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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine moves to stabilize financial system

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Ukraine has secured a big loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in order to stabilize its finances amid the global crisis. To qualify for the loan, parties in the Verkhovna Rada agreed to set aside their differences and pass stabilization laws proposed by President Viktor Yushchenko. Thanks to this, Ukraine managed to stabilize its currency, the hryvnia.

The government also persuaded the owners of two problem banks, PromInvestBank and Nadra, to sell them. Both may fall under Russian control.

As the global crisis erupted, the hryvnia plunged by over 20 percent against the U.S. dollar. Several Ukrainian banks that were heavily dependent on foreign loans faced default. PromInvestBank, the country's sixth largest bank, had to turn to the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) for stabilization loans and to call in NBU managers.

The government of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko appealed to the IMF for assistance. In order to qualify for IMF financing, Ukraine's Parliament passed a package of stabilization measures on October 31. This was the first big piece of legislation since the summer, when the ruling coalition of Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko broke apart. The package, drafted by the president was approved by 243 deputies, who represented the parties of Mr. Yushchenko and Ms.

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Verkhovna Rada ousts Yatsenyuk

by Illya M. Labunka
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament plunged into deeper instability as Verkhovna Rada leader Arseniy Yatsenyuk was voted out of the Verkhovna Rada in a tense session highlighted by shouting matches, fistfights and broken glass.

On November 12, 233 members of Parliament out of the 350 registered in the legislature's main chamber ousted Mr. Yatsenyuk as chairman of the continuously troubled Verkhovna Rada.

Due to the recently formed alliance consisting of the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU), the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc, the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) and Single Center, a spin-off faction of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc, the 34-year-old Mr. Yatsenyuk was removed as leader of Ukraine's Parliament.

As a result, 175 national deputies of the PRU, 20 from the Lytvyn Bloc, 27 of the CPU, 10 representing the OU-PSD bloc and one member of the YTB, namely Ihor Rybakov, voted for the removal of Mr. Yatsenyuk.

Mr. Rybakov is considered to be one of the catalysts behind this past summer's demise of the democratic coalition in Parliament, as well as an ally of Presidential Secretariat Chairman Viktor Baloha, who is an arch rival to Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

Chairman Yatsenyuk's ultimate ouster actually came as little or no surprise to the Verkhovna Rada leader himself, as exemplified by the fact that during the early stage of the morning plenary session Mr. Yatsenyuk had already temporarily been removed by vote as chairman of the plenary session for a period of two days.



Verkhovna Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk votes on the evening of November 11 on whether he should be dismissed from his position. That vote failed; however, the Rada chair was ousted after a second vote the next day.

In Resolution No. 3357, introduced by the chairman himself, Mr. Yatsenyuk temporarily limited his authority in order to quell all possible accusations that he did not want to resign. He had submitted his resignation after the democratic coalition collapsed back in September, but stayed on as acting chairman.

The initial vote to limit the chair's power was passed. Later that same day another vote removed Mr. Yatsenyuk as chairman of the Rada.

Following his ouster, Mr. Yatsenyuk said he did not consider the outcome of the vote a personal tragedy. "Most likely such a result was a response to my proposals to

unite the political forces, as well as a reaction to the adoption of a whole range of anti-crisis packages, and, ultimately, it was probably a reply to my independent position in the Ukrainian Parliament," Mr. Yatsenyuk commented.

The session that deposed Mr. Yatsenyuk was not without incident, as members of the YTB and the PRU clashed with words and fists in their attempts to gain control of the Parliament's electronic voting system called "Rada." Members of the YTB consider Mr. Yatsenyuk an ally and therefore opposed the attempt to oust the speaker by

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Philadelphia community remembers the 10 million



Members of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble outside the Church of the Holy Trinity.

PHILADELPHIA – Commemorative concert and exhibit marking the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor took place on October 26 at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity.

The event summoned the memory of the tragedy with the highest quality of performance and reflected its emotional depth with elegance. It was hailed by community leaders here as one of the most successful events in the history of Philadelphia's Ukrainian community.

The Philadelphia Community Committee to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine organized the solemn concert and exhibit. The venue was the prestigious Church of the Holy Trinity located on Rittenhouse Square.

"Remembering the 10 Million Victims of Famine-Genocide

1932-1933 in Ukraine" proclaimed the large banner hanging outside the church. The commanding sign attracted Philadelphians and visitors to the concert and to the exhibit.

The Holodomor concert was opened by Ulana Baluch Mazurkevich, chairperson of the Community Committee to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Holodomor and also the mistress of ceremonies for this event.

Ms. Mazurkevich welcomed the crowd of close to 1,000 to the "Remembering 10 million Victims Concert." She recalled that in 1986 the U.S. Congress established the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, of which she was a public member. The commission's final report, which was submitted and adopted by Congress, concluded that "the Famine

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ANALYSIS

There's little hope in Moscow for breakthrough in relations with U.S.

by Pavel Felgenhauer
Eurasia Daily Monitor
November 6

There seems to be a serious desire in Washington to try to improve faltering relations with Moscow, which were strained by the Russian invasion of Georgia in August. It is expected that the new U.S. administration will try to show its ability to parley and achieve results where the administration of George W. Bush failed. The START nuclear arms control treaty, which was negotiated before the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, will end in December 2009. Without START and its mutual verification and on-site inspection regimes, strategic nuclear arms control will end.

Rose Gottemoeller served in President Bill Clinton's administration as director for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasia at the National Security Council and as deputy undersecretary of energy, responsible for nuclear nonproliferation programs. For the last few years, she has been the director of the Carnegie Center in Moscow but is now leaving for Washington in hope of receiving an important position, most likely connected with Russia and arms control/nuclear nonproliferation, in a new Democratic administration.

Ms. Gottemoeller believes that, as U.S. president, Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev may form a good and friendly relationship as men of a new generation born in the 1960s. Russia and the U.S. have common interests in arms control, nuclear nonproliferation and

fighting terrorism. Ms. Gottemoeller believes that even before officially taking office, Mr. Obama must reach out to the Russian military and press the Pentagon to invite Russian naval commanders to stop over at Central Command in Florida to "discuss urgent issues that are engaging both navies, such as the piracy running rampant off Somalia." The Russians will be returning home after exercises off the coast of Venezuela in mid-November (Moscow Times, November 1).

Such an invitation might indeed be a smart PR move, but naval commanders do not decide Russian defense or foreign policy. At present, the Russian military does not have any representation and little influence in the country's top leadership. There seems to be nothing wrong in making additional efforts to placate the top brass, but friendly gestures toward a military that recently invaded a small neighboring nation and still occupies part of its territory will surely frighten other Russian neighbors that believe they themselves may be threatened by Russian armed forces in the future.

The outgoing Bush administration is putting in a last-ditch attempt to reach an understanding on arms control with Russia. Moscow and Washington have agreed to resume talks in mid-November on renewing START in Geneva (Interfax, October 18). The U.S. ambassador in Moscow, John Beyrle, has expressed hope that Moscow and Washington would come to an agreement on replacing or amending START before January 2009,

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Medvedev tests new U.S. president on the morning after his election

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor
November 6

The forecast during the U.S. presidential election campaign by Sen. Joseph Biden, now the vice-president-elect, that Russia would challenge a President Barack Obama soon after he would be elected has come true even sooner than could be expected. Russian President Dmitry Medvedev attacked the United States, its policies and some of its closest allies in his state-of-the-nation address to a special session of the bicameral Russian parliament on November 5 (Rossiya Television, November 5).

Mr. Medvedev's address had originally been scheduled for an earlier date but was rescheduled to be held one day after the U.S. elections on November 4. In effect, it was a salvo across the president-elect's bow. The speech seemed almost to ignore Western Europe, however.

Mr. Medvedev opened the address by attacking the United States as part of his assessment of the international situation and reprised this theme in several sections of his speech. He indicted the United States from the outset for Georgia's "barbarous aggression against South Ossetia," for the "global financial crisis [in which] the U.S. economy dragged down the financial markets of the entire planet" and for "imposing American anti-missile systems on Europe in an accelerated manner, which will naturally lead to Russia's response."

The address reserved disproportionate space and disproportionate vehemence with

regard to Georgia, that is, "the criminal adventurism of the Tbilisi regime." The message was that regime change in that country remains a Russian goal, as well as something to be used as part of trade-offs with the United States.

Mr. Medvedev unwittingly damaged his case, however, indicating that any such trade-off would not be the end, but only the beginning of troubles with Russia. Listing the "Russian values" that inspire Russia's foreign policy, the president mentioned the "protection of small nations; and in this regard, the recognition of Abkhazia's and South Ossetia's independence is an example of such protection."

The implication is that Russia has arrogated to itself a right to "protect" populations beyond its borders using any means, including de facto annexation through military intervention, as long as the global power balance shifts against the United States and the regional balance shifts correspondingly in Russia's favor.

Indeed, the speech projects confidence that such a shift has set in, globally and regionally: "A fundamentally new geopolitical situation has taken shape. The August crisis merely precipitated the moment of truth. We demonstrated in practice, to those who sponsored Georgia's present regime, that we are able to defend our citizens [and] our national interests."

In other words, Russia sees itself in a position to exploit this strategic opening around its perimeter.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Snap elections may be rescheduled

WARSAW – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said on November 12 that he refuses to hold snap elections to the Parliament in December, but believes they could take place in 2009. "There's no point in holding the elections during holidays at the end of the year," he told journalists in Warsaw while on a visit to Poland. "We're doing all we can to bring the package of anti-crisis measures and the budget for 2009 in line with clauses on the financing of the early elections," Mr. Yushchenko said. On October 29 the Verkhovna Rada refused to support a bill on funding the snap elections. (Ukrinform)

President denies revival of coalition

WARSAW – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said on November 12 that he believes the only way out of the current political crisis in the country caused by a split of the coalition comprising the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) and the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc back in September is to hold pre-term parliamentary elections. In an interview with the Polish newspaper Rzeczpospolita, Mr. Yushchenko accused Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko of creating the political crisis due to her alleged attempts to form a broad coalition with the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU). "There is only one possible response to the permanent crisis in our country triggered by the prime minister: holding new parliamentary elections," he said. The president also denied the possible revival of the coalition between the YTB and OU-PSD. "Today, there is no possibility of returning to the old coalition," he said. Mr. Yushchenko also said that Ms. Tymoshenko, trying to form a coalition with the PRU, wanted to change the strategic goal of Ukraine's integration with the European Union in favor of more active cooperation with Russia. "A discussion is continuing in Ukraine on which direction our state should follow – either to return to the past or move toward Europe. In fact, this dilemma triggered the break-up of the previous coalition when one of our allies [YTB] tried to form a broad coalition and

change the course our country is following," he said. At the same time, Mr. Yushchenko said he does not consider the PRU to be only Russian-oriented and opposed to Ukraine's integration with the European Union. He said that the Our Ukraine party is a 100 percent pro-European political force in Ukraine, while the Communist Party is exclusively an anti-European party. Other parties, in his opinion, have both pro-European politicians and those with opposite views. "The same is true of the Party of Regions. It is not a group devoid of the feeling of patriotism," Mr. Yushchenko said, commenting on what could happen if pro-Russian forces, particularly the PRU, gain power in the country. He said that the PRU has a lot of entrepreneurs doing their business not only in Russia, but also in the European Union and the United States. "The majority [of national deputies] in this party also do not want to return to the past," Mr. Yushchenko said. (Ukrinform)

President on Yatsenyuk's dismissal

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada's decision to sack Parliament Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk destabilizes the political situation, President Viktor Yushchenko said at a November 12 briefing. "I do not approve of what has happened in Parliament," he said, stressing that he trusts Mr. Yatsenyuk and that is precisely why he had recommended him for the post of Rada chair. "I recommended him, and I am sure it was not a mistake," Mr. Yushchenko emphasized. A total of 233 national deputies voted on November 12 to dismiss Mr. Yatsenyuk from the chairman's post: 175 from the PRU, 27 from OU-PSD, and one from the YTB. The president is chiefly responsible for the dismissal of Mr. Yatsenyuk, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told journalists, also saying, "This dismissal would be impossible without the president's direct order," as some of the pro-presidential OU-PSD members backed the dismissal. The president said he did not wish to comment on the reasons that Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc members and representatives of some

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The Holodomor 75 years later: The Donetsk Oblast

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

DONETSK – As Ukrainians starved in surrounding villages, Donetsk factories hummed in full gear and the mines churned out coal.

Donbas was fulfilling Joseph Stalin's ideal vision of a Soviet, industrialized Ukraine, which is why some present-day residents, particularly the elder Communists and their sympathizers, can't fathom that their oblast was devastated by the Holodomor.

"They say there was no famine since we built this mine, or that factory, and developed industry, and extracted coal and ore and smelted metal," said Viktor Prokopchuk, a 69-year-old Soviet veteran who regularly debates the Donbas Communists. "But the Ukrainian village was practically destroyed."

Indeed, the Holodomor ravaged the Donetsk countryside, which was comprehensively documented in "Hirka Pamiat" ("Bitter Memory"), a 614-page anthology containing oblast testimonies, scholarly research and Soviet documents.

It was compiled by the Donetsk Oblast's top Holodomor researchers, including Prof. Volodymyr Nikolskyi, Assistant Prof. Mykola Troian and editor Stanislav Blyednov, who published the anthology with financial support from the Donetsk State Oblast Administration and the Donetsk Oblast Council.

Among the evidence were documents affirming that more than 9,000 villagers were convicted during the Holodomor for violating Joseph Stalin's August 1932 "Five Ears" order that criminalized the theft of just five ears of wheat from collective farms. Most received prison sentences of five to 10 years, and some were executed.

Meanwhile, some 600 collective farm administrators in the Starokaranskyi District of Donetsk were imprisoned or executed for refusing to fulfill Stalin's genocidal collectivization policies.

While "Bitter Memory" is a landmark effort in collecting Holodomor evidence in the Donbas region, much work remains



Zenon Zawada

Soviet Army veteran Viktor Prokopchuk regularly debates Donbas Communists on the Holodomor's veracity.

for the region's scholars.

Although the book reported that "almost 100,000" Donetsk Oblast residents perished in the Holodomor, Mr. Blyednov noted that estimate is based only on the information currently known and that a precise figure has yet to be determined.

Nor have researchers confirmed how many mass graves exist in the oblast and where.

Donbas Holodomor researchers are severely hindered in their efforts because a large portion of the oblast state archives, particularly the birth and death records, were lost during World War II, Dr. Nikolskyi said.

To protect them from the invading Nazis, the Soviet authorities loaded the documents onto a train in October 1941 to Russia, where they eventually burned inside the train car, he said, citing as his source a colleague who worked in the state archives.

Then, sometime in the 1960s, Soviet



Prof. Volodymyr Nikolskyi learned that the Soviets destroyed most Communist Party documents in Donetsk.

authorities ordered all the oblast's archived Communist Party documents destroyed, Dr. Nikolskyi said, with the exception of a few samples of reports, notes and certificates that were preserved in local Party Control Commission Fund.

Research efforts have been hampered also by the active Donbas Communists, who have led a campaign in its newspapers and radio programs trying to convince the locals that the Holodomor is an American fiction imported to Ukraine.

Their efforts are merely political demagoguery, in Mr. Blyednov's view, considering that the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine acknowledged in a January 26, 1990, decree that the Famine of 1932-1933 was a staged criminal act committed by Joseph Stalin and his cohorts.

"This was not invented today, not by President (Leonid) Kuchma nor President

The Holodomor in the Donetsk Oblast

105,000 known casualties *
12,000 known survivors still alive *

The editorial group of the Donetsk Volume of the Holodomor Victims National Memory book was unable to estimate how many population centers were affected, and how many mass graves exist in the oblast, said Stanislav Blyednov, the chief editor.

* These figures are gross underestimations and researchers are still working to establish accurate numbers.

(Viktor) Yushchenko," Mr. Blyednov told an October 20 academic conference. "This was officially recognized in 1990 not only that it was a famine, but that it was man-made."

Though Donetsk is heavily Russified, populated by transplants from throughout the former Soviet Union, the oblast's native Ukrainian residents, who trace their ancestral roots to the local villages, bear vivid stories of the Holodomor that were passed down from their parents and grandparents.

Donetsk native Oksana Khatalakh remembered how her "babusia" (grandmother) described a "terrible famine" in her native village of Yelizavetivka, knowing full well it was man-made long before anyone from the diaspora was even allowed to speak in Ukraine.

Upon hearing her babusia's stories of the Famine, Ms. Khatalakh tried finding information in her eighth-grade textbook. It was 1982 and the only mention was a phrase, "There were minor rationing problems in certain villages."

She asked her teacher why the textbook made no mention, drawing a long

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OPIC to return to Ukraine

Embassy of the United States

KYIV – The U.S. government and the government of Ukraine signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on November 10, laying the foundation for the return of the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) to Ukraine.

William Taylor, U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, and Ukraine's Minister of Economy Bohdan Danylyshyn acted as the signing parties of this agreement.

