



ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! CHRIST IS BORN!

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

U.S.-Ukraine Business Council welcomes its 100th member, Microsoft



Oleksiy Synelnychenko

At the annual meeting of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (from left) are: Iryna Teluk (USUBC), Dorothy Dwoskin (Microsoft, the USUBC's 100th member) and Morgan Williams (USUBC).

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC), an association devoted to enhancing trade and investment relations between the two countries, has reached its goal of having 100 member-companies and institutions by the end of 2008. And that 100th member is the world's leading developer and producer of computer operating systems

and programs – the Microsoft Corp.

That announcement was made here on December 17 by Morgan Williams at a luncheon during the USUBC's annual meeting at Washington's Metropolitan Club. The meeting also re-elected Mr. Williams as the group's president and CEO.

The USUBC is the largest Ukraine-related business trade association outside

(Continued on page 26)

New coalition emerges amidst crisis in Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Forged with defectors from the president's camp, a de facto coalition government emerged on December 16 to offer stability, keep the current Cabinet of Ministers in place and replace the failed alliance between the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense.

The National Development, Stability and Order Coalition consists of the Tymoshenko Bloc, the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc, and 37 national deputies from the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc no longer loyal to the president, including all 17 deputies from the People's Self-Defense party.

"The coalition's creation is the end of the political crisis," Prime Minister Tymoshenko told Interfax-Ukraine on December 17.

That same day President Viktor Yushchenko criticized the de facto coalition, which he said only serves to keep in power Ms. Tymoshenko, who is incapable of managing the government, implementing pragmatic steps and taking effective measures to cope with the economic crisis. "That today's so-called coalition emerged on political corruption is fact," Mr. Yushchenko said.

Despite Ms. Tymoshenko's best efforts to patch together a functioning govern-

ment, the coalition is highly flawed – it was established on a de facto basis, not having legal standing; and it lacks a 226-vote majority in Parliament and, therefore, is dependent on drawing votes from other factions.

"The practical experience of voting has shown the [Party of] Regions and Communists can offer several votes," said Borys Tarasyuk, leader of the People's Rukh of Ukraine party and vice-chair of the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense parliamentary faction.

Following the election of Mr. Lytvyn as Verkhovna Rada chair, the de facto coalition was the latest step taken by Prime Minister Tymoshenko to establish some measure of political stability amidst a Ukrainian financial and economic crisis that worsens with each passing day.

The hryvnia continued its unprecedented plunge, trading at 8.5 hryvni per \$1 on December 18 at street kiosks in Kyiv. The currency has lost close to half of its value since the summer.

Meanwhile, Ms. Tymoshenko and former Rada Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk called for the resignation of National Bank of Ukraine Chair Volodymyr Stelmakh, accusing him of mismanagement, corruption and exploiting the financial crisis for his own personal gain.

Both the de facto coalition and Mr. Lytvyn's election are a direct result of Ms. Tymoshenko's enormous influence in Ukrainian politics and her uncanny ability to strike deals with politicians.

To get Mr. Lytvyn to join the de facto coalition, Ms. Tymoshenko offered him control of the state railroad monopoly, Ukrzaliznytsia, and the State Material Reserves Committee.

To get Mr. Lytvyn elected, Ms. Tymoshenko undoubtedly offered the Communists some sort of favor, which is yet unknown to the Kyiv press corps, as no political appointments have yet to emerge from their ranks.

Though the Parliament passed the first readings of a handful of laws during its December 11-12 sessions, the most important legislation remains ahead, including the 2009 budget and measures to cope with the financial crisis.

However the prime minister declared on December 18 that Parliament would pass no laws until Mr. Stelmakh appeared to present a report on the nation's finances. Her opponents derided the move as political showmanship to exploit the financial crisis.

Throughout Ms. Tymoshenko's deal-making, the Presidential Secretariat and the Party of Regions of Ukraine have been sideline observers, unable to form alliances to pull the government out of its current crisis.

Instead the Presidential Secretariat, led

Report of U.S. Commission on Ukraine Famine presented in Ukraine

by Illya M. Labunka

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – One of the last official events held in Ukraine in commemoration of this year's 75th anniversary of the Holodomor took place in Kyiv at the U.S. ambassador's residence.

Ambassador William Taylor and Dr. Deborah Taylor on November 28 hosted representatives of the North American Ukrainian diaspora, as well as other invited guests from the United States and Ukraine to mark the formal presentation of the fourth and final volume of the Ukrainian translation of the Report of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine.

Volume 4 serves as a summary report addition to the three-volume translated Oral History Project that was published in August in Kyiv. All four translated volumes were published by the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and printed by the Kyiv Mohyla Academy publishing house in Kyiv.

The original three-volume English-

(Continued on page 5)



Illya M. Labunka

Following the presentation of the final volume of the Ukrainian translation of the U.S. Famine Commission Report, and of the brochure explaining the behind-the-scenes history of the creation of the commission (from left) are: former Sen. Bill Bradley, Dr. Nataliya Shulga, Ambassador William B. Taylor, Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky and Ulana Mazurkevich.

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ANALYSIS

Ukraine recognizes gas debt, may face far higher price

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor
December 3

Gazprom has threatened to more than double the gas price in 2009 if Ukraine fails to pay its debt for previous purchases by January 1. Ukraine's energy inefficient industry might not survive such an increase amid the global economic crisis. Moreover, RosUkrEnergo may be retained as an intermediary in gas trade, contrary to Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's plans. Ukraine managed to pay only a fraction of its debt by December 2.

Talks on the 2009 price between Naftohaz Ukrainy, the government-controlled oil and gas company, and Gazprom have been fruitless so far. As Naftohaz's representatives have been traveling between Moscow and Kyiv, Gazprom said that if Naftohaz failed to pay the \$2.4 billion debt accumulated for gas consumed in 2008, the cost in 2009 would be close to the average European price of \$400 per 1,000 cubic meters of gas (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, November 24). That would be significantly higher than \$179.50 per 1,000 cubic meters, which Ukraine has been paying in 2008.

Ms. Tymoshenko agreed with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in October that Ukraine would accept a European price for gas gradually over three years. They also agreed that RosUkrEnergo would be eliminated from gas trade between the two countries. RosUkrEnergo, a Swiss-registered joint venture half-owned by Gazprom, has been re-selling Russian and Central Asian gas to Ukraine since early 2006. RosUkrEnergo is reportedly linked to Ms. Tymoshenko's main political rivals, the Donetsk-based Party of Regions.

The Ukrainian economy would not survive a gas price of \$400, Naftohaz CEO Oleg Dubyna said. He estimated that the industrial price would be \$460 to \$470 in that case (Interfax-Ukraine, November 26). The main industrial consumers of gas in Ukraine, the steel mills and chemical plants, have already been badly affected by the global crisis, with steel production falling by over 50 percent since last year alone (RBK-Ukraine, December 2).

The gas price was increased somewhat for the public from December 1, but this should bring Naftohaz only \$70 million more in January (Kommersant-Ukraine, December 2). Residential consumers have been traditionally subsidized at the expense of industry, and a steeper growth in their gas price could affect social sta-

bility.

Speaking in an interview on November 27, Mr. Dubyna said that Ukraine should charge more for Russian gas transit if it pays more for Russian gas. He pointed out that Ukraine's western neighbors Slovakia and the Czech Republic charged some \$4 per 1,000 cubic meters per 61 miles (100 kilometers) for transporting Russian gas, compared with Ukraine's \$1.70 (Kommersant Ukraine, November 27).

If Naftohaz paid the debt as requested and Russia adhered to the October accords with Prime Minister Tymoshenko, Russian gas should, in fact, cost much less than \$400 per 1,000 cubic meters given the falling energy prices worldwide.

Yurii Boyko, Ukraine's former fuel and energy minister, suggested the gas should continue to cost Ukraine \$179.50 in 2009 (Zerkalo Nedeli, November 29). Bohdan Sokolovsky, President Viktor Yushchenko's energy adviser, said that gas price should drop even below \$100 per 1,000 cubic meters (Ukrayinska Pravda, November 25).

Naftohaz initially did not admit that it owed as much as \$2.4 billion to RosUkrEnergo, with Naftohaz Deputy CEO Volodymyr Trikolych estimating the debt at \$1.26 billion (RBK-Ukraine, November 20). Gazprom threatened to sue Ukraine in an international court over the debt. In the course of talks with Gazprom, Naftohaz conceded the figure named by Moscow and promised to make a \$550 million payment, by December 1, as a condition for continuing talks on the gas price and on trade without intermediaries (UNIAN, November 25).

Naftohaz had transferred only \$269 million to RosUkrEnergo by the evening of December 2 (www.liga.net, December 2). Even that was not easy. Not only has industry been paying less, because it is consuming less gas because of falling production, Naftohaz has also found it difficult to buy the necessary amount of dollars on the domestic currency market (UNIAN, November 26).

Dollars have been in short supply in Ukraine, with the dollar revenue from exports shrinking because of the world economic crisis and banks buying up foreign currency in order to pay their debts. Into the bargain, the national currency, the hryvnia, has depreciated against the dollar by more than one-third since August, so Naftohaz needs more hryvni to buy dollars.

Gazprom has made it clear that it will continue selling gas to Naftohaz through

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One-third of Ukrainians are pro-NATO

Ukrinform

KYIV – Nearly one-third of Ukrainians – 30.1 percent of those surveyed – would vote for Ukraine joining NATO in a nationwide referendum, according to the results of the All-Ukrainian Sociological Survey on Euro-Atlantic Integration carried out on November 13-24. The Institute of Societal Transformation reported the results on December 16.

In addition, 30.2 percent of respondents believe that Ukraine should join the Membership Action Plan and in such a way continue its way towards Euro-

Atlantic integration; 26.5 percent of respondents are confident that NATO accession will become a guarantee of Ukraine's territorial integrity. Over 55 percent believe that good-neighborly relations between Ukraine and NATO are very important for the country.

The survey was conducted on the order of the Foreign Affairs Ministry under the auspices of the Norwegian Embassy in Ukraine and the expert support of sociologists from Kyiv Taras Shevchenko National University and the Ukrainian Fund Public Opinion.

