Ukraine
By Mariia Kolodych
Cortland Jr. High School, Cortland NY

I'm very thankful for my home country, Ukraine. When the war started, we needed to move out since it was dangerous. It was already two years since the war started. I really miss my old school, my old friends, my old home.

Most of my old friends moved out when the war started. From that day, I never saw my best friend ever again. The ones who stayed in Ukraine are either learning online or sitting in the basement for the whole day. Yesterday was already 1,000 days of war (today is 1,001). Yesterday (November 18th) we got a package my grandma sent from our home. It was my backpack, two blankets, some books, and my mom's embroidered wall clock. My grandma stayed in Kyiv because she had to take care of my sick grandfather.

I don't know if my story will appear in the newspaper or will be made into a book, but no matter what happens, I hope that people will know what happened to me and my family. I know it might not be related to the topic of thankfulness, but I have to say it. I need people to know what is happening in my country and be aware of that.

I know life is hard, but we all have to keep going and not give up. Ukrainians are a resilient nation, and they can make it through no matter what happens. And it's not all made up, look at the news. Kyiv is being bombed every single day. I and all the other Ukrainian people who are here in the United States are living proof of what horror is happening in our country.

Хай живе Україна

Khay zhyve Ukrayina

Long live Ukraine!

https://www.theflagshop.co.uk/ukraine-flag.html