Ambassador Taylor said he believes the signing of the MOU is an important step toward securing OPIC's return to Ukraine and an important sign of the faith the United States has in Ukraine and the Ukrainian economy. Once the steps specified in the memorandum are fulfilled, over \$500 million of new investments that will be made in Ukraine in the next 12 to 18 months with OPIC's help, he said.

Ambassador Taylor underscored that OPIC's return, like the International Monetary Fund's support package and other positive economic news such as the widely unheralded recent passage of a Joint Stock Company Law, is evidence Ukraine can take steps to improve the economic and investment climate if the leadership of the major political forces work together for the good of the country.

OPIC was established as an agency of the U.S. government in 1971. It helps U.S. businesses invest overseas, fosters economic

development in new and emerging markets; complements the private sector in managing risks associated with foreign direct investment; and supports U.S. foreign policy. OPIC has been absent from Ukraine for several years over the failure to resolve an insurance claim dating from the 1990s. The MOU signed on November 10 paves the way for a resolution of that issue.

The American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) in Ukraine and the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC) welcomed the news.

AmCham President Jorge Zukoski said he is pleased that concrete steps are being undertaken to re-establish the operations of OPIC. Mr. Zukoski noted that the MOU signing sends a positive signal to the business community that Ukraine is open for business, and that it will assist in attracting additional strategic investment into the marketplace.

"One of the top priorities of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC) the past few years has been to support the return of OPIC's outstanding business and economic development programs to Ukraine," said Morgan Williams of SigmaBleyzer, who serves as president of USUBC. "USUBC members certainly welcome the signing of the MOU and hope all issues will be resolved quickly so OPIC can once again support U.S. businesses doing business with Ukraine."

A look at Donbas high school students' views of the Holodomor

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

DONETSK – In her report to an October 20 conference on the Holodomor, Donbas high school student Viktoriya Charkina referred to the Holodomor as a crime of the Communist regime, but avoided the term genocide.

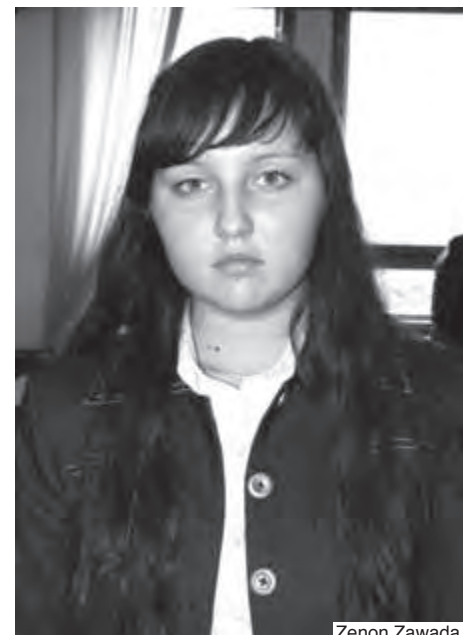
Meanwhile, high schooler Alina Denysova said Ukrainians weren't the only targets of the Holodomor.

"Russians and Belarusians died during the Holodomor, and the recognition of genocide only against the Ukrainian people confuses me," Ms. Denysova said. "Ukraine was not the only suffering country. Though the Holodomor of 1932-1933 was artificially created, it's very hard for us to understand its true aim."

Such ambiguity and confusion about the Holodomor is widespread among the youth of the Donbas, where pro-Russian politicians use the mass media to convince residents it wasn't genocide against Ukrainians – contrary to the accounts of living witnesses, researchers and declassified documents that prove otherwise.

Ms. Denysova said she is convinced it was genocide (against Soviet peasants), and it was "absurd" for the Soviet government to view the intelligentsia as a threat.

However she wasn't able to make the link that it was the Ukrainian intellectuals



Zenon Zawada

Donbas high school student Alina Denysova said she is confused as to why the Holodomor is considered genocide against Ukrainians only.

and peasantry who posed the biggest threat to the Soviet government and that the Holodomor was hatched to destroy Ukrainian identity, language and culture.

She also couldn't recognize that the deaths of Russians and Belarusians, much

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NEWS ANALYSIS: Yushchenko uses SBU against former Orange allies

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

The Security Service of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SBU) is targeting the president's former Orange ally, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB), as part of a strategy to undermine Ms. Tymoshenko's popularity ahead of the January 2010 presidential elections. The campaign uses methods similar to those used by former President Leonid Kuchma.

The concerted campaign aims at smearing the YTB, Ms. Tymoshenko and pro-Tymoshenko defectors from the erstwhile supporters of the president's Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc with accusations of "corruption" and other abuses of office. The biased nature of the campaign is similar to those in the Kuchma era, insofar as the campaign ignores loyal political forces (pro-regime centrist parties and oligarchs under Mr. Kuchma and the pro-Yushchenko wing of OU-PSD) and potential coalition allies (the Communist Party under Mr. Kuchma, Party of Regions under

Mr. Yushchenko).

There are four facets to the campaign.

Firstly, the Presidential Secretariat compiled a 350-page dossier of accusations of "treason" against Ms. Tymoshenko and presented it to the Procurator's office in August. The SBU spent from July to September investigating the accusations. Two days after the Secretariat presented its "evidence," the Procurator's office announced that it had found no "concrete criminal infringements of the law" by the government and that the dossier included nothing that could be used to launch criminal charges against Ms. Tymoshenko (Ukrayinska Pravda, November 6).

Secondly, they are besmirching the prime minister's reputation by linking Ms. Tymoshenko's position as CEO of United Energy Systems in the mid-1990s to then-Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko. Messrs. Yushchenko and Kuchma are trying to have Mr. Lazarenko extradited from the United States, where he is serving a jail term on money laundering charges, after seeking political asylum there in 1999.

Thirdly, the Presidential Secretariat is challenging the citizenship of naturalized Ukrainians, such as Davyd Zhvania, a businessman who provided funding for the Pora (It's Time) youth NGO and Orange Revolution protests in 2004 and the People's Self Defense Party in 2007. Mr. Zhvania is a deputy in the PSD wing of OU-PSD, which has de facto aligned itself with the YTB in the inter-Orange quarrels. Mr. Zhvania became a Ukrainian citizen in 1999 after renouncing his Georgian citizenship. The Procurator's office and courts rebuffed the Presidential Secretariat's challenge that the citizenship had been received "illegally" and that he had kept his Georgian citizenship, although Ukraine does not recognize dual citizenship.

Pro-Yushchenko oligarch Igor Kolomoisky, CEO of the Privat group, openly admitted in an interview that he had Israeli and Ukrainian citizenship but has not been investigated (www.pravda.com.ua, March 28 and 31). Party of Regions Deputy Yukhym Zviatichsky, who fled to Israel in November 1994 but returned to Ukraine in

March 1997, also has dual Israeli-Ukrainian citizenship.

Finally, YTB and PSD deputies have been accused of "corruption." The president has claimed that the deputies were involved in contraband in collusion with "organized crime." Significantly, the SBU's investigation is targeting only deputies from YTB and the pro-Tymoshenko wing of OU-PSD.

One of the accused is the deputy head of the PSD, Gennadiy Moskal, who is vice-chair of the parliamentary committee to combat organized crime and corruption. It is unlikely a coincidence that Mr. Moskal submitted a request on October 21 to the Procurator's Office to investigate how the biggest castle in Central-Eastern Europe in Mukachiv, an important symbol in Hungarian history, was transferred until 2056 to Vysoky Zamok, a small private company owned by family members of the Presidential Secretariat chief Viktor Baloha (Zerkalo Nedeli/Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, October 18).

A YTB statement rejected accusations made by the SBU as merely part of a campaign to "blacken whomever Yushchenko sees as his main enemy – the government, its head and team" (www.YTB.com.ua, November 6). The YTB warned that acting SBU Chairman Valentyn Nalyvaichenko would face consequences for "the privatization of the SBU on behalf of certain private persons, the degradation and discrediting of the Security Service, and its transformation into a directorate of the Presidential Secretariat for black PR" (www.YTB.com.ua, November 6).

As Ukraine approaches the fourth anniversary of the Orange Revolution beginning on November 21 and the pros and cons of what has changed for the better are being analyzed, one area that remains negative is civil-military relations (see Eurasia Daily Monitor October 21). One important element of this is the continued practice, inherited from the Kuchma era, of politicizing the SBU.

The decline and growth of the SBU's politicization are related to how the president is faring in the opinion polls; it always increases and becomes most acute when the president feels under threat from his domestic opponents.

In the Kuchma era the SBU became politicized during his second term following the November 2000 "Kuchmagate" scandal and climaxed during the 2004 elections. Under Mr. Yushchenko the SBU's re-politicization, after a short respite following the Orange Revolution, increased quickly starting in the middle of his first term.

The SBU's re-politicization has taken place for three reasons.

First was the appointment of SBU Vice-Chairman Valentyn Nalyvaichenko as acting chairman after Parliament refused to support his candidacy, which was proposed, as per the Constitution, by the president. Mr. Nalyvaichenko has seemingly agreed to act as the head of a politicized SBU, unlike SBU Chairman Ihor Smeshko, who acquitted himself in a positive manner during the Orange Revolution.

Rumors that Mr. Nalyvaichenko was to be replaced because of his unpopularity in Parliament were leaked by an SBU officer to the newspaper 24 (November 6). The position was offered to a Party of Regions deputy who turned it down. Mr. Nalyvaichenko is reportedly to be transferred to the Presidential Secretariat or National Security and Defense Council.

Secondly, the president's approval ratings collapsed in 2006 from a very high point in his first year in office. They recovered briefly in 2007 and then collapsed again in 2008 to below 5 percent. A recent poll showed that the lack of confidence in the president among Ukrainians has gone up from an

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“Welcome to Ukrainian New York” kicks off at the Ukrainian Institute

by Irina I. Gvozd

NEW YORK, N.Y. – “Welcome to Ukrainian New York,” a new fund-raising and networking event, took place at the Ukrainian Institute in New York City on September 27. The inaugural “Welcome” surpassed all expectations of its organizers and was attended by several hundred individual attendees and over 25 local area businesses and organizations.

The idea behind the event was born a few months ago when a group of young and ambitious professionals from Ukraine, led by a Ukrainian Canadian, Terence Filewych, approached the Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA) with an initiative to bring local Ukrainian-owned businesses and Ukrainian organizations together to increase the awareness of and promote their activities in the Ukrainian community in the Greater New York Metropolitan area.

Jaroslav Kryshchalsky, UIA president, quickly saw the value and potential of such a networking event and immediately offered the institute’s help and support in organizing it. Thus, a new forum for social and business networking among the Ukrainians of the Big Apple was created.

As the preparations were under way, various major Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and New York companies and organizations expressed interest in supporting the initiative and sponsorship opportunities. Among the most notable sponsors of the event were such recognizable names in the Ukrainian communities throughout the country as Aerosvit

Ukrainian Airlines, Meest, Ukrainian Self-Reliance Federal Credit Union and The Ukrainian Weekly, as well as several smaller local and out-of state Ukrainian-owned enterprises. In addition, the event was sponsored in part by Anheuser Busch, and the trendy Village Voice published an article covering the event for the general New York City audience. Representatives from New York Time Out Magazine and BBC Ukraine attended as well.

Stimulating participation in the social and cultural life of the Ukrainian community in New York was event’s other major goal. An opportunity to showcase themselves proved to be an effective tool to recruit new members for many Ukrainian organizations, particularly the Ukrainian Institute of America. Others, including the Ukrainian National Association, The Ukrainian Museum, and the Ukrainian American Bar Association, also attracted significant interest from the guests in attendance who were interested in learning about the objectives of those organizations.

Greater participation in community affairs actively promoted by these well-established and prominent Ukrainian organizations, such as the UIA, has often facilitated social interaction between various segments of Ukrainian community.

Recently this has been particularly evident in the UIA’s activities aimed to bridge the gap between the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States and the new wave of Ukrainians settling in this country. In the past the UIA organized and



Alex Labunka and Eugenia Kuzmowycz-Blahy, representatives of Self Reliance New York, at the networking event.



Eugene and Maria Oscislawski of the Ukrainian National Association.



Yuri Pylyp and Tania Wedmid at the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group’s table.

hosted a number of events with the participation of prominent figures from Ukraine, raising the awareness of the Ukrainian diaspora about the social life, trends and developments in modern Ukraine.

“Welcome to Ukrainian New York” created a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere where Ukrainians from all walks of life – business leaders, artists, students, young professionals and the members of the diplomatic community – could interact and discuss topics of interest over wine and cheese and immerse themselves in a

unique cultural experience – Ukrainian New York.

Members of the organizing committee expressed their gratitude to all sponsors, organizers and volunteers who contributed their ideas, energy and effort to make this project possible. Special thanks went to Mr. Kryshchalsky and the UIA, and all of those in attendance.

Members of the organizing committee included: Mr. Filewych, Irina Gvozd, Olena Khrystyuk, Dmytro Kudlyak, Natalie Trojan, Ulana Bardyn and Anna Shpook.

National Deputy Andriy Shevchenko addresses New York community

by Michele Hu
and Yuri Omelchenko

NEW YORK – Why has the Ukrainian government ignored basic necessary medical services in the rural areas while spending hundreds of millions of hryvni on medical buildings in Kyiv? What is the near-term prognosis for the parliamentary elections in Ukraine? How can Ukrainians studying abroad return to find employment in Ukraine?

These questions, along with others, were posed to Andriy Shevchenko, a national deputy of the Verkhovna Rada, who came to the East Village in New York City on November 1 for a community meeting at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Mr. Shevchenko, a former journalist at Channel 5, noted for its unbiased coverage of the Orange Revolution, offered observations that drew from his years as a Ukrainian journalist and a lawmaker.

Mr. Shevchenko described the current

conditions in Ukraine, where the political system remains in a state of flux and where the economy is adversely affected by the global economic crisis. He spoke of the global financial pinch affecting Ukraine, driving lower investment flows into the country and lower prices for commodity exports.

While the current situation remains grim, Mr. Shevchenko noted that Ukraine is experiencing the beginnings of a consolidation of the political landscape and that Ukraine has the tools for the creation of a solid political structure that would be effective in implementing necessary reforms – especially those badly needed in the legal system.

Grievances and questions, some heated, dominated the open question-and-answer session that followed Mr. Shevchenko’s speech. Among these were of the government’s seemingly hypocritical stance against land privatization, corruption, unfair distribution of funding, and the bloc voting system that does not allow for

cross-party individual candidate votes.

Mr. Shevchenko acknowledged the importance of these issues, emphasizing the upcoming 2010 oblast and local elections as an opportunity to bring more adequate representation and legislative power to the local regions.

Mr. Shevchenko arrived in the United States at the invitation of Yale University as a World Fellow. He stated that Ukraine trails behind other nations in the number of students representing the country at the university. He also identified further avenues of cooperation between Yale and Ukraine, particularly in HIV/AIDS research and patient care projects.

Dr. Bohdan Oryshkevich, founder of the Ukrainian Student Association in the United States of America (USA-USA/

Ukramerezh), organized and hosted the afternoon event, which brought together some well-known faces in the East Village’s Ukrainian American community, with diaspora press, university students and professors from upstate New York to as far away as California.

Self-Reliance New York Federal Credit Union co-sponsored the public meeting with USA/USA, a program of the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine.

While some key questions remained unanswered, the open dialogue between a deputy and the public, with attendees exchanging ideas at the reception before and after the event, created a sense of solidarity in purpose. As one attendee noted, “Free speech is really practiced here. There should be more meetings like this.”

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The Holodomor: telling our story

Ukrainians around the world are marking the solemn 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, the genocidal famine that killed, according to various accounts, 7 million to 10 million of our brethren. The true figure will never be known due to the cover-up engineered, with great success, by Soviet authorities and their collaborators. These millions of innocents – a third of them children – were deliberately killed by forced starvation in the years 1932-1933. At the height of the Famine-Genocide some 25,000 people died each day – that's more than the population of many of our towns here in the United States. Think about it: it's as if a town a day simply vanished.

The Holodomor was not a drought, it was not crop failure, it was not even some bizarre accident that befell the people of Ukraine. It was premeditated murder on the grandest scale directed from Moscow by Joseph Stalin. Indeed, the only term that can properly define what happened on Ukrainian lands in those fateful years is genocide – a word coined only in the late 1940s and a crime codified in "The Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide," adopted by the U.N. in 1948.

What the Ukrainian community is trying to do as part of its commemorations of the Holodomor anniversary is tell the story of the Ukrainian genocide to a world that for far too long has remained ignorant or has been deceived about the facts.

This year, it seems our Ukrainian American community is reaching out to the broader American public more than ever and enjoying some measure of success in disseminating the truth about the Holodomor.

For example, this week's front page features a story about the Holodomor commemoration in Philadelphia, where the Ukrainian community succeeded in holding a memorial concert and exhibit in the landmark Church of the Holy Trinity. A large banner outside the Episcopal church proclaimed: "Remembering the 10 Million Victims of Famine-Genocide 1932-1933 in Ukraine." Inside this issue, readers will see a story about the three-day commemorations held at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey. It is significant that the events included an ecumenical prayer service, in English, at which area clergy of various churches officiated. Also worth noting is that it was at the UACCNJ that the community first heard Gov. Jon Corzine's proclamation of "Ukrainian Genocide Remembrance Day."