NEWSBRIEFS

Gazprom proposal unacceptable

KYIV – The National Joint-Stock Company Naftohaz of Ukraine believes that the proposal of Russia's gas giant Gazprom to clear Ukraine's gas debt at the expense of the advance payment for Russian gas transit in 2009 is unacceptable, according to Naftohaz Deputy CEO Vadym Suprun, who spoke with journalists in the Chernihiv region on December 16. He said talks with the Russian side are continuing and that the Ukrainian side has received various proposals on the gas payment from Gazprom. Mr. Suprun said the Ukrainian company had paid for Russian gas consumed in September and would clear its debt for gas imported in October by the end of this week. He also expressed hope that the company would fully clear its gas debt by the end of this year. Mr. Suprun said that Naftohaz could clear its gas debt with the help of two sources: current payments for consumed gas and the debt of Ukrainian consumers, which is currently around 1.5 billion hrv (7.65 hrv equal \$1 U.S.), and also through credit resources. He said the gas price for Ukraine in 2009 would not be determined until Russia agrees on the price of Central Asian gas. At the same time, Mr. Suprun said that the gas price for Ukraine could not be lower than the level of 2008, because the governments of Ukraine and Russia had signed a memorandum on a three-year switch to market prices for gas. He also said that European countries insist in their talks with Russia that in the first quarter of 2009 the average European gas price must be lower than this year due to a significant fall in oil prices on foreign markets. (Ukrinform)

Presidential Secretariat wants new PM

KYIV – The Presidential Secretariat believes it is now expedient to introduce changes in the government staff, as well as replace Ukraine's prime minister, said Presidential Secretariat Vice-Chair Roman Bezsmertnyi on December 16. Commenting on the coalition agreement signed by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc, and the Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc that day, he said "the issue does not concern the coalition, but the issue concerns the government, and

especially the prime minister." He added, "It is clear that it is necessary to change the staff of the government and there should be another prime minister to resolve [economic] problems... It is premature to say that these problems have been resolved [because of the creation of the coalition and the election of a new parliament speaker]." The Presidential Secretariat predicted that debts for the payment of wages in Ukraine would hit 461 million hrv by the end of this year, while the unemployment level would total 5 million people in 2009. Moreover, according to a survey conducted by the Presidential Secretariat, the financing of over 60 national programs has been stopped. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainians aboard hijacked ship

KYIV – According to a report by the Embassy of Ukraine in Kenya, on December 16 pirates hijacked the Bosphorus Prodigy vessel owned by the Turkey-based Isko Marine Shipping Co., which flies the flag of Antigua. The crew includes eight Ukrainian and three Turkish citizens. The Ukrainian Embassy in Turkey and Ukraine's Consulate General in Istanbul were ordered to take the case under special control, take immediate measures in order to establish contacts with the ship owner and provide all possible assistance to secure the speedy release of the hostages. (Ukrinform)

Talks on Faina release completed

KYIV – The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Ukraine reported the successful completion of talks on the release of Ukrainians from the Faina vessel captured by pirates, said Vasyl Kyrlych, chief of the MFA press service, on December 15. "The negotiations are completed... A plan of measures to set the hostages free was outlined and is being carried out," he said. Mr. Kyrlych declined to predict when exactly the Ukrainians would be released and would be able to return to Ukraine, but he voiced hope that this would take place soon. He noted that the overall condition of the Ukrainians aboard the vessel is satisfactory, but their long stay as captives has

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The Holodomor 75 years later: The Kirovohrad Oblast

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Before Oleksii Kvasha starved to death with his five children, the kolhosp (collective farm) chair charged him with distributing honey syrup to his fellow villagers.

When he poured more than the one-kilogram allowance for families, some numbering as many as 10 children, he was arrested for squandering socialist property and sat in prison for a few months before his release.

“You returned,” the village council chair said. “I’ll send you to Siberia all the same.”

Before he could be deported to Siberia, Kvasha perished during the summer of 1933 in the Holodomor. His story reached Vasyl Biloshapka, the grandson of the Kvasha family’s only surviving daughter, who was conceived during the Holodomor and was miraculously born in August 1933.

The Kvasha family memory, preserved by Mr. Biloshapka’s grandmother Fedoria, inspired him to pursue journalism and document the Holodomor beginning in 1978 with his own family. In the late 1980s he began recording others’ testimonies.

After listening to his “babusia,” (grandmother) Mr. Biloshapka remembers approaching a history teacher in the seventh grade and asking why the textbook made no mention of the Great Famine. “You know, you’re not supposed to talk about that,” she admonished him during recess.

Now among the leading Holodomor researchers in the Kirovohrad Oblast, Mr. Biloshapka has just finished editing the oblast volume of the National Book of Memory of Holodomor Victims, after co-authoring with fellow Holodomor researcher Ivan Petrenko the 2006 work titled “Holodomor 1932-1933: The



Oleksandrivka Ethnography Museum Fund Director Vasyl Biloshapka is among the Kirovohrad Oblast’s top Holodomor researchers, having examined hundreds of Soviet documents.

Oleksandrivka Dimension.”

The Kirovohrad Oblast, named after the Leningrad Communist Party leader Sergei Kirov, emerged only in 1939, carved from five neighboring oblasts.

Researching the Holodomor, therefore, required travel to five oblasts in order to examine Soviet documents and records, which gave Mr. Biloshapka a broad perspective on the genocide’s devastation of central Ukraine.

He reckons hundreds of Holodomor documents passed through his hands, detailing the murderous policies, gruesome incidents and names of both perpetrators and victims.

He uncovered directives from 1934 in

the Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Odesa State Archives that ordered authorities to confiscate the 1932-1933 birth and death records from village councils and transfer them to special district depositories, where the majority were altered or destroyed.

So, while the village of Pidlisne suffered 500 deaths during the Holodomor, according to researchers only 10 names remain on a single sheet of paper. The rest were destroyed with the registration book to conceal the deaths and their causes.

Records were also falsified. The cause of the April 1932 death of 5-year-old Oleksii Berezhnyi of Stara Osota was listed by officials as “exhaustion.”

And while 80 population centers existed in the Kirovohrad region in the early 1930s, only about 52 remain today, with urbanization and industrialization during the Khrushchev years also playing a role. Among those that disappeared in the 1960s is the village of the Motronivka, home to the Kvasha family.

Leading the Oleksandrivka Ethnographic Museum for 13 years, Mr. Biloshapka performed his most extensive research of his ancestral lands.

Horrible testimonies emerged, such as the one about two brothers in the village of Holykove who cut each other’s ears off in their failed, desperate bid to fight starvation.

In another village, a witch-like woman known as “Kryla” lured children, cut their heads off with a scythe, butchered them and jellied their meat into a “kholodets,” which she then sold at a local market.

Soviet documents confirmed this horror related by survivors, reporting that authorities had discovered human bones

The Holodomor in the Kirovohrad Oblast

42,043 known casualties*

36,051 known survivors remaining

845 population centers affected*

203 known mass graves

* These official figures are gross underestimates, resulting from a mass destruction of records, Mr. Biloshapka said. Casualties in the Kirovohrad Oblast likely exceed 200,000.

at her home.

For every such gruesome incident and for every death properly recorded, Mr. Biloshapka figures hundreds will be forever forgotten.

Not only did Soviet authorities deliberately destroy records, but many disappeared during World War II.

As a result, Holodomor research is an arduous endeavor that is being carried out only by activists like Mr. Biloshapka, who has sacrificed hundreds of hours of his own personal time and limited finances.

“Most of the work was done simply on enthusiasm, simply to establish the historical truth,” he said. “But it’s too late to get the precise truth.”

So, although only 42,043 casualties have been officially established, Mr. Biloshapka estimated more than 200,000 perished in the present-day boundaries of Kirovohrad Oblast – between 20 and 30 percent of the population.

Incidentally in March 1933, Kirov addressed the Famine from his offices in Leningrad: “We concluded forever and irreversibly the poverty of the village and the permanent threat of famine, which the tsar and his helpers cast upon tens of millions of villagers.”

ANALYSIS: Kyiv knocks on West’s doors but looks back to Russia

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Kyiv has suffered several setbacks in its Euro-Atlantic integration plans. The European Union came up with a collective plan for Ukraine and several other post-Soviet states that does not give Ukraine the prospect of EU membership. NATO refrained from offering a Membership Action Plan (MAP), although President Viktor Yushchenko expected it in 2008.

Meanwhile, Ukraine’s leaders are turning their eyes to Russia. It remains to be seen whether Kyiv is being sucked back into Moscow’s orbit or is returning to the multi-vector tactics of former President Leonid Kuchma (1994-2004), when Kyiv routinely played on differences between Moscow and the West.

The European Commission announced on December 3 that it would launch the Eastern Partnership plan aimed at political and economic integration for Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. Lumping Ukraine together with its less-developed neighbors would probably have been unthinkable in the wake of the 2004 Orange Revolution, but after several years of political turmoil this is being presented by the EU as “a substantial upgrading of the level of political engagement” (Europa-eu-un.org, December 3).

The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry’s reaction was reserved. While hailing the initiative, it noted that “Ukraine is ready to support and pragmatically use all elements of the Eastern

Partnership in case the new EU policy is not presented as an alternative to the prospect of EU membership” (www.mfa.gov.ua, December 4).

Coincidentally, NATO pushed aside a MAP for Ukraine as a mechanism for eventual accession on the same day the EU touted for the Eastern Partnership. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Volodymyr Ohryzko put on a brave face about the North Atlantic Council’s decision on December 3. “At this stage, we have achieved a desired result,” he said in Brussels. “We received a de facto MAP for joining NATO” (Den, December 4). Mr. Ohryzko added that Ukraine might skip a formal MAP, joining NATO without it (Kommersant-Ukraine, December 4).

The pro-Western Ukrainian daily Den opined that Mr. Ohryzko’s optimism was out of place. It suggested on December 4 that NATO had offered the Annual National Program (ANP) instead of a MAP just so Kyiv could save face. A MAP, according to Den, was ruled out, given the current political crisis in Kyiv and the Ukrainian leaders’ uncertainty about the country’s foreign policy course. Interestingly, Den’s opinion coincided with that of Russia’s hard-line envoy to NATO, Dmitry Rogozin, who said that “nobody knows what it [ANP] means” and that it amounted to a refusal of a MAP to Kyiv (RIA Novosti, December 3).

Viktor Yanukovich, the leader of Ukraine’s major opposition Party of Regions (PRU), hailed NATO’s decision. “Ukrainians have never supported the idea of joining NATO,” he said. Mr.

Yanukovich underscored the Russian factor: “The world leaders have understood and accepted the fact that Ukrainians, speaking against NATO membership, have expressed their rejection of more dividing lines between the two brotherly nations, Ukraine and Russia” (Ukrayinska Pravda, December 3).

President Viktor Yushchenko, who remains the only firmly pro-NATO Ukrainian leader, conceded, probably for the first time, that Russia might be involved in possible talks on NATO membership for Ukraine. Agence France-Presse, which interviewed Mr. Yushchenko, reported that he meant Russia when he said, “We must hold negotiations with all parties that are interested or not interested in Ukraine moving closer to NATO” (AFP, December 4).

Shortly before the North Atlantic Council’s meeting, the Ukrainian president made an apparent effort to mend relations with Russia, which were damaged after Moscow denounced the Orange Revolution. On December 1 Mr. Yushchenko signed two decrees, one appointing Ambassador to Russia Kostyantyn Gryshchenko as a special representative for developing relations with Russia, authorizing him to hold talks independently with Russian officials from the Foreign Ministry, and another setting up an interagency group for Ukrainian-Russian relations, chaired by National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) Secretary Raisa Bohatyriova.

Explaining his new responsibilities, Mr. Gryshchenko, a former envoy to the

U.S., said that relations with Russia had been developing in the wrong direction, adding that “changes are needed.” On December 3 the Ukrainian version of the Russian daily Kommersant quoted an NSDC source as saying that on several occasions Moscow had expressed its dissatisfaction with Mr. Ohryzko’s tone. Mr. Ohryzko, who often refuses to speak Russian even when asked, is too outspoken to deal with Moscow at a time when Ukraine is in tough negotiations over Russian gas prices (see EDM, December 3). Mr. Gryshchenko, who is linked to Mr. Yanukovich’s party, should speak a language better understood in Moscow.

Mr. Yanukovich, attending a congress of the One Russia party in Moscow in November, pledged that his PRU would serve as “a guarantor of stability” in bilateral relations and suggested reviving the idea of a Single Economic Space with Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan (Ukrayinska Pravda, November 20).

Mr. Yushchenko’s advisor Andrii Kyslynskyi promptly accused Mr. Yanukovich and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko of competing for the Kremlin’s favor (Ukrayinska Pravda, November 21). Den suggested that through appointing Mr. Gryshchenko to deal with Moscow, Mr. Yushchenko may be trying to overtake his rivals in building bridges to Russia (Den, December 4).

