FOOD IS OFTEN THE FOCUS OF AID
FROM ADOPT-A-BUBBE

(Right) Svetlana Antonovna Yarosh, born in 1940, with a gift from Adopt-a-Bubbe of potatoes for the coming winter. Svetlana lives in Lubny, Ukraine.

Our Dear Bostonians,

I want to express my deep gratitude for buying and delivering potatoes for the winter season. Thank you so much for your care. I wish health and prosperity to you and your families.

(Left) Dear Bostonians,

From the bottom of my heart I want to thank you for buying and delivering potatoes for the coming winter.

I am already 96 and have plenty of aches and pains. I am almost blind. My son lives in Nikolaev, but he spends a lot of time with me, showing his respect for old age. I am trying to stay positive, which may be the reason why I’ve lived so long. I will not complain with the life: you know so well what country I live in! Thank you again for your care and support of the elderly.

(Above) Dora Isaakovna Dubrovskaya, born in 1915, with her gift of winter potatoes from Adopt-a-Bubbe. Dora lives in Lubny, Ukraine.

Adopt-a-Bubbe delivers potatoes to pensioners
Warm House & Food Packages from Adopt-a-Bubbe
Update on Antisemitism
More from Adopt-a-Bubbe or Zayde
Dear American Friends,

Thanks to your financial support, my friends could organize a celebration of my birthday. Against the backdrop of loneliness, depression and bad heart disease, my friends made a holiday for me.

It turned out afterwards that not only I, but the organizers, too, had a great time. The old Jewish recipes came back, the memories of our youth, and the old jokes. Everyone cooked her own dish. We had fish, chicken, and three types of salad. Then the neighbors from the building walked in with knishes and were surprised to see this very lively atmosphere in my home. I was so happy!

May G-d bless you with success in all your deeds and, most importantly, health to your families. I wish you a good and comfortable life.

Elizaveta Moiseevna Kaminskaya, 78 years old, lives in Cherkassy, Ukraine.

Ella Leshchinskaya sits at a Warm House gathering for her friend Elizaveta’s birthday before a table laden with food.

ADOPT-A-BUBBE PROVIDES FRESH FOOD
Gatherings - in Dnipropetrovsk, Dniprodzerzhinsk and Mariupol.

As inflation continues to eat away at the pensions of the elderly, food is often the major request for Adopt-a-Bubbe funds.

Food packages average around $8 per person. A few years ago, packages only cost $5. They often provide chicken or fish, fresh fruit, fruit juice and staples like cooking oil, macaroni or rice. Many of these items are considered a luxury.

Because Adopt-a-Bubbe funds are limited, many pensioners are helped only every few months.

(Right) Yanina Belkovskaya, born in 1962, lives in Dniprodzerzhinsk, Ukraine, and is disabled.
UPDATE ON ANTISEMITISM

The following items are a small part of the e-mail messages from the Union of Councils for Jews in the Former Soviet Union, our umbrella organization.

July 5, 2012: St. Petersburg, Russia:
Antisemitic graffiti - “All of you to Buchenwald” - was painted on the Jewish Agency for Israel building in St. Petersburg. One of the swastikas was painted next to a sign for the Jewish University, an organization housed in the same building.

According to the Jewish Agency, some 100,000 Jews live in St. Petersburg and Jewish communal life is vibrant.

June 8, 2012: Lviv, Ukraine:
Tourists in town for Euro 2012 have been urged to avoid a restaurant in Lviv that invites customers to dress up and mimic Orthodox Jews. “At the Golden Rose” is one of two anti-Semitic restaurants, which give customers black hats with peyot (sidelocks) attached. Customers have to haggle for the price of the food. Another, “Kryvika” takes guests into a room reminiscent of a Nazi-era bunker, after greeting waiters with the password, “Glory to Ukraine.”

June 6, 2012: Rivne, Ukraine:
Vandals desecrated a WWII Jewish burial site and smashed a plaque commemorating the 17,500 Jews murdered by Nazis and collaborators. Swastikas and anti-Semitic profanities were sprayed on the monument. They also broke a street lamp and laid the parts out to display insulting words. Ukrainian police arrested three teenagers aged 17 - 19, suspected of the vandalism, and said they would be prosecuted for hooliganism, and could face a four-year prison term.

Chabad Rabbi Shneor Schneersohn, chief rabbi of Rivne, who has been living in Rivne for eight years, said the attack was the first in five years. In 2005, perpetrators dug up graves of murdered Jews, presumably hoping to find jewelry and gold teeth.

June 4, 2012: Mahileu/Mogilev, Belarus:
Brown paint was poured over 60 percent of the Holocaust memorial on the site of the Jewish ghetto in Mahileu/ Mogilev in eastern Belarus.

Jews have lived in Mahileu/Mogilev since the 16th century. The city sits on the bank of the Dnieper River.

May 8, 2012: Lithuania:
National youth leader Julius Panka denies that the country’s wartime puppet leader, Juozas Amrazevicius authorized the transportation and imprisonment of 30,000 Jews into the Kaunas ghetto. In spite of the denial, there is historical documentary evidence signed by Amrazevicius himself.

The comments came after a four-day commemoration of Amrazevicius, whose remains were repatriated from the U.S. and buried in Kaunas with much fanfare and at State expense. His bones were flown to Vilnius and received with an official ceremony attended by politicians. The national anthem was played. An urn holding his remains was placed on the altar of the Church of the Ascension of Christ in Kaunas.

Foreign Minister Audronius Azubalis defended the memorial in parliament, saying that Amrazevicius was entitled to full honors because he was posthumously given Lithuania’s highest national award. Culture Minister Arunas Gelunas, whose office in Vilnius used to be a Jewish bank confiscated during the Holocaust, also personally supported the use of public funds.

Panka also maintains that Jews and other minorities cannot join his national youth association.

May 18, 2012: Vilnius, Lithuania:
At the same time, on the heels of the Amrazevicius events, the only active synagogue in Vilnius, the Choral Temple (below), was vandalized with green paint. The Choral Temple was erected in 1903, and the only synagogue out of more than 100 to survive WWII and remain active. Other synagogues survived, but are no longer active. Out of 210,000 Jews living in Lithuania during WWII, some 195,000 - over 90 percent - were murdered during the Holocaust.

The Choral Temple, Vilnius

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When Reuven was asked to provide a photo of himself, he came up with this old picture of himself as a teenager. (Left) An old picture from Reuven Isaevich Kahn, born in 1937.

Dear American Friends,

I live in Krivoy Rog and receive a small pension. I get sick often and I am grateful to your program which helps me buy my medicines. May G-d help you in your good deeds.

A portion of funding for Adopt-a-Bubbe is made possible by the Combined Jewish Philanthropies and the Dnepropetrovsk Kehillah Project of the JCRC of Greater Boston.