Among last week's top stories was one about an educational conference on teaching about the Holodomor that was held by Kean University. Here was an excellent example of how the Holodomor has become known outside our community. It is noteworthy that the Holodomor is now regularly taught at Kean as part of the program on Holocaust and genocide studies. And, this is a case in which the initiator of a Holodomor event was not the Ukrainian community.

Coming up are two significant events in the Boston area – one organized by the local Ukrainian community and the other by students at Boston College – that go beyond the bounds of our community to raise awareness of the Holodomor. On November 15 the Boston branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America will hold a memorial service at the Paulist Fathers' Center off the historic Boston Common. On December 4 the Ukrainian Students Society at BC, a renowned Jesuit university, will sponsor the Rev. Edward Evanko's one-man presentation of songs and writings about the Holodomor.

And so, we Ukrainians surely are making progress in telling the story of the Ukrainian Genocide. It is a story all of us must pledge to disseminate as we bow our heads in memory of the millions lost.

Nov.
19
2007

Turning the pages back...

Last year, on November 19, 2007, in a statement released by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the government of the Russian Federation accused President Viktor Yushchenko of using the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as a tool for political gain.

"We'd like to state that the theme of the 1930s famine in the Soviet Union, the victims of which were people from many nationalities, including Ukrainians, Russians, Kazakhs and other peoples of the USSR, is becoming yet a bigger subject for speculation on behalf of certain political circles in Ukraine," the ministry said.

The statement arrived just five days before Ukrainians annually commemorate the Holodomor in Ukraine on the last Saturday in November.

"Declaring the tragic events of these years as an 'act of genocide' against the Ukrainian people is a one-sided twisting of history in agreement with contemporary conjectural political-ideological arrangements," the Russian government's statement said.

"Moreover, this offends the memory of victims of other nationalities who died in the 1932-1933 Famine throughout the former Soviet Union."

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine said that determining the Holodomor as a genocide against the Ukrainian people was no longer an issue.

Activists with the Union of Eurasian Youth, a radical Russian organization, attacked a Holodomor exhibition on Moscow's Ukrainian Cultural Center on November 17, 2007. The activists voiced their protest against the exhibit and when guards arrived to remove the protesters, a brawl erupted, resulting in the successful destruction of the exhibit's photos stands and displays, said Valeriy Korovin, a leader of the Union of Eurasian Youth, in an interview with the radio station Echo of Moscow.

"The fight at the exhibit occurred because the activists weren't given the opportunity to voice their position regarding attempts by the regime of President Viktor Yushchenko to use the Holodomor theme to drive a wedge between the Russian and Ukrainian people," Mr. Korovin said.

"I would advise our Russian colleagues, as friendly advice, to read history books," said Andrii Deschystia, spokesman for Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "Smashing displays is not an approach. An approach is reading about history and drawing conclusions."

Source: "Russia accuses Ukrainian president of using Holodomor for political gain," by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 2, 2007.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Barack Obama's first foreign-policy exam

Dear Editor:

During the presidential campaign, Sen. Joseph Biden predicted that the new president would be tested by an adversarial foreign power within the first six months of his administration. Everyone probably assumed that such a test would emanate from the Middle East or some terrorist Islamic group after Barack Obama was sworn in as president. It now seems as if the initial exam will be administered by Russia well before Inauguration Day.

One day after Sen. Obama's historical election, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev vehemently blasted the United States in an 85-minute state of the nation speech. He blamed America for the international financial crisis, for agitating Georgia and possibly others into war in the Caucasus, and sternly warned that, if the United States continues with its plan to deploy a missile defense system in Poland and the Czech Republic, Russia would deploy short-range missiles on Europe's border aimed at those countries. In his speech, Mr. Medvedev conspicuously not only failed to congratulate Sen. Obama on his historic victory, but didn't even mention him by name. Only after his speech did Mr. Medvedev send a congratulatory telegram to the president-elect with an overt signal that relations with the United States would improve if the United States abandoned its European missile shield program. European leaders immediately expressed "strong concern" at the announcement of Russia's missile deployment on their borders.

The Russian Foreign Ministry stated these "strong concerns" would be alleviated if the U.S. missile defense program was abandoned. This "carrot and stick" approach was echoed on November 9 at a foreign ministers' meeting in Egypt. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov expressed hope that the Obama administration would take a "more constructive approach" to this issue.

This situation presents the future administration with a diplomatic Gordian knot. The European Union seems to be divided on the issue of the U.S. missile

defense shield – many original EU members who rely heavily on Russian gas seem to favor appeasement and would probably want the United States to terminate the program. On the other hand, former Soviet satellite countries, such as Poland and the Czech Republic, embrace the missile defense program even though they too are dependent on Russian energy. (Maybe they know something the other European states do not.) One can, with reasonable certainty, anticipate that Russia will attempt to further intimidate the EU with a barrage of threats and saber-rattling on the subject, calculating that Mr. Obama, as president, will heed the anxiety of the softer EU members.

During the campaign, Sen. Obama's position on the European missile defense system seemed to be supportive of the program but was not definitive. If he reverses position or waivers on the subject, many, especially those in Central and Eastern Europe, will deem this capitulation to Russian intimidation and this may substantially diminish American prestige and influence in the region.

The new president will need to find the appropriate answer to his first foreign-policy exam. We'll see how the new president is graded.

Myroslaw Smorodsky
Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J.

We welcome your opinion

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Letters should be typed and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at staff@ukrweekly.com. The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.

Please note: THE LENGTH OF LETTERS CANNOT EXCEED 500 WORDS.

Polish American Congress urges Obama to be firm in reacting to Russian threat

WASHINGTON – Polish American Congress President Frank Spula on November 7 called on President-elect Barack Obama to act with firmness and vision in what looks like the first foreign policy crisis the new administration will face: Russian threats against Poland for standing firm in favor of the NATO alliance.

"Even before they were elected, Vice-President-elect Joe Biden warned that the new administration would likely be tested in its first days," Mr. Spula said. "News reports from Poland and Russia, echoed by major U.S. media such as National Public Radio and MSNBC, have this week pointed to the likelihood that that test will be fought out over Poland's unwavering commitment to its democratic allies."

Unfortunately, Mr. Spula added, "even though Poles and Polish Americans have since the foundation of the Jamestown colony [the first Poles arrived in Virginia in 1608] been at the forefront of the fight for liberty on American soil and allied with the United States against tyranny,

from Hitler's Germany to Saddam Hussein's Iraq, after World War II Poland's friendship was betrayed by a cynical realpolitik that meant for it half a century of being tied to the Soviet gulag."

"We call on President-elect Barack Obama, who has deservedly earned the respect, affection and support of peoples around the world, to stand firm in favor of the United States' most steadfast ally in Eastern Europe," he said.

Mr. Spula noted that the Polish American Congress (PAC) was born at the end of World War II with the mission not only to inform the American public about the tragic situation in Poland, but also to instruct the Americans of the dangers in continuing to placate a menace that it considered as bad as Nazi Germany – Soviet totalitarianism.

As World War II was coming to a close, Mr. Spula pointed out, American Polonia felt "deceived" by President Franklin D. Roosevelt for having created the impression that Poland would be free within its

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Moving forward in relations between the U.S. and Ukraine

by Borys Tarasyuk
RFE/RL

I would like to congratulate Sen. Barack Obama on his decisive victory in the U.S. presidential election. His marathon campaign, which lasted 21 months, met with well-deserved success. I would also like to give his opponent, Sen. John McCain, his due. In my opinion Sen. McCain did not succeed largely due to the disenchantment of Americans with the present administration.

Since gaining its independence 17 years ago, Ukraine has had bilateral relations with the United States. Both Republicans and Democrats have played roles in those relations. But what does the future hold for U.S.-Ukraine relations as a new administration settles down in Washington?

If you ask any serious Ukrainian politician whether a Democrat or a Republican U.S. president is better for Ukraine, he or she will reply that ultimately there is really no great difference. And this is the truth.

Aside from the confusion surrounding President George H.W. Bush's 1991 "Chicken Kiev" speech, which most likely was prompted by a desire to buck up Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev rather than a deep conviction that Ukraine should not be independent, the United States has always been aware of Ukraine's strategic importance in terms of the democratization of the post-Soviet space. This awareness has been convincingly demonstrated time and again during the last 17 years.

It happened that bilateral relations developed most dynamically during the administration of Democratic President Bill Clinton. This is only natural: our young country was embarking on a new path of independent development. We were laying the foundations for reform in all spheres, and the support of the most powerful country on Earth was very important.

A pivotal moment came when Ukraine voluntarily agreed to give up its nuclear weapons in exchange for security guarantees from the United States, Russia and the United Kingdom (later from Germany and France as well). The 1993 trilateral declaration of the United States, Russia and the United Kingdom, and the 1994 Budapest memorandum (signed by the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany and France) would have been impossible without strong U.S. support.

Even now, despite the aggressive behavior of one of the signatories, those documents continue to play a serious and positive role in the region.

During the 1990s, the work of the Kuchma-Gore Commission was a powerful impetus driving political and economic relations. Unfortunately, this work was halted by domestic problems in Ukraine stemming from President Leonid Kuchma's authoritarian regime, including incriminating recordings made in the president's office by his bodyguard and the sale of a Kolchuha radar system to Saddam Hussein's Iraq. These developments coincided with the beginning of the administration of Republican President

Borys Tarasyuk is a former foreign affairs minister of Ukraine. A serving member of Parliament, he is currently chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's European Integration Committee. He also heads the Rukh political party. The views expressed in this commentary are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of RFE/RL.

George W. Bush, and they had a negative impact on the development of bilateral relations.

A sort of uncertain stagnation lasted until the 2004-2005 Orange Revolution, after which cooperation really did move onto a new and substantive plane. During the Bush years, Ukraine was granted market-economy status. We joined the World Trade Organization. We received invaluable U.S. support in our efforts to have the 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine recognized as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people.

Hopes for the future

Today the entire world is engulfed in a deep financial and economic crisis. At the same time, the ghosts of the Cold War haunt Europe. Under these circumstances, Ukraine and the United States are in a position to build upon their strategic partnership to their mutual benefit and to the benefit of others in the international community.

Below, I would just mention a few arenas for expanded cooperation, and I hope the new president of the United States will hear my message.

First, I applaud Sen. Obama's intentions to bring the conflict in Iraq to an end and thus free up U.S. foreign-policy resources for other challenges. I agree with those analysts who say the current threats in the Middle East pale in comparison with the potential dangers that arose within the Eurasian space during the course of the night of August 7-8 in South Ossetia.

Ukraine is ready to again contribute to an international security framework for the continent. It is no secret that Ukraine and the United States have worked closely on aspects of an effective antimissile system that would be a key defensive mechanism within the Euro-Atlantic collective-security space.

In addition, our common interests demand further and deeper coordinated action in implementing the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe; strengthening international nonproliferation regimes; improving global nuclear security; and combating the threat of nuclear, chemical and biological terrorism.

Among European countries, Ukraine is the largest contributor of personnel and resources to U.N. peacekeeping operations. We are the only European country that is currently participating in every single such mission. De facto, Ukraine is doing more today in the area of peacekeeping than some NATO members. But this work provides us with valuable experience and boosts the international authority of our country.

No discussion of security would be complete without mention of energy. Ukraine already hosts a vast network of energy-transport infrastructure. Now the Odesa-Brody-Plotsk pipeline and the White Stream natural-gas pipeline are also in development. These projects – built on Ukraine's key transit location and with the participation of the EU, the United States, and European and U.S. companies – will realistically secure the diversification of energy supplies and transit routes for Western Europe.

As the global economic crisis unfolds and food prices continue to rise, Ukraine – a key exporter of agricultural products – is in a position to restore its onetime glory as the breadbasket of Europe. If Ukraine is able to create and implement an effective

(Continued on page 22)

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Ten-twenty

Last summer, a couple of curious incidents rippled the placid waters of Ukrainian Church life. First, on June 19 CWNNews reported that Bartholomew I, the ecumenical patriarch of Constantinople, had approved of Cardinal Lubomyr Husar's proposal of "double unity" for Ukraine's Greek-Catholics. "Double unity" means re-establishing ties with Constantinople while retaining allegiance to Rome. It is a bold and controversial idea, though not unprecedented. On July 5, however, Patriarch Bartholomew officially denied this report (International Christian Relations, July 8). He restated the traditional Orthodox position that Greek-Catholics, like other Uniates, were welcome to return to the Orthodox Church.

Earlier, on April 26, Cardinal Husar, widely regarded as Greek-Catholic patriarch of Kyiv and Halych, had made an appeal for unity to the synod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate. The Synod rejected it, pointing out that any local "union" was an outdated and unacceptable concept, particularly in the light of the joint Catholic-Orthodox theological discussions at Freising (1990) and Balamand (1993). The upshot of those meetings was that while the Uniate Churches had a right to exist and even to participate in ecumenical talks, the concept of union upon which they had been founded was no longer acceptable. The Orthodox have long been suspicious of Roman "salami tactics," by which the Catholic Church has allegedly sliced away parts of the Orthodox community through a series of local church unions. As far as the UOC-MP Synod was concerned, Greek-Catholics should either re-join the Orthodox Church or, if they insist on remaining Catholic, should join the Roman Church ("UHKTs-UPTs: ideia iednosti pozbavlena kanonichnykh pidstav?" Patriarkhat no. 5 [408], September-October 2008, p. 12).

Meanwhile, preparations were under way for the summer's second ecclesiastical curiosity: the celebration of the 1,020th anniversary of the Baptism of Rus', slated for July 25-27. Even for a people obsessed with anniversaries, this was a strange one to pick out for special attention. The idea reportedly emanated from Moscow, where the Russian Orthodox Church had long been struggling to re-affirm the unity of Rus' (that is, Russia, Belarus and Ukraine). President Viktor Yushchenko duly invited Moscow Patriarch Aleksii II, who after all has authority over Ukraine's largest Church, to Kyiv. He then invited Patriarch Bartholomew. Mr. Yushchenko's motives could be guessed, for he has long supported a united, autocephalous (independent) Ukrainian Orthodox Church – preferably under Constantinople, not Moscow.

For the Russian Church, this would mean a repetition of the Estonian scenario of 1995-1996, when a number of parishes left its jurisdiction and returned to that of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. In Ukraine, however, it would be much worse, for Moscow could lose something like half its parishes.

It was not the first time that Constantinople had dropped hints about re-establishing its direct jurisdiction over Ukraine's Orthodox. In the spring of 2005, the late Archbishop Vsevolod (Majdansky) reported that the Ecumenical Patriarchate had deemed its 1686 transfer of the Kyivan Orthodox Metropolitanate to Muscovite jurisdiction uncanonical (The Ukrainian Weekly, April 17, 2005).

In fact, it had already done so in 1924, though that decree applied only to the Orthodox Church in Poland.

Apparently seeking to head off this latest threat, the Moscow Patriarchate sent Metropolitan Kirill (Gundyaev), long-standing head of its Department of External Church Relations, to Kyiv. According to one report, Kirill offered to grant the Ukrainian Orthodox autocephaly, and even to accept the break-away Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, under certain conditions. But all this was in vain, and when Patriarch Bartholomew arrived he not only expressed support for a united Ukrainian Orthodox Church, but declared that Ukraine was the canonical territory of the Ecumenical Patriarchate (see Zenon Zawada, "Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople makes historic visit to Ukraine," The Ukrainian Weekly, August 3, pp. 1, 19; Anatolii Babynskyi, "Pro iuvilei, rozkoly, kanony ta Khrysta..." Patriarkhat No. 5 [408], September-October 2008, pp. 5-8).

These two developments exemplify two major issues of Ukraine's Church life: Orthodox unity and ecumenism. Ecumenism – the movement for Christian unity – has various points of departure. On the one hand, there is the view that there is only one true Church, and the others are mere schismatics. This attitude, while logically consistent, is not likely to bring many back into the fold. At the other end of the spectrum is the notion that all Churches are equally valid, and that they have only to overcome their differences and unite. The problem with this is that it abdicates the very principle of a true Church. Somewhere between these poles is the Catholic position, which holds that the Church of Christ "subsists" in the Catholic Church, yet is also "present and operative" in the separated Orthodox Churches, which possess "elements of sanctification and of truth," have a valid priesthood and valid sacraments, and are indeed "sister Churches" (Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, "Responses to Some Questions Regarding Certain Aspects of the Doctrine on the Church," June 29, 2007).

But what does ecumenism mean for Ukraine? Is it a matter of the various Churches sharing in the Eucharist? Or would it require a formal, structural merger of Greek-Catholics with Orthodox into a single national Church, something like what was contemplated in the 1620s, and what some Ukrainian churchmen and politicians advocate today? That could serve as the first link in a chain leading to full reintegration of East and West. But it would also be seen as an instance of "Uniatism," an ecumenical anachronism which both the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches have rejected.

