemetery in Hamptonburgh, NY.

A memorial service was held November 1st, 2008 at The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Los Angeles, CA. In memoriam, donations are being collected for "Plast Camp - Vovcha Tropea" c/o Strativa 2082 Business Center Dr., Ste. 240, Irvine, CA 92612. Attn: Dan Husiak Memorial

Vichnaya Pamyat!

Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority of Plast holds biennial meeting

SLOATSBURG, N.Y. – The Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut senior sorority of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization held its biennial meeting on October 18-19 here on the stunning grounds of St. Mary's Village of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate.

Members arrived from various parts of the United States and Canada to attend the meeting, at which sorority members heard officers' reports, elected a new leadership and enjoyed an evening "campfire" with a program led by members of the sorority's Bystrytsia branch in New Jersey.

As reported by the outgoing president, Daria Darewych, the Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority has 115 members in the United States, Canada, Ukraine and Australia. Members of the sorority played key roles in organizing and running last year's International Plast Jamboree held in Canada. They are active in Plast as counselors of "novatstvo" (children age 6-11) and "yunatstvo" (youths age 11-17), as well as in numerous leadership posts in Plast on the local and national levels.

Major topics of discussion included how to attract new young adult members to the sorority and how to disseminate information about Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut and raise the sorority's profile.

During a special session of the meeting called "Let's get to know each other better," members introduced themselves to each other and in the process learned about the wealth of Plast, community and professional accomplishments among the group. Sorority members are involved in such diverse fields of endeavor as immunology, landscape design, teaching, journalism, art history, pharmacy, geography, business and marketing.

The evening "campfire," held indoors, featured a special take on the "Sound of



Members of the Plast sorority Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut at their biennial meeting held at St. Mary's Villa in Sloatsburg, N.Y.

Music," humorously adapted to reflect the circumstances of the Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut sorority and its 2008 meeting, in addition to the traditional Plast program of songs and skits.

Elected to lead the sorority for the next two years were: Marta Kuzmowycz, president; Lesia Lebed (U.S.), Daria Kowalyk (Canada) and Marichka Artysh (Ukraine), vice-presidents; Oksana Bachynsky, sec-

retary; Maria Kolodij, treasurer; Olenka Yurchuk, editor of Vistovyk; Halyna Kutko (U.S.) and Halyna Subtlena (Ukraine), archivists; Motria Kuzycz (U.S.) and Roma Zubenko (Ukraine), liaisons for candidates; Daria Darewych, Marta Borowyk and Sophia Kachor, councilors.

Members of Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut are organized into branches named for rivers

in Ukraine: Bystrytsia (New Jersey), Dnister (New York), Limnytsia (Buffalo, N.Y.), Stryi (Hartford, Conn.), Zolota Lypa (Canada) Dnipro (Australia) and Cheremosh (Ukraine).

The next biennial meeting of the sorority is scheduled for October 2010, with the venue to be determined. For more information about Ti Scho Hrebli Rvut, log on to <http://www.hrebli.org>.

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Plast's Khmelnychenky hold annual meeting at Vovcha Trova

by Yuriy Trytjak

EAST CHATHAM, N.Y. – The Khmelnychenky fraternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization held its annual summer conclave here at the Vovcha Trova Plast campgrounds over the weekend of September 13-14.

Under the leadership of Andrew Rakowsky, the group of attendees, numbering over 40, discussed the successful conclusion of the past year's activities and events, and laid plans for the following year.

During the past 12 months Khmelnychenky staffed leadership and counselor posts in summer camps for boys age 7 through 16 at numerous Plast camps in the United States. The fraternity ran a very successful dance ("vechirka") for pre-teen youngsters in Wildwood, N.J., in August.

Elections were held for leadership of the fraternity, with Mr. Rakowsky being re-elected for a fifth consecutive term as president.

Also elected were: Ivan Shmotolokha, vice-president; Zenon Ushak, recording secretary; Myron Gudz, treasurer; Andriy Kyfor, coordinator of new pledges; and Mark Hlushewsky, officer of the day ("osaul").

In keeping with tradition, the Khmelnychenky enjoyed a pick-up football game, a barbecue cookout and the usual camaraderie of like-minded "Khmels." The Khmelnychenky, the Plast fraternity that celebrates the life and times of the 16th century Ukrainian Kozak Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky, comprises both young and older members – some going back more than 50



Members of the Khmelnychenky fraternity of Plast at their summer conclave at the Vovcha Trova campground.

years.

