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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukrainian American community promotes its interests in Washington

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – Within a framework of programs to promote closer relations between the Ukrainian community and their members of Congress, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), organized Ukrainian Days in Washington on April 17-18.

The intent of the annual Ukrainian Days is to promote the concerns of the Ukrainian American community, as well as to establish better contacts with their senators and representatives in Congress.

Nearly two dozen community members participated in the two-day advocacy event, which began with a briefing session at the American Foreign Policy Council (AFPC), with the participation of Ilan Berman, AFPC vice-president; Baxter Hunt, director of the Office of Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus Affairs at the U.S. Department of State; Volodymyr Viatrovych, lecturer at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy; and Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the Ukrainian National Information Service.

In his greeting to the participants of Ukrainian Days, Mr. Sawkiw underscored that such events are essential for expanding the community's influence on U.S. policy toward Ukraine. “Now our community has a chance to develop closer relations with new personnel in the Obama administration, as well as with newly elected members of Congress. It is incumbent upon the United States to demonstrate support for the Ukrainian nation and its pivotal choice of Euro-Atlantic integration. There are many important tasks that still lie ahead,” he stated.

During the briefing session on Wednesday morning, April 17, Mr. Berman spoke about the intricacies involved in Ukrainian politics and how Russia tries to influence Ukraine's domestic and foreign policy agendas.

(Continued on page 4)

“Rise Up, Ukraine!” rallies fail to attract broad support

by Zenon Zawada

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

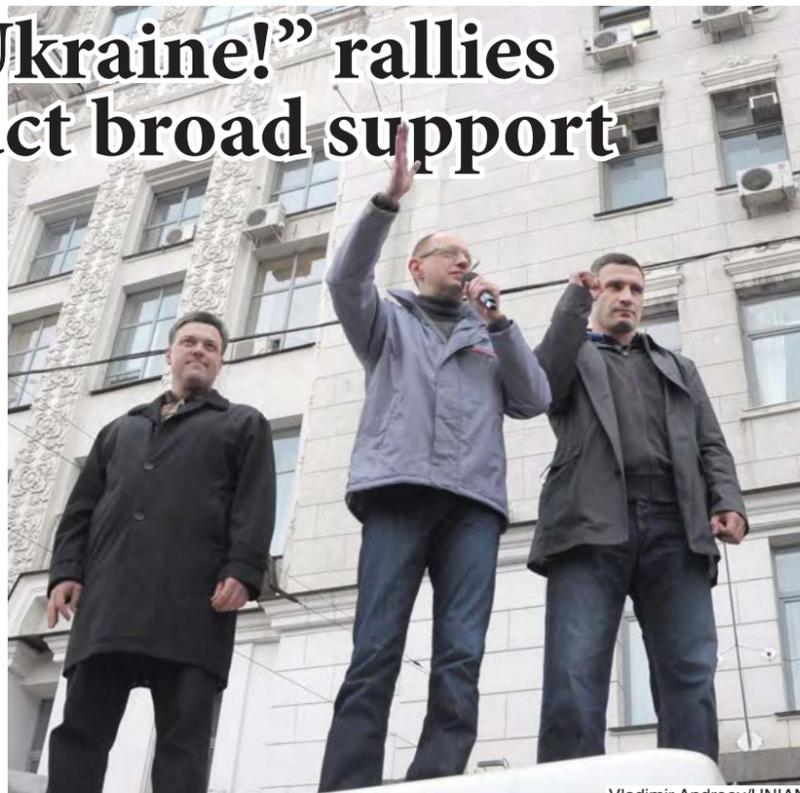
KYIV – Opposition leaders spent March and April holding rallies throughout Ukraine under the banner, “Rise Up, Ukraine!” (Vstavai, Ukrayino!) The problem was that not many Ukrainians bothered to rise up with them.

Though the majority of Ukrainian citizens oppose the current government, they're not willing to do much to support the opposition, other than cast a ballot on election day. Opposition politicians have been openly venting their frustration with the lack of support.

