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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Deadly flu epidemic peaks Confusion, controversy linger in Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's deadly influenza epidemic has already reached its peak, government officials said, but confusion, contradiction and controversy linger as medical experts are increasingly baffled by their findings.

British scientists confirmed on November 16 the belief held by Ukrainian doctors that a dangerous mutation of the virus is causing deaths, the 1+1 television network reported. The very next day, however, World Health Organization (WHO) officials claimed no mutation of the virus occurred.

"Fear, panic and total distrust dominate social attitudes and emotions," said Ihor Zhdanov, president of the Open Politics Analytical Center in Kyiv.

Enormous speculation still clouds the epidemic's origins and nature, as well as how the government of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko prepared and responded to it.

As of November 19, the death toll reached 344 out of 1.5 million infected, the Health Ministry reported. Of the 85,904 hospitalized, 54,407 have been released. While deaths rose more than 120 percent between the first and second weeks, the casualty rate slowed to a 62

percent rise in the third week.

Acute respiratory virus infection and influenza have reached their peak and have slowed, Deputy Health Minister Vasyl Lazoryshynets said at a November 16 press briefing. In the meantime, the illness remains an enigma to medical authorities.

The government's official position was first stated by Ms. Tymoshenko and Health Minister Vasyl Kniazevych on October 30, essentially describing it as a seasonal viral epidemic with occasional H1N1 strains that causes pneumonia. The government declared a quarantine of nine oblasts and a three-week recess for educational institutions.

Similarly, President Viktor Yushchenko noted in a November 4 statement that "three viral agents of serious viral infection simultaneously combined: two seasonal ones and the California [H1N1 virus]."

"The joining of infections as a result of mutations could lead to an even bigger, new, aggressive virus, according to the conclusions of virologists," the president said.

Former Health Minister Mykola Polischuk said it's a standard seasonal virus with occasional H1N1 traces and no

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76th anniversary of Holodomor marked at St. Patrick's Cathedral



Hierarchs of the Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic Churches officiate the requiem service at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Pictured (from left): Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten, Metropolitan Constantine, Metropolitan Stefan Soroka, Bishop Daniel, the Rev. Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay and Archbishop Antony (at the podium).

NEW YORK – Thousands of Ukrainian Americans attended the commemoration of the 76th anniversary of the Holodomor at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on November 14.

Tamara Olexy, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), called on the Ukrainian American community "to continue to work on behalf of the innocent victims of Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933, and in their name educate the public about this heinous crime against humanity. ...to spread the truth to the world in the hope that such crimes never happen again."

The UCCA is the sponsor of the Holodomor commemoration at St. Patrick's Cathedral. The event is co-hosted by the Eastern Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and the Stamford Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church (UCC). Hosting hierarchs were Archbishop Antony (UOC) and Bishop Paul Chomnycky (UCC).

Archbishop Antony recounted the events of 1932-1933 in Ukraine. A requiem service concelebrated by the hierarchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, including Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka, Bishop Chomnycky and Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten; and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, including Metropolitan-Archbishop Constantine, Archbishop Antony and Bishop Daniel; assisted by 30 clergy of the Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic Churches. The Dumka Chorus of New York, under the direction of Vasyl Hrechynsky, sang the responses.

William Pope, senior advisor for Europe at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, read President Barack Obama's message

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International campaign recalls Famine-Genocide

OTTAWA – An educational campaign recalling the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine, known as the Holodomor, was launched on November 16. Thousands of postcards are being sent to Embassies and Consulates internationally, urging governments to officially recognize that the Famine was an act of genocide perpetrated by the Soviet regime of Joseph Stalin. Canada is one of the few countries that have already recognized the Holodomor as genocide.

Drawing upon the writings of Dr. Raphael Lemkin, the "father of the [U.N.] Genocide Convention," who described the "destruction of the Ukrainian nation" as the "classic example of Soviet genocide," the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Foundation and partner groups around the world are mailing postcards featuring a pastel drawing of Lemkin and an excerpt from his 1953 speech "Soviet Genocide in the Ukraine," an effort timed to coincide with the annual day of mourning for the Holodomor's victims, November 28.

Prof. Lubomyr Luciuk, editor of "Holodomor: Reflections on the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine," commented: "Many millions of men,

women and children suffered agonizing deaths in Soviet Ukraine in 1932-1933 during what was arguably one of the greatest acts of genocide to befoul 20th century European history. To this day, there are Holodomor-deniers attempting to obfuscate what happened, continuing to cover up this Communist crime against humanity. This educational effort is therefore aimed at reminding governments everywhere that the father of the United Nations Convention on Genocide was personally convinced of the genocidal character of Soviet rule in Ukraine. We are also calling upon countries that believe in upholding the relevance of the U.N. Genocide Convention to officially recognize the truth of what happened during the Holodomor."

For the full text of Lemkin's speech and to see the postcard log on to www.uccca.ca and go to Sources & Issues/Great Famine.

The postcard released by the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Foundation, with support from Ukrainian organizations in Canada, the United States, Australia and Great Britain, as part of an educational campaign about the Holodomor features Raphael Lemkin, the father of the Convention on Prevention



The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Foundation's postcard features a drawing of Raphael Lemkin.

and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide adopted by the United Nations in 1948.

ANALYSIS

Ukraine's presidential hopefuls spell out their programs

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RI

The deadline to register candidates for Ukraine's presidential election was November 9, after which the seven candidates who were refused registration were given two additional days to resubmit their applications. On November 13, the Central Election Commission will confirm the final list of candidates for the January 17, 2010, presidential vote.

The main reason some candidates were denied registration was their failure to prove they had provided the mandatory \$300,000 deposit, which candidates that fail to make it to the second round of voting will forfeit. Although the deposit is large, political forces might have good reason to back the registration of so-called technical candidates. First, they mean additional representatives on the election boards that count the votes and; second, they could emerge as a potential ally in the second round.

In 1999, 13 candidates vied for the post, while in 2004, there were 24. This time around, 18 people will attempt to become the next president of Ukraine. Those 18 candidates can be divided into three groups. First, there are the two leading contenders – Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and Party of Regions Chair Viktor Yanukovich, each of whom is polling about 20-30 percent support.

The second-tier candidates include incumbent President Viktor Yushchenko, former Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, former National Bank of Ukraine Chair Serhiy Tihipko and Verkhovna Rada Chair Volodymyr Lytvyn. Support for these candidates is in the 3-8 percent range.

The rest can be considered technical or spoiler candidates, including former Defense Minister Anatoliy Grytsenko, nationalist Svoboda party leader Oleh Tiahnybok, Free Democrats party leader Mykhailo Brodsky, and eight others who have the backing of no more than 1 percent of the electorate.

Setting out programs

It's interesting to take a look at the domestic- and foreign-policy programs of the first- and second-tier candidates. The platforms reveal many similarities, particularly in the realm of populist social initiatives. The programs of four of the candidates bear distinct hallmarks of Soviet nostalgia.

With an eye on the former Communist Party supporters that have defected to the Party of Regions over the last five years, Mr. Yanukovich has adopted rhetoric about economic growth and political stability that echoes what one hears in Russia these days.

Mr. Yatsenyuk's campaign, which has been widely criticized for adopting a military-camouflage color scheme, is dominated by Soviet-style slogans such as "New Industrialization" and "A Healthy and Educated People."

Mr. Lytvyn's program also looks backward with an eye toward gaining the support of former Socialist Party (SPU) voters in the small towns and rural areas of

Taras Kuzio is a senior fellow of Ukrainian studies at the University of Toronto, adjunct research professor at the Institute of European and Russian Studies at Carleton University, and editor of the bimonthly "Ukraine Analyst."

central Ukraine. SPU leader Oleksander Moroz discredited himself and his party when he defected from the Orange coalition in July 2006.

Mr. Tihipko, who is also a successful private banker from Dnipropetrovsk, is predictably emphasizing the central role of economic policy, thereby echoing the 1994 campaign of former President Leonid Kuchma. Mr. Tihipko's slogans include, somewhat strangely, "The Economy Above All Else" and "Ukraine's Interests Above All Else."

Mr. Yanukovich likewise emphasizes "A Strong Economy – A Strong Country."

The eastern Ukraine candidates – including Messrs. Tihipko and Yanukovich – place less emphasis on democracy, the rule of law and corruption. In fact, the Yanukovich program does not even mention corruption.

Popular populist measures

Traditionally, Ukrainian presidential candidates promise to battle corruption energetically, but once in office do little to realize this pledge. Combating corruption requires political will – something that exists in Georgia, but not in Ukraine.

The German think-tank Transparency International has reported that Ukraine made some progress against corruption in 2005 and 2006, but since 2007 has fallen back to the dismal ratings of the Kuchma era. In contrast, Georgia has improved its rating each year since 2004. In the 2008 ranking, Ukraine came in at 134th, while Georgia had risen to 67th.

In 2004, Mr. Yushchenko promised "to send the bandits to jail," but five years later Ukraine's elites remain above the law and Ukrainian "bandits" have gone to jail in the United States and Germany, but not in Ukraine. This time around, only Ms. Tymoshenko's program explicitly condemns the capture of the Ukrainian state by oligarchs.

Populism is a traditional hallmark of Ukrainian presidential elections. In 2004, Mr. Yushchenko offered his "10 Steps" program that included many social populist initiatives. The Party of Regions recently introduced legislation in parliament to increase social payments, repeating a tactic then-Prime Minister Yanukovich used in 2004 when he doubled pensions. That initiative was backed by all parliamentary factions except Ms. Tymoshenko's and was signed into law by President Yushchenko.

The measure casts doubt on whether the International Monetary Fund will disburse the fourth tranche of a stand-by agreement loan before the election, opening up the real possibility of default. Nonetheless, Mr. Yanukovich's current program cynically declares the 2010 election is an opportunity to "clean out the populists and political adventurers from the Ukrainian government."

Of the seven main candidates, only Mr. Yanukovich and Ms. Tymoshenko prioritize national and religious matters. As in 2004, Mr. Yanukovich supports elevating Russian to the status of a second state language, a step also supported by Messrs. Symonenko and Tihipko and, possibly, Mr. Lytvyn. As in 2004, the second round will most likely again give voters two positions on the state language: Ukrainian (Tymoshenko) versus Ukrainian-Russian (Yanukovich).

Foreign policy

In the foreign-policy domain, none of

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NEWSBRIEFS

Senate committee OKs Tefft

WASHINGTON – The nomination of Ambassador John F. Tefft by U.S. President Barack Obama to be the next U.S. ambassador to Ukraine was approved on November 17 by the members of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The next step is for the nomination to be approved by the entire Senate in a motion on the Senate floor. This will most likely be a unanimous consent vote. It is hoped that the vote will take place this week as the U.S. Senate is out all of next week for the Thanksgiving holiday. After the Senate vote, Ambassador Tefft will be sworn in and will travel to Kyiv to assume his duties. Ambassador Tefft was nominated by President Barack Obama on September 30. A hearing on his nomination took place on October 8. (U.S.-Ukraine Business Council)

Rada urges nomination of defense minister

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on November 16 asked President Viktor Yushchenko to immediately nominate a candidate for defense minister of Ukraine, Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said at a meeting of the Conciliation Board. Mr. Lytvyn suggested considering this matter simultaneously with army funding both by the end of this year and for the next year. His statement was supported by the chair of the Rada's Committee on Defense and National Security. As reported earlier, President Yushchenko blamed Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko for destructive processes in the army and demanded that she provide extra funds for the armed forces. Meanwhile, the post of defense minister has been vacant for more than five months since Yuriy Yekhanurov was dismissed on June 5 at Ms. Tymoshenko's initiative. The prime minister accused the Defense Ministry of financial fraud and land abuses. However, no proof of abuses has been found thus far. Ex-Defense Minister Yekhanurov, who was then appointed the first vice-chair of the Presidential Secretariat, filed suit on October 15 demanding his reinstatement as defense minister. (Ukrinform)

President nominates Yekhanurov

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on November 18 tabled in Parliament a motion on the appointment of Yuriy Yekhanurov as defense minister. Mr. Yekhanurov held this post from December 2007 to June 5 of this year, when the Parliament dismissed him at the request of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Accusations of corruption that were made against Mr. Yekhanurov have not been confirmed. Valerii Ivaschenko has temporarily fulfilled the minister's duties. The Verkhovna Rada's Committee on National Security and Defense, which is headed by presidential candidate and ex-Defense Minister Anatoliy Grytsenko, is not planning to support Mr. Yekhanurov's nomination as defense minister. The parliamentary factions of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Party of Regions and the Communist Party also said that they would not back the second appointment of Mr. Yekhanurov to this post. (Ukrinform)

Flu kills 328 in Ukraine

KYIV – As of November 18, Ukraine's Health Ministry reported a total of 1,457,564 people ill with flu and acute respiratory virus infections, 83,026 of whom were hospitalized. The death toll stood at 328. The epidemic level was reached in 19 oblasts and the city of Kyiv. (Ukrinform)

Epidemic reported to have peaked

KYIV – The epidemic of flu and acute respiratory viral illnesses has reached its peak in Ukraine, Deputy Health Minister Vasyl Lazoryshynets said on November 16, noting that the epidemic growth curve had stopped and that 54 percent of the 175,800 people hospitalized since October 29 had been discharged from hospitals. Mr. Lazoryshynets said that 17,000 citizens had asked for medical assistance over the past 24 hours. He said that the number of patients in intensive care units had fallen to 354. Ukraine has registered 166 cases of the H1N1 flu virus

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ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3041

e-mail: ukradmin@att.net

Maria Oscislawski, advertising manager

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040

fax: (973) 644-9510

e-mail: adukr@optonline.net

Mariyka Pendzola, subscriptions

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3042

e-mail: ukrsubscr@att.net

Deadly flu epidemic...

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cause for alarm, pointing out that acute respiratory illnesses infected 3,221 Ukrainians in the first 10 months of 2009, compared to 3,989 in the same year-ago period. "It's a lot, but less by 700 compared to 2008," he said on November 3. "But no one kept the people in fear last year."

While officials and bureaucrats stuck to similar opinions, doctors in western Ukraine with first-hand experience treating patients and victims have offered sharply contrasting opinions.

The 22 virus fatalities in the Chernivtsi Oblast, all of whom were victims between age 20 and 40, were not caused by double pneumonia, but "viral distress syndrome," or a total inflammation of the lungs, said Dr. Viktor Bachynskyi, director of the Chernivtsi Oblast Judicial-Medical Analysis Bureau.

"A certain morphological picture is noticed in double pneumonia, which isn't the case with these deaths," Dr. Bachynskyi told a local newspaper, Doba, on November 11. "The fatal virus is very aggressive, not even touching the trachea, but immediately finding its way to the lungs and causing their acute swelling and massive hemorrhaging."

He observed "H1N1 influenza mixing with para-influenza viruses." Dr.

Bachynskyi, who led a group of researchers, added, "It's a very toxic strain which still hasn't come under the Health Ministry's developed treatment methods."

Dr. Roman Ostiak, the head doctor at the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Clinical Hospital, speaking with a local television network on October 28 shared his speculation that it could be a mixed "viral-bacterial infection," or an unidentified virus.

He witnessed "exceptionally severe hemorrhaging pneumonia" in which patients had temperatures of about 99 degrees, light coughing and joint pain. A headache emerged on the second or third day, followed by heavy breathing.

As reported in Chernivtsi, transferring patients to an artificial respirator didn't help breathing in the lungs, which eventually filled with blood, as observed in Ivano-Frankivsk. In Chernivtsi, using an artificial respirator led to certain death in all the victims.

Meanwhile, the British scientists examining corpses at a Lviv hospital suspected a dangerous mutation, with symptoms similar to the 1918 Spanish flu virus that killed tens of millions of people worldwide, the 1+1 television network reported on November 16.

"We conducted autopsies of two victims and their lungs were black as coal," said a British scientist, who was not identified by 1+1. "They looked as though they were burned. It's horrid."



Health Minister Vasyl Kniazevych.

Dr. Myron Borysevych, the head doctor at the Lviv Ambulatory Hospital, ruled out H1N1 altogether and diagnosed the illness as viral pneumonia. "We don't believe it's the H1N1 swine flu, but we don't know what kind of pneumonia this is," he said.

So while government officials insist the illness is pneumonia caused by seasonal influenza, doctors are still searching. Suspicions shared on Internet blogs and news sites have been as extreme as genetically engineered killer viruses unleashed on the population, which many Ukrainians are liable to believe.

While the public hoped its politicians would act responsibly with public security in mind, it came as no surprise that an epidemic causing scores of deaths became fuel for politics during a nasty presidential election campaign.

Accusations flew in Prime Minister Tymoshenko's direction. Often they were contradictory: she waited too long to respond, she didn't do enough, she overreacted, she failed to prepare properly, she played the epidemic for politics, she exacerbated public panic, she spent too much money, she didn't spend enough.

The result was that the Ukrainian public didn't receive a clear or consistent message from the nation's politicians, observers said.

Both presidential candidate Arseniy Yatsenyuk and President Viktor Yushchenko criticized Ms. Tymoshenko for holding her October 24 campaign kick-off on Kyiv's Independence Square, involving between 100,000 and 200,000 supporters, some of whom were arrived by bus from Halychyna.

President Yushchenko alleged Ms. Tymoshenko was aware that an epidemic was unfolding as early as October 20, when the rate of acute respiratory viral infections in Ternopil surpassed the epidemic level and the city's nurseries and schools were closed.

By October 24, 10 infection/influenza-related deaths were confirmed in the Ternopil Oblast and six in the Lviv Oblast, the president said a statement that at moments was rambling and unbalanced. "An elementary ignoring of measures with which the prevention struggle begins against this illness in any country of the world, any society," the president's November 4 statement said. "But we need to hold a show, we need concerts because everything is paid. 130 million [hrv] was already spent."