What obstacles remain on the road to unity? The Eastern and Western Churches must resolve questions – too complicated to discuss here – about Roman primacy, papal infallibility and conciliarity. As for Ukraine, there are two major hurdles. First, its three Orthodox Churches must unite. And second, the Greek-Catholic Church must attain real as well as formal patriarchal status. For if an autonomous, patriarchal Kyivan Church could thrive within a Universal Church as an equal partner, what would prevent an Orthodox Patriarchate from joining it?

Andrew Sorokowski can be reached at samboritanus@hotmail.com.

Morris County Ukrainians commemorate the Holodomor

by Roma Hadzewycz

WHIPPANY, N.J. – The local Ukrainian community commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor with a series of events – a religious service, an exhibit and a monodrama – held Friday through Sunday, November 7-9, at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ).

The events began with an ecumenical prayer service on Friday evening, November 7. Officiating were local clergy, led by the Very Rev. Roman Mirchuk, pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church. Also participating were: the Revs. Leonid Malkov and Taras Swirchuk, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Newark, N.J.; the Rev. Daniel Staniskis, Our Lady of Mercy Roman Catholic Church, Whippany; the Rev. Donald Mossa, First Presbyterian Church of Whippany; and Deacon Victor Lupi, Notre Dame Roman Catholic Church, Whippany.

“Let us pray for the 7 million Ukrainians who perished in the Great Holodomor – the Genocide-Famine of 1932-1933.... Let us pray for all the children of Ukraine who languished in pain and suffering because of hunger and starvation.... Let us pray for all the mothers who had to watch their children and loved ones die....” intoned the clergy. “Let us pray that people the world over may be protected from persecution, wars, oppression and blatant genocide because of race, ethnic origin, religious beliefs or political convictions....”

Responses were sung by members of the parish choir assisted by other Ukrainian community members, while the children of the parish sang “Otche Nash” (Our Father). The choristers, and many attendees, were attired in embroidered Ukrainian shirts and blouses. Readings were done by two young men from the local community, Alex Syzonenko and Mykola Hlushko.

A moving moment during the service was the congregation’s lighting of candles arranged in the shape of a cross in memory of the millions who perished in the Holodomor.

The program that evening began with a solemn dance, titled “One More Seed” and performed by members of the Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, that symbolized the Holodomor’s devastation on the people of Ukraine. The number was choreographed by Andriy Cybyk, artistic director of Iskra.

The ecumenical service ended with the distribution of bread to all participants, the mournful tolling of a bell and the singing of



Christine Syzonenko

The Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble performs the solemn dance “One More Seed.”

“Vichnaya Pamiat” (Eternal Memory).

Afterwards there was a presentation by filmmaker Damian Kolodiy of raw footage of interviews recently conducted with survivors of the Holodomor as part of an oral history project initiated by community activists in New Jersey.

On Saturday, November 8, the Arts, Culture and Education Committee of the UACCNJ and the Morris County branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America held the official opening of a historical poster exhibit provided by the Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Fund, whose supervisory board is headed by Ukraine’s first lady, Kateryna Yushchenko.

The program was opened by Leonard Mazur, president of the Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association of New York and New Jersey and a board member of the UACCNJ. Mr. Mazur provided a brief introduction about the Holodomor commemorations and acknowledged the presence of Consul Bohdan Movchan of Ukraine’s Consulate-General in New York.

Two young community members, Alexa Kryzaniwsky and Damian Olesnycky, read a well-prepared historical overview of the Holodomor. Their readings were interspersed with eyewitness accounts read by Holodomor survivor Rostyslaw Wasylenko.

Their presentation ended with accusations leveled against “the chief perpetrators of the Famine Genocide in Ukraine”: Soviet



Roma Hadzewycz

Leonard Mazur (at microphone) opens the Holodomor exhibit; with him (from left) are Damian Olesnycky, Alexa Kryzaniwsky, Consul Bohdan Movchan and Michael Koziupa.

dictator Joseph Stalin; Viacheslav Molotov, head of the Soviet government; Lazar Kaganovich, special envoy to Ukraine charged with monitoring grain confiscation; Stanislav Kosior, leader of the Communist Party of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic; Pavel Postyshev, major initiator and direct manager of terror and repression in Ukraine; Stanislav Redens, head of the secret police in the Ukrainian SSR; Vsevolod Balytsky, initiator of cases against starving peasants and key figure in the repression of the Ukrainian intelligentsia;

(Continued on page 14)

Proclamation by the governor of New Jersey

Whereas, 75 years ago, under the leadership of Joseph Stalin, the Soviet regime committed an act of genocide against the Ukrainian nation by starving and systematically murdering up to 10 million innocent men, women and children; and

Whereas, this genocidal tragedy is an extreme example of the use of food as a weapon of mass murder, and

Whereas, hundreds of recently released KGB archival documents reveal the Soviet government’s ruthless plans to murder millions of Ukrainians as a result of a calculated inhuman policy designed to punish Ukrainians for their resistance and opposition to the Soviet Union’s political and economic oppression; and

Whereas, even at its height, when the Famine-Genocide claimed the lives of 17 people per minute, or 25,000 victims per day, the Soviet government denied the existence of this genocide, rejected all offers of external aid and continued to conceal the evidence of this massacre; and

Whereas, the United States Congress Commission on the Ukraine Famine confirmed that the government of the former Soviet Union in 1932-1933 consciously used the brutal policy of forced famine to repress the Ukrainian people, and concluded in 1988 that

(Continued on page 14)



Roma Hadzewycz

Youth of the of the community light candles in memory of the Holodomor’s victims.



Roma Hadzewycz

Holodomor survivor Rostyslaw Wasylenko and Damian Olesnycky after the placement of a memorial wreath.

Ukrainian Technological Society honors Ukrainian of the Year

PITTSBURGH – The Ukrainian Technological Society (UTS) of Pittsburgh presented its 2008 Ukrainian of the Year Award to Daniel W. Pituch, D.M.D., M.D., at its 39th annual award ceremony and dinner-dance, held on Saturday, November 1, at The Club at Nevillewood in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Pituch was honored for his professional achievements as an internationally recognized oral and maxillofacial surgeon, and expert on issues affecting both medicine and dentistry. He was also recognized for his humanitarian efforts in providing state-of-the art, life-altering corrective surgeries to individuals without access to such treatments.

Dr. Pituch is a native of Pittsburgh and received his dental education from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. During the course of his education, Dr. Pituch was a UTS scholarship recipient. He went on to complete four years of medical education at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and continued his training in oral and maxillofacial surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Dr. Pituch currently holds the unique position of chief of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at three Pittsburgh-area hospitals. He has held leadership positions in local, state and national professional associations, and has been featured in a number of publications for his work in high-profile surgeries as well as for his humanitarian efforts.

The UTS also presented its 2008 Friendship Award. This award is made periodically by the society to a non-Ukrainian individual who has made a significant contribution to the Ukrainian community. This year's Friendship Award was presented to Marlies B. Murphy for

her work in establishing Adoption Consultants International and facilitating the adoption of 50 orphaned Ukrainian children by families in the United States.

Roksana Korchynsky, Ph.D., president of the UTS executive board, welcomed the award recipients and guests and provided a brief history of the Society – one of the longest continuously active Ukrainian organizations in the tri-state area.

She also highlighted the meaning of the society's Ukrainian of the Year Award, which recognizes people of local, national and international stature who have contributed to the Ukrainian community or Ukrainian scholarship, or who have demonstrated significant achievement which brings recognition and prestige to the Ukrainian community.

Past recipients include Metropolitan Mstyslav; Patriarch Josyf Slipyj; dissident, poet and activist Nadia Svitlychna; historians Dr. Wasył Jaszczun and Andrew Gregorovich; Judge Bohdan Futey; the first elected president of a re-born Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk; and the current president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko.

Before presenting this year's award recipients, Dr. Korchynsky noted the passing this year of one of the society's four founders, Michael Sydir Tymiak, a friend and colleague to many in attendance at the awards ceremony.

Dr. Korchynsky made the nomination address honoring Dr. Daniel W. Pituch as the 2008 Ukrainian of the Year, and Nickolas C. Kotow, UTS executive board secretary, made the award presentation. The award proclamation was read aloud in English by Dr. Korchynsky and in Ukrainian by Iryna Pavlyshak, a 2008 UTS scholarship recipient.



Marlies B. Murphy, 2008 Friendship Award recipient, and Dr. Daniel W. Pituch, 2008 Ukrainian of the Year Award recipient

Dr. Pituch accepted the award and thanked the UTS for this honor. In his acceptance remarks he reflected on the influence of his Church and family on his life, education and chosen profession. He also recognized the teachers and mentors who shaped his beliefs about medicine and his role as a surgeon. Dr. Pituch spoke of his desire to continue to advance and improve the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery, and to instill this desire in the young professionals that he mentors.

Dr. Pituch especially thanked his wife, Diana, and three children, Alina, Alexa and Daniel, for their steadfast support and devotion.

George Honchar, UTS executive board vice-president, made the nomination address honoring Mrs. Murphy as the

2008 Friendship Award recipient, and Mr. Kotow made the award presentation. Mr. Honchar read the award proclamation aloud in English, with Ms. Pavlyshak reading the proclamation in Ukrainian.

Mrs. Murphy accepted the award and thanked the UTS for this honor. She acknowledged the vital role played by her husband, Dr. Patrick Murphy, in all her endeavors on behalf of Ukraine, orphaned Ukrainian children and the Ukrainian American community.

Mrs. Murphy shared the story of her father's experiences as a POW in Kyiv and Lviv during the war, and said that he credited his survival to the kindness of the Ukrainian people.

(Continued on page 21)

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New program in Toronto will promote the study of modern Ukraine

TORONTO – The Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Modern Ukrainian History and Society was launched on September 23 in Toronto. The program was made possible by a donation of \$500,000 from the Petro Jacyk Education Foundation (Toronto) to the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta.

President Indira V. Samarasekera of the University of Alberta announced at the inauguration that the foundation's generous gift is to be matched immediately from the Alberta government's "Access to the Future Fund."

The new program will enable the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at CIUS to devote part of its activity to the study of modern Ukraine, with an initial focus on key issues in 20th century Ukrainian history.

The program will be headed by Dr. Yaroslav Hrytsak, professor of history at Ivan Franko National University of Lviv and at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv.

An internationally acclaimed authority in his field, Dr. Hrytsak will cooperate with scholars at CIUS in identifying and researching problems of modern Ukrainian history and society, including the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, Ukraine's role in World War II and the dissident movement in Soviet Ukraine.

In the near term, the new program is to take over sponsorship of *Ukraina Moderna*, the most important Ukrainian historical journal in this field. The program will also make use of a major Lviv collection of oral history recordings for work on 20th century Ukrainian history.

In the intermediate and longer term, the new program aims to foster interna-

tional collaboration in scholarship and education, primarily between Ukraine and Canada. This will be done by supporting the research work of promising younger historians and their education in Ukraine and Canada.

"This gift will strengthen the role of CIUS," said its director, Dr. Zenon E. Kohut, "as the leading scholarly and educational institution in the West that provides objective information about Ukraine and Ukrainians, influences international public opinion, and serves as a bridge between Ukraine and the rest of the world."

President Samarasekera noted that the donation is also a significant incentive for the University of Alberta "to continue and broaden [its] leadership role...[and] advance important international activities of the University of Alberta through the funding of joint ventures with Ukrainian

universities, with whom we have many cooperative agreements that promote research and learning opportunities for faculty and students."

The inauguration of the program was also a signal event for Nadia Jacyk, president of the Petro Jacyk Education Foundation, who has followed in her father's footsteps as a successful businesswoman, a generous donor to Ukrainian studies and a promoter of his educational agenda.

"This new program is exciting," said Ms. Jacyk, since it serves as "an example of the continuation of the mandate and legacy of the Petro Jacyk Education Foundation into the next generation." She expressed confidence that her dedication to philanthropy will continue to make a global impact and contribute to a better understanding of Ukraine.

A look at Donbas...

(Continued from page 3)

lower proportions, doesn't negate that it was genocide against Ukrainians.

Making Donbas residents conscious of such facts would pose a threat to the Party of Regions and the Communist Party of Ukraine, who aim to keep Donbas residents set in their confused identity of simultaneous allegiance to Ukraine and Russia, said Iryna Mahrytska, a Donetsk native and Luhansk researcher of the Holodomor.

Although it promotes itself as an all-Ukrainian party, Ms. Mahrytska views the Party of Regions as merely a post-Soviet version of the Communist Party, similar to Vladimir Putin's Unified Russia.

The October 20 academic conference at the Krupska Universal Academic Oblast Library in Donetsk showed that Donbas high school students indeed accept the Holodomor as an artificial famine hatched by the government of Joseph Stalin, a mark of educational progress from the Soviet era, when many didn't even know of the Holodomor.

But the students also demonstrated that pro-Russian forces have manufactured a unique eastern Ukrainian view of the Holodomor, which rejects that it was genocide against the Ukrainian people.

Eastern Ukrainians tend to characterize the Holodomor as a "crime against humanity" that targeted not ethnic Ukrainians, but the entire peasant class throughout the former Soviet Union, which is the view promoted through mass media by the government of Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

More than 150 students, scholars and

Holodomor researchers attended the October 20 conference, "Holodomor 1932-1933: Ukraine Remembers," which was initiated by the Institute of Post-Graduate Pedagogical Education in Donetsk.

Its goal was to learn what students and teachers found in their research and their conclusions, said Nataliya Olkhina of the institute, and the conference's findings and reports will be used to offer a clear definition and "give the processes a name."

"You see the distortions we have. Was there a Holodomor? Was it a genocide or not?" she said. "So let's decide with these definitions. And to decide, we must hear all sides and do it from an academic point of view and with publications."

Though Ms. Olkhina acknowledged that "certain political forces" attempted to pressure the institute into presenting a particular view of the Holodomor, she said her colleagues resisted such attempts, instead encouraging teachers to tolerate diverse views, echoing Western trends of moral relativism in education.

"No one places strict barriers upon teachers, who teach according to their conscience," said Iryna Rybak, director of the Institute of Post-Graduate Pedagogical Education in Donetsk. "Different points of views have the right to exist."

This is the standard approach taken by Donbas educators, who have to balance the political interests of Ukrainians, Russified Ukrainians and a large minority of ethnic Russians.

Although Donbas schools conform to a national academic program on the Holodomor that is determined in Kyiv by the Ministry of Education, Ms. Rybak said



Zenon Zawada

Donbas high school student Viktoriya Charkina found that older Donbas residents are more willing to call the Holodomor genocide.

regional programs are in the pipeline and under preparation.

Doubts of ethnic genocide are particularly poignant in the Donetsk Oblast because it is Ukraine's most ethnically diverse region, which Ms. Olkhina acknowledged is a possible factor in the unique Donbas view.

German, Bulgarian, Serb and Greek villages in the Donbas also perished in the Soviet terror-by-starvation campaign, Donetsk scholars confirmed.

"The Holodomor was oriented primarily against the peasant population," Oksana Khatalakh of the Institute of Post-Graduate Pedagogical Education in Donetsk said in a carefully phrased explanation that is typical for the Donbas.

"However, we need to take into account that the majority of Ukrainians lived in villages. That's why we say the Famine especially affected the Ukrainian ethnics. Germans and Greeks and Bulgarians remember the Famine, but the majority of the Ukrainian population lived in villages, and that's why we place such an accent."

The destruction of other ethnic groups does not contradict or discredit the fact that the Holodomor was a genocidal campaign against the Ukrainian people, which is what Donbas students ought to be learning, in the view of Ms. Mahrytska.

For example, an estimated 6 million non-Jews were killed in the Holocaust along with the estimated 6 million Jews, she said. Yet the Holocaust is synonymous with Jewish suffering.

"Stalin had a saying, 'Woodchips fly when cutting a forest,'" Ms. Mahrytska said. "While other ethnic groups perished,

the forest was the Ukrainian people that had to be cut."

Aside from labeling it a genocide against the Ukrainian people, some students avoided using the term "genocide" altogether in describing the Holodomor, instead calling it a "crime."

Ms. Charkina, a high school student, observed in her interviews that the older generation of Donbas residents are more likely to refer to the Holodomor as genocide, compared to the next generation of high school students.

This testifies to the effectiveness of Mr. Putin's Holodomor fabrication propaganda, which dominates local television and radio, Ms. Mahrytska said.

This cognitive dissonance, in which Donbas residents are ready to accept certain historical facts but reject others because they are not comfortable, reveals itself in other ways.

While the high school students criticized Soviet policies that they acknowledge murdered millions, they hesitate to condemn the Soviet Union, insist the Soviet legacy is worth cherishing and don't criticize the local Communists who slander the Holodomor.

In the view of Ms. Khatalakh, the conference proved that a new generation of Ukrainians has emerged without stereotypes of the Holodomor. "These students calmly perceive and carefully analyze information rather than blindly swallowing it," she said.

Yet the students' ability to analyze largely depends on their access to objective information, which the local political forces are denying them.