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

New Canadian minister recalls 'Father of Multiculturalism' Paul Yuzyk

WINNIPEG, Manitoba – Speaking on November 13 at the Canadian Club in Winnipeg, Jason Kenney, Canada's new minister of citizenship, immigration and multiculturalism, noted, "It is fitting that my first opportunity to speak broadly about my new portfolio comes here in Winnipeg — a city that knows the benefits of immigration and which is, in many ways, the capital of Canadian multiculturalism."

Minister Kenney also noted the contributions to the Canadian policy of multiculturalism of Sen. Paul Yuzyk, a Ukrainian Canadian who became known as the "father of multiculturalism."

"Whenever I travel abroad, or receive foreign visitors here at home, I am struck by how enthusiastically the rest of the world sees our model of pluralism and immigration," Mr. Kenney said at the outset of his remarks. "That success is no accident. It is the result of our history, of the values rooted in that history. A history of accommodating differences in culture, language and religion, rather than trying to impose a false conformity. And an abiding belief in values like ordered liberty, human dignity and freedom of conscience."

He continued: "Winnipeg is a classic example ... We have learned, and benefited, from the creative tension between English and French; Aboriginal and Métis; Protestant and Catholic, differences that existed in this newest part of the new world from before the Red River Colony."

The minister noted that "it wasn't always easy" and "it was, and still is, a long road — a road built by many great Canadians. One of those great Canadians was a Winnipegger named Paul Yuzyk, the senator for Fort Garry."

Of Sen. Yuzyk Mr. Kenney said: "Long before he was appointed to the Red Chamber by John Diefenbaker (as one of the first Parliamentarians of Eastern European origin), Sen. Yuzyk was a professor of history at the University of Manitoba, and the author of several books on Ukrainian history in Canada."

"In 1963, when the Pearson government brought in the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, Yuzyk's was the first voice to be raised on behalf of the one-third of Canadians who were neither British nor French. In so doing Yuzyk identified the 'third force.'"

"Yuzyk was undoubtedly inspired by the prescient words of Governor General Lord Tweedsmuir (John Buchan), who in 1936 told a Manitoba audience from the Ukrainian community that 'You will all be better Canadians for being also good Ukrainians.'"

"Paul Yuzyk paid tribute to the French and British founding, and the Aboriginal peoples who had come before. But he added, in his maiden speech in the Senate in 1964, that 'with the setting up of other ethnic groups, which now make up almost

a third of the population, Canada has become multicultural in fact.'

"He became known as the 'father of multiculturalism.'"

Mr. Kenney then announced:

"Today, to perpetuate his memory, and to strengthen the vision of 'unity in diversity' to which he was so devoted, I am pleased to announce that the government is creating the annual Paul Yuzyk Award, which will be presented each year to an individual or organization that has demonstrated excellence in promoting the multiculturalism for which he stood."

The minister of citizenship, immigration and multiculturalism went on to speak about the future of Canada's pluralism. "Today, as we maintain historically high levels of immigration and as our biggest cities become increasingly diverse, we must act deliberately to maintain strong social cohesion and a common sense of Canadian identity. This means we must continue to adapt our idea of multiculturalism to meet today's challenges," he said.

Mr. Kenney spoke of the kind of multiculturalism that is needed by Canada. "I am certain of this: we all want a multiculturalism that builds bridges, not walls, between communities. We want a Canada where we can celebrate our different cultural traditions, but not at the expense of sharing common Canadian traditions. We want a country where freedom of conscience is deeply respected, but where we

also share basic political values, like a belief in human dignity, equality of opportunity and the rule of law."

He added, "We don't want a Canada that is a hotel, where people come and go with no abiding connection to our past or to one another, where citizenship means only access to a convenient passport. We want a Canada where we as citizens are loyal first and finally to this country, and her historically grounded values."

The key, he said, "is the successful integration of newcomers," and he proceeded to outline how that integration should look: "Integration that empowers newcomers by ensuring that they can speak one or both of our languages. Integration that opens the doors of economic opportunity by properly recognizing the skills, experience and education of new Canadians. Integration that ensures that new Canadians know, own and identify with our country's history, symbols and institutions. And integration which results in new Canadians giving back to Canada, not just as consumers, workers, or taxpayers."

In conclusion, Minister Kenney underscored, "Immigrants have helped build our country — a country that is prosperous and rich in diversity. Newcomers will continue to be a source of growth and strength. And we must keep up our end of the bargain by doing what we can to ensure their successful integration into Canadian society."

Helsinki Commission marks anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights

WASHINGTON — Rep. Alcee L. Hastings (D-Fla.) and Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Md.), co-chairmen of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission), on December 10 issued a statement commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

They wrote:

"Sixty years ago today, the nations of the world — still recovering from the vast and overwhelming losses of World War II — adopted a declaration on human rights. Reflecting the world's aspiration to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, this declaration has stood as an enduring statement of common principles for six decades. Every subsequent regional or global human rights instrument — including the Helsinki Final Act — springs in part from this historic text.

"As chairmen of the Helsinki Commission, we often commemorate this anniversary with a degree of longing — recognizing that, sadly, the soaring aspirations of the Universal Declaration remain so far from reality in so many places. This year, too, we regret that manifestations of racism, anti-Semitism and extremism are on the rise in some OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] countries, that the most fundamental rights set forth in the

declaration, including freedom of belief and freedom of speech, are under threat, and that those who defend these rights must sometimes do so at great personal risk and some are even killed for their efforts.

"Nevertheless, we are encouraged by the prospect of a renewed American commitment to these rights, which our country has pledged to promote and observe. To this end, in particular, we will work to ensure that human rights will be protected by the rule of law and that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. We will support the closure of the detention facility at Guantanamo. And we will ensure that the United States can once more advance human rights around the globe by leading by example at home."

The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission, is a U.S. government agency that monitors progress in the implementation of the provisions of the 1975 Helsinki Accords. The commission consists of nine members from the United States Senate, nine from the House of Representatives, and one member each from the departments of State, Defense and Commerce.

OBITUARY: Basil Terhakovec, 70, teacher, editor, community activist

MILLBURN, N.J. — Basil (Vasyl) Terhakovec, longtime teacher of Ukrainian history and culture, a former editor of Svoboda and an active member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Dumka Chorus, died on October 17 at the age of 70.

He passed away after a long and very brave battle with a heart condition for which he underwent a heart transplant in 2001, along with other surgeries.

Mr. Terhakovec was born in Lviv on July 24, 1938; he was one of four children of Ivan and Neonila (née Migotski) Terhakovec. His father was an attorney who participated in the historic battles of the November uprising of 1918 in Lviv as a member of the Ukrainian Galician Army (Ukrayinska Halyska Armiya).

He spent his early childhood years in Komarno and arrived in the United States with his parents in 1949, after living in a displaced persons camp in Munich for five years. The family settled in New York City.

He began his elementary education in Munich and completed it at St. George Ukrainian Catholic School in 1952. He attended St. George Academy and graduated with high honors from Seward Park High School. He also graduated from the School of Ukrainian Studies. He was an avid soccer and volleyball player, and studied ballet with the legendary Valentyna Pereyaslavets.

Mr. Terhakovec became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1955.

He earned a B.A. in history from Long Island University and an M.A. in history from Indiana University in Bloomington. He attended graduate school on a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship.

He married Mariyka Fedoruk, whom he met in graduate school, in 1967. The couple at first lived in Brooklyn and later moved to Millburn, N.J.

Mr. Terhakovec was a script writer for the Ukrainian division of Radio Liberty



Basil Terhakovec

in 1969-1972. He was an editor at Svoboda, then a daily newspaper, from 1973 through 1980.

Since 1970 he also taught history and culture at schools of Ukrainian studies, first in New York City, then in Newark-Irvington, N.J., and most recently at the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies of Morris County, N.J. He was also an inspector for the Educational Council of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and traveled to other schools to administer the "matura" exams to students working toward their Ukrainian studies diplomas.

During his more than 30 years of teaching in Ukrainian studies schools, Mr. Terhakovec taught hundreds of students, many of whom considered him their favorite teacher. He would engage his

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Ilyia M. Labunka

Dr. Ihor Yukhnovsky, acting director of the Institute of National Memory, presents Sen. Bill Bradley with the Poltava Oblast volume of the "Book of National Memory," as Ambassador William B. Taylor looks on.

U.S. Famine Commission report presented to Ukraine's first lady



KYIV – Ulana Mazurkevich, a former member of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, (right) on November 24 presented Ukraine's First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko (left) with the reprinted and translated copies of the four-volume commission report. She informed the first lady that 12,000 copies were printed by Kyiv Mohyla Publishing, making this one of the largest printing orders that the publishing house has executed. In 2006 the Philadelphia-based Ukrainian Human Rights Committee embarked on the project of having the work of the Famine Commission translated, reprinted and presented to the people of Ukraine on the 75th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933. Sen. Byron Dorgan, a democrat from North Dakota who served on the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, requested funding for the project from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. In August 2007 the Department of State authorized funding for the translation and publication as a gesture of U.S.-Ukraine friendship. Above, Ukraine's first lady and Ms. Mazurkevich hold the volumes. News of the presentation appeared on the website of the Ukraine 3000 International Charitable Fund, which is headed by Ms. Yushchenko.

Report of U.S. Commission...

(Continued from page 1)

language Oral History Project was published in 1988 and was based on the findings of a commission established by an act of Congress that convened from 1986 to 1988 to study testimony presented by emigrants from Ukraine on the Holodomor of 1932-1933. Dr. James Mace served as resident scholar and director of the commission.

Once all the anticipated guests had arrived, Ambassador Taylor introduced former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley as the evening's guest of honor. In his introductory remarks, Mr. Taylor, who at one time had served on Sen. Bradley's staff, underscored the senator's instrumental efforts in sponsoring and securing passage of a bill that provided for the establishment of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine.

Mr. Bradley, who served in the Senate (1979-1997) as a Democrat from New Jersey, said he developed a very fond feeling for the Ukrainian people during his initial visit to Ukraine in 1966 when he traveled from Yalta to Kyiv and then to Odesa and Lviv as a student.

Mr. Bradley said he regularly visited a Ukrainian American campsite in New Jersey in the summer months when he served as senator. Such regular visits, according to Mr. Bradley, provided him with the opportunity to renew friendships and to learn more about Ukrainian history. As a result of such regular meetings and

conversations, Mr. Bradley said he first learned about the Holodomor from people who had relatives who had told their story.

"I have always believed that the truth will set us free. As a result, in the Senate I attached an amendment to a bill which created the commission, in order to publish what really happened. It is for me a great feeling of renewal to be able to have this document finally issued in the Ukrainian language. The Holodomor speaks to any human being. It is a terrible horror and it should never be forgotten," said the former senator.

During his latest, albeit brief, visit to Kyiv Senator Bradley had the opportunity to visit the recently unveiled "Candle of Memory" Holodomor monument. Mr. Bradley said the visit was a very powerful and emotional experience for him.

"It is a symbol which compares a terrible past with a new future. It expresses a deep kind of humanity, both a tragedy and a hope. So when the ambassador asked me to attend, I was very pleased and honored to share in this moment," remarked Mr. Bradley.

In his remarks, Sen. Bradley recognized some of the representatives of the Ukrainian American community who were present at the reception and who over the decades had been active in raising awareness of the Holodomor. "Without them I would have never had the opportunity to do something that I will feel good about for the rest of my life," he added.

