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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Citizens' committee launched to ensure proper commemoration of Holodomor

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A citizens' committee was officially launched at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy on November 17 to organize and make sure that the Victims of the Holodomor and Political Repressions Remembrance Day will be commemorated in Kyiv on the last Saturday of November as per annual tradition.

The committee recruited many of Ukraine's leading intellectuals (Ivan Drach), performers (Nina Matviyenko) philanthropists (Olha Bohomolets) and spiritual leaders (Bishop Yevstratii Zoria of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate) in planning the day's events, which had been previously organized by the Presidential Secretariat under President Viktor Yushchenko.

The administration of Viktor Yanukovich acknowledged the Holodomor was a tragedy, but denies that it was genocide against the Ukrainian people, adopting the Kremlin view that it was a “collective tragedy of the nations of the former Soviet Union” that suffered from Stalinist persecution.

The committee turned to the Yanukovich administration for support in organizing the events, but had yet to receive a response after 10 days, former Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Ivan

Vasiunyk said at a November 17 press conference.

“To great regret, there isn't an official position from the government regarding the format of commemorating this day after 10 days,” he said. “We anticipate the government will publicize its position and publicize those events which the government plans or doesn't plan to conduct.”

This year's events will be held under two themes: that the tragedy was a genocide, which is underpinned by Ukrainian law; and that the memory of the Holodomor cannot be erased.

The logo of the Citizens' Committee to Honor the Memory of the Holodomor-Genocide Victims of 1932-1933 in Ukraine consists of the Holodomor symbol depicted at the monument on St. Michael's Square, to the left of large, bold-faced words that declare, “Holodomor is Genocide '32-'33.” Below that is written “27.11.2010 We Remember.”

President Yanukovich outraged nationally conscious Ukrainians when he declared on April 27 at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) in Strasbourg, France, that the Holodomor couldn't be considered genocide, which led to PACE rejecting a resolution that would have granted recognition.

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Tens of thousands protest Ukraine's proposed tax code



Olena Bilozerska

More than 30,000 people march in central Kyiv against the tax code drafted by the government of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov, which they argue will devastate small businesses in Ukraine.

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The largest protest against the government of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov erupted on November 16 as more

than 30,000 small-business people descended upon Kyiv from all corners of Ukraine to voice their opposition to a new tax code they claim will ruin business in Ukraine and devastate the economy.

The tax code will impose new layers of unaffordable regulations and new mounds of unaffordable accounting paperwork, and will reduce transparency – all of which will enable authorities to demand exorbitant bribes, entrepreneurs said. Protests were held throughout Ukraine, including Kharkiv, Khmelnitskyi and Poltava.

“Our oligarchs and their servants, the national deputies, divided up all the country's property and Ukraine into personal estates,” Oleksander Dudko, president of the Union of Entrepreneurs and Employers of Crimea, said at a November 16 press conference in Kyiv.

“We won't let them ruin small business and turn the people into obedient slaves, dividing them up like serfs among each other,” he underscored.

The next day, Mr. Dudko threatened an armed uprising should the legislation pass. Yet, coalition leaders weren't intimidated, leading the Verkhovna Rada to approve the first and second readings of the new tax code on November 18 by 253 and 269 votes, respectively, amidst chants of “Shame” by opposition deputies.

The Parliament's decision to ignore the demands of small business could lead to the tax protests swelling, which observers said pose more of a threat to the authoritarian administration of President Viktor

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Patriarch Filaret blesses Holodomor memorial in N.J.



Petro Chasto/Svoboda

Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate blesses the memorial to victims of the Holodomor erected on the grounds of Holy Ascension Church in Clifton, N.J.

CLIFTON, N.J. – Parishioners of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church greeted their primate, Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, on Saturday, November 6. The hierarch blessed a new memorial, located on the church grounds, dedicated to the victims of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

Following the conclusion of a memorial service dedicated to the millions of victims of the Soviet regime, the patriarch made an emotional statement. He underscored that similar monuments that honor the memory of the victims of the Famine-Genocide, who were targeted by the Soviet regime in its campaign to destroy the Ukrainian people, already stand in many countries around the world where there are Ukrainians. Ukrainians, he said, can be found residing on all continents of the world, and the memory of Ukraine's largest human tragedy of the 20th century is an international tragedy, an unforgettable event that should never be allowed to be repeated.

Patriarch Filaret reminded the faithful of the atrocious acts by the Soviet

ANALYSIS

Russian PM fails to resolve trade differences on Kyiv visit



Official Website of Ukraine's President

The Ukrainian and Russian delegations during Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's visit to Kyiv on October 27.

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's October 27 visit to Kyiv confirmed that the honeymoon in bilateral relations, which followed Viktor Yanukovich's election as president last February, is over.

It is clear now that members of the ruling elite in Ukraine, although viewed by many as pro-Russian, are tough negotiators for Moscow.

For its part, the Kremlin continues to say "nyet" to Kyiv's pleas for cheaper gas. As a result, unlike Moscow hoped, no merger has taken place between the two countries' nuclear, aircraft, or oil and gas industries. At the same time, Moscow is reluctant to lower its gas price, contribute gas wells to a joint venture with Kyiv and pump more oil through Ukraine's pipelines.

Very little progress, if any, was achieved in the oil and gas sector. Mr. Putin preliminarily agreed to pump 25 million tons of oil for export via Ukraine's pipelines over the next five years. This is more than the 15 million tons that Russia pumped through Ukraine in 2009, but far

less than Kyiv had hoped for. Only a protocol of intention was initialed, and Ukrainian Fuel and Energy Minister Yuri Boiko said a final agreement should be signed within a month (UNIAN, October 27). Moscow's reluctance to provide oil transit guarantees prompts Ukraine to look for other partners to fill its Odesa-Brody pipeline.

From the end of November, Ukraine will use Odesa-Brody for test pumping Venezuelan oil to Belarus. According to trilateral agreements with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, beginning in 2011 Ukraine will start pumping 8 million tons of oil per year to Belarus from Odesa (Interfax-Ukraine, November 1). Until this past summer, the pipeline had been used to pump Russian oil in the reverse direction, to Odesa, where it was loaded on tankers. This fall, the pipeline has been empty as Russia provided no oil for transit. Ukraine has also been in talks with Azerbaijan, whose oil Kyiv relied upon when it built Odesa-Brody with the original intention to carry Caspian oil to Europe. Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev visited Kyiv on October 28, but no specific agreements

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Odesa-Brody pipeline gets another chance

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Using the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline as originally intended, south-north, is under active consideration again — this time, by the governments of Ukraine and Belarus. The pipeline has been used since 2004 in reverse, north-south, by Russian oil companies for exports out of Odesa. Such reverse-use blocks the access of non-Russian oil into the Odesa-Brody pipeline for supplying Ukraine and other countries in the region. These countries have sought unsuccessfully to correct the situation during the intervening years.

Four recent developments are spurring the same countries to re-open the issue:

1. Russia has imposed a steep price hike through export duties on crude oil to Belarus, compounded by taxation of Belarusian exports of oil products refined from Russian crude. This has compelled Belarus to seek non-Russian supplies for its massive oil-processing industry, so as to maintain operations and avert a Russian takeover of the assets.

2. The growing volumes of Venezuelan oil are potentially available for delivery at Ukrainian Black Sea and Baltic ports and onward transportation to land-locked Belarus. While the cost-effectiveness of existing transportation by railroad is questionable, the Odesa-Brody pipeline would alleviate this problem if used northward to Brody as originally intended.

3. Russian oil transit through the Druzhba pipelines via Belarus and, especially, via Ukraine to Europe is expected to decline in the years ahead, as Russia re-directs export volumes toward its own Baltic Pipeline System (BPS 1 and 2). This underscores the need for diversification of suppliers and supply routes, pre-eminently Odesa-Brody south-north.

4. Russian oil shippers are sharply reducing their export volumes through the Odesa-Brody pipeline north-south, thereby releasing Ukraine from contractual obligations on reverse-use, and freeing pipeline capacity for non-Russian oil to flow in the originally intended direc-

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NEWSBRIEFS

30,000 protest against new tax code

KYIV — Some 30,000 owners of small and medium-sized businesses have protested in Kyiv against a new Tax Code being debated in Parliament, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on November 16. The protesters' main objection is an amendment to the simplified tax rate. Small and medium-sized businesses currently pay a flat tax of 200-600 hrv (\$20-\$75) per month, depending on the nature and volume of their business. But the new code incorporates these small businesses into the general tax system, which protesters say opens the door to corruption and manipulation on the part of the tax authorities. The simplified tax has been a big success for small entrepreneurs. The tax is a onetime monthly payment that allows business owners to avoid dealing with tax officials, many of whom are corrupt. There are currently some 3 million registered small-business owners in Ukraine. Maria Kostecka, the co-owner of a small accounting firm, told RFE/RL that the new code would increase her taxes to some 50 percent of her profits. Anders Aslund, a fellow at the Washington-based Peterson Institute, says the proposed Tax Code is "good for big companies, bad for small ones." Dr. Aslund explained, "A 5 percent dividend tax for big companies is a big advantage and could lead to Ukraine's leading companies actually being based in Ukraine and not in offshore accounts." He added, "It's good to reduce the corporate-profit tax. However, the two big drawbacks are that the simplified tax is being reduced in extension and another worry is that ordinary international accounting principles are not being introduced." The new Tax Code has been controversial since it was introduced in July. The first version of the code was returned to Prime Minister Mykola Azarov with some 6,000 changes and amendments. President Viktor Yanukovich threatened to veto the code if it did not reflect "national hopes." In Kharkiv on November 16, some 5,000 business owners rallied outside the regional administration building; hundreds of others gathered in the eastern city of Donetsk, a Yanukovich political

stronghold. (RFE/RL)

Safeguarding religious sites

KYIV — An official document that stresses the role of cooperation between the authorities and religious organizations in the preservation of architectural monuments was adopted at an international seminar on "The Role of Religious Communities in the Management of World Heritage Sites," which was held in Kyiv under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on November 2-5. At a press conference in on November 15 devoted to the outcome of the seminar, the director general of the Kyiv-Pechersk Historical and Cultural Preserve, Maryna Hromova, said the seminar was attended by 40 delegates from 16 countries. Archimandrite Varsonofi of the Kyiv Pecherska Lavra said the seminar "received an official document of UNESCO, which highlights the important role of religious organizations in safeguarding architectural monuments. ...Only with joining efforts we can at the proper level maintain the monuments of architecture to convey them to the future generations." According to Olena Serdiuk, director of the Institute for the Protection Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Ukraine, by the end of 2010 the ministry will adopt a concept about the general development of the territory of the Kyiv Pecherska Lavra. "The concept involves control not only over the territory of the UNESCO monument itself, but the entire territory of Pechersk Hill with the access to the Dnipro River to be regarded as a sacred place, designed to meet the needs of the Lavra as the spiritual center of the eastern Slavs, as a monastery, as a preserve," she said. Ms. Serdiuk added that cultural heritage in Ukraine is represented by some 140,000 sites, 15,000 of them are monuments of architecture and city planning, and about 80 percent of architectural monuments are religious and used by religious communities. St. Sophia Cathedral became the first monu-

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NEWS ANALYSIS: Yanukovich and oligarchs – short or long-term relationship?

by Taras Kuzio

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Ukraine's October 31 local elections deepened Viktor Yanukovich's and the Party of Regions' grip on power. With parliamentary elections scheduled for September 2012, Mr. Yanukovich is on the way to a rapid monopolization of power that has profound consequences for Ukrainian democracy.

After his election a decade ago in Russia, it took Vladimir Putin his entire first term in office to accomplish what Mr. Yanukovich has undertaken in less than a year. Mr. Yanukovich has taken five steps to remove obstacles to the monopolization of power. The first to go was Parliament, which has become a rubber-stamp institution, followed by television, whose oligarch owners rushed to prove their loyalty to the new regime. The third, on October 1, was Ukraine's return to a presidential Constitution, and a month later the Party of Regions won a majority in local councils in a bitterly contested election.

These four steps were followed by a fifth: a coordinated attack on the main opposition force, the *Batkivshchyna* party led by Yulia Tymoshenko. "October 31 will go down in history as the first day of an election without Yulia Tymoshenko," observed *Ukrayinska Pravda* (November 1). Registration of clone, fake lists of *Batkivshchyna* candidates removed *Batkivshchyna* from two key strongholds, Lviv and Kyiv, while an "anti-corruption" campaign unveiled financial irregularities in the 2007-2010 Tymoshenko government that harmed her image.

One social group that still remains independent is the oligarchs, but for how long? Will Mr. Yanukovich follow Mr. Putin in taking a sixth step and eliminate

the oligarchs?

In a constitutional, legal environment where anything can be changed and retracted, including by the Constitutional Court, all decisions are at the whim of the president. The Konrad Adenauer Stiftung's Ukraine director, Nico Lange, wrote in *Levyi Bereg* (October 20) that legal instability will deter foreign investors as they would be unsure about the ability of Ukraine's notoriously corrupt courts to defend their assets. Additional problems exist, such as the high levels of public distrust and frequent acts of betrayal by elites of their declared principles and allies.

Rinat Akhmetov, who accumulated his business empire when Mr. Yanukovich was Donetsk governor in 1997-2002, has been sidelined from the presidential administration and Mykola Azarov's government. Meanwhile, the influence of Dmytro Firtash, the country's only western Ukrainian oligarch, has grown in both institutions.

Rumors point to Oil and Energy Minister Yurii Boiko as a potential replacement for Prime Minister Azarov, who was always seen as a transitional figure (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, October 15). Vice Prime Minister Sergey Tigipko is also touted, as is the head of the Presidential Administration, Serhiy Lyovochkin, a "reserve candidate" who would play a similar role to Viktor Yushchenko in 2000-2001 as the "prime minister-reformer" rescuing the president's international image (*Serhiy Leshchenko in Ukrayinska Pravda*, September 24, October 14). First Vice Prime Minister Andriy Kliuyev, an Akhmetov loyalist, also has designs on the post.

Messrs. Boyko and Firtash have long-standing ties to the energy sector together

with Mr. Lyovochkin and Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Chairman Valeriy Khoroshkovsky. Messrs. Khoroshkovsky and Firtash played a strategic role in Mr. Yanukovich's election through their control of Inter, Ukraine's most popular television channel.

In addition to the marginalization of Mr. Akhmetov, other oligarchs who aligned with Mr. Yushchenko (Igor Kolomoisky) or Ms. Tymoshenko (Sergei Taruta, Vitaliy Haidiuk and Konstantin Zhevago) have lost out. Mr. Kolomoisky, often depicted in terms of business practices as Ukraine's most odious oligarch, is in de facto exile in Geneva, as he is seen as the first likely casualty of a Putin-style attack on the oligarchs.

The Ukrainian media analyzed the divisions within the Yanukovich camp between the so-called pro-Russian "gas lobby" and pro-European "pragmatists."

The former group is allegedly seeking to marginalize the "Donetski" (Nestor Shufrych and Vladimir Sivkovych), who were removed from government posts and sent to the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC). The NSDC, still headed by Akhmetov loyalist Raisa Bohatyriova, has become a "museum" where the "political enemies of Lyovochkin" are sent to be preserved as "political mummies" (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, October 14). The NSDC's marginalization under President Yushchenko has become complete under President Yanukovich. Speculation of this type, however, is exaggerated and simplistic.

Gazprom aligned with Ms. Tymoshenko to remove RosUkrEnerg (RUE) and confiscate its gas supplies, severely denting "pro-Russian" views within Ukraine's "gas lobby." Meanwhile, Mr. Kliuyev has few "European" values, judging by the 2004

presidential elections (when he ran Mr. Yanukovich's dirty tricks shadow campaign) and the 2010 local elections (where he headed the Party of Regions campaign to obtain victory at all costs).

"Pragmatic" oligarchs have readily sold their assets (Industrial Union of the Donbas, Zaporizhstal) to unnamed Russian investors. Russian Prime Minister Putin chairs Vneshekonombank, which purchased Ukraine's Prominvestbank last year.

Mr. Akhmetov sent a signal through his vote for Parliament's establishment of an investigation commission into the RUE gas intermediary. The decision by the Stockholm Arbitration Court in June against the Tymoshenko government's confiscation of RUE gas ruled that Mr. Firtash/RUE should receive \$3.7 billion plus \$600 million in damages from Naftohaz Ukrainy – an amount that would violate Ukraine's July agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Insiders told EDM that re-payment of the compensation could lead to conflict between Messrs. Yanukovich and Firtash.

Both groups – the "gas lobby" and the "pragmatists" – believe they can undermine democracy at home without harming Ukraine's chances of signing a Deep Free Trade Agreement within an Association Agreement with the European Union. On this point they are being naïve – as confirmed by the lengthy negotiations over Turkey joining the EU.

Ukrayinska Pravda analyst (September 24) Mr. Leshchenko positively portrayed the divisions within the Party of Regions, suggesting, "Maybe these will halt the final destruction of democracy in our state." With Mr. Yanukovich having completed five stages in his political

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Tens of thousands...

(Continued from page 1)

Yanukovich than the protests against election falsifications that haven't gained momentum or reached a national scale.

The tax protesters represent a diverse spectrum of Ukrainians that include the Party of Regions' stronghold electorates in southern and eastern Ukraine.

While the government dispatched hundreds of Berkut officers to manhandle Western-oriented Ukrainians attending previous anti-government protests, the police were treating the tax protesters far more delicately, since they arrived from regions such as Crimea, the Donbas and the Kryvbass.

They carried banner such as "Donbas against tax terror," threw rolls of toilet paper at the Parliament building and started a collection for Mr. Avarov's retirement fund by filling a metal bucket with their pocket change.

