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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine's independence anniversary celebrated in Congress

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), in co-sponsorship with the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, hosted a special commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence in the U.S. Congress on Thursday, September 15.

The celebratory event, held at noon-4 p.m. in a Senate conference room overlooking the dome of the U.S. Capitol, was filled with Ukrainian hierarchy, dignitaries from various countries, numerous past and present government officials, guests from Ukraine, members of Congress, and the Ukrainian American community activists. They gathered to celebrate a free and independent Ukrainian state, as well as to witness the presentation of the Hrushevsky Award, awarded to a select few for their efforts in promoting U.S.-Ukraine relations.

The program began with opening remarks from Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the Ukrainian National Information Service, the UCCA's public affairs bureau based in Washington. Mr. Sawkiw, who acted as master of ceremonies, noted that, "For the past 20 years, the Ukrainian people have shown those of us who have enjoyed democracy for generations may have forgotten that one should never take freedom for granted." The observation was a prelude to an afternoon



UNIS Director Michael Sawkiw Jr. presents the Hrushevsky Award to Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.).

Stefan Kaczurak

of powerful remarks.

Archbishop-Metropolitan Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S. gave the invocation and offered a prayer for Ukraine, as well as blessed the luncheon meal. The crowd remained standing as local Washington soloist Solomiya Dutkevych sang the American and Ukrainian national anthems.

The first of many prominent officials to appear at the event was Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and a long-time advocate of Ukraine-related issues. The senator is known for his work in the early days of Ukraine's independence and securing desperately needed U.S. government funds for the safe dismantling of

Ukraine's nuclear arsenal, which in 1991 was the third largest nuclear power in the world. After an introduction that noted his key role in U.S.-Ukraine relations, the UCCA presented the Hrushevsky Award to Sen. Lugar.

The UCCA award is named in honor

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Putin calls for Eurasian Union in former Soviet space

by Tom Balmforth

RFE/RL

MOSCOW – Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has outlined a grand vision for integrating ex-Soviet states in his first major policy initiative since he announced his intention to return to the Kremlin.

In an article on the front page of the daily *Izvestiya* Mr. Putin called for the creation of a "Eurasian Union" that would include Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

Mr. Putin praised Russia's existing Customs Union with the two countries, which plans to remove all barriers to trade, capital and labor movement next year. He said such a union, founded in 2009, must "build on the experience of the European Union and other regional coalitions."

But Mr. Putin stressed that it is time to set a "more ambitious goal" and "to achieve an even higher integration level in the Eurasian Union."

Analysts suggest the proposal is partially an effort to boost the authorities' popularity by tapping into society's nostalgia for the Soviet Union.

"Putin is trying to play toward the imperialist sentiment of the electoral majority," said Pavel Salin, an analyst at the Moscow-based Center for Political Assessments. "There is nostalgia for the imperial past. It may not be in the format of the Soviet Union as it is without Central

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EU offers carrots for Ukraine to free Tymoshenko

by Pavel Korduban

Eurasia Daily Monitor

The Pechersky District Court in Kyiv on September 30 adjourned the trial of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko until the week starting October 10, when a verdict should be delivered. This may become the turning point in Kyiv's relations with the West.

Ms. Tymoshenko faces seven years in prison for the role she played in preparing the controversial 2009 gas contract with Russia. However, it is widely believed that Ukraine's justice in this case is influenced by the team of President Viktor Yanukovich who, through Ms. Tymoshenko's conviction, wants to target a rival ahead of next year's parliamentary election and to have an additional argument against the 2009 contract, which Ukraine has been disputing with Russia.

Western leaders told Mr. Yanukovich last month that Ms. Tymoshenko's conviction would spoil bilateral relations. At the same time, smoother integration into the European Union was offered if Ms. Tymoshenko is freed. Kyiv promised to think about decriminalization of the offenses the former prime minister is charged with.

As both the Tymoshenko trial and the political association and free trade talks with the EU draw to a close, Kyiv has come under unprecedented criticism over the Tymoshenko case. While the EU pursues economic gains in the talks – a free trade agreement will open up a rapidly developing market of 45 million people – it would be difficult for EU

leaders to explain to voters why they agreed on political association with a country where opposition leaders are imprisoned on trumped-up charges.

On September 9, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton wrote a letter to President Yanukovich warning him against selective justice (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, September 16).

EU officials made it clear at the September 16-17 Yalta European Strategy (YES) forum that the Ukraine-EU association and free trade accord could be blocked at the stage of ratification next year even if the accord itself were finalized in December of this year as planned.

Mr. Yanukovich, at a two-hour-long meeting with EU Enlargement Commissioner Stefan Fule, Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt and European Parliament Deputy Elmar Brok, agreed that the Ms. Tymoshenko case was a problem, but he blamed outdated laws for this and promised to change them. However, he failed to clarify whether or when Ms. Tymoshenko would finally be freed (*UNIAN*, September 16-17, *Kommersant-Ukraine*, September 19).

Ahead of the Eastern Partnership summit in Warsaw last week, the EU had issued more warnings to the Ukrainian president.

European Commission spokeswoman Maja Kocjancic said on September 28 that the commission was concerned by the public prosecutors' September 27 request for the court to imprison Ms. Tymoshenko for seven years and fine

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ANALYSIS

Ukraine and Azerbaijan map out LNG project via Georgia and Black Sea

by Vladimir Socor

Eurasia Daily Monitor

To reduce its dependence on expensive Russian natural gas, Ukraine proposes to import Azerbaijani liquefied natural gas (LNG) via Georgia and across the Black Sea to Ukraine.

Recent gas discoveries in Azerbaijan, and the reactivation of the Turkmenistan-Azerbaijan gas pipeline project, encourage a growing number of consumer countries to turn to Azerbaijan as a gas producer and transit country. Kyiv's proposal to Baku underscores this trend.

Ukraine's State Agency for Investments and Management of National Projects and the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) are creating a joint company to finance and carry out a feasibility study based on Ukraine's proposal. Initialed during the international gas conference just held in Baku, the agreement envisages incorporating the joint company by November.

This project would involve building a pipeline from Azerbaijan to Georgia's Black Sea coast; constructing a gas liquefaction plant (as Azerbaijan plans already) on the Azerbaijani-owned site of the Kulevi oil export terminal on Georgia's coast; and shipping the LNG from Georgia to Ukraine in sea tankers that would have to be procured. All this presupposes shared investments in transportation and processing.

Ukraine expects such LNG shipments to start by 2014, in volumes corresponding with up to 2 billion cubic meters (bcm) of gas annually at first, rising up to 5 bcm annually from 2016 onward. This concept is largely a mirror image of the proposed AGRI (Azerbaijan-Georgia-Romania Interconnector), both upstream and for most of the export route. The destination point (likely Odesa/Pivdenny versus Constanta) is the main difference.

Ultimately, it will be up to Azerbaijan to determine whether these two propositions are mutually exclusive or, on the contrary, susceptible to being merged into a single common project. This would depend on timely availability of gas volumes from Turkmenistan. Baku favors combining the two, with an aggregate volume of 10 bcm per year for liquefaction in Georgia and re-gasification in Ukraine and Romania.

The Ukrainian government plans to build an LNG reception terminal and re-gasifica-

tion plant on its territory as a national project (not bilaterally with Azerbaijan). The government proposes to put these capacities into operation by 2014, with plans to reprocess LNG into 5 bcm of gas annually in the first stage, rising to 10 bcm per year from 2016 onward.

Ukrainian Energy Minister Yurii Boiko had aired this idea earlier (even before returning to government in 2010), proposing to connect Ukraine via the Black Sea to global LNG producers, such as Qatar. More recently, Mr. Boiko visited Baku several times to promote an LNG project with Azerbaijan (the latest on September 1). Reception capacity on the scale just proposed seems intended to allow LNG imports from multiple sources.

Endorsed by President Viktor Yanukovich, the LNG project enjoys the status of a presidential project, implying priority in the allocation of investment resources. Five possible construction sites are currently being considered: two coastal sites in the Mykolayiv region, two also onshore near Odesa/Pivdenny, and an offshore site located there. A new pipeline for re-gasified LNG will be built overland, to connect the terminal with the internal gas distribution network. Investments are projected at \$2.5 billion for the construction costs overall, on preliminary estimates.

The Spanish consultancy Soluziona Ingeniería y Construcción Industrial (part of the Union Fenosa conglomerate) has won the Ukrainian State Agency's open tender for a preliminary feasibility study of the LNG project. The consultancy is expected to deliver the study within four months of being declared the winner, i.e., by January 2012. At that point, Ukraine would announce a tender to select the project company.

The state agency's head, Vladyslav Kaskiv (the erstwhile revolutionary leader, who has since matured into a state-builder), supervises this project for the government. Kyiv is inviting top Western companies (apparently including ExxonMobil, Chevron, Halliburton) to consider this project and participate in the tender for selection of the project company (Trend, 1News.Az, Interfax-Ukraine, September 20, 21).

Ukrainian officials expect the price of Azerbaijani gas to be de-coupled from the oil price, thus less expensive than Russian gas for Ukraine. By their initial assump-

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Crimes against journalists must not go unpunished, says OSCE

OSCE

STRASBOURG, France – Commemorating the fifth anniversary of the murder in Russia of journalist Anna Politkovskaya, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatović on October 5 presented her latest assessment of threats and responses to attacks against journalists in the region of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

"The right of journalists to carry out their work in safety, without fear of being harassed, attacked, beaten or killed is fundamental to the protection of all other human rights," said Ms. Mijatović at an event organized by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg, on protection of journalists from violence.

"As long as journalists are afraid for their lives and the lives of their families while doing their job, we do not live in a free society," she added.

Ms. Mijatović highlighted the fact that in the last five years only three out of almost 30 murders of journalists in the OSCE region have been successfully prosecuted. "This casts serious doubts on the effectiveness of law-enforcement bodies and the judiciary in dealing with such crimes," she underscored.

"Governments and political leaders can help by publicly defending journalists' rights and resisting any attempts to silence journalists. They can also demand that there is no impunity for the perpetrators and instigators of these murders," said Ms. Mijatović.

NEWSBRIEFS

Rada considers decriminalization bill

KYIV – The opposition has failed to push through Parliament a bill proposed by Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc-Batkivschyna faction deputies, which would exclude Article 365 on abuse of power and office from the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine. Under this article, former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko could be imprisoned for seven years, and the verdict could be announced on October 11. Only 144 national deputies supported the proposal to exclude the article from the codes (at least 226 votes were required for it to pass). At the same time, the Verkhovna Rada registered a presidential bill on the decriminalization of economic crimes, which will be considered in the near future. Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn insisted that during the consideration of the presidential bill on the decriminalization of economic crimes it would be necessary to take into account proposals from opposition factions, which were included in their bills. Mr. Lytvyn promised to do his best to find a compromise between the factions on this issue. The chairman refused to predict whether lawmakers would take into account an amendment on the decriminalization of the article of the Criminal Code, under which former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko has been charged. "This is a complex issue that needs a compromise, and we will hold talks," Mr. Lytvyn said. (Ukrinform)

Diplomatic tiff at Warsaw summit

WARSAW – Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan refused to sign a declaration condemning the deterioration of human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Belarus, at the Eastern Partnership summit in Warsaw on September 30. Only European Union countries signed the "Declaration on the Situation in Belarus" deploring the persisting deterioration of media freedom in Belarus and calling for the immediate release and rehabilitation of all political prisoners. According to a representative of the Polish EU Presidency, the organizers had tried to reach a common

declaration of all participants, after Belarus announced it was withdrawing from the EU's Eastern Partnership initiative, aimed at developing closer relations with the countries of Europe's east. A civil society conference was held on the sidelines of the European Partnership summit, where Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk and Council President Herman Van Rompuy held meetings with the Belarus opposition. Upon his return from Warsaw, Belarusian opposition leader Anatoly Lebedko was arrested by the police. The summit's declaration makes no mention of the worsening human rights situation in other European Partnership countries, such as Ukraine, where former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko is undergoing what the EU calls a political trial. However, European Council President Van Rompuy, who chaired the summit, said that the EU had "expressed [its] concerns about the fate of the former prime minister," as well as its rejection of "the possible selective use of judicial measures against members of the former administration." (EurActive.com)

EU leaders warn Ukraine

KYIV – European Union leaders and the Polish Presidency of the EU Council have expressed concern about "selective" application of the law against members of the opposition in Ukraine. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso and EU Council President Herman Van Rompuy said at a joint press conference on September 30 following the Eastern Partnership Summit in Warsaw that this might affect Ukraine's European prospects. "Violation of rights of the opposition and the breakdown of democratic standards could adversely affect the conclusion of negotiations on the Association Agreement," Mr. Tusk emphasized. He added that the Polish Presidency is in constant contact with representatives of the Ukrainian authorities and opposition, and is monitoring the case of Yulia Tymoshenko. "In this case, we set very high values of democracy, including when talking about the European prospect

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Poor Ukrainian-Russian ties reflect Yanukovich-Putin relationshipby **Taras Kuzio***Eurasia Daily Monitor*

Ukraine's poor relations with Russia are nothing new, as they also existed under the "pro-Russian" Leonid Kuchma. Nevertheless, President Kuchma had to deal with the more democratic President of Russia, Boris Yeltsin, whereas the certainty of Vladimir Putin returning as Russian President in March 2012 means that Moscow will continue to present a hard line toward Kyiv.

During the last two decades of Ukrainian independence, Kyiv's relations with Moscow have followed predictable patterns. Moscow has always favored presidents elected by eastern Ukrainian, Russian-speaking voters, whether Mr. Kuchma or Viktor Yanukovich, but the promise of better relations has never appeared.

With Ukrainian "nationalist" presidents, poor relations were inevitable. Leonid Kravchuk, elected in 1991 by Russophone voters, was quickly perceived by Moscow as a "nationalist" because he relied upon national democratic support and quarreled with Russia over the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Black Sea Fleet (BSF), nuclear weapons and many other issues.

Viktor Yushchenko, elected in 2004, was always going to be even more suspicious in Mr. Putin's eyes as the Russian leader had been personally humiliated by the Orange Revolution – an event viewed in Moscow and by Mr. Yanukovich as a U.S.-backed conspiracy. Mr. Putin twice visited Ukraine in October-November 2004 to give support to Mr. Yanukovich and congratulated him on his election a day before the Central Election Commission announced the official results.

Mr. Yushchenko was easy to portray as a "nationalist" villain because of his national identity and foreign policy orientation. Relations with Russia (and Poland) became especially strained over President Yushchenko's honoring of 1940s nationalist

leaders and his support for Georgia during Russia's August 2008 invasion.

In reality, President Kuchma was as much of a "nationalist." Mr. Kuchma "Ukrainianized" the country's education system, and initiated the international campaign to designate the 1932-1933 Famine (Holodomor) as genocide. Mr. Kuchma twice asked NATO to offer Ukraine a Membership Action Plan (2002 and 2004) – the same number of attempts as made by Mr. Yushchenko (2006 and 2008).

Messrs. Kuchma and Yanukovich had strained relations with Moscow for the same reason: their eastern Ukrainian naiveté about Russia and Slavic brotherhood. Eastern Ukrainian naiveté has come face to face with Russian imperial-chauvinism, which does not accept the permanency or existence of Ukraine's statehood. This is clearly revealed in private conversations with Western diplomats in Kyiv who are unfazed by Russian heavy-handedness that they themselves have witnessed during previous tours of duty in Moscow.

Mr. Putin was quoted as saying at the NATO-Russia Council's April 2008 summit in Bucharest: "Well, you understand, George (Bush), Ukraine is not even a state," adding "What is Ukraine? One part of its territory is in Eastern Europe, and the other part, the significant portion, was a gift from us" (UNIAN, April 18, 2008).

Mr. Putin mistakenly believes that "17 million [of Ukraine's citizens] are Russians," mixing up Russophones with "Russians." In Mr. Putin's eyes, Ukraine is an artificial state where "one-third is ethnic Russian," which would disintegrate if tensions rose as in 2008-2009, when Russian espionage and subversion grew in Crimea (see November 2010 Jamestown report "The Crimea: Europe's Next Flashpoint?").

Moscow's contempt for Ukrainian statehood has not abated despite the far more pro-Russian President Yanukovich position as compared with President Kuchma.

Mr. Yanukovich extended the Russian BSF's lease of its Sevastopol base to 2047, dropped the pursuit of NATO membership and adopted the Russian position that the 1932-1933 Famine was Soviet-wide, denouncing the claim that the Holodomor is a genocide. Two years earlier, Mr. Yanukovich was the only CIS politician to support the independence of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

A senior official in the Ukrainian government commented on the state of Russian-Ukrainian relations: "We had the illusion that everything would work out if we removed from our relations with the Russian Federation key irritants like recognition of the Holodomor as genocide, plans to join NATO and the reluctance to extend the stationing of the Black Sea Fleet. But this has not happened" (Kommersant-Ukraina, June 21).

The Yanukovich administration, like every Ukrainian leadership, became exasperated by the inability of Russia to treat Ukraine on an equal footing. A senior Ukrainian official explained: "It is not we who are moving away from Russia, but the latter that pushes us off." Mr. Yanukovich gave away so much, so quickly, for nothing – including the mythical 30 percent gas "discount."