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Senator Bill Bradley recalls his first visit to Ukraine in 1966 and shares his experience of having visited the Hall of Memory situated underneath the recently unveiled "Candle of Memory" of the National Holodomor Memorial and Historical Complex.

FOR THE RECORD: Sen. Byron Dorgan's letter to President Viktor Yushchenko

Following is the text of a letter regarding the report of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine that was sent on November 7 by Sen. Byron L. Dorgan to President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine.

Dear Mr. President:

In 1986 the U.S. Congress established the Congressional Commission on the Ukraine Famine. The purpose of the commission was to conduct a study of the 1932-1933 Ukraine Famine in order to expand the world's knowledge of the Famine and to provide the American public with a better understanding of its causes.

As a member of the commission, I am gratified that the oral history compiled by the commission is now being published in Ukraine by Kyiv Mohyla Publishing and will be presented to the people of Ukraine on the solemn occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Famine. The commission's report includes over 200 interviews with eyewitnesses to the famine and runs over 2,000 pages.

I am pleased to have had a role in getting the report reprinted and distributed in Ukraine. In August 2007 Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice agreed to my request that the U.S.

Department of State provide funds to reprint the report and distribute copies to libraries and other institutions in Ukraine to benefit scholars and the public.

In this regard, I want to commend the Philadelphia-based Ukrainian Human Rights Committee and its president, Ulana Mazurkevich. This project would not have been possible without their efforts. Ulana served with me on the commission. She and her committee instigated the idea of republishing the commission's report and they worked tirelessly to overcome every bureaucratic hurdle that threatened it.

I also thank the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington and Ambassador Oleh Shamshur for their assistance in securing a letter of support from former Foreign Minister [Arseniy] Yatsenyk for this project which helped in my discussions with the U.S. Department of State.

Please accept my warmest wishes for the successful commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Famine in late November of 2008. It is a most appropriate gesture of U.S.-Ukrainian friendship that one of the largest collections of survivor testimony will be presented to the people of Ukraine on this solemn anniversary.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Let's get on with it

In the Orange Revolution's aftermath, no one would have believed that Viktor Yanukovich would return as prime minister. Nor would anyone have believed that Volodymyr Lytvyn, among former President Leonid Kuchma's most trusted henchmen, would have returned to head Ukraine's Parliament. But nothing is surprising in Ukrainian politics anymore.

Unfortunately Mr. Lytvyn's return is a sad commentary on Ukrainian democracy.

Though election monitoring organizations such as the Committee of Voters of Ukraine made little mention of it, reports were fairly widespread that the Lytvyn Bloc forged a vast network of college students, pensioners and rural folk to cast votes and recruit others via a bribery web that brought Mr. Lytvyn back into Parliament. Little else could explain the Lytvyn Bloc somehow pulling 304,633 votes from its pockets – a 49 percent surge in electoral support between parliamentary elections held a year and a half apart (March 2006 and September 2007)

Mr. Lytvyn is Clintonesque with his handsome looks and country charm (he grew up in a Zhytomyr Oblast village). Forever tarred by his close partnership with Mr. Kuchma, he is not particularly popular, however, particularly after his alleged involvement in the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

But, as is often the case in Ukrainian politics, you have to make the most of what you have, which is precisely what Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko did.

Faced with a hostile Presidential Secretariat and a spiraling economic crisis, Ms. Tymoshenko recruited Mr. Lytvyn and formed a de facto coalition in an attempt to preserve her government and introduce an ounce of political stability in a country devastated by infighting. (She even considered reaching out to the Party of Regions – a deal that, thankfully, fell through.)

The Coalition of National Development, Stability and Order comprising the Tymoshenko Bloc, the Lytvyn Bloc and the pro-Tymoshenko wing of Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense, while keeping the pro-Russian forces at bay, will activate the Parliament to pass legislation to alleviate Ukraine's economic hemorrhaging. What this coalition doesn't have is a majority of 226 votes. Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense faction Vice-Chair Borys Tarasyuk acknowledged that the coalition might have to turn to the opposition to pass legislation.

But the key to Ms. Tymoshenko's remarkable success in Ukrainian politics has been finding political solutions amidst overwhelming and fierce opposition, particularly from President Viktor Yushchenko, who remains on the warpath against his former ally, criticizing her every move. The president's hell-bent fury against Ms. Tymoshenko, even as economic fires blaze and the hryvnia's value plunges, ensures a regrettable and shameful legacy.

While it's sending chills down some people's spines to see Mr. Lytvyn back in the Rada chair's seat, gavel in hand, it's far more distressing to see the Presidential Secretariat maniacally pursuing its campaign to undermine anything Ms. Tymoshenko does by accusing her of corruption. (And who among Ukraine's political elite should cast the first stone?)

Given the current crisis plaguing Ukraine, we can reasonably hope that Ms. Tymoshenko will bring some degree of stability to Ukrainian government, even though she apparently cut deals with not only Mr. Lytvyn and his bloc, but the Communists as well.

Given his gift for political maneuvering and survival, Mr. Lytvyn ought to prove what he's worth. At this point in time, he deserves the Parliament's support. Further down the line, however, if he does not prove himself, the Ukrainian voters should once again send him and his cronies packing in the next parliamentary election.

Until then, Ukraine's politicians ought to follow Prime Minister Tymoshenko's example of leadership, create some stability and order, roll up their sleeves and salvage what's left of the Ukrainian economy.

Dec.
22
1999

Turning the pages back...

Nine years ago, on December 22, 1999, members of the Verkhovna Rada cast 296 votes in favor of Viktor Yushchenko's candidacy for prime minister.

Of the 316 members present, 12 deputies cast their ballots against Mr. Yushchenko, while four deputies registered as present and abstained from voting. The remaining 136 deputies, some absent, did not vote.

Surprisingly, three members of the usually rabidly leftist Progressive Socialist Party, led by Natalia Vitrenko, broke party ranks to join the heavy majority supporting Mr. Yushchenko's candidacy.

President Leonid Kuchma nominated Mr. Yushchenko, chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine, after the Verkhovna Rada shot down Mr. Kuchma's first nomination, long-time political ally Valerii Pustovoitenko, on December 14, 1999.

"Viktor Yushchenko is the kind of professional Ukraine needs right now," said Stepan Havrysh, a Revival of Regions faction member. "With our financial problems, we need someone who can deal with Ukraine's foreign debt."

Mr. Yushchenko as prime minister, it was believed, would stabilize Ukraine's finances, which included \$3 billion worth of foreign financial obligations for 2000.

"We should admit that for a very long time this state has lived beyond its financial capabilities," Mr. Yushchenko said in his acceptance speech. "We have no choice but to put our financial house in order."

The prime minister-elect's plan, called "100 Days," would tighten fiscal responsibility and passage of a balanced national budget. A second phase, called "1,000 Days," included strategies such as privatization, better management of those that are not privatized, reduction of tax burdens, land reform, support of small business and more transparency in Ukraine's government agencies.

Mr. Yushchenko added that for Ukraine to actually embark on 1,000 days of economic

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CHRISTMAS PASTORAL

The special light of Christmas

Below is the Christmas pastoral letter of the Ukrainian Catholic hierarchs of the U.S.A.

Christ is born!

It is our beautiful tradition that on Christmas Eve, as the first star appears, we light a candle in our homes and greet the Newborn Savior, Jesus, with our ancient carol, "God Eternal."

The evangelist Matthew speaks of a bright star which guides the wise men from the East to Bethlehem. He writes that "when they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding joy. And having come into the house, they saw the little child with Mary his mother, and falling down they did him homage" (Mt. 2:10). Of the wise men we sing in the tropars, "those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to worship you, the Sun of Righteousness." And the prophet Malachi speaks of the healing power of the "Sun of Righteousness" for those who are faithful to the Lord's name (Mal. 4:2).

This special light which we celebrate at Christmas has a special meaning for all of us.

First, it is the light of understanding. We sing in the tropars, "Your Nativity, O Christ our God, made the light of knowledge dawn on the world." Today, God has revealed Himself in a Newborn Child. He grants us understanding regarding Him. He is the one who is here for us. We proclaim this by singing "God is With Us" during the Great Complines. God is with us today. God became one of us, became human, so that we may share in His divine life. The light of God's revelation is a light of joy. How can we not rejoice with such joyful news!

The light is also an example of our Christian life. Almighty God does not come to earth in a royal palace, or in the home of the powerful or a rich family. He comes in a poor stable, laid on hay in a manger. In this we come to understand that the power of God reveals itself in humility, in poverty, in suffering. We are called to humble service without elevating ourselves above others. As God is with us and for us, we too must be at the service of one another.

Finally, the light is the light of witnessing the Good News. The salvation given by God is not limited to a chosen group of individuals. It is to be shared with all humanity. Our festive joy cannot be limited to the privacy of our homes. It must be a visible witness to the fact that God loves us and hopes to share

His divine will with all.

In the Holy Gospels, the three wise men are described as bringing gifts: gold, as a sign that the Newborn Infant is the King of the Universe; frankincense, for the Child is God Himself; and myrrh, as a sign of suffering, for in ancient times, the dead were anointed with myrrh. Here is born the One who will give up his life for the salvation of all.

What gifts shall we bring? Let us bring the gold of our love. As the Father showed his love to us through Jesus, the Son, so today, through His disciples, he does the same. Secondly, let us offer the frankincense of our prayer. We need to serve the Lord not only on major holidays and on Sundays, but indeed, our mouths should be filled with praise each day. Finally, let us carry the myrrh of suffering. All that has true value in life requires sacrifice. That which has eternal value requires particular and constant sacrifice. This is the meaning of Bethlehem and the example given to us by our Divine Teacher.

We pray today that God may grant all of us, and all those united with us in our hearts both near and far, the understanding of the Light that comes from above at Christmas. May each of us experience the joy of true understanding that "God Is With Us." Jesus has been born for us and for our salvation.

God grant to you a most blessed celebration of Christmas, filled with much joy and happiness. May our celebration of the birth of Jesus be a source of renewal in our expression of love for God and for all those whom He gives us to love and serve during our lifetime.

A blessed and holy Christmas to all!

Most Rev. Stefan Soroka
Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S.A.
Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians

Most Rev. Robert M. Moskal
Bishop of the St. Josaphat Eparchy in Parma

Most Rev. Richard Seminack
Bishop of the St. Nicholas Eparchy in Chicago

Most Rev. Paul Chomnycky, OSBM
Bishop of the Eparchy of Stamford

Most Rev. John Bura
Auxiliary Bishop of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Ukrainian Orthodox Church has new bishop in western Canada

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada enthroned and installed Bishop Ilarion as eparch of Edmonton and Western Canada on October 26 at St. John Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Edmonton.

Over 500 people, including 25 clergy, participated in the event. Leading the ceremonies were Metropolitan-Archbishop John, eparch of Winnipeg, assisted by Archbishop Yuriy, eparch of Toronto and eastern Canada, and Bishop Andriy, eparch-elect of Saskatoon and central Canada.

Joining the services were Bishop David Motiuk, eparch of Edmonton of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada, and the Rev. William Hupalo, vicar general of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton.

Bishop Ilarion is the first Ukrainian hierarch in 300 years to have been ordained by the ecumenical patriarch, head of the world-

wide Orthodox Church. Prior to his installation as eparch of Edmonton, Bishop Ilarion previously served Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I as "bishop for Ukrainian questions" in Portugal.