The tax protests gained enormous momentum in western Ukraine as well. More than 30,000 entrepreneurs staged a daylong strike on November 18 in Khmelnytskyi, a popular shopping destination in the Podillia region. The city's 30 markets were closed as a result.

More than 4,000 entrepreneurs protested at the Khmelnytskyi State Oblast Administration building, which is the government organ that implements the presidential administration's policies in the Khmelnytskyi Oblast.

Just two days earlier, more than 10,000 protesters gathered at the same venue. After the police refused to allow the leaders to deliver a letter to Khmelnytskyi State Oblast Administration Chair Vasyl Yadukha, the crowd lunged forward and broke through a door.

Protesters at the Kyiv and Khmelnytskyi rallies held signs and passed out flyers that compared the tax code to the Soviet genocides of Ukrainians in the 1920s and 1930s.

The term "Azarovshchyna" was heard among the crowds, referring to Mr. Azarov's 15-year history of drafting tax legislation that is tailored toward providing bribes to government agents, as well as forcing entrepreneurs to skirt the law to do business, making it easy to pursue criminal prosecutions when needed.

Opposition leaders were quick to ride the wave of tax protests. *Batkivshchyna* Party Chair Yulia Tymoshenko gave a thundering speech encouraging the November 16 protests, and spent nearly an hour afterwards shaking hands and chatting with the protesters.

In a party statement, People's Rukh of Ukraine Chair Borys Tarasyuk also extended his support for the protests, declaring, "The Party of Regions is building an authoritarian state, which small business greatly interferes with since it is relatively independent from administrative levers and punitive organs."

Small-business leaders sent letters requesting that President Yanukovich veto the new tax code, but they weren't optimistic. They accused the president of violating his campaign slogans – "We will listen to everyone" – and breaking a campaign promise of a five-year tax holiday for small business.

Coalition leaders claim they're merely leveling the playing field, making small businesses pay the same taxes that large enterprises pay.

"They tell us that we're paying a tax on profit, an income tax to the pension fund, and all around us are 100 kiosks that don't pay anything," Vice Prime Minister Borys Kolesnikov said in

October.

"All the businesses, beginning with Auchan [a French supermarket chain] and ending with the babtsia [elderly woman] at the bazaar, should pay identical taxes. Otherwise it's unfair competition."

Small-business leaders said they're ready to compromise with the government on a new tax code, but not the current form in which big business gets an unfair advantage.

The new tax code requires stacks of new accounting paperwork that most small-business people can't afford, having neither the time to take care of the accounting nor the financial ability to hire an accountant.

Protesters said such claims by Mr. Kolesnikov – whose wealth is valued at \$231 million – are evidence the nation's oligarchs want to take for themselves the market share of small business in Ukraine, which the Association of Employers of Southern Ukraine estimated at about 33 percent.

"Our business won't stop existing – it will very successfully end up in someone



Opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko encourages protesters against the new tax code gathered at the Verkhovna Rada on November 16. Behind her a sign reads: "Donbas against tax terror."

else's hands," said Viktor Kudlai, assistant chair of the Odesa Oblast Association of Employers of Southern Ukraine. "We're against that, when they do the dirty work through someone else. We see that approach everywhere, and we're truly against that. We're for a simplified system of taxation."

Antonovych awards presented in Washington to two Polish scholars

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – Two Polish scholars were honored by the Omelan and Tatiana Antonovych Foundation with this year's awards for excellence for their work in fostering "mutual understanding in Polish-Ukrainian relations in literature and culture."

Bogumila Berdychowska and Aleksandra Hnatiuk received the awards on November 6 at the Embassy of Ukraine during a special ceremony that included Ukrainian Ambassador Olexander Motsyk and Polish Ambassador Robert Kupiecki, who, in their remarks to the laureates, members of the foundation and guests, noted the event's exceptional meaning in light of their countries' developing relationship.

Ambassador Motsyk also focused on the philanthropic accomplishments of the foundation's Ukrainian American founders – both now deceased – whose purpose in life, he said, must have been to love their native Ukraine and help it advance.

"To this end, in 1980 they created the foundation, which from the very beginning strove to support the intellectual potential of the Ukrainian people and its elite, to develop a strong foundation for Ukraine's progress towards building an independent, sovereign and democratic

country," he said.

And they have done so through a number of assistance projects, as well as these awards, which, he noted, could be likened to Ukrainian "Nobel prizes."

The ambassador also noted that when newly independent Ukraine's first diplomats arrived in Washington, the Antonovyches helped by providing them with free housing.

As Dr. Martha Bohachevska-Chomiak, the chairman of the awards committee, noted before turning the microphone over to her colleagues on the committee to introduce the honorees, this sort of recognition helps. "Academic work is a lonely endeavor not frequently recognized," she said.

Introducing the first of this year's recipients, Dr. Berdychowska, Dr. Roman Szporluk, professor emeritus of Harvard University, noted also that history is created not only by generals and diplomats. "History is also made by poets, philosophy professors and other 'impractical' individuals" – like those being honored that evening.

Dr. Berdychowska became active in promoting Polish Ukrainian relations in the late 1980s. She organized Ukrainian cultural festivals, was liaison between the opposition groups in the two countries – Solidarnosc in Poland and the Ukrainian Helsinki Group – became national minor-



Yaro Bihun

This Antonovych Foundation award laureates for 2010, Bogumila Berdychowska (second from left) and Aleksandra Hnatiuk, pose for photographs in the Ukrainian Embassy's historic George Washington Memorial Room with Ukrainian Ambassador Olexander Motsyk (left) and Polish Ambassador Robert Kupiecki.

ities counselor in the Polish Ministry of Culture and Arts, and is the author of a number of books, including one she co-authored with her fellow Antonovych award winner Alexandra Hnatiuk: "Bunt Pokolinnia" (Rebellion of a Generation).

Among those whom she thanked for steering her in the direction she took in life was the late Vasyl Stus, the Ukrainian poet, human rights activist, Soviet political prisoner and 1982 recipient of the Antonovych award. Because of him, she became interested in Ukraine, she said.

"I am proud of the fact that my country was the first in the world to recognize the independence of Ukraine," she said, "that we – Poles and Ukrainians – were able to establish good-neighborly relations, that tens/hundreds of thousands of young Ukrainians have come to Poland to study on scholarships, and that for many of them it is their first venture into the outside world."

This was the second occasion this year

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Dr. Boris Lushniak appointed deputy surgeon general of U.S.

by Roman B. Worobec

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) announced on October 20 that Rear Admiral Boris D. Lushniak has been appointed deputy surgeon general of the United States. He is currently with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as the assistant commissioner for counterterrorism policy and director of the Office of Counterterrorism and Emerging Threats, and will assume his new duties at the end of November.

In his new position Dr. Lushniak will serve as the surgeon general's chief advisor on the nation's public health priorities and, as the chief operating officer, will oversee a cadre of some 6,400 uniformed officers of the USPHS.

Dr. Lushniak was born in Chicago to post-World War II Ukrainian immigrants, and received his early education in Ukrainian schools. He holds B.S. and M.D. degrees from Northwestern University (Chicago), a Master's of Public Health from Harvard University, and is board certified in dermatology and preventive medicine (occupational).

He joined the USPHS in 1988 as a lieutenant in the Epidemic Intelligence Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC.) His first posting was at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in Cincinnati, where he conducted epidemiologic research and completed a residency in dermatology.

Dr. Lushniak was promoted to captain in the USPHS in 2000, to rear admiral (lower half) in 2006, and to rear admiral (upper half) in 2010. He also holds an academic appointment as adjunct professor of dermatology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and serves on the dermatology staff of the National Naval Medical Center.

Over the years Dr. Lushniak undertook special assignments in Bangladesh, St. Croix, Russia and Kosovo, and voluntary missions in Ukraine. He was on the CDC/NIOSH response team at Ground Zero in New York City, and engaged in the investi-



Rear Adm. Boris D. Lushniak, who has been appointed deputy surgeon general of the United States.

gation of the subsequent anthrax attacks in Washington.

In 2004 Capt. Lushniak transferred to the FDA to become the chief medical officer of the Office of Counterterrorism, rising to assistant commissioner of the office in 2005. He also headed the humanitarian efforts of the Department of Health and Human Services in San Antonio following Hurricane Katrina, and was the FDA's Deputy Incident Commander for the 2009 influenza pandemic.

Rear Adm. Lushniak is a member of several American professional organizations, as well as the Shevchenko Scientific Society, the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America and Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. He has received numerous awards and honors from his professional peers and the USPHS, including the American Medical Association's Dr. William Beaumont Award in Medicine.

He is married to Dr. Patricia Cusumano, and they have two daughters, Larissa, 13, and Stephanie, 11.

Orest Deychakiwsky honored with Ukrainian state award

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON – The Embassy of Ukraine on November 12 hosted a ceremony during which the state order "For Merit" (III degree) was awarded to Orest Deychakiwsky, policy advisor at the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission).

Presenting the high state award of Ukraine, Ambassador Olexander Motsyk expressed his appreciation to Mr. Deychakiwsky for his leading role in the Ukrainian American community, as well as for his personal contributions to the cause of restoration and development of the independent Ukrainian state.

Mr. Deychakiwsky is one of the founders of The Washington Group and served as its

president in 1998-2000. He is a leading expert on Ukraine-U.S. relations. He was human and national rights activist during the Soviet era, and has served as an international election observer in every presidential and parliamentary elections in Ukraine.

On numerous occasions Mr. Deychakiwsky contributed to drafting U.S. Congress resolutions and statements on Ukraine, including those related to human rights and democracy issues, Chernobyl and the Holodomor. He has organized many briefings and hearings on Ukraine that have been held in the U.S. Congress by the Helsinki Commission.

(Editor's note: The Ukrainian state award for Mr. Deychakiwsky was announced by President Viktor Yushchenko in January of this year under decree No. 53/2010.)



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

Orest Deychakiwsky (left) is presented the state award of Ukraine "For Merit" (III degree) by Ambassador Olexander Motsyk.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

A look back at UNA Seniors Week 2010 at Soyuzivka

by Oksana Trytjak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – They say “Life begins at 40.” That can very well be true, since all the participants of UNA Seniors Week at Soyuzivka were well over 40 and were having a great time.

The UNA Seniors’ Week, which took place this past June, was hosted by Soyuzivka for seniors of Ukrainian heritage. From far and wide, they arrived to enjoy Soyuzivka’s beautiful mountain setting where the air is fresh, the food divine and the entertainment unbeatable. They also took advantage of the comfortable atmosphere to reconnect and reminisce with old friends, and to meet new friends as well.

This year there were 106 participants from Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, as well as Canada.

Registration was held on Sunday afternoon in the Main House library and continued throughout the week as guests arrived. In the evening, the traditional sing-along and wine-and-cheese party started the week off in good spirits. It was wonderful to see participants meeting up and sharing a year’s worth of experiences since their last reunion.

Participants enjoyed sharing photos of their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They also shared the sorrows of each other’s lost loved ones.

Among the great losses deeply felt this year, by all seniors were long-time presidents of the UNA Seniors Eugene Woloshyn and Anna Chopek. These pioneers who saw the need to organize our group ran the Seniors’ Club successfully for decades. All were deeply touched by the loss of Rostyslav and Ija Wasylenko and Jaroslav Kurowycky. Mr. Wasylenko was our chief entertainer, a man filled with song, poetry, recitation and great humor. Mrs. Wasylenko was our treasurer, a gentle woman who was always kind, supportive and quick to help in any capacity. She had a great ability to welcome one and all to the group. Mr. Kurowycky, though present at Seniors week only once, left a truly positive, engaging and supportive influence on our group. Each and every individual touched

Oksana Trytjak is president of the UNA Seniors.

us; we will miss their interest and their warmth.

The Seniors’ Club is blessed with truly enthusiastic and hard-working individuals without whom the annual event would not be possible. A combination of great people work together for the success of the event. The helping hands, devotion and professional expertise of the following participants and speakers should be noted. The executives, Ihor Hayda, vice president; Olya Trytyak, secretary; Marijka Tomorug, treasurer; who readily accepted their positions. Dionizia Brochynsky, who with good humor and capable hands, ran the conference for the entire week. Tamara Huryn, from Miami Beach, who volunteered her expertise and led a much needed exercise program.

In addition, members joined these committees: Nomination Committee – Alexander Serafyn, Natalka Duma and Nadia Sharan; Verification Committee – Jaroslava Rubel, Irena Kurowycky and Oksana Lopatynsky; Resolutions Committee – Volodymyra Bilaniuk, Gloria Horbaty and Eugene Kulyk; and Auditors Committee – Metodij Boretsky, Christine Turcheniuk and Anna Hawryliuk. All committees members executed their duties diligently.

During this week various fund-raisers were held to fill the UNA Seniors’ coffers. George and Marijka Soltys ran the fun-loving traditional Bingo game. Mr. Soltys’ experience in running other bingo games proved invaluable to our bingo success. He was also in charge of the auction and, due to his determination, good humor and the help of his wife and Joan Humsted, the auction collected over \$600.

Most of the seniors’ evenings began with wine and cheese, some card-playing and many sing-alongs. One evening Alexander Redko entertained the audience with his good humor and anecdotes. Another evening Bohdan Polansky shared some wonderful photographs of Mykola Hajduk’s churches from Lemkivshyna. He also organized a display of landscape drawings by Tyrs Venhrynovych, also from Lemkivshyna.

Seniors’ Week was filled with interesting and entertaining speakers.

Our host, Nestor Paslawsky, Soyuzivka’s manager, welcomed the seniors and was eager to answer any questions about Soyuzivka. He promoted



Oksana Trytjak

Enjoying an evening gathering are: (seated, from left) Geraldine Nadberezny, Vira Staruch (standing) Bohdan Kotys, Ihor Hayda, Longin Staruch, Myroslaw Zielyk, Myroslaw Nadberezny



On the Veselka patio (from left) are: Ihor Hayda, Marijka Soltys, UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj, Marijka Mychalczak, Mykola Mychalczak, Zenovia Serafyn and Dr. Alexander Serafyn.

the upcoming Ukrainian Cultural Festival, which showcased Haydamaky, a Ukrainian Kozak rock band from Ukraine. Mr. Paslawsky also answered questions about the various camps for the participants’ grandchildren and listed all the special events that are held throughout the year at Soyuzivka.

Speaker Barbara Woodruff, a local florist and designer, greeted the group with large bouquets of flowers. She demon-

strated how easily one can form beautiful bouquets, from the simple to the exotic. The women enjoyed her demonstration, and the men asked many questions about the flowers.

Mr. Hayda, UNA Seniors’ vice-president spoke on nutrition. He shared many interesting specifics about the preparation of food and nutritional facts about what

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Marianna Zajac, president of the Ukrainian National Women’s League of America, is flanked by Tom Hawrylko (left) and Prof. Alexander Motyl of Rutgers University.



Inside the Veselka auditorium are: (seated from left) Olha Trytyak, Luba Huraleczko, Ivanka Martynec, (standing) Natalia Duma, Slava Rubel and Iryna Kurowycky.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Giving thanks

As the quintessentially American holiday of Thanksgiving approaches, we Ukrainians here in the United States should take a moment to give thanks for all we have and all we have achieved – often against great odds. No doubt we have much to be grateful for on a personal level, but there are also things that we as a community must treasure. Just by perusing recent issues of this paper, we can point to myriad examples.

First there are our parishes, the cornerstones of our community life – many of which have already celebrated their centennials and the oldest of which is 126 years old. And there are scores of younger parishes, including those in areas where new Ukrainian communities have sprung up, that also play leading roles in our hromada.

Then there are our fraternal, foremost among them the Ukrainian National Association, founded back in 1894. The UNA today continues to provide for the needs of its members through its insurance products and financial services and to care for the well-being of the community at large through its fraternal activities (such as its newspapers and the Soyuzivka Heritage Center). Not to be forgotten is the UNA's charitable arm, the Ukrainian National Foundation, which promotes educational, cultural and humanitarian endeavors, among them the very successful Ukrainian Cultural Festival at Soyuzivka.

Our community is rich when we consider the diverse organizations it encompasses. A very fine example is the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, which just recently marked its 85th anniversary. That translates into 85 years of uniting women of Ukrainian descent in this country and 85 years of cultural, educational and charitable projects implemented by dedicated and hard-working volunteers.

Our credit unions, in addition to providing financial services to members, collectively provide huge amounts of money in support of community groups and projects, whether that's the Ukrainian American Youth Association branch in Palatine, Ill., or the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. Indeed, credit unions are our financial backbone.

There are also institutions such as the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pa., which was founded 30 years ago to preserve and promote awareness of the Ukrainian heritage in the Philadelphia area, and the much younger Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (our neighbor), located in Whippany, N.J., which this year put Ukrainians on the map of Morris County with its well-attended inaugural Ukrainian Festival. Although somewhat similar to the Ukrainian national homes of the past, these new types of centers have become regional forces within our communities and venues around which local organizations unite in common purpose.

We should also be thankful for the local branches of our organizations, say the Boston branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, which recently marked its 60th anniversary, or local branches of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, many of which are also celebrating six decades of success. These and many other local organizations (dance ensembles, seniors' groups, veterans' posts, Ukrainian schools, etc.) are what keep Ukrainian Americans of all ages engaged and involved in our community.

Giving thanks for all the blessings we Ukrainian Americans enjoy should lead to giving of another sort, just as Thanksgiving leads to Christmas. When we present gifts to those nearest and dearest to us – our families and friends, we should also remember the institutions, organizations and groups near and dear to our hearts. Let us give a little something back to those who offer us so much.

Nov.
22
2004

Turning the pages back...