Mr. Yanukovich faces a more assertive, wealthier and aggressive Russia, which will again be led by Mr. Putin, who has never hidden his disdain for Mr. Yanukovich. A January 2009 U.S. cable from Kyiv uncovered by WikiLeaks cites Ukrainian Ambassador to Russia Kostyantyn Gryshchenko (now foreign affairs minister), as stating that Mr. Putin hates Mr. Yushchenko and has a low personal regard for Mr. Yanukovich (Kyiv Post, March 11). Mr. Gryshchenko complained to U.S. Ambassador William Taylor that Moscow seeks a "regency" in Ukraine totally subservient to Moscow (Kyiv Post, March 11).

Mr. Putin's hard-line policies toward Mr. Yanukovich escalated after Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko was accused of abuse of office for signing the January 2009 gas

contract with Mr. Putin. One year earlier, the Kharkiv accords extending the BSF base had recognized the same contract. Mr. Yanukovich claimed that the Ukrainian government had taken this step because Russia had agreed to review the contract. Since then, Russia, in Mr. Yanukovich's view, has betrayed Ukraine even though the terms of the 2009 contract "were written it seems for an enemy" (Kommersant-Ukraina, September 6).

Mr. Yanukovich complained during the CIS summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan: "we are not poor relations... We are an independent state," adding, "At first they pushed us into a corner and then they began to dictate terms. This demeans not only me personally but it demeans the state, and I cannot permit this" (Kommersant-Ukraina, September 6).

Ukrainian officials have condemned the "information war" against Mr. Yanukovich and his economic nationalist oligarch allies (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 1). Party of Regions National Deputy Sviatoslav Oliynyk revealed the "mass ideological and technological parachutists" sent into eastern and southern Ukraine to turn the population against President Yanukovich. "This 'geopolitical process' amounts to support for separatism," he warned (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 9).

The deterioration in relations could be seen at the September 15-18 Yalta European Strategy (YES) summit, boycotted by Russia (<http://yes-ukraine.org/ua/Yalta-annual-meeting/2011>). At last year's YES summit, Russia sent numerous senior figures in the firm belief that "their" man had been elected earlier that year. (See analysis of this year's YES summit by Serhiy Leshchenko in Ukrayinska Pravda, September 19, 23).

Kyiv's strained relations with Moscow point to three conclusions.

- First, Russia does not accept, or respect, Ukrainian sovereignty.

- Second, Mr. Yanukovich has received nothing in return for naive pro-Russian policies introduced after he was elected. These policies have given him less leverage than what Mr. Kuchma possessed in the 1990s, when he used U.S. support and cooperation with NATO to persuade Russia to moderate its position.

- Third, by extending the Sevastopol base de facto indefinitely, Mr. Yanukovich has given Russia the ability to intervene and subvert Crimea (Ukrayinsky Tyzhden, August 23). Tension is again growing with Ukraine, blocking the passage of Russian vessels in the Kerch straits (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 8).

Mr. Yanukovich's inept attempts to pursue Kuchma-style multi-vector foreign policies have led to poor relations with both Moscow and Brussels-Washington that have presented him with two potential pitfalls.

Either Mr. Yanukovich can agree to join the CIS Customs Union, turning Ukraine into a Russian protectorate and in the process provoking widespread domestic instability through protests over the loss of Ukrainian independence.

Or Mr. Yanukovich can mend relations with the West by releasing former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko from imprisonment, leading to a Deep Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement with the EU, but risking the possibility that she may defeat him in the 2015 presidential elections.

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

COMMENTARY: It's time for Ukraine to get realby **Irena Chalupa***RFE/RL*

"It's not for us, this foreign Moscow time." So went a song by a popular Ukrainian bard in the late 1980s, a time of growing national awareness in Ukraine.

It would appear that his song was heard. Ukrainian authorities decided that Moscow time was, indeed, not for them and opted to be closer to Europe by a whole 60 minutes.

But now they've changed their minds. Not completely, but almost.

Ukraine's Parliament, seemingly motivated by a 62 percent increase in heart and circulation problems during the first week of going over to daylight saving time, and by a 130 percent increase in children's ailments, has decided to do away with the change completely.

Those statistics were quoted to RFE/RL by National Deputy Oleh Nadosha of the Party of Regions, the man behind the latest time change. When pressed as to where such figures had come from, he would not say.

"There is no politics behind this decision," he reassured. "We will continue to have an hour's difference with Russia, but we have, in fact, brought our time closer to European time."

Well, er, not exactly Mr. Nadosha.

While the difference with Russia will, in fact, remain one hour, during the late autumn and winter months Ukraine will have a two-hour difference with Europe. In summer, that difference will be only one hour.

What does all this mean? Will cows really be happier as a result? Will they give more milk? Will Ukraine save energy? Will all those hypochondriacal Ukrainians who suddenly develop heart and circulation problems when daylight saving time kicks in feel better and not run off to polyclinics? Will our biorhythms improve? Will children's ailments decrease?

Highly unlikely.

I suspect that what this really means is that Ukrainian parliamentarians have nothing better to do than to mess with time. And looking over their shoulders and mimicking Moscow. The Party of Regions, in particular, is very good at this. For them, Moscow is the only capital that counts, far closer to their hearts than Paris or Rome.

Or their very own Kyiv, for that matter.

In February, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev abolished daylight saving time in the Russian Federation. Russia still moves its clocks forward one hour at the end of March, as does Western Europe, but when European clocks fall back on the last Sunday of October, Russia's will stay where they are.

Anyone who has ever spent winters in Ukraine knows what a dreary time it can be. Snow is not cleared from the streets or sidewalks, icicles fall and kill people, apartments are oppressively hot, with no possibility to turn down thermostats. The fashionable outside entrances and stairs of refurbished buildings lined with shiny ceramic tiles turn into deadly skating rinks. The grit that is spread to stop everyone from slipping and sliding turns into mud, which is traipsed into homes. And then there are those terribly short days.

I, for one, really appreciated that extra hour and will miss it terribly.

But it seems to me that this latest decision concerning time is primarily an indication of the mindset of Ukrainian politicians. They are a little bit in Europe, yet they continue to be somewhat joined at the hip with Moscow. They want to be European, but they either don't know how to let go of the eastern connection, or are afraid to do so.

Consequently, timewise, from October through March they will be closer to Russia than to Europe. For the rest of the year they will have an hour's difference on both sides.

I, for one, think that it would be much wiser to simply switch over to Central Eu-

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INTERVIEW: 'Black Raven' author Vasyl Shklyar on Ukraine's new dissident writers

by Brian Spadora

RFE/RL

Vasyl Shklyar is the author of "Black Raven," a novel about the frequently overlooked anti-Bolshevik Ukrainian resistance of the 1920s. His novel was selected for the Taras Shevchenko Prize, a top honor in Ukraine. But in March Mr. Shklyar declined the award and the accompanying \$32,000 in prize money to protest what critics describe as the "Ukrainophobic" policies of Minister of Science Education, Youth and Sports Dmytro Tabachnyk. RFE/RL Contributor Brian Spadora interviewed Mr. Shklyar while the writer toured the United States to raise funds for a film adaptation of his novel.

Is "Black Raven" a commentary on Ukraine's contemporary politics, which some characterize as the continuation of the struggle against Russian influence?

The novel is not directly related to any of the current political events in Ukraine. I started this novel many years ago, and it just happens that what is taking place in Ukraine today relates to the events that occurred during the period that the novel covers. But I have been told over and over again in Ukraine that this novel has come out at the most appropriate time.

Do you believe Russia still poses a threat to Ukrainian independence?

I don't think there is a very serious threat of Ukraine losing its independence. I think what's far more likely and more dangerous is that Ukraine be subjected to cultural repression. There is a cultural threat and a linguistic threat in that if Ukraine is forced to accept Russian as a second official language, Ukraine will lose its Ukrainian language, it will lose its Ukrainian character, and possibly sink into another period of repression.

The Kremlin realized some time ago that this kind of ethnic and linguistic domination can be more effective than military force. It is easier to dominate the language and the culture through the media, as opposed to rolling in the tanks.

You're one of a group of intellectuals that has condemned the prosecution of Yulia Tymoshenko.

Ukraine has a long tradition of writers who have taken political stances, including Soviet-era poet Vasyl Stus. Is this recent effort a successor of the dissident movement, or is it something new?

I don't think this current protest by writers and intellectuals on behalf of Tymoshenko is a continuation of the dissident days in which Stus figured so prominently. It's quite a different situation. Back then, it was a dissent and a rebellion against a foreign occupying power, whereas today's protests are in an independent Ukraine against our own government.

It may be restrictive, and it may be repressive, but it doesn't rise to the level of oppression that a foreign force imposes. So, I wouldn't consider this a continuation. I consider this to be a different, new phase of political awareness.

Do you see the writer's role as cultural, political, or both?

Among those artists and writers in Ukraine who have a national awareness, there is very little distinction between culture and politics. When people are disenchanted with political leaders, they turn to writers and artists, those who would paint a picture of life as it should be and idealize a situation that is probably out of reach in current circumstances. The writer and the artist become the standard-bearer for the people, who don't see any promise in the political leadership.

When you declined the Shevchenko Prize, you cited Tabachnyk, as opposed to President Viktor Yanukovich, who appointed Tabachnyk. Do you still distinguish criticism of one from the other?

When Yanukovich sees the broad criticism and objection to Tabachnyk and his policies and refuses to remove him, then obviously we have to conclude that Yanukovich and Tabachnyk are of the same mind and perhaps have the same motives.

Tabachnyk's Ukrainophobia seems to affect both Yanukovich's validity and popularity. In spite of this, Yanukovich continues to keep him in his government and listen to his advice. We can't come to any conclusion other than their agenda is one and the same.



UNIAN/Andrey Skakodub

Vasyl Shklyar

Do you believe the electorate is turning away from Yanukovich?

I expect the coming parliamentary elections [in October 2012] will bring about change, but a lot depends on whether the Yanukovich administration falsifies the results. If they don't, I think changes will come about in a natural, appropriate course of events. People express their view and select a new government. But if the election results are falsified, then we will probably see a new Maidan, [the events of the Orange Revolution, which took on and near Independence Square, or Maidan Nezalezhnosti].

Many of the reforms hoped for by protesters on the Maidan in 2004 never materialized. Is there enough faith in such demonstrations for another protest on that scale?

Many of the people who took part in the Orange Revolution today are asking each other, "Why did I stand there on the Maidan and protest when it seems no good came of it?" But more experienced people realize the Maidan has left its mark. It was a turning point, and there was a lasting benefit. Many realize that a collective effort or protest does have a benefit and that change can take place.

Ukraine just marked 20 years of independence. As you look back, what are your impressions?

These 20 years have shown Ukrainians how difficult it is to obtain justice for the past. It is extremely difficult in a democratic system to redress the wrongdoings, the repression and all the persecution of the previous regime. It is easy for totalitarian regimes to inflict catastrophes and repression. But in a democratic society, it is extremely difficult to redress that issue, because democracies have a tendency to be forgiving and liberal.

It is also difficult for a newly democratic country to stabilize itself when it still has so many forces – ethnic, linguistic – tugging away in opposite directions, especially when you have remnants of the old regime still among you and in control of the government.

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D.C. to mark Ukraine Day on December 1

Ukrinform

KYIV – The executive office of the mayor of Washington, D.C., has decided to celebrate December 1 – the date of the 1991 nationwide referendum on Ukraine's independence – as Ukraine Day in Washington. The announcement was made by the secretary of the District of Columbia, Cynthia Brock-Smith, in her speech on behalf of the mayor at a reception to mark the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, which was held on September 15 in the Library of Congress.

The reception was organized by the Embassy of Ukraine and was attended by more than 1,000 guests, among them representatives of the White House, U.S. State Department, Congress, foreign diplomats, the Ukrainian community, NGOs and the media.

In his congratulatory address, the Ukraine's ambassador

to the United States, Oleksander Motsyk, focused on the country's foreign policy priorities, including European integration, the strategic partnership of Kyiv and Washington, and Ukraine's commitment to global peace and security.

He expressed gratitude to the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States for their contributions to the development of U.S.-Ukraine relations, and the formation of Ukraine as an independent and democratic state.

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, this year the Ukrainian Embassy in the U.S. has already conducted more than two dozen cultural and artistic activities, including art and photo exhibitions, as well as concerts featuring famous Ukrainian performers. Other plans include an exhibition of science and technology of Ukraine, a U.S. tour of the Donetsk Ballet and Days of Ukrainian Cinema.

OBITUARY: Joseph L. Szczerba, police officer killed in the line of duty

WILMINGTON, Del. – Joseph L. Szczerba, a police officer with the New Castle County Police Department for 18 years, was fatally stabbed on September 16. He was 44.

Sgt. Szczerba had responded to back up other officers who were searching for a disorderly man near Penn Acres Park. He located the man and, after a short foot chase, began to struggle with him. During the struggle the subject pulled out a knife and stabbed Sgt. Szczerba in the neck.

Other officers were able to take the subject into custody. Sgt. Szczerba was transported to Christiana Hospital, where he died as a result of the stab wound.

The slain officer was posthumously promoted to the rank of lieutenant and awarded the department's Medal of Honor.

Mr. Szczerba was born June 12, 1967, in Elsmere, Del., to Edward and Jean Szczerba, and had six siblings. He attended Salesianum School in Wilmington, where he played football, earning All-State honors.

He then attended Chester University, where he earned a B.S. in liberal studies with a minor in criminal justice and public administration. He went on to attend Wilmington University, graduating with a master's degree in administration of justice. He also attended the West Point Command and Leadership program and completed the curriculum in 2009.

Mr. Szczerba was hired as a New Castle County police officer in 1994. Once he completed his training and graduated from the New Castle County Police Academy on Janu-

ary 13, 1995, he was assigned to the patrol division.

After completing five years on patrol, he was transferred into the Criminal Investigation Unit in 2000, where he was assigned to the Family Services Unit. He also served in the Research, Development and Inspections Unit during his career.

Officer Szczerba was promoted to the rank of sergeant in January 2008 and at the time of his death had been assigned to "E-Squad" as a patrol supervisor for the central district.

He received three unit citations, which included two for homicide investigations and one for a burglary investigation. He also received one commendation of merit for a robbery investigation. In addition he received numerous letters of commendations

and appreciation.

The funeral was held on September 23, with burial at Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

Surviving are Lt. Szczerba's wife of 19 years, Kathleen; his mother, Jean Szczerba; his siblings, Stephen and his wife Karen; Edward Szczerba and his wife Florence; Karen (Szczerba) Campbell and her husband David; Nancy (Szczerba) Anderson and her husband Paul; Gerald; Peter and his wife Stephanie. He was preceded in death by his father, Edward J. Szczerba.

Also in mourning are his 11 nieces and nephews, and four grandnieces and grand-nephews, as well as other family members, including his uncle Peter Serba and cousin Eugene Serba.

Ukraine's independence anniversary...

(Continued from page 1)

of 20th century Ukraine's first president, Mykhailo Hrushevsky.

In his eloquent remarks, the senator spoke of his many trips to Ukraine, meetings with various Ukrainian presidents, and his time spent in Ukraine as President George Bush's personal envoy during the Orange Revolution. The audience enthusiastically embraced the senator's remarks and gave him a standing ovation.

Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Oleksander Motsyk, also addressed the luncheon. He spoke of the great strides Ukraine has made in the last 20 years and thanked the Ukrainian community for its efforts prior to and after the 1991 declaration of independence.

Turning to the members of Congress present, the ambassador stated, "I would like to thank you for your constant support of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. I am especially thankful for your significant contribution in strengthening the strategic partnership between Ukraine and the United States. We also appreciate your friendship and partnership with the Ukrainian American community."

His remarks were followed by those of the speaker of the Lithuanian Parliament, Irena Degutiene, who was visiting Washington as part of an official delegation. Speaking through an interpreter, she noted the long-standing friendship between Lithuania and Ukraine and expressed her hope that Ukraine will be able to integrate into the European Union "as fast as possible and not go backwards."

Ms. Degutiene warned that, "if Ukraine joins the Russian Customs Union, it will not be allowed into the European trade union, and we wouldn't welcome this direction."

The next Hrushevsky Award recipient, a well-known member of Congress who has supported Ukraine-related issues for decades, was then introduced. Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.), ranking member of the House Ways and Means Committee and co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, was honored for his many years of support of Ukraine and in particular for his sponsorship of the bill to erect a Ukrainian Famine-Genocide Memorial on federal land in Washington.

Audience members rose to their feet in appreciation for the congressman's work with the community throughout the years.

Rep. Levin recalled the days of the Orange Revolution and standing in front of the Ukrainian Embassy with the Ukrainian community to protest the fraudulent elections. He mentioned his recent introduction of a congressional resolution that highlighted Ukraine's 20th anniversary of independence.

Rep. Levin declared in an unwavering voice, "Since August 24, 1991, the people of Ukraine have remained steadfastly focused on securing a stable democracy and a free market economy in Ukraine, and I commend them on their democratic achievements... we in the United States must continue to stand with those living under oppressive and tyrannical regimes as they struggle for their freedom... I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution."

He ended his comments with a few words about the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide memorial: the congressman was present in December 2008 for the blessing ceremony of the land where the memorial is to be erected.

Following a brief break for lunch, the first U.S. ambassador to an independent Ukraine, Roman Popadiuk, was introduced as the keynote speaker. He was one of the first to see the flowers of democracy sprouting out of the soil of an independent Ukraine.