The Party of Regions, for example, blocked Ms. Mahrytska's book "Rescued Memory" from reaching bookstore shelves in Luhansk and censored a screenplay her husband wrote for a documentary film about the Holodomor in the Luhansk Oblast.

Meanwhile another documentary film on the Holodomor, produced by a local television station and broadcast in the Donetsk Oblast, somehow managed to squeeze in several references to the "German fascists occupiers," but made no mention of the Communist ideology and Soviet officials responsible for the Ukrainian genocide.

Western values of tolerance can't be applied to Soviet history, Ms. Mahrytska said, just as Nazism isn't tolerated in the West. However, it's this tolerance of a genocidal regime that is flourishing in Donbas.

"This must be approached with tolerance, with our souls and with moving forward in mind, and to stop standing in one place," Ms. Olkhina said rather unconvincedly.

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Shevchenko Scientific Society opens its Holodomor Archive

by Svitlana Andrushkiw

NEW YORK – To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, or Famine-Genocide of 1933, which led to the death of 7 million to 10 million Ukrainians, the Shevchenko Scientific Society Library and Archives of America located in New York City at 63 Fourth Avenue, has made available to all researchers, historians and students its archive – “Collectivization documents: Kamianskyi Region, Krynychanskyi Region, Solomianskyi Region, Vasylykivskyi Region of the Dnipropetrovsk District, 1928-1935 (Artificial Famine documents).”

This body of material has been placed on the Shevchenko Scientific Society website at www.shevchenko.org and is open to all.

The Collectivization Archive consists of 372 documents spanning the years 1928-1935. The archive encompasses materials documenting activity of administrative and Communist Party authorities in four regions of the Dnipropetrovsk district. They document events related to the forced collectivization of Ukrainian farmers in the eastern regions of Ukraine and show the harsh realities of the social and economic upheavals of this era, which resulted in the Great Famine of 1932-1933.

The documents are divided into originals, typed and handwritten copies. A good number have official government stamps with appropriate text. The archive consists of eight folders that contain documents on matters dealing with provisions of orders, procurement circulars, minutes of meetings, information concerning the fulfillment of the agricultural production plan for 1931-1935, questionnaires, depositions, loss of voting rights and so on.

Of special interest is the Book of Mortality from 1933 of the village of Romankovo, in which local authorities recorded the causes of death of its inhabitants. This document presents a clear picture of the starvation factor in the village. On the basis of the Vasylykivskyi region of the district of Dnipropetrovsk, which encompassed between 15 and 20 villages, with each document a sequence of events unfolds that presents a picture of mass starvation of innocent victims. This archive was purchased by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in 1952 from Hryhorii Makhiv of Birmingham, Mich.

This archive has not yet been fully researched; therefore, it may serve as original material for a master's or a Ph.D. dissertation.

Svitlana Andrushkiw is director of the research library at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York City.



A lice-infested famine victim on the streets of Kharkiv in 1933 in a photo from the Shevchenko Scientific Society's archives.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society Library houses one of the largest collections of books and other materials dealing with the Famine-Genocide. Under the subject “Famine, 1933” it lists over 240 entries in Ukrainian, English and German.

The oldest document is a 35-page German brochure published in 1933 in Berlin under the title “Bruder in Not” (Brother in Need) by the Evangelischer Pressverband für Deutschland. It contains information from various sources about the ongoing famine, including excerpts from letters of German colonists living in Ukraine.

Another German-language source, “Hungersnot!” (Famine Calamity) by Cardinal Theodor Innitzer, dated approximately 1934 and published in Vienna by Buchdruckerei Karl Stolik, consists of eyewitness accounts of German nationals – religious leaders as well as businessmen – who were in Ukraine at that time. It also includes a map of the Famine-afflicted areas of Ukraine.

In 1934 the United Ukrainian Organizations of the United States published a 32-page brochure titled “Famine in Ukraine,” which includes the May 28, 1934, House Resolution No. 399 on the Famine. It condemns the government of the USSR for using the Famine “as a means of reducing the Ukrainian popula-

tion and destroying the Ukrainian political, cultural and national rights.”

In a 1935 German work by Ewald Ammende “Muss Russland Hungern?” (Must Russia Hunger?), published by Wilhelm Braumuller Universitat (355 page), book we find ample documentation of the Famine, as well as a series of rare photographs from 1933 of dead and dying

farmers in the streets of Kharkiv, the capital of Soviet Ukraine at that time.

In 1953, under the auspices of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (New York), Dmytro Solovey published “Golgotha of Ukraine: Eyewitness Accounts of the Famine.” The library also contains the now classic “The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror Famine” by Robert Conquest (Edmonton: University of Alberta, 1986. 412 pages), as well as his “Man-Made Famine in Ukraine,” (Washington: DC, 1984. 39 pages).

In 1999 the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (Toronto) published “Famine Genocide in Soviet Ukraine 1933.” Among other sources it includes famine resources that are available on the Internet. In 1988 the United States Government Printing Office in Washington, published the findings of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, “Investigation of the Ukrainian Famine 1932-33: Report to Congress” (524 pages).

In order to fill a void in English-language materials about this very important topic, the Shevchenko Scientific Society commissioned Cheryl Madden to compile a bibliography on this subject. In 2002 Ms. Madden prepared “Ukrainian Famine (Holodomor) of 1932-33 and Aspects of Stalinism: Annotated Bibliography in English,” (Providence, R.I., 99 pages).

This is just a sampling of the rich resources on this topic found at the Shevchenko Scientific Society Library and Archives in New York City. The library's e-mail address is: library@shevchenko.org. Readers should feel free to consult the library.

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Harvard to host premiere of documentary “The Living”

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – As part of its ongoing commemorations of the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) will host the premiere New England showing of a feature documentary “The Living” (Zhyvi) by director Serhiy Bukovsky in conjunction with the Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University.

Mr. Bukovsky is internationally recognized as one of the best documentary filmmakers in Ukraine today. In 2002 he was awarded the prestigious Shevchenko National Prize of Ukraine for his nine-part TV documentary series “War, A Ukrainian Account.”

He was approached by Kateryna Yushchenko’s Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Fund to direct a feature documentary on the Holodomor for its 75th anniversary. The film will be presented in person by the director, Mr. Bukovsky and by the producer, Victoria Bodnar, his wife.

The film will be shown in the Tsai Auditorium (S-010) of CGIS-South – Center for Government and International Studies, 1730 Cambridge St., Cambridge, MA 02138 on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 beginning at 7:00 PM. Admission is free and open to the public. For further information call the Ukrainian Research Institute at 617-495-4053.

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(Continued from page 1)

which occurred in Ukraine and took millions of lives was the result of deliberate policies of the government of the Soviet Union." The report noted that "This man-made Famine is truly an act of genocide by the Soviet government against the Ukrainian people."

The solemn ceremony at the Church of the Holy Trinity was opened with the presentation of a "Wreath of Remembrance" carried by the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, followed by a candle-lighting ceremony in memory of the Holodomor victims by a survivor of the Famine-Genocide.

The invocation was delivered by Auxiliary Bishop John Bura of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, who urged those present never to forget the horrors of the Famine-Genocide and always to stand up to injustice around the world. The bishop also extended greetings on behalf of Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka.

The Camertone Ensemble of the First Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist Church in Philadelphia performed a poignant musical selection under music director Liuba Vasylyk. This ensemble of girls and boys in Ukrainian embroidered shirts and blouses contrasted the youth and hope of the future with the horror of the Holodomor.

Welcoming remarks were delivered by the host and rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, the Rev. Alan Neale, who noted that two famous journalists, Englishman Malcolm Muggeridge and Welshman Gareth Jones, traveled to the Soviet Union during Stalin's "Great Terror" of the 1930s and wrote the truth about what was taking place in Ukraine at that time.

In ending he said, "We all share the horror of this event in Ukrainian history. As an Englishman I am in solidarity with my countrymen who exposed this tragedy. As human beings we reach to our brothers and sisters in distress and remembrance."

The accomplished and renowned violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv, accompanied by Jungeun Kim on the piano, brilliantly performed three selected pieces: Sonata in C Minor by Johann Sebastian Bach, the soulful "Lament" (Holosinnia) by Stanislav Liudkevych and the final moving tribute to Holodomor victims, "Melodia" by the contemporary composer Myroslav Skoryk.

Consul Olexander Alexandrovych, minister-counselor of the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States, addressed the participants of this commemoration. He stated, "the more we spread and deepen the knowledge of the Holodomor, the greater the world's understanding of the terrifying scope, consequences and genocidal nature of this tragedy."

Mr. Alexandrovych also informed those gathered that the Ukrainian government under the leadership of President Viktor Yushchenko is working tirelessly to have the Famine-Genocide recognized internationally. He also highlighted the recent approval by the U.S. government of a site in the nation's capital for a Holodomor memorial.

The youth choir of the Ukrainian Baptist Church under music director Ivan Velenchuk movingly performed Sergei Rachmaninoff's "Today We Sing To You" and Mykola Leontovych's "Praise the Name of the Lord."

Marta Zalizniak, a young and talented soprano accompanied by pianist Oksana Harlamova, sang Ihor Sonevsky's "By Your Grace," "Oksana's Song" by Semen Hulak-Artemovsky and "The Candle" by Maestro Myroslav Skoryk. Her rendition of the three selections moved many to



The performers and Akkolada Chamber Choir with some members of the Holodomor Committee. In the front row (from left are) Nila Pawluk, Larissa Stebly, Yara Snylyk, Ulana Mazurkevich, Bishop John Bura, Chrystia Senyk, violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv, soprano Marta Zalizniak and Akkolada music director Bohdan Henhalo; in the third row (second from left) is committee member Ihor Kushnir.

tears.

Consul Bohdan Movchan followed with remarks on behalf of the Ukraine's Consulate General in New York. He ended his remarks with the greeting, "Slava Ukrayini" ("Glory to Ukraine").

Pastor Ivan Kovalchuk of the Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist Church delivered a brief prayer, ending with a supplication for God to bless Ukraine and the United States of America.

The Akkolada Chamber Choir, under music director Bohdan Henhalo, performed the final musical pieces of the concert. The repertoire included Leontovych's "Seagulls Lament" and "Prelude" followed by Mykola Dyletsky's "O Holy God." The closing prayer was delivered by the Rev. Volodymyr Khanas, pastor of Pokrova Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia.

The "Memorial Concert for the 10 Million" concluded with the combined choirs Akkolada and the Youth Choir of the First Ukrainian Baptist Church singing the prayer for Ukraine, "O Great and One God" (Bozhe Velykyi Yedynyj).

Prior to the concert the committee held a weeklong exhibit of documents, period photographs, eyewitness accounts and archival material related to the Holodomor compiled by the Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Foundation, which is chaired by Ukraine's First Lady, Kateryna Yushchenko. The graphic documentation was displayed in the Church of the Holy Trinity on easels with individual lighting of every poster. Informative brochures on the Holodomor were presented to attendees of the exhibit.

Hundreds viewed the Holodomor exhibit, which was open daily. Most who came had their eyes opened for the first time to this historic tragedy. Some knew that Stalin was a despotic madman but were unaware of the Famine-Genocide that he orchestrated in Ukraine. It was interesting to note that among those who viewed the exhibit were many of Ukrainian descent, who had long ago left behind their heritage but were now drawn to the exhibit by the signs at the church.

One woman, whose grandfather had literally walked from Ukraine to France during the Holodomor, remarked "I am not saddened by the exhibit, I am happy to see that his memory and the memory of the millions who died is alive in what you are doing here today."



Violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv performs at the Church of the Holy Trinity.



People gather for the commemorative concert, while others view the exhibit, seen on right side.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

other parties and blocs voted for the Mr. Yatsenyuk's dismissal. He emphasized that none of the national deputies representing the Our Ukraine party supported the resignation of the Rada chair. Commenting on Ms. Tymoshenko's statement accusing the president of sacking the Rada chair, Mr. Yushchenko called it a "cynical lie." (Ukrinform)

Yatsenyuk to form political force

KYIV – Arseniy Yatsenyuk, the dismissed chairman of the Verkhovna Rada and national deputy of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense (OU-PSD) bloc is planning to form his own political force. "I will form my political force and I'm already doing that," he said at a briefing on November 12, following his dismissal. He expressed confidence that his political force would "receive support from the majority of Ukrainians." Mr. Yatsenyuk had signed a statement of resignation on September 17, following the break-up of the coalition comprising the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) and OU-PSD. He said at a briefing on November 11 that the goal of a vote on the Rada chair's dismissal is either to dismiss Yulia Tymoshenko from the post of Ukraine's prime minister or to have new grounds for holding snap elections to the Parliament. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine launches ad campaign on CNN

KYIV – Ukraine has launched an

advertising campaign on the CNN television network. The first wave of the campaign, which started on CNN International on November 10 and will last seven weeks, is devoted to Ukraine's tourist potential and provides for 300 releases of the advertisement "Ukraine. Beautifully Yours." Hennadii Kurochka, managing partner of CFC Consulting (the exclusive representative of CNN International in Ukraine), said the information campaign opens a new era of Ukraine's presence in the global information space. Commenting for CNN International, Ukraine's Culture and Tourism Minister Vasyl Vovkun said: "While launching our joint project with CNN, we would like wholeheartedly and sincerely to invite the whole of the world to visit us and deepen the sense of beauty." (Ukrinform)

Sandarmokh victims commemorated

SANDARMOKH, Russia – While on a working visit to the Republic of Karelia (Russia), Kostiantyn Gryshchenko, Ukraine's ambassador to Russia and first deputy secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, participated in a commemoration of the Ukrainians killed in the 1930s in the Karelian village of Sandarmokh. A requiem for the victims of Stalin's regime took place on November 11 near the stone cross "To the Killed Sons of Ukraine." Attending were members of the Ukrainian community of Karelia and local government representatives. Following the memorial service, Larysa Skrypnykova,

(Continued on page 15)

Morris County...

(Continued from page 8)

and the Communist Party of the both the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR.

Later in the program, after a prayer led by the Rev. Mirchuk and the laying of a commemorative wreath, Mr. Wasylenko spoke movingly about his experiences at the time of the Holodomor.

Michael Koziupa, a member of the New Jersey Governor's Ethnic Advisory Council, read a proclamation issued by Gov. Jon Corzine that declared November 22 as Ukrainian Genocide Remembrance Day in the state.

Mr. Mazur concluded the short program by inviting all to also view the display set up by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America to show some of the Ukrainian community's attempts to tell the American leaders and the public about the Holodomor as it was happening.

In closing, he underscored that he would add to the list of indictments related to the Holodomor The New York Times, which engaged in "a conscious, deliberate cover-

up" of the Famine-Genocide, and "the Holodomor deniers," who claim this genocide did not happen.

The weekend of Holodomor commemorations culminated with the presentation on Saturday evening, November 9, and Sunday afternoon, November 10, of the solo drama "Sin of Starvation" (Holodnyi Hrih), based on Vasyl Stefanyk's novel "Novyna."

The play was performed by Oleksander Formanchuk of the Ivan Franko National Academic Theater of Kyiv, and directed by Oleksander Bilozub. It was a powerful depiction of the story of Hryts Letiuchy, a poor and desperate single father of two children and the horrible consequences they suffer during extraordinarily harsh times of famine.

The monodrama was sponsored by the UACCNJ's Arts, Culture and Education Committee, which is chaired by Dr. Marta Lopatynsky. Event chair Mykola Darmochwal was assisted by a large group of volunteers who worked on several subcommittees, from reception and hospitality to ticket sales, public relations and political liaison, as well as other facets of the endeavor.

Proclamation...

(Continued from page 8)

"Joseph Stalin and those around him committed genocide against Ukrainians in 1932-1933;" and

Whereas, on November 28, 2006, Ukraine's Parliament adopted a bill recognizing the Soviet-era forced famine – known in Ukraine as Holodomor or death by starvation – as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people, resulting in the murder of almost one-third of its population at the time;

Whereas, dozens of countries have recognized and acknowledged the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 as genocide; and

Whereas, it is necessary that this genocide against the Ukrainian nation be recognized as such by the global community and be remembered as a heinous crime in order to prevent similar tragedies in the

future, and

Whereas, the United States condemns all atrocities, crimes against humanity and genocide, and the citizens of the United States highly value and defend human rights;

Now, therefore, I, Jon S. Corzine, governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim November 22, 2008, as Ukrainian Genocide Remembrance Day in New Jersey and urge all citizens to join in commemorating this tragic episode and rededicate their efforts to eliminate tyranny from our world.

Given, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-second day of November in the year two thousand eight, the two hundred thirty-third year of the Independence of the United States.