His assignment to Portugal was marked by controversy when he was denied entry into the country from Istanbul. Authorities suspected he was a Chechen terrorist, but the intervention of Ukraine's consul general in Istanbul pushed for the bishop's release.

Bishop Ilarion suspected that forces that would like to marginalize Ukrainian Orthodoxy were behind this provocation.

Bishop Ilarion replaced Metropolitan-Archbishop John, who served as eparch of Edmonton in 1985-2005. During the interim period from 2005, the Rev. Victor Lakusta administered the eparchy.

Born Roman Rudnik on February 14,

(Continued on page 28)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Roman Serbyn clarifies report

Dear Editor:

In his detailed report on the Holodomor conference in Koncha Zaspa, outside of Kyiv (October 26), Zenon Zawada attributed to me statements concerning Ukrainian population losses during the Holodomor, that I did not make.

Mr. Zawada writes: "During the conference, Dr. Serbyn argued that any consensus Holodomor figure must include the 3.5 million Ukrainians who starved to death in the Kuban region of Russia, which was historically densely populated by Ukrainians." I could not make such claims, nor did I make them.

Before the Famine, the population of the Kuban was about 1.5 million, and the Ukrainian part of it was around 900,000. I do not know how many people starved to death in the Kuban and how many of the victims were Ukrainians.

My main disagreement with many of the participants in the conference was not over the number of victims, which I think is of secondary importance in our quest for the recognition of the mass destruction of Ukrainians in the USSR (and not just the Ukrainian SSR) as genocide. I have never heard anyone object to considering the Holodomor as genocide because there were only 5, or 4, or 3, or only 2 million victims.

Wittingly or unwittingly the numbers game has served to divert attention from the main problems to be solved. To get recognition for the Ukrainian genocide according to

the United Nations Convention on Genocide it is necessary to demonstrate the Communist regime's intention to destroy the Ukrainian nation, as such. This is exactly what Raphael Lemkin, the legal expert who coined the term "genocide" and prevailed upon the U.N. to enshrine the notion in the 1948 convention, was doing when he wrote his address for the 1953 Commemoration of the Great Famine in New York in 1953. The speech was titled "Soviet Genocide in Ukraine."

Stalin targeted not just the wheat-growers in Ukraine and the Kuban, but the Ukrainian nation. The first victims were the intelligentsia and the Ukrainian Church, in Lemkin's words the "brains" and the "soul" of Ukraine.

As for the Ukrainian farmers, the bulk of the Famine victims, Lemkin saw them primarily as "the repository of the tradition, folklore and music, the national language and literature, the national spirit of Ukraine."

Lemkin's approach was far from the so-called "peasantist" interpretation, now popular among some Western scholars. In fact Lemkin criticized the "attempt to dismiss this high-point of Soviet cruelty as an economic policy connected with the collectivization of the wheat lands, and the elimination of the kulaks."

Quoting the Communist Party boss of Ukraine that "Ukrainian nationalism is our chief danger," Lemkin concluded: "It was to eliminate that nationalism, to establish the horrifying uniformity of the Soviet state that the Ukrainian peasantry was sacrificed."

Roman Serbyn
Montreal

FOR THE RECORD

Lemkin's commentary on U.N. investigation of Soviet genocide

Following is the full text of an article by Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide," which was published on March 7, 1953, in *The Ukrainian Weekly*. The article is titled "Investigation of Soviet Genocide by U.N."

Our common fight against Soviet genocide is entering a decisive stage. There now signs on the sky that the peoples of the world are gradually opening their ears and hearts to the appeals for help coming from hecatombs of the Ukraine, Poland, the Baltic states, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, the Caucasus, and from the orphanages containing the stolen Greek children.

It is an irony of history that 8 million Ukrainians had to die from genocidal famine, that thousands of the flower of the Ukrainian people had to be in massacred in Vinnytsia, countless Ukrainian men, women and children had to perish in the salt mines before the conscience of the world was really shocked. And if it is shocked, does this mean that our victory is near? This will depend on our ability to transform understanding into action.

The Ukrainian leaders, especially the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, have made an historic achievement by explaining to the world the tragic meaning of genocide, and by requesting that Soviet genocide should be investigated by the United Nations.

As in the case of Hitler Genghis the weaker nations might be destroyed by Stalin, if they would not unite now in a common fight under the guidance of the free world.

Results of such an investigation.

The investigation of Soviet genocide the U.N. will achieve the following results:

1. Communism will be finally exposed in its true light, namely that it is not an ideological movement, but a criminal organization, and the conviction will grow that we must meet communism not on the level of the dialectic materialism of Karl Marx, but on the common criminality of Al Capone and others.

2. Such an investigation will permit the United Nations to condemn the communist leaders for a crime and render a verdict of which history will be proud.

3. Such action of the United Nations will strengthen the resistance of the enslaved peoples because they will know that they are not left alone helpless and in despair.

4. The communist penetration into the ranks of weaker nations in Europe, Asia and Africa will be impaired, because these nations will know what to expect from Russia. It is not true that the communist leaders are not dependent on public opinion. Being an international movement, communism can operate only in such climate of public opinion, which they prepare. Let us not forget that in some countries of Latin America communists have dared to put up their own candidates for presidents of republics. Let us make their work more difficult. We must use every opportunity to keep the eyes of the world on Soviet genocide. The incoming anniversary of the 1933 deliberately

(Continued on page 30)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



"Blago" and us

George Duravetz of Winnipeg left a message on my answering machine last week. "Myron, what the hell is going on in Chicago? Selling a Senate seat? Mother of God!"

When I called George, he was still exercised. "It's all over Ukrainian and Russian TV," he told me. "Are you surprised?"

Surprised? No. Embarrassed? Yes. I called Eduard Balashov in Ostroh the next morning and he knew all about our Gov. Rod Blagojevich and his brazen greed. "At least you arrest your crooked politicians," he told me, "here, our corrupt leaders continue in office, fearing no one." Small comfort.

In retrospect, it seems that everyone in Chicago knew about Blago... the FBI, our local newspapers, city hall. No one, not even our Ukrainian Americans, seemed surprised. On the contrary, one Ukrainian involved in local and state politics (not Julian Kulas) predicted two years ago that Gov. Blagojevich, a Democrat, would end up in prison... just like his Republican predecessor, George Ryan. Illinois strives to be bipartisan.

Actually, governors going to jail has become an Illinois tradition. In addition to Mr. Ryan, two other former governors – Otto Kerner and Dan Walker – ended up behind bars.

Is Illinois the most corrupt state in the union? "Its largest city is legendary for machine-style politics, and its leaders have been under investigation for years," wrote John Fritze in USA Today, "but by one measure Illinois is not even close to the nation's most corrupt state. North Dakota, it turns out, may hold that distinction instead."

"On a per-capita basis... Illinois ranks 18th for the number of public corruption convictions the federal government has won from 1998 through 2007 according to a USA Today analysis of Department of Justice statistics." Politicians in Alaska, Louisiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Jersey are more crooked "based on public corruption convictions over the past decade..." Mr. Fritze wrote.

I'm saddened by our boyish governor's behavior. I actually liked the guy. Mr. Blagojevich always came to our Ukrainian days. I often sat on the same stage with him and his remarks usually drew the most applause.

"I understand how you feel," he would say. "My Serbian parents also fled communism and I can relate." His voice would intensify at this point as he vigorously defined, explained and deconstructed the evils of communism. "Your people wanted freedom and so did mine... My parents wanted what we have in America... liberty and opportunity." I'm paraphrasing but you get the drift. Ukrainians often gave Gov. Blago a standing ovation.

During Ukrainian Days, I was usually the only Republican on stage. To appreciate this, you need to know about Chicago's political machine. When I worked for the Feds, I would tell people in Washington that Chicago was the best example of participatory democracy in the nation. One always knows who to go to when things

needed doing. This was true during the reign of Mayor Richard J. Daley. And it's true during the reign of Richard M. Daley.

When I was single, I foolishly agreed to be a Republican precinct captain in Chicago. I'll never forget going from house to house with Republican literature and being greeted with disbelief. Picture this. I walk up to one house, ring the doorbell, a man opens the door. "Hi, I'm Myron Kuropas, your Republican precinct captain."

"My what?" the man asks incredulously. "Your Republican precinct captain," I repeat.

With that, the man invites me into his house, seats me and yells up to his wife: "Honey, come on down, I want you to see this." When his wife comes down the stairs, the husband says, "This man is a Republican precinct captain. Take a good look because this is probably the last time you will see a Republican precinct captain in your lifetime." Although the couple was very cordial, I couldn't wait to get out of the house.

On election day, I watched the Democratic precinct captain operate. He knew most of the voters personally. He spoke to them in their native language... Polish, Italian, Hungarian. He had learned a few words, but it was enough to be credible. He asked about their children and grandchildren, by name, by school and often by association. "How are you, Mrs. Dembowski," he would ask, "are you happy with your new sidewalk? Let me know if there are any problems."

When Lesia and I moved into our first Chicago house, we were visited by the Democratic precinct captain who came on the second day with a carton of milk, a loaf of bread and an offer to register our kids in school. "It looks like you need a new garbage can out back," he said. The next day we had a freshly painted black oil drum by the alley with "Compliments of Alderman Louis T. Garippo" printed in bright orange on the side.

One could always tell where the registered Republicans lived on our street. Their public right-of-way trees were never trimmed. We didn't have a garage so we parked our car on the street. It got so bad one summer that we could barely park our car under the over-hanging branches. I was mowing my lawn one day when I saw the city tree-trimming truck go right past my house. I ran after the truck and asked the driver why my house was missed. "What's your address?" the man asked. I gave it to him; he looked on his list and said, "Your house isn't listed." When I offered him money to back up and trim my tree he refused. "If your house isn't on my list, you don't get trimmed," he explained politely. "If you've got a problem with that, talk to your precinct captain."

There you go. You got a problem with the city, see your precinct captain. If that's not participatory democracy in action, I don't know what is. Where else but in Chicago does one get that kind of access to city hall?

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

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.

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"Accordionfest" at UACCNJ attracts a dozen musicians, plus singers



Katerina Syzonenko

Accordionists and singers whoop it up at the Social Club (from left to right): Alex Juskin, Matthew Dubas (back row), Stefan Tatarenko, Walter Syzonenko, Myron Kukuruza and Michael Koziupa.

WHIPPANY, N.J. – The Social Club at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey was packed with singers and accordionists on Saturday, November 22, for the first-ever "Accordionfest."

Leading them in song was Myron Kukuruza, accompanied by a dozen accordionists ranging in age from early teens to early retirement and joined by George Hrab of Tempo on the drums.

The event was made possible with the cooperation of accordionists Stefan Tatarenko, Michael Koziupa, Matthew

Dubas and members of the Social Club Committee, including Andrew Hadzewycz and Walter Kovbasniuk. The event attracted accordionists Alex Juskin, Alex and Peter Chudolij, Walter Syzonenko, Jim Fedorko, Slavko Kosiv, Zenon Brozyna, Gregory Fat and Andrew Lazirko.

Lyric sheets were distributed and everyone joined in the singing of popular Ukrainian folk songs.

"I was more than happy to see the turnout for this first-time event," noted Mr.

Tatarenko. "The evening of music was something I never would have imagined without rehearsal and it was an outstanding job well done by all of the participants. It was great to see everybody participating, playing and singing."

A featured guest artist was jazz accordion virtuoso Eddie Montiero, who performed several jazz pieces on Roland's electronic V-Accordion and is a demo artist for Roland. Mr. Chudolij, who invited Mr. Montiero, sells accordions from his store, Music Magic U.S.A. (located in

Clifton, N.J.), and is an authorized Roland dealer. (For more information on Roland and other accordions, visit their website, www.musicmagicusa.com.)