Six years ago, on November 22, 2004, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) stated in a preliminary report that the second round of the presidential election in Ukraine did not meet a considerable number of OSCE

commitments, Council of Europe and other European standards for democratic elections. The statement by the International Election Observation Mission concluded that state authorities and the Central Election Commission displayed a lack of will to conduct a genuine democratic election process.

The mission reported incidents of public-sector employees and students being pressured to support Viktor Yanukovich, who was prime minister in 2004. "The deficiencies have not been addressed," said Bruce George, president emeritus of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE and the special coordinator for the short-term observers. "The abuse of state resources in favor of the prime minister continued, as well as an overwhelming media bias in his favor."

"The figures and reports about the unjustified increase in the use of absentee voter certificates and the even higher increase of mobile voting, cast a shadow over the genuineness of the results," said Lucio Malan, head of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly delegation. "Moreover, the turnout in some territorial election commissions in Donetsk, exceeding 98.5 percent, and increasing by 21 percent after the first round, are unrealistic and highly suspicious."

Observers noted more serious violations, including some isolated incidents of violence, and a pattern of intimidation, including acts directed toward the observers, polling commission members and individual voters. In some instances commission members had been dismissed from polling stations, or unauthorized persons were interfering in or directing the process, or otherwise attempting to influence the voters.

The ballot-counting process, observers assessed, was worse than in the first round of elections on October 31, 2004, with reports of poorer overall organization, and

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FOR THE RECORD

Russian-Ukrainian relations: Assessing their present status

Following are remarks by Borys Tarasyuk, chair of the Committee on European Integration in Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada, delivered on October 21 in Washington at "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable XI: Compelling Bilateral Ties/Germany-Ukraine and Russia-Ukraine."

Sadly, it has become obvious that the current process of Ukrainian "mature nation-building" has embarked on a faulty path. In recent months, Ukraine has rapidly reversed its course towards democracy and alarmed the international community with breaches of the rule of law and violations of democratic principles.

The current political situation in Ukraine has been reflected in the several stern resolutions issued by such organizations as the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the European People's Party and the Parliamentary Forum of the Community of Democracies. The concerns raised have pertained to democratic backsliding, curtailment of fundamental freedoms such as freedom of speech and peaceful assembly, the undermining of the independence of the judicial power branch, harassment against representatives of the opposition, intimidation of Ukrainian civil society and international NGOs, among other matters.

Such a severe assessment by the international democratic community broadly featured and reiterated by a number of foreign leaders, however, has failed to impact the actual policies and deeds on the side of the Ukrainian authorities. Instead, the current Ukrainian government hails the establishment of what it calls political stability, pragmatic economic policy and improvement of relations with Russia.

The panel at which I am honored to speak focuses on the current stage of Ukrainian-Russian relations. These crucially important relations have been recognized as entering a new stage after the Presidential elections in February and have been labeled by many in Kyiv and Moscow as the "Russian-Ukrainian Reconciliation."

I would like to state that this term is persistently applied by the Kremlin in order to demonstrate its loyalty to and accord with the new Ukrainian authorities and to bully their predecessors, who are blamed for worsening relations between Ukraine and Russia after the Orange Revolution.

However, I would like to dismiss this notion by shortly quoting several figures. Somehow, it is rarely mentioned that the trade turnover between Ukraine and Russia has continuously grown since 2005. For instance, Ukraine's export to Russia increased by 27 percent in 2005, 15 percent in 2006, 46 percent in 2007 and 24 percent in 2008, according to the Ukrainian State Statistical Committee. And it was only in the midst of the global economic meltdown, when exports fell by 24 percent.

And the same with imports, which grew by 5 percent, 7 percent, 22 percent and 15 percent in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 respectively; and fell by 32 percent in the crisis year of 2009. At the same time, it was Ukraine that was subjected to several bans on its dairy and meat products and experienced a "gas confrontation" implemented by Russia in 2006 and 2009.

The assumption to be drawn from the mentioned facts is that perhaps Russia was not seeking mutually beneficial cooperation in its relations with Ukraine at the time. On the contrary, Russia abstained

from building a sound partnership with the Ukrainian leadership, which was pursuing its twin goals of democratic development and European/Euro-Atlantic cooperation.

However, after the election of Viktor Yanukovich as president of Ukraine, Russian-Ukrainian relations visibly intensified. By displaying active enthusiasm, regular visits and joint initiatives, the Kremlin praised and promoted "the loyalty to cooperation" visible on the side of the new Ukrainian leadership. For the new Ukrainian authorities, highlighting "improving" Russian-Ukrainian relations became an easy way to offset its failure to provide economic and social improvements promised during the election campaign.

Today, the Ukrainian policy towards Russia has become nothing else than a consistent surrender across the whole political, security, economic and humanitarian spectrum of Ukraine's national interests in favor of the Russian Federation.

In the foreign policy and security sector, Ukrainian authorities, bowing to Russia, in April swiftly approved prolongation of a lease for the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol until 2042. Besides violating the Constitution and discarding national legislation, as well as ignoring decisions presented by various parliamentary committees and neglecting the voice of civil society, Ukrainian authorities introduced a dangerous factor of intolerance and instability onto Ukrainian soil.

Having locked in the presence of Russian troops on Ukrainian territory, the government rushed to fulfill the other ultimate Russian goal: termination of Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration, as enshrined in the official Russian Foreign Policy Concept framework. The bill titled "On the Fundamentals of Domestic and Foreign Policies," passed on July 1, failed to offer any conceptually innovative approaches to domestic and foreign priorities, but did exempt or exclude provisions on Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration – that is, NATO membership – from the legislation.

Instead, the new regime took to promoting the enshrinement of a "non-bloc status," which for Ukraine implies the role of a buffer zone on the European periphery exposed to growing global challenges such as arms proliferation, human trafficking, smuggling, terrorism and human rights abuses.

Another dangerous courtesy towards Russia was an obscure decision to return to Sevastopol the Russian counterintelligence units that were previously removed from Ukraine in 2009. In the meantime, the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) decided to terminate the work of Ukrainian counterintelligence activity in Russia. This untied the hands of the Russian security services to freely operate in Ukraine, thus exposing the country to numerous security risks.

In the economic dimension of bilateral relations, Ukrainian authorities managed to keep the same pace of subordination. The current Russian economic agenda pursues a goal of modernization and technological breakthrough to be achieved by benefitting from the strategic and geographical potential of neighboring countries, particularly and extensively from the Ukrainian energy, aviation and heavy industries.

In the atomic energy sector, the previously established cooperation with U.S.-based

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COMMENTARY

Differences on Holodomor: Harper vs. Yanukovych

by Lubomyr Luciuk

I witnessed an odd event recently. A statesman stood hallowing a genocide's victims in the country where it occurred while its president ignored the ceremony, insisting there was no genocide.

Canada's prime minister, Stephen Harper, showed respect for Ukraine's dead. Viktor Yanukovych, Ukraine's president, did not. Reportedly, he has never entered the Kyiv museum to the Holodomor, the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine.

Yet Mr. Yanukovych's behavior was all but ignored, while Mr. Harper's words became the story. When he said "almost" 10 million people starved, roughly Canada's population in 1933, his critics accused him of poppycock. Scything several million off the death toll they insisted only a few million perished, a lesser booboo.

Scholarly estimates of Holodomor-related deaths do vary. A credible study by Jacques Vallin, one of France's leading demographers, concluded that 2.6 million died of hunger. To this he added a crisis birth deficit of 1.1 million and about a million more transported to the Gulag – 4.6 million lives lost to Soviet Ukraine over a year. Even this conservative figure places the Holodomor alongside the Shoah as one of history's greatest crimes against humanity.

From a Canadian perspective, think of everyone in Toronto starving between today and next Thanksgiving. Or, using Prof. Robert Conquest's calculation of 17 people dying every minute, 25,000 per day at the Famine's height, reflect on how 17 men, women and children died of hunger between the time you began this article and got to this line. At that rate of mortality my hometown of Kingston, Ontario, would be emptied of souls in a week.

Every serious student of the Soviet Union accepts that a famine occurred in 1932-1933 – a consequence of Communist policies, not a bad harvest – and that millions could have been saved but were instead left to die.

But was it genocide?

Given the blockade of Soviet Ukraine's borders to prevent aid coming in, or anyone leaving, the significant grain exports that continued despite official knowledge of catastrophic famine conditions, the wholesale confiscation of all foodstuffs from Ukrainian lands, and how the Soviets and their shills orchestrated a campaign of Holodomor-denial for decades, the answer is certainly yes.

Lubomyr Luciuk is a professor at the Royal Military College of Canada and co-editor of "Holodomor: Reflections on the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine" (Kashtan Press, 2008).



The Candle of Remembrance at the entrance to the Holodomor Memorial Museum in Kyiv.

In "Stalin's Genocides," Prof. Norman Naimark of Stanford University writes: "The bottom line is that Stalin, Molotov, Kaganovich and their ilk were convinced that the Ukrainian peasants as a group were 'enemies of the people' who deserved to die. That was enough for the Soviet leadership; that should be enough to conclude that the Ukrainian famine was genocide."

Dr. Raphael Lemkin, the "father of the [U.N.] Genocide Convention" thought so too. In 1953 he spoke of this famine as part of a genocidal Soviet campaign targeting the Ukrainian nation.

Given President Yanukovych's servile catering to the Kremlin's Holodomor-denying yarn, I might have quit Ukraine in despair but for an encounter at a popular Ukrainian-cuisine restaurant. A young mother and daughter, visiting from France, were taking lunch with an 8-year-old lad, their Kyiv cousin. We shared a table. The boy was practicing French but, overhearing us, tried his English. I asked what he wanted to do: "Study at Cambridge!" What subjects? "History and mathematics." Had he been abroad? "Yes, to Paris." Which city did he prefer? "Both are nice but I'll take Kyiv. I'm Ukrainian, after all."

I'd bet he gets to Cambridge. There's hope. No matter what Moscow's men still attempt, millions of Ukrainians are now living, working and studying abroad. More leave daily. Some will learn Ukraine's history better in the diaspora than they are today permitted to in their own homeland. Many will return and won't be fooled again.

So Mr. Yanukovych is slated for the dustbin of history while Mr. Harper can stand proud. He placed Canada in the ranks of the righteous few among nations who recognize the Holodomor as genocide and thus confound those who won't – the perpetrators and their issue, who remain unclean, perhaps forevermore.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Where is our Stephen Harper?

By any standard you choose, the recent visit of Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper to Ukraine was a triumph.

"The message to Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych was unmistakable," wrote John Ibbitson in the Toronto Globe and Mail. "Canada wants closer ties with Ukraine, but only if Ukraine is free."

Mr. Harper's trip "contained some substance," wrote Mr. Ibbitson, but much more symbol, tying the pain Ukraine has endured to the new trials the young democracy faces at the hands of its current president. "The most poignant moment came as Mr. Harper honored the dead of Holodomor at a memorial built to commemorate the millions of Ukrainians killed through starvation by Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin in 1932-1933. A somber-looking Mr. Harper laid a pot of grain at the 'Sad Memory of Childhood,' a statue of a wraith-thin young girl."

A substantive consensus was reached between Canada and Ukraine regarding increased free-trade and "a youth mobility agreement that will make it easier for young Canadians and Ukrainians to travel and work in each other's country," Mr. Ibbitson explained. "But Mr. Harper kept circling back to the question of human rights – and by implication, the threat of their loss – in Ukraine."

According to the Vancouver Sun, Mr. Harper announced "\$36 million in aid for projects to improve Ukraine's customs service, job training, municipal economic development, regional governance and juvenile justice system."

Significantly, Mr. Harper met with Ukrainian Catholic University rector Father Borys Gudziak, who was recently warned by an SBU agent regarding UCU students protesting Yanukovych's policies. Speaking to UCU students later, Mr. Harper, a Conservative, called the Terror-Famine a genocide – not surprising since he was prime minister when the Canadian Parliament formally designated Stalin's 1932-1933 starvation of Ukraine a genocide.

Other important visits by Mr. Harper were to Lviv's National Memorial Prison Museum and with Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the opposition.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the trip was that the Harper delegation to Ukraine included Ukrainian Canadian organizational leaders such as Paul Grod, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress; Eugene Czolij, president of the Ukrainian World Congress; Bohdan Onyschuk, president of the Canada Ukraine Foundation; and Zenon Potichnij of the Canada Ukraine Chamber of Commerce.

Ukrainian Americans: I ask you. Where is our Stephen Harper?

Has President Barack Obama visited Ukraine? No. Vice-President Joe Biden, the reset-with-Russia guy, did, but all I remember him saying was that Ukrainian women are beautiful. I agree, but that is not exactly a geopolitical declaration of note. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was a little more forthright during her visit to Ukraine when she confirmed America's continued commitment to America's strategic relationship with Ukraine, a program initiated by President George W. Bush.

Mr. Bush mentions Ukraine – part of his "Freedom Agenda" – in "Decision Points," his recently published memoir. Mr. Bush reveals that he was "a strong supporter" of approving NATO Membership Action Plans (MAPs) – the final step prior to NATO membership – for Ukraine and Georgia.

"But approval," he writes, "required unanimity, and both Angela Merkel and Nicolas Sarkozy, the new president of France, were skeptical. They knew Georgia and Ukraine had tense relationships with Moscow, and they worried NATO could draw [them] into a war with Russia. They were also concerned about corruption. I thought the threat from Russia strengthened the case for extending MAPs to Georgia and Ukraine," Mr. Bush concludes.

"Russia would be less likely to engage in aggression if those countries were on a path into NATO. As for the governance issues, a step toward membership would encourage them to clean up corruption. We agreed on a compromise. We would not grant Georgia and Ukraine MAPs... but we would issue a statement announcing that they were destined for future membership in NATO," he writes.

Unfortunately, Mr. Bush is no longer president, and Ms. Merkel and that pathetic poltroon Mr. Sarkozy have apparently adopted the "Vichy" mentality currently paralyzing Western Europe.

So, where do we go from here? I was pleased to read that Democratic Central Committee Chairman Tim Kaine met with members of the DNC's National Democratic Ethnic Coordinating Committee. Representing Ukrainians were Democrats Julian Kulas, Andrew Fedynsky and Ulana Mazurkevich, architects of the successful Ukrainian 2008 vote-getting campaign for Mr. Obama. Unfortunately, nothing in the DNC press release mentioned anything about Ukrainian Democrats bringing up Ukraine's current slide toward authoritarian rule. I look forward to hearing from Ukrainian Democrats on this issue in the future.

At least the Democrats have an ethnic coordinating committee. The Republican National Committee (RNC) had one many years ago called the Heritage Groups Council, which included the Ukrainian National Republican Federation overseeing 20 Ukrainian GOP state organizations. That all ended during the "Bush 41" era when the GOP disbanded the group in response to assorted leftists and Jewish agitators who launched the scurrilous claim that certain of the "heritage groups," especially Ukrainians, were "anti-Semitic." Jewish influence on the GOP, it seems, lingers until the present – an astounding fact given that recent statistics indicate that the vast majority of Jewish Americans are Democrats.

I applaud Ukrainian Canadians for their towering accomplishments. We Ukrainian Americans can never hope to achieve that kind of political success primarily because Ukrainians there enjoy a much larger percentage of the total Canadian population than Ukrainians do here compared to the American population.

In addition, Ukrainian Canadians are better organized. The November conclave of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) is testimony to that. Unlike the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), proudly dominated by leaders of one political ideology, the UCC is far more inclusive in its membership. UCC influence, moreover, stretches from the Pacific to the Atlantic oceans while the UCCA holds sway from the Atlantic Ocean to Lake Michigan.

When it comes to inclusiveness and organization, we Ukrainian Americans can learn much from our brethren north of the border.

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UKRAINE'S LOCAL ELECTIONS: Systemic violations, falsifications

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

The Ukrainian Weekly's Kyiv Press Bureau decided to collect a comprehensive list of the major systemic violations and falsifications that transpired during the October 31 local elections in order to offer evidence that they didn't meet international democratic standards. While the list is extensive, it doesn't contain all the major incidents and techniques involved. Those interested in further details are encouraged to consult the sources The Weekly used in compiling this list.

Anti-democratic conditions

The Verkhovna Rada voted on February 16 to postpone the date of local elections beyond May 30, in violation of the Constitution of Ukraine. President Viktor Yanukovich requested this legislation in order to ensure that his political chain of command – including the police, courts and state administration network – would be in place for the elections, enabling a nationwide system of falsification, charged a November 3 statement signed by 10 opposition parties.

On July 1 the Verkhovna Rada approved the first reading of the local elections law, which failed to meet international, democratic standards and tilted control of the elections process in favor of the Party of Regions of Ukraine, on all government levels. Most notably, the legislation gave the parliamentary coalition the majority of seats on all election commissions, creating “an uncontrolled falsification mechanism in commissions at all levels,” the November 3 statement said. For example, 13 of the 18 commissioners on Lviv's main territorial election commission were Party of Regions members. Meanwhile none of Donetsk's 420 precinct election commissions had a Batkivschyna party representative.

The Lviv Territorial Election Commission violated election law on October 15 when it reached a decision forming precinct election commissions without approving their members, as required. That enabled the Party of

Regions to spend the following weekend appointing its loyal commissioners to the election commissions, alleged the Svoboda party. No precinct election commission had a Svoboda representative, despite the fact that Svoboda is the most popular party in the Lviv Oblast. The party filed a criminal complaint against Svitlana Alyeksandrova of the Party of Regions for pressuring the commission to reach its ruling.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) requires that election commissions be formed on a politically and professionally balanced basis, which was not done for the October 31 elections, Opora reported. The lack of balance on territorial and precinct election commissions was laid down in the law, while unclear criteria for selecting the chairs, deputies and secretaries of these election commissions led to an unjustified advantage to the parties in power, Opora stated in its November 4 statement on the elections.