Mr. Yatsenyuk one-upped the president and said Ms. Tymoshenko was aware as early as October 3, when daily sanitary-epidemiological reports placed on her desk began to indicate a quickly spreading infection.

They both compared this event to the May 1 parade following the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April 1986.



Former Health Minister Mykola Polischuk.

Mr. Zhdanov, a former Our Ukraine consultant, noted that while criticizing the prime minister for hosting the October 24 event, President Yushchenko himself organized an October 28 campaign rally at the Central Election Commission involving about 5,000 supporters demonstrating a degree of hypocrisy.

Messrs. Yushchenko and Yatsenyuk also criticized the prime minister for overreacting and causing excessive panic among the population, particularly in calling a three-week recess for educational institutions nationwide.

"Tymoshenko is creating a myth about the 'horrible' flu which can't be eliminated," declared a freely distributed Yatsenyuk newsletter produced days after an epidemic was declared, under a masthead that read, "Against Panic."

The campaign cited statistics that epidemic levels for acute respiratory viral infections and influenza virus were surpassed in the nation's eight westernmost oblasts, with no need to call a nationwide quarantine.

About 357,800 victims would indicate a national epidemic, yet only 256,000 were ill by the end of the first week of November.

The same newsletter lambasted Ms. Tymoshenko for knowing "three weeks before the meeting about the quickly spreading infection, yet taking no measures to combat this problem."

Meanwhile, opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich called for Mr. Kniazevych's dismissal.

"There is a direct analogy here – the current government wasn't ready for the economic crisis and didn't prepare and disoriented practically the whole country that a crisis wouldn't come to Ukraine," Mr. Yanukovich said on October 30. "They did the same with the epidemic."

Though accusing Ms. Tymoshenko of "dragging society into panic," President Yushchenko's November 4 statement pushed the envelope farther than anyone, hysterically calling for "the need to change the whole system of organizing state government in Ukraine," observers noted.

"Now, at this minute, isn't the time for asking and waiting," the statement said. "The main center of making decisions should become the National Security and Defense Council."

Such alarming statements, coupled with subsequent pronouncements from his advisers in the mass media raising the possibility of martial law, revealed hypocrisy on the president's end, observers said.

This was evident when President Yushchenko said the flu situation was "under control" at a press conference the next day with Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, who was visiting Ukraine.

First medical aid shipments sent from Canada to Ukraine

TORONTO – The first two Canadian relief shipments of H1N1 medical supplies left Monday and Tuesday evening, November 9-10, from Toronto's Pearson Airport bound for Kyiv. The shipments were organized by the Canada Ukraine Foundation (CUF) in conjunction with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) in response to an urgent appeal by Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash.

The shipments consisted of some 9,000 pounds of urgently needed medical supplies that included masks, surgical gowns, disposable gloves, hand sanitizers, oxymeters and assorted other medical goods and equipment. Future shipments will include antibiotics, anti-virals and other medications that are currently in short supply in Ukraine.

Bohdan Onyschuk, president of CUF, expressed his particular gratitude to Health Partners International for donating a large part of these supplies, as well as to Air Canada and Cole Freight Inc. for pro-

viding transportation and freight forwarding services for these shipments at no cost. He also praised Ambassador Ostash and the Ukrainian Embassy staff in Ottawa for their tireless efforts in fast-tracking the clearance of these shipments with Ukrainian Customs and Ministry of Health officials in Ukraine.

Ostap Hawaleshka, former president of the CUF, accompanied the initial shipment. He will work with Ukraine's Ministry of Health to coordinate future shipments and ensure they are distributed in Ukraine to areas of most need.

Fund-raising efforts within Canada's Ukrainian community are continuing. To donate to the Ukraine Pandemic Appeal, readers may long on to www.cufoundation.ca or mail donations to Canada Ukraine Foundation, 203-952 Main St., Winnipeg, MB Canada R2W 3P4.

For more information log on to www.ucc.ca or www.cufoundation.ca, or contact Lesia Demkowicz at ucc@ucc.ca or 204-942-4627.



Organizers of the aid shipment sent by the Canada Ukraine Foundation and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (from left) Serhiy Kasyanchuk, Bob Onyschuk and Michael Zozula.

76th anniversary...

(Continued from page 1)

on Ukrainian Holodomor Remembrance Day. (The full text appears on page 4.)

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) thanked the Ukrainian American community for annually commemorating the victims of the Holodomor at St. Patrick's Cathedral. "The effort of the Ukrainian community here and broad has made us remember," the senator noted. "It [the service] makes the whole world remember."

Sen. Schumer remarked that the Holodomor was "the worst holocaust the world has ever known."

"Today the American Ukrainian community lives despite Stalin's efforts. We see it everywhere. We see it in a free and democratic Ukraine, and we must never let Russia remove that freedom from Ukraine by any means. The United States must stand with Ukraine to keep it free... I am so proud that there are so many Ukrainian Americans here in New York, and I am equally proud that the community has been replenished by the new wave of immigrants... So we say to the evil tyrants, we say to Stalin, you may have tried to annihilate the Ukrainian people, but the Ukrainian people live. God bless them," he said.

Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Oleh Shamshur underscored the worldwide effort to "spread the truth about the Holodomor across the world, but we are conscious that much more is

yet to be done to achieve an even wider international recognition of the genocidal character of the Famine of 1932-1933." Mr. Shamshur reminded the audience members of the construction of the memorial monument in Washington dedicated to the victims of the Holodomor that is scheduled for completion in 2013.

Also representing Ukraine's diplomatic corps, Yuriy Sergeyev, ambassador of Ukraine to the United Nations, underscored, that "the Holodomor is one of the darkest pages in Ukraine's history, during which millions of innocent victims were starved to death."

Mr. Sergeyev thanked representatives of several U.N. member-states for their attendance and support: "We highly value those important signs of worldwide solidarity and support. We are grateful to all the parliamentarians and governments who have already shown us their understanding... I am confident that the process that has started will not be stopped by anybody, and the international recognition of the Holodomor will continue to grow. Let us remember about this tragedy, which is a tragedy to not only Ukraine, but the entire mankind."

Mark Edwards, a producer of the documentary "The Living," recounted his experience of learning about the Holodomor through the words of the survivors, 60 of whom were interviewed throughout Ukraine during the making of the film.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.) also sent



Clergy listen to the Dumka Chorus of New York during the requiem service.

remarks on the 76th anniversary of Ukraine's Genocide.

Sen. Gillibrand noted, "As we commemorate the anniversary of the Ukrainian Genocide, we demonstrate our commitment to human rights and to ensuring that this will never happen again."

In his statement on November 6, Rep. Levin stated, "The recently opened Soviet archives show the pre-mediated, political nature of the Famine. The commendable work of Ukrainian scholars and the Ukrainian American community is helping to bring these horrors to light to ensure our

collective memory of this terrible act." Rep. Levin is co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and a main sponsor of the bill to erect the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide Memorial in Washington.

Metropolitan-Archbishop Soroka concluded the requiem service with remarks about the Holodomor and its ongoing effects on Ukrainian history. He also expressed gratitude to Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York Timothy Dolan, and the entire staff of St. Patrick's Cathedral, for use of the landmark house of worship for the ecumenical service.



Participants listen to the speakers at St. Patrick's Cathedral.



U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer at the Holodomor service.

CAMPAIGN WATCH

EU to send over 700 monitors

KYIV – Member-countries of the European Union will send more than 700 monitors for the presidential election in Ukraine, Foreign Affairs Minister Petro Poroshenko said on November 18. "Yet, nobody feels any concern after the recent visit of a task force that pointed out the openness and transparency of the candidate registration process, and free access of all candidates to the mass media," the minister said. Election day is January 17, 2010. (Ukrinform)

Income ranking of candidates

KYIV – Serhii Tihipko is the wealthiest among Ukraine's 18 presidential candidates, reporting a total income for 2008 of more than 20 million hrv (\$2.5 million U.S.). In second place is Mykhailo Brodsky with income of 18.6 million hrv (\$2.3 million) in 2008. Viktor Yanukovich reported 4.8 million hrv (\$600,000). The incumbent, Viktor Yushchenko, earned more than 1 million

hrv (\$125,000) last year. The Central Election Commission completed its registration of presidential candidates on November 13. (Ukrinform)

Election will cost 122 M hrv more

KYIV – The presidential election in 2010 will cost 122 million hrv more due to a rise in the minimum wage, the deputy chair of the Central Election Commission (CEC), Zhanna Usenko-Chorna, said at a press conference on November 18. She said the commission would soon review its budget and submit a request to Parliament so that higher expenditures are taken into account in the state budget. Ms. Usenko-Chorna said that 80 percent of state budget spending on the organization of presidential elections in Ukraine is for wages of election commission members. The commission previously estimated expenditures on organizing and holding the presidential election at 212.3 million hrv this year and 1.532 billion hrv next year. (Ukrinform)

Statement by President Barack Obama on Ukrainian Holodomor Remembrance Day

The statement below was released on November 13 by the White House Office of the Press Secretary.

Seventy-six years ago, millions of innocent Ukrainians – men, women and children – starved to death as a result of the deliberate policies of the regime of Joseph Stalin. Tomorrow, we join together, Ukrainian-Americans and all Americans, to commemorate these tragic events and to honor the many victims.

From 1932 to 1933, the Ukrainian people suffered horribly during what has become known as the Holodomor – "death by hunger" – due to the Stalin regime's seizure of crops and farms across Ukraine. Ukraine had once been

a breadbasket of Europe. Ukrainians could have fed themselves and saved millions of lives, had they been allowed to do so. As we remember this calamity, we pay respect to millions of victims who showed tremendous strength and courage. The Ukrainian people overcame the horror of the great famine and have gone on to build a free and democratic country.

Remembering the victims of the man-made catastrophe of Holodomor provides us an opportunity to reflect upon the plight of all those who have suffered the consequences of extremism and tyranny around the world. We hope that the remembrance of Holodomor will help prevent such tragedy in the future.

OBITUARIES

Iryna Senyk, 83, OUN member, former Soviet political prisoner

KYIV – Iryna Senyk, poet, former Soviet political prisoner, a member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and the Ukrainian Helsinki Group (UHG), died on October 25. She was 83.

Ms. Senyk was born on June 8, 1926, into a family of “Sichovi Striltsi” (Ukrainian Sich Riflemen, military units fighting for Ukraine’s independence in Halychyna from 1912 through 1919). She became a member of the OUN in 1941, although she had acted as a messenger in a youth section of the OUN beginning in 1939.

Due to her involvement in the Ukrainian national liberation movement, Ms. Senyk was arrested by Soviet authorities on December 12, 1945, and accused of “treason against the homeland” (Article 54-1 a) and “involvement in a counter-revolutionary organization” (Article 54-11) of the Criminal Code. She was sentenced in March 1946 by an NKVD military tribunal to 10 years in a labor camp and lifelong exile.

In 1968 she was released, but prohibited from returning to Lviv. She settled in Ivano-Frankivsk, where she became friendly with the Shestydesiatnyky (patriotic Ukrainian activists of the 1960s) and worked as a nurse.

On November 17, 1972, she was arrested and charged with engaging in “anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda” under Article 62-2 of the Criminal Code. On January 26, 1973, the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Court declared her a particularly dangerous repeat offender. However, bearing in mind her poor health – in 1958 she had undergone a serious operation – the court sentenced her to



Iryna Senyk in a photo taken at the offices of The Ukrainian Weekly in 1990.

six years of harsh-regime labor camp and five years of exile outside the borders of Ukraine.

She served her sentence in the women’s unit of the Mordovian ASSR’s political labor camps, where she took part in hunger strikes to mark the Day of Solidarity with Soviet Political Prisoners, and signed letters and appeals to the world community trying to draw attention to the “flagrant violations of basic human rights” in the USSR.

On November 15, 1978, after six years of

(Continued on page 21)

Yakiv Suslensky, 80, advocate of Ukrainian-Jewish relations

JERUSALEM – Yakiv Suslensky, a former Soviet political prisoner who became an Israeli civic activist and founded the Society for Ukrainian-Jewish Contacts, died in Jerusalem on October 19. He was 80.

Mr. Suslensky was born in the Leningrad Oblast in 1929. He spoke out against the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and the anti-Semitic policies of the USSR and was charged with “anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.” He served seven years, 1970-1977, in camps and prisons of the USSR for his human rights activities.

While imprisoned he initiated a movement for the recognition of the status of political prisoners in keeping with international accords on human rights. He and his fellow political prisoners of various nationalities refused to do forced labor and protested the degrading conditions in which they were held. They appealed to the United Nations for support and authored a document on the status of the political prisoner that was known in the West as the “Appeal of the 67.”

At one point close to death in the Soviet gulag, Mr. Suslensky credited two Ukrainian political prisoners, Zynoviy Antoniuk and Hryhoriy Prykhodko, with saving his life. Mr. Suslensky said he began to sympathize with the Ukrainian struggle for independence while in prison. He spoke often of his experiences in the camps and of his friendship with Ukrainian political prisoners such as Yevhen Sverstiuk, Lev Lukianenko and the late Vyacheslav Chornovil.



Yakiv Suslensky in a 1994 photo.

He emigrated with his daughter from the Soviet Union to Israel in 1977. Two years later he founded the Society for Ukrainian-Jewish Contacts, which worked toward the normalization of relations between the two nationalities and against harmful stereotypes. In his role as president of the society, Mr. Suslensky traveled to various points around the globe, visiting the United States and Canada dozens of times. Though based in Israel, the society at one point had some 400 members worldwide.

Mr. Suslensky spoke at countless venues

(Continued on page 20)

Stefan Tatarenko, public servant, Ukrainian community activist, 62

CLIFTON, N.J. – Stefan Tatarenko, a community leader in Clifton, N.J., and a Ukrainian community activist in New Jersey, died on November 12 after a long and courageous battle. He was at his home surrounded by loved ones.

A long-time resident of Clifton, Mr. Tatarenko, 62, was known to the city’s residents as responsive public servant always ready to help anyone who sought his assistance. He entered politics in 1991 and was elected to the Clifton Board of Education, serving for six years. In 1998 he was elected to the City Council and served for eight years.

He was the current president of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Clifton, as well as a long-time member of the parish choir. He was active in the Ukrainian Orthodox League, at one time serving as president of the Junior UOL.

His activity in the Ukrainian community spanned many organizations, most notably the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, in which he was an executive board member and onetime president of the Passaic-Bergen County branch. He was a former member of the Ukrainian Festival Committee that organized annual festivals at the Garden State Arts Center and was a member of the Ukrainian National Association.

Peter Paluch of Rutherford, N.J., told a local newspaper, The Record, that Mr. Tatarenko worked to raise awareness of Ukrainian issues, such as the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Former Clifton Councilman Ed Welsh commented that Mr. Tatarenko’s pride in his family and Ukrainian heritage was “second to none.”

Mr. Tatarenko, a native of Germany, arrived in the United States at the age of 7. He graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam war; he had been stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.

He had a successful career in the textile industry, working at both Burlington Knit and Safer Textiles.

Friends said Mr. Tatarenko would be



Stefan Tatarenko

remembered for his bright smile and ability to entertain an audience with both a microphone and accordion in hand. He was a musician with the Tempo orchestra for many years and was known for playing his accordion during the popular Ukrainian sing-alongs held in Wildwood, N.J., during Ukrainian Week. In 2008 he was one of the organizers of the first ever Accordionfest held at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey that brought together a dozen accordionists.

Surviving are Mr. Tatarenko’s wife, Anna, and sons, Peter and Andrew, as well as a sister, Alexandria Kowalenko, and other family members in the United States and Ukraine. He was predeceased by his parents, Wasyl and Maria Tatarenko, and his sister Raya of Ukraine.

The funeral liturgy for Mr. Tatarenko was offered at Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church on Saturday, November 14, and interment was at St. Andrew’s Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION will mail Christmas greetings and small gift packages to American-Ukrainian service people presently serving their country in many parts of the world.

UNA wishes to solicit your help in getting names, addresses and ranks of any Ukrainian you may know who is serving in the armed forces. Help make this project successful. UNA will mail Christmas and New Year’s greetings to our service people by December 25, 2009.

We wish to contact all our service men and women. With your help we will reach most of them!

Name: _____

Rank: _____

Address: _____

Please send the information by December 14, 2009, to:

Ukrainian National Association, Inc.,
UNA National Organizer – Oksana Trytjak
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

tel: 1 973 292-9800 x3071 e-mail: oksanauna@comcast.net

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The UNA's successful year

Last week's front page of The Ukrainian Weekly carried a headline proclaiming the latest good news about the Ukrainian National Association: "UNA reports successful year, despite economic downturn." The story about the 2009 annual meeting of the UNA General Assembly (its highest decision-making body between quadrennial conventions) reported that the Ukrainian National Association had enjoyed a very successful year since the 2008 annual meeting.

President Stefan Kaczaraj could hardly contain his enthusiasm when he stated: "We are pleased to report that it has been a record-breaking year for the UNA." Sales of annuities led the UNA's growth, with new business income surpassing \$20 million in the first three quarters of 2009, as compared to \$11.4 million for all of last year. (The annuities income for 2008 had been a new record, which has now been overtaken by the figures for 2009.) National Secretary Christine Kozak added to the good news by pointing out that the strong sales of annuities led to sales of life insurance, which is the UNA's core business, with the result that life insurance sales also have experienced a higher rate of growth when compared with the previous year.

UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich was happy to inform the General Assembly that, while most suffered investment losses during 2008, the UNA had a healthy growth in investment income thanks to a conservative investment policy that protected its portfolio during the worldwide financial crisis. Furthermore, the UNA's total assets grew to just under \$99 million – the highest level in the UNA's history – and surplus increased to over \$5 million at a time when most insurance companies and fraternal benefit societies alike saw their surpluses decline.

At Soyuzivka there was great news about the Ukrainian Cultural Festival of 2009, which attracted 7,000 visitors – roughly doubling the number of attendees from 2008. A full one-third of this year's guests had never before been to Soyuzivka, so there is reason to expect return visits from a whole new group of people. Another good indicator of Soyuzivka's vitality: camp attendance was up by 25 percent from 2008 to 2009.