Jon S. Corzine
Governor

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

chairwoman of the Ukrainian Culture Society Kalyna, spoke about the work of researchers who found a mass grave of political prisoners. She stressed that almost one-third of 6,000 interred there were Ukrainians. It is most important, she underscored, for us and our children to remember these horrible crimes and prevent them in the future. Ambassador Gryshchenko noted that it is impossible to move forward "without realizing the tragic pages our fathers and grandfathers experienced." The Ukrainian diplomat thanked Karelia for keeping alive the memory of the tragic events that took place in Sandarmokh. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine honors Brzezinski, Pifer

WASHINGTON – On November 8 a solemn awards ceremony was held at the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States in honor of Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski and Ambassador Steven Pifer. Dr. Brzezinski, chief advisor and member of board of directors of the Center for Strategic and International Studies and co-chairman of the U.S.-European Union joint committee on Ukrainian affairs, was awarded the order of Yaroslav Mudryi, third degree. Mr. Pifer, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and current chairman of the working group on political and economic reforms of the U.S.-EU joint committee on Ukrainian affairs, was presented the Order of Merit, second degree. Addressing the ceremony, Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Shamshur thanked Messrs. Brzezinski and Pifer for their significant contributions to strengthening and developing Ukraine-U.S. ties. (Ukrinform)

U.S. supports Ukraine's NATO bid

BRUSSELS – The United States will continue supporting Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic aspirations after the U.S. presidential election, U.S. Permanent Representative to NATO Kurt Volker told journalists in Brussels, during a festive ceremony on November 5 dedicated to the announcement of the election results. The U.S. diplomat noted that both Barack Obama and John McCain had clearly expressed their support for Ukraine during the election campaign. "They would like Ukraine to achieve success in democracy, the introduction of reforms, the strengthening of democratic institutions and improvement in the economy. They both would like to see Ukraine as part of

a wider Euro-Atlantic community. It is a very clear message from both candidates. I now see no changes in the position of Sen. Obama after he has been elected president of the United States," Mr. Volker said. He also commented on the prospects of Ukraine being extended a NATO Membership Action Plan and the possible outcome of a meeting of foreign ministers of the alliance's member-states who will consider this question in December. Mr. Volker said that the question of a MAP for Ukraine should be addressed to NATO as a whole, since all 26 member-states of the alliance must reach consensus to take this step. "The United States has always supported Ukraine's desire to participate in the NATO Membership Action Plan. But we also know the position of some of our allies." He added, "As for the long-term direction of the U.S. policy, it seems to me that it is obvious: we strongly support Ukraine and its aspiration to become part of the Euro-Atlantic community," Mr. Volker said. (Ukrinform)

Yatsenyuk congratulates Obama

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk on November 7 congratulated Sen. Barack Obama on his election as president of the United States. "I am confident that traditionally strong political and economic relations between Ukraine and the United States will deepen during your presidency that will help us tackle global challenges," read his letter of congratulations. Mr. Yatsenyuk expressed hope that both countries, which share democratic values, would continue maintaining close cooperation for the sake of peace and stable development. He wished President-elect Obama good health and success in his responsible political and social activities. (Ukrinform)

PRU celebrates 11th anniversary

KYIV – The leader of the Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU), Viktor Yanukovich, called on his fellow party members to take Ukraine's destiny into their hands. In his November 6 message of congratulations issued on the 11th anniversary of the PRU, Mr. Yanukovich noted that the party had become one of the leading political forces in Ukrainian society. "The party's work in the opposition was a real test of stability and bravery, devotion to principles and convictions, and civic stand," Mr. Yanukovich emphasized. He added that the party had gotten rid of the ballast, those "who under its banners wished to take warm seats in

cozy offices." He continued, "My dear friends and associates, we are now facing even more difficult and responsible tasks. We need to take into our hands the destiny of the state being destroyed by the irresponsibility and lack of professionalism of the incumbent power. And we will do so. We will unite the country, fill the gaps of mistrust and take Ukraine to new life." The PRU website notes that there are over 11,600 party organizations in 27 regional departments. However, the website includes no concrete information about party members. (Ukrinform)

CPU calls for national political strike

KYIV – Communist Party Leader Petro Symonenko on November 11 called on "everybody who is not indifferent to the fate of Ukraine" to start preparing for a national political strike. "The time has shown that these authorities – the authorities of the 'Orange team' and oligarchs – cannot and do not want to fulfill their duties and work in the interest of the public. The almost zero level of confidence in the president and his supporters is evidence of this," he said, speaking from the Verkhovna Rada rostrum. Mr. Symonenko said that the Communist Party is calling on workers and those who are concerned about the fate of Ukraine to start preparing for the strike. "If the authorities cannot protect the people, if the state defends the interests of only a small group of billionaires, I'm confident the people should replace authorities of this kind," he said. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainians among world's wealthiest

KYIV – Two Ukrainian citizens, Verkhovna Rada National Deputies Rinat Akhmetov and Kostiantyn Zhevahov, are among the world's 10 richest politicians, the newspaper Delo reported on October 29. Mr. Akhmetov of Donetsk, the owner of System Capital Management Group, was in sixth place, with assets estimated at \$7.3 billion (U.S.). A co-owner of the Finance and Credit Group, Kostiantyn

Zhevahov, ranked ninth and was the youngest politician on the list of billionaire politicians. His assets were estimated at \$3.4 billion. (Ukrinform)

Stupka named best actor

KYIV – Ukraine's most famous actor, Bohdan Stupka, received the Silver Award for Best Actor in the film "With A Warm Heart" by Polish film director Krzysztof Zanussi. The award was presented at the Award Winners Photocall during the third Rome International Film Festival in Italy. (Ukrinform)

Number of marriages up

KYIV – During the period of July-October of this year, twice as many marriages took place in Ukraine as compared to the previous quarter of 2008. According to the Justice Ministry, over 106,000 couples were married in July-October, while the figure for April-June was 48,000 couples. In general, the ratio of divorces to marriages was up 36 percent over the third quarter of 2008. The best marriage/divorce ratio has traditionally been noted in the western regions of Ukraine: the Volyn, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia, Lviv and Rivne regions, where there was one divorce for each three to four marriages. The worst ratio, one divorce for almost each marriage, was recorded in the Kirovohrad and Chernivtsi regions. A total of 38,437 couples in Ukraine dissolved their marriages during the third quarter of the year. (Ukrinform)

Three new Polish consulates

KYIV – By the end of 2009 Ukraine will have eight consulates general of Poland, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Jacek Kluczowski told a press conference on November 10. Poland seeks to open new consulates in Ivano-Frankivsk, Vinnytsia and Sevastopol. Currently there are Polish consulates in Lviv, Odesa, Kharkiv, Luhansk and Kyiv. (Ukrinform)

Leftists mark 91st anniversary of October Revolution

Ukrinform

KYIV – Ukrainian left-wing forces on November 7 marked the 91st anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

In Kyiv they marched their traditional route from Arsenal Square to Independence Square. A total of 5,000 participants rallied under such slogans as "No Fascism," "Down With the Regime of Yushchenko-Tymoshenko-Yatseniuk." They wore red bows decorated with the images of Lenin and Stalin.

There were no incidents, although the Communists' opponents from the Svoboda All-Ukrainian Association performed a street theater presentation condemning communism.

Several people dressed in blue and yellow polyethylene raincoats used brooms to banish a man dressed in a hat with ear flaps decorated with a red star and a raincoat with the inscription "Communism is the plague of the 20th century."

After rallying on the Khreschatyk, Kyiv's main boulevard, supporters of the Communist Party of Ukraine continued rallying outside the Presidential Secretariat building.

Agents of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) that night arrested a group of individuals who tried to pour paint on Kyiv's monument to Hero of Ukraine Vyacheslav Chornovil, a co-founder of the National Rukh of Ukraine. The SBU press center said the agents confiscated cans of red spray paint from the group.

The detained individuals were students of the city's higher educational establishments. They confessed that they had been offered money to pour paint on the monument. Those who ordered them to do so are being identified, said the SBU.

Leftists also held rallies to mark October Revolution Day in Donetsk, Sevastopol, Kherson, Poltava and other cities in Ukraine.



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The Holodomor...

(Continued from page 3)

stare in response.

"Who told you?" her teacher asked.

"My babusia," the young Oksana replied.

"Buv. (There was)," her teacher said curtly. "Now go to recess."

Afterwards, her parents promptly warned her not to bring her private family discussions to school.

Robert Stashenko, a 70-year-old who survived the 1946-1947 famine, was born in Gorky, Russia, after his parents fled their Donetsk Oblast village of Stashenkiv, which was devastated by Stalinist repressions.

Mr. Stashenko returned with his mother to his native land in 1948, only to find it devastated. Not only were ethnic Ukrainians replaced with Russians following the Holodomor, but the village was renamed Sakkoivanzetti, a Communist moniker to honor the two anarchists, Sacco and Vanzetti, persecuted by the U.S. government.

"I was raised on Russian culture and literature," Mr. Stashenko said of his adolescence in the Donbas. "When our Ukrainians were removed, non-Ukrainians replaced them and they didn't know famine. They were given their share."

Meanwhile, Ms. Khatalakh's babusia survived the Holodomor like many Donbas Ukrainians did – by working the mines where she got her "payka" (ration). There she met her husband who was "rozkurkulenyi," or stripped of his rural property.

In his debates with fellow Soviet veterans, Mr. Prokopchuk recalled elderly men who claimed there was no Famine because they ate anchovies during the winter of 1932, which "saved them." To which he responded, "Saved you from what?"

"Food is supposed to be diverse, and then it gives the human organism something vital," Mr. Prokopchuk explained. "But if it's monotonous, that's already a famine. I am a former Soviet officer, a former Communist. I recognize that people need to be told the truth – no matter how bitter it might be."

Ukraine moves...

(Continued from page 1)

Tymoshenko plus the small centrist Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc – far more than the 226 votes needed.

The package provided for: the creation of a government stabilization fund to help companies repay foreign debts and invest in domestic projects; the possibility of nationalizing problem banks; attracting loans from international financial organizations; and dropping the government's populist plan to increase minimum wages (Ukrayinska Pravda, October 31).

On November 5 the IMF executive board approved a two-year \$16.4-billion standby loan for Ukraine – the biggest loan ever taken out by the country. The IMF praised Mr. Yushchenko's financial stabilization package.

"The authorities' program, supported by the two-year stand-by arrangement with the IMF, aims to restore financial and macroeconomic stability by adopting a flexible exchange rate regime with targeted intervention, a pre-emptive recapitalization of banks, and a prudent fiscal policy coupled with tighter monetary policy," the IMF said (www.imf.org, November 5).

With the arrival of the loan, the NBU flooded the Ukrainian currency market with U.S. dollars for banks to buy and at the same time introduced tougher restrictions on currency trade. The hryvnia stopped falling immediately, freezing at around 5.8 hrv to the dollar, down from 4.6 hrv to the dollar some three months ago, but up from almost 7 hrv several days earlier.

Following the IMF move, the United States also indicated its readiness to help Ukraine. U.S. Ambassador William Taylor said that a group of financial experts would arrive shortly in Ukraine to help the local government tackle the crisis (Inter TV, November 7).

President Yushchenko said that the IMF loan was needed to show that the NBU had the power to tackle a crisis. Verkhovna Rada Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk, who briefly led the NBU in 2004, opined that the IMF funds were a guarantee of stability but they would not be spent. "I believe this credit will not be used," he said. "This is a signal to the world and Ukraine that the NBU can intervene in the market at any

moment and sell as many dollars as needed in order to stabilize the exchange rate" (Inter TV, October 31).

PromInvestBank's stabilization was one of the IMF's conditions, and the government promptly moved to rescue the bank. Mr. Yushchenko instructed the NBU and Ms. Tymoshenko to change its ownership or to nationalize it. Ms. Tymoshenko was apparently in favor of nationalization, but the NBU found the buyers. Slav AG, an Austrian-registered company controlled by the Klyuyev brothers, national deputies from the pro-Russian Party of Regions, acquired 68 percent of PromInvestBank shares from the Matvienko family for an undisclosed sum. The Klyuyevs pledged to invest 4.5 billion hrv (\$770 million U.S.) in the bank. They will also have to pay back a 5 billion hrv (\$862 million) stabilization loan that the NBU issued to PromInvestBank in early October (Kommersant-Ukraine, November 12).

The Klyuyevs do not have that much money, so they will have to take out loans to recapitalize PromInvestBank. One of the brothers, Serhiy Klyuyev, denied the rumors that the bank had been bought for a third party. He said several banks were ready to help PromInvestBank with loans (Delo, November 12). Ekonomicheskije Izvestia, a Kyiv-based business weekly, however, reported on November 12 that the Klyuyevs would re-sell PromInvestBank to Russia's Sberbank.

Apart from the Klyuyevs, several Russian banks and Ukrainian businessman Dmytro Firtash were interested in PromInvestBank (Kommersant-Ukraine, November 12). Mr. Firtash eventually managed to buy another ailing financial institution, Nadra, which is Ukraine's seventh largest bank, reportedly for \$200 million. Nadra faced difficulties in repaying \$230 million in foreign debts, and the NBU persuaded its owners to sell the bank (Kommersant-Ukraine, November 10). Mr. Firtash is linked to Russia's Gazprom. RosUkrEnergo, a joint venture set up by Gazprom and Mr. Firtash, until recently was the monopoly supplier of Russian gas to Ukraine.

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SPORTSLINE

Soccer

• Serhiy Rebrov is the top award-winning soccer player with the greatest number of championship titles, after his win for FC Rubin Kazan of the Russian Premier League. This was Rebrov's 11th championship title. Rebrov, 34 won nine of his titles with Dynamo Kyiv (1993-2000 and 2007) and one with Fenerbahce Istanbul in 2004. To his credit, Rebrov has 125 Ukrainian premier league goals.

• Dynamo Kyiv is in third place in Group G of the UEFA Champions League. Dynamo has one win, two draws and two losses with its last loss to Porto on November 5. Dynamo faces Arsenal on November 25 and Fenerbahce on December 12.

• Shakhtar is in third place in Group C, with one win, no draws and three losses with its last loss against Sporting on November 4. Shakhtar faces Basel on November 26 and Barcelona on December 9.

• Ukraine's team for the UEFA Women's Euro Cup finished in second place in Group 5 with 19 points after eight games played. The group included Denmark, Scotland, Slovakia and Portugal. In the play-off round, Ukraine defeated Slovenia 3-0 on October 26 and 2-0 on October 30. Other teams that advanced include Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, Norway, Sweden and Iceland.

Boxing

• Mykola Butsenko (48 kg), Viacheslav Hudenko (60 kg), Taras Makarov (69 kg) and Volodymyr Savenko (75 kg) each won titles at the Amateur International Boxing

Association Youth World Boxing Championships in Guadalajara, Mexico, on October 27.

• Vitali Klitschko was awarded the Order of Merit, first degree, by President Viktor Yushchenko on October 17. The Ukrainian boxer, who recently regained his WBC world super-heavyweight title, was recognized for his sports achievements, courage, dedication to his work and to victory, and honorably representing Ukraine on the international stage.

Marathon

• Tetiana Mazentseva won the 13th International Marathon on October 27 in Ljuljana, Slovenia, with a time of 2 hours, 37 minutes and 13 seconds.

• Tetyana Byelovol, 39, won the Detroit Free Press/Flagstar Marathon – the third marathon win of her career – on October 19. She finished with a time of 2:40:17. Byelovol's student, Anzhelika Averkova, won last year's marathon with a time of 2:34:50. In addition, Byelovol, who regularly coaches in Ukraine, has won the Hartford (Conn.) Marathon in 2007, and the Marathon of the Palm Peaches in Florida in 2005. Byelovol told the press that she wants to return and set a new course record for the Detroit marathon.

Biathlon

The Ukrainian team won 21 medals at the World Biathlon Championship in Plzen, Czech Republic. Halyna Avramenko won four of the team's eight gold medals. The team also won seven silver medals and six bronze medals.

Chess

• The Kyiv Chess Club won the bronze

medal at the European Cup tournament in Kalithea, Greece, on October 24. The Ukrainian team won 11 out of 14 points.

• The Ukrainian men's chess team, which included Anton Korobov, Valeriy Aveskulov, Martyn Kravtsov and Yuriy Drozdovskyj, won the silver medal in rapid chess at the first Wild Mind Games in Beijing, China, on October 17. The Ukrainian women's team, including Natalia Zdebska, Kateryna Dolzhykova, Tetiana Vasylevych and Natalia Hryhorenko, won the silver medal in rapid chess as well. Ukraine tied for third place with Korea with two gold, four silver and three bronze medals, for a total of nine medals. In addition to chess, events included bridge, go (Othello), draughts (checkers) and Xiangqi (Chinese chess). Kravtsov won the gold medal in men's individual blitz chess and Viktoria Motrichko won gold in the women's 64-square individual draughts. Silver medalists included Drozdovsky in men's individual blitz and Anton Korobov in the men's individual rapid chess. The Ukrainian men's team won bronze in the team blitz, and Vasylevych and Aveskulov won in mixed blitz chess. Serhiy Bilocheyev won bronze in the men's individual 64-square draughts.

• Illia Nyzhnyk won the gold medal in the under-12 division at the European Youth Chess Championship in Herceg-Novi, Montenegro, on September 25. Silver medals were awarded to Volodymyr Vetoshko and Yulia Osmak, and bronze medals were awarded to Pavlo Vorontsov and Oleksandr Bortnyk, all in the same under-12 age group.