Conclave participants came from as far away as Boston, Hartford, Conn., New York and Philadelphia. They reconnected

and reminisced, while making the acquaintance of the young Khmels who form the active nucleus and continue to maintain the high spirits of this 63 year-

old brotherhood. These members continue to provide leadership at Plast camps and Plast educational activities in their respective town Plast branches.

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• The Economic Factors in the Growth of Russia*	Nicholas Chirovsky	1.00	• UNA Jubilee Book (1936) / Пропамятна Книга УНС	Luke Myshuha 1.00
• Father Agapius Honcharenko*	Theodore Luciw	1.00	• Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia, Vol. I	UNA 37.50
• For a Better Canada*	Senator Paul Yuzyk	1.00	• Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia, Vol. II	UNA 37.50
• For them the bells did not toll*	Oleksa Hay-Holowko	1.00	• Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First One Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association	Myron Kuropas 20.00
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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Boston branch of UAYA pays tribute to Ukraine's heroes

by Maria Saxe and Anna Nosal



Members of Ukrainian American Youth Association, Boston Branch: (back row, from left) Mariana Zabava, Andrij Stefantsiv, Ulana Nosal, Michael Nosal Jr. (president), Andrew Galonzka, Olya Baryski, the Rev. James Morris, Anna Nosal, Slavia Szczudluk, Natalie Rockwell, Theresa Reid, Ryan Reid, (front row) Natalie Reid, Natalia Banadyga, Alexander Banadyga, Tara Reid and Hania Kurniawka.

JAMAICA PLAIN, Mass. – The Boston branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (UAYA) held its annual Hero's Day Program on Sunday, June 15, under this year's slogan "Do Not Slumber, My Native Land" ("Ne Spy, Moya Ridna Zemlia") inspired by the song written by the music group Mandy of Ukraine.

The commemoration began with a solemn liturgy celebrated by the Rev. James Morris of Salem, Mass., at Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church in Jamaica Plain, Mass., which was followed by a memorial service (panakhyda). The Ukrainian American Veterans of Post 31 carried and presented the national colors during the panakhyda, and a symbolic wreath was carried and placed by young members of UAYA.

Immediately following the church services, UAYA members performed in a program directed by Hania Kurniawka. This year's program marked the following anniversaries: 90th anniversary of the struggle for independence of 1918-1919; 70th anniversary of the

death of Col. Yevhen Konovalts; 360th anniversary of Bohdan Khmelnytsky's rise as hetman of Ukraine; 125th anniversary of the birth of Dmytro Dontsov; 45th anniversary of the release to freedom of Patriarch Josyf Slipyj; 75th anniversary of the 1932-1933 Holodomor.

Ms. Kurniawka opened the program by giving a brief biography of Dontsov and his works, such as "Nationalism," which was published in 1926 and became a bible for young Ukrainian patriots.

Andrij Stefantsiv cited the many characteristics of a hero, as described by Dontsov, while members elaborated on specific heroes and anniversaries. Maria Saxe narrated the rise of Hetman Khmelnytsky; Mary Ann Zozula highlighted Symon Petliura. Maryana Zabava read about Konovalts, and Anna Nosal examined the plight of Patriarch Josyf.

In addition to these narrations, Natalie Rockwell and Slavia Szczudluk recited poems and all the members, including Christina Galonzka, Julie Galonzka, Ulana Nosal and Theresa Reid, sang traditional songs dedicated to the fallen heroes with Olya Baryski accompanying on guitar.

The younger members of UAYA, Alexander Banadyga, Natalia Banadyga, Natalie Reid, Ryan Reid and Tara Reid recited poems and displayed posters that they themselves created, commemorating the various anniversary events. An essay on the history of the Famine-Genocide was written and read by Justine Zozula.

After the conclusion of the program, Michael Nosal Jr., president of the Ukrainian American Youth Association of Boston, invited parish members and guests to the parish house and grounds for refreshments and a barbecue.

The rainy day did not dampen anyone's spirits.

This year's commemoration of Hero's Day coincided with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Father's Day program under the direction of Zenoviy Prots, president of the Boston branch. The lighter portion of the program included a traditional Ukrainian dance "U Horakh Karpatak," performed by UAYA youth members Alexander Banadyga, Natalia Banadyga, Natalie Reid and Tara Reid. Theresa Reid, Christina Galonzka and Halya Banadyga choreographed the dance.

During the festivities, the UAYA Scholarship Committee informed the community of the winners of the 2008 UAYA Boston Branch Wolodymyr Hanchar Scholarship Program: Justine Zozula (\$1,500) and Maryana Zabava (\$1,000).