Ambassador Popadiuk, who has

continued his involvement in both Ukraine and the Ukrainian American community, described his first years helping guide Ukraine towards democratic ideals and his unwavering hope for a Ukraine that has attained full democratization. Everyone in the room gave their undivided attention to the former ambassador, whose words of hope, concern and celebration resonated with all present. Mr. Popadiuk ended his remarks to thunderous applause and a standing ovation.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America then bestowed the Hrushevsky Award on Ambassador Popadiuk for his work in promoting U.S.-Ukraine relations.

Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, was next to receive a Hrushevsky Award. The congresswoman spoke of her first trip to Soviet Ukraine in 1970, describing a scene that many in the audience remembered all too well. She regaled all present with an account that underscored what a different world it was from the West, adding "we were the only ones with a car in the town."

Rep. Kaptur informed the crowd that she had entered remarks on Ukraine's 20th anniversary into the Congressional Record, reminding all that "the United States welcomed Ukraine's sovereignty and its pursuit of democratic ideals."

Before she left, with her award in hand, she offered the Ukrainian American community one last bit of advice: "Keep on fighting the good fight, keep the faith, keep the perseverance, and remember that real change takes a long time."

The next Hrushevsky Award recipient was the second U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, William Green Miller. Ambassador Miller's remarks touched everyone who has wished for and been able to experience a free Ukraine. He portrayed Ukraine during his tenure as ambassador as a country finding its destiny. And now, 20 years later, he said Ukraine is recognized for its contributions to the world, but also has a lot of work ahead of it.

In between award presentations, the UNIS director also recognized and invited the newest co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Rep. Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.), to the podium to say a few words. The congressman said he was thankful to the community for organizing this celebration and pointed to Ukraine's progress since 1991. However, he also mentioned the need to stay vigilant with respect to the continued democratization of the country.

Former U.S. Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.), a former co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and also a recipient of the Hrushevsky Award was unable to attend due to his schedule and duties as a high school principal. However, he sent an "emissary," his daughter, Lt. Emily Schaffer (U.S. Air Force), in his stead. The congressman's

daughter read a prepared text from her father, who said he is proud of his ethnic Ukrainian roots and thanked the community for its efforts in helping build stronger U.S.-Ukraine relations.

A former congressman from Pennsylvania, Don Ritter (R) brought the audience members to their feet when he told everyone, "if it wasn't for the UCCA and the English-language newspaper The Ukrainian Weekly, [published by the Ukrainian National Association] Congress would not know Ukraine was not a part of Russia." The former co-chair of the congressional Ad Hoc Committee on the Baltics and Ukraine and now a member of the Board of Directors of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOCMF) also received the Hrushevsky Award and in his continued remarks reiterated the dangers facing a democratic Ukraine, stating that the United States must be weary of a Russia led by President Putin.

Due to their prior commitments and busy travel schedules, former U.S. Ambassadors to Ukraine Steven Pifer, Carlos Pascual, John Herbst and William Taylor, and the current Ambassador to Ukraine, John Tefft, as well as Reps. Danny Davis (D-Ill.) and Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.) and former congressman Rep. Hertel (D-Mich.) were unable to receive their Hrushevsky Awards at the luncheon. The UCCA will present their awards at a convenient time for the honorees.

The master of ceremonies, Mr. Sawkiw, also recognized other dignitaries present at the event. The guests included: clergy from the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches; Anatoliy Kinakh, National Deputy of the Verkhovna Rada and a former prime minister of Ukraine (2001-2002); Leonid Kozachenko, former vice prime minister of Ukraine; members of the Lithuanian Parliament and the deputy chief of mission (DCM) from the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington; the Director of the Ukrainian, Belarus and Moldova Bureau at the U.S. Department of State, Baxter Hunt; as well as staffers from the offices of Sen. Lugar, Rep. Kaptur, Rep. Levin and Rep. Gerlach.

The luncheon concluded with a benediction from Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. who reminded everyone present that celebration must go hand in hand with reflection.

The energy in the room continued to be palpable as the celebration moved from the luncheon and award presentations to a panel discussion in which speakers shared their perceptions of Ukraine and their hopes for its democratic development.

The first panel was moderated by Askold Lozynskyj, chairman of the International Conference in Support of Ukraine and former president of both the Ukrainian World Congress and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. The topic was Perspectives of Ukraine's Independence – Pre-1991. After a passionate opening in a resonating voice, Mr. Lozynskyj, introduced Paula Dobriansky, former undersecretary



Stefan Kaczurak

The first U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Roman Popadiuk, a 2011 recipient of the Hrushevsky Award, delivers the keynote address at the Ukrainian Independence Day reception on Capitol Hill.



Rep. Sander Levin (D-Mich.) addresses the audience after receiving the Hrushevsky Award.



Rep. Marcy Kaptur, also a Hrushevsky Award recipient

of state for democracy and global affairs, former Rep. Ritter and Irene Jarosewicz, the United Nations NGO representative for the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organization.

Rep. Ritter underscored that Ukraine will not be able to truly have a democracy until the leadership is "homo-Ukrainicus" instead of "homo-Sovieticus."

The second panel focused on "Perspectives of Ukraine's Independence – Post-1991," with the president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Tamara Olexy, moderating.

"Almost immediately following indepen-

(Continued on page 8)



Stefan Kaczurak

Panel moderator Askold Lozynskyj (at the podium) with participants (from left) former Rep. Don Ritter, Irene Jarosewicz and Paula Dobriansky.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Babyn Yar: a shared tragedy

On October 3, President Viktor Yanukovich laid a wreath at the Babyn Yar National Historical and Memorial Reserve in Kyiv. He was joined at the solemn commemorations by Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, Prime Minister Mykola Azarov and Avigdor Lieberman, deputy prime minister of Israel. According to various media reports, in the days leading up to the 70th anniversary of the Nazi massacre at Babyn Yar, international parliamentarians from Europe, Israel, Turkey and other nations gathered at the site of the executions, and an international conference on anti-Semitism was organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Coalition for Combating Anti-Semitism with the support of the Verkhovna Rada. In addition, the exhibit "Shoah by Bullets: Mass Shootings of Jews in Ukraine in 1941-1944" – which is based on the work of the Rev. Patrick Desbois, a French Catholic priest, in identifying mass graves of Jews killed in various countries of Eastern Europe during the Nazi occupation – was on display at Kyiv's Ukrainian House.

All these events commemorated the anniversary of what is believed to be the single biggest massacre of the Holocaust: over the course of two days, September 29-30, 1941, the Nazis shot 33,771 Jews – men, women and children – at the edge of the Babyn Yar ravine on the outskirts of Kyiv. The killing began shortly after the German forces entered Kyiv on September 19, 1941, and, according to the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, by the spring of the following year an additional 15,000 Jews were shot there.

The executions at Babyn Yar continued through November 1943, when the Nazis retreated from Kyiv. And, tens of thousands of others were executed at Babyn Yar – Ukrainians, Gypsies, Poles, Russians and other nationalities, Communists, anti-Soviet partisans and Soviet prisoners of war. Among them were Ukrainian nationalists, like the poet and writer Olena Teliha, and leaders of the Ukrainian National Council, created by members of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (Melnyk faction). In fact, over 600 OUN members were killed, along with writers, athletes, Plast members, priests, educators, newspaper editors and the former mayor of Kyiv, Volodymyr Bahaziy.

In all, according to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, more than 100,000 people of various nationalities were killed at Babyn Yar (known also as Babi Yar, from the Russian). Other sources give a substantially higher figure adding up to 200,000 – including 100,000 Jews, 70,000 Ukrainians and 30,000 other persons.

It took decades for the truth to be told about what happened at Babyn Yar due to five decades of denial by Soviet authorities of the true identities of the victims killed there. Official Soviet sources always said the victims were simply "Soviet civilians." In fact, in September of 1966, Ivan Dzyuba spoke at the 25th anniversary commemoration of the massacres, denouncing officially supported Soviet anti-Semitism. The first memorial was erected at Babyn Yar only in 1976 and it referred to only "Soviet victims of the fascists." The first Jewish monument was erected at Babyn Yar in September 1991, only after the dissolution of the USSR – it was a menorah in memory of the massacre's primary victims. Other memorials at the site now include a cross erected in 1992 in memory of the 621 known members of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists who were executed in Babyn Yar and a sculpture dedicated 10 years ago to the 40,000 children killed there.

This year, on the 70th anniversary of the Babyn Yar massacres, our hope is that the people of Ukraine and the world learn more about this shared tragedy that took place in Nazi-occupied Ukraine. We must remember all the victims who lie together in this mass grave on the outskirts of Kyiv. Vichnaya pamiat.

Oct.
13
2009

Turning the pages back...

Two years ago, on October 13, 2009, at the conclusion of the annual two-day conference Forum 2000, which attracted policy-makers from former Soviet countries and rights campaigners critical of Moscow, participants denounced Russia's increasingly

assertive stance and poor human rights record – two ills that some said were being aggravated by U.S. President Barack Obama's efforts to "reset" relations with Moscow.

The conference was founded in 1997 by then-Czech President Vaclav Havel.

During a debate on Russia's role in global politics, a Czech Senator, Alexandr Vondra, asked, "Should we be afraid of Russia?"

"Moscow is simply trying to pressure and interfere in new ways, using energy and other weapons of political pressure," said Snadra Kalniete, a European Parliament deputy from Latvia. "It seeks to marginalize countries of Eastern Europe and the Baltic States in NATO and the European Union."

Many of the participants were also critical of President Obama's decision to scrap the missile-defense system that was to be based in Poland and the Czech Republic. And the proposed replacement system did not provide for bases in those two countries, at least in the short term. Ms. Kalniete voiced a feeling shared by a number of Central and Eastern Europeans that the U.S. was walking out on them.

"We take the withdrawal of antimissile plans from the Czech Republic and Poland as a signal that Eastern Europeans and Poles are no longer as high on the U.S. agenda as they used to be during the Bush and Clinton eras," she said.

"I think that when, for example, the freshly awarded Nobel Peace Prize winner postpones a meeting with the Dalai Lama until after he visits continental China, he makes a small, inconspicuous, little-noticed compromise – a compromise that has a certain logic," Mr. Havel said. "Nevertheless, the question is whether big, fatal compromises do not have their origins, their first roots, in these small, inconspicuous and more or less 'logical' compromises."

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was on her first visit to Russia at the same time as the Forum 2000 conference. According to reports, she said that the reset of relations with

(Continued on page 20)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emerging giants: BUIC, not BRIC

Dear Editor:

The newly emerging economic giants of the 21st century are destined to be BUIC – Brazil, Ukraine, India and China.

BRIC (with Russia) is a stillborn marketing device for reconstituting the old Russian Empire. It has no logical base as Russia has nothing in common with the other three. Brazil, India and China are wealthy emerging industrial states. Russia is still a hunter-gatherer state, made wealthy by sale of stuff they found in the ground and sell with the help of other nations' technology. As such it has more in common with Saudi Arabia, tempting even a comparison of governments.

Small wonder Russia is trying so hard to appropriate Ukraine's rich industrial base as its own. At the end of the day, the inevitably atrophying Russian empire is the last rudiment of very old Europe.

However problematic Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich's visit to New York may have been, the meeting with Brazil, underrated by the press, marked recognition that Ukraine as a nation is a major player in the 21st century.

I fully expect Ukraine to develop significant collaboration with Brazil in agriculture, industry and energy. After all, Brazil's Petrobras has worked out the complexities of deep water drilling – perfect for Ukraine's Black Sea shelf – and it's free of Halliburton's baggage.

Peter Borisow
Los Angeles

Golden Horde continues to rule

Dear Editor:

The September 22 issue of The New York Times carried on page A11 an ad by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, titled "Kazakhstan: Helping to Build a Safer World for Everyone."

In the ad there was a group photo of a number of national leaders, including Barack Obama, Nursultan Nazarbayev, Dmitri Medvedev, Viktor Yanukovich and others. Not all participants were shown in the photo. But of those fully or partially shown, all except one were wearing their country's pin on their left jacket lapel. All except Yanukovich.

It may have been an oversight, but maybe not. To me it was subtly clear. Khan Vladimir Putin recently re-established the old "ulus" (province) of Ukraine, and gave the "yarlyk" (annual permission to rule the ulus) to Mr. Yanukovich. That permission can be revoked anytime, especially if the provincial ruler does not satisfy the khan with his annual tribute.

Could this be the explanation for the Russian fleet deal in Ukraine's Crimea? Or the

gas deals? It all fits in. The Golden Horde still rules with its 800-year old Finno-Tatar-Mongolian methods.

Life is good for the descendants of Khan Batu, the founder of the Golden Horde and the destroyer of Kyiv in 1240. And all the provincial vassals have to do is obey and pay. All else will be taken care of.

Andrew Zwarun
Austin, Texas

Community needs a unified response

Dear Editor:

What is striking in the Ukrainian press at the present time is the recurring articles expressing different views and opinions as to how to deal with the political situation in Ukraine and what our appropriate response to the policies of Viktor Yanukovich and his government should be.

There seem to be too many diverse opinions, not to mention some squabbling regarding an appropriate response to the policies of the president and the events taking place in Ukraine, at a time when the leadership of Russia is striving once again, as it has done on so many occasions in the past, to rebuild its slave empire to its original boundaries. By means of subversion, deceit and the use of Ukrainophobic and corrupt elements in the Ukrainian government itself, it has managed to sow discord and confusion among some segments of the Ukrainian population in an attempt to lull them into timidity and inaction.

At a time when Ukraine is in an acute danger of losing everything it has achieved during its past 20 years of independence, the need for one, cohesive and consolidated response to the events taking place in Ukraine at this critical time of our history is paramount. The absence of one, cohesive and consolidated response to the dangers facing Ukraine would be by all rational standards defeatist and unacceptable.

In any sport, where there is more than one individual player involved, teamwork is critical if the team is to achieve its objective and win the game. Good teamwork often guarantees victory, and when the team wins, each player on the team feels as though he has won the game singlehandedly. The same applies in politics. If we stand together, if we act as one team, most likely we will win.

In closing, I want to emphasize: Russia is working to rebuild its empire. The present government in Ukraine threatens the very existence of the Ukrainian statehood. Let us not allow ourselves to be manipulated, either internally or externally, into discord and timidity by any political maneuvering. The political situation in Ukraine at this very critical time calls upon all of us to take a united stand and act. There are hardly any other alternatives, and we cannot expect any help from anyone.

Lubomyr Pawlowych
Union, N.J.

Opinions in The Ukrainian Weekly

Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

From a Canadian Angle

by Oksana Bashuk Hepburn



Russia, Ukraine's government and the Ukrainian diaspora

The political situation in Ukraine is roiling. The incarceration of opposition members, in particular the over-the-top arrest of Yulia Tymoshenko, has brought Ukraine's politics to an unsafe temperature. Global democracies are turning up the heat on President Viktor Yanukovich with a united message: stop politically motivated persecutions of the opposition. The Ukrainian diaspora is fuming.

Despite the line-up against him – ratings show support for Mr. Yanukovich at an all-time low – the president is doing battle with Russia as well.

The president took a pro-Ukraine position by offering Russia a 3+1 trade deal instead of the Customs Union Russia was determined to have. Even though Patriarch Kirill (several times) and President Dmitry Medvedev (once) have made personal visits to Ukraine to discuss the impasse, the president has not budged. And there's more. Ukraine denied entry to a Russian ship into the Black Sea for non-payment of a fee – apparently a first as Russia's ships have been coming and going in Ukraine's waters without payment for decades.

The "Ukraine first" strategy is good news. It should be applauded widely. Ukraine's democrats and oligarchs – neither wish to be absorbed by Russia – should be pleased. In the West, interested in stalling the neo-Soviet revisionism which Russia is nurturing at home and seemingly exporting it to the neighborhood, Ukraine's spunkiness should be a sign of political maturity. And it's good news for Ukraine's diaspora, too. At its best, the diaspora assesses politics in Ukraine through a Western prism: independence, democracy, rule of law, freedom of expression and assembly.

Having taken a bold stance with Russia, Mr. Yanukovich might expect to gain support at home, in the international arena and with the diaspora.

Regrettably, his other political stumblings eclipse such good news.

The most prominent faux-pas, of course, is the arrests of the opposition leaders, especially former Prime Minister Tymoshenko and Yuri Lutsenko. Instead of responding to the calls to let them go – the prevailing global opinion considers the arrests politically motivated – there is no resolution and the courts are delaying. Mr. Lutsenko has been in jail without a trial for close to a year now; Ms. Tymoshenko's trial was postponed for a couple of weeks. While the opposition languishes in jail, the image of the Ukrainian government deteriorates.

Mr. Yanukovich needs better advisers – ones who will not permit bad news to erase the good.

The change might begin with folks like Vyacheslav Pikhovshchak of the Party of Regions, who has been lecturing the diaspora on how to love Ukraine not its politics. He, and others, need to understand that democratic principles are a nation's guideposts. Party advisers need to assess the cost-benefit ratio and get the president back on track. Certainly, letting journalists do their job of criticizing the government when it disregards the rule of law without fear of imprisonment, or worse, is at the top of the list. Some 63 journalists have died in questionable circumstances in Ukraine in

the last 10 years.

The diaspora cares about such things and is appalled that Ukraine's leaders appear not to. It also cares about the well-being of Ukraine's population which it, in many cases, supports, while government leaders line their own pockets. Recently, Ukrainian Week reported that around 30 percent of Ukrainians live below the poverty line, while "one-third of the entire work force in Ukraine has no proper work, which explains massive labor migration."