• Grandmaster Vasyl Ivanchuk won second place at the World Blitz Chess Championship in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on November 10. Last year Ivanchuk won

the championship.

Swimming

Yana Klockova, a five-time Olympic medalist, decided to retire from the sport, as announced on October 24 by Andriy Vaskov, vice-president of the Swimming Federation of Ukraine. Denys Silantiev, a 2000 Olympic silver medalist, also declared his retirement from the sport. Two more swimmers, Oleh Lyshor and Andriy Serdinov, indicated they were thinking of retiring as well.

Shooting

• Oleksander Petriv, a 2008 Olympic medalist, along with teammates Oleh Tkachov and Oleksandr Horokhovskiy, won the silver medal in pistol events at the 43rd World Military Shooting Championship in Boden, Sweden, held on September 14-21.

• The Ukrainian team won 19 medals and finished in second place at the 2008 World Running Target Championships in Plzen, Czech Republic, on October 20-25. Igor Matskevych and Aleksiy Vylyvanyy won second and third place, respectively, in the men's junior 50-meter running target event, the Ukrainian junior's team finished in second place, and the Ukrainian men's team finished in third place. In men's 50-meter running target mixed, Alexander Zinenko finished in the third place, and Ukraine's junior team finished in second place. In men's 10-meter running target, Vladyslav Prianishnikov won third place, and Ukraine won the gold medal in the team event. Ukraine's men's team finished in second place in the 10-meter running target mixed. In the women's division, Galina Avranmenko won gold in the 10-meter running target event, and Anastasiya Savelyeva

(Continued on page 18)

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Actress Svitlana Vatamaniuk appears in a one-woman show in Toronto

by Oksana Zakydalsky



Svitlana Vatamaniuk as Lesia Ukrainka.

TORONTO – The Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation gallery is not only a venue for art exhibits but also for cultural, musical and theatrical performances. On October 19, Svitlana Vatamaniuk, a well-known actress from Ukraine, offered her one-woman musico-poetic presentation “Foreign land.”

The show included a theatrical rendition of the intimate love poetry of Lesia Ukrainka, selections from the letters of Olena Teliha and a montage from the play “... I will remember...Americord,” which played in Kyiv at the Ivan Franko Theater at the beginning of the year.

The latter is a dramatic piece about several Ukrainian women who have come to Italy to earn money. Ms. Vatamaniuk played a teacher who is fed up with her students and their lessons, the minuscule wages and the school atmosphere in general.

Mrs. Vatamaniuk was born in 1958 and completed her studies at the Kyiv Institute of Theatrical Arts. She began her acting career in Khmelnytskyi and then worked in Moscow, finally returning to Kyiv to appear on the stage of the Kyiv Youth Theater.

In the film “Neskorenyi” (The Undefeated) she played Roman Shukhevych’s wife, Natalia. Two years ago, Ms. Vatamaniuk joined the Ivan Franko Theater, where she still appears on stage.

Stefan Berezowsky also took part in the presentation, and pianist Maria Dolnycky opened and closed the program.



Svitlana Vatamaniuk as a teacher in Italy.

Sportsline...

(Continued from page 17)

and Valentyna Honcharova won second and third place, respectively, in the junior competition, with Ukraine finishing in first place in the junior team competition. The women’s team swept the 10-meter running target mixed, with Galina Avramenko in first, Viktoriya Zabolotna in second and Kateryna Samohina in third place. Anastasiya Savelyeva and Valentyna Honcharova won second and third place, respectively, in the junior competition, and Ukraine’s junior women’s team finished in the first place.

• Oleh Omelchuk won the gold medal in pistol at the ISSF World Cup in Bangkok, Thailand, on November 4. In the final for 10-meter air pistol event, Omelchuk scored 687.4 points. Artur Aivazian won silver in the men’s 50-meter rifle (three positions) on November 4.

Tennis

• The Ukrainian-Russian doubles team of Maria Korytseva and Vera Dushevina finished in second place at the WTA tournament in Luxembourg on October 26. They

were defeated 2-6, 6-3, 10-8 by Sorana Cristea of Romania and Marina Erakovic of New Zealand.

• Serhiy Stakhovsky of Ukraine and Starace Potito of Italy won the Kremlin Cup men’s doubles on October 11 in Moscow. The Ukrainian-Italian duo defeated Stephen Huss of Austria and Ross Hutchins of Great Britain 7-6, 7-2, 2-6, 1-0, 10-6.

Motorsports

Andriy Kruhlyk made history when he finished in third place in the S1600 class at the European Touring Car Cup on the Austrian Salzburgring, a 2.63-mile permanent racetrack course, on October 19. Kruhlyk raced in a Ford Fiesta ST car for Team Lauderbach Motorsport and earned 14 points. This was the first time a Ukrainian driver was a prize winner in an official FIA (International Federation of Motorsports) event.

Weightlifting

• Vitaliy Svirnenko, an 81-year-old weightlifter from Kirovohrad Oblast, won three gold medals at the European kettlebell lifting championship in Russia. Svirnenko

won three world titles as well. The International Union on Kettlebell Lifting bestowed upon Svirnenko the rank of “master of sports.”

• Ukraine’s men’s and women’s powerlifting teams won the World Powerlifting Championships on November 10. In the women’s division, Tetiana Prymenchuk (56 kg) and Iryna Karpova-Yavorska won gold medals and Larysa Solovyova-Vutsiyevska (67.5 kg) and Inna Orobets (+90 kg) won silver medals. Zhanna Ivanova (60 kg) won bronze. In the men’s division, Serhiy Pevyev (100 kg), Oleksiy Rokochoyi (110 kg) and Oleksandr Shepel (125 kg) won gold medals.

Fencing

Ukraine’s men’s fencing team defeated Russia in the final match and won the European Fencing Championship in Amsterdam on November 10. Ukraine’s team included Rostyslav Hertsyh, Klod Yunes, Volodymyr Koltyho and Ihor Revutsky.

Gymnastics

Oleksandr Vorobiov won silver in the

men’s rings, and Maryna Kostiuhenko won bronze in the women’s vault at the World Cup Grand Prix in Glasgow, Scotland, on October 18. Alina Kozich won the gold medal in the floor exercise and bronze in the women’s balance beam. Valentyna Holenkova won silver in the women’s floor exercise.

Ballroom dancing

The Ukrainian junior dancers Vadim Baidak and Svetlana Kostenko, and Evgeni Taranuk and Anastasia Zvereva won second and third place, respectively, in the 14- to 15-year-old group of the International Dance Union World Championship in Tel Aviv, Israel, on October 28. Taranuk and Zvereva won second place in the Latin competition, which included jive, paso-doble, samba, rumba and cha-cha. In the standard category, dances included waltz, tango, Viennese waltz, quick-step and slow foxtrot. In the 16- to 18-year-old group, Anton Avramenko and Anna Kaplyi won second place in the Latin competition, and first place in the standard category. In the over-19 age group, Alexander Yelizarov and Natalia Ivanova won second place in the standard category.

– compiled by Matthew Dubas

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Program at Chicago museum honors poet-dissident Vasyl Stus

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art (UIMA) and the Ukrainian Language Society on October 18 jointly hosted an evening honoring the famous Ukrainian poet, critic and member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, Vasyl Stus.

Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko proclaimed 2008 the year of Vasyl Stus, commemorating what would have been his 70th birthday but for his untimely death in a Soviet prison in 1985 at the age of 47.

Stus is remembered this year throughout Ukraine not only in the Vinnytsia region, his birthplace, or in Donetsk, where he lived and studied, but throughout the Ukrainian diaspora.

His creative spirit and talent, as well as his strength of character under the difficult conditions of persecution and imprisonment, garnered him a nomination for the Nobel Prize in Literature in

1985. Unfortunately, he did not survive the grueling years of imprisonment and died in exile in 1985.

The literary evening commemorating the life and work of Stus was centered around several themes.

Vira Bodnaruk, president of the Ukrainian Language Society, and head of the literary committee at the UIMA, began the evening with a brief overview of the poet's life, his creative process and promising beginnings in Kyiv, and his total commitment to the defense of poets active in the 1960s for the freedom of speech. Despite relentless hardships, Stus movingly wrote "My country, I will still return to you," and he did so posthumously in 1989 when his remains were reburied in Kyiv. A collection of his works totaling nine books was published in 1999.

Today his memory is preserved in



Zeonid Modrycky conducts the Surma chamber choir.



Organizers and performers at the evening in honor of Vasyl Stus (1938-1985).

sculptures in many Ukrainian cities, streets are named after him, and his works are studied throughout academia.

Attendees listened to an old recording of Stus reading one of his poems, and this was followed by dramatic readings with musical accompaniment staged by Natalie Marchak. Joining her in this collage of poetry readings and background music by Chopin and Beethoven were Rostylsav Hrynkiv and Vira Lesuk.

Other participants included Sergej Myhaliuk, Oleh Myzuka, Lina Mytnychuk, Yuriy Soroka, Vira Lecyk, Bohdan Bodnaruk and Ilona Soroka, who highlighted critical moments in Stus' life. The readings brought forth intense feelings, at times delicate, at times hateful, interspersed with cries of grief contained in the poet's moving words.

The chamber choir Surma directed by

Zeonid Modrycky with co-concertmaster Halyna Smoszanyk performed several songs, and well-known soprano Alla Kyriltziv captured the audience with her solo rendition of "Rodymii Krai" and "Blessed Virgin Rejoice" accompanied by pianist Oksana Pidrychnyj.

Chicago artist Lialia Kuchma, chair of the art committee at UIMA, created several vertical and horizontal panels depicting photos of Stus with his parents and family, and these created a fitting tableau on the stage set in the institute's main gallery.

John Olshansky and Borys Bodnaruk provided technical and sound assistance, along with other members of the UIMA and the Ukrainian Language Society. The combined efforts of all of these individuals contributed to a highly successful evening as was evidenced by sustained applause from the appreciative audience.

Verkhovna Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

vote, while PRU members have long been angling to depose Mr. Yatsenyuk as Rada chairman.

As these two forces engaged in brawls, members of the YTB also surrounded and blocked the Rada presidium. Political pundits noted that this was the first instance in a very long time when members of the YTB blocked the presidium in direct support of Mr. Yatsenyuk instead of hampering the now-deposed chair's attempts to reach his seat in Parliament.

No sooner had Mr. Yatsenyuk lost his leadership of the Verkhovna Rada, than the blame game had begun as Prime Minister Tymoshenko voiced her complete dissatisfaction with the events that culminated in Mr. Yatsenyuk's parliamentary demise.

"The dismissal of Arseniy Yatsenyuk indicates the desire to hammer the last nail into the democratic team, which is working in Parliament today, to finally destroy the hope for resuming the democratic coalition. It is an attempt to wipe out everything that the people voted for in 2004," stated Ms. Tymoshenko.

According to Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Yatsenyuk's ouster is largely due to the OU-PSD faction. "It's absolutely evident for all politicians that such a dismissal of the Verkhovna Rada chair could not happen without a direct instruction from the president. The president is directly responsible for Arseniy Yatsenyuk's dismissal," declared the prime minister.

Sources close to the prime minister suggested that Mr. Yatsenyuk's dismissal may lead to pre-term elections, a scenario that Ms. Tymoshenko vehemently opposes as such a situation could spell the

demise of her own government and position as prime minister.

President Yushchenko, however, refused to comment on Prime Minister Tymoshenko's accusations. Instead he offered his views directly on what had ensued in the Verkhovna Rada by stating that the decision adopted by the Parliament was aimed at destabilizing an already volatile situation. The president underlined his trust in Mr. Yatsenyuk. "I recommended him, and I'm confident I did not make a mistake in such a recommendation," stated Mr. Yushchenko.

Though he took his ouster in stride, Mr. Yatsenyuk nevertheless expressed concern about the overall democratic process in Ukraine. "Democracy, just as before, continues to be threatened. As a result, the most important thing now is to make sure we don't bury democracy by means of elaborate funerals in Parliament," he warned.

In the wake of Mr. Yatsenyuk's ouster, each of the factions responsible for deposing the Rada chair are wasting no time in positioning their own candidates for the post. The Single Center faction would like to see three-time former Chair Ivan Pliusch as their man at the helm, while the Party of Regions is hoping that Oleksander Lavrynovych, who currently serves as vice-chair, will take over. Volodymyr Lytvyn, leader of the eponymous bloc, has had a hard time hiding his ambition to return as chair of the Verkhovna Rada.

When asked what he would do now that he no longer will serve as Rada chair, Mr. Yatsenyuk stated that he would continue to form his own political force. "They ousted me so that I may return, but not to the same place," he declared, harkening back to a now-famous statement by then-Prime Minister Yushchenko in 2001.

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Hundreds participate in pilgrimage honoring Mother of God

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa. – Enjoying the perfect October weather, over 700 pilgrims joined the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great for their 77th annual pilgrimage under the Protection of the Mother of God.

The pilgrimage, held on October 4 and 5, was blessed with two bright, crisp fall days. The 2008 theme, "Nurturing Oneself in the Image of the Mother of God," incorporated caring, compassion, understanding, good works and prayer – which all make up the fabric of unconditional love that is personified by and exemplified by the Mother of Christ.

In keeping with the theme, the event opened on the evening of October 4 with a special program for young adults at the Basilian Spirituality Center. At 7 p.m., pil-

grims and Sisters joined for a candlelight procession to the grotto for the Akathist to the Mother of God, celebrated this year by the Rev. Nestor Iwasiw from the Ukrainian Catholic Holy Family Parish in Washington. The cool autumn evening was made warm by the glow of brightly glowing candles and the exuberant spirit and enthusiasm of the nearly 50 young adults who chanted the responses during the Akathist and the familiar ritual of the Blessing of the Water that followed.

After the service, the young adults in attendance gathered in the Basilian Spirituality Center to engage in a spirited and inspirational dialogue guided by the Rev. Michael Polosky from Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Ambridge, Pa., and Sister Markella Venher, OSBM.



Saturday evening services at the Grotto.



Students of St. Basil Academy of Jenkintown, Pa., in procession for Sunday services.

On Sunday morning many pilgrims began the day with confession and a procession to the Basilian Spirituality Center for the bilingual hierarchical divine liturgy celebrated by Archbishop Stefan Soroka with Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten and Bishop John Bura. The response swere sung by the seminarians of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Seminary of Washington, and the hymns rose on the voices of the children from Philadelphia's St. Josaphat School.

The afternoon activities included a special children's program conducted by Sister Lydia Anna Sawka at the Basilian Spirituality Center and the much-anticipated moleben celebrated by Bishop Bura at the Shrine of Our Lady of Pochaiv. The Rev. Wasyl Kharuk of St. Josaphat Seminary, Washington, delivered a stirring homily, and the choir of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church of Elizabeth, N.J., sang the moleben responses, as pilgrims participated in the healing and comforting Mystery of Holy Anointing.

One of the highlights of the pilgrimage was an exhibit dedicated to Mother Helena Langevych, OSBM, the foundress of the Philadelphia monastery whose motherly concern for the sisters, orphans and others under her care was legendary

and a sparkling reflection of the attributes inspired by the Mother of God. Many pilgrims seized the opportunity to walk to Mother Helena's gravesite, seeking guidance, inspiration and intervention with their worldly troubles.

During the two-day event, Sister Laura Palka, OSBM, provincial superior, introduced the newly established Mother Helena Langevych Society, whose members perpetuate the legacy of Mother Helena by supporting her cause and by serving as a praying, healing and life-giving presence in the lives of others.

Another highlight was the blessing of religious articles brought by the pilgrims and the blessing of the cars and buses that were to take them home and, God willing, bring them safely back for next year's pilgrimage.

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Yushchenko uses...

(Continued from page 4)

already high 56 percent in January to a staggering 82 percent in October (www.pravda.com.ua, October 27).

Thirdly, it is not coincidental that the SBU's re-politicization has taken place during the last two years under acting Chairman Nalyvaichenko, while the Presidential Secretariat is headed by Mr. Baloha. Mr. Baloha's aggressive "in your face" defense of the president has drawn on the SBU to battle the president's opponents.

The SBU's re-politicization has brought no real benefits to President Yushchenko in terms of improved public support or greater security. If anything, the opposite has occurred as can be seen by the willingness of the YTB to vote with the Party of Regions on September 2 to change the law on the SBU to make it accountable to Parliament as well as to the president.

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Philadelphia's UECC convenes its 29th annual meeting

by Andrea Zharovsky

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – The 29th annual meeting of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center was held Saturday afternoon, October 25, in the UECC Gallery, with UECC members and delegates of Ukrainian member-organizations in attendance.

During registration, UECC members viewed a photographic slide show featuring this year's events and programs of the center.

The Annual Report Committee, headed by UECC board member Laryssa Krywusha, produced a stunning 72-page bilingual color annual report that was distributed to attendees.

The annual meeting began with a call to order by UECC President Borys Pawluk. Stefan Makuch, a former UECC board of directors member, led the opening prayer.