Awards were distributed to each participating accordionist and a special award for best vocalist was given to Bozenna Polansky.

Videographer Ihor Lukiw compiled video clips from the event on a DVD, which is for sale at the Social Club for \$20. Readers may obtain copies by contacting the Social Club at 973-585-7175.

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***The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association,
the editorial staffs of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly
and the management of the Soyuzivka Heritage Center***

greet

the hierarchs of Ukrainian Churches, leaders of Ukrainian organizations,
members of the UNA, officers of UNA branches and districts,
subscribers and readers of our publications, and Soyuzivka guests,
as well as all Ukrainians of the diaspora and Ukraine.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

***Радісних Свят
Різдва Христового і
Щасливого Нового Року***

родині, приятелям, знайомим,
Головному Урядові УНСоюзу,
працівникам та всім секретарям Відділів

щиро бажають

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***Радісних Свят Різдва Христового
і
Щасливого Нового Року***

родині, друзям, знайомим,
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працівникам і всім членам Українського Народного Союзу

бажає

**д-р ЗЕНОН ГОЛУБЕЦЬ
з дружиною МИРОСЛАВОЮ
і родиною**

*Wishing
a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR
to the General Assembly, District Committee Chairpersons,
Branch Secretaries, UNA members, and their families and friends,
as well as all Ukrainians in the Diaspora and in Ukraine*

from

**MICHAEL KOZIUPA
wife ANNA
and children TATYANA and DANIEL**



**РАДІСНИХ СВЯТ
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО
і
ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ**

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Головному Урядові УНСоюзу,
головам Округ і секретарям Відділів
та їхнім управам

щиро бажає

ХРИСТИНА Є. КОЗАК з родиною



We greet all our
dear friends
and colleagues
with a joyful
Christmas carol
and best wishes
for a wonderful new year!

— Andriy, Roma, Markian and Paul Hadzewycz



**З ПРАЗНИКОМ
РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО**

вітаємо

родину, приятелів і членів Головного Уряду,
працівників Українського Народного Союзу
та видавництва „Свобода“ і The Ukrainian Weekly

та бажаємо

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УЛЯНА І ВОЛОДИМИР
ДЯЧУКИ**



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Різдва Христового
і
Щасливого Нового Року**

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щиро бажають

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з родиною**



Родині, приятелям і знайомим
бажаємо

**ВЕСЕЛИХ
ТА
ЩАСЛИВИХ СВЯТ**

д-р **ЮРІЙ** та **ОКСАНА ТРИТЯК**
з дітьми **АРЕТОЮ** і **ЯРЕМІЄМ**



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а в Новому Році
бажаємо всього найкращого.


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З Різдвом Христовим і Новим Роком

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ЩАСЛИВОГО НОВОГО РОКУ**

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І НОВИМ РОКОМ**

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бажають

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з донями і сином та їхніми родинами.**

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дякуємо всім за кожночасну підтримку.



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о. Ректора А. Чировського, о. Лева Голдейда,
члена Курії Василя, о. Івана Хмеля в Україні,
Пластові Проводи,
усе Пластове Братство в Україні та в діаспорі,
всіх братчиків нашого славного Загону з родинами
та увесь український нарід
і бажає

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український народ на Рідних Землях та в діаспорі, ієрархії
Українських Церков та проводи українських організацій і установ.

Сердечні поздоровлення шлемо провові та складовим організаціям
Світової Федерації Українських Лемківських Об'єднань, Управам Відділів
та всьому членству Організації Оборони Лемківщини в Америці,
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Рівночасно запрошуємо всіх на

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на оселі СУМА в Елленвіл, Н.Й.



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шле щирий привіт і святочні побажання
ієрархам, духовенству Українських Церков,
нашим добродіям та жертводавцям,
членам ЗУАДК-у, всім нашим братам
і сестрам по цілому світі.

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Нового Року

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Український народ на рідних землях і всіх наших земляків, розкинених по різних країнах світу. Вітаємо Ієрархію Українських Церков в Україні і діаспорі, центральні проводи і членство політичних і громадських організацій в Україні і діаспорі, а в тому проводи і членство Українського Золотого Хреста, УНО – Канада, ІСНО, Редакцію журналу „Самостійна Україна“, Фундацію ім. О. Ольжича, Жіноче т-во ім. О. Теліги, Об'єднання Студіючої Молоді „Зарево“ в Україні. Зокрема вітаємо і шлемо сердечний дружний привіт голові проводу Українських Націоналістів Миколі Плав'юкові і членам Проводу Українських Націоналістів, побажання успіхів у всіх заходах для об'єднання національно-державницьких сил у справі відбудови і закріплення української соборної самостійної України.

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U.S.-Ukraine Business...

(Continued from page 1)

of Ukraine. Since its founding in 1995 it has promoted the strengthening of U.S.-Ukraine bilateral cooperation in business, trade and investment.

Microsoft, the creator of the Windows computer operating system and Office program that now dominate the world's personal computers, now joins with other U.S. corporations in that effort, among them such well-known companies as Boeing, Coca-Cola, General Dynamics, Halliburton, Kraft Foods, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Pratt & Whitney - Paton, Proctor and Gamble and 3M, as well as many smaller less-recognizable companies and such non-commercial institutions as the Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and the Ukrainian American Bar Association, among others.

Introducing Microsoft's senior director of global trade policy and strategy, Dorothy Dwoskin, Mr. Williams noted that Microsoft is already active in Ukraine, with more than 150 employees dealing primarily with intellectual property issues. Ms. Dwoskin, in her brief remarks, added that Microsoft is also trying to help Ukraine develop its local computer economy.

The luncheon, attended by representatives of USUBC member-organizations and diplomatic and other representatives of the two countries, also heard greetings addressed to the organization from high U.S. and Ukrainian officials, as well as analyses of the current world economic crisis and its ramifications in Ukraine by representatives of the International Monetary Fund and a Washington think-tank.

Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Oleh Shamshur, presenting greetings and expressions of gratitude to the USUBC from President Viktor Yushchenko, expressed his own hope that "we will weather the current situation together and we'll find the way out in the quickest and the safest possible way of the dire straits of the world economy."

President Yushchenko's former ally, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, in her message to the group thanked its members for promoting "the right business practices" in Ukraine. "I ask you to lead by example and help us to move forward in Ukraine," she said in her message, read by Ron Slim of TD International.

There were also greetings from the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, William B. Taylor, Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez of the Department of Commerce and Ukraine's First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko, who thanked the American

companies for their commitment to improving the lives of Ukrainian citizens and called on them to continue to do so by supporting Ukrainian health, education, cultural and arts organizations.

"This is particularly necessary now, as the less fortunate sections of our society particularly feel the brunt of the world and national financial crisis," she noted.

The effect on Ukraine of the current world economic crisis - on a day when the exchange rate for a U.S. dollar surpassed 9 hryv in Ukraine - were addressed in more detail by two representatives of the International Monetary Fund - its alternative executive director, Yuriy Yakusha, and mission chief for Ukraine and the European Department Division, Ceyla Pazarbasioglu - and Anders Aslund, senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington.

Mr. Yakusha said that no other country in the world equalled the "staggering" drop Ukraine experienced in its Gross National Product in November. He noted, however, that the IMF responded to Ukraine's request for assistance with "unprecedented speed," and the \$4.5 billion Ukraine received from the IMF gave it "some breathing space."

Ms. Pazarbasioglu added, however, that the IMF cannot do it alone. There is a need for foreign investment and other measures if Ukraine is to come out of this crisis intact, she said.

On the other hand, she said, this crisis can be an opportunity to reform. But it is a global phenomenon in which country-specific solutions will not be sufficient, she said. "I think that the solutions have to be regional and global."

What Ukraine is going through is "almost like a perfect storm," she said. Steel prices are down, and steel accounts for about 40 percent of Ukraine's exports.

"Going forward, what is desperately needed in Ukraine is a coherent set of measures, a vision of how this crisis will be overcome, and a good way to articulate it to the public," she said. "Different statements by different parties do not help. It creates a lot of confusion."

Like Ms. Pazarbasioglu, Mr. Aslund also saw a possible positive result from this crisis for Ukraine.

Despite the "tremendous blow" of the 25 percent loss of its steel exports and the massive GDP drop in November, he said, this crisis could move Ukraine to get it right by developing other industries, moving more toward manufacturing and becoming more diversified, and by turning from the Russian market toward Europe.

"This could turn Ukraine much more into a middle-class society and less an oligarchic society," he stated.



Morgan Williams greets members of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council at the USUBC annual meeting.

Oleksiy Synelnychenko

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

tired them both emotionally and physically, and they are hoping to return home before the end of 2008. On September 25 pirates caught the Faina off the coast of Somalia. The vessel sails under the flag of Belize. It has 17 Ukrainians aboard as crew and its cargo includes 33 T-72 tanks, and six Grad air defense installations. The cargo of Ukrainian weapons was legally purchased by Kenya. (Ukrinform)

IMF notes Ukraine's progress

KYIV – Ceyla Pazarbasiglu, head of the International Monetary Fund's mission to Ukraine, said on December 12 that the government was on track to earn the next part of its \$16.4 billion bailout loan. However, she noted that Ukraine faces tough decisions in next year's budget and admonished the country's warring politicians not to make the National Bank of Ukraine the scapegoat in the financial crisis. The IMF agreed to the two-year stand-by arrangement with Ukraine last month to prevent a wave of corporate and bank defaults, after the global financial crisis crippled its export sector and choked off vital capital. In return for the first IMF loan of \$4.5 billion, Ukraine's government had to scrap increases it pledged in public spending. The hryvnia has lost 60 percent of its value since May, but has settled recently. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc has called on the central bank to account for its recent actions, and possibly to dismiss Chairman Volodymyr Stelmakh. (Wall Street Journal, UNIAN)

Yatsenyuk begins forming a party

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada ex-Chairman Arseniy Yatsenyuk, a national deputy of Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense, has started the formation of his own party. "I am in the stage of forming a real party that forms from below," the politician said on December 15. Mr. Yatsenyuk noted that following the formation of the party there might be various constructions, but he is against the creation of any blocs. Mr. Yatsenyuk also said that in early 2009 he plans to visit six Ukrainian regions. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine, Tajikistan expand relations

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on December 4 described Ukraine's relations with Tajikistan as particularly important. Speaking during a joint press conference with Tajik President Emomali Rahmon in Kyiv, Mr. Yushchenko emphasized that the development of the hydropower industry is a priority in economic relations between the two countries. He noted, "87 percent of the equipment functioning at Tajikistan's hydroelectric and heat power plants was made in Ukraine." He also expressed Ukraine's readiness to take part in modernizing that equipment. Touching on bilateral trade, Mr. Yushchenko said, "We have managed to make good progress in our trade policy, especially in the past year, following special political visits and talks between ministries in charge." The Ukrainian and Tajik presidents agreed on the opening of embassies of their countries in Dushanbe and Kyiv, respectively. Tajikistan's ambassador to Russia, Safar Safarov, has served also as Tajikistan's ambassador to Ukraine, while Ukraine's ambassador to Uzbekistan, Viacheslav Pokhvalskyi, also fulfilled the functions of Ukraine's ambassador to Tajikistan. (Ukrinform)