As the rain subsided, several generations of participants played participated in a few games of volleyball, capping off the day's festivities.



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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Carpathian Ski Club holds annual get-together at Soyuzivka



Roma Hadzewycz

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The Carpathian Ski Club (known by its Ukrainian acronym as KAK) held its annual fall get-together at Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian heritage center of the Ukrainian National Association, over the weekend of September 20-21. The weekend included an informal mixed tennis doubles tournament and a handgun marksmanship competition during the day on Saturday. In addition, the annual women's doubles challenge match between the New Jersey Tomatoes (Nusia Dubas and Vira Popel) and the Philadelphia Petunias (Luba Buhai and Marika Tatunchak) was played with the Jersey duo prevailing. The evening's festivities included a cocktail hour and banquet, followed by dancing in the lobby of Soyuzivka's Main House. On Sunday, KAK held its annual meeting, discussing events of the past year and plans for upcoming activities, including the annual KAK ski races and the organization's 85th anniversary in 2009. Seen above are the KAK weekend participants after their annual meeting; KAK President Erko Palydowych is seated behind the organization's flag.

Language immersion camp conducted in Saskatchewan

by Tony Harras

CRYSTAL LAKE, Saskatchewan – The year 2008 marked the eighth anniversary of the Adult Ukrainian Language Immersion Camp (AULIC) held here at Trident Camp.

AULIC 2008, held on August 7-17, retained the major enhancement to the program that was introduced in 2006, when participants had the option of staying for the extended program (the weekend plus and an extra five days) after the traditional four-day weekend. And they were not disappointed – it was a great opportunity for the participants to improve their Ukrainian grammar and speaking skills, and have a great time polishing their language skills and learning many traditional Ukrainian folk songs.

Enrollment numbered 24 this year, with a third staying on for the extended program. Participants came from across western Canada. Half were attending the AULIC for the first time and the rest were returning students, with some participating every year since AULIC's inception.

The AULIC program offered three levels – beginner, intermediate and advanced – of Ukrainian language instruction throughout the day. Instructors this year included Anita Drebot of Regina, Saskatchewan, a Ukrainian language teacher for many decades; and native Ukrainians Oksana Sholdra of Regina, trained in Ukraine and a Sadochok teacher and choreographer, and Olena Kovpak,

another teacher who recently arrived from Ukraine who works with SaskLearning and in the Separate School system in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Participants enjoyed a trip to the Ukrainian Heritage Museum and Ukrainian Catholic church in Canora, Alberta.

Evenings were spent singing, dancing, watching Ukrainian videos and participating in Ukrainian cultural activities. Ms. Drebot instructed participants in Ukrainian embroidery while Sharon Harras demonstrated the finer points of pysanka-making.

AULIC 2008's Organizing Committee consisted of Tony Harras, Wayne Hydeman, Ed Lysyk, Ken Mazur, Katie Oleski and Rhonda Slugoski. This year's modest early registration fee was \$185 for the four-day weekend and \$310 for the extended program. The AULIC would not be possible without the sponsorship of the Ukrainian Orthodox Men's Association of Regina and the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Regina, and the financial support of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Saskatchewan Provincial Council and Regina Branch, the Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Languages and SaskCulture.

For more information readers may log on to www.aulic.ca or contact Tony Harras at 306-586-6805 or harras@sasktel.net. Planning is already under way for 2009 (with AULIS tentatively booked for August 6-14).

Oktoberfest celebrated at Verkhovyna



Russ Chelak

GLEN SPEY, N.Y. – The Verkhovyna MountainView Resort celebrated Oktoberfest over the weekend of October 11-12. There was plenty of beer, a barbecue and music, and quite a few lederhosen and Bavarian hats were spotted among the revelers. Seen above, against the backdrop of the recently built pavilion on the resort grounds, are (from left): Iwan Nazarkewycz (the silent financier and benefactor of Verkhovyna), Yuriy Blanarovich (general manager of the resort), Olya Kuziw, Karen Chelak, Jerry Kuziw and Sonia Blanarovich.



Participants of the 2008 Adult Ukrainian Language Immersion Camp in Saskatchewan.

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CEEC Position...

(Continued from page 6)

tives. As such, the Secretary of Homeland Security should be allowed the flexibility to include in the program many of the United States' key allies, thus making the program an important tool of U.S. foreign policy.