If Mr. Pikhovshchak sees the diaspora's "love for Ukraine" as singing songs and folk dancing in national costumes, he is way off the mark. Today, the diaspora measures progress in Ukraine against democratic standards, not because it wants to "teach" Ukraine but because Kyiv has made a commitment to them, and because Kyiv wants to integrate with Europe where, to date, "failure to adhere to standards" has denied Ukraine an entry ticket. The diaspora shows its love for Ukraine by being the watchdog of democratic rights. Alas, in Ukraine, those safeguarding such rights tend to be on police watch, arrested or dead. Consequently, the diaspora will keep criticizing politics there until the abuses stop.

A story is making the rounds in Ukraine that during President Yanukovich's visit to the United Nations where, undoubtedly, he was seeking support, he bumped into President Barack Obama and asked for a word. Apparently, the U.S. president told him that there would be talks only after the opposition is freed.

Clearly, Ukraine's president had hoped for more, perhaps a friendly gesture from the U.S. to use in his high-pressure talks with his Russian counterpart, Mr. Medvedev, and the soon-to-be-president-again, Vladimir Putin, held September 24. Most likely all the sensitive issues were discussed – the fate of Ms. Tymoshenko, the high cost of energy to Ukraine and the Customs Union versus the 3+1 option.

Russia had said it could review the gas deal only if Ukraine joined its Customs Union with Belarus and Kazakhstan, a move that would rule out a free trade deal between Ukraine and the European Union that Kyiv seeks to attain this year.

Mr. Yanukovich visited Russia hoping to reach compromise with President Medvedev and his powerful prime minister, Mr. Putin. Mr. Yanukovich said before the talks that there were "certain concerns" regarding energy issues that he hoped to resolve.

However, neither his office nor the Kremlin made any announcements on the outcome of the talks after they ended. A statement on President Yanukovich's website simply said the talks were over and the president was heading home. His office declined to provide any more information.

It would be a miracle were Ukraine to keep withstanding Russia's grip on its own.

Don't wait for miracles, Mr. President. Have the opposition leaders freed and let friends in democratic countries help Ukraine.

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn may be contacted at oksanabh@sympatico.ca.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



He was a dear friend

Of great significance to Ukrainian Americans is the Congressional U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine. But, as Bozhena Olshaniwsky points out in her foreword, to a brief history of the commission, it almost didn't happen.

Many Ukrainian Americans worked tirelessly to establish the commission, which first required congressional approval. A lead role in the U.S. Senate was played by Sen. Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a staunch supporter of Ukrainians in Illinois, and a dear friend.

I first met Sen. Percy when he was running for governor in 1964. At the time, I was an assistant principal in an inner-city Chicago school. I organized the first-ever evening career conference for eighth graders featuring successful Black professionals and entrepreneurs, who met with students in our classrooms. Their parents, meanwhile, were hearing motivational speakers in the school assembly hall.

Heading the list was Mr. Percy, who talked about his humble beginnings (his dad lost everything in the 1929 market crash), his Navy career, his education at the University of Chicago, and his rise to become CEO of Bell & Howell at age 29. Mr. Percy lost the governor's race, but he won a U.S. Senate seat in 1966 with 56 percent of the vote. I was involved with every one of his Senate campaigns until 1984, when he was narrowly defeated.

The idea of a Ukraine Famine commission was spearheaded by the late Ihor Olshaniwsky, president of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU). "In order to create a famine commission in the U.S. Congress," writes Mrs. Olshaniwsky, "members of the U.S. Congress had to sponsor the legislation," and "the idea would have to be researched in order to substantiate the need and advisability for this project."

It was a monumental undertaking, one which some leading members of our community argued was impossible to achieve. Undeterred, Mr. Olshaniwsky and AHRU forged ahead, however. Amazingly, James Florio (D-N.J.) eventually agreed to sponsor

such a bill on the House side while Bill Bradley (D.N.J.) sponsored a similar bill in the U.S. Senate.

The most extensive support for the legislation came from The Ukrainian Weekly, which published two entire editions and a book devoted to the 50th anniversary of the Holodomor. AHRU members mobilized thousands of letters of support from individual Ukrainians, who wrote to their respective House members who seemed to move at glacial speed.

Thanks to the efforts of Sen. Percy, the Senate moved more quickly. Hearings on Sen. Bradley's bill in the U.S. Senate were held on August 1, 1984. Testifying on behalf of the bill were Sen. Bradley, David Roth of the American Jewish Committee (AJC), Mr. Olshaniwsky, and I. Opposing the bill was Robie Mark Palmer of the Reagan White House, who argued that if such a bill became law, other ethnic groups, the Armenians, for example, would ask for equal treatment. Outraged by Mr. Palmer's statement, Mr. Roth mentioned similar legislation in support of the Holocaust Museum and asked: "Are you saying that the death of 7 million Ukrainians is less important than the death of 6 millions Jews?"

On September 21, following some discussion regarding funding, the Bradley bill, S. 2456, passed the Senate by voice vote. Similar hearings were eventually held on the House side, and the legislation passed there as well. On October 12, 1984, the Ukraine Famine Commission bill was signed into law (Public Law 99-180) by President Reagan as part of a continuing resolution. At a pre-election dinner in 1984, I had the honor of presenting Sen. Percy with a special AHRU human rights award for his outstanding support of the Ukrainian community.

Unfortunately, Sen. Percy lost that election due, in large measure, to the efforts of the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). As J.J. Goldberg points out in "Jewish Power: Inside the American Jewish Establishment," Sen. Percy, a strong supporter of Israel, had worked toward a more balanced American policy in the Middle East. He voted to uphold U.S. sales of F-15s and AWACS to Saudi Arabia. Following a trip to Israel, he suggested that Israel negotiate

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

(Continued on page 22)



Sen. Charles H. Percy (left) with Myron B. Kuropas and Lesia W. Kuropas at a Ukrainian National Association-sponsored congressional reception at the U.S. Capitol.

TIME CAPSULE

The USSR's admission to the League of Nations and the Holodomor

by Serge Cipko

On October 28, 1933, The New York Times reported that the United Ukrainian Organizations of the United States planned to send a delegation to U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The purpose was to draw attention to the Famine, which during the past year had claimed the lives of "several million inhabitants of the Soviet Ukraine" and to propose "an impartial investigation of conditions in the Ukraine before recognition is accorded Soviet Russia."

The United States recognized the Soviet Union the following month, on November 16, 1933. Less than a year later, delegates

Dr. Serge Cipko is the coordinator of the Ukrainian Diaspora Studies Initiative at the Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Center, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. He is writing a book on Canadian responses to the 1932-1933 Famine in Ukraine.

of four dozen nations gathered in Geneva to debate and then vote on the question of the USSR's admission to the League of Nations.

As they had earlier hoped with the discussions about U.S. recognition of the USSR, Ukrainian groups abroad were hoping that the matter of the Famine would be raised during the debate over Soviet entrance to the League of Nations.

The debate took place on September 17, 1934. According to The New York Times (September 18, 1934), the deliberations that day included "severe denunciations of the Soviet political system and of Soviet actions in the recent past." The denunciations had come from Argentina, Belgium, Portugal and, "most bitterly of all," from Switzerland.

M. Giuseppe Motta of Switzerland referred to the Famine in his speech. The Soviet Union, he said, was "afflicted with the somber curse of famine."

Mr. Motta then added: "Impartial observers wonder whether this famine is purely a natural phenomenon or whether it is a consequence of an economic and social system

vitiated in its very roots."

Switzerland was one of the three countries that voted against the admission of the Soviet Union. The other two were Portugal and the Netherlands. Seven others abstained: Argentina, Belgium, Cuba, Luxembourg, Panama, Peru and Venezuela.

Canada was among the 38 members that voted "yes" to the admission of the USSR. But it did so mindful of the stories about the Famine that the Canadian government had been hearing from people who had relatives in the Soviet Union.

The Dominion's position before the Sixth Committee of the Assembly of the League of Nations was voiced by Oscar Skelton, undersecretary of state for external affairs, and is recorded in the "Report of the Canadian Delegates to the Fifteenth Assembly of the League of Nations."

Mr. Skelton expressed the belief that "under the present world circumstances," the USSR's entrance to the League was desirable, but that Canada had difficulty in accepting Soviet membership because of the gulf that existed between Canada's social

and political principles and those of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Skelton also mentioned the Famine. He spoke of the "apprehension felt by many thousands in Canada who have relatives and friends" in the Soviet Union "as to the continuance of the sufferings and the famine which were reported in many districts of the Soviet Union last year [1933] and on previous occasions."

He added that Canada believed that, like other members of the League, the Soviet Union would be "prepared to do what is possible to relieve distress and will be prepared to sanction any assistance, devoid of political bias which individual citizens of any other member of the League might desire to tender to those in distress, just as similar sanction would be given reciprocally."

Further insight into Canada's position on the question of the admission of the USSR to the League is provided in "Marriage of Minds: Isabel and Oscar Skelton Reinventing Canada."

Author Terry Crowley wrote that Prime Minister Richard Bennett agreed to admission only reluctantly. Canada's PM insisted that the undersecretary "lambaste the Soviets for their propaganda and the devastating famine ravaging their country." According to the book's author Mr. Skelton wrote afterward that he had toned down the prime minister's points "and embalmed them in some of my own ideas, so I didn't have to stretch my own conscience too much."

Later, at a dinner, wrote Mr. Crowley, Canada's prime minister "got to razz Soviet Foreign Minister Maxim Litvinoff"

Ukraine's...

(Continued from page 5)

dence," stated Mrs. Olexy in her opening remarks, "the new Ukrainian state was faced with what seemed to be insurmountable obstacles. With renewed independence came the stark reality of the task that lay before all Ukrainians: the rebuilding of a country devastated by three centuries of imperialism. The challenges that Ukraine faced were daunting."

"Although the Ukraine of today may not yet be the one we had all hoped for, Ukraine has weathered many storms, and we can proudly state that it has not only persevered, but achieved much success," she noted.

Ms. Olexy then introduced former U.S. Ambassador Miller; Irene Chalupa, RFE/RL correspondent; Oleksandr Aleksandrovych, director of Non-Proliferation and Export Control Department at the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine; and a special guest, the youngest member of the Ukrainian Parliament, Lesia Orobets.

The roundtable discussions provided an opportunity to focus on the Ukrainian American community's and the U.S. government's roles in assisting Ukraine in attaining its independence and sustaining its freedom.

The successful congressional event was made possible with the active support of the Ukrainian community and several Ukrainian American credit unions. Sponsors of the event included the Selfreliance (New York) Federal Credit Union, Selfreliance (New Jersey) Federal Credit Union, SUM-A (Yonkers) Federal Credit Union, Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union and the Cleveland Selfreliance Federal Credit Union.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

Teaching the Holodomor and internment: An A+ for the University of Manitoba

by Lana Babij

For the first time ever in North America, a full six-credit course on the teaching of the Holodomor and the Canadian Internment of Ukrainians was offered at the university level this past July via the Summer Institute on Social Justice: Teaching the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide (Holodomor) and the Ukrainian Canadian Internment.

The institute was the brainchild of Dr. Denis Hlynka and Dr. Orest Cap, longtime professors in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

"We determined from the outset that our focus would be pedagogy rather than history," stated Dr. Hlynka; however, they also determined that it would go "far beyond a simple 'how to teach' model."

When the idea of the institute was proposed to their department, Dr. Hlynka recalled that "we were encouraged and even a little surprised by the instant backing from our dean, Dr. John Wiens, and our department head, Dr. Francine Morin."

To read the course description is to understand the positive response. Following are excerpts from information that appeared in the university's catalogue, relevant educational websites, as well as in *The Ukrainian Weekly's* "A Ukrainian Summer" issue (May 1).

"This special summer institute explores the meanings of social justice, human rights, genocide and totalitarianism within the context of two case studies: one Canadian and one European. The Canadian case study is the internment of Ukrainian Canadians in Canadian prison camps during World War I. The European case study is the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, called the Holodomor.

"These two events challenge how we think about social justice within the 21st century. An amalgam of history, culture, media, the arts and pedagogy, this course will present a unique opportunity to examine any horrific event within a teaching and learning perspective. ... The internment and famine case studies will be examined in depth focusing on content, context, subtexts and pedagogy.

"The pedagogy component will be aimed specifically at teachers from Grades K-12, and will examine ways of learning about horrific events, including contemporary technology-based ideas such as webquests, databases, online and mobile teaching methodologies. ... The course is... also relevant to masters and doctoral students in education, in history, in political studies, and students doing advanced work in peace and justice studies."

This description served to draw in an ideal seminar-sized group of 13 students of various ages and backgrounds for the July 4-15 institute, which met from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. More than half were young active teachers in area school systems. Of the remainder, two were pursuing masters degrees in education-related disciplines, one a B.A. in Slavic studies, and two were working toward doctorates in Peace and Justice Studies.

Most were not of Ukrainian heritage; included in the group were also two international students – one from Nigeria and one from Bangladesh. Most of the students were unfamiliar with either or both the internment and

the Holodomor.

The first few days were spent introducing the major themes to be covered, sharpening critical thinking skills, and creating an environment that promoted the sharing of insights, techniques and outcomes. And, as promised, the class was privileged to hear and interact with numerous specialists who visited in person or remotely via teleconferencing or Skype. The first was the dean of the School of Education Dr. John Wiens, who welcomed the institute participants with an engaging inquiry on the concepts of human rights and social justice.

In parallel with exploring the theme of social justice in pedagogy, the class delved into the theme of technology, especially as relates to communications and the transmission of information. Creative application of technology, as commonplace as the DVD or Skype or as specialized as the Smartboard, were all critically assessed with regard to optimal utility and comparative effectiveness in an educational context.

Each student became fully "hands on" with two computer-based instructional applications: ComicLife and Webquest. The former provides a versatile interactive structure for integrating any sort of graphics (photos, drawings, etc.) with text in order to create an appealing presentation. Webquest promotes student research and writing via the exploration of a teacher-defined set of resources accessible online. Each student was required to present a course-related instructional unit to the class utilizing each application.

A third computer-based medium was also introduced: blogging. It has been found to be particularly helpful for students dealing with difficult subject matter because it facilitates simultaneous responses and sharing. Therefore, everyone became a blogger. Upon registering on "Blogspot," each student was expected to write a daily blog reflecting on what he or she learned in class that day, and in turn, comment on the blog entries of fellow classmates. Time was allocated each day in the computer lab to try out the instructional applications and to work together on the required presentations.

Case studies

The Canadian internment of Ukrainians in 1914-1920 was the first case study in the criminal abuse of social justice that was introduced as a topic for critical examination: Why were Ukrainians targeted as enemy aliens, and how was their internment justified by the government and accepted by the general population?

Dr. Oleh Gerus of the University of Manitoba set the stage by presenting an overview of Ukrainian history in brief, followed by a more detailed history of Ukrainians in Canada. The circumstances that the new immigrants encountered in those early decades of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and their subsequent internment during and after World War I were then vividly portrayed in an exceptional documentary viewed by the class, "Freedom Had a Price" by Yuriy Luhovy.

The class also heard from one of the individuals most responsible for bringing the shameful history of the internment to the forefront. Via teleconferencing, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk of the Royal Military College of Canada, described his role in the decades-long project of research and advocacy that culminated in the Canadian government's official acknowledgement in 2008 of its gross vio-

The students comment

Preet Saini:

Over the weekend I took a trip down to the legislative building to take a few pictures that Candy and I need for our Comic Life project. I ended up going with a friend of mine ...[who] started asking me questions like why I needed these pictures. Who was this a monument to? What was so important about this person? What class I was taking? ... and a few more along those lines.

"I started explaining what the class was about and what the internment of the Ukrainian people during the war was all about. I expanded by letting her know who Taras Shevchenko was. We ended up having a very long conversation about the internment and the Holodomor.

I was quite amazed to see how interested she was in these topics. She (just like me) had no prior knowledge of any of these topics. It was a nice feeling to have shared some of the knowledge that I have been given in this past week with someone else, and to see that interest in the topic was intense. She even asked "Why did I not know about this before." It was an interesting question because I had the same one ...last week.

Leanne Bouvier:

Schools should study the Holodomor and the internment(s) because they are events that have had a lasting impact on large groups in society. We shouldn't shy away from difficult topics, especially at the high school level. People should understand the things that have happened in the past, and not only for the old adage that those who fail to study history are doomed to repeat it.

Until Valentina Kuryliw said it, it hadn't occurred to me: if Stalin had been held accountable for the Ukrainian Genocide and censured by the world community, could the Holocaust have been prevented? What atrocities will happen in the future because we turn a blind eye to things happening around the world now?

As far as the internments in Canada, they are a part of our history and they should not be covered up. Canada is our country, warts and all; it would be irresponsible to teach about all the great things that have happened in Canada (and there are lots of those!) without acknowledging the less favorable things. There will always be people in the world who know what really happened – why would we want to make ourselves into liars by excluding events that have taken place? When we know better, we can do better.

Uchenna Azubuike:

Today's lecture by Dr. Roman Serbyn via Skype and the class discussion threw me into a deeper sober reflection on the future impact of genocide on a given people. While the physical genocide is always and quickly followed by psychological and social capitulation of victims who live to tell the story, the real impact as Dr. Serbyn pointed out is that it always succeeds in breaking the backbone of the nationalism or those intrinsic social bonds that hold ethnic or homogenous social groups together.