The UNA's publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly – two of the fraternal organization's most popular fraternal benefits – are succeeding in containing their expenses, most notably with the switchover to a new print shop in the Philadelphia area that will allow the newspapers to save an estimated \$35,000 to \$40,000 per year. Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly continue to work on the digitization of their archives, thanks to several major sponsors, and both newspapers are taking the next steps toward online subscriptions (that's in addition to, not in place of, regular subscriptions by mail).

Also worth noting was the UNA executives' report to the annual meeting that the UNA had hired a professional marketing specialist to work on advertising and promoting the UNA, its products and its fraternal benefits, most importantly Svoboda, The Weekly and the Soyuzivka Heritage Center. It was a step long overdue that is sure to yield good results for all these entities.

As Mr. Kaczaraj underscored in his report to the dedicated UNA activists who serve on the General Assembly, the UNA "continues to move in the right direction, with income increasing and expenses declining." In the end, the message at the annual meeting was clear: the Ukrainian National Association is looking ahead to more good news and much progress in the year – and years – ahead.

Nov.
22
2005

Turning the pages back...

Four years ago, on November 22, 2005, President George W. Bush released a message from the White House to mark the first anniversary of the Orange Revolution in Ukraine.

"One year ago today, hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens stood up to defend democracy in their homeland. Through great courage and determination, they showed the world that the love of liberty is stronger than the will of tyranny. Last year's revolution was a powerful example of freedom and democracy in action and an inspiration to those aspiring for freedom in their own land," President Bush stated.

"Ukraine's leadership now faces an historic opportunity and has an historic responsibility to fulfill the promise of the Orange Revolution and continue to transform Ukraine into a fully democratic state. The United States will continue to support the efforts of President Viktor Yushchenko in advancing a democratic, prosperous and secure Ukraine, and America is proud to call Ukraine a friend," the statement continued.

The first anniversary of the Orange Revolution was marked in Ukraine with events on Independence Square. Yulia Tymoshenko, who was dismissed in September 2005 from her post as prime minister, commented on the lack of reform since the promises that were made on the maidan (Independence Square) the prior year by President Viktor Yushchenko. She also warned of the potential reprisal by Viktor Yanukovich, who lost the 2004 election that sparked the Orange Revolution.

Mr. Yushchenko underscored the process that democracy in Ukraine was taking and reassured the audience members that the course had not strayed far from the goals of democracy, freedom and the supremacy of law.

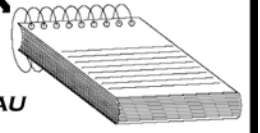
The anniversary celebrations were emceed by Yevhen Nyschuk, 33, who DJ'd during the Orange Revolution on the maidan. Commenting on the first anniversary, Mr. Nyschuk said, "Politicians were forced to reflect on what they do, what they think. This [anniversary] grounded them back to reality."

Source: "President George W. Bush's message on Orange Revolution anniversary," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, November 27, 2005.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA

KYIV PRESS BUREAU



The Orange Revolt

I have a proposal: let's stop calling it the Orange Revolution. A revolution implies a sudden, radical or complete change. A revolution is a fundamental change in political organization.

No type of change has occurred in Ukraine that justifies calling what happened in the winter of 2004 a "revolution." The Ukrainian government and its organs have since drifted into a bizarre, post-modern managed anarchy, which is better characterized as a gradual social deterioration rather than a force for change.

The fundamental way of life and doing business in Ukraine has not changed. All the key institutions for a functioning society – the courts, the government bureaucracy and the police – remain utterly unreliable and corrupt.

The biggest change that can be spoken of is former President Leonid Kuchma's system of organized corruption being replaced by the chaotic corruption of President Viktor Yushchenko. In the good ol' Mr. Kuchma days, there was law and order in bribery – you knew who to pay and how much. Now it's a free-for-all – perhaps Mr. Yushchenko's idea of Western capitalism is allowing the free market to determine the price for bribes.

Meanwhile, absolutely nothing has changed in political organization. The same oligarchs who gained wealth and power in the Kuchma era only reinforced their control of Ukraine's most valuable resources and capital during the Yushchenko era. Many of the presidential candidates competing in 2004 are competing again.

This is not a revolution, but a strengthening of Ukraine's oligarchy that is choking the people to death and causing many to flee the country. Today there are 1.2 million fewer Ukrainians than in April 2005, two months after Mr. Yushchenko took office. The nation's population was 46 million in October 2009, and it is likely to fall below the 46-million mark by the year's end.

What happened in 2004 was an "Orange Revolt," consisting of three key conflicts: the Donbas oligarchy against the other Ukrainian oligarchs, the Anglo-American oligarchy against the Moscow oligarchy, and average Ukrainians with Western values against the Ukrainian oligarchy.

Viktor Yanukovich's presidential candidacy in 2004 meant the Donbas oligarchy, led by Rinat Akhmetov and the Kliuyev brothers, was aiming to take control of Ukraine and extend Mr. Kuchma's authoritarian policies so they could further rob the country of its wealth. (Mr. Akhmetov is the wealthiest oligarch in the former Soviet Union, and the Kliuyev brothers are three-digit millionaires.)

This prospect frightened the hell out of Ukraine's other oligarchs, based in Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Kharkiv. Not only would they be denied access to government posts, which they could abuse to further enhance their wealth, but they even stood to lose their wealth (also acquired under "questionable" means during the Kuchma era) to raids and takeovers by the Donbas oligarchy.

The oligarchs who supported Mr. Yushchenko were millionaires – Petro Poroshenko, Mykola Martynenko and Fedir Shpyh – while the key oligarchs who supported Mr. Yanukovich were billionaires – Mr. Akhmetov, Victor Pinchuk and Valerii Khoroshkovskiy – who were poised to divide the country.

The others needed to do something to thwart the Donbas clan, hence the miraculous Yushchenko candidacy. While most members of the Ukrainian elite are so reviled by the people that they stand no chance of gaining public support, Mr. Yushchenko had a unique appeal that inspired the public. He seemed like a man of progressive reform, having introduced the stable hryvnia and paid back wages and pensions, owed by the government, during his tenure as prime minister in 2000-2001. His campaign motto was "Not Words, But Actions."

Ukrainians with Western values supported Mr. Yushchenko, who promised the rule of law, transparent government, fair courts, elimination of nepotism, and separation business from legislation and governance.

Instead he appointed Sviatoslav Piskun as procurator general (widely believed to be part of the Orange deal with Mr. Kuchma), appointed "kummy" (parents of godchildren) to key posts, and asked the nation's oligarchs for advice on how to run the country's economy.

Ukrainians with Western values were utterly frightened of a Yanukovich presidency, which posed the risk of an Alyaksandr Lukashenka-style Ukraine. Mr. Yushchenko offered a hope for a middle-class lifestyle, whereas the Yanukovich presidency offered stability in poverty. Now Ukrainians are unstable in their poverty.

Through its history, Ukraine has been the source of conflict between mighty empires, and today is no different.

The Anglo-American oligarchy, led by dynasties such as the Rockefellers, Bushes and Rothschilds, and the British royalty, are fighting to build the New World Order. This isn't conspiracy theory anymore – Baron David de Rothschild and David Rockefeller have said this themselves.

At the same time, Russian Federation Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao are fighting to build their own vision of the New World Order, in which Ukraine plays a critical role as a Russian-controlled satellite. The Orange Revolt was among the battlefields between these competing oligarchies.

For the Anglo-American oligarchy, promoting "freedom" and "democracy" was as much the reason for supporting the Rose and Orange revolutions (in Georgia and Ukraine, respectively) as launching war in Afghanistan and in Iraq. Its goal was expanding Anglo-American influence in the post-Soviet lands to allow multinational corporations more access and enable more integration with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and global institutions such as the World Trade Organization (WTO).

In my observations, NATO's main purpose is not so much to defend against alleged enemies as to build the Anglo-American vision of the New World Order. George Soros, among the world's wealthiest men and financier of a handful of Western non-governmental organizations in Kyiv, wrote on this topic.

The biggest winners from the Orange Revolt were Ukraine's oligarchs and politicians, Donbas or not. Between 2004 and 2009, Donetsk kingpin Mr. Akhmetov lost an estimated \$2.2 billion but remains among the wealthiest men in Europe, with \$9.6 billion in estimated assets and wealth.

Guys like him never went to jail, as Mr.

(Continued on page 17)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A correction from CIUS

Dear Editor:

I am writing to bring attention to and correct some inaccuracies contained in the article "Kyiv Conference on World War II and historical memory" (November 1), which could mislead readers.

Zenon Zawada reported that one of the priorities of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta is to determine "whether World War II Commander Roman Shukhevych and his Nachtigall battalion were responsible for Jewish pogroms in 1941 and 1942." This is not a research priority at CIUS.

Further, Per Anders Rudling is a contract instructor at the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta, and is not associated with CIUS, which one might assume after reading Mr. Zawada's article. Dr. John-Paul Himka is a professor in the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta. He is also the director of the Program for the Study of Religion and Culture at CIUS, whose mandate is to research "the sacred cultures of Ukrainian churches in Ukraine and the diaspora, especially in Canada."

Bohdan Klid
Edmonton

The letter-writer is acting director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

About research at Stasiuk Program

Dear Editor:

In his coverage of the Kyiv conference on historical memory in Ukraine, Zenon Zawada (November 1) writes that the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies has made it a priority to determine the role of Roman Shukhevych and the Nachtigall battalion in the anti-Jewish pogroms of 1941-1942. The Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine, which I direct, is neither examining nor conducting research on this question.

Our key areas of focus for the coming year are coverage and analysis of the presidential elections of January 2010 and a longer term project on the Famine-Holodomor of 1932-1933 based on archival research. Coverage of the former will be available on our blog site at <http://ukrainiananalysis.wordpress.com/>. I will deliver some preliminary results of the Famine research at the 2010 Mohyla Lecture, University of Saskatchewan, on February 26, and in a series of lectures at institutions and Ukrainian communities in Australia in March 2010.

David R. Marples
Edmonton, Alberta

The letter-writer is professor and director of the Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta.

Medical care in Canada

Dear Editor:

Non-residents of Canada must pay a

hospital fee when making use of a Canadian medical facility just as any Canadian would if seeking hospital care or visiting a doctor's office in the United States. I very much doubt that any Canadian doctor insisted on a "bribe" before offering medical attention to an American who was injured here.

Publishing a letter (September 27) whose author claims a Canadian doctor insisted upon a visitor paying a "bribe" for medical assistance was irresponsible. The person making this claim should publicly name the doctor who allegedly took a "bribe" and provide details about where and when. A formal complaint with the hospital or medical facility where this incident allegedly occurred should also be filed. If that is not done, then I would suggest that either the incident never happened or has been exaggerated by someone attempting to score political points in the ongoing U.S. debate over how to provide health care.

While I am not entirely a fan of the way we do things up here, the fact remains that the average life-span of a Canadian is greater than the average life-span of an American. That suggests which system works better for the average citizen of either country, be they Republican, Conservative, Liberal or Democrat.

Lubomyr Luciuk
Kingston, Ontario

Letter-writer is questioned

Dear Editor:

As a Canadian reader of your newspaper, I was quite offended by the comments made by Dr. Lydia Kossak Kernitsky in her letter (September 27) under the title "A reaction to Kuzma column."

If left unchallenged, her comments will lead a reader to believe that Canadian doctors require bribes to be paid before they will provide emergency services. This is completely outrageous, and the conduct of this particular doctor as stated by Dr. Kernitsky suggests both unethical and illegal behavior.

I assume Dr. Kernitsky is prepared to stand behind her statement and I offer the following questions and comments directly to her:

a) Where did you receive treatment for your broken arm? was it in an emergency room, "walk-in" medical clinic or doctor's office?

b) Have you written a letter of complaint regarding this particular doctor to the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the province where this incident occurred so that a proper investigation into this doctor's conduct can take place by the professional governing body? If you have not written such a letter or otherwise made contact with the college, why not?

c) Have you and your husband made a formal complaint to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or local municipal police about the doctor requiring a bribe prior to providing emergency medical treatment? If you have not reported this matter to police, why not?

d) Perhaps Dr. Kernitsky can state in which province this incident occurred so that the Ministry or Department of Health can commence an investigation into a situation where apparently doctors "...do not set broken bones on weekends."

Greg Rak
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

On second thought

by Alex Kuzma



Sheptytsky honored on 2010 Holocaust Calendar

In November, Ukrainians mourn the anniversary of the death of one of the greatest moral crusaders of the 20th century, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky. For those familiar with his biography, the name inspires an almost visceral reverence among Ukrainians.

Even in the most impossible conditions, Sheptytsky urged his followers to risk their lives to shelter Jews during World War II. He ordered his churches and monasteries to provide sanctuary for the persecuted.

His revolutionary sermon "Thou Shalt Not Kill" remains a classic moral tract for Christians embroiled in war. He denied the sacraments to Ukrainian Catholics who participated in atrocities, whether against Jews, Poles or fellow Ukrainians. And, in an act of breathtaking defiance, Sheptytsky wrote letters of protest to Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler protesting the Nazis' atrocities and their forced conscription of Ukrainians to participate in persecution.

In the last years of his life, as he saw Ukraine torn apart by the unspeakable brutality of war and the monolithic twin horrors of fascism and Stalinism, Metropolitan Sheptytsky fully expected to meet the same kind of violent death that met so many innocent Catholic faithful during the Soviet and Nazi occupations. In fact, he prayed for the privilege of martyrdom. As fate would have it, Sheptytsky died what some might call a natural death on November 1, 1944. Although he lived into his 80s, his health was broken by years of imprisonment during the tsarist regime.

Unfortunately, Sheptytsky is virtually unknown beyond the Ukrainian community and beyond a small circle of Holocaust scholars and Vatican clergy who are deliberating his case for canonization. When Pope John Paul II visited Ukraine in 2000, he announced the canonization of Abbot Klementiy Sheptytsky (the metropolitan's brother) and 27 other Ukrainian saints and martyrs of the 20th century, but Andrey Sheptytsky was not among them. Sheptytsky is still denied recognition at the Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem – an honor bestowed on over 300 Ukrainian "Righteous Among Gentiles" – many of whom were inspired by his example. Sheptytsky's courage and his defiance of the Nazis may also be a source of discomfort for the Vatican because it begs the question why Pope Pius XII did not do more to challenge Hitler's and Mussolini's rise to power or to save European Jews from annihilation.

In 2010 the Ukrainian community may have a unique opportunity to break through the dearth of public awareness – some would call it "conspiracy of silence" – about Sheptytsky's legacy. The U.S. Holocaust Museum just issued its calendar for 2010 and the month of February carries a portrait of "Andrew Szeptycki" with the subtitle: "He led his community to shelter Jews." The caption reads: "Kurt and Nathan Lewin, sons of the Chief Rabbi of Lvov [sic] survived with help from Andrew Szeptycki, Metropolitan Archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. The Archbishop brought the Lewins and other Jews to monasteries, where the monks risked their own lives and the safety of their communities in order to hide them..."

This could be a precious opening for

Ukrainian Catholics, in particular our hierarchs and the Sheptytsky Institute to reach out to the curators of the Holocaust Museum and to propose an exhibit and symposium on the metropolitan's life and the heroic resistance he inspired.

Our children need to be taught Sheptytsky's story so they can challenge the stereotypes perpetuated by Ukrainophobes and Russian propagandists who have tried to brand Ukrainians as Nazi collaborators. Our youngsters need to hear the stories of their heroic grandparents and community elders who sheltered Jews and took up arms against the Germans once they understood what kind of threat the Nazis posed.

Sheptytsky's biography deserves to be taught not only to Ukrainian Americans. It should be part of every curriculum on political ethics and Holocaust studies. His name should be a household word in every Catholic school and seminary. For example, many Catholics are familiar with the life story of El Salvador's Archbishop Oscar Romero. Like Sheptytsky, Romero was born into a privileged family that groomed him to join his nation's religious and economic elite. Instead of joining the Roman Catholic clergy, Sheptytsky opted to serve in the Ukrainian Byzantine rite, scorned by Polish Catholics as a Church of peasants, illiterates and political subversives. Romero was also expected to defend the privileges of El Salvador's oligarchs. Instead, Romero shocked his conservative fellow bishops by becoming an outspoken advocate of human rights and a pastor to the nation's poor and downtrodden.

In a brutal civil war that raged during the 1970s and '80s Romero became an iconic figure whose memory rallied the Catholic Church to champion political and economic reform and to condemn the political killings, torture and social injustices that plagued Salvadoran society. Shockingly, Romero suffered the martyr's death that eluded Sheptytsky. He was gunned down by a right-wing death squad while celebrating a noontime mass in the national cathedral. The assassins committed an outrage even the Nazis dared not commit against Sheptytsky.

To advance Sheptytsky's recognition, we should reach out to American Catholic and Jewish audiences by promoting workshops and film screenings of Oles Yanchuk's fine biographic movie about Sheptytsky, comparable to Raul Julia's film portrayal of Romero. In the words of Holocaust historian Raul Hilberg, Sheptytsky stands out as a "shining exception" to the moral depravity of the era in which he lived. His story offers a unique opportunity to enter into a nuanced and respectful dialogue about the plight of Ukrainians and Jews during World War II. It has gained new relevance at a time when some have argued that a limited use of torture and human rights abuses can be justified in the current global war on terror.