The Party of Regions secured for itself 26 percent of the positions of chair, vice-chair and secretary of precinct election commissions, Opora found when analyzing 52 percent of the commissions. The election law was supposed to award 20 percent of seats to the Party of Regions, and distribute the remaining posts evenly among the four remaining parliamentary factions (three of which consist of competing parties). Batkivschyna earned 12.5 percent of seats, the People's Party of Ukraine had 8 percent, the Communist Party had 6.5 percent, the Regions-satellite Strong Ukraine had 3.7 percent and Our Ukraine had 3 percent.

The law's second reading was approved on July 10 and signed by President Yanukovich on July 27. The Verkhovna Rada approved amendments to the law, as concessions to the outraged opposition and international community, on August 30. Nevertheless “the approval of the new law on local elections on the eve of voting day without wide public discussions worsened its quality,” reported the Opora civic network, Ukraine's largest election-monitoring organization, which is financed by Western grants



Victor E. Glasko

Election commissioners in the Cherkasy Oblast ask elderly voters to wait until they enter voting booths to mark their ballots. Long lines caused hundreds of elderly to cast their votes outside of booths.

and the U.S. government. The law's passage within months of election day violated the standards of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, which recommends no changes to election legislation within a year of a vote. Opora confirmed the law was changed with “political motivations.”

Election observers concluded the 50-day campaign period was too short a time to hold elections that conformed to international standards. “Some favorable amendments were made in August in response to domestic and international concerns, but serious problems related to timing and content remained, which combined with a shortened campaign period to foster confusion,” reported the U.S.-based National Democratic Institute.

Evidence of systemic violations of law

The Batkivschyna party, led by opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko, was denied the ability to compete in elections for the Lviv Oblast and City Council, Kyiv Oblast

Council, Ternopil City Council, Luhansk City Council and Oleksandrivka City Council. Batkivschyna was also denied the ability to compete in elections to eight district councils and six city councils in the Kyiv Oblast. Batkivschyna was the victim of a new election technology of party cloning, in which rogue factions within the party gain recognition as the official party from the courts, Justice Ministry and election commissions, all of which are controlled by the Party of Regions. This way, the Batkivschyna party that appears on voting ballots is in reality a clone party loyal to the Party of Regions.

Cloning also involved recruiting candidates with identical names as the leading contenders. Serhii Odarych, the Cherkasy City Council chair running for re-election, was challenged by a 23-year-old with the same name and initials. Meanwhile precinct election commissioners marked candidate for city council chair Roman Scherbyna of

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Citizens' committee...

(Continued from page 1)

“This was a consequence of the Stalinist totalitarian regime and its attitude towards people,” Mr. Yanukovich said. “But to recognize the Holodomor as a fact of genocide against this or another people, we believe isn't correct and unjust. This was a tragedy, a general tragedy of states which were part of the USSR.”

His Holodomor policy marked a complete reversal of that of his predecessor, Mr. Yushchenko, who made the recognition of the Holodomor a central theme of his presidency. President Yanukovich even removed materials about the Holodomor from the presidential website the day he was inaugurated.

After his remarks in Strasbourg, scores of criminal lawsuits were filed against the president complaining that he violated Ukrainian law, which forbids public denial of the Holodomor as genocide.

Nevertheless the pro-Russian government of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov is intent on reversing any gains achieved in Holodomor recognition during the Yushchenko presidency.

Valerii Soldatenko, director of the Institute of National Memory, told a September 30 gathering of the Ukrainian diaspora in Moscow that the law passed by the Ukrainian Parliament in November 2006 recognizing the Holodomor as genocide could be amended. He assured them the amendments were already registered in Parliament and the coalition gov-

ernment has enough votes to approve them.

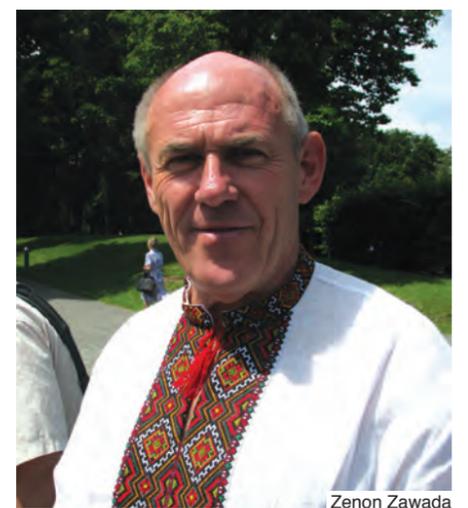
He said he's periodically threatened with prosecution for punishment for violating the law, which states that public denial of the Holodomor as genocide dishonors the memory of millions of victims of the Holodomor and degrades the dignity of the Ukrainian people.

At the November 17 press conference of the new citizens' committee, The Ukrainian Weekly asked whether the committee would cooperate with the Yanukovich administration in organizing events under the condition that the Holodomor would not be referred to as genocide, and instead a collective tragedy of Soviet peoples.

Former Director of the Institute of National Memory Ihor Yuhnovskiy avoided the question, underlining that the Holodomor was genocide against the Ukrainian people. Soviet dissident Yevhen Sverstiuk stressed that the main focus of the event involves lighting a candle of memory and remembering the casualties. “It's not necessary to politicize this event,” he said.

The Presidential Administration will honor the memory of the Holodomor at the highest level, its first deputy chair, Hanna Herman, told the Komersant-Ukrayina newspaper in a story published on November 18.

“We share the world opinion that condemns the Stalinist regime which led to horrific casualties,” she said. “But honoring the memory of victims isn't supposed to become an advertisement or the latest



Zenon Zawada

Former Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Ivan Vasiunyk (left) and Ukrainian World Congress General Secretary Stefan Romaniw are co-coordinators of the Citizens' Committee to Honor the Memory of the Holodomor-Genocide Victims of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

pretext to argue with the opposition. These days will come, and we will hold the appropriate events.”

Among those participating in the committee is Hennadii Ivanuschenko, the director of the Sumy State Archives who has been pressured by local government officials to resign his post.

Mr. Ivanuschenko is among the leading Holodomor archivists in Ukraine, having digitized more than 57,000 documents related to the Holodomor in the Sumy Oblast.

The Holodomor was a genocidal famine organized against the Ukrainian people in 1932-1933 by the government of Soviet

dictator Joseph Stalin in which millions died as a result of the forced collectivization of agriculture, the seizure by the state of crops, food and food-preparation tools, the sealing of Ukraine's borders to prevent starving people from leaving the country in search of food, and the blacklisting and targeted destruction of villages that resisted the authorities.

The Institute of Demography and Social Research of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine estimated in November 2008 that there were about 3.7 million direct casualties from the Holodomor, as well as 1.1 million lost births.

Systemic...

(Continued from page 8)

the Front for Change party “excluded” from election ballots, instead of marking the name of Oleksander Scherbyna, who had dropped out of the election.

Ukraine’s election commissions systemically denied hundreds of opposition candidates the ability to register their candidacies while scores of competitors had their candidacies illegally removed weeks after registering. For example, the Batkivschyna party had 219 candidates removed from competing for their respective single-winner, single-mandate districts. Strong Ukraine, led by Sergey Tigipko, was denied the chance to compete for the Luhansk Oblast Council. Meanwhile Volodymyr Hrytsyshyn of the Progressive Socialist Party was removed from competing for the city council chair of Severodonetsk three days before election day.

The majority of wronged candidates were able to appeal the violations in courts, but territorial election commissions throughout Ukraine selectively adhered to court decisions, or dragged out the process in doing so, Opora reported. “In this way, candidates registered themselves in the last minute but weren’t able to conduct a quality election campaign,” Opora said. The creation of obstacles in order to derail election campaigning was a deliberate, systemic government strategy, opposition candidates said.

The Yanukovich administration employed the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) to arrest and imprison key candidates during the election campaign, denying them bail and the ability to register their candidacies from prison. Kamianets-Podilskyi City Council Chair (Mayor) Anatolii Nesteruk was arrested on September 20 and imprisoned three days later – weeks before he was expected to win re-election handily. He left the Batkivschyna party and the city’s territorial election commission denied attempts to register him under the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs. The city council chairs (mayors) of four Crimean towns – Volodymyr Scherbyna in Alupka, Andrii Kharytonov in Alushta, Anatolii Mamykin in Livadia and Viktor Gamal in Gurzuf – were also arrested during the election campaign. Andrii Ambrosenko, candidate for the Donetsk City Council from the Single Center party, was arrested on October 22 by the SBU and remains imprisoned, as do the other mentioned candidates.

A national system of “adminresurs” (abuse of government resources) was employed to intimidate the opposition. The Yanukovich administration used law enforcement organs – police, prosecutors and the SBU – to threaten businessmen from the opposition with random and repeated inspections, revocation of licenses and other methods of ruin should they pursue a candidacy. Volodymyr Tereschenko, a district council candidate from the Batkivschyna party in Poltava, was forced from the race after being threatened with losing the lease to the property where he operated a store. The government used illegal inspections to pressure candidates to the Pidhayetskyi District Council in the Ternopil Oblast to abandon the Batkivschyna party.

In some cases, officials in the oblast and district state administration system – a national network of government organs employed to implement the president’s policies in Ukraine’s regions – directly threatened opposition candidates. Mykhailo Shumeiko, the director of the Agroprogres company and deputy in the Chernihiv Oblast Council, was ordered to abandon the Batkivschyna party by Chernihiv Oblast State Administration Chair Volodymyr Khomenko. Oleksander Hurchenko, a district council candidate from the Sumy Oblast, quit the race after being pressured by the chair of the local district state administration.

Representatives of the district state

administration in the Khmelnytskyi Oblast reportedly met with government workers – such as teachers and doctors – in the Yarmolynetskyi District to instruct them to vote for the Party of Regions. Yarmolynetskyi District State Administration Chair Ivan Kyryliuk campaigned on behalf of the Party of Regions during his working hours.

Other opposition candidates and election commission members were threatened with job dismissals, particularly those employed by the state. A Zhytomyr school principal in the Kovel district was threatened in late September with dismissal because her son was running with the For Ukraine party. Eight candidates from the Front for Change party in the Zhytomyr Oblast, all of them government-employed, were told to campaign with the Party of Regions or the People’s Party of Ukraine, or else face dismissal. A similar threat was posed to more than a dozen Zhytomyr entrepreneurs, who were threatened with tax inspections. The director of the Kononivskyi educational-developmental complex in the Cherkasy Oblast in late September forced all his teachers to join the Party of Regions. The director of the Kirov mine in Makiyivka, Donetsk Oblast, threatened to dismiss three employees planning to compete with the Batkivschyna party.

Systemic violations are apparent when it’s the president himself who flaunts the election law. President Yanukovich delivered a national television address on October 30 in which he repeated his campaign slogans several times, calling upon Ukrainians to “build a new country.” Electioneering/campaigning, it must be noted, is forbidden on the Saturday before election day, thus, the president’s speech was a clear violation of the law. It came as no surprise that Party of Regions campaigners followed the example set by their leader. Supporters in the city of Izmail, Odesa Oblast, were campaigning for the Party of Regions on election day itself at various polling stations, the November 3 statement said.

The chair of the Sumy territorial election commission, Ivan Samsonenko, submitted his resignation nearly two weeks before the elections, reportedly because he was asked to remove several candidates from the competition, Opora said. “My blood pressure has risen and I still want to live,” he reportedly told his co-workers before leaving.

Law enforcement organs and government authorities reacted inadequately to reports of “adminresurs,” threats and intimidation against candidates, as well as acts of physical and moral violence against candidates and commissioners, Opora reported. “At the same time, incidents of attacks on candidates, destruction of offices and intimidation of participants in the election process were considered as everyday conflicts by the police, without taking into considering political motives,” said the November 4 Opora report.

Government workers, such as postal workers, in Kharkiv were mobilized to distribute campaign flyers for Hennadii Kernes, the Party of Regions candidate for city council chair. Meanwhile a post office director in the town of Yarmolynetskyi in the Khmelnytskyi Oblast, Maria Chmunevych, required her subordinates to campaign for the Party of Regions.

Evidence of systemic vote falsification

A national system of vote falsification began before the elections, when print shops were ordered to print hundreds of thousands of extra, uncounted ballots, the November 3 statement of 10 opposition parties alleges. “Representatives of different political forces and observers in various regions – Kharkiv, Odesa, Khmelnytskyi, Ivano-Frankivsk – discovered piles of forgeries several days before election day, which leaves no doubt that this technology has a national character,” the statement said. Election commissioners with the Svoboda party reported on October 25 the discovery of more than



Victor E. Glasko

Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chair Mykola Tomenko assists Cherkasy Oblast Council candidate Olena Lystopad in complaining about her mandatory candidate postings being missing from polling stations.

190,000 fake ballots at the Kubeks print shop in Ivano-Frankivsk.

(For the first time, the Party of Regions has a faction in the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Council after earning 7 percent of the vote in these elections.)

The Yanukovich administration failed to properly prepare for the printing of ballots – a process that was implemented without strict controls as required by the 1990 Document of the Copenhagen Conference of the Human Dimension of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Opora reported. Ballots were usually transferred to precinct election commissions directly from printers, in violation of the election law which requires their delivery to the central territorial election commission.

The Odesa Territorial Election Commission ordered the printing of about 1 million election ballots, which exceeded Odesa’s voting population by about 25 percent, reported Brian Mefford of the Committee for Open Democracy, which fielded 96 observers from 14 countries. The committee also reported excess ballots printed in the city of Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyi, Odesa Oblast.

The polling stations of the Volyn Oblast had more than 100,000 excess, unregistered voting ballots, reported Ihor Huz, the chair of the Volyn oblast organization of the For Ukraine party. Scores of election commission protocols (documents that summarize election results) reported at least 100 to 150 fewer ballots than were circulated, amounting to 10 percent of all ballots.

The widespread confusion in printing ballots offered the first evidence of what election observers in Kyiv deemed a system of “managed chaos,” through which the government enabled vote falsification nationwide by intentionally depriving polling stations of proper conditions in which to hold elections, whether through supplies, staffing or even a legible election law that meets international standards.

“Representatives of the government, attempting to explain themselves, got confused with different versions of events,” the November 3 statement said. “The illegal printing of ballots was explained away as printing test samples, mistakes in the text and the need to prepare ‘back-up copies’. The Kharkiv prosecutor’s office declined to file criminal charges in relation to fake ballots uncovered there. City prosecutor Yehen Popovych claimed this ‘special printing’ is a ‘reserve, which was necessary to print according to the law.’”

Those ballots with mistakes – amounting to hundreds of thousands – were hastily reprinted on the eve of elections, resulting in widespread delivery delays and failures on election day. About 50,000 ballots for the Chernihiv Oblast Council elections were reprinted on the night of October 29 because of reported mistakes. Nevertheless, ballots with mistakes reached polling stations all the

same, with the names of opposition candidates either missing or represented as competing for the wrong political seat. For example, 10 percent of the ballots in the city of Nizhyn in the Chernihiv Oblast had mistakes.

A study performed by the Batkivschyna party revealed the government contracted 487 printing shops to print the ballots, only 30 of which claimed to have the proper licensing. “At the same time the Finance Ministry confirmed only four printers with such licenses, which is less than 1 percent of the total printers that prepared ballots,” the November 3 statement said.

As part of the “managed chaos,” between 20 and 30 percent of polling stations didn’t open in time, “an unprecedented occurrence in the history of Ukraine’s elections,” reported the November 3 statement. At the same time, 128 polling stations opened early on election day, Opora reported, denying candidates and observers the ability to witness the safe’s opening and confirm the presence of the necessary documents.

While thousands of polling stations didn’t receive enough ballots, as witnessed by observers from the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), others received excess amounts, offering systemic evidence of ballot-stuffing. More than 4,000 ballots were delivered to a rural tuberculosis clinic in the Kherson Oblast where only 700 were registered to vote, while more than 6,500 ballots were brought to a rural Kherson psychiatric hospital where 3,000 were registered to vote.

Observers in the cities of Kharkiv and Mariupol reported mass ballot-stuffing of voting urns. A Front for Change observer at a Mariupol (Donetsk Oblast) polling station counted 430 voters at 5 p.m. when the election commission chair reported 700 votes. He recorded on video the difference in ballots being thrown into the pile of ballots as the urns were emptied onto tables for tallying. Batkivschyna observers caught a precinct election commission chair stuffing ballots in the Donetsk town of Dymytriv by Batkivschyna observers. The Front for Change reported ballot-stuffing in the Sumy Oblast as well.

The falsification technology of ballot-stuffing was enabled by a sharp rise among those opting to vote at home, which grew by 2.5 times in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, increased twofold in the Vinnytsia and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts, and rose 60 percent in the Zakarpattia Oblast and 50 percent in the Luhansk Oblast. The Party of Regions tried to illegally register more than 100 at-home voting requests in Symferopol, Batkivschyna observers reported, noting that all of them were written in the same handwriting. After attempts to contact the media, the voting request vanished, reducing total home-voters at that polling station from 150 to 22. In the Mykolayiv Oblast and the city

(Continued on page 18)

Antonovych awards...

(Continued from page 4)

that Dr. Berdychowska was receiving an award in a Ukrainian Embassy in the presence of Ambassador Motsyk. In February she received the Ukrainian government's Princess Olha Award (third degree) for her work in fostering Polish-Ukrainian relations from him, then Ukraine's ambassador in Warsaw.

Introducing the other honoree, nominating committee member and literary scholar at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences Tamara Hundorova noted that Prof. Hnatiuk, an honored scholar, writer and translator, is a proponent of the study of Ukrainian literature in Poland, as well the building of closer ties between the two countries. Prof. Hnatiuk established a school for students interested in this field of study and is an "organizer of creative people, a originator of ideas and projects that attract and brings them together."