The CEEC further maintains that adequate assistance funding is of utmost importance. While we wholeheartedly support increased humanitarian and other assistance to Georgia, we are nonetheless concerned that such funding will be at the expense of aid to other countries and peoples in the region. The dangers faced by the region are dangers to the whole. Increased assistance for Georgia must go hand-in-hand with funding for other assistance to the Central and East European region. Our concern has been amplified as a result of the current economic crisis. The CEEC is deeply troubled by a statement made during the vice-presidential debate: "one thing we might have to slow down is a commitment we made to double foreign assistance." The foreign

affairs budget is only about 1 percent of the total U.S. budget – this is not an area that either party should target as a budgetary concern, especially given U.S. security interests in a free and stable Central and Eastern Europe.

Another security issue of concern to the CEEC is energy diversification. The CEEC strongly supports diversified, secure and economically and commercially viable supplies of energy resources to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It is in the interest of the United States to promote development of alternative energy supplies from the Caspian and the Middle East to the region. The United States needs a stronger engagement in, a clear policy regarding and a commitment of support concerning the issue of energy security for Central and Eastern Europe. Such a policy must set a goal to reduce the region's almost complete dependence on Russian state-owned monopolies, well-known for their use of energy as a weapon against neighbors. The policy also should support the independence of the producer and transit countries of the Caspian region and help them create inde-

pendent markets and transit infrastructure that bypass Russia's monopolistic system.

The CEEC also unqualifiedly opposes any cuts with respect to Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty broadcasting into the region, including Russian programming. The Russian people are being denied access to objective information by their government, as are other people in the region, such as those in Belarus. With the Kremlin feeling emboldened, deprivation of rights such as free speech becomes a heightened threat. Thus, not only is it ill advised to eliminate or cut programming, but it is also a mistake not to increase funding, for VOA and RFE/RL and other free media broadcast into the region. The reasons are different in Georgia, versus Ukraine, versus Belarus, for example, but access to free media is most important in new democracies/non-democratic states. Moreover, VOA and RFE/RL, as prudent yet reliable tools of U.S. public diplomacy, enhance our worldwide image. Such low-cost resources are designed to promote the key values of democratic principles and institutions where our interests lie. The transi-

tion from communist systems to market-oriented, democratic states must be solidified through the use of VOA and RFE/RL for the United States to ensure that our newest allies remain committed to the fundamentals of basic human and minority rights and liberties.

Finally, the CEEC emphasizes that it is shortsighted and counterproductive for the United States, as a policy matter, to be satisfied when some small steps are taken, and then think that all is well and we can turn our attention somewhere else. The United States declared a democratic victory much too early in the CEE region, and we are paying the price. We need to stay engaged and not declare victory too soon.

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International conference...

(Continued from page 15)

Historical Disciplines, Institute of History of Ukraine, NASU; Jacques Vallin and France Meslé, research directors, National Institute of Demographic Studies, Paris; Heorhii Kasianov, head of the Department of Contemporary History and Politics, Institute of History of Ukraine, NASU; Stanislav Kulchytskyi, Deputy Director, Institute of History of Ukraine, NASU; Timothy Snyder, professor of history and dean of graduate studies at Yale University; and Felix Wemheuer, assistant professor, East Asian Studies, University of Vienna, and visiting scholar, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University.

The conference is free and open to the general public. However, seating is limited and pre-registration is strongly advised. For a full program with participants, on-line registration, travel information and information about related Famine events, please see the HURI website, www.huri.harvard.edu.

Support for the conference was provided by several endowed funds at Harvard University: Ukrainian Studies Endowed Fellowship, the Alex Woskob Family Foundation Endowment, and the Stefan and Ivanna Rozankowsky Ukrainian Fund. In addition, partial support was provided by a generous gift for IT initiatives at HURI from the Eugene and Daymel Shklar Foundation.

The conference proceedings will be published in a forthcoming volume of the journal *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*.

OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 10 through December 5
Warwick, RI | Exhibit, "Holodomor: Remembering the Ukrainian Genocide 1932-1933," Community College of Rhode Island, knightgallery@ccri.edu | November 16
Scranton, PA | Roast Beef Dinner, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, 973-346-2414 |
| November 12
Stanford, CA | Lecture by Steven Pifer, "Ukraine Again Mired in Political Turmoil," Stanford University, 650-723-3562 or http://fce.stanford.edu/events/registration/5418/ | November 16
Detroit | Benefit luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University, Ukrainian Catholic Educational Foundation, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 773-235-8462 |
| November 13
Stanford, CA | Lecture by Sean McMeekin, "History's Greatest Heist: The Bolshevik Looting of Russia," Stanford University, www.crees.stanford.edu or 650-723-3562 | November 16
Whippany, NJ | Presentation of icons and korovai wedding breads, "Ukrainian Wedding Traditions," Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-585-7175 |
| November 14
Alexandria, VA | Recital featuring bayan and domra virtuosos Volodymyr and Natalya Marunych, Washington Balalaika Society, The Lyceum, 703-549-0760 | November 17
Washington | Concert, Harmonious Blacksmith, Embassy Concert Series, Embassy of Ukraine, 202-625-2361 |
| November 14
New York | Concert, "Songs of Truth: The Art of the Kobzari," featuring the New York Bandura Ensemble, The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | November 17-18
Cambridge, MA | International conference, "The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Holodomor and Its Consequences, 1933 to the Present," Harvard University, 617-495-3549 |
| November 14
New York | Concert, "A Cabaret Evening with John Stech," Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660 | November 21
Rockville, MD | The Washington Balalaika Society 20th anniversary concert, featuring Volodymyr and Natalya Marunych, F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater, 703-549-2010 |
| November 14
Washington | Lecture by Volodymyr Konovalchuk, "Ukraine in the Global Food Economy," Embassy of Ukraine, olex@ukremb.com or 202-349-2977 | November 21
Philadelphia | An evening of live music, featuring Yeezhak and Kruno Spisic, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-684-3548 |
| November 15
New York | Requiem service for the 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, St. Patrick's Cathedral, www.ucca.org | | |
| November 15
Washington | Holodomor commemoration, Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies, Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, 202-526-3737 | | |
| November 15
Washington | Exhibit opening reception, "Our World Seen Through the Diaspora Generational Lens," Embassy of Ukraine, embassyofukraine.eventbrite.com | | |

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

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10th Annual Golf Tournament

Plast Open – Chicago

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Pobratymy Foundation, founded by the Plast Pobratymy Fraternity in 1992, is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt corporation, which supports the ongoing activities of Plast, Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Yara Arts Group to hold Book & Film Night at Ukrainian Museum

NEW YORK – The Yara Arts Group will hold a Book & Film Night at The Ukrainian Museum in Manhattan's East Village on Friday, November 21, at 7 p.m. to present the recently published "In a Different Light: A Bilingual Anthology of Ukrainian Literature Translated by Virlana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps as Performed by Yara Arts Group" and a screening of Amy Grappell's film "Light from the East," recently released on DVD.

The evening will begin with bilingual performances by Yara artists of several poems in the book, as Virlana Tkacz, the group's artistic director, recounts the story of the Yara Arts Group and presents photographs from its productions.

Following the performances, the newly re-cut version of the film "Light from the East" will be screened. In Ms. Grappell's documentary, the year is 1991, and Yara's young American actors have traveled to Kyiv to participate in the first American-Ukrainian cultural exchange theater project. They perform a play about Les Kurbas as the Soviet Union collapses around them. The DVD extras include recent follow-up interviews with central Ukrainian figures

regarding the transition from communism to democracy.

The book "In a Different Light" includes over 100 poems by 37 Ukrainian poets, Lesia Ukrainka's play "Forest Song," as well as a small selection of traditional songs, epics and incantations. The volume is presented in three main sections: Texts, Events and Notes. The translations and the originals appear in the first section, which is arranged according to the performances for which the translations were created. The Events section describes the shows, workshops and readings that generated the translations.

The book includes 32 color photographs from Yara's shows. The biographies of the authors appear in the Notes section. All the material is presented in both English and Ukrainian, including the introduction by Natalia Pylypiuk and the foreword by Olha Luchuk, who edited and compiled the book. "In a Different Light" was published by Sribne Slovo of Lviv this past summer.

Both the book and the DVD will be on sale during the Book & Film Night.

The Book & Film Night at The Ukrainian Museum was preceded by very successful



Vitaly Horbonos

Seen during a Yara presentation in Kyiv (from left) are: Wanda Phipps, Oksana Zabuzhko and Virlana Tkacz reading a bilingual version of Oksana Zabuzhko's "Symptoms of Poetry with a projection of Andrew Colteaux in Lysheha's "Swan" in the background.

book launches in Kyiv and Lviv, where Yara artists read translations from "In a Different Light" while poets such as Oleh Lysheha, Victor Neborak, Oksana Zabuzhko, and Andriy Bondar read their originals. Photographs from these events are available

on the Yara Arts Group website, www.brama.com/yara.