Mr. Pawluk opened his president's report with an explanation of how he approached his second year as president of the UECC and explained how he fine-tuned last year's restructuring of the operations and organization of the UECC. In his report and PowerPoint presentation, he focused primarily on the UECC Mission Statement, UECC organization, facility and office operations, and the accomplishments of the five sectors, including administrative, finance, building and property utilization, program, and communications.

Mr. Pawluk ended his report by reminding those present that in the formative years of the UECC, the member organizations contributed 50 percent of revenue generated; today the number has been dramatically reduced to about 12 percent. He stated that this situation will change and that the finance sector and the executive board will review the rental contracts for organizations and readjust accordingly.

The Audit Committee, consisting of three UECC directors who are not members of the Finance Committee, met prior to the annual meeting to audit the finan-

cial books, records, operations and financial statements of the UECC. Representing the Audit Committee, Roman Petyk reported that the committee is satisfied with its review and the UECC financial report for the 2007-2008.

According to the by-laws, the UECC board of directors consists of 24 members whose terms of service are staggered. All UECC board terms are for three years.

In the Nominating Committee report, Bohdan Mizak recommended two candidates to the board: Ihor Bilynsky and Orest Wirsiuk. Both were approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Mizak stated that the Nominating Committee submitted and recommended the re-election of current board members including: Roman Cyhan, Borys Pawluk, Ivan Prasko, Maria Schwed, Borys Zacharczuk and Andrea Zharovsky. All candidates for re-election were approved by a unanimous vote.

Also elected were members of the Nominating Committee and the Election Committee, both consisting of UECC members and members of the UECC board of directors. Petrusia Sawchak, Marta Shyprykevych and Marta Taylikh were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2008-2009. Halyna Horajacka-Keller, Slava Bilas and Sophia Gol were elected to serve on the Election Committee for the same term.

Mr. Petyk, representing the By-Laws Committee, proposed one amendment to the by-laws: increasing from \$250 to \$500 the contribution amount required to secure additional votes for member-organizations, trusts and estates. The changes would also reduce from 10 years to five years the period of time for which such additional votes would be granted. The changes would apply only to votes secured through new donations and would not reduce the number or duration of any votes currently held by member-organizations, trusts and estates. He noted that the \$250 threshold currently in effect has not changed since the founding of the UECC in 1980, while the general level of



Andrea Zharovsky

Members of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center register for the annual meeting.

prices has substantially increased during that time.

The proposed amendment and resolution did not pass. At the time of voting on the by-laws amendments, there were 2,302 votes present (1,737 votes or 20 percent of the total was needed for the amendment to pass).

The discussion during the annual meeting centered on UECC membership. Ms. Zharovsky spoke of UECC membership during the discussion in response to a question. Individual and family members holding full voting rights during the 2007-2008 year totaled 1,221 members, up from last year's total of 1,096. Their total number of votes is 7,587 with an average of 6.21 votes per member. Member-organizations holding full voting rights during the 2007-2008 year totaled 53 organizations, also up from last year's

total of 52. Sixteen new individual/or family members received full voting rights this year compared to last year's 12 new members.

The annual meeting adjourned with UECC members singing the Ukrainian national hymn. Members continued their discussions over coffee and sweets.

The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, founded in 1980, is a non-profit organization whose objective is to preserve and promote awareness of Ukrainian heritage throughout the Philadelphia community. The UECC is located at 700 Cedar Road, in Jenkintown, PA 19046 and can be reached at 215-663-1166 or contact@ueccphila.org; website, at www.ueccphila.org.

Accordionfest slated for UACCNJ

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – For over 20 years Ukrainians have been going to Wildwood, N.J., to take in the sun and sand during the last weeks of summer. Out of this shared experience, a tradition began to emerge, which included songs sung by guests at the Park Lane and Crystal Beach motels. These singers were accompanied by accordionists, including Stefan Tatarenko, Michael Koziupa, Stefan Kasyanenko and, more recently, Matthew Dubas.

Out of this spirit of group participation in music and song, Stefan Tatarenko, a former accordionist for Tempo, began to organize an off-season event that would have that same feel, but would attract more accordionists. So far, 13 have responded that they will

be in attendance, Mr. Tatarenko noted.

For the first time ever, over a dozen accordionists will be squeezing together on November 22 at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany, N.J. Singers and anyone who wants to participate are encouraged to attend, and participating accordionists should wear Ukrainian embroidered shirts.

Accompanying the accordionists and singers will be George Hrab of Tempo on the drums. Myron Kukuruza will direct the singers. Food and drink will be available and a \$10 charge for those without an accordion goes toward the social club of the UACCNJ.

For more information, contact Mr. Tatarenko at 973-777-4920.

graphic artist Kathy Boykowycz.

The Very Rev. Steve Repa, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Carnegie, Pa., gave the invocation. Following the dinner hour, musical entertainment was provided by The Fred Yasnowsky Orchestra from Lordstown, Ohio.

To learn more about the UTS, the Ukrainian of the Year Award, past recipients of the award and other UTS activities, readers may log on to www.utsphg.org or e-mail uts@utsphg.org.

Ukrainian Technological...

(Continued from page 9)

In closing, she urged those in attendance to remember the plight of orphaned children around the world, particularly those in Ukraine who continue to be in need of adoption. Mrs. and Dr. Murphy are the parents of Julia Louise Murphy and Kevin Borys Murphy, both children adopted from Ukraine.

The beautifully designed awards for both recipients were created by Pittsburgh

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Polish American...

(Continued from page 6)

pre-war borders, when in fact, months earlier, he and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill had already conceded Poland's eastern territories to Stalin.

After the war's conclusion, Mr. Spula added, the PAC became one of the first U.S. organizations to warn of the threat to peace and freedom posed by the Soviet Union, resulting in the United States adopting a principled set of foreign policy initiatives in NATO and the Marshall Plan, which dealt effectively with the Soviet threat from the late 1940s until the USSR's collapse in 1991.

"In 1999, Poland was admitted to NATO as a full member, and has worked hard, maybe harder than any other country, to prove itself worthy of membership in

the trans-oceanic alliance of democratic countries, with the latest conflict with Russia just one more chapter in an ongoing effort at imperialist hegemony by the what remains of the former Soviet Union," Mr. Spula concluded. "Russian threats of aggression against Poland are dangerous, and I believe directly related to the desperate desire of the Kremlin to focus domestic attention away from the fact that the Russian stock market has lost three-quarters of its value this year."

He noted: "We fully support President-elect Obama as he looks to ways to reduce tensions and create democratic security throughout Eastern and Central Europe. All the hallmarks of his successful electoral campaign – meaningful support for democracy and human rights, and the peaceful negotiation of differences – is why we are confident he will protect Poland in its hour of growing danger."

There's little hope...

(Continued from page 2)

but he acknowledged that this would not be easy (Interfax, October 21). Later Mr. Beyrle complained that Cold War attitudes were hampering progress (Interfax, November 3).

The majority of the Russian public did not favor either Sen. Obama or his opponent Sen. John McCain in the U.S. presidential election (RIA-Novosti, November 1), but Russian diplomats and politicians traditionally believe that it is easier for Russia to deal with a Republican administration. In any event, Moscow will try to negotiate with the new U.S. government; there will be talks on different issues, but it will be hard to achieve progress anytime soon. The Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry has ruled out any agreement on rewriting START with the outgoing Bush administration and blamed the lack of progress in nuclear arms control on Washington (ITAR-TASS, October 31).

The Russian military is, in fact, waiting eagerly for START to expire in order to begin work on deploying a modified Topol-M (SS-27) land-based intercontinental ballistic missile with multiple reentry vehicles. The SS-27 is a modification of the SS-25 ICBM and under START terms cannot be equipped with multiple reentry vehicles. The Russian military is testing a land-based ICBM called the RS-24 that is reported to be an SS-27 with a modified third stage that will carry mul-

iple nuclear warheads and will maneuver during reentry into the atmosphere to avoid future U.S. missile defenses (Nezavisimoye Voennoye Obozreniye, October 31).

Soviet-built SS-18s, SS-19s and SS-25s are becoming old and being scrapped. The RS-24 and the single-warhead SS-27 are planned to replace the aging ICBMs (RIA-Novosti, October 22). Without the RS-24 the number of land-based warheads deployed by the Strategic Rocket Force might be reduced to several hundred after 2015. The Russian military fears that if an improved U.S. missile defense system is deployed after 2015, Russia's reduced strategic nuclear deterrent might be seriously diminished (Nezavisimoye Voennoye Obozreniye, October 31).

Simply extending the provisions of START seems to be unacceptable to Russia, and a serious renegotiation process is inevitable. Moscow will seek changes that will allow it to deploy new ICBMs, while severely restricting the number of deployable U.S. warheads to continue to keep the Cold War principle of Russo-U.S. equality and mutual assured destruction (MAD) in the event of war. Finding a compromise solution will take time, which is strictly limited. As early as next summer, resumed fighting in Georgia might freeze any attempts at detente (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, October 30).

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Moving forward...

(Continued from page 7)

land-market system, opportunities for expanded cooperation in this area will be enormous.

This list can be continued, but these examples are sufficient to demonstrate the importance and potential of strengthened U.S.-Ukraine ties. Despite the many things clamoring for his attention over the last two years, Sen. Barack Obama has found

time to formulate and articulate positions on all of these issues. I am sure that, as president, he and his foreign-policy team (among which are many of my old colleagues and friends) will continue to demonstrate an interest in Ukraine and in cooperation with Kyiv. After all, our interests are deeply intertwined.

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Medvedev tests...

(Continued from page 2)

NATO was barely mentioned in President Medvedev's address, which included only a routine condemnation in one sentence about the alliance's enlargement; and another acid remark (elsewhere in the speech) that the Georgia crisis "was used as a pretext for deploying NATO warships in the Black Sea" (no mention of that mission's short-lived character).

Mr. Medvedev took personal credit for countermeasures to the planned deployment of U.S. anti-missile defense system elements in Poland and the Czech Republic. "I have made a decision," he said, to keep the missile-force division based in Kozelsk on combat duty (purportedly reversing an earlier decision to scrap it); to deploy the Iskander missile system in Russia's Baltic exclave of Kaliningrad (in line with Moscow's earlier threats to target countries that would host the U.S. system); and to use Russia's Baltic Fleet for these purposes as well.

The omission, or short-shrift treatment, of major international actors was a striking feature of Mr. Medvedev's address. The European Union was mentioned almost as perfunctorily as NATO in this speech. Mr. Medvedev seemed to treat it merely as an element in global amalgamations when proposing a "Euro-Atlantic space that unites Russia, the EU and the United States," and again when envisaging "diversified ties with member-countries of the CIS, of the EU, China, India and other major Asian partners, while also [using] the opportunities that are opening up in Latin America and Africa."

Yet Mr. Medvedev did sketch an overture to Western Europeans (not the EU as such) by claiming, "The South Ossetia crisis demonstrated the potential for productive European solutions; and we will deepen cooperation with Europe in the security sphere. I am convinced that they have a good future."

The overture is calculated not only to bypass NATO but also to portray the French-brokered armistice in Georgia as successful, which some Western European governments want to believe, despite

Russia's major breaches in practice. Moscow evidently hopes to entice Western Europeans into some special security arrangements with Russia.

There was also a vague, passing remark in Mr. Medvedev's speech about "broader and deeper cooperation within the Collective Security Treaty Organization." Departing from tradition and reflecting Russia's rising global ambitions, Moscow no longer defines relations with the CIS and CSTO as Russian policy priorities: "Geography plays no part in this." Other countries, such as Germany or Turkey, that entertain grand visions of bilateral strategic partnerships with Russia, however, do not rate even a perfunctory mention here.

By the same token, Mr. Medvedev stopped short of mentioning the conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan, the clash over Iran's nuclear program and the Arab-Israeli conflict, which constitute the top priorities created by the outgoing U.S. administration and bequeathed to the incoming one. Mr. Medvedev merely hinted that Russia could play at mediation: "Problem countries, irrespective of their location in the world, should be engaged in dialogue, rather than isolated. We are ready to facilitate the settlement of any regional conflicts." The hope to continue exploiting the U.S. predicaments in those conflicts by positioning Russia diplomatically in the middle seemed sufficiently clear.

The familiar Putinist verbiage about multi-polarity and "international law" was still present, but in notably smaller doses. Mr. Medvedev added a stronger emphasis on creating a new global economic and financial system, with Russia as a full participant in the decisions and the ruble as one of the global currencies, as a panacea to the financial crisis for which Moscow blames the West.

Listing Russia's overall policy priorities in the preamble to his address, Medvedev ranked "re-equipping the armed forces and navy" two slots ahead of "education, science and medical centers."

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Thanksgiving

November 26 - 29, 2008

Thursday, 27th - Thanksgiving Day
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OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| November 21
Rockville, MD | The Washington Balalaika Society 20th anniversary concert, featuring Volodymyr and Natalya Marunych, F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater, 703-549-2010 | November 22
Lehighton, PA | Adult bandura workshop, instruction with Roma Dockhorn, Ukrainian Homestead, 570-708-1992 or 215-235-3709 |
| November 21
Philadelphia | An evening of live music, featuring Yeezhak and Kruno Spisic, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-684-3548 | November 22
Arlington, VA | Film screening, "Harvest of Despair," Shirlington Library, 703-228-6545 |
| November 21
Phoenix, AZ | Holodomor commemoration and screening of "Harvest of Despair," The Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church, 602-347-9267 | November 22-23
Washington | Christmas Bazaar, Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, 202-526-3737 |
| November 21
New York | Book and film night, "In a Different Light," Yara Arts Group, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | November 23
Silver Spring, MD | Christmas Bazaar, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 301-593-5316 or 301-384-9192 |
| November 22
New York | Lecture by Marko Stech, "Where lies the boundary between Ukrainian Soviet literature and the literature of independent Ukraine? Studies of Ukrainian prose of the 1990's," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130 | November 23
Chicago | Exhibit, "Holodomor Through the Eyes of a Child: The Famine Remembered," Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522 |
| November 22
Ottawa | Ottawa Ukraina Soccer Team fund-raising banquet, Ukrainian Community Center, marclapointe@rogers.com | November 23
New York | Presentation by Gwen Spicer, "Caring for Your Personal Collections and Family Heirlooms," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 |
| November 22
New York | Ukrainian Literary Reading, The Bowery Poetry Club, 212-614-0505 | November 25
Ottawa | Lecture by Sen. Raynell Andreychuk, "The Famine (Holodomor) and the Political Battle for Recognition," University of Ottawa, 613-562-5800 ext. 3692 |
| November 22
New York | Concert with Nadia Shpachenko and the Biava String Quartet, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660 | November 28
Whippany, NJ | Chornomorskyi Ball, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization Chornomortsy Fraternity, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-585-7175 |
| November 22
Arlington, VA | Washington Balalaika Society 20th anniversary concert, featuring Volodymyr and Natalya Marunych, Kenmore Auditorium, 703-549-2010 | November 29 -
March 22, 2009
Toronto | Art exhibit, "Mysteries of Ancient Ukraine: The Remarkable Trypillian Culture (5400 - 2700 BC)," Royal Ontario Museum, 416-589-8000 |
| November 22
Whippany, NJ | Ukrainian Accordionfest, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-777-4920 | | |

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NCUA

National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

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: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a lecture by Dr. Marko Robert Stech (Canadian Institute of Ukrainian

Studies and York University, Toronto) titled "Where Lies the Boundary Between Ukrainian Soviet Literature and the Literature of Independent Ukraine? Studies of Ukrainian Prose of the 1990s." 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 23

NEW YORK: Learn about preserving your family heirlooms such as photographs, artwork, documents and handmade folk art objects with conservator Gwen Spicer, who will present a lecture titled "Caring for Your Personal Collections and Family Heirlooms." Join us at 2 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. Admission (includes refreshments): \$15; \$10 for museum members and seniors; \$5 for students. To make reservations call 212-228-0110 or e-mail info@ukrainian-museum.org. For additional information, visit www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

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.

Sunday, November 30

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Chorus Dumka will usher in the Christmas season with a Christmas Concert at 2 p.m. at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Fifth Avenue between 50th and 51st Streets. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 718-896-7624.

Saturday, December 13

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Chorus Dumka will perform Christmas Music at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Refuge Roman Catholic Church, 2020 Foster Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210. The public is cordially invited. For additional information call 718-896-7624.

Saturday, December 20

BETHESDA, Md.: The Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies will host a Sviaty Mykolai Show and Holiday Bazaar. Students will present a St. Nicholas program at noon and Sviaty Mykolai (St. Nicholas) will then meet with each grade/age group. The Heavenly Office will be open at 9:15-11:45 a.m.; please bring only one item per child (\$2 fee) and have it clearly labeled (child's full name and grade/age). The bazaar, scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to noon, will include home-baked goods, varenyky and vushka (frozen), books, gift items, etc. Location: Westland Middle School, 5511 Massachusetts Ave., Bethesda, MD 20816. For further information visit www.ukieschool.org or contact Lada Onyshkevych, lada2@verizon.net or 410-730-8108.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

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



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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.**

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