In her remarks, Prof. Hnatiuk spoke about the importance of maintaining a dialogue. "Dialogue is everything," she said. "It's a process to knowledge, the road to truth, to understanding."

She was attracted to the emerging human rights and freedom movements in Ukraine early on, she said, adding that the initial fears were overcome as the Polish-Ukrainian dialogue and cooperation evolved. The question today, she said, is: Can this dialogue be expanded to include the rest of Europe?

Also participating in awards ceremony were members of the Antonovych Foundation board of directors: Ihor Voyevodka, Roman Sloniewsky and

Andrew Lewycky.

Since its founding in 1980, the Antonovych Foundation has honored 60 laureates, among them – in addition to Stus – writer Lina Kostenko, literary critic Ivan Dzyuba, scholar Zbigniew Brzezinski and Robert Conquest, the author of "The Harvest of Sorrow" about the Holodomor in Ukraine. The award list also includes one Ukrainian newspaper, Literaturna Ukrayina.

The foundation has also helped finance the development of academic and cultural institutions in Ukraine. These projects – at an estimated cost of some \$3 million – include the reconstruction the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy's main library, the renovation of Lviv's Vasyl Stefanyk Library and Artists Palace, and the building of the Boykivschyna Museum in Dolyna, western Ukraine, where Omelan Antonovych was born in 1914.

Mr. Antonovych was active in the Ukrainian nationalist movement in his youth and later was a political prisoner in Poland and Nazi Germany. He earned a law degree from the Ukrainian Free University in Prague in 1943, and after the World War II married Tatiana Terlecky, a physician who became a world-renowned kidney specialist. They immigrated to the United States, settling in the Washington area, where she became a scholar and teacher in medical schools, and he went into ranching and real estate. She died in 2001; he passed away in 2008. A year later they were posthumously awarded Ukraine's Order of Yaroslav the Wise (fifth degree) during their foundation's 2009 awards ceremony at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington.

Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 3)

monopolization of Ukraine, the sixth – removal of oligarchs – could be his next target. The next two years will likely decide whether Ukraine becomes a Putin-style managed democracy without oligarchs or if the oligarchs fight back (EDM, September 22).

A first step for Western governments would be to interact with Messrs.

Akhmetov and Firtash to learn their strategies and plans for Ukraine, (they very rarely give interviews to the media). Western policy-makers are operating in the dark, as they do not know the views of the two main financiers who brought President Yanukovych to power.

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

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

more questions were raised about the accuracy of the reported results. Other questions concerned ballot security and counting procedures. Nearly 40 percent of polling stations reported unauthorized persons present, including police and local government officials.

The International Election Observer

Mission included 563 observers from the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODHIR), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

Source: "OSCE says second round of election did not meet European standards," The Ukrainian Weekly, November 28, 2004.

Russian-Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 6)

Westinghouse has been halted in favor of a new deal with Russia's TVEL. At the current stage, the Ukrainian and Russian atomic agencies have finished talks between their working groups and have entered a stage of asset evaluation in order to integrate the Ukrainian atomic sector into its Russian counterpart.

In the aviation industry, a key Ukrainian company, Antonov, is on Russia's wish-to-integrate list, as are, incidentally, several other lucrative objects: the chemical giant Stiroil, the critical Kremenchuk Oil Refinery, the equally critical Odesa Port Plant. The conditions for the Antonov deal, such as a 50 percent +1 share of common stock and a requirement for a Russian citizen to chair the board of directors, permit the inference that such integration will mean the absorption of the Ukrainian aviation industry by Russia. Ukraine, in its turn, would lose control over one of its strategic sectors.

The Russian-Ukrainian reconciliation is also marked by rapid shifts in the Ukrainian humanitarian sphere. The Russian fifth column involving efforts of the current Security Services and frank anti-Ukrainian antagonists, including an open hater of western Ukrainians, Minister of Education Dmytro Tabachnyk, are fulfilling the Russian agenda in Ukraine. This has resulted in the withdrawal of the Holodomor issue from the national and international agenda, the reconsideration and rewriting of Ukrainian history, and the intimidation of Ukrainian historians.

Equally critical, education reform – one of the most progressive and successful efforts of the previous government – aimed to establish transparency in Ukrainian schooling and combat corruption, was cancelled right away.

In sum, what is called "improvement in Ukraine-Russia relations" is constantly presented to the West – and particularly to the European Union – as a way to convince the international community that all is on the road to "stability" as well to dispel fears of renewed disruptions in energy supplies. But, often these "stability" assurances pursue a goal of distracting the attention of the international community from the actual situation – the rollback in democracy, the rule of law and fundamental freedoms.

If the current dangerous pace in maintained, I predict the following trends will result in:

- the blurring of Ukraine's national identity and the weakening of its position as a "democracy promoter" in the region;
- a full refusal to pursue the Euro-Atlantic integration and the gradual marginalization of the Annual National Program

format;

- a consequent alliance with Russia in its security projects, such as the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and the participation in the Russian initiative on the European Security Treaty, which mainly aims to push the United States out of the European security space;

- Ukraine's economic integration into the Russian and Eurasian economic space through a Customs Union or the resumption of a Common Economic Space, which in turn would totally terminate Ukraine's European integration plans;

- subordination of the Ukrainian strategic gas transportation system to Russia and the consequent Russian vise grip over European energy security; and

- the dismantling of the democratic progress achieved after the Orange Revolution in 2004 and the emergence of a satellite/puppet regime of the authoritarian nature operated by Russia.

In my opinion, this grave scenario will come true if rule of law continues to be undermined, civil society threatened by the security services and the political system unbalanced with a skew towards strong presidential powers. The latter was installed by the recently "annulled constitutional reform" and the return to the pre-2004 political system, which was regarded by all elements of the Ukrainian opposition as an unprofessional politically motivated decision, in which the Constitutional Court exceeded its competence and violated the Constitution. In this respect, I strongly urge the international community not to ignore the continuous undemocratic processes that are systematically taking place in Ukraine.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I remain optimistic, as the democratic ideas that millions of Ukrainians stood for in 2004 are embedded in our national identity and convictions.

I hope that Ukraine, particularly through efforts of Ukrainian civil society, the democratic opposition and with support of the democratic world will prevent any further surrender of Ukrainian national interests.

I am convinced that an independent and strong Ukraine is crucial for building security and prosperity on the European continent and in the world.

And last, but far from the least, I would like to stress that I am a dedicated fan of fostering Ukrainian-Russian relations, built on mutual respect to each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity and national interests. In the 21st century, aspired-to modernization and technological breakthrough have to be realized not through antagonism and oppression, but through joint work, commitment to democratic values and goodwill that generates innovations, mutually beneficial trade and public prosperity.



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Ukrainian performers prominent on music scene in Washington

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Classical music lovers in the capital area had the rare good fortune in early November to hear two highly acclaimed Ukrainian pianists in concert here within the same week. And before the year ends, they can avail themselves of the opportunity to attend performances by two more Ukrainian pianists as well as an organist.

Mykola Suk gave a recital on November 7 at the Lyceum in Old Town, Virginia, as part of the Sunday Music Series organized by the Cultural Fund of The Washington Group, an association of Ukrainian American professionals.

Three days later, on November 10, Juliana Osinchuk, joined with soprano Kate Egan and mezzo-soprano Marlene Bateman in concert at the National Gallery of Art.

Mr. Suk's program, which began with three fantasies – by Beethoven, Johan Nepomuk Hummel and Sigismund Thalberg – and concluded with Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata, included the Partita No. 5 Fantasies "in modo Retro" written for and dedicated to him by his Ukrainian musical colleague Myroslav Skoryk. The audience reaction to his performance that afternoon – exuberant and unyielding – was rewarded with two Liszt etude encores.

The Osinchuk-Egan-Bateman concert at the National Gallery included songs by Beethoven, Schumann, Saint-Saëns and Fauré, as well as by the more contemporary Lawrence Moss and George Beldon. But the program was presented in a way not normally experienced in a classical music concert. It was accompanied by

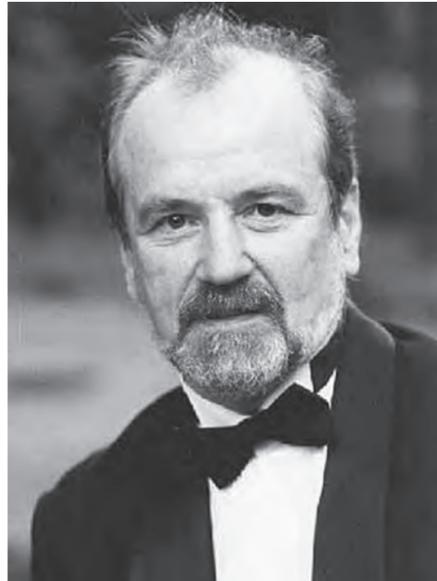
projections of artistic photographs by Petra Lisiecki on the huge screen behind the performers on stage. This added a unique visual aspect to the musical appreciation of the program.

Neither pianist is a newcomer to the Washington stage. This was Dr. Osinchuk's third appearance at the National Gallery, and she has performed on other stages as well. Most recently she was here at the September 28 memorial concert at the Kennedy Center honoring Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska following his burial earlier that day. She and Sen. Stevens were no strangers; he attended her TWG Cultural Fund Music Series concert at the Lyceum in 2005. Neither was this her first performance at the Kennedy Center; she played on its Millennium Stage as far back as in 1997.

As for reviews of her past performances, Dr. Osinchuk receives her share of critical acclaim, as was noted in her biographical sketch in the latest National Gallery program: The Los Angeles Times has praised her "superior technique, discipline and talent" that have dazzled audiences and critics in solo and orchestral appearances; "Musical America" selected her as a "Young Artist to Watch" after her solo debut recital at the Lincoln Center; The Washington Post has called her playing "spectacular;" and The New York Times characterized her as a "skillful and scrupulous ensemble player."

Nor is Mr. Suk a stranger to Washington. He, too, has performed a number of times at the National Gallery and other venues, including the TWG Cultural Fund's concert series at the Spectrum.

Earlier this year, when he played with



Mykola Suk



Juliana Osinchuk

the Post-Classical Ensemble in an all-Liszt "Angels and Devils" program at Georgetown University's Gaston Hall, The Washington Post's music critic wrote that he sided with the angels. "If the angels ultimately won the evening," Joe Banno wrote, "that was due in large part to pianist Mykola Suk."

Earlier, after a performance of Liszt in Canada, the music critic of the Toronto Star underscored his "enormous digital control" and "impressive technique," adding: "Suk never used the piano to show off; he made it the servant of Liszt's expressive ideas."

As for the rest of this year's musical calendar in the Washington area featuring Ukrainians:

- On Sunday, November 21, Serhii

Morozov, will be at the Lyceum in Alexandria, performing works by Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven in a program titled "The evolution of the genre of classical piano sonata."

- The following Sunday, November 28, organist Pavlo Stetsenko, will be play Bach's Vespers in Alexandria's Westminster Presbyterian Church.

- And on Sunday, December 19, Stanislav Khristenko, a prize-winner of many international piano competitions, will perform selections from what is considered to be one of the most challenging and exciting works written for the piano, Liszt's "Transcendental Etudes," at the Phillips Collection in Washington (just around the corner from the Taras Shevchenko monument).

Artist Anya Antonovych Metcalf exhibits works at Chicago's UIMA

CHICAGO – Emerging artist Anya Antonovych Metcalf was featured in the exhibit "Antonovych / Petersen / Niepodziewana" at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art in Chicago, which ran from September 17 through October 31.

The theme of the exhibition, curated by Stanislaw Grezdo, is decay and weathering of the self. It comprised acrylic paintings by Ms. Antonovych, ceramic sculptures and wall pieces by Chicago artist Corinne Peterson, and prints and drawings by Polish artist Malwina Malgorzata Niepodziewana.

The exhibit invites introspection, and is especially relevant given today's tenuous economic and sociopolitical conditions, organizers noted.

Ms. Metcalf was born in Chicago in



Anya Antonovych Metcalf at the exhibit opening at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art on September 17.

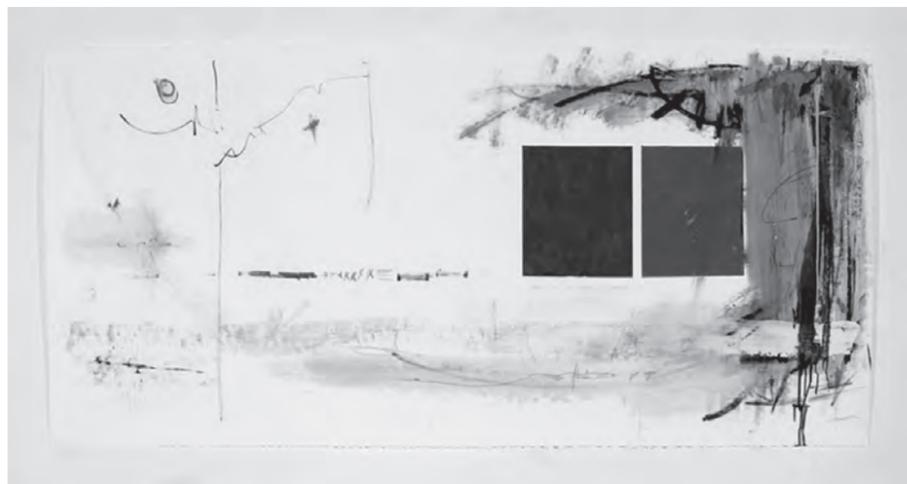
1980 to Borys and Irene Antonovych. She studied English literature and the history and philosophy of science at McGill University in Montreal, and recently completed a post-baccalaureate certificate at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore.

Travel drives her creative practice. "Art and travel are about learning to see," remarks Ms. Metcalf. Some of her formative experiences include living in Scotland for a year at age 16, working for a year with polyhandicapped adults in France at age 19, and extensive travel in the United States, Eastern and Western Europe, Africa and Asia.

In 2007 Ms. Metcalf, her husband, Jon, and their son Adam relocated to the Bahamas. She maintained a studio at the Popopstudios Center for the Visual Arts, and was part of the burgeoning Nassau art scene. The paintings featured at UIMA were culled from a series shown in the one-woman exhibit "There is A Crack in Everything" at Nassau's Hub.

The name of the exhibit was taken from Leonard Cohen's song, "Anthem": There is a crack in everything / That's how the light gets in. Ms. Metcalf said she takes this to mean that imperfection can be a form of revelation. The 56 by 56-inch acrylic paintings are based on close-up photographs of distressed surfaces in Nassau – rusted garbage cans, burnt-out buildings, old machinery. The resulting images have an abstract expressionist feel, even while they are translations of photographic subjects.

In her introductory essay to the UIMA exhibition catalogue, art historian Adrienne Kochman writes: "Antonovych Metcalf's travels offer the experience of displacement. Each destination's environment is noticeably unique — urban, tropical, rural, medieval, modern. Baltimore evokes urban



"America will eat you up, she loves you so" (mixed media on BFK, 34 by 74 inches, 2010).

decay, the Bahamas suggest nature's abundance, London an aged history. They couldn't be more unlike [...] The longer one stays in any given location, the greater the personal shift from tourist, to witness, to resident. In her desire to understand her bicultural identity and her Ukrainian heritage Antonovych Metcalf transplants herself, similar to every immigrant's situation."

In her current work, Ms. Metcalf has shifted her focus from a contemplation of place to an examination of the journey. These large mixed-media works on paper are not so much abstracted landscapes as storyscapes, and she considers them research into the narrative potential of abstraction. The artist is preparing for a three-month residency in Beijing, and will commence her MFA studies in



"Baltimore Street Study" (acrylic and tape on canvas, 12 by 12 inches, 2009).

the fall of 2011. More of her work may be viewed online at www.anyaantonovychmetcalf.com.

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 mandarin dressing)

Entrée (choice of)

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 beet, potato portabello pave

Atlantic Char with
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 artichokes in a sweet
 lemon oil

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Northern New Jersey celebrates glory of Ukraine's Kozaks



Christine Syzonenko

The large cast of "Kozak Glory" at the conclusion of the dramatic presentation.



The hetman (Michael Koziupa, holding aloft a "bulava") leads a meeting of the Kozak council.



A Kozak "chaika" heads to battle.

WHIPPANY, N.J. – Morris County Ukrainians celebrated "Kozak Glory" with a special dramatic presentation on Saturday, October 23, at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ).

The show highlighting the life of the Kozaks of Ukraine featured music and dancing, as well as an elaborate set of decorations that included a Kozak vessel known as a "chaika" and a Ukrainian village.

The cast of approximately 60 people comprised local community members of all ages who were directed by Roksolana Leshchuk, who also authored the script. Among the highlights were performances by bandurist Michael Stashchyshyn, a female choir led by Oksana Telepko, the Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and Bohdan Savchuk, who played the Kozak kettle drums known as "lytavry."

The evening also featured a dinner, and was followed by a dance to the music of the Oberehy band. Proceeds of the event went toward St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church Building Fund.



Meanwhile, in the UACCNJ's Hoverlia Social Club, bartender Marko Bura was appropriately attired for the evening.



The director of the program and author of the scenario, Roksolana Leshchuk.



Nazar Gavrysh reads a message from the Kozaks' Sich.



Kobzar Michael Stashchyshyn sings a duma about the Zaporozhian Sich.