Book & Film Night tickets and information are available by calling The Ukrainian Museum at 212-228-0110. The Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St.

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Ukrainian cable...

(Continued from page 2)

Russian TV channels three years ago about the irregularities, but they did not react.

NRTR deputy chairman Ihor Kurus hailed the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry's proposal to send a group of experts to Kyiv for talks on the issue (Interfax-Ukraine, October 15).

Writing in an influential Ukrainian weekly, Mr. Kurus brushed away the accusations of language chauvinism. He said that 65 of the 83 foreign channels approved by the NRTR for re-broadcasting in the cable networks were broadcasting in the Russian language.

He also noted, that apart from RTR, ORT and Ren TV, the NRTR forbade re-broadcasting 45 Russian channels, as well as several Chinese, Belarusian, and British channels. According to Mr. Kurus, they were banned in line with the Ukrainian law on TV and radio broadcasts for a variety of rea-

sons, mostly for violating copyrights and advertisement rules (Zerkalo Nedeli, October 25).

The NRTR will probably be disobeyed, especially in eastern and southern Ukraine, where the Russian language and the PRU dominate. Two members of the Ukrainian Cable TV Union, interviewed by a Ukrainian business daily, said the NRTR's decision was not legally flawless, so it would be appealed in the courts and ignored (Ekonomicheskije Izvestia, October 6).

The Zaporizhia Oblast Council defied the NRTR by calling on the local cable networks to continue re-broadcasting the channels banned by the NRTR. "Nearly 85 percent of the Zaporizhia population is Russian-speaking," the head of the local PRU organization, Andrii Ivanov, explained (Interfax-Ukraine, October 9).

The Parliament of Crimea said that it would appeal against the NRTR to the Constitutional Court in Kyiv (UNIAN, October 23).

The Holodomor...

(Continued from page 3)

from choking on a cherry pit, instead of the forced starvation that terrorized Ukraine.

She is confident that at least 25 percent of the oblast's population died, but no one has yet to offer a firm casualty figure, partly because Luhansk was part of a larger Donetsk Oblast then, making demographics a challenge.

The Weekly attempted to contact the Luhansk Oblast State Administration's domestic policy assistant chair, Maria Borzenko, who is responsible for compiling the oblast's Holodomor statistics, to confirm the figures and explain the methodology.

However, after an initial phone call in which The Weekly explained it was writing about Ms. Mahrytska's efforts, Ms. Borzenko didn't answer at least three subsequent calls placed to her cellular phone on different days.

In the last few weeks, Ms. Mahrytska criticized what she considers the oblast administration's sloppy, indifferent approach to Holodomor commemorations, a nationwide campaign mandated by President Yushchenko's decrees of March and September 2007.

During the national "33 Minutes" campaign, in which participants take turns read-

ing the names of local victims aloud for 33 minutes, Ms. Borzenko compiled a list that included diminutive nicknames such as Savka and Manka instead of the given names, Oleksandra and Maria.

Meanwhile, what is supposed to pass for "monuments," established in various villages by oblast officials, often are simple crosses without plaques mentioning the Holodomor, Ms. Mahrytska said.

Nor were the monuments established at the site of the villages' mass graves, many of which have yet to be located or confirmed.

In her quest for the truth, Ms. Mahrytska was disturbed by how Soviet authorities falsified records, from Moscow to the smallest village.

"Survivors told me about how a doctor was sent to Kharkiv for courses to raise his qualifications," she said. "After two or three months, he returned and began changing his records. Those who died from starvation, he erased and invented new causes."

It is ironic if not tragic that the same falsification of the Holodomor endures to this day in Luhansk.

"Ukrainians must be viewed as a post-genocidal nation, suffering from a Soviet virus," Ms. Mahrytska said somberly, recalling similar words from Native American Holodomor researcher Dr. James Mace. "And we must be treated as such."

Thanksgiving

November 26 - 29, 2008

Thursday, 27th - Thanksgiving Day
Thanksgiving feast will be available from 4-4pm

\$30 per person \$12.50 children 6-12

Feast Includes: Soup & Salad Bar,
Turkey Dinner & Dessert Table!

(Whole Turkey available for \$25)

Please call for more information
and reservations!

Main House Rooms available

\$75 + tax & gratuities per night
room rate includes breakfast for 2



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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Syracuse Plast youths enjoy fall colors in Adirondacks

by Mark Temnycky

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – On a beautiful, warm, fall day on October 11, the Syracuse group of Plast members gathered together for the start of their new year of activity. “Yunaky” (youths age 11-17) and “novaky” (children age 6-11), along with their leaders and some parents hiked in the Adirondacks near Old Forge, N.Y.