As passionately as he yearned for Ukrainian independence, Sheptytsky condemned the use of terror against civilians as a means of achieving political ends. Even at the height of the most desperate and all-consuming war in history, Sheptytsky reminded his followers that Christians are bound by moral standards and universal principles of human rights that prohibit the slaughter of civilians and demand resistance to injustice.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Ukrainian independence and Soviet Ukraine's KGB (a memoir)

by Roman Kupchinsky

By the summer of 1990 it was clear that the Soviet Union was on the verge of collapse and that Ukraine would declare independence in the near future. The Berlin Wall had collapsed, and the Rukh movement in Ukraine had spread throughout the country. Officials of the Communist Party of Ukraine were rapidly turning in their party cards and switching sides in preparation for what they saw as a new era in the making.

I was living in New Jersey at the time and had left my job at Prolog Research and Publishing Corp., bitter at what I felt was the total lack of belief by some of the founders of Prolog that the tide had turned in the USSR and that Ukrainian independence, the goal of Prolog and the Foreign Representation of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council (known by its Ukrainian acronym as the ZP UHVR), which set the political direction of Prolog, was finally within arm's reach.

On the other hand, some of the men and women at Prolog, whom I respected for decades, believed that I was too keen on serving the interests of the U.S. government which, through the Central Intelligence Agency, was funding Prolog and that my main loyalty was to the United States and specifically to the CIA.

I was, after all, a former infantry offi-

Roman Kupchinsky is an analyst for the Jamestown Foundation in Washington D.C. The above is an excerpt from his unpublished memoirs.

cer in the U.S. Army and a Vietnam veteran, and this created suspicions that I had a dual loyalty and could not be trusted in the day-to-day operations of Prolog. The argument put forth was that I was unable to distinguish between the interests of the U.S. government and the aspirations of the Ukrainian nation.

I was contemplating my next career move when one day in June I met for coffee with my colleague "Ivan," a KGB officer at the Ukrainian SSR Mission to the United Nations. I had maintained regular contacts with the Mission staff and the KGB officers assigned to it in order to gauge rapidly changing attitudes inside the Mission and learn the views of the then-Ambassador, Hennadii Udovenko.

During the meeting Ivan, who at the time was a colonel in Soviet state security, suggested that I visit Kyiv and assured me that my safety would be guaranteed. I had never been permitted to go to Ukraine due to the nature of the work of Prolog, and it was considered too great of a risk for me to place myself so close to the line of fire.

I listened carefully to what Ivan was saying and reported his offer to a friend at the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington with whom I maintained contact. The offer seemed intriguing and, while the risks were still considerable, they were deemed not to be as great as they were a few years earlier. The agency decided that I should take up the offer and see what Ivan and his friends had in store for me.

The Ukrainian question was seen by

CIA officials and the U.S. government as a critical one. How Ukrainian leaders would behave if push came to shove with Moscow was high on the list of intelligence priorities for Washington, and within a few days Ivan had my visa ready and I left for Kyiv.

I checked into the Dnipro Hotel, which at the time was a drab honky-tonk despite the six stars on its entrance. Its main attraction was a dark loud bar on the top floor swarming with prostitutes and their pimps looking for the few Westerners foolish or crazy enough to visit Ukraine. The entrance to the hotel was guarded by what the locals called the "Swiss," security guards who prevented locals from entering the hotel – the exception being the working girls and their managers.

The following evening I heard a knock on my door, opened it and there was Col. Ivan from the Mission, carrying a large bag filled with sausages, bread, tomatoes a few bottles of horilka and salo. We made ourselves as comfortable as we could in the tiny room and began a long conversation punctuated by toasts to our families, Ukraine, women and God knows what else.

After an hour of preliminary chit-chat, Ivan came to the point.

"Roman, if you really want to know what is going on in Ukraine you need to talk to the leadership of the 'kontora' (the KGB). They know the real picture and will explain everything to you."

Ivan told me that a car would pick me up in front of the hotel the following day at noon, and he and I would go to meet his superiors and discuss matters.

As promised, the car, a black Volga with white curtains on the back windows, was waiting at noon in front of the Dnipro with Ivan standing alongside. I got in and we drove off. That five-minute drive to the headquarters of the KGB of the Ukrainian SSR on Volodymyrska Street was one of the tensest moments in my life.

My mind was spinning. Was I being set up? Would they try to plant disinformation for me to take back to Washington? Was this entire visit a charade set up by Moscow in order to discredit the Ukrainian independence movement?

The car drove into the courtyard of the KGB headquarters through a side gate so as not to be seen from the street, and Ivan and I headed up to what I believe was the fourth floor where we went into a large room.

Inside were five or six men gathered in a group standing by a large table overflowing with assorted sausages, vegetables, pickled garlic, pyrizhky, bread and numerous bottles of brandy, horilka and Borzomi mineral water.

Ivan made the first introduction.

"Roman, meet Yevhen Kyrylovych Marchuk, the head of the KGB of Ukraine." We shook hands and I tried to size up the man. Marchuk was a powerfully built man, with broad shoulders, a massive chest and strong arms, yet he had a shy smile and gentle manner.

He took me by my arm and introduced me to Gen. Volodymyr Povzhyk, the head of foreign intelligence of the Ukrainian KGB. I recognized Povzhyk from a photograph I had been shown by the FBI at the time he worked as the KGB resident in New York.

Marchuk then introduced me to Georgiy Marchuk, a Russian-speaking general who had served in the Far East for much of his career as an officer of the First Chief Directorate of the KGB (foreign intelligence). The two Marchuks were not related, but seemed close.

I forget the names of the other men I

was introduced to, however, they appeared to be very knowledgeable and took an active part in the discussions that followed.

Ritual demanded that we eat and drink first, and everyone dug in with gusto. Toasts were exchanged over and over again, and then Yevhen Marchuk slowly began getting into the more substantive part of the discussion.

"Pane Romane, we know something about your past and your contacts in Washington. How do they view the Ukrainian situation there? Are they willing to help us in any way? Will they back us in case Ukraine leaves the USSR? You must realize that what we say here is confidential. The KGB of Ukraine is still part of the all-union KGB."

I asked: "Does this mean that Moscow Center is unaware of this meeting?"

"Yes, that is true. Please do not mention this meeting to anyone in Ukraine. The consequences for us would be dramatic," Marchuk replied.

I mulled over Marchuk's questions about Washington's views on Ukraine, knowing full well that I did not know what these views were and did not want to say anything which could either give Marchuk unfounded hope or discourage him and his comrades, so I told Marchuk:

"I'm not really in a position to say what they think in the White House, I just don't know."

Marchuk replied that Ukrainian independence was simply a matter of a few months and Ukraine needed to have Washington's ear as soon as possible. "We want to ask you to try and arrange a meeting for us with CIA representatives so we can exchange information and views on events which are on the horizon."

I agreed to do this, and a few days later I arrived in Washington, where I reported on the meeting with Yevhen Marchuk and his request.

The following day I met my friend from the agency and his superior for lunch in Rosslyn. I was told that the agency had agreed to meet with Marchuk or his representatives in a city in Central Europe to continue the discussions. In a few days I boarded a plane back to Kyiv, where I passed this information on to Marchuk.

With that my role in the operation ended. I don't know if any meetings took place in that Central European city or what the outcome was if they did. I never asked any of the players involved for details.

Yet, I've always wondered why the leadership of the Soviet Ukrainian KGB took what in my mind was a high-risk chance of bypassing Moscow Center by seeking contacts to the U.S. government without the Center's approval. Was this an act of patriotism or opportunism? Does it really matter? Was I serving the interests of the United States or Ukraine?

I suppose the answers to these questions might emerge decades from now when documents of these meetings are declassified by both the CIA and the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU).

Since the summer of 1990 I've met with Yevhen Marchuk a number of times, but we never talked about these events. The one tale we do like to recall is how after independence we met in Munich. Mr. Marchuk was heading a Ukrainian delegation that was being moved from one hotel to another and I was helping him carry his bags to the van. Along the way I turned to him and said: "Yevhen Kyrylovych, if my late father knew that I had become a porter for the KGB he would turn over in his grave."

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COMMENTARY

Holodomor: Metagenocide in Ukraine, its origins and why it's not over

by Peter Borisow

Part I

As Ukrainians wind up the 75th year to commemorate the Holodomor, they can look back on the real progress that they have made in educating people around the world about the genocide in Ukraine in 1932-1933. Well over 35 countries as well as the European Union have recognized the inhuman sufferings during the Holodomor and many¹, including the United States House of Representatives, have agreed it was deliberate genocide against the Ukrainian people.

A massive Holodomor Memorial Complex is being built in Kyiv. Ukrainians broke ground recently in Washington for a Holodomor Monument just a few minutes' walk from the U.S. Capitol.

Despite all this progress, one glaring exception remains – an unrepentant Russia. Today, Russia has changed only its tactics, not its ultimate goal of solving its "Ukrainian problem." Russia continues its work to eliminate all that defines Ukrainians as a people and as a nation in order to return Ukraine once and for all to regional status within Russia.

In order to accomplish this, Russia must not only reassert its political control over Ukraine, but also fully subsume Ukrainian culture, society, business and industry into the Russian milieu. For Russia, this is a work in progress. However, Russia must also establish some degree of international acceptance of the elimination of Ukrainian national identity as well as of Ukraine as a nation.

Nothing stands in Russia's way more than the Holodomor. How can Russia pretend to be a respected world leader, a caring and responsible steward of its people with all that blood on its hands? This is a case of Lady Macbeth in reverse – the world sees the blood, while Russia actually believes that after 75 years of denial, rewriting history, repression and destruction of evidence, it has washed away the blood and is now magically pure as a newborn baby's soul.

But all of a sudden, here come those Ukrainian witnesses again. The survivors may be old, but they are unanimous about how and why it happened: "The Russians did it." And, to make matters worse, the Ukrainian government has opened up the archives – with all those documents clearly stating that the purpose of the Holodomor was to destroy the Ukrainians.

Peter Borisow is the son of Ukrainians whose families were killed between 1921 and 1933 and who emigrated to the United States after World War II. He is a graduate of New York University (where he majored in history), and his career has spanned the arts, as well as trade and finance. He is the President of a privately held firm specializing in analysis and management of risk in film finance.

He is also the president of the Hollywood Trident Foundation, which promotes Ukraine and Ukrainians in the film industry and supports films about Ukrainian subjects. Mr. Borisow is also a member of the board of directors of the Center for U.S. Ukrainian Relations in New York. He travels frequently to Ukraine and is an advisor to the head of the Film Department at the Ministry of Culture. He is active in Holodomor recognition and education.

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The archives even contain documents proving that in the 1950s, in order to divert attention from Russia's crimes in the Holodomor, Russia convinced the East German secret police, the Stasi, to forge documents alleging that Ukrainian nationalists had collaborated with the Nazis against Jews during World War II². In fact, the opposite is true – Ukrainians and their military, political and religious leaders proactively opposed German persecution of Jews and worked to protect and rescue Jews from Nazis.³

While Russia continues to use its considerable international influence as a major world power, victor in World War II, and now flush with petrodollars, to promote Holodomor dilution and denial, it cannot change the fact that Russia is responsible for the genocide in Ukraine.

Russia engineered, managed and implemented the Holodomor. Russia murdered 10 million Ukrainians in 500 days. The politically convenient argument that it was "communists" or "Soviets" who carried out the Holodomor is specious at best. Even those who sell this claim know it's just spin⁴.

Russia did not just run the USSR; it was the USSR. When the USSR fell apart, Russia became its successor state. Russia took over all the assets – military, diplomatic and financial. Russia took it all, claiming it was all rightfully hers. Sometimes even the most accomplished liars tell the truth. The fact is that the USSR was just another incarnation of the old Russian Empire. The USSR effectively enforced Russian interests both at home and abroad.

When the USSR became unmarketable, Russia reinvented itself yet again, this time as the Russian Federation. But the Empire aches because it is incomplete – Ukraine is missing. Without Ukraine there is no empire. Without the empire, Russia reverts to its perennial status as semi-nomadic tundra, a sort of frozen Middle Eastern potentate with gas.

Different origins, different peoples

It is impossible to understand the Holodomor without examining the historical and cultural roots of the Ukrainian and Russian nationalities, as well as the historical relationships between the two nations.

Historically, Russia emerged as an empire of fairly rudimentary hunter-gatherers, which could survive at its levels of expectation only by conquering and draining the wealth and resources of its neighbors – ranging from the wheat and seaports of Ukraine and the Caucasus to the oil and gas of Siberia.

To this day, Russia has a remarkably unsophisticated manufacturing industry and supplies much of its technical needs by buying them (including, unfortunately, entire manufacturers in Ukraine).

Contrast this with Ukraine, a nation with some of the earliest known agricultural settlements (dating to the Trypillian and Scythian days) and a fundamental difference in national temperament emerges. Stable agricultural settlements lead to the need to be civilized. You cannot live with neighbors without learning how to get along – thus the emergence of rules of behavior, respect and other aspects of civilized society.

Hunter-gatherers, by definition, take by force – be it berries from trees or meat from

beasts. When one area is depleted, they move on to another. If competitors emerge, fights ensue and the winner takes all. Beads, gold and so on, are accrued to trade for that which they cannot hunt or gather. This is still very much the nature of Russia to this day. Russia remains a predator state.

Early Russia's nomadic form of survival also led to an evolutionary acceptance of harsh leadership. Russians literally lived in constant fear of people or wild beasts for whom they were either enemy or suitable prey. Leaders of such nomadic communities were chosen first and foremost for their physical prowess in defending the village from beasts and nomadic attackers. By definition they were large and strong men able to use their physical power to get what they wanted.

Being scattered and isolated, they had little understanding that there was any other way and even if they did, there was nothing they could do about it without becoming victims themselves. Challenges came only from even stronger strongmen. So, if you stayed low and didn't get the strongman mad at you, you and your children could live and perhaps even prosper. The trade-off was protection against the external threat in exchange for just about whatever the strongmen wanted.

In time, this became encoded as not just acceptable behavior but the desirable standard for leadership in Russia. It is no aberration, therefore, that most Russians still rate Joseph Stalin as their greatest leader and accept Vladimir Putin's destruction of democracy at home in exchange for successful conquests abroad. It is their norm.

The very name "Russia" reflects its nomadic nature. From earliest times their northern tundra was known as Muscovy. It was not until Muscovy started building its wannabe "European" empire that Muscovite propagandists adopted the name "Russia" as part of their efforts to hijack neighboring Ukraine's history (Kyivan Rus') as their own. In fact, the name "Russia" has nothing whatsoever to do with the "Rus'" of Kyivan Rus'.

"Russia," pronounced "Rass-I-ia" in Russian (NOT "Roo-ssI-ia"), derives from the Ukrainian verb "rozsiyaty," meaning to scatter, as with the sweeping movement of the arm when seeding a field with grain. The early Ukrainians described their northern neighbors as "Rossiyan" – "the scattered ones" – which in fact, with their small nomadic settlements scattered all over the cold and forbidding northern tundra, they were.

While Western Europe was suffering through the collapse of civilization during the Dark Ages, Ukraine thrived as a center of culture and learning. European rulers sent their children to Kyiv to study, as Ukraine prospered from rich trade and stable agricultural communities. All this changed when the Mongols invaded.

Not willing to bow to any conqueror, Ukraine fought to the last, and lost. Muscovy went along with Mongol rule. When the Mongols suddenly packed up and went home one morning, Muscovy was in a position to begin asserting its influence, and with the urge to dominate ever more territory came dreams of empire.

Russia builds an empire

Russia's burning desire to become a

European empire, just like the Dutch, French, English and other "real" Europeans, set the stage for centuries of conflict with Ukraine. The newly self-proclaimed "Russia" lacked warm-water ports, fertile agricultural lands and numerous other resources. It had no navy to cross seas or dazzle its neighbors.

It didn't even have a very impressive footprint on the European continent, as most of its so-called territory was, in fact, in Asia. "Russia" had no deep European history. "Russia" had no Church to bestow the blessings of Divine Providence on its strongmen.

Russia did not even have a real language. What passed for spoken "Russian" was a garbled offspring of Ukrainian mixed with various local tongues. "Russians" spoke and wrote in French in the court of Peter I and German in Catherine's. It was not until the 19th century, when Alexander Pushkin started writing in "Russian," that Russia acquired a real literary language.

The irony that Russia had to wait for the grandson of an Abyssinian slave to give Russia a language is not lost on anyone, especially since it was his grandfather (gifted to Peter I by the ruler of the Netherlands) who built Russia's navy. All in all, it was a pretty dismal foundation for an empire.

Just next door to Russia was Ukraine, which had much of what Russia lacked. Ukraine had a long European history. So, Russia declared itself the heir to Kyivan Rus'. Ukraine had an old and wonderfully lyrical language, one that could even be written! So, Russia declared itself the mother lode of Slavic languages. Ukraine had a long established Church.

So, the metropolitan of Kyiv marched off to Russia, where he was declared the "metropolitan of Vladimir" (Moscow was not worthy of a metropolitan, even by Russian standards, until later) and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church suddenly became a subunit of the Russian Orthodox Church. Ukraine's ports became home to Russia's warm-water fleet (a problem to this day). Ukraine's rich agricultural land (where rich, black topsoil is measured in meters, not inches) together with the people who lived on it, was given away to the Russian "royal" family.

But, Russia still had a big problem. The Ukrainians continued to want their own land, their own Church, their own language, their own laws, their own traditions, their own food, their own farms, their own wealth, their own borders – and especially their own freedom and independence.

As much as Russia tried to paint itself as Ukraine's "big brother," Ukrainians viewed it as a rogue young neighbor yet to be civilized. So, what would any self-respecting conqueror do with such insolence? The answer is obvious. Win what hearts and minds you can and kill the rest. And, that's exactly what Russia has been trying to do for the last 400 years.

Although Russia's methods have changed over the years, they have always been consistent with what was available and feasible at the time. There are limits to how many people you can kill with a sword. No matter how good you are, you still have to kill them one at a time. While you're killing one, many others can escape. The coun-

(Continued on page 22)

1. Australia, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, the United States and the Vatican; statement by Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Yuri Kostenko, as reported by Ukrinform, Kyiv, November 18, 2008.

2. Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) site, English version: <http://www.sbu.gov.ua/sbu/control/en/index> and http://www.sbu.gov.ua/sbu/control/uk/publish/article?art_id=74497&cat_id=80545&mustWords=wtazi&searchPublishing=1

3. See Herbert Romerstein, "Divide and

Conquer: The KGB Disinformation Campaign against Ukrainians and Jews," Ukrainian Quarterly, Vol. LX, No. 3 (Fall 2004).

4. Peter Borisow, "ABC's of Holodomor Denial," The Ukrainian Weekly, Vol. LXXVI, No. 33, August 17, 2008, pp. 7, 21.

Wartime memoir by Luba Komar presented at The Ukrainian Museum

by Neal Goldberg

NEW YORK – A book launch for Christine Prokop's English translation of the wartime memoir by her mother Luba Komar, "Scratches on a Prison Wall," was held on Friday evening, October 17, at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City.

The event, co-sponsored by The Ukrainian Museum, the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S., drew over 100 people. Attended by a virtual cross-section of the Ukrainian community from the tri-state area, the launch was described by Hanya Krill, the museum's program director, as one of the best attended events in the museum's three-year stint at its new building on Sixth Street in Manhattan's East Village.

Following introductions by Maria Shust, director of the museum, Ms. Krill and Lydia Prokop, Ms. Komar's younger daughter, the evening's historical context was set out by Alexander Motyl, a professor of political science at Rutgers University. Prof. Motyl discussed the background to the book, describing the history of Ukrainian resistance movements and, in particular, the role of women in the fight for an independent Ukraine.

The highlight of the evening, however, was a series of dramatic readings from "Scratches on a Prison Wall" by Christine Prokop. After describing how the book's translation came to be, she read several excerpts to the large overflow audience on the first floor of the museum.

Accompanying the readings were clips of a video interview with the now-deceased Ms. Komar, along with numerous historical photographs, highlighting



Seen on the screen is a video clip of author Luba Komar describing her experiences.

the harrowing events the author witnessed first-hand and later recorded. These included her arrest and trial as a member of the infamous "Protses 59-ty", a Soviet show trial in which 59 arrested Ukrainian activists were sentenced to death or exile.

Centered around the trial and its after-

math, the book describes the horror of their imprisonment and Ms. Komar's subsequent fate, when her death sentence is commuted to Siberian exile. The excerpts read by Ms. Prokop included: Ms. Komar's interrogation by the NKVD; her transport to exile followed by her work as a courier for the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists; and her lyrical descriptions of nature and Ukraine.

Ms. Prokop ended her presentation with a moving statement of how her mother's book has impacted her life.

"The turnout was a great tribute to my mother and what she did for Ukraine," said Ms. Prokop. "I felt privileged for the opportunity to share her story and describe what it meant to me."

Ms. Krill was also impressed by the event and what the book's publication means for the Ukrainian community. "We knew that the event was going to be a tremendous success when we had to quickly

add many more chairs than anticipated as people streamed in that evening," she said.

"The high attendance speaks to the public's desire to learn more about the historical setting of Ukraine's entry into World War II, and in particular, its interest in the kinds of personal experiences Luba Komar describes in her story. It is a story so well told, with such powerful visual imagery, that I was unable to put the book down once I started reading it," she added.

Sections of this book were previously published in Ukrainian as "Protses 59-ty" (The Secret Trial of the 59) by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in 1997. This is the first English translation of Ms. Komar's memoir.

"Scratches on a Prison Wall" is currently available through the online retailer, Amazon.com and in the Museum's gift shop, www.ukrainianmuseum.org/shop.

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Christine Prokop reads excerpts from her translation of her mother's memoir, "Scratches on a Prison Wall."

FILM REVIEW: "Okradena Zemlya" – a documentary masterpiece



Filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy (left) with Holodomor survivors Mykhailo Lozorenko and Natalia Rud, and Wasyl Pyszniak of the Lachine, Quebec, branch of Prosvita. (right).

by Daria Myrna

MONTREAL – Twenty-five years after his collaboration on the seminal film about the Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933, "Harvest of Despair" (1984), award-winning Montreal director and producer Yuriy Luhovy has directed and produced his own film on genocide against the Ukrainian nation, known as the Holodomor.

The Ukrainian-language documentary film "Okradena Zemlya" (known in English as "Genocide Revealed") is now being screened in various Ukrainian communities in Canada and the United States. It had its second screening in the Montreal area on Sunday, October 4, in the hall of the Ukrainian Catholic Parish of St. Basil the Great in Lachine.

In view of the scarcity of photographic documentation on the Kremlin-engineered Famine in Soviet Ukraine – which, according to Stalin himself, claimed 10 million lives – a Holodomor film based exclusively on interviews with Famine survivors and historians could easily turn into an exercise in tedium in the hands of a less skilled director. But that is not the case with Mr. Luhovy's film, which showcases the director's thorough knowledge of his subject and his expert editing.

Working on a shoestring budget, Mr. Luhovy and his film student daughter, Adriana, shot 44 hours of footage, which he then scrupulously honed to produce a dynamically paced 75-minute documen-

tary masterpiece that intersperses numerous brief but effective interviews with such Kyiv-based historians as Volodymyr Serhiichuk, Yuriy Shapoval, Hennadii Boriak and Vasyl Marochko, and Roman Serbyn of Montreal with testimonies of Famine survivors, as well as children's drawings that explore the Holodomor theme.

Like a magnificent orchestral piece moving smoothly and unhesitatingly to its finale, each part of the Luhovy film segues flawlessly from section to section, exploring various aspects of the devastating Famine in Ukraine that the Soviet regime engineered and then for decades concealed from the international community.

This remarkable documentary is also greatly enhanced by the narration of the celebrated Ukrainian actor Bohdan Beniuk and the moving film score by composer Roman Luhovy of Kyiv. The film will soon be available in DVD form. An English-language version is in the works, provided sufficient funding is obtained.

"Okradena Zemlya" will go a long way toward explaining the Holodomor to those Ukrainian citizens raised under the Soviets, who still harbor doubts about the genocide that was perpetrated against the Ukrainian nation. It will also arm young generations of Ukrainians on both sides of the ocean with information to counter the specious arguments of Holodomor deniers and Holodomor "diminishers."

BOOK REVIEW: Aslund on Ukraine's development

"Ukraine: How Ukraine Became a Market Economy and Democracy," by Anders Aslund. Washington: Peterson Institute for International Economics, 2009. 345 pp., paperback, \$26.95.

by Taras Hunczak

Dr. Aslund has been studying the economic developments in Ukraine since the time Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in the Soviet Union in 1985. To learn more about the society, he also studied the complex history of the Ukrainian people. This brought Dr. Aslund closer to Kyiv, and from 1994 to 1997 he served as an economic adviser to the Ukrainian government and became one of the founders of the Kyiv School of Economics and still remains its co-chairman. Currently Dr. Aslund is senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

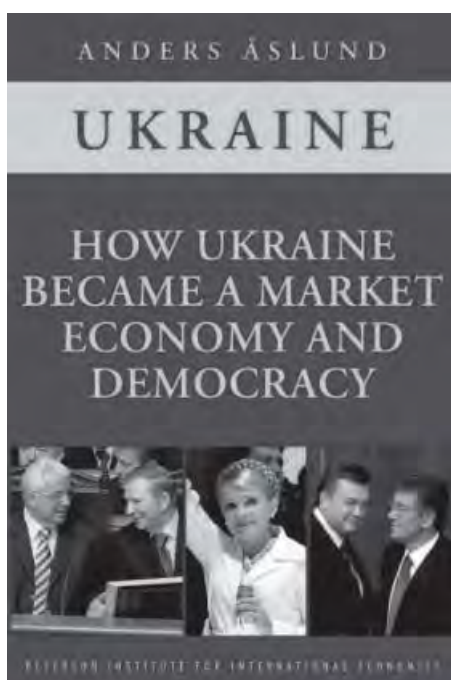
After a brief discussion of Ukraine's history Dr. Aslund's book addresses the social, economic and political problems that the Ukrainian governments had to face from the day of its declaration of independence on August 24, 1991.

Leonid Kravchuk, a skilled politician and as the first president of Ukraine concentrated his efforts, according to Dr. Aslund, on nation-building, i.e., developing a sense of national identity which was devastated by the tsarist and communist regimes.

His problems were not only internal but also external, as is illustrated by the speech of the U.S. President George H.W. Bush during his visit to Kyiv on August 1, 1991, when he stated: "We will maintain the strongest possible relationship with the Soviet government of President Gorbachev...Americans will not support those who seek independence in order to replace a far-off tyranny with local despotism. They will not aid those who promote a suicidal nationalism based upon ethnic hatred" (pp. 29-30).

Washington's attitude towards Kyiv changed when Ukraine, which had the third largest nuclear arsenal in the world with 176 intercontinental ballistic missiles, agreed to become non-nuclear. As a follow-up, Ukraine, the United States and Russia on January 14, 1994 signed a trilateral accord in Moscow, which was followed in February 1994 by special security guarantees of the United States. This provided Ukraine with a favorable position on the international arena.

Domestically, Ukraine experienced



hyperinflation and an economic collapse. Dr. Aslund discusses in some details the economic developments in Ukraine in 1994 since he and George Soros discussed economic problems with Mr. Kuchma. After his election Mr. Kuchma articulated in his presidential address of October 11, 1994, his economic plan for the future: "Ukraine can confirm itself as a really independent and sovereign state only on the basis of a strong economic and social policy" (p. 71).

The period of 1994-1996 was characterized by financial stabilization. Currency stabilization reached its high point when on August 24, 1996, President Kuchma announced the introduction of hryvnia as the Ukrainian currency. The brief period of growth was followed by decline and stagnation until President Kuchma appointed as prime minister Viktor Yushchenko, who launched a comprehensive economic reform of Ukraine. "The first four months of 2000," (writes Dr. Aslund), "saw the greatest reform drive that Ukraine had seen since the fall of 1994" (p. 133).

The author also has a very interesting chapter on the role of oligarchs in Ukrainian economic and political life. He even provides the number of votes that each oligarchic clan has in Parliament (pp. 156-159). Indeed, the period 2001-2004 was a time of competitive oligarchy in which the gas trade also became a factor.

In chapter 7 the author deals with the complexities of the Orange Revolution of

(Continued on page 16)

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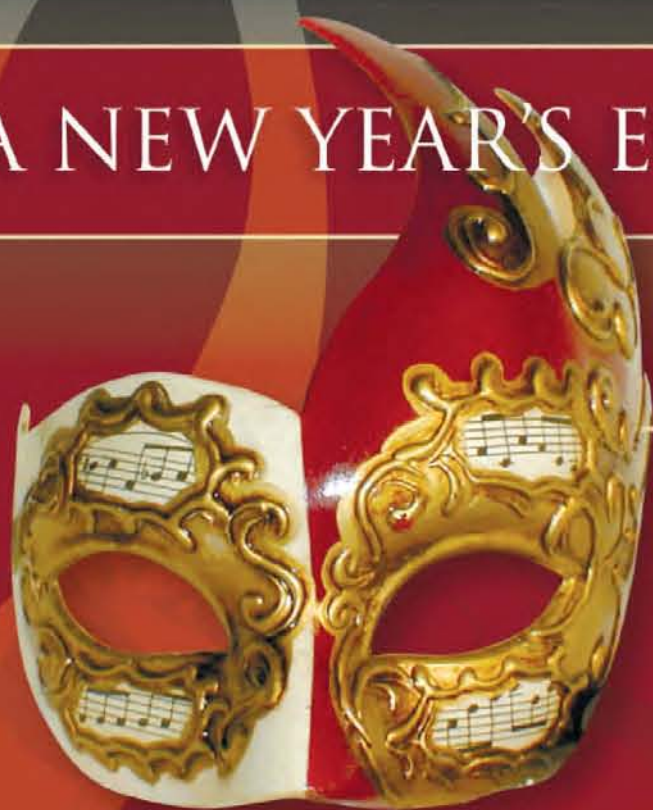
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Twin Cities community presents Ukrainian Heritage Festival

by Dr. Michael J. Kozak

MINNEAPOLIS – The history of the Ukrainian settlement in Minnesota demonstrates that the Ukrainian communities of Minneapolis and St. Paul have always shown much interest and concern for the preservation and promotion of their rich religious and cultural heritage. Despite hardships and occasional misunderstandings, once a year they managed to get together to enjoy the beauty and richness of the cultural heritage of their Ukrainian ancestors. These events at first were called Ukrainian Picnics, later Ukrainian Days and now they are Ukrainian Heritage Festivals.

This tradition is being successfully carried on by St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Parish, St. Katherine's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, St. Michael and St. George Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, the Association of American Youth of Ukrainian Descent (ODUM), Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian Credit Union, Ukrainian Engineers' Society and Ukrainian Event Center.

Each year on a rotating basis, one of the parishes is in charge of organizing the festival. This year that function was carried out by St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Parish.

The festival was held on Sunday, September 20, a bright and sunny day. On that day, anyone passing by could notice that it was not an ordinary day at the Ukrainian Event Center. Outside the building there were several tents where one could obtain samples of traditional Ukrainian food, pastries and baked items. There were games geared for children and there were places where one could sit and enjoy being part of the Ukrainian community.

In the spacious auditorium, the back wall displayed a large trident – the symbol of independent Ukraine – with Ukrainian embroidery designs on both sides. Around the side walls of the auditorium were displays of various Ukrainian items that visitors could purchase. The Ukrainian gift shop had Ukrainian art and crafts, jewelry and souvenirs for sale.

Teachers Halyna Tataryn and Volodymyr Kramarczuk of St. Constantine Ukrainian Saturday school prepared a table presenting the activities of the school children. Photos were on display showing the children making pysanky, singing and reciting, and there were samples of their writing and their art work. To promote St Michael and St. George's School, Maria Matlashevsky organized a table of souvenir T-shirts and Ukrainian wreaths.

At another table Christine Jennihov, George Bazarko and Zenon Stepchuk encouraged parents to enroll their chil-



The children's choir of St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Parish.

dren into the ranks of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. A very interesting patriotic display was set-up by Alexander Poletz celebrating the jubilee of "Ukrainian Kozak Glory."

The official opening of the festival program was initiated by the 2008 festival's queen and princess, who extended a traditional Ukrainian greeting with bread and salt, and was followed by the singing of American and Ukrainian national anthems. The entire program was conducted in Ukrainian and English by Svitlana Uniyat and Luba Lewytzkyj. The program began with students ages 5 to 15 of St. Constantine Ukrainian Saturday School singing Ukrainian songs conducted by Juri Ivan. The children's Ukrainian costumes impressed the audience and provided much beauty and variety to the entire event.

A vocal trio, Stephania and Kristina Korsunsky and Daria Kushnir, who call themselves Ukrainochky, sang three Ukrainian folk songs. Danyila Pavlyk, a poetess, presented a patriotic recitation of "A Ukrainian Festival Greeting."

Lasting for over four hours, the program included more vocal performances by solos, duets and trios, folk dancing and instrumental music.

Ukrainian folk dances added more excitement, variety and beauty to the program. Thanks to the efforts of Stefan Iwaskewycz, a well-known dance ensemble from the Ethnic Dance Theater staged "Hutsuls From Carpathian Mountains." Dressed in identical and beautiful Hutsul



The vocal trio of Andrij Karkoc, Oleksij Khrystych and Volodymyr Ileksij.

costumes, they pleased the audience with such dances as Kolomyika, Hutsulka and Arkan.

The local dance ensemble, Cheremosh, under the artistic direction of Ken Matlashevsky, skillfully performed a series of dances from the Carpathian region, Bukovyna, Volyn and Poltava. The meaning of each dance was very eloquently explained in English by Volodymyr Anastaziewsky.

As always, The Village Band organized by Stefan Iwaskewycz, added spirit

to the program by playing traditional Ukrainian melodies.

Popular among the young people, a varenyky-eating contest was held under the supervision of Ihor Kudanovych. Following the tradition of the past few years, Alex Pavlov and Daria Kushnir were elected king and queen, and Taras Tataryn and Nastazia Baranovsky were elected prince and princess of the Festival.

To provide information about

(Continued on page 20)



The Ukrainian Village Band.