Girls of the Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble perform.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

ment of architecture in Ukraine to join the UNESCO World Heritage List; the entire Pecherska Lavra complex was later added to the list. (Ukrinform)

Patriarch Kirill to visit Ukraine

KYIV – Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia will take part on November 22-23 in celebrations to mark the 75th birthday of the Metropolitan

of Kyiv and All Ukraine Volodymyr (Sabodan). The program of the commemorative events was released on the website of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate on November 15. Patriarch Kirill will arrive in Kyiv on November 22 and will bring the Tenderness Icon of the Virgin for the believers to worship. The icon will stay in Ukraine until December 6. On November 22 the Russian Orthodox Church leader will take part in prayer to the Tenderness Icon at the Kyiv Pecherska Lavra and participate in events at the National Opera of Ukraine marking

Metropolitan Volodymyr's jubilee. In the morning on November 23 divine liturgy will be served in the Refectory Church of the Pecherska Lavra. (Ukrinform)

Chernovetskyi relieved of some duties

KYIV – Kyiv Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi has lost part of his authority in Ukraine's capital city. Via a presidential decree he was dismissed from his post as head of the Kyiv City State Administration, which he held concurrently with his office as mayor. Now the executive branch in Kyiv will be chaired by a representative of the Party of Regions, Oleksander Popov. Mr. Chernovetskyi, who was re-elected in the summer of 2008 during early elections of the mayor and Kyiv City Council deputies, stands a chance of staying on as mayor until the next elections in the capital, it was reported on November 16. Opposition politicians and some experts in Ukraine have questioned the legality of the presidential decrees. In 2003 the Constitutional Court ruled that only the elected mayor of Kyiv can serve as the head of the local administration. In September of this year, however, the Parliament amended the law on the Ukrainian capital to allow the president to appoint the chairman of the city administration in accordance with "Ukraine's Constitution and laws." Political expert Kostyantyn Matviyenko told RFE/RL that by appointing a new city administration head, the president was showing "who is boss" in Kyiv. (Ukrinform, RFE/RL)

reported. The crew of the Ukrainian ship, in collaboration with the Espero frigate of the Italian navy, will carry out a survey and, if necessary, inspection of civil vessels according to NATO standards. During preparations for the mission, an operational briefing was held aboard the Italian frigate for prior approval of joint actions, to identify areas of future patrols and discuss the rules for information management of the operations and application of weapons. Italian experts have also equipped the Ternopil with a special automatic system for data transmission. This system is installed only on the ships of NATO partner-countries, and it is intended for the timely and efficient exchange of information among task force ships. The Ternopil departed from Sevastopol for the Mediterranean Sea on November 7. The campaign is likely to take 45 days. Ukraine is the second non-NATO-member country to join the Active Endeavor operation. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv Metro's 50th anniversary

KYIV – The Kyiv Metro (subway system) is celebrating its 50th anniversary on November 6. It was on that date in 1960 that the first five metro stations – Vokzalna, Universytet, Khreschatyk, Arsenalna and Dnipro – opened in Ukraine for the first time. Events being organized on both the local and national levels are dedicated to this anniversary. President Viktor Yanukovich and Prime Minister Mykola Azarov on November 5 participated in the presentation of new metro stations: Demiyivska, Holosiyivska and Vasylykivska. The Kyiv Metro currently consists of three lines and 46 stations. The total length of track is about 60 kilometers. It is the most popular type of transport in the city and transports 1.5 million to 2 million passengers a day. Due to uneven terrain, the Kyiv subway is among the deepest in the world. Universytet Metro Station is located at a depth of 80 meters, while Zoloti Vorota and Arsenalna Metro Stations are at a depth of 100 meters. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine higher on UNDP index

KYIV – The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) on November 4 released the annual Human Development Report titled "The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development" with Ukraine ranking 69th (after 85 in 2009) in the Human Development Index (HDI). In the ranking of 169 countries Ukraine is preceded by Albania, Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Bosnia, and is followed by Iran, Macedonia, Mauritius, Brazil and Georgia. The top five countries are Norway, Australia, New Zealand, the United States of America and Ireland. The Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite index measuring average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living. According to the report, Ukraine is found among nine states where life expectancy is lower than in the 1970s. The list also includes six African countries, Belarus and Russia. The U.N. says that the reduction in life expectancy in Ukraine, Belarus and Russia primarily affects men. Moreover, the report notes an increase in the prevalence of alcohol abuse and stresses associated with the transition to a market economy and high inflation, unemployment and economic insecurity. (Ukrinform)

Architect Horodetsky and Tehran

KYIV – Ukrainian diplomats took part in a memorial service in Tehran at Dulab Catholic Cemetery at the grave of famous Ukrainian architect Vladyslav Horodetsky

(Continued on page 15)

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Baloha appointed emergencies minister

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich has signed a decree appointing Viktor Baloha as Ukraine's emergencies minister. The decree was posted on the official website of the head of state on November 12. Mr. Baloha is the leader of the United Center Party. He also headed the Presidential Secretariat under former President Viktor Yushchenko. On July 10 the Verkhovna Rada dismissed Nestor Shufrych from the post of emergencies minister, which he held since March. The Parliament took the decision on the day after Mr. Yanukovich issued a decree appointing Mr. Shufrych as deputy secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

Coal mining rescue service chief arrested

KYIV – The Ukrainian Procurator General's Office has launched an investigation into the activities of the country's Coal Mining Rescue Service, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on November 16. The service's chief, Serhii Smolanov, was detained on November 11 and charged with violating safety regulations in Ukrainian mines in the eastern region of Donetsk. The PGO's press service informed journalists on November 15 that a criminal case against Mr. Smolanov was officially launched on November 10. Kyiv's Pechersk District Court sanctioned Mr. Smolanov's arrest two days later. According to the PGO's press service, a violation of safety regulations by the Coal Mining Rescue Service in 2007 led to an accident during rescue operations at the Zasiadko mine in the Donetsk region that killed five rescue workers and injured more than 100 others. A three-year investigation found that Mr. Smolanov was responsible for the violations. A total of 101 miners and five rescue workers died in three separate explosions at the Zasiadko mine on November 18 and December 1-2, 2007. (RFE/RL)

Ukrainian corvette embarks on mission

KYIV – On November 14 the corvette Ternopil of the Ukrainian naval forces left the Greek naval base at Suda Bay and took up duty in the framework of the Active Endeavor anti-terrorist operation, the press center of the Ukrainian naval command

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

(1863-1930), Ukrinform reported on November 5 based on information from the Ukrainian Embassy in Iran. The memorial service celebrated by Archbishop Ignacio Bedini of Tehran was attended by the ambassadors of Poland, Italy and France. The diplomats paid tribute to Poles who died in Iran during World War II. Ukrainian diplomats in Tehran, along with Iranian experts are now studying the little-known architectural heritage of Horodetsky in that country. In 1928, Horodetsky, who emigrated after the revolution to Poland, was offered by an American company the post of chief architect of the syndicate constructing Persian railways. He designed the Tehran railway station, a theater, a hotel and one of the Shah's palaces. In Kyiv Horodetsky, the owner of a cement plant, built a series of unique buildings made of a new type of concrete. Among his buildings is the well-known House with Chimeras, the National Art Museum, the Church of St. Nicholas and the Karaim Kenesa in Moorish style. One of the central streets of Kyiv is named after Horodetsky and the city has a monument to the architect. (Ukrinform)

Over \$1 B in money transfers

KYIV – The total amount of money transfers, which came to Ukraine through 22 international money transfer systems, in the first half of 2010 totaled \$1.15 billion (U.S.), up 13 percent from the corresponding period last year, according to the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU). However, the central bank said that Ukrainians sent out less than one-seventh of that – only \$163 million. The five largest systems through which Ukraine got 79.5 percent of the total amount of transfers are Western Union (42.5 percent market share), Unistream (12 percent), MoneyGram (11 percent), Migom (8 percent) and Contact (6 percent). The leading country from which money is sent to Ukraine continues to be Russia. Ukrainians received 47 percent of all money transfers from Ukraine. Next in line is the United States, with 10 percent; Italy, 7 percent; Spain, 5 percent; and Portugal, 3 percent. The distribution of countries receiving money sent from Ukraine is a little bit different: Russia, 41 percent; Georgia, 6 percent; Armenia, 4 percent; the U.S., 4 percent; and Uzbekistan, 4 percent. (Ukrinform)

Diaspora requests music channel

KYIV – The Ukrainian diaspora in Russia has said it needs a music channel. The Association of Ukrainians in Russia approached Ukraine's Culture and Tourism Minister Mykhailo Kuliniak, Chairman Yuriy Plaksiuk of the State TV and Radio Broadcasting Committee, Chairman Yuriy Bohutsky of the State Committee on Nationalities and Religion, as well as Education and Science Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk with a relevant proposal on the eve of a meeting of the Subcommittee on Humanitarian Cooperation of the Ukraine-Russia Intergovernmental Commission. An Ukrinform correspondent reported these developments on October 25. "Ukrainian music is a real property of Ukraine, not subject to time, conjuncture or the political situation," the Association of Ukrainians in Russia said. Back on March 5, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev had promised to provide "one to two Ukrainian channels" with the use of Russian satellite capacities on the territory of Russia. On May 13, Ukrainian public organizations of Russia approached President Viktor Yanukovich of Ukraine to request his assistance in setting up a special channel in Ukraine that would broadcast Ukrainian music to Russia and other countries. In their opinion, such a channel is necessary

primarily for the youth who are outside Ukraine, as well as for popularization of Ukrainian culture around the world. On September 7 Ukraine's Ambassador to Russia Volodymyr Yelchenko stated that a music-entertainment channel for the youth is "vitally necessary" for the Ukrainian diaspora. "There is demand for such a product. But there is no such a channel now; there are news channels, but they are not so interesting for the general public," he said. (Ukrinform)

EU countries' visa refusals

KYIV – The percentage of visa refusals to Ukrainians by the European Union countries is close to 3 percent, Deputy Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin told a roundtable called "Schengen Consulates in Estimates and Ratings." According to him, the visa situation for Ukrainian citizens has considerably improved over recent years, in particular, thanks to an agreement on simplification of the visa issue. Mr. Klimkin noted that in 2007 Ukrainians received about 435,000 Schengen visas; in 2009 such visas were received by 1.125 million Ukrainians. He paid special attention to the number of refusals of visas to Ukrainians. "On average, in the EU in 2007, the level of visa refusals was 12 percent. It was 4 percent in 2009. But I would like to say separately that, according to results of nine months of 2010, this has been reduced. In other words, we have a real figure of refusals reaching 3 percent or even less," he underscored. Mr. Klimkin underscored that the number of visa refusals is one of the key unwritten criteria for consideration of the possibility of implementing a visa-free regime. "There is a 3 percent criterion; if it is less, the state is considered a real candidate in a visa-free dialogue. I would like to say that we are on the threshold of reaching this important criterion," he said, according to news reports of October 27. (Ukrinform)

Facebook audience to exceed 1 M

KYIV – Ukrainians are still in first place in terms of Facebook audience growth. During a period of 18 days (October 12-30), the Ukrainian audience of Facebook added 87,000 (an increase of 14 percent), and as of October 30 stood at 712,000, according to inmind.com.ua. If such growth rates continue, the Ukrainian Facebook audience will soon exceed 1 million. The largest social networking site, Facebook was founded in 2004. In the spring of this year, the number of Facebook users worldwide reached 470 million – doubling in just over a year. The greatest number of Facebook members are in the U.S. (100 million), Great Britain (23 million) and Indonesia (18 million). (Ukrinform)

Ukraine chairs BSEC Assembly

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn has assumed the chairmanship of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), Ukrainian parliament's press office reported on November 3. "For Ukraine, and for me personally it is a great honor to assume the chairmanship of the Parliamentary Assembly of the BSEC – an organization that for nearly two decades has proven its effectiveness as a reliable and mutually beneficial mechanism for political, economic, social and intercultural dialogue at the regional level," Mr. Lytvyn said during the ceremony held in Trabzon, Turkey. He stressed the importance of improving at the legislative level activity in such sectors as transport, communications and energy with their growing role. This, he said, will provide the legal basis for better coordination and greater cooperation among the BSEC member-states in these areas, implementation of a new energy policy in the region, the full use of the transit potential of the

Black Sea region and implementation of the Euro-Asian Transport Corridor project, other initiatives on the way of integration into the global economy. Ukraine considers it necessary to immediately begin a comprehensive analysis and synthesis of previous experience in organizing, developing recommendations for the further prospect that could be considered and adopted at the anniversary summit in 2012," said Mr. Lytvyn. (Ukrinform)

Gryshchenko: Kyiv ready to cooperate

KYIV – According to news reports of October 27, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Kostyantyn Gryshchenko said at a meeting of the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs in Brussels that Ukraine is ready to cooperate with all political groups in the European Parliament to achieve the objectives of European integration. He noted that the Ukraine is disposed to conduct a dialogue with its European partners. That is why the Ukrainian president, during his visit to Brussels on October 13, proposed a meeting with European People's Party (EPP) President Wilfried Martens to discuss the political situation in Ukraine. Mr. Gryshchenko invited members of the European Parliament to visit Ukraine and hold fruitful meetings with all political forces from both the government and the opposition. Mr. Gryshchenko said that he represents no political party of Ukraine in the European Parliament, but acts as a government official. In this context, he called "prudent" the decision to postpone the vote of the European Parliament regarding the resolution on political situation in Ukraine for the period after the local elections. "We understand that this decision does not cancel the assessment of the events [by the European Parliament], and do not think that we have answered all the questions that are raised there [in the resolution]. We are convinced that it is first necessary to interact before making judgment, conduct the debates, have deep knowledge of the situation, listen to different sources of information and different voices. We are open, ready for this and are interested in this kind of debate that, I am convinced, reflects the European parliamentary tradition," the Ukrainian foreign affairs minister underlined. Asked by an Ukrinform

correspondent what Ukraine is doing to ease the concerns of European partners about the state of democratic development in Ukraine, Mr. Gryshchenko said the authorities in Ukraine are doing everything possible so that there are no such concerns at all. "For that, certainly, it is necessary to clearly follow the process that occurs within the country, and this is what the president of Ukraine calls on all state agencies and authorities to do. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has only a certain area of responsibility - inviting international observers to assist in carrying out their work. We should help and not interfere in their activities," Mr. Gryshchenko said. (Ukrinform)

Mandatory dubbing of films abolished

KYIV – A decree obliging film distributors to dub or subtitle foreign films distributed in Ukraine has been abolished, Culture and Tourism Minister Mykhailo Kuliniak said at a press conference on October 29. "We have abolished the Ministry's decree and now we use provisions of the Law on Cinema," the Minister said without specifying when exactly the decree was abolished. (Ukrinform)

Mexico OKs free visa regime

KYIV – Mexico is introducing a free visa system for some categories of Ukrainian citizens as of November 1, the press service of Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry reported on October 31. A fourth round of Ukrainian-Mexican political consultations at the level of deputy foreign ministers was held on October 29. The Ukrainian delegation was headed by Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Oleksander Horyn, and the delegation of Mexico was headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Lourdes Aranda Bezaury. During the talks, the sides agreed to step up the political dialogue between Ukraine and Mexico at the highest level, as well as to deepen cooperation in the framework of the United Nations and other international organizations. Mr. Horyn thanked Mexico for the introduction of an electronic system for receiving visas free of charge for Ukrainian citizens, businessmen, tourists and transit passengers, for a period of up to 90 days starting November 1. (Interfax-Ukraine)



The children of

Oksana Lenec (née Tarnawska)

announce in deep sorrow that their mother, surrounded by the family, passed into eternity on September 14, 2010, after a short illness.

Oksana Lenec was born on January 27, 1925 in Lviv, Ukraine. In 1949 emigrated to the United States. She completed her primary education in Ukraine and music conservatory in Salzburg, Austria. Her long musical career as a violinist included many years with Hudson Valley Philharmonic Orchestra. Besides her professional career, she gave private lessons and played with few bands in Hudson Valley.

Oksana was predeceased by her husband Dr. Wolodymyr Lenec.

In deep sorrow:

Children - Dzvinka Markevych with husband Zenon
- Lydia Bilynsky with husband Michael
- Andrew Lenec with wife Tala

Seven grandchildren

Sister -Dagmara Boyko
with children Bohdanka and Askold

Extended family in the US and Ukraine

Funeral services were held on Saturday, September 18, 2010, at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson, N.Y., followed by interment at Pine Bush Cemetery in Kerhonkson, N.Y.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of Dutchess and Ulster Counties, or to the American Cancer Society.

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Patriarch Filaret...

(Continued from page 1)

regime, which sought to destroy the Ukrainian people through massive starvation, even during one of the biggest wheat harvests in Ukraine at the time. Even now, after the Security Service of Ukraine under President Viktor Yushchenko declassified archival documents about the Holodomor and revealed the direct involvement and organization of the starvation by the Stalin regime, Russia's current leadership – democratic in name only – has repeatedly ignored the historical truth, as did its Soviet predecessors. It is important that this truth swiftly spread across the world, underscored Patriarch Filaret.

The monument in Clifton is a copy of the memorial that stands on St. Michael's Square in Kyiv, near St. Michael Golden-Domed Cathedral. Carved into the stone monument in Clifton, engraved in English and Ukrainian, are the words: "Memory eternal to the millions of Ukrainians starved to death by the Moscow regime in the Genocidal Famine." On the reverse side of the monument are the words of the French philosopher Voltaire, "Ukraine will always yearn for freedom."

After the blessing of the monument and the memorial service, a reception was held in the church hall to mark these two great events: the visit of Patriarch Filaret to the parish and the dedication of the Holodomor memorial.

Among the guests were: U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.), Clifton Mayor James Anzaldi; Ukraine's Consul Bohdan Movchan, who delivered greetings from Consul General Serhiy Pohoreltsev of New York; and Kostyantyn Vorona, vice-consul of Ukraine.