As the case of the Holodomor against Ukrainians or genocide by means of starving an entire or a substantial part of a social group to death shows us, genocide in what-

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued on page 16)



Participants of the Summer Institute on Social Justice with Canadian Member of Parliament James Bezan.

Lana Babij

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“Genocide Revealed” receives standing ovation in Edmonton

by Peter J. Melnycky

EDMONTON, Alberta – Yuriy Luhovy’s multi-award-winning English-language feature documentary “Genocide Revealed” about the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 in Soviet Ukraine, had its Edmonton, Alberta, premiere on September 2011 before several hundred viewers at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex.

The premiere was part of a Western Canadian tour, including Winnipeg, Manitoba, Calgary, Alberta; and Kelowna and Vancouver, British Columbia. The Edmonton screening was co-hosted by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Alberta Provincial Council and the UCC’s Edmonton branch, and was attended by a cross-section of the community and both young and old.

The film’s director/producer, Mr. Luhovy was in attendance, and in his opening remarks he shared some of the technical and logistical challenges of producing films such as “Genocide Revealed.”

In spite of any difficulties, Mr. Luhovy expressed pride in his Ukrainian community and declared his ongoing commitment to tell their stories in the medium of film within mainstream settings. Mr. Luhovy stressed the importance of film festival screenings as a venue for bringing the crucial story of the Holodomor into public forums and consciousness.

He paid tribute to community supporters and stressed that the 12 international awards that “Genocide Revealed” has garnered are a tribute not to him but to the Ukrainian community. In an environment where the current government of Ukraine cannot be counted on as a supportive partner in such ventures, Mr. Luhovy thanked the organizers of the screening, as well as the community who helped partially fund the production: the Shevchenko Foundation; the Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association, Edmonton; the Ukrainian Canadian Benevolent Society, Edmonton; the Heritage Community Foundation of Alberta; Alberta Ukrainian Commemorative Society; and others.

All proceeds from the screening are designated to the production of a shorter educational version of the film to be used in curricula instruction on genocide.

Following these opening comments, the Edmonton premiere of “Genocide Revealed” commenced. The film, with



Filmmaker Yuriy Luhovy is flanked by Daria Luciw, president of the UCC Alberta Provincial Council, and Luba Feduschak, president of the UCC Edmonton branch.

narration by Gemini award-winner and Academy Award nominee Graham Greene and voice-overs by Jill Hennessey and Lubomir Mykytiuk, weaves together expert testimony from historians and archivists, as well as documentary evidence from historical documents. Most import are the gripping first person survivor accounts, which Mr. Luhovy has captured for posterity. The result is a compelling expose of a deliberate act of genocide against the Ukrainian people both within and beyond the borders of Ukraine.

After a standing ovation for the director, Daria Luciw, president of the UCC Alberta Provincial Council opened the floor to questions and comments. Members of the audience congratulated Mr. Luhovy for his determination and bravery in bringing the story of the Holodomor into public awareness.

In attendance at the screening was Eugene Zwozdesky minister of health and wellness and deputy government House leader of the government of Alberta. In 2008 Minister Zwozdesky presented the Ukrainian Famine and Geno-

cide (Holodomor) Memorial Day Act in the Alberta Legislature, which passed three readings unanimously in a single day. Through this act, the fourth Saturday of November in each year is proclaimed as a day memorializing the Holodomor in Alberta.

Reacting to “Genocide Revealed,” Minister Zwozdesky stated that it was extremely educational and belonged in every household.

In her concluding remarks Ms. Luciw stressed that it was incumbent on the community to make sure that the history of the Holodomor is recognized and that this objective cannot be achieved without the work of Mr. Luhovy. Upon conclusion, the attendees mixed and mingled and met informally with the director to share their feelings and impressions.

For further information readers may log on www.yluhovy.com. To help support the educational version, of the film, readers may e-mail contact mmlinc@hotmail.com or write 2330 Beaconsfield Ave., Montreal, Quebec, H4A 2G8, or call 514-481 5871.

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Ukrainian themes addressed at Toronto International Film Festival

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – Two of the films at the 2011 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), which ran from September 8 to 18, were related to Ukrainian themes; a third film was set in the region of Poland where Ukrainians now live.

On the 25th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, Israeli writer-director Michale Boganim explored its dramatic ramifications in the French/German/Polish/Ukrainian co-production “Land of Oblivion” (La Terre Outragée).

Award-winning Polish director Agnieszka Holland’s World War II drama “In Darkness” told the story of a Polish sewer worker who saves Jews hiding in the sewers of Lviv during the Holocaust.

The action of another Polish film, “Rosam,” directed by Wojciech Smarzowski, takes place in 1945-1946 in the region of Masuria – the old Polish-Prussian borderlands given to Poland after World War II, (where Ukrainians living in Poland were forcibly resettled in 1947 as a result of “Akcja Wisla.”

“Land of Oblivion” begins on April 26, 1986, at the wedding of a young couple in Prypiat, a town a few kilometers away from the nuclear power station at Chernobyl. Anya (played by Zaporozhian-born Olga Kurylenko, the Bond girl in “Quantum of Solace”) and local fireman Piotr (Nikita Emshanov) are celebrating their marriage when news arrives of an accident at the power plant.

Piotr is called away to help, and Anya never sees him again. Soon black rain starts to fall and the disaster’s full dimension begins to penetrate the consciousness of the people of Prypiat. Engineer Alexei (Andrzej Chyra) is one of the few who knows what’s really happened at the plant, and orders his wife and young son Valery (Ilya Iosifov) to get out of town.

The second part of the film is set in 1996, partly filmed in the actual locations around Chernobyl. Anya is now a guide for curious tourists who don radiation-proof suits and bus through Prypiat snapping photos of a transformed world. The eerily vacant landscape is only a backdrop to the human cost of the tragedy. Caught

between staying and leaving, the locals live in a state of suspended animation. Despite the dangers, they refuse to leave their history behind.

Anya is torn between the lovelorn urgings of Piotr’s friend who stayed in Prypiat and a French admirer who wants her to come with him to France. The now 16-year-old Valery comes back to the places that remind him of his father and goes AWOL in the zone. Ironically, his father is still alive and trying to find him, but whenever he boards a train and asks for Prypiat, people laugh at him or think he’s crazy, as no trains stop there anymore.

The residents’ houses are derelict, abandoned and overgrown with weeds. The area is still contaminated with too much radioactivity to be safe. Squatters move into family houses while relatives of those killed find themselves trapped and unable to make sense of it all. The aftermath of Chernobyl is fully exposed, forcing viewers to imagine what a nuclear future might look like.

“In Darkness” is based on the true story of Leopold Socha (Robert Wieckiewicz), a sewer worker, who helps a handful of Jews – men, women (including a pregnant one) and two children – who are hiding in the sewers of Lviv. He knows that any contact with Jews, let alone any help he gives them, jeopardizes his life and that of his wife and child. There are many reasons for Leopold to simply turn his back, and initially he does. But a substantial monthly stipend from the Jews changes his mind.

The labyrinth of underground passages, full of rats and waste, provides a relatively safe haven as the Nazis starve and ultimately liquidate the ghetto. The film portrays subterranean life during the 14 months that the Jews hide there in the most horrific of circumstances: there is hunger and brutality, but also a love affair and the birth of a child.

Soon suspicions arise, not only among Socha’s superiors, but also his friends – one of whom is a Ukrainian militiaman with whom Socha served time in the prison on Lontsky Street during their prewar stints as petty thieves. Gradually Socha’s relationship with the Jews undergoes a shift as he starts worrying about them and



Olga Kurylenko in “Land of Oblivion.”

Agata Kulesza and Malwina Buss in “Rosa.”

Robert Wieckiewicz in “In Darkness.”

(Continued on page 13)

Not all true masterpieces are made of gold



Madonna and Child Statue.
By Paolo Costagli.
c. 1968.

Venetian Green Marble



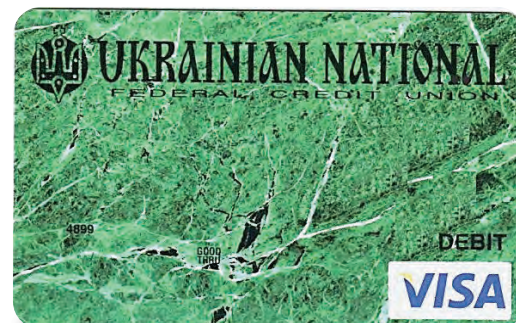
Ormolu Empire Tazza.
By Charles Monginier.
c.1870.

Antique Green Marble



Ganesh Statue.
Author unknown.
12th c.

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Julian Kytasty awes audiences in Virginia, Maryland



Yaro Bihun

Bandurist Julian Kytasty performs at the Lyceum, in Old Town Alexandria, Va. The instrumental and vocal program included his original compositions and improvisations of traditional Ukrainian kobzar music.

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – You could see it in the eyes and hear it in the reaction of those who came to hear Julian Kytasty play the bandura and sing at The Washington Group (TWG) Cultural Fund’s Sunday Music Series concert on September 25 in the Lyceum in Old Town, Alexandria, Va. And it was also very obvious a day earlier in the reaction of the children sitting in front of him on the gymnasium/cafeteria floor of the Saturday Ukrainian school in Bethesda, Md.

It was awe.

Julian Kytasty hails from that famous bandurist family in Detroit, where he began and developed his musical career in the footsteps and alongside his father, grandfather and uncles in that city’s celebrated Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus. As he progressed, however, he developed a uniqueness all his own, and the Washington-area audience got a chance to experience it that weekend.

All of the instrumental and vocal music in the concert program — from the opening “Raven Music” to the closing “Love Song” (Oy, koniu, miy koniu) — as indicated in the notes and in his introductions of each piece, were either his original compositions or his improvisations of traditional kobzar material.

Among them was the easily recognizable “Marusia Bo-

huslavka” and other dumas from the Kozak-Turkish wars and his original virtuoso instrumentals “Mamai” and “Night Music in a Strange Land.” The latter, as he explained tongue-in-cheek, sounds much better at night, when Manhattan begins to quiet down — at least in the rear bedroom of the East Village apartment where he lives.

And the three instruments he used in the performance demonstrated 250 years of the bandura’s development — from a recent reproduction of the mid-18th century 22-string Nedbailo kobzarska bandura to Vasyl Herasymenko’s experimental 1990 Kharkiv-style bandura with 34 strings and individual

tuning mechanisms, on which he played “Mamai.”

Unlike most bandura songs, which deal with traditional historical themes, Mr. Kytasty’s “Guardian Angel,” sung in English, focused on moral issues. It was rewarded not only with applause, but laughter as well, when, trying to help “Charlie” prepare for the afterlife, the angel asks him why he hasn’t used his considerable wealth to help those truly in need, and concludes with one bit of advice: “Charlie, don’t pack a sweater.”

Living in New York since 1980, Mr. Kytasty curates Bandura Downtown, a series dedicated to the creative explorations of traditional and contemporary music. He has performed worldwide, introducing the international audience to the bandura and Ukrainian music both as a soloist and with various Ukrainian and foreign ensembles. He has also received the 2002 Blizzard award for the best feature film score for “My Mother’s Village.”

His recent performances have included “Nightsongs,” an ongoing collaboration with Michael Alpert exploring the points of contact between Ukrainian and Jewish musical traditions — at The Ukrainian Museum in New York, in Jerusalem and at the Jewish Culture Festival in Krakow.

His 2010-2011 season also included appearances at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, the Voice of the Nomads Festival in Ulan Ude, and performances for the Yara Arts Group’s “Scythian Stones” and “Raven” at LaMama

ETC in New York and on tour in Kyiv and Kyrgyzstan.

As TWG Cultural Fund Director Svitlana Shiells pointed out in her introduction, his appearance here marked the beginning of the fund’s 2011-2012 Music Series, which includes concerts by pianist Anna Shelest (November 6), soprano Victoria Loukianetz (February 10), and composer Borys Skalsky and his ensemble (March 18).

She also noted that the Cultural Fund has become one of the sponsors of this year’s film festival at the National Gallery of Art in December, which will feature films by the leading Ukrainian filmmaker Yuri Ilyenko. Ms. Shiells called on the Ukrainian American community to support the TWG Cultural Fund in these endeavors.



Ukrainian Saturday school students listen to bandurist Julian Kytasty in Bethesda, Md.

Grechanyk sculptures on exhibit in D.C.



WASHINGTON – For the second year in a row, Washingtonians had the pleasure of viewing an assortment of statuettes by Ukrainian sculptor Igor Grechanyk during the weeklong exhibit of his work that opened on September 17 at the P&C Art Gallery in Georgetown. A week earlier, the collection was on display at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York.

– Yaro Bihun

Ukrainian themes...

(Continued from page 12)

helping them more actively, even as their money runs out and Socha’s family and life become targets.

“Rosa” begins as Tadeusz (Marcin Dorociński) a former Polish Home Army soldier, who fought in the Warsaw Uprising in August 1944, is severely wounded and witnesses the killing of his wife by a German. He travels to Masuria to hand over the keepsakes of a Wehrmacht officer, whose death he witnessed, to his Polish widow, Rosa (Agata Kulesza).

In the borderland of Masuria, for the Polish authorities and the coming immigrants, Rosa is German; for the local neighbors, she a traitor who collaborated with the Soviet invaders (her house used to be the headquarters of the local garrison). For the Soviets, she is merely a woman, a convenient target for rape. Rosa welcomes Tadeusz coldly but with the passing of time finds in him support, which she had lacked for a long time.

Will any of these films get future wide distribution as did Laryssa Kondracki’s “Whistleblower,” which premiered at the 2010 TIFF? It is certain that Ms. Holland’s “In Darkness” will be shown extensively as it has been chosen to represent Poland in next year’s foreign language Oscar race. But keep an eye out for all three films.

NEWSBRIEFS...

(Continued from page 2)

of our Ukrainian partners," the head of Polish government emphasized. EU Council President Van Rompuy noted that the European integration of Ukraine is a direction that was clearly supported both by ex-Prime Minister Tymoshenko and President Viktor Yanukovich. "Therefore, in maintaining Ukraine's European aspirations, Brussels takes into account the opinion both of the government and opposition," he stressed. Mr. Van Rompuy also added that the case of Ms. Tymoshenko and other opposition figures was discussed during the summit's gala dinner, the plenary sessions and bilateral meetings. "We all have expressed concern about the fate of the former prime minister and the possible selective application of justice against members of the previous government," Mr. Van Rompuy underscored. He added, "this is a serious matter, which Europe keeps a close eye on." European Commission President Barroso emphasized that Ukraine must adhere to democratic standards and respect the rights of the opposition. (Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko verdict likely October 11

KYIV – Kyiv's Pechersky District Court Judge Rodion Kireyev, who chairs the criminal proceedings against former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on charges of abuse of power and damage to the state, on September 30 announced a halt in the trial until October 11. "The court is going to the decision room. A halt is declared for the preparation of the sentence," Judge Kireyev said. Prior to this decision, Ms. Tymoshenko asked the court to give her time to prepare, together with her defense,

her final statement before sentencing. Ms. Tymoshenko expected that she would announce her position on October 3. However, the court decided otherwise. The defendant's lawyer, Mykola Siryi, called this turn of events "a unique case in the global practice." (Ukrinform)

Mejlis: Kyiv neglects Tatars' rights

KYIV – The president of the World Congress of Crimean Tatars, Crimean Parliament Deputy Refat Chubarov, said that Ukrainian authorities are neglecting the rights of Crimean Tatars. He said this during an October 5 meeting with heads of diplomatic missions and international organizations accredited in Ukraine. According to Mr. Chubarov, "in the current situation the further delay in restoring the rights of the Crimean Tatar people can have disastrous consequences that may result in the loss for humanity of one of the most original and ancient European peoples." He noted, "Currently the Crimean peninsula is experiencing a decline in representation of our people in local government, and educational and cultural programs are not funded properly. The proportion of the population of Crimean Tatars in Crimea is about 13 percent, and they comprise no more than 4-5 percent of those in power. And the situation is only getting worse." The chief of the Mejlis, Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Mustafa Dzhemilev, noted that, "the Ukrainian government is now completely kept away from solving these problems." According to Mr. Dzhemilev, this includes, in particular, enacting appropriate laws regarding the rights of Crimean Tatars, and solving problems related to housing, social protection, religion and land issues. In addition, he mentioned discrimination against Crimean Tatars and violations of

their right to educate children in their native language. The Crimean Tatar leaders appealed to foreign diplomats and representatives of international organizations with a proposal for an international forum on restoring the rights of Crimean Tatars to be convened as soon as possible under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe or the Council of Europe. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine's leaders remember Babyn Yar

KYIV – Commemorative events were held in Ukraine to mark the 70th anniversary of the Nazi-era massacre in Babyn Yar, where nearly 34,000 Jews were killed on September 29-30, 1941, when German forces rolled into Kyiv. President Viktor Yanukovich remembered the victims of the Babyn Yar massacre, the presidential press service reported on October 4. The ceremony was also attended by Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, Prime Minister Mykola Azarov and Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Avigdor Lieberman. Mr. Yanukovich laid a wreath at the monument at Babyn Yar National Historical and Memorial Reserve in Kyiv. The participants honored the memory of Babyn Yar victims with a minute of silence. (Euronews, Interfax-Ukraine)

Ukraine to launch spacecraft in Brazil

KYIV – Ukraine hopes to start launches of space vehicles from the Alcantara space center in Brazil in 2013, the chief of the National Space Agency of Ukraine (NSAU), Yuriy Alekseev, told the press on October 4. He noted that the missile system is being created on the basis of the modernized Ukrainian Cyclone missile with a new control system, increased payload and a new third stage. The system is being produced by Ukraine and Brazil on a parity basis. Ukraine is responsible for missile design, while Brazil is responsible for the infrastructure. The launch site is being constructed jointly. (Ukrinform)

Libya to free detained Ukrainians

KYIV – Ukraine has received assurances from the new Libyan government that 22 Ukrainians detained in the country will be released after the completion of an investigation into their involvement in military operations in Libya, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesperson Oleksander Dykusharov said at a briefing on October 4. "It gives us some optimism that the case is advancing rather effectively," he said. Mr. Dykusharov said that the status of the Ukrainians in Libya currently remains unchanged. "Our diplomats regularly visit the Ukrainians," he said, adding that Ukrainian officials are constantly holding talks on the release of Ukrainian citizens. He also said that Ukraine expects the speedy formation of a Libyan government, which will certainly help accelerate a positive resolution of this case. In September, the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry had confirmed reports about the detention of 23 Ukrainians in Libya, one of whom has already been released. According to diplomats, these citizens are civil engineers who arrived in Libya under contracts signed with a private company. Ukraine has demanded that the detained citizens be released from custody and brought to the Ukrainian Embassy in Tripoli. (Ukrinform)

MFA helping Ukrainians in Russia

KYIV – Ukraine is using all possible measures to preserve the Union of Ukrainians in Russia, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesperson Oleksander Dykusharov said at a briefing on October 4. "We're continuing to very closely monitor the situation around the activities of the Union of Ukrainians in Russia. Amid an incomplete judicial process in the case of the Union of Ukrainians in Russia, Ukraine is taking all measures to preserve the union," he said. Mr. Dykusharov said that all of the necessary conditions had been created for the activities of public, national and cultural unions of Russians

(Continued on page 15)

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EU offers...