Young dancers of the Cheremosh Ensemble.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

since October 29 and 15 deaths due to the virus. (Ukrinform)

President vetoes flu funding

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko vetoed the law allocating 1 billion hrv to fight the flu, the first vice-chairman of the Presidential Secretariat, Oleksander Shlapak, reported on November 16. He said Mr. Yushchenko did not sign the law and returned it to the Verkhovna Rada with his proposals. Mr. Shlapak emphasized that the president by no means is against the allocation of these funds, adding that his disagreement stems from the question of where this money should be allocated from. He explained that the president believes such expenses should not be covered at the expense of the emission funds of the National Bank of Ukraine. The president proposes to increase the state budget deficit for 2009 by 1 billion hrv and to approach the banking system and the NBU with a request to finance this deficit. Mr. Shlapak also noted that Mr. Yushchenko is ready to take an obligation to personally carry out consultations with bankers to gain the necessary funds within several days. As reported earlier, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko forecast that the Parliament would overrule the veto on the law allocating 1 billion hrv to fight the flu that was passed on November 3. (Ukrinform)

YTB seeks postponement on budget

KYIV – The parliamentary faction of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) has asked the Verkhovna Rada to postpone consideration of the draft state budget for 2010 until next week, the faction's deputy chair, Andrii Kozhemiakin, said at a meeting of Parliament's conciliatory council of the heads of parliamentary groups and factions. He asked opposition members to refrain from "making the budget hostage to political processes." Mr. Kozhemiakin said that up to 1,000 amendments had been made in the draft state budget for 2010 and that they have to be considered in detail. He also said that the draft budget itself should be thoroughly considered, including in the Budget Committee which, in his opinion, "had not effectively worked" on this document. (Ukrinform)

Lytvyn insists on considering budget

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada must consider conclusions and recommendations of its parliamentary committees, as well as suggestions of national deputies, and pass the 2010 budget in the first reading to be then sent to the Cabinet of Ministers for completion, Verkhovna Rada Speaker Volodymyr Lytvyn said on November 16, while visiting the Cherkasy region. He noted that fulfillment of the law on increasing social standards will increase the fiscal deficit by 2 percent. Mr. Lytvyn added that he understands the "unrealistic" nature of proposals that raise the budget spending by 140 billion hrv. (Ukrinform)

WHO detects no mutation of flu

KYIV – Preliminary tests have revealed no significant changes in the pandemic H1N1 virus based on investigations of samples taken from patients in Ukraine, according to the press service of the World Health Organization, it was reported on November 18. A total of 34 samples were analyzed independently by the WHO Collaborating Center for Reference and Research on Influenza in London and the WHO Collaborating Center for the Surveillance, Epidemiology and Control of Influenza in Atlanta, Ga. Preliminary genetic sequencing shows

that the virus is similar to the virus used for production of the pandemic influenza vaccine, reconfirming the vaccine's efficacy at this time, the statement noted. Additional questions about the pandemic virus circulating in Ukraine will be answered as more data is available, the WHO said. The WHO also commended the government of Ukraine "for its open sharing of samples to inform global monitoring of the virus for signs of change." (Ukrinform)

Opposition seeks Cabinet's ouster

KYIV – The opposition Party of Regions of Ukraine (PRU) faction, led by presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich, on November 18 started collecting signatures in the Parliament for the dismissal of Yulia Tymoshenko's government. Ms. Tymoshenko is Mr. Yanukovich's chief rival for the presidency. A total of 120 signatures have been already collected, which, however, does not suffice for including the motion of no confidence on the agenda. According to Oleksander Yefremov, PRU first vice-chair, the collection of signatures is in process. Meanwhile, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc faction said it has no doubt that the PRU initiative will fail. (Ukrinform)

Lazarenko still wanted in Ukraine

KYIV – The Internal Affairs Ministry is planning to arrest Ukraine's ex-Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko (1996-1997) if he returns to Ukraine, Minister Yurii Lutsenko has told the press on November 12. "Pavlo Lazarenko is on the international wanted list. In view of the fact that he has expressed a wish to return to Ukraine, he will be arrested at the airport," Mr. Lutsenko said. The newspaper Delo had reported that Mr. Lazarenko was preparing for a return to Ukraine and intended to resume his family business. According to the newspaper, a U.S. court is to consider Mr. Lazarenko's release as his term of imprisonment ends this month. Mr. Lazarenko was deprived of his immunity as a national deputy of Ukraine following his detention in Switzerland in 1998. The ex-prime minister has been in the United States since February 1999. He was accused by the U.S. of money laundering in 1994-1999. He is among the 10 most corrupt world leaders, according to the World Bank. In Ukraine, the local Interpol appraises the volume of damage inflicted by Mr. Lazarenko on Ukraine at about \$130 million (U.S.). (Ukrinform)

Ukrainian robots win awards

KYIV – Ukraine took sixth place at the World Robot Olympiad 2009 in Gyeongbuk Pohang, South Korea, it was reported on November 12. The Ukrainian robots can move, dance, produce various sounds and even make a pie. In fact, the pie was presented the Jury's Choice Award. Ukraine's robots participated in the international competition for the first time. The World Robot Olympiad is a competition for young people age 16-19 who are interested in robot technology and development. The first international World Robot Olympiad took place in Singapore in 2004; subsequent competitions have been held in Bangkok, Thailand (2005), Nanning, China (2006), Taipei, Taiwan (2007) and Yokohama, Japan (2008). This year 217 teams from 24 different countries participated in the event. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine 14th among arms exporters

KYIV – According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Ukraine in 2008 exported weapons worth \$233 million, and became the 14th country in the global ranking of

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

arms-exporting states. In comparison, in 2007 Ukraine was ranked seventh with \$774 million worth of arms exports. According to the SIPRI, the world's top three arms exporters were the United States (nearly \$6.2 billion), Russia (nearly \$6 billion) and Germany (about \$2.8 billion). (Ukrinform)

Air service with Bosnia-Herzegovina

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on November 12 signed a law ratifying an agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on air service. The original agreement was signed in Kyiv on June 24, 2008. (Ukrinform)

Missing paraglider found in India

KYIV – Indian rescuers found former military pilot Ihor Tabaniuk, who on November 6 made a crash landing in a mountainous region of the Indian state Himachal Pradesh, the Foreign Affairs Ministry press service reported on November 12. Mr. Tabaniuk was under medical supervision and was to be taken to a hospital in Delhi. (Ukrinform)

Illegal migrants detained in Zakarpattia

KYIV – Border guards detained five illegal migrants at railway stations in Mukachiv and Uzhhorod, the State Border Guard Service press service reported on November 12. Three foreigners without documents who arrived by the Kyiv-Uzhhorod train in Mukachiv were detained by a mobile detachment. The detainees do not know any European language and arrived without any documents; two are citizens of Pakistan, and the third is a citizen of Sri Lanka. At the Uzhhorod station two Moldovan citizens were stopped for examination of their documents. The foreigners had migration cards to Odesa; they arrived in Zakarpattia with the aim of illegally crossing the border into Slovakia. (Ukrinform)

Reshuffle in Ukraine's armed forces

KYIV – The President Viktor Yushchenko on November 18 introduced the chief of the General Staff of Ukraine's armed forces, Col.-Gen. Ivan Svyda. He noted that reshuffle in the armed forces' top command is due to the retirement, because of disability, of Serhii Kyrychenko as the armed forces commander-in-chief. Mr. Yushchenko thanked Mr. Kyrychenko for his contribution to the development of the Ukrainian army. Speaking about Col.-Gen. Svyda, the president said he has a great experience and voiced confidence that the new chief would use that experience in modernizing the armed forces. Mr. Yushchenko also said he expects the new army leadership will show a qualitative implementation of the army development program. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine proposes transport services

KYIV – Ukraine has proposed its services in transporting NATO's humanitarian cargos using Ukrainian planes, National Security and Defense Secretary Raisa Bohatyriova said at a November 18 press conference held jointly with Polish

National Security Bureau chief Alexander Szczyglo. "Taking into consideration delays of supplies by military transportation planes, the Airbus-A400-M, the Ukrainian party proposed to European partners that it would participate in renewal of production of the Ukrainian planes AN-124-100 and military transport planes AN-70, as well as to prolong an agreement on the SALIS project," she said. The SALIS project envisages rendering transport services by Ukraine to convey NATO cargos involved in NATO peacekeeping operations. The NSDC secretary said that details of these two projects would be decided at the Defense Ministry level. (Ukrinform)

President seeks review of gas contracts

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has called for the review of some clauses of Russian-Ukrainian gas accords of January 19. The Presidential Secretariat is drafting a statement to Russia, according to Bohdan Sokolovsky, the president's commissioner for international energy security. The president will propose introducing common market principles of determining the prices of imported gas and tariffs for its transit across Ukraine, as well as responsibility for any refusal to meet the assumed commitments based on the practice of using current contracts, he said. Mr. Sokolovsky also said the president would suggest the creation of a bilateral agency of experts who would consider all of the problem issues and submit agreed proposals. He said that along with the "take or pay" principle of buying imported gas, Ukraine would insist on the use of a similar principle during the transit of Russian gas via Ukraine. Mr. Sokolovsky said on November 18 that the document would be submitted to Russia as soon as it is drafted and approved by the president. (Ukrinform)

Payment for gas to grow twofold

KYIV – Payment for Russian gas transit via the territory of Ukraine will grow twofold as of January 1, 2010, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko told a briefing at the Cabinet on November 18. She emphasized that it will allow for improving the financial state of the Naftohaz Ukrainy. She also noted that Ukraine guarantees stability of Russian gas transit via its territory. "For 18 years we never disrupted these supplies to Europe a single time," the prime minister said. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv wants new free trade pact

KYIV – Ukraine has called for a new agreement on a free trade area to be signed with Russia, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said. Speaking at a press conference on November 18, she said this would be a key issue at a meeting of the inter-governmental Ukrainian-Russian Committee for Economic Cooperation meeting in Yalta on November 19. "The key issue is how to build open and mutually beneficial trade relations between Ukraine and Russia. The subject of our discussion will be the possibility of signing a new agreement on a free trade area between Ukraine and Russia," Ms. Tymoshenko said. (Ukrinform)



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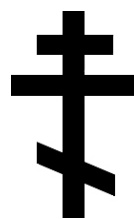
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her son and daughter-in-law

Alexis, Oleh and Melanie,
her grandchildren

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her brother and sister-in-law

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Katherine SZTUL-BIZIC née KOBYLKO

Born November 28, 1919 in Zhmerynka, Ukraine, she passed
away on October 26, 2009 in Paris, France.

A civil engineer, writer and editor, fierce Ukrainian patriot, in
1945 Katherine Kobylko married Oleh Sztul, who was to
become the third Head of OUNm, and with whom she had two
children.

After his death, she later married Svetozar Bizic.

Funeral services were held on November 7, 2009 at Saint Simon
Ukrainian Orthodox Church, followed by interment at Cimetière
du Montparnasse, Paris, France.

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Ukrainian Technological Society honors Ukrainian of the Year Stephen Sivulich

PITTSBURGH – The Ukrainian Technological Society (UTS) of Pittsburgh presented its 2009 Ukrainian of the Year Award to Stephen Sivulich, Ed.D., at its 40th annual award ceremony and dinner dance, held on Saturday, November 7, at The Club at Nevillewood in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Sivulich was honored for 45 years of devoted service with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and the Ukrainian Orthodox League; his dedication to his local parish, Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie, Pa., where he has served in leadership roles and was responsible for initiating various humanitarian outreach efforts to the elderly, needy and housebound; and for his professional achievements in the area of higher education administration, where he served in leadership roles in student affairs and student development for over 30 years.

Dr. Sivulich was born in Dixonville, Pa., and grew up in Sharon, PA, the second of 10 children to parents of Ukrainian ancestry. He served in the U.S. Army and then attended Mount Union College, graduating with a B.A. in business and economics.

Dr. Sivulich began his professional career with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. and went on to earn an M.A. in sociology from Kent State University and then a doctorate of education in education administration from Lehigh University. Across his 30-year professional career, Dr. Sivulich has held positions in higher education administration at several colleges and universities in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia and has authored several papers on student affairs.

The UTS took the occasion of its 40th anniversary to re-dedicate Michael Komichak's 1974 Ukrainian of the Year Award. Mr. Komichak, a native of McKees Rocks, Pa., has been the voice of the Ukrainian Radio Program for 60 years. In

his broadcasts he has championed the cause of freedom and independence for Ukraine, promoted Ukrainian culture and consciousness, and worked to preserve and nurture Ukrainian identity and heritage.

The re-dedication of his 1974 award also recognized his steadfast support and promotion of Ukrainian fraternal, cultural, civic and religious organizations both locally and nationally; his leadership in organizing and promoting community events and observances of interest to the Ukrainian American community in the tri-state area; and his leadership in mobilizing community financial support for numerous Ukrainian projects and causes including the endowment of Ukrainian studies at the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University, the Ukrainian Nationality Room at the University of Pittsburgh, and for child victims of the Chornobyl nuclear disaster.

Roksana Korczynsky, Ph.D., president of the UTS executive board, welcomed the award recipients and guests and provided a brief history of the society – now in its 40th year and one of the longest continuously active Ukrainian organizations in the tri-state area. She also highlighted the meaning of the society's Ukrainian of the Year Award, which recognizes people of local, national and international stature who have contributed to the Ukrainian community or Ukrainian scholarship, or who have demonstrated significant achievement which brings recognition and prestige to the Ukrainian community.

Past recipients include Ukrainian Orthodox (later Patriarch) Metropolitan Mstyslav; Ukrainian Catholic Patriarch Josyf Slipyj; dissident, poet, and activist Nadia Svitlychna; historians Wasyl Jaszczun and Andrew Gregorovich; Judge Bohdan Futey; the first president of a re-born Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk; and the current



Metropolitan Constantine and Dr. Stephen Sivulich, winner of the 2009 Ukrainian of the Year award presented by the Ukrainian Technological Society of Pittsburgh.

President of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko.

Bohdan Hryshchshyn, a UTS member, made the nomination address honoring Dr. Sivulich as the 2009 Ukrainian of the Year. The nomination was submitted to the society by UTS member Elizabeth Mitchell, who was unable to attend the ceremony. The award proclamation was read aloud in English by George Honchar, UTS executive board vice-president, and in Ukrainian by Motria Hodowanec, UTS executive board member.

Dr. Sivulich accepted the award and thanked the UTS for this honor. He stated that he was honored to be recognized alongside the society's other awardee this year, Mr. Komichak. In his acceptance remarks, Dr. Sivulich recognized many members of the clergy who were influential in his life. He also recognized the many hard-working members of his local parish who continue to carry out many important outreach efforts. Dr. Sivulich especially thanked his wife, Alice, for her devotion and invaluable advice across the years.

Nickolas C. Kotow, UTS executive board secretary and Treasurer, made the nomination address re-dedicating Mr. Komichak's 1974 Ukrainian of the Year Award. Mr. Honchar read the award proclamation aloud in English, with Mrs. Hodowanec reading the proclamation in Ukrainian. Mr. Komichak accepted the award and, again, thanked the UTS for this honor, originally presented 35 years ago.

The beautifully designed awards for both recipients were created by Pittsburgh graph-



Michael Komichak whose 1974 award was rededicated this year.

ic artist Kathy Boykowycz.

Metropolitan Constantine, of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., gave the invocation and Archbishop Antony gave the benediction.

Following the dinner hour, musical entertainment was provided by The Continental Dukes of Pittsburgh.

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

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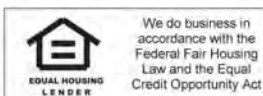
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Aslund...

(Continued from page 11)

2004. Since he attended in February 2004 a large international conference in Kyiv during which major political, societal and economic problems were discussed, Dr. Aslund is in good position to provide the reader with his personal insight into the making of the revolution. The central issues were problems related to the election – the problems were not only internal, but also external since Russia played a very significant role in the election campaign, with President Vladimir Putin personally involved.

Commenting on the Russian involvement, two Russian scholars, Nikolai Petrov and Andrei Ryabov stated: "Russia's involvement in the Ukrainian presidential election in October and November 2004 is widely viewed as the Kremlin's greatest foreign relations blunder since 1991. The problem is not that the Kremlin gambled on a candidate who lost, but that the Kremlin's involvement was so conspicuous and crude. (p. 182).

Despite the complexities, the Orange Revolution was a glorious event in which democracy triumphed without any blood-

shed. Mr. Yushchenko triumphed over Viktor Yanukovich, who was supported by Mr. Putin, and the victors succeeded in forming an Orange Coalition.

The author discusses in some detail the dramatic events of the Orange Revolution, the struggle for power, the victorious coalition that was formed and the inability of the political leadership to act in harmony.

Despite the numerous problems that today face Ukraine, Dr. Aslund emphasizes that during its 18 years of independence Ukraine had many achievements – the most important of which were protecting its sovereignty, becoming a democracy and creating a market economy.

"How Ukraine Became a Market Economy and Democracy" is one of the most interesting sources of information about Ukraine since its proclamation of independence in 1991. The author's analysis and thoughtful presentation make the book enjoyable reading.

The book can be purchased by calling 202-328-9000, by writing to the Peterson Institute for International Economics, 1750 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036-1903; or online at www.piie.com.

Five scholars awarded 2009-2010 post-doctoral fellowships at HURI

by Peter T. Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) has awarded five post-doctoral fellowships for the 2009-2010 academic year, including three Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellowships in Ukrainian Studies and two Jaroslaw and Nadia Mihaychuk Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships in Ukrainian Studies.

The financial support provided by these donors enable scholars from around the world to conduct wide-ranging research at HURI on specific topics of Ukrainian history, politics, literature, linguistics and culture. As part of the fellowship program, each scholar is also required to deliver a formal lecture on his/her area of research at HURI's weekly "Seminars in Ukrainian Studies."

Shklar Research Fellows

Ines Garcia de la Puente, who received her doctorate in Slavic philology and Indo-European linguistics from the Complutense University in Madrid in 2006, will use her Shklar Fellowship to



Ines Garcia de la Puente



Robert Kuśnierz



Tetyana Portnova



Iryna Vushko

focus on the topic "From Kyiv to Rome along the Ladoga: Reassessing Trade Routes in Rus'," a topic that she began researching in 2008 under a post-doctoral fellowship from the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science.

Robert Kuśnierz, currently a research fellow at the Institute of History at the Pomeranian University in Słupsk, Poland, received his Ph.D. in history in 2004 from the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska in Lublin. While at HURI in the fall semester, Dr. Kuśnierz will focus his attention on researching Poland's attitude toward the Holodomor and the Great Terror in Ukraine (1932-1938) and how these events influenced Polish-Soviet relations.

Iryna Vushko, who received her Ph.D. in history from Yale University in 2008 and recently completed a Max Weber Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the European University Institute in San Domenico di Fiesole, Italy, will research the topic "Enlightened Absolutism, Imperial Bureaucracy and Provincial Society: The Austrian Project to Transform Galicia, 1772-1815." Dr. Vushko's work will analyze the Austrian bureaucratic modernization of Galicia from its annexation by the Habsburg monarchy in 1772 to the final settlements of the Congress of Vienna in 1815. The reforms undertaken by the Austrian bureaucrats in Galicia, which were aimed at replacing Polish institutions with new Austrian ones and to forge political loyalty among the local Poles, Ruthenians and Jews, created new identities and reinforced existing identities that were intended to be suppressed. Indirectly, they gave rise to modern nationalism in Galicia.

These annual fellowships, awarded for the seventh year in a row, are funded by

the Eugene and Daymel Shklar Foundation of California.