The “plastuny” began their journey at the Vista Trail and hiked 4.5 miles before embarking on their second hike up Bald Mountain.

The Vista Trail, which is part of the Fulton Chain of Lakes, is a trail with magnificent views of Blue Mountain to the northeast and Fourth Lake to the south. The Plast group stopped for lunch halfway through the hike and enjoyed the incredible fall foliage that was just past peak.

They hiked through the woods for three and a half hours, taking in the beautiful hues of oranges, yellows, reds and greens, and enjoyed the scenic views along the way. They even encountered a large beaver dam in Blue Mountain Pond. However, the beavers were away at the time of their hike, probably vacationing.

After a short break at the entrance to Bald Mountain, the plastuny forged ahead. The climb up Bald Mountain was short but very steep. The hikers climbed along the razorback ridge to a great view of First and Second Lakes,

Mark Temnycky is a sophomore at Christian Brothers Academy, and the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian studies in Syracuse, N.Y. He is an active “yunak” who also serves as a counselor for the younger “novaky.”



Plast members from Syracuse, N.Y., with their mascot Remy take in the view of the Fulton chain of lakes from atop Bald Mountain in the Adirondacks.

Moose Mountain and Fourth Lake. At the very top of Bald Mountain, 2,350 feet high, is the Rondaxe Fire Tower. From the top of the tower, the plastuny could see Mount Marcy, the highest peak in New York state, in the distance.

The Syracuse area Plast members enjoyed a breathtaking hike and camaraderie the entire day. They enjoyed complete solitude for the majority of the hike through the Vista Trail, and came across two other hikers only in the first 4.5 miles. The views at the top of Bald Mountain were incredible and worth the strenuous climb.

The plastuny are already looking forward to more outdoor activities in the coming months.

A performance at the Democratic Convention

DENVER – Larissa Babiak, granddaughter of Stefania and the late Michael Babiak of Amsterdam, N.Y., and Peter and Nina Bunik of St. Louis Park, Minn., and daughter of Dr. Maya Bunik and John Babiak of Denver, recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the national anthem from the Democratic Convention main stage during the opening of Day 2 of the convention in Denver.

Larissa, 11, is a member of the

Rocky Mountain Children’s Choir and a sixth grader at the Hamilton Middle School in Denver.

“Having the opportunity to participate and celebrate such a historic event was a thrill of my lifetime. Given that both sets of my grandparents are World War II refugees from Ukraine and came to America in search of freedom and opportunity, singing the national anthem had very special meaning to me,” commented Larissa.

Mishanyna

This month’s Mishanyna is dedicated to this month’s presidential elections in the United States. Hidden below in the Mishanyna grid you will find the last names of 20 U.S. presidents. (The rest of the presidents will appear in next month’s Mishanyna.) Bonus question: which of the five presidents above share last names with another?

ADAMS	GRANT	KENNEDY	ROOSEVELT
BUSH	HARRISON	LINCOLN	TAFT
CLINTON	HOOVER	MCKINLEY	TRUMAN
EISENHOWER	JEFFERSON	NIXON	WASHINGTON
FORD	JOHNSON	REAGAN	WILSON

S	K	O	L	L	M	C	K	I	N	L	E	Y	O	M
A	E	L	C	L	I	N	T	O	N	O	O	N	R	C
N	N	O	L	C	N	I	L	N	O	S	F	Y	O	T
A	N	D	A	R	M	W	I	L	S	O	N	N	O	S
L	E	L	M	A	N	X	O	X	R	R	E	E	S	I
A	D	A	M	S	O	L	S	D	E	A	N	A	E	D
R	Y	E	O	N	A	M	T	V	F	Z	A	C	V	H
T	L	E	V	E	S	O	O	R	F	A	G	Z	E	A
K	T	R	O	Y	L	O	N	D	E	N	A	O	L	Y
U	N	O	S	N	H	O	J	O	J	K	E	R	T	E
C	A	E	I	S	E	N	H	O	W	E	R	T	A	S
H	R	Y	U	S	H	C	H	E	N	K	O	L	F	J
M	G	B	O	B	H	A	R	R	I	S	O	N	T	O
A	D	A	M	N	O	T	G	N	I	H	S	A	W	E
T	R	U	M	A	N	R	I	C	H	A	R	D	B	O