(Continued from page 1)

her the equivalent of \$190 million. German Chancellor Angela Merkel expressed her concern over Ms. Tymoshenko to Mr. Yanukovich by telephone before the summit and face to face during the summit (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 16; Ukrinform, October 3).

However, Kyiv was clearly angered by what it saw as foreign interference in domestic affairs. Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko claimed in an interview that the EU and Russia were defending Ms. Tymoshenko because she helped them attain their goals during the 2009 gas crisis at Ukraine's expense (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 28).

Before and during the summit, the EU not only continued to criticize Kyiv for Ms. Tymoshenko's treatment, but also offered carrots for her release. The head of the EU representative office in Ukraine, Jose Manuel Pinto Teixeira, indicated that the EU might think about inserting a provision in the political association agreement draft on a possible future membership for Ukraine if the political situation in the country improved (Interfax-Ukraine, September 19).

Several EU officials, including Mr. Fule, reportedly said at the summit that the EU visa regime could be lifted for Ukrainian citizens sooner than planned. The EU also hinted that financial assistance to Ukraine could be increased if Ukraine took convincing steps toward democratization (Kommersant-Ukraine, September 30).

Despite the controversy over the Ty-

moshenko case, the EU's trade chief, Karel De Gucht, said after the summit that a free trade agreement would be concluded with Ukraine by the EU-Ukraine summit in early December at the latest, as planned (www.europa.eu, press release from October 3).

Circumstances are in Ukraine's favor since the EU wants a success story in order to show that the Eastern Partnership – launched in 2009 to assist the six former Soviet states located in Europe in their political and economic transition without promising EU membership – has not been a waste of time and money.

Ukraine is best suited for the role in contrast to the other participants in the partnership, which are either even less democratic like Belarus – which demonstratively ignored the summit – or too weak both politically and economically like Moldova.

President Yanukovich could save face and improve relations with the West if the offenses Ms. Tymoshenko is charged with were decriminalized. Such a possibility has been discussed in Ukraine for several weeks and several bills on this were submitted to the Verkhovna Rada by both the opposition and pro-government deputies. Mr. Yanukovich also submitted his own bill, but his legal adviser Andrii Portnov announced that the president's bill was not related to Ms. Tymoshenko's offenses (Channel 5, October 3).

Thus, time is running out for Mr. Yanukovich.

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NEWSBRIEFS...

(Continued from page 14)

in Ukraine, therefore, the Foreign Affairs Ministry expressed hope that the problems of the Ukrainian diaspora in Russia would also be resolved. "The Russian diaspora in Ukraine has unlimited opportunities to realize its rights to association, to education, to receive information in the Russian language and to learn their mother tongue. We hope that our attempts to attract attention to the problems of Ukrainian organizations in the Russian Federation will not be left without proper participation and support," he said. (Ukrinform)

"Price" of deputy's seat to rise

KYIV – Oleksander Chernenko, chairman of the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU), believes if the country restores the mixed majority-proportional election system, a candidate wishing to run in a majority constituency will have to pay at least \$1 million for his or her campaign in 2012 even if he or she is a respected and well-known individual. In general, he said on October 4, "the cost of the campaign in a majority constituency will be somewhere in the range of \$3 million to \$5 million." The expert was not yet able to estimate the cost of the list of parties in future elections. "It should be understood that the introduction of a mixed electoral system will change the situation, since party electoral lists will have not 450, but 225 seats. But, generally, I think a lot of potential candidates think a lot about whether they would rather go to majority constituencies in order to be more independent," Mr. Chernenko observed. The Parliament on October 4 was expected to consider a new bill on elections, despite the fact that the official opinion of the Venice Commission on this bill had not yet been received. Major sections of the bill include the return to a majority-proportional system of elections, a rise in threshold barrier for political parties from 3 percent to 5 percent, and a ban on party blocs participating in future elections. (Ukrinform)

U.S. reacts to draft election law

KYIV – In reaction to the new bill on Ukraine's elections, the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine released a statement on September 30. The text of the statement reads: "The United States joins with our European partners in underlining the high importance we attach to electoral reform in

Ukraine. With this in mind, we urge Ukraine to abide by the pledges it has made to follow the recommendations of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the Venice Commission, and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) in electoral matters. In particular, we urge Ukraine to await the final Joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR and to take into account the recommendations of IFES's completed review before finalizing any new draft law and submitting it to Parliament." (Embassy of the United States)

Scholars research historical battles

KYIV – Ukrainian and American historians have started joint research into historical battles in Ukraine, exemplified by a joint international research-to-practice seminar in the town of Zboriv, according to October 4 news reports. The main task of the meeting, according to Prof. Myron Stativ of the United States, is to exchange scholarly information regarding historical and archaeological research into famous battles of historical significance in Ukraine. Among these events is the Battle of Zboriv in 1649, during which the army of Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky defeated the Poles led by King John II Casimir. The Treaty of Zboriv saved the Poles from total defeat, as a result of which the Kyiv, Bratslav and Chernihiv regions came under the rule of the Zaporozhian Cossacks. Historians declare this to be the basis for the establishment of an independent Ukrainian state. (Ukrinform)

25% of state-run companies to be closed

KYIV – Between 25 and 30 percent of state-controlled enterprises in Ukraine will be eliminated, according to the chairman of the State Agency for the Management of the State Corporate Rights and Property, Dmytro Kolesnikov. The Delo newspaper reported on October 3 that Mr. Kolesnikov said, "A minimum should be left in state ownership. That is, those businesses that meet the criteria. A fairly large number of enterprises will be liquidated. These are illiquid companies, they are in the registry, but do not operate. I think, according to preliminary data, about 25 to 30 percent. And this is only the initial estimate. When the analysis is finished, then I can say more definitely." Previously, Mr. Kolesnikov had said that the analysis of companies that are publicly owned would be completed this year. (Ukrinform)

2013-2016 could be peak of crisis

KYIV – The second wave of the economic crisis and its peak in Ukraine will be somewhat different from the wave of 2008, the head of the Union of Scientists-Economists Oleksander Kendiukhov, told Ukrinform on October 3. "There won't be another collapse of the real estate market, because it has not risen to date. The level of prices will remain unchanged, for example, for real estate and cars. But consumption will decline, resulting in a reduction in production. For Ukraine, it would be something like the year 2008. The years 2013-2016 will be the peak of the economic crisis," the economist said. Mr. Kendiukhov predicted that the economic downturn that occurred in 2008 would last about 20 years. "The manifestation of crisis is stipulated by a fall in the level of production in our industrial and agricultural sector. The main problem of the Ukrainian economy is a physically and morally outdated, energy-intensive and low-profit structure of national production. Moreover, our economy is fulfilling the serving function in relation to post-industrial economies – the United States and the European Union. If consumption declines there, production automatically falls here," he explained. The economist said that the only way to be safe for decades is to change the structure of national production towards high-tech, highly profitable and, most importantly, export-oriented industries. (Ukrinform)

MFA: Freed ship heading to port

KYIV – The Dover, a ship freed by Somali pirates on September 30 with two Ukrainian citizens on board, is currently heading to the nearest safe port, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) spokesperson Oleksander Dykusharov said on October 1. According to the Ukrainian Embassy in Greece, the ship is expected to arrive in port on October 3-4, he said. "Upon arrival at the port, representatives of the ship's

owner and Ukrainian diplomats will resolve the question of the crew's repatriation," the Embassy said in a statement. Ukrainian Embassies in Greece and Saudi Arabia, as well as the Consular Service Department of the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry, are continuing to oversee the case. The Dover, a ship with 24 crewmembers, including two Ukrainians, was hijacked back on February 28. (Ukrinform)

Boiko: Ukraine to defend its interests

KYIV – At the heart of any gas project, which Ukraine considers jointly with the European Commission and local partners, should lay the principles of safe supplies and transit of energy resources to Europe, parity and compliance with the national interests of Ukraine, Minister of Energy and Coal Industry Yurii Boiko told the press on September 30, commenting on the prospects of involving the European Union and Russia in a consortium for the operation of the Ukrainian gas transit system (GTS). Mr. Boiko thanked European Commissioner for Energy Gunter Oettinger for assistance in addressing the issue of financing the modernization of the Ukrainian GTS by the European Union. The EU is planning to allocate about \$310 million for the reconstruction of the Urengoi-Pomary-Uzhhorod section of the Ukrainian gas transit system. According to the United Kingdom-based Mott MacDonald, which won a tender and developed a feasibility study for reconstruction of the Ukrainian GTS and storage facilities, the cost of work will be \$3.2 billion. A declaration on the modernization of Ukraine's gas transit system was signed in March 2009 in Brussels by the Ukrainian government, the European Commission, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank and the World Bank. The Ukrainian gas transit system can pump about 120 billion cubic meters of natural gas. (Ukrinform)



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Вічна Йому Пам'ять!

Teaching the Holodomor...

(Continued from page 9)

lation of human rights.

The second case study, that of the Holodomor, was introduced via Skype by Dr. Roman Serbyn, professor emeritus from the University of Quebec and pre-eminent authority on the Holodomor as genocide. Dr. Serbyn clearly delineated the scope of the genocide in Ukraine as beginning in 1929 and continuing into the mid-1930s.

Throughout, Dr. Serbyn referenced Dr. Rafael Lemkin, who not only coined the term "genocide" but was among the first to explicitly detail how Stalin perpetrated genocide against the Ukrainian nation.

The same day, we also viewed the newly released feature-length English-language edition of Mr. Luhovy's "Genocide Revealed." Consistent with the response that this documentary has been receiving on the film festival circuit, the students found the film to be an engrossing, disturbing and powerful eye-opener.

The class also viewed the first documentary produced about the Holodomor, the 1983 "Unknown Holocaust," by Taras Hukalo et al. This 30-minute film was especially informative in its focus on the cover-up of the Famine. Also, each member of the class was given a copy of a DVD containing 12 Holodomor survivors' testimonies to view outside of class. (These were funded and distributed by the Canadian hotel chain Canad Inns).

By the end of the first week, the participants in the institute had acquired a basic level of knowledge about two case studies of authoritarian abuses against a group of people defined by ethnicity or nationality.

Each student was now confronting his own sense of disbelief, indignation and anger that such events were allowed to occur, were denied for so long, and remain in historical obscurity within the educational system. Everyone felt that it was important to teach about each of these events in Canadian schools, but the question was how to integrate that teaching within the curricular mandates of their province of Manitoba.

The challenge seemed exacerbated by the increasingly marginalized status of history in high school curricula observed by the teachers in the class and confirmed by visiting historian and educator Ken Osborne.

Bringing it to the classroom

To address these issues, the second week of the institute offered several concrete suggestions for introducing meaningful lessons on the internment and the Holodomor within existing guidelines.

Valentina Kuryliw, former history teacher and Head of Toronto's School Board for History and Social Studies Education, appeared via Skype to describe her fully developed workbook and resource kit on the teaching of the Holodomor as part of 10th grade civics or 12th grade history, geography and social studies in Ontario.

Everyone received a copy of the 2008 workbook (currently in revision), which serves as a stand-alone resource containing primary and secondary source materials, guided lesson plans and further references.

Linda Conner and Val Noseworthy of the Manitoba Department of Education not only demonstrated some effective classroom techniques, but also described in detail how specific educational outcomes were structured within the Manitoba curriculum guidelines and how the proposed new history guidelines will incorporate recommendations regarding the teaching of the Holodomor as well as the internment.

They also distributed a very helpful handout "Resource for Teachers: Holodomor Education and Awareness" by Tony Tavares, Val Noseworthy and Al Friesen (2009), which offers basic definitions, goals, suggestions and, importantly, links by grade to specific sections of the official Manitoba curriculum.

A detailed overview of the Historical Thinking Project was the final guest presentation of the institute. Lindsay Gibson, a University of British Columbia graduate student and associate of the project, explained how the project was developing scores of small-scale lesson units, or "History Docs" on different events in Canadian history, including internment. Each unit includes primary and secondary sources, as well as carefully developed lesson plans, defined outcomes and assessment rubrics. This proves to be a low-cost, teacher-driven model worthy of emulation.

The possibility of affecting positive change with regard to social justice was given proof by James Bezan, member of Parliament and a staunch supporter of Ukrainian issues. In a fascinating account of Russian pressures and byzan-

tine political maneuverings, he described how his Bill C 459 – to have Canada recognize the Holodomor as genocide – passed in 2008.

The class greatly appreciated Mr. Bezan's personal appearance. Moreover, they derived hope and inspiration from the persistent and courageous actions of all who have succeeded in bringing official national acknowledgement or recognition to events such as the internment and the Holodomor.

There was much more that Drs. Hlynka and Cap brought to the institute that can't be included in this already long article, but which provided a wealth of ideas for incorporating into education about the Holodomor and the internment.

The use of literature, such as Orwell's "Animal Farm," fine arts, film and music, commemorative monuments, and other non-traditional resources were explored for their potential impact.

And, in countless ways, the students were exhorted to question assumptions, shown how to verify and assess information, and reminded always to be aware that in any historical inquiry, intents, contexts and interpretations all interplay and can change over time. Pedagogical integrity was stressed for both resources and methodology.

Shared learning was the operative mode for the Social Justice Institute. Each participant offered valuable observations and insights in group discussions, presentations and blog entries.

The culmination of shared learning took place in the presentation of student projects related to three assignments – one involving either a product assessment or a lesson plan, and the other two demonstrating lessons that utilized each of the applications ComicLife and Webquest. The advanced degree candidates also provided outlines of the papers they were working on for later submission.

In their words

Nadine: "In regard to the case studies of this course, not affording students the opportunity to learn about internment and the Holodomor is akin to the denials and cover-ups of their occurrence.... This course has far exceeded my expectations... In spite of the subject matter we are left with hope and a lot of resources for educating."

Preet: "My initial reason for enrolling in this class was to understand how multiple forms of technology can be used to bring awareness and educate on intense events; I can comfortably say that I have taken a lot more than just that out of this class."

Michael: "The information we are receiving in class has been very valuable and extensive in the sense that it really gives us a sense of what occurred. I like the fact that we are using such a variety of sources."

Candy: "It has been great to have so many incredible guest speakers sharing with us throughout this course!"

Leanne: "...how important it is to help students (and ourselves!) make connections to the material so that it stays with them instead of falling straight out of their heads."

Josyf: "The differentiated learning that we are getting is fantastic and really appropriate towards the contents. This course has many beneficial points, and I am hoping that it will be offered again to both current teachers and learners. Another great day!"

In summary

What really resonated with the students was the following:

- Survivor testimony and how it brings a sense of reality and authenticity to incomprehensible events.
- The insidious effects of denial and non-recognition – both on the survivor and on society in general.
- Hearing about real-life endeavors that make a difference.
- Hearing from and being able to interact live with subject specialists.
- Learning about practical application for their classrooms, whether from professionals or from fellow participants.
- Having hands-on opportunities with new technologies/applications
- Seeing how resources that are not explicitly instructional, such as literature, art, film and music, can be used to make history more meaningful.
- Having access to accurate and authentic documentaries for core learning.
- Having access to pedagogically sound ready-to-use teaching modules.

Personal reflections

I was very impressed by the skill and creativity that the students demonstrated as they applied what they learned in the institute to their projects.

Even more, I was deeply moved, perhaps as only someone who has faced decades of skepticism and denial can be moved. Here was a classroom of bright teachers with little or no previous knowledge of the Holodomor and the internment who did their utmost to acknowledge and demonstrate how effectively they could educate about these events. Their sincerity and conviction truly serve as both an inspiration and a validation of our need to continue our efforts to develop and promote Holodomor education.