Mihaychuk Fellows

Rostyslav Melnykiv, an associate professor in the Department of Ukrainian Literature at the Skovoroda National Pedagogical University of Kharkiv, received a "kandydat nauk" (candidate of science) degree in philology from Kharkiv State University in 1998. His area of interest is 20th century Ukrainian literature, focusing on the 1920s and 1930s. Mr. Melnykiv will spend the spring semester at HURI looking at the models of "ideal literature" and "ideal fiction" that participants in the literary discussions of those two decades attempted to define.

Tetyana Portnova, a junior research fellow at the Department of Historiography and the Study of Sources and Archives at Dnipropetrovsk National University, received her kandydat nauk in history from the same institution in 2008. While at HURI during the fall semester Ms. Portnova plans to research peasantry and peasant culture in Ukrainian public discourse during the second half of the 19th century.

The Mihaychuk Fellowship in Ukrainian Studies is made possible by an endowment established through the generous gifts of Dr. and Mrs. Mihaychuk, who first gave donated in 1981 and have added to them periodically. They reside in Parma, Ohio, and are noted community activists.

The Orange Revolt...

(Continued from page 6)

Yushchenko had vowed during the Orange Revolt. Instead, Mr. Akhmetov's right-hand woman, Raisa Bohatyriova, is serving as Mr. Yushchenko's National Security and Defense Council chair.

Mr. Kuchma might have had his enemies taken care of, and Mr. Yanukovich may have made his millions in corruption. But neither deceived the Ukrainian people to the extent that Mr. Yushchenko did. All the while, he used the Ukrainian language and the Holodomor to deflect from his dealings with oligarchs.

Along with oligarchs Dmytro Firtash, Yuri Boiko and Serhii Lvochkin, President Yushchenko is suspected of getting a cut of the billion-dollar profit off RosUkrEnergo, a natural gas intermediary that epitomized Ukrainian corruption during the Orange era. (Mind you, Mr. Boiko and Mr. Lvochkin actively support the Party of Regions, the supposed enemies of Mr. Yushchenko.) Mr. Yushchenko's brother Petro Yushchenko owns an apartment near Mr. Akhmetov and Mr. Firtash in the same Kyiv building. Petro Yushchenko also stands accused of profiting from RosUkrEnergo. Is all this coincidence?

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko allegedly enhanced her wealth through the elections – by charging millions of dollars for a space on her bloc's closed list – and her two tours as prime minister, among which she allegedly siphoned off millions for her campaign war chest, observers said.

So just what were Western governments, largely influenced by the Anglo-American oligarchy, thinking when they supported Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko? Western governments lost as a result of the Orange Revolt when they lent support to politicians who did little to promote Western values of rule of law, government transparency, property rights, free markets, and even basic concepts of democracy. After all, Ukraine's highly flawed voting system of closed lists – in which voters choose a party or bloc of parties instead of individual candidates – is a direct product of the compromise reached during the Orange Revolt. As a result, not a single Ukrainian knows a single national deputy who is responsible to him or her.

The inability to uphold Western standards has directly resulted in the failure of attempts to convince more Ukrainians to support accelerated Euro-Atlantic integration. The Orange failure has discredited

Western culture and values among millions of central, southern and eastern Ukrainians. Don't believe it?

Only 36 percent of Ukrainians approve of the nation's shift to a market economy, down from 52 percent in 1991, according to the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project survey, conducted August 27 to September 24 with about 1,000 respondents in Ukraine.

A meager 30 percent of Ukrainians approve of the nation's change to a multi-party system of government (i.e., democracy), compared with 72 percent in 1991, the survey said. And 62 percent of Ukrainians believe they're worse off now than under communism.

On the cultural front, Mr. Yushchenko's poor handling of Ukrainian language and cultural politics, overemphasizing these themes instead of addressing life-and-death issues, has discredited them for millions of indifferent Ukrainians, dashing any hope of Ukrainianization in the next decade.

In the aftermath of the Orange failure, in which Ms. Tymoshenko has adopted a rapprochement with Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, the Russian Federation is already preparing its next imperialist moves.

It's already a given the Russian language will continue to dominate business, social life and mass media for a few more decades, which is critical. Language is as strong a bond as any between people. It's no coincidence that the U.S., Canada, Great Britain and Australia are the closest of allies. They're all English-speaking.

In the meantime, Russia's energy grip on the European Union is successfully deterring the European Union from supporting U.S. involvement in the region. Deterioration of the dollar, which many economists have predicted, will further strengthen Russia's grip on Ukraine, which is not only a geopolitical test but a matter of pride and soul.

If there will ever be a true revolution, then November 2004 was only the start. If the 2010 presidential election's outcome is dubious – observers expect to see widespread election fraud, with neither side acknowledging the other's victory – and the economic derailment continues, then the real Ukrainian revolution could begin. Or a Russian takeover.

Until then, the biggest losers of the Orange Revolt remain the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who risked their lives and health in the freezing winter of 2004 on behalf of the same oligarchs who oppress them, only to have been used as pawns and shut out in the cold yet again.

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Pobratymy Fraternity hosts 11th annual Plast Open golf tournament

CHICAGO – Picture-perfect weather crowned the 11th annual Plast Open hosted by the Pobratymy Foundation in Chicago. This year's outing was held at the Hilton Chicago Indian Lakes Golf Resort on September 12.

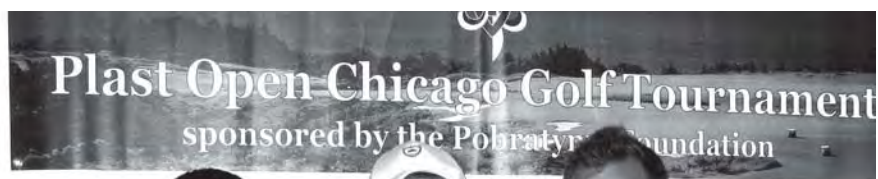
Using a team scramble format to rank the 60 men and women golfers, the outing provided an opportunity for participants to enjoy the beautiful setting, the friendly competition and the great camaraderie.

The day was capped with a post-golf reception at the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church Hall, located near the golf course, where award winners were announced.

The winning men's team consisted of Marion Abramiuk, Paul Abramiuk, Elliot Grey and Damian Matusiak. The winning women's team members were Halyna Traversa, Roksolana Tymiak-Lonchyna and Roma Wowchuk.

Roman Marushka scored the longest drive for men and Ms. Tymiak-Lonchyna had the longest women's drive. Mr. Grey won the closest drive to the pin and Kevin Fitzgerald won the putting contest.

Proceeds from this year's event will support Plast Chicago's development of the new Round Lake grounds, the Plast-Pobratymy ski camp scheduled for December in Colorado, and the 60th anni-



The winning men's team (from left) Paul Abramiuk, Damian Matusiak and Marian Abramiuk (missing from photo: Elliot Grey).



The winning women's team (from left) Roma Wowchuk, Halyna Traversa-Young and Roksolana Tymiak-Lonchyna.

versary celebrations of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization to be held this fall in Chicago and Detroit.

The Pobratymy Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt corporation, was established in 1992 by members of the Plast Pobratymy fraternity. The purpose of the foundation is to support the activities of Plast, both in North America and in Ukraine. The foundation also awards contributions to other 501 (c) (3) organizations that support the stated purpose of the fraternity: to renew and strengthen Plast; to encourage excellence and self-improvement; to encourage identification

and cooperation among Ukrainian youth; and to inform others about Ukraine.

The Pobratymy Foundation thanked its volunteers and sponsors for their support of the golf outing (sponsors were recognized in a separate ad to in The Ukrainian Weekly). For more information on the 12th annual Plast Open, scheduled for September 11, 2010, readers may contact Oleh Skubiak at oskubiak@gmail.com.

For information on the Plast-Pobratymy Ski Camp in Winter Park, Colo., scheduled for December 26 -31, contact Antin Durbak at pbweb@pobratymy.org.

Ukrainian pro sports update: golf

by Ihor Stelmach

Jim Furyk: Golf's great "grinder"

Known for his consistent top level of play and one of the more unique looping golf swings ever, Jim Furyk became a professional golfer in 1992. The reputation he has earned over the past 15-plus years on the pro golf tour describes him as methodical: straightaway driving and conservative shot selection.

How consistent has his performance been over the past decade? How about a top-10 ranking for over 270 weeks between 1999 and 2009? Jim Furyk quietly inched his way upward in pro golf rankings with his consistent approach. So consistent, his ardent fan base nicknamed him "The Grinder." The entire golf universe did abruptly sit up and notice his 2003 U.S. Open and Buick Open victories over the world's best duffers.

A standout player on his high school baseball, football and basketball teams at Manheim Township High School in Lancaster, Pa., Furyk had a hidden love for still another sport. Word is he felt embarrassed about his affection for the game, and often asked his mother to take him to school early so he would have enough time to hide his golf clubs in his locker before his classmates arrived and saw them.

Furyk learned golf from his Ukrainian father, Mike, who was head pro at Uniontown Country Club in the Pittsburgh suburbs. Dad encouraged his son to stick with his rather quirky swing, which defied all conventional wisdom about golf's proper form but worked for him. Furyk also engages in a unique pre-swing ritual, described in a 2003 Sports Illustrated (SI) article by Michael Silver as: "The 33-year-old grinder's grinder prepares for each

herky-jerky swing like a geologist conducting a seismic survey."

Prior to each swing, Furyk hitches up his pants with his right hand. Before every putt, Furyk reads the putting line, addresses the ball, steps away, then repeats his routine a second time. Furyk related the following to Mr. Silver: "I got a lot of recognition early in my career because of my goofy swing and it was a positive for me. I'm a guy who finds a comfort zone and sticks to his guns."

Furyk's father offered the following comment on his son's swing: "If you have a manufactured golf swing, I'm a firm believer that you won't hold up under pressure. If you've got a swing that's natural, whatever it looks like, you've got a chance."

Furyk took to heart his father's emphasis on practicing and perfecting what came naturally. He further inherited his dad's work ethic and a focus for perfection.

Golf World's John Hawkins commented on Furyk's father-son relationship: "The two have formed an effective, low-key team since Furyk began winning on the PGA Tour, not so much in terms of mechanical alterations, but in strengthening the kid's two biggest assets: his head and heart."

Furyk attended the University of Arizona and turned pro in 1992; a year later he earned his first tour win at the Nike Mississippi Gulf Coast Classic. Subsequent years on the tour saw more victories including the Las Vegas Invitational (1995, 1998, 1999), the United Airlines Hawaiian Open (1996) and the Doral-Ryder Open (2000). A freak hand injury sidelined Furyk in late 2000, when he fell on his left wrist, tearing some cartilage. He was hurt walking

through a parking lot while attending a Baltimore Ravens football game when he attempted to engage in a game of catch with a football. The hurt wrist forced him out of several late 2000 PGA events.

Between 1998 and 2003, Furyk won at least one tournament per year on the PGA Tour. During these years his was the second best winning season streak, behind Tiger Woods. The wins earned Furyk recognition in the top 10 Official World Golf Rankings. Arguably his biggest career win came on June 16, 2003, when he tied the record for the lowest 72-hole score in U.S. Open history to earn his first major championship.

Jim married his long-time girlfriend, Tabitha Skartved in late 2000. The young couple built a home on Maui, Hawaii – Furyk's favorite spot in the whole world. By the end of 2000 Furyk healed from his wrist injury and immediately did some damage at the Mercedes Championship in January of 2001. A dramatic comeback, deemed quite improbable as South African Rory Sabbatini held a commanding lead into the final round, gave Furyk a surprise win. Sabbatini missed a three-foot putt on the final hole, giving Furyk a chance at 18, which he nailed. As Furyk related to of SI: "There was one key: attitude. Whenever I started to get mad at myself, I would remember that my goal was to be able to complete all 72 holes of the tournament."

In 2002 Furyk won the Memorial Tournament and ended the year with nine top-10 finishes. Following his incredible U.S. Open victory in June of 2003, Furyk doubled his pleasure with a decisive win at the August 2003 Buick Open, where he managed to outplay Woods. Furyk's game remained calm and collected throughout the Buick Open. As he told SI's Shipnuck: "I

wanted to go out and get a low number, and whether I'm playing with Tiger Woods or someone else, it doesn't make much of a difference."

He ended the 2003 PGA season second in earnings, some \$400,000 behind Woods.

The 2003 golf year was a great campaign Jim Furyk, with his name earning a most deserved slot right up there with Woods, Vijay Sing, Davis Love and Mike Weir. In an interview with Joan Alexander of ASAP Sports, Furyk said that after winning the U.S. Open people told him his life would undergo a drastic change. He admitted his personal time was more in demand both with business and personal interests. Autograph requests were plentiful, as were inquiries from the media: "For some reason, my opinion matters more now. It's a good problem to have and it goes with the territory. You realize that we all want to win major championships and win golf tournaments, and the more you do that, the more your time becomes in demand. That's part of it... It's really not a bad problem to have."

The 2004 year saw Furyk limited to playing in only 14 events due to a three-month layoff after a second cartilage repair in his wrist; the year saw him fall out of the top 100 on the money list. 2005 was a return to good form and his top-10 ranking with a PGA Tour event win. The next year was even better.

A career-best second position on the money list, two PGA Tour event wins and a first Vardon Trophy were among his 2006 highlights. (The Vardon Trophy is awarded annually by the PGA of America to the PGA Tour's leader in scoring average. Woods has won this trophy six times this decade.) Furyk ended the year with a career-

(Continued on page 20)

Yakiv Suslensky...

(Continued from page 5)

about Ukrainian citizens who saved Jews during World War II, organized conferences on that topic and wrote a Ukrainian-language book titled "True Heroes: About the Participation of Ukrainian Citizens in Saving Jews from the Fascist Genocide" (1993). He also authored a book about Ukrainian-Jewish relations called "Islands of Friendship" (1983).

Mr. Suslensky actively pursued the cause of recognition of Ukrainian Catholic Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky

as one of the "Righteous of the World" – Gentiles who saved Jews from the Nazis at great risk to their lives – at Israel's Holocaust memorial complex, Yad Vashem. He authored an article about Yad Vashem's snub of Sheptytsky that was published in the January 19, 1986, issue of The Ukrainian Weekly. Despite 18 appeals for Sheptytsky's recognition, Mr. Suslensky and his group did not succeed in their quest.

He also worked to promote a more objective view of Ukrainian historical personages such as Symon Petliura, commander of the army of the Ukrainian National Republic and president of the

Directory of the UNR, and Roman Shukhevych, commander of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and a leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, as well as others who he said had been unjustly vilified in the past.

In 1985 Mr. Suslensky led protests in Jerusalem at the site of a vandalized memorial honoring Ukrainian and Jewish victims of the Holocaust and the Holodomor to protest what the demonstrators saw as deliberate inaction on the part of Israeli authorities to bring the crime's known perpetrators to justice. Mr. Suslensky cited "Ukrainophobia," an anti-Ukrainian attitude held by many Jews who he said consider all Ukrainians responsible for the "crimes of the few" during World War II.

The monument to Ukrainian and Jewish victims of the regimes of Hitler and Stalin was unveiled on May 13, 1985, and destroyed just over four months later, on September 26. It was located near the Tomb of King David on Mount Zion, on property purchased by Yuriy Dyba of Vancouver, British Columbia.

The monument's inscription paid tribute to "the 1.5 million Jewish Ukrainians and 3 million Ukrainians destroyed by the Nazi regime between 1941 and 1945," as well as "the 10 million Ukrainians

destroyed by the Soviets during the artificial famine of 1932-1933."

At the time of the Nazi war crimes trial of John Demjanjuk in Israel, Mr. Suslensky and his colleagues worked to promote balanced public opinion about the case. Mr. Suslensky also assisted the Demjanjuk defense team with translations and research in the Israeli archives.

By the year 2008, the work of Mr. Suslensky's society had resulted in the recognition by Yad Vashem of well over 2,000 Ukrainians as "Righteous of the World." At the time the society was founded, only four Ukrainians had been represented among that group of heroes.

Mr. Suslensky was honored by three presidents of independent Ukraine for his work in promoting inter-ethnic understanding. In 2007 President Viktor Yushchenko presented him with the Ukrainian state's Order for Merit, III class.

During Mr. Suslensky's March 2008 visit to Philadelphia, Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky of the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics described him as "an Israeli patriot with a Ukrainian heart."

Mr. Suslensky's funeral was attended by Ukraine's ambassador to Israel, Ihor Tymofeyev.

Jim Furyk...

(Continued from page 19)

best 13 top-10 finishes, including nine top-three finishes, four second-places and his two victories.

The Furyk swing

Furyk's unique looping golf swing starts with a setup, where the ball sits at the heel of the club instead of the center or at the toe. This positioning forces his 6'2" frame in closer so his hands are almost touching his thighs. The average golfer would encounter much difficulty with a club from such a starting point.

In comparison, Woods starts his swing with his hands eight inches or so away from his body. Tiger's position promotes a take-away which puts the club over his right shoulder at the top, keeping his right elbow tucked against his body. This is the classic launch position used since the onset of time, whether to throw a spear or a baseball, or swing a club. The larger body muscles – the back, shoulders and thighs – control the movement. The weaker muscles of the hands and wrists are secondary. The athlete's entire body is poised in the maximum power position.

Furyk does it his own way, similar to a basketball player hoisting a hook shot. His arms move backward vertically with his right elbow flying away from his body. This type of movement is an early step to facilitate accurate ball-striking rather than

promoting power. The club's shaft moves straight back and straight up, making it stay on path longer, mentally reinforcing the route along which to bring it back into the ball. At the top of the backswing the club shaft is parallel to the intended line of flight, elbow flying crazily off. Starting the downswing, Furyk then "corrects" for his unconventional takeaway by dropping his right elbow into the slot where it needs to be, bringing the club onto the correct swing path for optimum results. This downswing beginning causes the idiosyncratic loop in his swing.