Members of the local Ukrainian community included: Kenneth Wanio, representing the Clifton branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Bohdan Harhaj of the Ukrainian American Youth Association; Michael Koziupa of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine; and Roma Lisovich of the Ukrainian National Association.



Petro Chasto/Svoboda

Patriarch Filaret with Volodymyr Mohuchy of Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Parish and Roma Lisovich of the Ukrainian National Association.



The newly unveiled memorial in Clifton, N.J., to the victims of the Holodomor.

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Systemic...

(Continued from page 9)

center, more than 6,000 citizens asked to vote at home on the eve of elections, accounting for 5 to 6 percent of the total electorate.

Thousands of polling stations were denied enough voting booths and ballot boxes, as reported by numerous election-observing organizations, including UCCA. "At many polling stations, by noon urns were overfilled and there wasn't any place to throw ballots," the November 3 statement said. "Enormous lines formed as a result of the poor organization of voting, particularly the inadequacy of polling stations and ill preparation of commission members. Voters waited two to three hours in line and often went home without voting, not having waited," the statement said, reflecting similar observations made by election-observing organizations. National Deputy Yurii Prokopchuk of the Batkivschyna party reported standing in line for an hour in order to vote in the city of Korets. In the same district, observers found empty protocols that were signed and stamped.

The lack of the necessary number of booths at polling stations and large number of ballots became the reason for widespread violations of secret balloting, the filling out of voting ballots by third parties and long lines that dissuaded voters from casting ballots, Opora reported. "The situation with lines is convenient for the government because that offered the chance for its representatives on election commissions for total falsification – the less citizens who vote, the more unused ballots, after which it's easier to manipulate the election results," the November 3 statement said. Both Opora and UCCA observers reported numerous incidents of voters marking their ballots outside of booths in the Kyiv and Cherkasy oblasts.

In Sumy, the residents of a 10-story, 80-apartment building found out on election day they weren't included on voter registers, even though they received invitations from the polling station with their correct information.

Candidates also found out they were excluded from the elections at the last minute. The Ivano-Frankivsk City Election Commission ruled on 7:30 a.m. on election day to exclude four candidates from the single-winner, single-mandate oblast council elections. Yet the ballots were already delivered to polling stations, with the commission unable to indicate that those candidates were excluded. By law, all the ballots containing the names of candidates that were excluded are invalid.

Besides "managed chaos," tried-and-true falsification techniques were reported, such as "carousels," in which a group of voters travels to different polling stations to repeatedly cast votes for a particular candidate or party. Such groups of as many as 100 pensioners and students traveled from Kyiv to towns on the city outskirts such as Boryspil, Irpin, Boyarka, Obukhiv and Vasylkiv, reported observers with the Front for Change party. They gained the ability to vote multiple times from pre-selected election commissioners whom they recognized and who gave them the ballots, the party reported. Carousels were reported in the city of Oleksandriya, with voters bused from the oblast center of Kirovohrad, as reported by Batkivschyna. The party's chair in the Luhansk town of Stakhaniv reported carousels to the police, resulting in at least one arrest. He learned that four cars were driving around the town with ballots and money. The Front for Change confirmed that carousels occurred in Luhansk too. Yurii Solovei, candidate for Ivano-Frankivsk City Council chair (mayor) said carousels accounted for 3,000 to 5,000 false ballots being cast for pro-Russian parties. His campaign headquarters also received

thousands of complaints about votes being cast on behalf of citizens abroad.

Systemic removal of ballots from polling stations was reported in the Sumy, Kherson, Lutsk and Odesa oblasts, among others.

Election protocols were filled out ahead of election day on a systemic level in cities such as Kherson, reported Batkivschyna. National Deputy Yurii Odarchenko reported the falsifications to the Procurator General's Office, the Central Election Commission and the Kherson Oblast Procurator. "Obtained materials indicate that election results were already figured out by polling station and include all data necessary for completing the final protocols, including even the number of faulty and unused ballots," reported the Kherson Oblast Organization of Batkivschyna. "Even the number of mandates for each party was planned."

Commissioners in Ladyzhynsk (Vinnytsia Oblast), Kirovohrad, Symferopol, Krasnoarmiysk (Donetsk Oblast) and Mariupol (Donetsk Oblast) signed blank protocols, which were filled out afterwards with the necessary data, various parties reported. Precinct election commissions in the Rivne and Chernihiv oblasts filled out protocols before the polls closed, said Front for Change observers.

Voting results were changed after ballots were counted at the precinct level, Opora reported. The Communist Party in Luhansk alleged the Party of Regions simply rewrote scores of protocols in the city's central election commission, which was cordoned off by police officers. On November 3 city prosecutors confirmed that the protocols of three Luhansk polling stations were falsified by the Zhovtnevyi District's territorial election commission after it received them. The For Ukraine party reported rewriting of protocols in the Nedryhailivskiy District of Sumy, where election commissioners arrived at the central territorial election commission with stamps to affix on protocols after the falsified results were documented.

The Kyiv District Administrative Court recognized on November 8 that the Bila Tserkva (Kyiv Oblast) city election commission altered protocols, depriving the Svoboda party of votes. Precinct election commissions counted 6,500 votes for the Svoboda party for Kyiv Oblast Council race, while the final tally was altered to 1,729 votes. They counted 4,796 votes for the Bila Tserkva City Council race, which was altered to 3,823.

Rubber stamps were removed from precinct election commissions at a significant rate, and commission heads signed protocols at the central territorial election commission – both practices being gross violations of election law, Opora reported. The Bila Tserkva falsifications involved commissioners taking their stamps and protocols to the territorial election commission for "correction" and finalizing the results there, reported Opora, whose observers were denied access to the process. The Svoboda party reported a territorial commissioner spending at least three hours by himself in a room with voting ballots, four days after election day, with journalists and candidates forbidden from observing his actions.

Numerous precinct election commissions in Odesa refused to make their protocols public to observers, reported Anatolii Boiko, the chair of the Odesa Oblast Organization of the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU). "The precinct election commission heads are refusing to give copies of protocols to official observers from various political parties," he said, noting that they insisted on transferring the counted ballots to the central commissions before making the protocols public.

Another systemic technology consisted of ceasing ballot-counting. The central territorial election commission in Zaporizhia called upon precinct commissions to stop their vote counts for a break until 2 p.m. the next day, citing their exhaustion, Opora reported. The break came just as most commissions had finished counting votes and



A campaign tent in Ternopil for Party of Regions City Council Chair candidate Petro Hoch promises voters: "I guarantee each Ternopil resident 10,764 square feet of land for construction."

were about to sign protocols, providing an opportunity for ballot-stuffing and destruction. Meanwhile the majority of precinct election commissions in the Kyiv Oblast city of Vyshnevyi didn't perform vote counts for the city council chair election at all. Vote counting had yet to begin the morning after election day at two precinct election commissions in the Kyiv Oblast city of Irpin, reported Yevhen Zhovtiak, the Kyiv Oblast Organization chair of the For Ukraine party. "They tried to wait for the moment when observers would leave the polling stations of exhaustion," he said. Considering the commissions were dominated by the Party of Regions, and the law allows for establishing vote totals without a quorum, commissions intentionally dragged out the procedure to falsify the necessary results for the Party of Regions, he alleged.

The territorial election commissions of the Volyn Oblast simply rejected protocols bearing "technical inaccuracies," sending them back to precinct election commissions for "correction," reported the chair of the Batkivschyna Oblast Organization, Anatolii Hrytsiuk. Volyn State Oblast Administration Chair Borys Klymchuk pressured territorial election commissions to do this. "Three political forces are given additional percentage points in districts and towns with large numbers of voters," he reported, claiming that the beneficiaries were the satellite parties of the Party of Regions or Single Center, Strong Ukraine and People's Party of Ukraine.

A similar technique was alleged by Svoboda activists in Ternopil, where the central territorial election commission conducted a recount on November 6 in those districts where only a small difference separated Svoboda and Party of Regions candidates for single-winner, single-mandate seats on the city council. The Party of Regions requested the recount, despite no complaints being registered by party members or commissioners during the first two days after elections when protocols were accepted. The complaints arose only on the third day after the vote, at which point it was illegal for the election commission to consider them. Svoboda leaders alleged the election commission was not just recounting votes behind closed doors, but stealing votes from its candidates and tallying them in favor of the Party of Regions. During this process, Svoboda reported an increase in the number of disqualified ballots because commissioners allegedly employed a tactic of adding a second checkmark to ballots cast in the nationalist party's favor, in order to invalidate them. These ballots didn't have a second mark when they left the local precincts, the party reported. A Ternopil court ruled on November 11 to forbid the

recount because it violated the law. The lawsuit was filed by Svoboda.

Party of Regions Ternopil Oblast Organization Chair Orest Muts openly declared blackmail at a November 8 press conference, insisting his party get the positions of first vice-chair and secretary of the city council "if you don't want the city thrashed." At that time, more than a week after the election, the Regions-controlled election commission still refused to declare the election results, blocking the start of the new city council session.

In another scandalous vote recount, the Vasylkiv City Council (Kyiv Oblast) candidate from the Party of Regions, Serhii Ivaschenko, gained 1,234 votes to overcome his contender, Anatolii Borovyk of the People's Trust party, who was originally reported by the city election commission to have won the contest. After the recount, Mr. Ivaschenko defeated Mr. Borovyk by 58 votes, instead of losing by 1,176 votes, or a 59 percent margin. The large swing in votes indicates "brutal, widescale specially organized falsification of the elections on behalf of the Party of Regions candidate," said Mr. Borovyk, who led protests in front of the Presidential Administration. Letters written to the Presidential Administration, the Procurator General's Office, local prosecutors and the SBU have been ignored, a consistent trend reported throughout Ukraine's cities.

Widespread reports of vote-buying came as no surprise, as pre-election polls indicated every fifth Ukrainian was ready to sell his vote. The Party of Regions distributed flyers in Ternopil offering \$18.75 for votes, instructing those interested to make a backwards slash in the ballots. In the Kyiv Oblast city of Irpin, six of 15 candidates offered to buy votes for prices ranging between \$25 and \$50. Prices reached as high as \$62.50 in Kremenchuk, the industrial hub of the Poltava Oblast. Opora observers said ballots at all of Ternopil's polling stations were marked with various shapes for the Party of Regions, including slashes, circles, diametrical lines and periods. In Odesa, the Party of Regions offered residents \$6 to hang the party flag on their balconies. Students at Mechnykov National University were offered \$3.75 per day to attend demonstrations in support of various parties.

Election observers and opposition candidates reported the most hostile and secretive atmosphere since the 2004 presidential vote. Scores of observers and reporters were forced to leave numerous Kyiv Oblast polling stations once they closed and were forbidden from observing the vote count. Observers and reporters were also evicted from Symferopol polling stations. Observers from opposition parties were forbidden to enter a polling station in the Kyiv Oblast village of Sofiyivska-Borschahivka while Party of Regions observers freely entered. Most of the polling stations of Sumy were off limits to election observers, reported the Front for Change. More than 100 individuals blocked access for opposition observers to a Donetsk polling station.

When observers noticed unauthorized people entering the central territorial election commission in Ternopil on November 3 and informed Chair Ivan Chornozub, he allegedly responded with nasty language and physical threats, the Svoboda party reported.

Ukraine's major political parties – ranging from the far-right to the far-left and those in between – alleged systemic vote falsification extensive enough to disqualify the results of the entire Kyiv Oblast, the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, the Kharkiv Oblast, the Luhansk Oblast and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The For Ukraine party reported 1,153 election violations, while the Batkivschyna party filed more than 2,000 complaints demanding recounts or nullifications of results tallied by more than 2,000 election commissions.

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Ukrainian credit union in Montreal reaches out to youth

by Stefan Fydyshyn-Macdonald

MONTREAL – University students from Montreal’s Ukrainian community were invited by Yourko Kulycky, general manager of the Caisse Populaire Desjardins Ukrainienne de Montreal, to the prestigious Le Windsor Hotel in downtown Montreal, for a presentation on stock markets on Friday, October 1. This was the credit union’s first effort in reaching out to youth and informing them about the workings of the financial world.

Students in attendance from Concordia and McGill Universities, and the University of Montreal were treated to a very enjoyable evening in elegant surroundings, overlooking the traders’ floor.

The evening began with a brief history of the historic Windsor Hotel, followed by a very informative overview of the multitude of services provided by Caisse Populaire Ukrainienne de Montreal.

As the evening progressed, Louis-Etienne Fortin, Desjardins Securities broker provided a broad overview of markets, measures and indicators, while responding to all technical questions from the students.

This was followed by a wine and cheese reception.

In addition to the evening’s focus on banking, a photo exhibit by Concordia University Communications graduate Adriana Luhovy featured a collection of 21 photographs taken in Ukraine. Some of the many striking photographs were of Famine-Genocide survivors; others focused on architectural details and village scenes.

Also present were credit union board members Marta Mayer, Gregory Kowryha, Steven Spilkin and their staff youth representative, Adrian Kowryha.

This event, called L’Art de la Bourse (The Art of Stock Markets), was conceived and organized by Anastasia Kyva, law student and current board of directors intern. This highly successful event provided university students with the opportunity to meet and learn from members of Desjardins administration about financial planning, and view a wonderful and inspiring photo exhibit.

This event represented and demonstrated the important and multi-faceted involvement of the Caisse Populaire Ukrainienne de Montréal in the local community. The



Bank manager Yourko Kulycky (center-left) and Louis-Etienne Fortin (bottom) surrounded by members of Caisse Populaire Desjardins Ukrainienne credit union.

evening was intended as one of several upcoming efforts of Caisse Populaire Desjardins Ukrainienne to involve young people.



Students listen to a financial presentation during an event organized by Anastasia Kyva.



Concordia University communications graduate Adriana Luhovy at her photography exhibit.

SUAFCU’s Palatine branch moves to new premises

by Dora Turula

PALATINE, Ill. – The new Palatine Office of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union was officially opened on Sunday, October 24. The SUAFCU Palatine Office is at 136 East Illinois Ave., Suite 100, on the first floor of the renovated Ukrainian Cultural Center of the Ukrainian American Youth Association of Palatine, Dmytro Vitovsky Branch, and the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (ODFFU).

Board Chair Michael R. Kos and President/CEO Bohdan Watral cut the

ribbon, as other SUAFCU board members, branch staff and community representatives applauded.

As is traditional, the first official task within the new office was its blessing. The Rev. Michael Kuzma, pastor of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, accompanied by the Rev. Victor Poliarniy, pastor of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Bloomingdale, and Father Mykola Fediuk, pastor of St. John Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Wheeling.

Following the homilies and greetings by the clergy, Mr. Watral cited the close



Blessing the office (from left) are: the Revs. Mykola Fediuk, Michael Kuzma and Victor Poliarniy.



SUAFCU board members and dignitaries in front of new Palatine office.

cooperation between our Ukrainian religious community and the credit union, which has brought benefits to the entire community.

Myron Vasiunec, president of UAYA Palatine thanked SUAFCU for the financial support it has provided to organization and the cultural center in Palatine.

Olga Soroka, president of the Women’s Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, congratulated the credit union on its success and expressed hope that the cooperation

between SUAFCU and the center would become even stronger, now that they occupy the same building.

Branch Manager Oksana Dobrianska concluded the short dedication ceremony by welcoming all present and inviting them for coffee.

The Ukrainian community in Palatine and the northwest suburbs of Chicago is active and quite large. The Ukrainian Catholic parish was established in 1961,

(Continued on page 22)

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A look back...

(Continued from page 5)

we eat, and he explained specific diets for seniors.

Lidia Prokop Artymyshyn shared her mother's memoirs published in the book "Scratches on a Prison Wall" by Luba Komar Prokop. She read some excerpts that included her mother's experiences with imprisonment, torture, death row and finally escape and freedom.

Dr. Adriana Ros, a young dermatologist from New Jersey, informed the audience about skin problems, serious or cosmetic, related to aging of the skin and the treatments and techniques for rejuvenating and improving the general look of the skin.

UNA's medical director, Dr. Bohdar Woroch, a cardiologist and internist, addressed the seniors and with the aid of one of our workers demonstrated the newest and best techniques in CPR. This was truly life-saving information that each one of us took to heart. As always, Dr. Woroch gave generously of his time and answered many questions relating to health and seniors.

Our last speaker of the week was Dr. Alexander Motyl, author, historian and professor of political science at Rutgers University - Newark. With the ongoing exhibit "Ukraine-Sweden: At the Crossroads of History (XVII- XVIII Centuries)" at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City, Dr. Motyl provided examples in world literature in which Hetman Ivan Mazepa is mentioned, the foremost being in Lord Byron's writings. It was interesting to learn about Mazepa's influence on various European and American authors.

One of the week's favorite events is the Thursday evening banquet, to which most participants wear Ukrainian embroidered clothing. UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj greeted the participants and gladly mingled with all the guests. There was an array of beautiful embroidered dresses, gowns and shirts, and participants were encouraged to take a stroll down the "unofficial" catwalk to show off their "vyshyvanky."

The evening began with a group photo and cocktails on the Veselka patio. Oleh Chmyr charmed the audience not only with his wonderful baritone voice but also with some delightful anecdotes. During the banquet, there was a talented recitation by Mr. Redko of Leonid Hlibov's poem "Homeless." Both performers were applauded gratefully. The evening continued to the music of Stefan Ben. There were many seniors who enjoyed dancing, reminiscing and singing throughout the evening. Raffle tickets were sold by Gloria Horbaty for a beautiful Trypillian vase hand delivered from Toronto by Ivan Skrypukh, who donated the vase in memory of his beloved wife, Lydia. Over the years a total of over \$1,000 was donated from the sale of these vases.