And it certainly served to validate the success of this institute. Without exception, the students praised the teachers, the speakers, the structure and the content of the course.

They were grateful to learn unknown history that they considered of major significance and importance to the Canadian curriculum. Everyone was also grateful for the wealth of ideas and the concrete resource and technology information they were taking away for future use.

One could easily see the tremendous amount of planning that went into the institute to make it such a success.

"What would make this course unique," explained Dr. Hlynka, "is that our two case studies would be the internment and the Holodomor seen through Canadian eyes." Making the course relevant and appealing from a number of practical perspectives was critical to getting students to enroll in the first place. Once in, they were not disappointed.

What Drs. Hlynka and Cap accomplished in a very significant way, was to demonstrate how to bridge the gap between the knowledge that grows in academia and what the rest of us learn and understand. This is a need that has been increasingly evident, particularly with regard to the transfer of information regarding the Holodomor.

The Summer Institute as presented by Drs. Hlynka and Cap is the kind of innovative, 21st century educational initiative that we as individuals and organizations need to support. As indicated in their brochure, the 2011 institute was funded in part through grants by the University of Manitoba Innovation Fund and the Shevchenko Foundation, and also assisted by the Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University.

I sincerely hope that Drs. Hlynka and Cap, with positive feedback in hand, will be able to offer this institute on a regular basis in the future. And we who are interested in Holodomor and Internment education should consider attending ourselves, encourage others to do so, and actively promote this and similar academic programs in the future.

The students comment

(Continued from page 9)

ever form we operationalize its impacts, reveals that it may take a quantum of miracles for such affected people to recover and rebuild their social spirit and cohesion. The aftermath of genocide even in Ukraine takes the form of an epochal contagion in which the humanity of that same group is demoralized.

Ethnic Ukrainians and Ukrainian nationalism remained threatened by the very intent ... of the masterminds of the Ukrainian genocide – to utterly destroy the emergence of real Ukrainian nationalism. Through the conscious displacement and dispersion of the ethnic Ukrainian population all over the territories of the former USSR and the implantation of non-Ukrainians to permanently settle on extensive or substantial portions of Ukrainian lands, and the destruction or replacement of Ukrainian culture and language in schools before the collapse of the USSR, the structural and physical genocide have created a space in which the state of Ukraine would hardly push for the re-birth of ethnic Ukrainian nationalism and any attempt to do this may result in further disintegrating the new state of Ukraine.

What is more, the perpetrators' dream of breaking or destroying the backbone of the Ukrainian cohesion seem to be a finished job until such time a reawakening shows up on the horizon of the new and patriotic self-conscious citizens.

I will add more comments later, but suffice to say at this time that genocide does not end with the killing of its victims but that future generations are wont to suffer internalization of oppression, self-denial of the truth and reality arising from genocide, as well as the burden of fear of the unknown. But when will Ukraine be free from the Russification project which seems to have reduced the real Ukrainian nationalism to academic conjectures rather than a realizable self-rediscovery?



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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Diplomat receives U.S. State Dep't award

PHILADELPHIA – The U.S. State Department recently honored diplomat Dorian Mazurkevich with an award for his “outstanding work in greatly advancing the U.S. Mission’s goals in Brazil.”

Mr. Mazurkevich currently serves as the U.S. regional intellectual property attaché to Latin America, based out of the U.S. Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

He holds the diplomatic rank of First Secretary.

Mr. Mazurkevich serves as the top U.S. official in Latin America on intellectual property issues, meeting with ministers and high-level government officials to advance U.S. interests in the region. His engagement has led to bilateral agreements between the U.S. and countries such as Brazil and Chile on patent and innovation issues.

Mr. Mazurkevich also engages with law enforcement officials to combat piracy and counterfeiting in the region. He worked with Interpol on training officials from over a dozen countries as part of Operation Jupiter, which conducted raids across South America targeting organized criminal counterfeiting networks, and resulting in hundreds of arrests and the seizure of millions of illegal products.

Mr. Mazurkevich began his legal career in 2001 at the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer and Feld LLP. He later joined the intellectual property law practice of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. As an attorney with that firm, he testified before the U.S. trade representative when the U.S. government considered suspending \$75 million of trade benefits to Ukraine as sanctions for inadequate intellectual property protection.

In 2005 Mr. Mazurkevich was a Fulbright Scholar in Ukraine, where he was a visiting



Consul General of the United States Dennis W. Hearne presents a State Department award to Dorian Mazurkevich.

law professor at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, teaching international intellectual property law.

In 2008 Mr. Mazurkevich was profiled in the Legal Intelligencer, the oldest legal newspaper in the U.S. In their quarterly issue Young Attorney, Mr. Mazurkevich, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, was featured on the cover of the publication together with a lengthy article describing his Ukrainian background, his studies at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, his work in Ukraine and his work in Latin America.

Mr. Mazurkevich graduated from the School of Ukrainian Studies of Philadelphia, was a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and is the son of Ukrainian activist and businesswoman Ulana Baluch Mazurkevich and architect Zenon Mazurkevich.

Named to represent New Haven County



Halia Lodynsky, Mrs. New Haven County.

BETHANY, Conn. – Halia (Helen) O. Lodynsky of Bethany, Conn., will be competing for the title of Mrs. Connecticut America on February 4, 2012, at Foxwoods Resort Casino. In this competition each outstanding contestant will represent her city, town or county.

The Mrs. Connecticut America pageant is the official preliminary to the Mrs. America/Mrs. World Pageants and is the largest system of its kind in the world. Mrs. America is the premier pageant for married women, established in 1977. This national competition is devoted to proving that America’s 60 million married women are extraordinarily poised, hard-working and versatile.

Ms. Lodynsky has been married to Adrian Lodynsky for 26 years. They have three children, Alexandra, 18, Andre, 16 years old, and Adian, 9. Alexandra is a freshman at St. John’s University in New York.

Ms. Lodynsky is employed at St. Raphael’s MRI Center in New Haven. She also teaches Ukrainian and catechism on Saturdays at St. Michael’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, also in New Haven. She enjoys volunteering, gardening, photography, videography, writing and reading.

“Notes on People” is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian community and the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person’s UNA branch number (if applicable). Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt.

THE UNA: 117 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Putin calls...

(Continued from page 1)

Asia, the Baltics and the South Caucasus, but still it harks back to the imperial past. Putin is playing on these strings.”

“Not recreating the Soviet Union”

Mr. Putin, who famously called the collapse of the USSR the “greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century,” wrote that “the idea is not to recreate the Soviet Union in some form.”

It would be “naive,” the prime minister wrote, “to attempt to restore or copy something from the past. However, a stronger integration on a new political and economic basis and a new system of values is an imperative of our era.”

Nikolai Petrov, an analyst at the Moscow Carnegie Center, said the article sought to draw attention to Mr. Putin’s foreign policy victories as the authorities’ electoral campaign gathers momentum, with the State Duma elections on December 4.

“I don’t think there is anything new in this view of Russian foreign policy,” Mr. Petrov said, adding that the article looks like “a rather symbolic gesture to show how effective Putin has been in regard to foreign policy with Russia’s neighbors.”

“Also, the article is not a program,” he said, “rather it showcases his achievements.”

Numbers game

Mr. Putin hailed the “Unified Economic Space” of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia that will be launched in January 2012 and called it a “historic landmark” for all the ex-Soviet countries that Moscow sees as its “sphere of influence.”

He also called for more former Soviet states to join, dismissing Ukraine’s protestations that such a move would conflict with Kyiv’s aspirations eventually to join the European Union.

The Unified Economic Space, modeled on the European Union, will unite 165 million consumers and act as a geo-economic counterweight to the EU, “have a positive impact globally,” and act as economic hub linking Europe and Asia, Mr. Putin wrote.

Mr. Salin said Mr. Putin, who will seek to return to the Kremlin for a third term as president in an election slated for March 2012, is seeking to reverse the ruling elite’s sagging popularity.

“[Putin] is in a very difficult situation because the popularity ratings [of the authorities] are on a downward turn, and the same goes for his own personal rating,” Mr. Salin said. “He needed to find a card to play that would engage the electorate.”

Mr. Putin’s rating is still high – running about 70 percent – although it is down from the stratospheric 85 percent approval he enjoyed in 2008. United Russia’s ratings fell to record lows of below 40 percent in June this year.

Mr. Petrov said the substance of Russian foreign policy is unlikely to change as Mr. Putin returns to the Kremlin, although he said he expects its tone to change as President Dmitry Medvedev, who was seen as more pro-Western, fades from the scene.

“No more will it be possible for them to play this tandem thing and pander to different audiences,” Mr. Petrov said.

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 **THE 20th ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE** 

WILDWOOD CREST, N.J.



Roma Lisovich



WILDWOOD CREST, N.J. – For the 20th consecutive year, Ukrainian Americans vacationing in the Wildwoods on the New Jersey shore celebrated Ukrainian Independence Day on the beach. On Wednesday, August 24, they gathered around a blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flag at Wildwood Crest to sing the Ukrainian national anthem and exchange best wishes on the holiday. The celebration was led by Michael Koziupa, first vice-president of the Ukrai-

nian National Association, who was among the hundreds of Ukrainians in the area for what has become known as “Ukrainian Week in Wildwood.” A large number of young people participated in the festivities, as seen in the photo on the right. Among those celebrating also were many who are young at heart, including Katrusia Styn, 92, of Silver Spring, Md., seen in the photo on left with her daughter Orysia Hewka of the Philadelphia area.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

Russia was “feeling good.”

Grigory Yavlinsky, a Russian opposition politician, deplored the West’s carrot-and-stick approach to Russia as “disastrous,” and called instead for a clear, consistent stance on Russia. “How can you help? The answer is simple: by your example. Please put the

European Union in order, please show you can exercise the values and principles that you declare,” he said. “Help the United States overcome the economic and political crisis, and we will look at your example and move much faster. All the rest we can do ourselves.”

Source: “At Democracy Forum, Central/Eastern Europe slams U.S. engagement with Russia,” by Claire Bigg (RFE/RL), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, October 25, 2009.

Crimes against...

(Continued from page 2)

tions, the price of Azerbaijani LNG would translate into approximately \$300 per 1,000 cubic meters of the re-gasified product. Ukraine currently pays approximately \$400 per 1,000 cubic meters of Russian gas (FSU Oil and Gas Monitor, June 22).

The Ukrainian government is embarking on this project with both optimism and a compelling sense of urgency. Kyiv needs this project on the table at this juncture, for at least a degree of counter-leverage to Moscow

in the decisive rounds of gas negotiations.

Azerbaijani officials, however, sound more cautious. While clearly interested in the project, they emphasize the need for further analysis of investment costs and gas volume availability from both Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan. The only certainty is that this project adds to Azerbaijan’s array of options, both as a gas producer and a transit country for European gas markets.

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|--|--|------------------------------|---|
| October 9 through November 6
Oxford, PA | Art exhibit, "Teacher/Student Forty Years On..." featuring woodcuts by Dan Miller and Andrij Maday, Pennsylvania Academy of The Fine Arts, Bookplace, 717-951-6418 | October 15
Scranton, PA | Flea market and rummage sale, to benefit the Children's Religious Education Program, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, 570-963-1580 |
| October 10
Morristown, NJ | Presentation by Orysia Tracz, "Interwoven: Traditional Ukrainian Costumes and Textiles and Their Symbolism," Morris Museum, 973-971-3718 | October 15
New York | Kinofest NYC film fest, "Ukrainian Film Shorts," Ukrainian Film Club of Columbia University, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660 or www.ukrainianinstitute.org |
| October 13
Ottawa | Lecture by Pavlo Klimkin, deputy vice-minister of Ukraine, "Twenty Years of Ukrainian Independence: Assessing and Forecasting," University of Ottawa, chairukr@gmail.com or 613-562-5800 ext. 3692 | October 15
Buena, NJ | Celebration of Cossack Pokrova (Protection of the Mother of God), Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, New Kuban Free Cossack Community, 856-697-2255 or 609-356-0165 |
| October 14
Whippany, NJ | Performance, "Solodka Darusia," sponsored by Meest America, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 800-288-9949 | October 15
Astoria, NY | Bus trip to Atlantic City, Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church, Showboat Casino, 917-689-2904 |
| October 14
Cambridge, MA | Presentation by Svitlana Pyrkalo, "Media and Language in Today's Ukraine," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 | October 16
Jenkintown, PA | Performance, "Solodka Darusia," sponsored by Meest America, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 800-288-9949 |
| October 14
New York | Lecture by Giovanna Brogi, "Is There a Canon of Ukrainian Baroque Literature", Columbia University, 212-854-4697 or ma2634@columbia.edu | October 16
Whippany, NJ | Art exhibit and sale, featuring works by Jacques Hnizdovsky, Ukrainian National Women's League of America - Branch 75, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, heirloomad@aol.com |
| October 14-15
Jenkintown, PA | Art exhibit, Ukrainian National Women's League of America - branch 67, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1764 | October 16
Hartford, CT | Celebration dinner, marking the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, Ukrainian National Home, 860-296-5702 |
| October 15
Denville, NJ | Volleyball tournament, Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, hosted by Lys Sports Academy, Powerzone Volleyball Center, www.socceragency.net/lys | October 17
Cambridge, MA | Seminar by Tarik Amar, "Different but the Same, or the Same but Different? The Remaking of Public Memory of World War II in Post-Soviet Lviv," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 |
| October 15
New York | Performance, "Solodka Darusia," sponsored by Meest, America Fashion Institute of Technology, 800-288-9949 | October 20
Cambridge, MA | Film presentation, and a tribute to Marina Vroda, director of "Cross-Country Run," Harvard University, 617-495-4053 |
| October 15
New Britain, CT | Ukrainian Harvest Festival, St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 860-229-3833 or 860-677-2138 | | |
| October 15
Hartford, CT | Masquerade party, Ukrainian National Home, 860-296-5702 | | |

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

COMPELLING BILATERAL RELATIONS: POLAND-UKRAINE & TURKEY-UKRAINE

On October 19-20, 2011, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America is co-hosting the "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable" forum, held annually in our nation's capital. This year's forum will address "Compelling Bilateral Ties/Poland-Ukraine & Turkey-Ukraine".

THE Roundtable event, which is the twelfth of its kind, will discuss two bilateral relationships that carry deep political and economic significance as well as powerful cultural and historic meaning to Ukraine. It will focus on the interrelations of Ukraine and Poland (which presently holds the presidency of the EU), as well as Turkey (which has been a very important player with a growing economy in the Middle East). Strengthening these bilateral relations can prove to be very important in Ukraine's political and economic development as well as Ukraine's stated goal of integration into the European Union.

THE conference will bring together key government and non-governmental representatives from Ukraine, Poland, Turkey, the European Union and the United States for a two-day event. The conference will begin on October 19th at 6:30pm with a dinner featuring several speakers, followed by six plenary sessions, four highlight focus sessions and a forum patrons' reception on October 20th. In total, over two dozen featured speakers are expected to address the conference proceedings. Some of the confirmed speakers include: US Senator Richard Lugar; Former US National Security Advisor Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski; Ambassador of Ukraine to the US, Oleksandr Motysyk; Ambassador of Turkey to Ukraine, Ahmet Meric; Ambassador of Ukraine to Turkey, Serhiy Korsunsky; Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the UN, Yuri Sergeyev; Member of Euro-Parliament, Pawel Zalewski; Former Minister of Defense of Poland, Janusz Onyszkiewicz; Director of Eurasia Programs at Chatham House, James Sherr; as well as members of Ukraine's opposition including Arseniy Yatsenyuk (Front for Change Bloc), Hryhoriy Nemyria (Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc), Oleh Rybachuk (New Citizen) and Borys Tarasyuk (RUKH).

THE conference is open to the public. If you would like to register for the conference please fill out the registration form on the right and fax it to the UCCA National Office (fax # 212- 254-4721) or email it to ucca@ucca.org. For the full program and any other questions please feel free to contact the UCCA National Office either by phone at 212-228-6840 or by email at ucca@ucca.org.

THE Roundtable conference is being cosponsored by American Foreign Policy Council, Center for US-Ukrainian Relations, Embassy of Ukraine to the United States, Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation, International Republican Institute, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung/UA, Library of Congress/Open World Institute, Polish Ukrainian Cooperation Initiative, Ukrainian National Association, and Ukrainian National Information Service.

REGISTRATION FORM

AS SPACE IS LIMITED, TO SECURE YOUR PARTICIPATION, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION BY OCTOBER 15, 2011

SUGGESTED DONATION: 50 US DOLLARS PER DAY

NAME: _____
 TITLE: _____
 AFFILIATION: _____
 TELEPHONE: _____
 FAX: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 MOBILE: _____

- I will attend all listed Roundtable functions **OCTOBER 19 - 20** (Opening Remarks Dinner plus Plenary Sessions & Focus Sessions plus Forum Reception) - \$100
- I will attend the RT proceedings on **OCTOBER 19** only (Opening Remarks Dinner) - \$50
- I will attend the RT proceedings on **OCTOBER 20** only (Plenary Sessions & Focus Sessions plus Forum Reception) - \$50

October 19, 2011
Russell Senate Office Building Hearing Room 325
 Russell Senate Office Building Hearing Room 325 [Sponsor: Senator Richard Lugar]
 Entrance to Russell Senate Office Building: 1st and C Streets, NE

October 20, 2011
Capitol Hill SVC Rooms 210-212
 Capitol Hill Senate Visiting Center 210-212 [Sponsor: Senator John Kerry]
 Entrance to Visitor's Center: 1st Street NE, between Constitution and Independence Avenues

WASHINGTON, DC

Druzhba 78 teams from Ukraine demonstrate skills in U.S. tournaments

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Druzhba 78 youth hockey team from Kharkiv, Ukraine, won the Ice Works Hockey Tournament held in Aston, Pa., during Labor Day weekend, September 3-5, going undefeated in the tournament. This was the first time a team from Ukraine participated in the tournament.