Putin on relations with Ukraine

KYIV – Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on December 4 on live TV that his country is "doing all we can to improve relations with Ukraine." He also described Ukraine as Russia's "sister

republic" and said he would like to develop bilateral relations taking this factor into account. Mr. Putin said that Russia would maintain "fair relations with Ukraine," including in the economic sector. "Fair relations mean market relations," he added. (Ukrinform)

Joseph Conrad Museum in Berdychiv

KYIV – On December 3 a museum of the world famous writer Joseph Conrad was opened in Berdychiv, in the Zhytomyr region of Ukraine. The museum is situated on the territory of the Carmelite Monastery. On December 2 Polish Ambassador to Ukraine Jacek Kluczkowski told a press conference in Kyiv that Conrad, whose real name was Jozef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski, belongs to three cultures: the Polish, as he was born Polish; the British, as he is an English writer, and the Ukrainian, as he was born in Ukraine. The head of the Polish Conrad Society recalled that Conrad lived during his early years in Ukraine; his family, parents and grandparents had ties to Ukraine. Conrad never forgot about his motherland and he often mentioned Ukraine in his works. In 1861 the family of the Polish nobleman, a participant in the Polish liberation movement, was exiled to Vologda. From Russia, Conrad emigrated to Britain, where he became an outstanding writer. For five years the Polish Conrad Society, supported by similar British and French societies, worked to arrange the establishment of an international museum dedicated to Conrad in Berdychiv. During the press conference noted Ukrainian writers Dmytro Pavlychko and Yuri Shcherbak mentioned three leading sources of Conrad's creative activities: the Ukrainian land, the greatness of the English language and the power of the Polish spirit. (Ukrinform)

Prosvita marks 140th anniversary

KYIV – One of the priority tasks of the Taras Shevchenko Prosvita Society, which celebrated its 140th anniversary on December 8, is to strengthen the national status of the Ukrainian language, explained the society's leader, Pavlo Movchan. "Where there is language, there is authority. Where there is authority, there is language," he emphasized. Mr. Movchan noted that the society carries out many projects aimed at confirming the status of the Ukrainian language. With the society's support, 56 series of the Logos publicistic documentary film were shot on the history of the Ukrainian language, and work is continuing on the creation of cartoons for children in the Ukrainian language. There is also much work in the realm of publishing, Mr. Movchan added. Prosvita has released Ukrainian classics, fiction and educational literature, newspapers in various regions of Ukraine; it has created and circulated educational recordings for pre-school children. The society also maintains ties with Prosvita centers abroad, and supports the Ukrainian diaspora of the Fourth Wave of migration. (Ukrinform)

Consulate General in Haifa

KYIV – Ukraine's Consulate General in Haifa opened on December 16 in order to provide services to more than 200,000 Ukrainian immigrants who reside in the northern region of Israel. Haifa authorities say that in that city alone more than 40,000 citizens need regular contacts with a Ukrainian consular institution. Now they will be able to quickly solve passport, visa and other issues. As previously reported, in November Ukraine opened its representation in the Palestinian Authority. The first information and cultural center of Ukraine in the Middle East is to be opened shortly in Tel-Aviv to regularly hold cultural discussions and events. Ukraine now has 34 Consulates General in 22 countries. (Ukrinform)

Пом'яни Його Господи у царстві Твоім!



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Вічна Йому пам'ять!

New coalition...

(Continued from page 1)

by Viktor Baloha, has only further destroyed the president's support base, creating an irreparable rift within the Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense bloc, driving even the president's most trusted allies into other political alliances, particularly with Ms. Tymoshenko.

The de facto coalition's emergence confirmed the identities of those who've turned their backs on the president, including former Foreign Affairs Minister Tarasyuk, former Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko, former Yushchenko press secretary Iryna Heraschenko and Yaroslav Dzhodzhyk, who cast the deciding 37th vote that gave the pro-Tymoshenko wing a majority within Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense.

Others jumping the Presidential Secretariat ship are several famed "liubi druzi" (dear friends), the much-criticized inner circle during President Yushchenko's first year in office – natural gas and gasoline broker Oleksander Tretiakov, nuclear fuel trader Mykola Martynenko and his business partner David Zhvania, who has become the target of the president's deportation attempts.

The People's Self-Defense party, led by Mr. Zhvania and Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Lutsenko, abandoned the president in the late spring.

"Dear friend" Petro Poroshenko has long distanced himself from the president and is widely believed to have financed Mr. Lytvyn's political project.

The pro-Tymoshenko wing of Our

Ukraine – People's Self-Defense now controls the bloc as it has 37 of its 72 votes – giving it a one-vote majority in the parliamentary faction.

This takeover by the pro-Tymoshenko wing led Viacheslav Kyrylenko to announce his resignation as Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense parliamentary faction chair and New York native Roman Zvarych to announce his resignation as vice-chair.

Both are among only a handful of stalwarts still supporting Mr. Yushchenko.

The rebellion of the pro-Tymoshenko wing against the president's wishes infuriated Mr. Zvarych, who called it a "moronic" decision that caused him to contemplate quitting the president's Our Ukraine – People's Union party altogether.

Meanwhile, Mr. Kyrylenko, a 40-year-old rising star in Ukrainian politics, not only lost his leadership of the parliamentary faction but also stepped down in early December to allow Mr. Yushchenko to replace him as chair of the Our Ukraine People's Union. He remains loyal to the Our Ukraine People's Union.

"The agreement with Tymoshenko isn't worth the paper it's written on," he commented.

Besides passing a new program of activities, among the coalition agreement's key provisions is the rejection of pre-term parliamentary elections called by the president.

"The coalition agreement is a paper cushion for Tymoshenko to prevent pre-term elections," said Ksenia Liapina, an Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense national deputy loyal to the president.



Volodymyr Lytvyn Bloc Faction Chair Ihor Sharov, Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc Faction Chair Ivan Kyrylenko and Our Ukraine – People's Self-Defense faction Vice-Chair Borys Tarasyuk congratulate each other on December 16 after signing an agreement creating a de facto Coalition for National Development, Stability and Order.

Turning the pages back...

(Continued from page 6)

reform, the near miracle of a president and a solid parliamentary majority in agreement must become a common Ukrainian political event.

"The new Cabinet must become a political leader of political reforms, and unless it works together with the Verkhovna Rada successfully [in the future], this can never happen," Mr. Yushchenko said.

Source: "Verkhovna Rada overwhelmingly approves reformer Viktor Yushchenko as prime minister," by Stefan Korshak, December 26, 1999.

Ukrainian Orthodox...

(Continued from page 6)

1972, in Lviv, Bishop Ilarion began his seminary training at the Ecclesiastical Seminary of Kyiv in 1992. Upon the recommendation of Archbishop Vsevolod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., and with the blessing of Patriarch Bartholomew I, he was sent to the Theological Faculty of the Aristotle University in Thessalonica, Greece, where he graduated in 1997.

He took the name Ilarion at his monastic tonsure on December 5, 1997, and was ordained to the diaconate on December 21, 1997. In 2000 he was ordained to the priesthood by Metropolitan-Archbishop Panteleimon, the abbot of the Holy Monastery of Vlatadon in Thessalonica. Later in 2000 he was elevated to the rank of

heirmonk and continued his studies in Canon Law and completed his master's. Bishop Ilarion's studies continued in the United States at the University of Illinois in Chicago, where he enrolled in English-language lessons.

From 2002 he served the parish of St. Panteleimon in Porto, Portugal. On March 21, 2004, he was elevated to the rank of archimandrite of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and on January 11, 2005, was elected assistant bishop (bishop of Telmissos) to Metropolitan-Archbishop Epiphanius of Spain and Portugal. Bishop Ilarion's episcopal ordination took place in Istanbul at the Patriarchal Cathedral of St. George on January 29, 2005.

A banquet was held at the conclusion of the hierarchical divine liturgy and installation services at St. John's Cathedral Parish's Community Center.

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Report of U.S. Commission...

(Continued from page 5)

Following former Sen. Bradley's address, Vice-Prime Minister Ivan Vasiunyk underscored the fact that without the U.S. congressional bill of 1984, the Parliament of Ukraine would not have passed legislation 22 years later recognizing the Holodomor as genocide against the Ukrainian people. "Without that truth which you together with our fellow Ukrainian brethren in the United States and other countries bore for decades to the governments of Western democracies, the Ukrainian nation would not have obtained this truth, it would not have restored its historical memory nor its historical justice vis-à-vis the millions of innocent people who perished in the Holodomor," stated Mr. Vasiunyk.

Mr. Vasiunyk announced to the guests that, following the example of the U.S. commission Ukraine's Ministry of Justice has created a Ukrainian commission that has been authorized to make a legal assessment and single out those criminals who carried out the heinous and destructive act of the Holodomor against the Ukrainian people.

Mr. Vasiunyk thanked Sen. Bradley for his contribution in creating the U.S. congressional commission that investigated the Holodomor. "We are grateful to you Mr. Senator because this enabled us to honorably pay respect to the memory of our people. Thanks to the path paved by you, your compatriots, as well as many of our brethren, who despite many hurdles even following Ukraine's declaration of independence, remained steadfast and on course for the sake of this sacred cause," added Mr. Vasiunyk.

As director of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy publishing house, Vira Soloviova said the four-volume Ukrainian translation of the U.S. Commission's report is thus far the most important project undertaken by her organization.

On behalf of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy publishing house Ms. Soloviova also expressed her gratitude to the U.S. Embassy's office on press, education and culture for its generous financial support which had been allocated toward the publication of the four-volume Ukrainian translation.

Dr. Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, president emeritus of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, in recalling his first meeting with Dr. Mace in 1989 in New Jersey, credited their friendship as one of the main reasons the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy has published a considerable number of books on the Holodomor over the years. "Dr. Mace often presented lectures on the Holodomor to students and talked to the university's professors on this topic. This inspired our students at the beginning of this decade to engage in an oral history project aimed at locating survivors of the Holodomor, many of whom are no longer with us today," said Dr. Briukhovetsky.

Thus far, six volumes of eyewitness accounts of the ongoing oral history project at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy have been published, according to Dr. Briukhovetsky.

A public member of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, namely, Ulana Mazurkevich, had the opportunity to extend official greetings from Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.), who along with Ms. Mazurkevich served on the commission. In the greetings, which Ms. Mazurkevich relayed in both English and Ukrainian, the senator expressed how proud he was to have served, as a member of the House of Representatives, on the U.S. Congressional Commission on the Ukraine Famine in 1986. He extended his greetings to all Ukrainians commemorating the 75th anniversary of the

Holodomor in Ukraine.

"It is an honor for me to be involved in this project of the reprinting of the commission's report and hearings. I am pleased that the United States Embassy in Kyiv has reprinted this material for it to be presented to the people of Ukraine in the name of U.S.-Ukraine friendship. I wish to thank the first lady of Ukraine for her support of this project, and for using her office to help distribute the report and testimonies to libraries and institutions of higher learning throughout the country," said the statement by Sen. Dorgan.

Presenting former Sen. Bradley with the Poltava Oblast volume of the National Book of Memory series, Dr. Ihor Yukhnovskiy, acting director of the National Institute of Memory, stated that through such books the names of innocent people who were barbarically killed, thrown into ditches and covered with dirt are finally being resurrected. According to Dr. Yukhnovskiy, all the names of the victims which appear in each volume of the series will always be kept in mind by local pastors during Holodomor memorial services.

The National Book of Memory series consists of 19 volumes encompassing 23,000 pages.