The following were elected to lead the UNA Seniors: Ms. Tomorug, treasurer; Ms. Trytyak, secretary; Mr. Hayda, vice president; and Oksana Trytyak, president.

We are all looking forward to working together to promote next year's Seniors' Week. A big thank-you to all the seniors who not only participate every year, but who also bring along their friends, enriching our group and growing our membership base. In the last few years, Seniors' Week has grown from 40 to 110 participants.

Next year's program is already in the works. To all those who do not feel like seniors, but are over age 55 years of age, we extend an invitation to join us in 2011 on June 12-17. We promise you a good time at a very reasonable price. (P.S. Don't forget to bring your friends.)

Russian PM...

(Continued from page 2)

were reached (UNIAN, October 28).

Kyiv continues to reject Moscow's calls for a merger of Naftohaz Ukrainy with Russia's Gazprom, but it expects Russia to contribute its gas deposits to a joint venture planned between Gazprom and Naftohaz.

However, Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov complained in a TV interview after meeting Mr. Putin that the joint venture talks were stalled as Moscow had not decided which assets it would contribute to the venture. Mr. Azarov also said there was no progress on gas prices, although Mr. Putin agreed to set up a working group to study the issue. Mr. Azarov said Kyiv would continue to insist that the price formula according to which Gazprom sells gas to Naftohaz should be revised, despite the discounts granted to Ukraine as a result of the gas-for-naval base accords signed this past April (Inter TV, October 29).

The discount amounts to \$100 per 1,000 cubic meters of gas, but Kyiv wants cheap gas without discounts, arguing that it deserves special treatment as the key transit partner and geographically closest

large consumer. However, Moscow continues to stand its ground. Gazprom's spokesman, Sergey Kupriyanov, told the Russian channel RT on November 1 that the gas contract concluded with the previous government in January 2009 suited Gazprom.

More progress has been reached on nuclear energy, but the agreements thus far concluded are far from the full-scale merger of the two countries' nuclear sectors which Mr. Putin offered last spring. Ukraine signed a contract with the Russian TVEL to set up a joint venture to make nuclear fuel for Ukraine's four nuclear plants. Ukraine will have 50 percent plus one stake in the venture, which should be launched by 2013 (Kommersant-Ukraine, October 28).

However, it is not clear whether TVEL will fully finance the project, as the government apparently expected in September when it chose TVEL over Westinghouse in a tender for a company to build a nuclear fuel factory. The Ukrainian daily Ekonomicheskije Izvestia reported on November 1 that TVEL would finance only 60 percent of the project. Ukraine also hoped to receive Russian loans to complete several new reactors at its nuclear plants in

Khmelnysky and Rivne, but it is not clear when and how much Moscow will lend.

Another agreement signed in the framework of Prime Minister Putin's visit to Kyiv set up a joint venture to sell Antonov passenger and transport aircraft. Antonov will also borrow \$300 million to \$400 million from the Russian state-controlled Vnesheconombank (UTI, October 28). Unlike Moscow suggested earlier this year, the agreement provides for no asset merger. The Ukrainian state-controlled Antonov will remain formally independent from Moscow, although it continues to depend on Russia as the main market for its aircraft.

In Kyiv, Mr. Putin apparently did not raise the issue of Ukraine's membership in the customs union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. Kyiv previously made it clear that a free trade agreement with the European Union was its priority, while membership in the customs union would make such an agreement impossible (EDM, November 1).

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Tour name	Dates	Itinerary
Two Capitals I 9 days	May 11 - 19 \$2500	Kyiv and L'viv
Mini Ukraine I 12 Days	May 11 - 22 \$3200	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilsky plus: Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zarvanytsia
Podolanka I 12 Days Hosted by: Dr. Walter Karpinich	May 13 - 24 \$3150	L'viv, Music Festival , Krakow and Budapest plus: Wieliczka Salt Mines, Auschwitz, Szentandre Artisan Village
Slidamy Mazepy 10 Days	Jun 24-July 03 \$2990	Kyiv, Poltava, Nizhyn, Chernyiv, Kyiv plus: Pryluky, Opishnia, Myrhorod, Kruty, Baturyn, Novhorod Siversky
Dnipro Cruise 13 Days	Jun 16 - 28 \$2950	Kyiv, Zaporizhia, Kherson, Sevastopol, Vilkovo, Odessa <i>MS Dnipro Princess - Main deck</i>
Two Capitals II 9 days	Jun 29 - July 7 \$2950	Kyiv and L'viv
Mini Ukraine II 12 Days	Jun 29- Jul 10 \$3600	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilsky plus: Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zarvanytsia
Podolanka II 12 Days	July 01-12 \$3550	L'viv, Krakow and Budapest plus: Wieliczka Salt Mines, Auschwitz, Szentandre Artisan Village
Best of Ukraine 16 Days	Jul 24 - Aug 07 \$4600	Crimea: Yalta, Bakhchysarai, Chersonesus, Sevastopol Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilsky plus: Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zarvanytsia
Two Capitals III 9 days	Jul 27 - Aug 4 \$2950	Kyiv and L'viv
Mini Ukraine III 12 Days	Jul 27 - Aug 07 \$3600	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilsky plus: Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zarvanytsia
Ukraine Festival Tour 15 Days	Aug 16 - 30 \$3950	Kyiv, Poltava - Sorochynskyi Yarmarok , L'viv, Yaremche, Kosiv - Independence Day Celebrations and Hutsul Festival plus: Opishnia, Reshetylvka, Iv. Frankivsk, Kolomyia, Bukovel, Chernivtsi and Zarvanytsia
Two Capitals IV 9 days	Sep 14 - 22 \$2500	Kyiv and L'viv
Mini Ukraine IV 12 Days	Sep 14 - 25 \$3200	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, Kamianets Podilsky plus: Iv. Frankivsk, Bukovel, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi, Zarvanytsia
Podolanka III 12 Days	Sep 16 - 27 \$3000	L'viv, Krakow and Budapest plus: Wieliczka Salt Mines, Auschwitz, Szentandre Artisan Village
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Alexander Motyl's "Unknown Soldiers" at Chelsea gallery

NEW YORK – Alexander Motyl will be exhibiting 12 paintings from his "Unknown Soldiers" series at the Icosahedron Gallery in New York's art capital, Chelsea, on December 3-23.

The "Unknown Soldiers" series represent a radical departure from Motyl's more familiar, highly colorful, abstracts. The new paintings are all black-and-white portraits of participants of the 1919 Winter Campaign, led by General Mykhaylo Omelianovych Pavlenko, against the Soviet forces occupying Ukraine.

"I saw a photograph of the group and realized that they all probably perished and that we have no idea who they are," said Prof. Motyl. "The expressions on their faces range from sadness to determination to defiance to confusion."

The Icosahedron Gallery is located on the ground floor of 606 W. 26th St., just west of 11th Avenue. The opening reception will be held on December 10, at 8 p.m. For more information call 212-966-3897 or go to <http://www.icosahedrongallery.org>.

Prof. Motyl studied painting with Leon Goldin at Columbia University in the 1970s. His artwork has been exhibited in



Paintings from Alexander Motyl's "Unknown Soldiers" series.

solo and group shows in New York, Philadelphia and Toronto — most recently as part of the 2010 High Line Open Studios event.

He is also the author of four novels, "Whiskey Priest," "Who Killed Andrei

Warhol," "Flippancy" and the forthcoming "The Jew Who Was Ukrainian"; his poems have appeared in Counterexample Poetics, Istanbul Literary Review, Orion Headless, 34th Parallel and New York Quarterly. He has done performances of

his fiction and poetry at the Cornelia Street Café and the Bowery Poetry Club.

Prof. Motyl teaches at Rutgers University-Newark and lives in New York. His website is: www.AlexanderMotyl.webs.com.

Odesa-Brody...

(Continued from page 2)

tion, south-north.

On October 17 in Minsk, the Belarus Oil Co. (BNK) and Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA) signed an agreement for the delivery of 10 million tons of Venezuelan oil to Belarus per year, from 2011 through 2013. President Alyaksandr Lukashenka and his visiting counterpart, Hugo Chavez, witnessed the agreement's signing (Interfax, October 18).

Belarus plans to access about half of that annual volume via Odesa and the remainder via Baltic ports. Belarus has already started significant imports of Venezuelan oil, with a planned volume of 4 million tons in 2010 (Belapan, October 13).

Among Baltic ports, Lithuania's Klaipeda is the leading option for Belarus to import Venezuelan and other non-Russian oil. Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaitė and accompanying officials, visiting Minsk on October 20, reached preliminary agreement with their Belarusian counterparts on oil transportation from Klaipeda. The agreement is expected to be finalized by November (Interfax, October 20).

On October 18 in Kyiv, President Viktor Yanukovich held talks with the visiting President Chavez regarding Venezuelan oil transportation via Ukraine for Belarus. According to Mr. Yanukovich, Ukraine has considerable spare capacity in its oil transit pipelines (Druzhba system) and is also keen to use the Odesa-Brody pipeline for in-flow into the country (Interfax-Ukraine, October 18, 21). Mr. Yanukovich was alluding to the decline in Russian oil exports via

Ukraine to Europe, as Moscow redirects oil volumes for shipment by tankers via the Baltic Sea.

The Odesa-Brody pipeline has been underutilized continuously since 2004. TNK-BP and other Russian oil companies, using this pipeline in reverse, supplied far less than its capacity volume of 9 million to 12 million tons per year. This prompted suspicions that commerce was only one reason for Russian reverse-use, the other presumed reason being denial of access to non-Russian oil supplies for Ukrainian refineries. Meanwhile, the oil flow to Odesa has further declined in the second quarter of 2010 for unclear reasons, and is said to have practically stopped in October (Nezavisimaya Gazeta, October 20).

This situation allows the Ukrainian government to prepare for using this pipeline for inflow of oil from Odesa, instead of outflow. Once that happens, however, there is no optimal transport solution yet from Brody to Belarus.

Oil is being moved from Odesa by railroad at present. Belarus started imports of Venezuelan oil from Odesa's Pivdenny terminal in April of this year. These imports hit the 1 million ton mark by mid-October and are planned at 1.5 million tons for 2010. The Ukrainian government has reduced taxes on oil transportation of oil bound for Belarus at the Pivdenny port and on Ukrainian railroads (Interfax-Ukraine, October 21).

On October 12 in Kyiv, First Vice Prime Ministers Andriy Kliuyev of Ukraine and Uladzimir Syamashka of Belarus signed an inter-governmental agreement on oil transportation for the years 2011-2015. The agreement envisages transit of 4 million to 5 million tons of oil per year, from Odesa/Pivdenny via

Ukraine to Belarus (Interfax-Ukraine, October 21).

Also on October 12, the Ukrainian government approved the test-pumping of a consignment of 80,000 tons of Venezuelan oil through the Odesa-Brody pipeline, and onward through a section of the Druzhba pipeline, to the Mozyr refinery in Belarus. Proposed by Ukraine's Fuel and Energy Minister, Yuriy Boiko and scheduled for November, the move necessitates "batch-pumping" — a method to forward oil of different densities through a pipeline in separate batches, without mixing them. The amount of 80,000 tons corresponds with the capacity of tankers being handled at Odesa's Pivdenny terminal (Interfax-Ukraine, UNIAN, October 12, 14; BELTA, October 13).

Russian Energy Minister Sergei Shmatko, however, warned publicly, while in Kyiv, that pumping Venezuelan oil via Odesa-Brody-Druzhba to Mozyr would necessitate Russian approval. Mr. Boiko retorted also publicly that Ukraine has a right to act in its national interest and that of its partner Belarus (Interfax-Ukraine, October 14, 15). The main technical issue is almost certainly the composition of Venezuelan oil.

Using the Odesa-Brody pipeline south-north, as originally intended, is also a matter of interest to Poland. The Sarmatia consortium, last restructured in 2007 with Polish, Ukrainian and Lithuanian partici-

pation, had expected to import oil through this pipeline ever since Ukraine completed it in 2002. The Polish refineries at Plock and Gdansk were the designated customers, pending an optimal transport solution from Brody onward. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk recently urged the visiting Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov, to consider this issue again (PAP, September 30), as did the Sarmatia consortium chief in a statement to the Ukrainian government (UNIAN, October 14).

These countries had intended to import Caspian oil through the Odesa-Brody pipeline and a northbound continuation route. From 2002 onward, however, Russia blocked the access of Kazakhstani oil via Novorossiysk to Odesa. Deliveries of Azerbaijani oil would have been feasible via Georgia's Black Sea coast to Odesa, but Russian companies blocked the inland access into Ukraine through the Odesa-Brody pipeline, by using it in reverse. Venezuelan oil deliveries inland by railroad, or batch-pumped by pipeline, are temporary, emergency-dictated solutions. A real solution would have to start with the Ukrainian government regaining sovereignty over the Odesa-Brody pipeline, for northward use.

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SUAFCU's...

(Continued from page 19)

with the UAYA branch and the ODFFU center opening within the next few years.

The Palatine Branch of SUAFCU began operations in 1975, so that Ukrainians living in this area could more conveniently benefit from membership in their own Ukrainian financial institution. The first branch manager, in the days when the credit union was only open on Sundays, was Fred Stupen.

The Ukrainian Cultural Center in Palatine is a busy place. UAYA youth group meetings are held weekly. The "Ridna Shkola" Ukrainian Saturday School is administered by the UAYA, as is the School of Dance and Iskra Ukrainian dance ensemble, which bring

over a hundred eager dancers into the building every week. There are also other activities both for children and for the Ukrainian community as a whole.

It was this constant hubbub of activity that necessitated expansion and renovation of the center. SUAFCU leaders say they are delighted that an appropriate space was carved out for its Palatine office within the new building.

Photos of the dedication ceremony, as well as a YouTube video, can be accessed from the credit union's website, selfreliance.com. (Click on the "Community Photos" or "YouTube" Videos links.)

The new office of SUAFCU is at 136 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 100; phone number, 847-359-5911. The office is conveniently located just off Route 53, not far from its intersection with I-90 at Woodfield.

Roman D. Mac



The Winding Path
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|------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| November 24
Whippany, NJ | Concert with Stefan Stawnychy, Hoverlia Social Club, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-585-7175 | December 1
Ottawa | Book launch by Myrna Kostash, "Prodigal Daughter: A Journey to Byzantium," Sheptytsky Institute, St. Paul University, 613-236-1393 ext. 2651 |
| November 26
Colebrook, CT | Paintball tournament, Bobrivka, www.bobrivka.org or khaban@sbcglobal.net | December 2
New York | Literary evening with Serhiy Zhadan, "Gospels and Spirituals," Columbia University, 212-854-4697 |
| November 26
Whippany, NJ | Dance featuring music by Svitanok, Chornomorts Plast Fraternity, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, www.chornomorts.org | December 3-23
New York | Art exhibit, "Unknown Soldiers" by Alexander Motyl, Icosahedron Gallery, 212-966-3897 |
| November 28
Ottawa | Christmas bazaar, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Ukrainian Orthodox Church hall, 613-728-0856 | December 5
Horsham, PA | Thanksgiving dinner, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412 |
| November 29
Cambridge, MA | Lecture by Tetyana Dziadevych, "World War II through Women's Eye and Experience: Literary and Memoiristic Discourses," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 | December 5
New York | Folk art workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 |
| November 30
Ottawa | Holodomor commemoration ceremony, Embassy of Ukraine and the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group, Government Conference Center, 613-230-2961 ext. 105 or press@ukremb.ca | December 5
Hillside, NJ | St. Nicholas program, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church, 908-289-0127 or www.byzcath.org |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. 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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The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America,
& The Ukrainian Institute of America

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MORSKA ZABAVA

featuring "Svitanok"

Friday November 26th, 2010
Ukrainian American Cultural Center
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\$30 <-> 9pm-2am

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Ukrainian Institute of America
invites all children young and old to the



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Sunday December 12, 2010
2-4 p.m.

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includes a music program, gingerbread decorating, crafts,
and good cheer for the parents

Admission: \$10/child \$20/adult in advance
\$15/child \$25/adult at the door

RSVP by Friday, November 26
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Email: mail@ukrainianinstitute.org
Website: www.ukrainianinstitute.org

 Ukrainian Institute of America
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- Deb in February.
- Two Easters in springtime.
- "Zlet" and "Sviato Vesny" in May.
- Soyuzivka's Ukrainian Cultural Festival in July.
- "Uke Week" at Wildwood in August.
- Back to Ukrainian school in September.
- "Morskyi Bal" in New Jersey in November.
- "Koliada" in December.
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, December 2

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University presents "Gospels and Spirituals," an evening with writer Serhiy Zhadan. Mr. Zhadan is one of the best-known literary figures in today's Ukraine. The presentation will be held at 7 p.m. in Harriman Atrium, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St. The event is free and open to the public. The Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series is co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University and the Kennan Institute. For more information call Dr. Mark Andryczyk at 212-854-4697 or write to ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu.

Tuesday December 7

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University invites you to an illustrated talk and book presentation of the book "Ukrainian Artists in Paris, 1900-1939" (Rodovid, 2010) by its author Dr. Vira Susak (Lviv Art Gallery). This event will take place at noon in Room 1219, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St. This English-

language event is free and open to the public. For more information call Dr. Mark Andryczyk at 212-854-4697, or write to ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu.

Saturday, December 18

WASHINGTON: The Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies will host a "Sviatyi Mykolai" (St. Nicholas) show and holiday bazaar. Students will present "Mykolai – Superhero" at noon. Sviatyi Mykolai will then meet with each grade/age group (non-students welcome). The Heavenly Office will be open 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 and bake sale is at 9:30 a.m.-noon and 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. Note the new location this year: Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, 4250 Harewood Road NE, Washington, DC 20017. 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.

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

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