In the final, Druzhba 78 defeated Prospects 1-0 in the Bantam AA division (ages 13-14). Along the way to the final, Druzhba 78 defeated Mercer Chiefs 6-2, Capital City Vipers 6-0, Flyers Youth 5-0 and the Reston Raiders 5-0.

The team is coached by Ivan Pravilov, who hosts various hockey clinics in the United States, which this year attracted 60 participants age 10-16. Mr. Pravilov told Ukrainian news service UNIAN that, in preparation for the regular season, the Druzhba boy's team did not have a place in Ukraine to train, as facilities do not maintain ice in the arenas during the summer months.

Earlier this year, the Bantam team for Druzhba 78 won the 1997 division of the seventh annual Gatorade AAA Summer Challenge hockey tournament at Hollydell Ice Arena on June 24-25 in Hollydell, N.J. Druzhba defeated North Jersey Avalanche 5-3, lost to Sound Shore Selects 2-3, de-

feated the NJ Hitmen (Gray) 7-1, and the Washington All Stars 10-0. In the semi-final, between the blue and red divisions, Druzhba defeated DHI Octane 4-0. In the final, Druzhba defeated the Razorback All Stars 2-1, after three over-times and a shootout.

On June 16-17, Druzhba 78 won the 2000-blue division of the Gatorade tournament, defeating the Mercer Chiefs 5-0, Sound Shore Selects 3-2 and Washington All Stars 6-1. In the playoffs, Druzhba defeated Mercer 4-1, In the semifinals, Druzhba 78 lost to second-place Hollydell Selects 0-6. Hollydell lost in the final to the Cougars Select 1-4.

Druzhba 78 also participated in One Hockey, the most prestigious summer hockey tournament in North America, held on June 30 through July 3 in Aston Pa., at Ice Works arena. At One Hockey, the team came in second place, losing to champions Flypuck 1-2. Druzhba's team of 11-year-olds also participated on July 7-10, but results were unavailable.

Twenty-five of the Ukrainian children's airfare and three-month stay in the U.S. were paid for personally by Dainius Zubrus of the New Jersey Devils and other NHL players. Born in Lithuania, Mr. Zubrus began playing hockey in Ukraine, because hockey



Both teams of the Druzhba 78 sports club with Dainius Zubrus of the New Jersey Devils.

was not as popular in Lithuania as it was in Ukraine. He trained under Mr. Pravilov from age 8 to 18 and is among the coach's former students who play in the National Hockey League, European leagues and other North American professional minor leagues.

A dinner was held prior to a Devils game, which the young players attended. The din-

ner was hosted by Lou Lamoriello, CEO, president and general manager of the New Jersey Devils, for the young hockey players from Ukraine.

For more information on the Druzhba hockey clinics in the United States and Ukraine, and the teams, readers should visit www.druzhba.com/info.

'Black Raven'...

(Continued from page 4)

What do you see in Ukraine's future politically?

Most of the hopes and aspirations are going to have to wait for a new generation of political leaders, leaders who were born in an independent Ukraine, as opposed to being left over from the previous regime. People born during Ukraine's independence already identify with the country, rather than its history and previous regime. That process will work itself out, and a new class of leadership will emerge.

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He was a dear...

(Continued from page 7)

with the PLO. For AIPAC, this was heresy.

"Defeating Percy for re-election in 1984 became virtually a national crusade among pro-Israeli activists," writes Mr. Goldberg. One Jewish millionaire, Michael Goland of California, personally spent \$1.6 million for attack ads in various Illinois newspapers and on the radio.

Following his defeat, Mr. Percy, a moderate Republican, moved to Washington, where he became an international trade consultant and board chairman of the Institute of International Education, an organization that administered cultural exchange programs.

Suffering from Alzheimers in his later years, Charles Percy died on September 17 at age 91. Vichna yomu pamiat!

It's time...

(Continued from page 3)

ropean Time once and for all and be done with it. After all, one of the geographic centers of Europe – the city of Rakhiv – is in Ukraine.

This would not only simplify things for all concerned, but at least timewise would allow Ukraine to be enveloped in a European embrace.

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	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	44	44
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		5,242	5,242
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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Ukrainian is New York's top boys soccer player

NEW YORK – Ukrainian American Mark Kramarchuk has won a New York Post poll asking “Who is New York City’s top boys’ soccer player?”

The Fordham Prep senior got 41,628 votes, or 39.97 percent of the 104,147 votes cast, beating out Devin Pierre of Regis High School (26,018) and Andrew Doar of Poly Prep (18,653).

Marc Raimondo of The New York Post wrote on September 22:

“Mark Kramarchuk might be a sweeper, one of the very best at the position in the city in fact. Yet he is also Fordham Prep’s leading scorer with four goals in just five games thus far.

“At 6-foot-1, with his size, strength and athleticism, he is a handful for any opposing defender in the air and he combines his physical tools with a nose for goal.”

The Post quoted Fordham Prep coach Pete McNamara as saying of the 17-year old: “He’s got clean skills. If he gets an open look, he’s going to put it away almost every time. He’s always had that knack for goals. He doesn’t really panic in front of the goal. He has a lot of composure on the ball, a lot of poise. He’s been in that situation so often. He has a soccer brain.”

Mark at first didn’t even know that a boys’ soccer poll was being conducted. But, according to the Post, random people at his school approached him in the hallways and said they voted for him. Then, friends started a Facebook campaign to encourage votes for Mark.

Mark, who grew up in Astoria, Queens, began playing soccer at age 5. The Kramarchuk family later moved to Mount Vernon, N.Y.

He now competes at an elite level, playing center back with the New York Cosmos U.S. Development Academy team, and has been

on the varsity team all four years at Fordham Prep.

Coach McNamara said Mark is one of the Fordham team’s leaders and that he instructs his teammates in front of him on where to play and what to do when the situation dictates it.

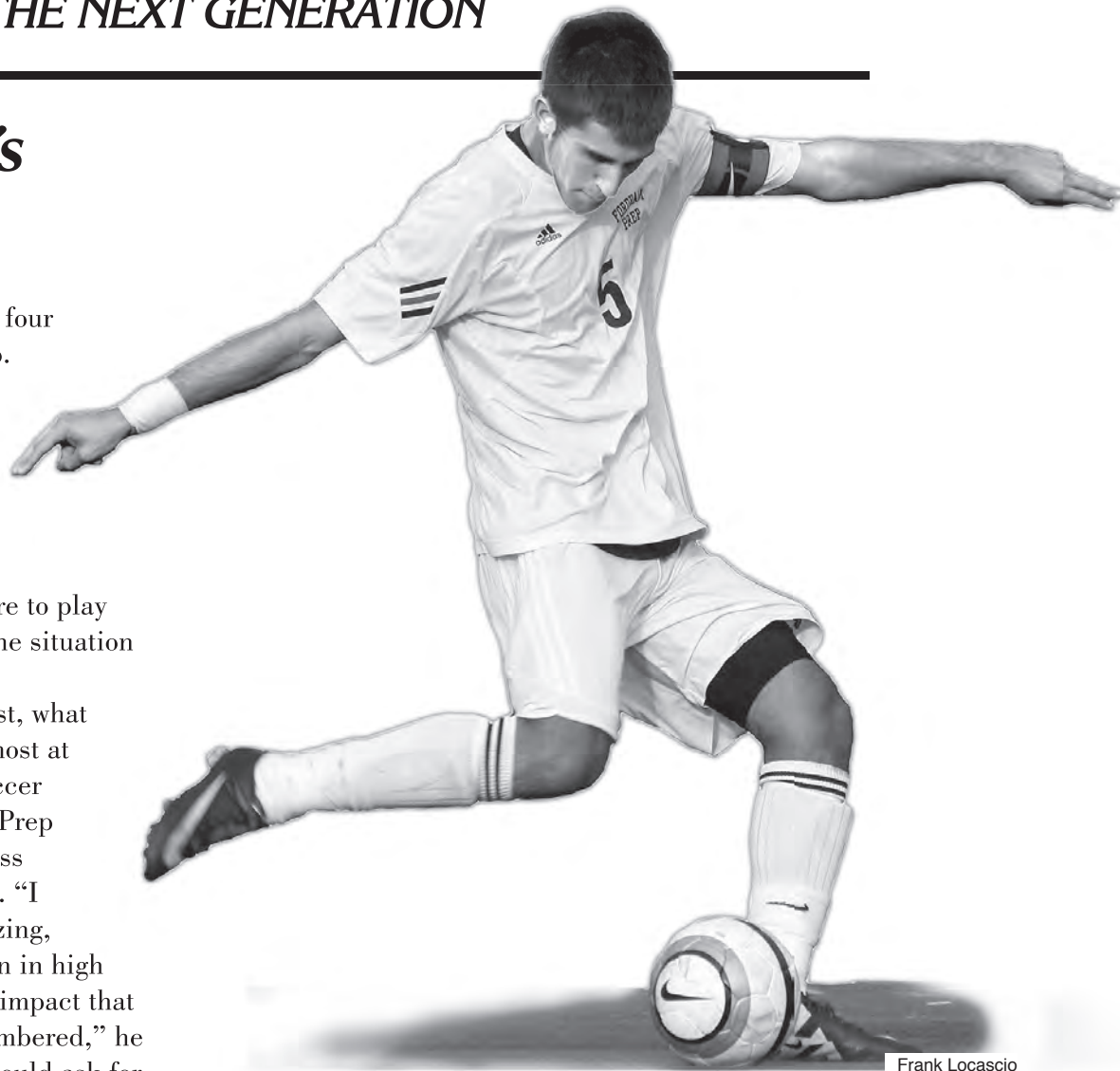
According to the Post, what Mark would love the most at this juncture of his soccer career is for Fordham Prep to win the CHSAA Class AA city championship. “I mean it would be amazing, playing my final season in high school and leaving an impact that would always be remembered,” he said. “I don’t think I could ask for anything better.”

Mark, the son of Borys and Irene Kramarchuk, is also active in Ukrainian community activities. He was a member of the Barvinok Dance Group in Astoria for 10 years and attended five summer workshops of the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Foundation.

He was active in Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization as a member of the Yonkers, N.Y., branch, and attended Plast summer camps at the Vovcha Trova campground in East Chatham, N.Y., as well as counselor training for work with Plast cub scouts (“novatstvo”).

This past June he graduated from the School of Ukrainian Studies in Yonkers.

At Fordham Prep Mark is more than a soccer star who leads his team with seven goals and two assists. He is an honors student with a 3.95 GPA, and a member of the National Honor Society. Mark is now applying to colleges and hopes for a career in sports medicine/physical therapy.



Mark Kramarchuk, voted New York City’s top boys’ soccer player.

Mishanyna

By now, the new school year is in full swing, and with that all the usual Ukrainian American community activities. Therefore, our October Mishanyna focuses on things you are likely to be doing and things you will probably encounter during this busy time of year.

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| ASSEMBLIES | FESTIVALS | REHEARSALS |
| BAKE SALES | MUSIC lessons | SOCCER |
| BOOK LISTS | ORLYKIADA | SUM meetings |
| CONCERTS | PERFORMANCES | VOLLEYBALL |
| DANCE lessons | PLAST activities | |

S	L	O	C	O	N	C	E	R	T	O	B	O	O	V	V
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Let us hear from you!

The next edition of UKELODEON will be published on November 13.

Please send in your submissions by November 4 to staff@ukrweekly.com.

"What's past is prologue."

— William Shakespeare
(carved on the National
Archives Building
in Washington, D.C.)

1933
2011

Take a look at the past:

- Read The Weekly's special section about the Great Famine, or Holodomor, of 1932-1933.
- Peruse our special issues section, including The Weekly's inaugural issue of October 6, 1933.
- Enjoy our "Year in Review" issues published annually since 1976.
- Enter your search terms and find information previously accessible only in hard copy.

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Call our Subscription Department: 973-292-9800, x 4042.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, October 13

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, invites all to "What Does the Future Hold for Ukraine?" – a political conversation with Vitali Klitschko, chairman of the UDAR (Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reforms) Party. This talk will take place at noon in the Teatro of the Italian Academy, 1161 Amsterdam Ave. (at 117th Street). Seating is limited and registration is required. Please visit www.harrimaninstitute.org for registration instructions. For more information contact Dr. Mark Andryczyk at ma2634@columbia.edu or 212-854-4697.

Friday, October 14

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, invites all to a presentation by Dr. Giovanna Brogi titled "Is There a Canon of Ukrainian Baroque Literature?" Dr. Giovanna Brogi is full professor in Slavic studies at the University of Milan (Italy) where she teaches Eastern Slavic medieval language and literature, and Ukrainian literature. This event is free and open to the public and will take place at noon in Room 1219, International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St. For more information contact Dr. Mark Andryczyk, 212-854-4697 or ma2634@columbia.edu.

Saturday, October 15

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to an evening of poetry and music presented by Leonid Hrabovsky titled "Two Poets/Two Composers" featuring the works of Mykhailo Hryhoriv, Mykola Vorobyov, Valentyn Sylvestrov and Leonid Hrabovsky. In the program, Mr. Hrabovsky will recite the poetry of Messrs. Hryhoriv and Vorobyov. Musical compositions by Mr. Sylvestrov, "A Poem in Memory of Borys Liatoshynsky for a Symphony Orchestra" (1968) and by Mr. Hrabovsky, "Homeomorphia-4 for a Large Symphony Orchestra" (1970), will be shown as video recordings from the festival Musical Premieres of the Season that was staged at the Kyiv Philharmonic on April 7. The lecture will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets), at 5 p.m. For additional information: 212-254-5130.

Saturday October 22

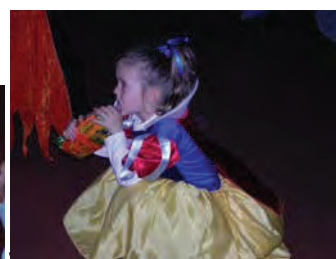
YONKERS, N.Y.: A Cabaret Fund-Raiser for "Oselia CYM" (the Ukrainian American Youth Association campground) in Ellenville, N.Y., will be held at the Ukrainian Youth Center, 301 Palisade Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701. Performers include: Theresa Sokyryka, "Canadian Idol"; Ryan Jesse, "Jersey Boys," Broadway; and Funia O'Connell, "Cinderella," Asia tour. The event begins at 7:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception and open bar until 10 p.m.; 10 p.m.-1 a.m., music and dancing with DJ Matey Liteplo. Discounted admission is available with payment in full by October 17: \$75 in advance of \$85 at the door for those over age 21; \$50 in advance or \$60 at the door for guests under 21. E-mail reservations to christineandbill@aol.com.

Monday, October 24

OTTAWA: The Ukrainian Canadian Congress, along with the Canada Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group and the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, is hosting a reception and concert to commemorate the 120th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. This event will take place at 6-8:30 p.m. at the Government Conference Center, 2 Rideau Street. Admission is free. Strict security measures will be in place, so if you are interested in attending please RSVP before October 14 to Olenka Reshitnyk or Taras Zalusky at the UCC National office, 613-232-8822 or olenka.reshitnyk@ucc.ca.

November 6

ALEXANDRIA, Va.: The Washington Group Cultural Fund Sunday Music Series is pleased to welcome back to Washington award-winning pianist Anna Shelest in a program of works by Liszt, Wagner, Schumann, and Mussorgsky. A gifted young pianist, Ms. Shelest has been hailed by critics as "a keyboard lioness" and the "female reincarnation of Liszt." She is the recipient of numerous awards in international competitions, and has performed throughout the world both as a soloist and a chamber musician. Recent engagements include debuts at Alice Tully Hall and Carnegie Hall in New York City, and the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage. The concert will be held at 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St. Suggested donation: \$20; free for students. Attendees will have an opportunity to meet the artist at a reception immediately following the performance. For further information: 703-955-2555 or twgcultralfund@gmail.com.



Blast from
the Past



Halloween Weekend!

October 28-30 2011

TREMBITA Opens, Friday at 9 pm
Featuring the "Chmel Machine" DJ Matej

Saturday

Breakfast 8 - 9:30 am Light Lunch 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Children's program
Crafts 2:30 to 4 pm, MASQUERADE PARADE 4:30 pm
Mad Science of the Mid Hudson Show 5 to 6 pm
Followed by a child friendly dinner
Main House Library
Cost \$ 10.00

HAY RIDES to the HAUNTED HOUSE
6 pm, last ride at 9 pm

DINNER BUFFET, Saturday 6-8 pm, \$19.95++
(Scary Beef Wellington, Slithery Salmon ala Snake
Ghoulish Pasta Primavera)
For smaller appetites- \$7.95++ Chicken in Blood (Parmigiana)

COSTUME ZABAVA 9:30 pm Featuring Svitank
\$10.00 at the door

Prizes for most creative costumes

Sunday Breakfast 8 - 9:30 am

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