His mentor father says Jim's hips "underturn" during the backswing and "overturn" coming down. Commentator Gary McCord once said it looked like Furyk was trying to swing in a phone booth. A second commentator, David Feherty, likened Furyk's swing to an octopus falling out of a tree.

Early in his pro golfing career Furyk's swing created some controversy. Once everyone accepted it as natural, a controversial swing became unique. Call it what you will, Furyk's famous ball-striking precision has served him well on the professional tour for 17 years.

Besides, there were a couple of other golf legends with unconventional swings. Some guy named Jack Nicklaus had a very upright swing with a flying elbow, while Lee Trevino was one of the biggest loopers of all time. Let's add "The Grinder" to this elite list of unique duffers.

Ukraine's presidential...

(Continued from page 2)

the candidates mentions NATO in any form – a pattern that repeats earlier elections (Yushchenko and Our Ukraine have never included NATO membership in their election programs). Of the seven main candidates, only Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Yushchenko support European Union membership. Messrs. Symonenko and Yatsenyuk oppose it, and the other three are ambivalent.

Messrs. Yanukovich and Symonenko support Ukraine's full membership in the Commonwealth of Independent States' Single Economic Space (SES). Countries cannot be in two customs unions at the same time and, therefore, joining the SES is impossible if Ukraine signs a free-trade agreement with the EU next year – an important nuance that will be missed by the average Mr. Yanukovich supporter.

Mrs. Yatsenyuk's proposed Eastern European union of Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan with Kyiv as its capital is surprisingly similar to the SES. His program calls for joint programs by these eight countries in the fields of energy, transportation and communications, industrial production and exports, science and technology, and the military-industri-

al complex.

Three leading candidates have distinct foreign-policy proposals. If elected, Mr. Yanukovich would pursue a pro-Russian multi-vector foreign policy, in contrast to the largely pro-Western multi-vectorism Mr. Kuchma pursued in his two terms in office. Ms. Tymoshenko has outlined a pro-European foreign policy that links domestic progress in reforms to Ukraine's integration into Europe.

Mr. Yatsenyuk moved from his pro-Western position as foreign affairs minister and Rada chairman to a Ukrainian third-way "isolationist-nationalist" platform that has been developed by Russian consultants in his team since June. Although elected to parliament in 2007 as one of the top five candidates of the pro-Western Our Ukraine-People's Self Defense bloc, Mr. Yatsenyuk now opposes NATO and EU membership for Ukraine.

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Twin Cities...

(Continued from page 13)

Ukrainians, a pamphlet titled "About Ukraine and Ukrainians" prepared by Ms. Lewytskyi was made available at the front entrance. Inside the auditorium, last year's festival queen, Sophia Anastaziewsky, made a short presentation about Ukraine and Ukrainians.

The 2009 Festival Committee consisted of John Luciw, chair; Alla Khrystych, vice-chair; Oksana Bryn, secretary; and Zenon Dawydowych, treasurer. Members of the committee were: Dr. Walter Ananastas, Renee Bell, Nina Chorewycz, Paul Jablonsky, Bob Kuchwarskyj, Ihor Kudanovych, Alexander Poletz, Maria Odermann, Svitlana Uniyat and Romana Vasylevych.



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Pianist Roman Rudnytsky completes his latest tour of Australia

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio – Concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky recently concluded his 16th Australian concert tour, which began in the middle of May and consisted of 36 concerts. He played recitals all over the country, the majority of them in smaller country and Outback towns.

These took place throughout Queensland, in Western Australia, in the Northern Territory, New South Wales and Victoria. In several towns, he also conducted masterclasses and workshops for local piano students and teachers. This was one of his most successful tours anywhere, as he received invitations to return from every venue. Thus, his next tour in Australia, in 2011, will again be a large one.

The tour concluded on August 22 with Mr. Rudnytsky playing the massively complicated Third Piano Concerto by Rachmaninoff as soloist with the Penrith Symphony in the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Center. Penrith is a satellite city to Sydney – about 30 miles to the west of it in the foothills of the Blue Mountains.

Mr. Rudnytsky played in some unique places involving travels of long distances. One of these, where he played for the second time, was the historic Hoover House in the now-ghost town of Gwalia (next to the town of Leonora), in the remote northern goldfields area of Western Australia north of Kalgoorlie. Mr. Rudnytsky had played there on his 2007 tour and, the recital then and now took place outside on the porch of this house, with people sitting on the porch and the surrounding lawn. The audience came from 150 miles around and a local family loaned a Beale upright piano for this occasion. This was, as the audience remarked afterwards, a true “outback concert” experience.

Hoover House is historic because it was built in 1898 by and for Herbert Hoover, a mining engineer by profession, who had come to Gwalia then to be manager of the gold mine there. It subsequently housed 14 other managers until that mine closed in 1963. It is situated right next to that mine and is now a museum and a bed and breakfast. It is the only house associated with a U.S. president located outside the borders of the United

Iryna Senyk...

(Continued from page 5)

labor camp, Ms. Senyk was sent to serve her five-year exile period. She joined the Ukrainian Helsinki Group (UHG) in 1979.

On October 30, 1979, in a document titled “Lamentatsiya” (Lamentation), three women members of UHG – Oksana Meshko, Nina Strokata and Ms. Senyk – addressed an appeal to the world community and to all people of good will, informing them of the numerous instances of the “escalation of state terror and defamation directed at the Ukrainian human rights movement in Ukraine.”

In autumn of that year, Ms. Senyk signed the UHG memorandum stating that the group was alive and functioning despite the repressions perpetrated against its members.

Ms. Senyk spent 34 years in captivity. She was finally released on August 17, 1983.

In November 2005 she was awarded a prestigious Ukrainian state award, the Order of Princess Olha, III class, and in November 2006 she was presented Ukraine’s Order for Courage, I class.

Internment was on October 27 at the Lychakiv Cemetery in Lviv.

– Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union

States.

Other recitals on Mr. Rudnytsky’s tour took place in venues ranging from large regional performing arts centers to churches and small theaters. One recital took place at Sydney’s Macquarie University, one of Australia’s major universities. Mr. Rudnytsky also appeared as soloist with the Cairns Youth Orchestra, performing with them Mozart’s Concerto in D minor, K.466 and the Liszt “Fantasia on Hungarian Folk Melodies.” He has performed with this orchestra every two years since his 1983 tour.

Mr. Rudnytsky has toured Australia every two years since his first performances there in 1979 and has played more concerts there than in any other of the 90-plus countries where he has performed: approximately 480 concerts in 16 tours of Australia.

The Australian tour was preceded by performances in Honduras, Britain, and the West African countries of Senegal, The Gambia and Mauritania (the last three: through the U.S. Embassies there).

Mr. Rudnytsky, who is a member of the music faculty of the Dana School of Music of Youngstown State University,



Pianist Roman Rudnytsky in Kalgoorlie, Australia.

received an invitation from the Sergei Prokofieff Symphony Orchestra of Donetsk for May 14, 2010, to perform with them Liszt’s Concerto No. 3 in E Flat and “Fantasia on Hungarian Folk

Melodies.” This will be the Ukrainian premiere performance of the Liszt No. 3, which was discovered only in 1989: the “Fantasia” will be performed for the first time ever in Donetsk.



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Ukraine loses to Greece, fails to qualify for World Cup



UNIAN

DONETSK, Ukraine – Ukraine on November 18 lost its bid to advance to the World Cup, to be played next year in South Africa, when it lost to Greece 1-0. Greece will play in its first World Cup in 16 years. The lone goal in the match, played in Donetsk, was scored by Dimitrios Salpididis in the 31st minute of the first-half on a pass from Georgios Samaras. Ukraine and Greece had played to a 0-0 draw on November 14 in Athens. The Associated Press quoted Ukraine's coach, Oleksiy Mykhailychenko, as saying: "It is very painful for me that it has ended this way, as I felt we deserved to qualify for the World Cup." He added, "It's a shame we didn't have quite enough skill and creativity. I don't have any complaints about our players, they gave everything they had but it wasn't enough." Above, Ukraine's Artem Milievsky is surrounded by opponents.

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Holodomor...

(Continued from page 9)

tryside is open, transportation is slow, and communication depends on how fast a man can travel.

The process of Russification was not willfully less intense in the early stages. It was just slow and inefficient due to the lack of more efficient means. The emergence of more effective means to control, communicate and transport was paralleled by the emergence of ever more efficient means of segregating and killing those who insisted on being Ukrainian.

Modern genocide

By the early 1930s, Russia had sufficient technology to move the destruction of Ukrainians to a level of slaughter not seen before or since in human history. Supported by the political will of Stalin, Lazar Kaganovich became the father of modern genocide. Joined by Pavel Postyshev and Viacheslav Molotov, these three Stalinist henchmen were the "commanders of the Holodomor."⁵

Kaganovich effectively closed Ukraine's borders, controlled the flow of information, confined the target population, physically removed or destroyed all available food and then sat back and watched millions and millions of Ukrainians starve to death. He topped off his masterwork by killing millions more by traditional means, like shooting or freezing them to death in Siberia. Kaganovich's kill rate remains unchallenged to this day – 10 million dead in 500 days.

Such massive slaughter is hard to fathom, hard to manage and hard to cover up. Kaganovich brought a whole new meaning

to the word "diabolical" as he took to all three challenges like a duck to water. The disposal of bodies was a problem – not just the sheer numbers, but also the need to dispose of them in a way that left the least evidence.

So, they dug huge pits near railroad sidings, dumped in the bodies interspersed with logs to aerate the fires and burn as hot as crematorium ovens. The smell of burning human flesh permeated the countryside. Those who smelled it never forgot it – they took it to their graves in their nightmares.

Foreign reporters were taken on escorted tours of Potemkin villages, greeted by children neatly dressed for the occasion and holding large loaves of bread – which was soaked in kerosene to make sure the starving children didn't eat it. Survivors report traveling for days in eastern Ukraine without seeing any living thing – not just no people, but also no dogs, no squirrels or other animals, rarely even a bird – the bone-chilling silence broken only by the wind.

Into this wasteland of death Kaganovich brought native Russians, many from the military, to repopulate those regions of Ukraine that were devastated by the genocide. Many fled and had to be brought back numerous times. The abandoned houses reeked of death, the plows turned up human skeletons. But in time they stayed put, and gradually those regions became largely Russian-speaking.

Unlike other masters of genocide, Kaganovich died in comfortable retirement in Moscow in 1991, at the ripe old age of 98, attended by two faithful servants. When asked if there was anything he regretted about what he had done, he replied, "I only regret that I didn't finish them off."⁶

5. "Not to be Forgotten – A Chronicle of Communist Inquisition," Roman Krutysk, Kyiv: Memorial, 2001, panels 16-17.

6. This quotation was reported to me by a person who spoke with Kaganovich by telephone (in his Moscow apartment) around 1989 or

1990. I know this person well and deem him to be credible. However, he is afraid to declare this publicly for fear of retribution. As he lives in Ukraine and is now elderly, threats against his life and safety are equally credible, and I have promised not to reveal his identity.

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OUT AND ABOUT

November 26-27 Toronto	Film screening, "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Ukrainian Cinema Since Independence," University of Toronto, www.utoronto.ca/jacyk/ukrcinema/lec04.html	December 5, 6, 13 New York	Ukrainian Christmas tree ornaments workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
November 27 Whippany, NJ	"Morska Zabava," Chornomortsi Plast Fraternity, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-476-1970	December 6 North Port, FL	25th anniversary liturgy and dinner, St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 941-497-3548 or rlmaluk@verizon.net
November 27 North Colebrook, CT	Paintball tournament, Bobrivka, 860-402-5055 or khaban@sbcglobal.net	December 6 Madison, NJ	Concert, "Celtic Harp for a Winter's Day," featuring Odarka Polanskyj Stockert, Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, 973-377-2982
November 28 Daytona Beach, FL	Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company, Peabody Auditorium, 386-671-3462	December 6 Whippany, NJ	Christmas Bazaar, sponsored by St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-476-1970
November 28 Washington	Holodomor commemoration, "Execution by Hunger: The Unknown Genocide of Ukrainians 1932-1933," Embassy of Ukraine, cultinform@ukremb.com	December 6 South Bound Brook, NJ	Christmas Bazaar, featuring Ukrainian foods and crafts, Ukrainian Orthodox League Convention Committee of Maplewood, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church hall, 973-635-8124
November 28-30 North Port, FL	Religious and ethnic art exhibit and open house, featuring embroidery, pysanky, architecture and iconography, St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 941-496-8593	December 6 Passaic, NJ	Parish feast, including St. Nicholas and Christmas programs and dinner, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 973-779-0249
November 29 Oshawa, ON	Film screening, "Bereza Kartuzka" by Yuriy Luhovy, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 605-725-0545	December 11 New York	Lecture by Oleh Wolowyna, "The Famine that Stalin Tried to Hide: Demographic Aspects," Columbia University, ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu or 212-854-4697
November 30 Cambridge, MA	Lecture by Robert Kusnierz, "Ukraine During the Great Famine and Great Terror of the 1930s in Light of Polish Diplomatic and Intelligence Documents," Harvard University, 617-495-4053	December 12 New York	Ukrainian Christmas traditions workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
December 1 Melbourne, FL	Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company, King Center for the Performing Arts, 321-242-2219		
December 4 North Port, FL	25th anniversary moleben service and concert, St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 941-497-3548 or rlmaluk@verizon.net		
December 5 Philadelphia	Christmas bazaar, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 610-892-7315		

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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- Back to Ukrainian school in September.
- "Morskyi Bal" in New Jersey in November.
- "Koliada" in December.
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 5

PALATINE, IL: The Ukrainian American Veterans 1st Lt. Ivan Shandor Post 35 in Palatine and the Palatine Chapter of ACT invite you to a presentation "Why the U.S. Wins Wars and Will Win the War on Terror" presented by Prof. Larry Schweikart of Dayton University. Prof. Schweikart is the author of "America's Victories," "48 Liberal Lies" and co-author of "A Patriot's History of the United States." He is also a commentator on Fox News. The presentation will take place at 2-4 p.m. at the Palatine Public Library located at 700 N. Court, Palatine, IL 60067. There is no charge for the event. For more information call Roman Golash, 847-910-3532, or e-mail romangolash@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday-Sunday, December 5-6

SILVER SPRING, Md.: Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church will sponsor a Christmas Bazaar featuring traditional Ukrainian Christmas foods, holiday crafts and tours of its Hutsul-style church. Food will be available for purchase along with items from the gift shop and unique handmade holiday gifts. Bazaar hours: Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, after 11:30 a.m. divine liturgy, 1-4 p.m. The church is located at 16631 New Hampshire Ave. (nine miles north of the Beltway - I-495, between Route 198 and Ednor Road). For more information e-mail holytrinitypucc@gmail.com or call Mary Bergman, 301-439-7603.

Sunday, December 6

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America invites all to Children's Christmas Festivities (for ages 3-13) featuring a music program by Olya Fryz with a "koliada" (carol) sing-along. Festivities will be at 2-4 p.m., with Christmas tree decorating, games, surprises and gingerbread decorating with Olesia Lew. Parents and family members are encouraged to join the fun. Admission: in advance - \$10 per child, \$20 per adult; at the door - \$15 per child, \$25 per adult. Please RSVP by Friday, November 27, by calling 212-288-8660 or e-mailing mail@ukrainianinstitute.org The UIA is located at 2 E. 79th St., corner of Fifth Avenue.

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: You are invited to attend a "Ukrainian Kitchen and Christmas Bazaar" to be held in the church hall of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South Bound Brook, N.J., at 11 a.m.-4 p.m. sponsored by the 63rd annual UOL Convention Committee of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Holy Ascension in Maplewood, N.J. The Ukrainian Kitchen will feature homemade varenyky, holubtsi and borsch to eat-in or

take out. Homemade holiday cookies will be featured in our "Cookie Walk" and sold by the pound. Holiday gift baskets, crafts and gift items will be available for raffle or sale. Admission is free. For more information call 973-635-8124. This Christmas Bazaar is being held concurrently with the grand opening of the "2009 Christmas Display" at the historic Hendrick Fisher House, which is located next to the church hall at 1960 Easton Ave. Somerset County's oldest historic house is lovingly decorated in Victorian Christmas style and available for tours that day and throughout the holiday season.

Sunday, December 13

HILLSIDE, N.J.: You, your family and friends are invited to visit with St. Nicholas at 12:30 p.m. in the church hall of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church located at the intersection of Liberty Avenue and Bloy Street. The parish children will present an informal bilingual entertainment program. Odarka Polanskyj-Stockert will also perform several holiday pieces on the harp. Complimentary refreshments will be served. For those attending the divine liturgy at 10:45 a.m., a "light lunch" will be provided after the service. If you would like to attend the luncheon please contact Mike Szpyhulsky, 908-289-0127, Maria Shatynski, 973-599-9381, or e-mail the parish at ICUkrainianCatholic@yahoo.com by December 1. Additional information and directions to the parish may be found on the parish website, www.byzcath.org/ImmaculateConception.

Saturday, December 19

BETHESDA, Md.: The Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies will host a Mykolai Show and Holiday Bazaar. Students will present "Mykolai - Superhero" at noon. Sviaty Mykolai (St. Nicholas) will then meet with each grade/age group (non-students welcome). The Heavenly Office will be open at 9:15-11:45 a.m.; please bring only one item per child (\$2 fee), clearly labeled (child's full name, grade/age). The bazaar/bake sale at 9:30 a.m.-noon will feature: torte slices, fancy cookies for your holiday cookie tray, kolachi, makivnyky, medivnyky, children's sweets, varenyky and vushka (frozen), books, CDs, gift items. Location: Westland Middle School, 5511 Massachusetts Ave., Bethesda, MD 20816. For further information visit <http://www.ukieschool.org/events.htm>, or contact Lada Onyshkevych, lada2@verizon.net or 410-730-8108.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

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

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