Soyuzivka's Datebook

November 7 - 9 – Orlykiada

November 27 – Thanksgiving dinner; rooms available in Main House building only



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, November 13

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, in co-sponsorship with the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, announces that the Zenovia Sochor Parry Memorial Lecture will be given by Anatoliy Grytsenko, member of Parliament of Ukraine; chairman, Parliamentary Committee on National Defense and Security; and former minister of defense of Ukraine (2005-2007). His lecture will be held in the Tsai Auditorium (Room S-010) of CGIS Building South at Harvard University at 4-6 p.m. The South Building of the Center for Government and International Studies is located at 1730 Cambridge St., Cambridge, MA 02138. A reception will follow this event. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call HURI, 617-495-4053, or e-mail huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Friday, November 14

NEW YORK: The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, The Ukrainian Museum and New York Bandura Ensemble/Bandura Downtown present "Songs of Truth: The Art of the Kobzari," a tribute to the art of Ukraine's blind epic singers. Music director Julian Kytasty presents their ancient epics and laments, humorous burlesques, religious and moralistic songs, sparkling instrumental dance tunes and songs of social commentary. The concert begins at 7 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues). Admission: \$15; member/student/senior discounts are available. For reservations call 212-228-0110. For further information call 212-571-1555 ext. 35.

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

Saturday, November 15

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Roman Kalytchak of the Ivan Franko Lviv National University titled "Ukrainian Regions as Subjects and Objects of International Politics." Prof. Kalytchak, a candidate of political sciences, is a 2008-2009 Fulbright Fellow at the Kennan Institute in Washington. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

Sunday, November 16

WHIPPANY, N.J.: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, New Jersey Regional Council, invites the Ukrainian community to its "Den Soyuzianky." The theme is "Ukrainian Wedding Traditions." Join us for a wonderful afternoon at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of NJ, 60 N. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981, at 12:30-4 p.m.; program is at 2 p.m. Featured will be: icon and korovai exhibits, a lottery, buffet, coffee and dessert. For more information contact Ksenia Rakowsky, 973-762-7348.

WARREN, Mich.: The Michigan Friends of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation invite you to support this uniquely important institution at a

benefit luncheon at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan Road. The Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of UCU, and other special guests will give an informative update about this university serving the people and strengthening the Church in Ukraine. Tickets are \$30. For details, contact Nell at nell@ucef.org or 773-235-8462.

Monday, November 17

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is pleased to announce the premiere performance of selections from the opera, "Red Earth (Hunger)," written by Virko Baley. The concert, which will feature commentary by the composer, will be held at the Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St., at 8 p.m. This event is free and open to the public; however, seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information visit the website <http://www.huri.harvard.edu> call 617-495-4053 or e-mail huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Monday-Tuesday, November 17-18

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host an international conference "The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Holodomor and Its Consequences, 1933 to the Present." Sessions 1 through 3 will be held on Monday, November 17, at 9 a.m.-6 p.m. These will be followed by a concert with Virko Baley of selections from his opera "Red Earth (Hunger)" held at the Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St., at 8 p.m. Sessions 4 through 6 will be held on Tuesday, November 18, at 9 a.m.-6 p.m., with the keynote address being given by Nicolas Werth, research director, National Center for Scientific Research, Paris, at 8 p.m. All sessions will be held at the Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy St. This event is open to the public with on-line pre-registration at <http://www.huri.harvard.edu> (where you can also find a detailed program). Note: Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the conference. Coffee and tea provided. For more information contact HURI, 617-495-4053 or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Saturday, November 22

NEW YORK: Music at the Institute (MATI) presents Nadia Shpachenko, piano, and the Biava String Quartet at 8 p.m. at Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. The program features Mozart's Piano Quartet No. 1 in G Minor, K. 478; Shchetynsky's Piano Quintet (2008) – world premiere; Dvorak's Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 81. General admission: \$30; \$25 for members and senior citizens; \$20 for students. For further information call 212-288-8660

Sunday, November 23

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art opens its final exhibit of the year commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Holodomor at noon-4 p.m. The exhibit, "Holodomor Through the Eyes of a Child: The Famine Remembered," reflects the Famine as interpreted through the hearts and hands of over 400 young students in Ukraine. The artwork was collected from schools in over nine cities and from grades 9-11. At the opening of the exhibit, students from the local Ukrainian schools will read the poetry and essays collected with the artwork. The exhibit will run through January 18, 2009. The UIMA is located at 2320 W Chicago Ave. in the Ukrainian Village neighborhood. For further information call 773-227-5522 or visit the website www.uima-chicago.org.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

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