On behalf of the Institute of Memory, Dr. Yukhnovskiy thanked Mr. Taylor for the U.S. Embassy's financial support in publishing the four-volume Ukrainian translation of the U.S. commission's report. Dr. Yukhnovskiy also expressed his gratitude to Mr. Bradley: "Thank you Mr. Senator for your wise country and people," added Dr. Yukhnovskiy.

As editor of the four-volume Ukrainian version, Dr. Stanislav Kulchytskyi, deputy director of the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, remarked that the fate of the publication was actually paved long ago by a number of Ukrainian American diaspora activists. "First and foremost, credit should be afforded to Mr. Ihor Olshaniwsky, whose original idea it was to create a congressional commission for the study of the Holodomor in Ukraine," stated Dr. Kulchytskyi. Additional recognition should be given to Prof. Roman Szporluk who taught, nurtured and transformed Dr. James Mace into one of the first American Ukrainianists," added Dr. Kulchytskyi.

Dr. Kulchytskyi, who recently returned from a Holodomor conference sponsored by the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute in Cambridge, Mass., reminded all those present that Sen. Bradley deserves exceptional praise and recognition for pushing the bill for the creation of the Famine commission through Congress precisely because of considerable opposition from the executive branch of the U.S. government at that time.

Finally, Dr. Natalia Shulga presented former Sen. Bradley with a complimentary copy of the bilingual brochure titled "Great Famine in Ukraine 1932-1933." As the compiler of the material for the brochure, Dr. Shulga stated that the publication will serve as a supplement to the four-volume Ukrainian translation of investigative materials and final report to Congress of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine. The brochure consists of previously released material describing the formation of the commission, including previously published articles that appeared in *The Ukrainian Weekly* and offers a concise and succinct history of the creation of the commission. The supplementary brochure was published by the Kyiv Mohyla Academy publishing house in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor in Ukraine.

Following the formal reception program, all those in attendance had the opportunity to meet with the evening's guest of honor and other dignitaries.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

We wish to acknowledge the achievement of Mary Ann Liteplo Harasymowycz

Dr. Mary Ann Liteplo Harasymowycz, daughter of the late Walter and Olga Liteplo and mother of two married sons, Kyprian (Courtney) and Gregory (Krista) Harasymowycz, was awarded her Ph.D. from the University of Plymouth, Devon, England, after successfully defending her doctoral thesis on October 11, 2008. Dr. Harasymowycz became part of the doctoral program in February 2002 and worked with a research group at the University's Centre for Teaching Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. She was awarded her degree in a formal ceremony on December 11, 2008.

Dr. Harasymowycz is in her thirty-first year of teaching mathematics on the secondary level. During ten years of this time, she also enjoyed teaching mathematics part time at Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York. Dr. Harasymowycz is currently a member of the faculty of Williamsville North High School located in a suburb of Buffalo, New York. In 1995 she was awarded the Presidential Award for Teaching Mathematics and represented New York State in a week-long ceremony in Washington, D.C.

In 1994 Dr. Harasymowycz received a fellowship to work with an art colleague to create an interdisciplinary project integrating the study of mathematics and art. Interested in enhancing the teaching and learning of mathematics, Dr. Harasymowycz was prompted by her love of both mathematics and art to do her doctoral research on students' attitudes and beliefs about learning mathematics as compared to their learning of art and music.

The Bobylak and Harasymowycz families congratulate Dr. Mary Ann Harasymowycz for this outstanding accomplishment!

— Helen Bobylak

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Basil Tershakovec...

(Continued from page 4)

students in discussions during his lessons, and would make the lessons more relevant by relating Ukrainian history to events taking place at the same time in other parts of the world. Sometimes he would break into song in his beautiful tenor voice.

He helped prepare the higher grades of Ukrainian studies schools for the maturation, even recording a tape, while he was hospitalized, for the students to review at home. He was a beloved teacher, as seen by the number of students, past and present, who attended his funeral services.

Mr. Tershakovec was an active member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization since joining in 1946 in Germany. He belonged to the New York

City Plast branch, where he was a youth counselor and member of the branch executive board, and in 1955 became a member of Plast's Lisovi Chorty fraternity. He was involved in conducting the fraternity's bicycling camps and its popular masquerade balls.

A gifted singer, he was a member since 1956 of the Dumka Chorus of New York, often performing as a soloist. He also sang with other ensembles both within and outside of Dumka, and he served on the Dumka executive board for many years.

Combining his love of music with his background in history and journalism, he served on the Dumka editorial board, and was a major contributor to its 40th anniversary almanac and its 50th anniversary commemorative program. He also provided editorial assistance for numerous concert programs and often wrote articles

about the chorus and its activities for Ukrainian publications.

His last appearance with the Dumka Chorus was on September 20 at the 50th anniversary celebration of Sacred Heart Monastery of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, during which the choir sang the divine liturgy at St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church in Campbell Hall, N.Y. The day after one of its most dedicated choristers passed away, Dumka sang at the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and dedicated its performance to Mr. Tershakovec's memory.

Mr. Tershakovec appeared in the Lidia Krushelnytsky Drama Studio's musical production "Oy, Ne Khody Hrytsiu" as a member of both the vocal and dance ensembles. As well, he sang in the parish choir of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian

Catholic Church in Newark, N.J.

He was a member of the Ukrainian National Association (Branch 25).

Surviving are Mr. Tershakovec's wife, Mariyka, twin daughters, Anya Tomko, with her husband, Brian, and Alexandra Zawadiwsky, with her husband, Michael; grandchildren, Katria, Lesyk and Liliana Tomko, and Marko, Deanna and Mykola Zawadiwsky; and brother, Ostap with his family.

Funeral services were held on October 21-22, with the funeral liturgy offered at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., and burial at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

Mr. Tershakovec was eulogized by his family, colleagues and friends as a loving husband, father and grandfather, a teacher who passed his love of things Ukrainian on to the next generations, a man who loved life and lived it to the fullest, "someone who was happiest when he could make others happy," and as a Plast member "who fell in love" with the organization and deeply understood Plast ideals and the Plast spirit, as well as the importance of community service for which Plast prepares its scouts.

Memorial donations may be made to the Dumka Chorus (144 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003) or the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies (60 N. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981).

Ukraine recognizes...

(Continued from page 2)

RosUkrEnergo rather than directly if the debt issue is not settled on Gazprom's terms. The Ukrainian weekly Zerkalo Nedeli suggested on November 29 that Naftohaz might be constrained to take another step back and agree to the revival of UkrGaz-Energo, another intermediary that had existed between RosUkrEnergo and Naftohaz before March 2008.

UkrGaz-Energo, a joint venture between Naftohaz and RosUkrEnergo, controlled the most lucrative part of the market, selling gas to industry while Naftohaz supplied gas to residential consumers at low prices. Ms. Tymoshenko has touted the removal of UkrGaz-Energo from the market as one of her main achievements as prime minister.

The article above is reprinted from Eurasia Daily Monitor with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

Lemkin's...

(Continued from page 7)

organized famine is a good occasion to further explain Soviet genocide.

Article II, point C of the Genocide Convention declares that the "deliberate creation of conditions of life calculated to bring about the physical destruction of a nation is genocide." Yes, it is a crime not as a figure of speech, but in terms of the law. And it is right here where Stalin and Al Capone meet.

The United Nations must now concentrate all its efforts to establish a special committee for investigation of Soviet genocide. Such a committee must assemble all evidence and hear witnesses. The Ukrainians can make a great contribution by influencing public opinion and by approaching immediately the governments of the friendly nations. In this I am sure they can provide leadership to other nationality groups because of their deep devotion to the cause of free Ukraine which must be kept alive in order to be able to enjoy freedom.



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- December 26-28
New York Dramatic presentation, "Still the River Flows," Yara Arts Group, La MaMa Experimental Theater, 212-475-7710
- December 28
Toronto Christmas Bazaar, Ukrainian Catholic Women's League - St. Nicholas Branch, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 416-239-1685
- December 31
Stamford, CT New Year's Eve, featuring music by Hrim, St. Basil College, 203-329-8693 or 203-253-8005
- December 31
Jersey City, NJ New Year's Eve, Ukrainian Community Center, 201-982-4967
- December 31
Whippany, NJ New Year's Eve, featuring music by Chetverta Chvylya, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-652-5389 or 973-585-7175
- December 31
Jenkintown, PA New Year's Eve, featuring music by Tempo, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166 or 215-663-8572
- December 31
Ottawa New Year's Eve, Assumption Ukrainian Orthodox Auditorium, 613-521-7522 or 613-237-9760
- December 31
Syracuse, NY New Year's Eve, featuring music by Vorony, Syracuse Ukrainian National Home, 315-478-9272
- January 5
Washington Lecture by former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine William Miller, "Priorities for U.S. Policy Toward Ukraine in the Obama Administration," Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 202-691-4000

January 7
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January 11
Toronto

Christmas Concert, featuring Levada and Orion Choirs and the Vanguard Concert Band of the Ukrainian Youth Ensembles, St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 416-239-1685

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

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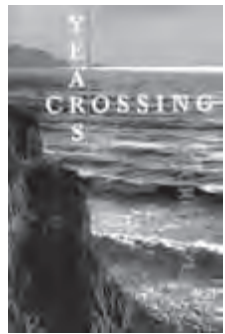
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Crossing Years

a novel

George O. Dzul

"An odyssey that transcends its time and place... A Robinsonade of the XXth century" *The Day* Ukrainian National Newspaper

"George Dzul evokes before us a fantastic panorama of the period 1939-1999" *Literaturna Ukraina*

www.amazon.com
Ukrainian Bookstore – Edmonton, AB – 780-422-4255
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday-Sunday, December 26-28

NEW YORK: La MaMa ETC and Yara Arts Group present "Still the River Flows," a new theater piece by Yara Arts Group directed by Virlana Tkacz and designed by Watoku Ueno, with music director Julian Kytasty, featuring the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia, the Tafiychuk family, Antonia Ermolenko, Lilia Pavlovska, Svitanya Women's Vocal Ensemble, Downtown Bandura Early Music Group, Natalia Honcharenko, Mike Andrec, Roman Turowsky, Nadia Tarnawsky, Brandon Vance and Yara artists plus the Koliada Puppets on Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25; \$10 for children. La MaMa Experimental Theater is located at 74 E. Fourth St (between Second and Third avenues). For information call 212-475-7710.

Wednesday, December 31

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center will host its Gala New Year's Ball beginning at 8 p.m. The evening will feature dancing to the music of the Tempo Orchestra, a lavish buffet, full bar service, free champagne at midnight and

a second hot buffet after midnight. Tickets: \$75; members, \$70; students, \$60. Reservations are required. Payment may be made by cash, check, Visa or Mastercard. Contact information: telephone, 215-663-1166; fax, 215-663-8572; e-mail, contact@ueccphila.org.

Saturday, January 17

CARTERET, N.J.: St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church are co-sponsoring a Malanka (Ukrainian New Year gathering) at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681 Roosevelt Ave. Music will be by Na Zdorovya. Tickets are \$55, which includes admission, choice of sirloin beef or chicken Francaise dinner, open bar, midnight hors d'ouvres and a champagne toast. The center is located just blocks from Exit 12 of the New Jersey Turnpike; there is a Holiday Inn right off the exit. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7 p.m.; music starts at 8 p.m. For table and ticket reservations call Peter Prociuk, 732-541-5452. Tickets will not be sold at the door; outside liquor is prohibited. Deadline to purchase tickets is January 11.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Submissions longer than 100 words are subject to editing. Items submitted without all required information will not be published.

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.**

Malanka 2009 GALA in Washington DC

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