“We're told the opposition is weak, it can't bring people to the streets. But it's not the opposition that's weak – it's the people not coming out,” Batkivshchyna Party Chair Arseniy Yatsenyuk said in an interview published by Korrespondent magazine in late January. “If the people are satisfied, and the opposition is dissatisfied, that means the moment hasn't arrived yet. But it will absolutely come.”

Those words caused a stir but did little to get Ukrainians excited. Instead, recent political failures have given the public even less reason to trust them.

The most recent embarrassment occurred on April 19, when a parliamentary vote was held to oust Prime Minister Mykola Azarov. The geologist who spent more than half his life in Russia – and can hardly speak the Ukrainian language – is now the longest serving prime minister in independent Ukraine's history.



Vladimir Andreev/UNIAN

Opposition leaders (from left) Oleh Tiahnybok, Arseniy Yatsenyuk and Vitali Klitschko have visited more than a dozen cities as part of the “Rise Up, Ukraine!” rallies in March and April, but not many Ukrainians heeded their call to rise up with them.

Not only did the effort fail – falling 36 votes short of a 226-vote majority – but key opposition deputies didn't vote, including seven deputies of the Batkivshchyna faction and seven deputies of the Ukrainian Democratic Alliance for Reform (UDAR), including its leader, Vitali Klitschko, who didn't even show up.

First Vice Prime Minister Serhiy Arbuzov noted afterwards that Mr. Klitschko's absence for the lack of confidence vote on the Azarov government speaks of his maturity.

“That's a clear hint that he's ‘our potential ally,’ so to speak,” said Volodymyr Fesenko, board chairman of the Penta Center for Applied Political Research in Kyiv. “That undoubtedly will hurt the image and reputation of Vitali.”

The Svoboda nationalist deputies voted in full quorum (36 votes) and have carved a niche that's distinct from their peers in the opposition. [Editor's note: For the sake of this arti-

(Continued on page 3)

Bandurist Chorus presents “Sounds of Spring” concert series

by Matthew Dubas

This is the first in a three-part series that chronicles the “Sounds of Spring: Songs of Easter, Shevchenko and Nature” concert series performed by the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus in Windsor, Ontario, Detroit and Cleveland, on April 19-21. The Weekly's Matthew Dubas, thanks to travel arrangements handled by the UBC, traveled with the chorus from Windsor to Cleveland, and all points in between on this tour, gaining a complete understanding about what it takes to put on a tour like this – both on and off the stage.

DETROIT – The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus (UBC) kicked off its “The Sounds of Spring: Songs of Easter, Shevchenko and Nature” concert series on April 19-21, with its opening night at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Windsor, Ontario, on Friday, April 19.

The songs that the UBC performed in this tour provide a fresh perspective, with some songs not having been per-

formed in a number of years or completely new to its 500-plus song repertoire, Anatoli Murha, president of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, explained. “As cultural ambassadors, the UBC's work is never finished and is a constant work in progress in the promotion of the Ukrainian culture through the bandura and songs. As a performer, it's a truly moving experience to see audience members mouthing the lyrics along with the chorus, and it never gets old in the over 20 years I've been with the UBC. This kind of response from the ‘Sounds of Spring’ concert series tells us that we're on the right track,” Mr. Murha said.

“The audience was very receptive to this series,” said Oleh Mahlay, artistic director and conductor of the UBC. “We provided a good frame of reference to educate the

audience about the new songs for both Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike – providing historical reference or explaining the origins of the song.”

First stop in Windsor

Nearly 200 people packed the church for the concert, which opened with the Easter Canon “Christ is Risen!” (Khrystos Voskres!), arranged by Hryhoriy Kytasty and sung a capella, causing the entire audience to rise to its feet.

Other religious selections were featured in the first half, including “Cherubic Hymn” by Dmytro Bortniansky, “Praise the Lord From the Heavens” (Khvalite Hospoda z Nebes), both sung a capella, “Easter Song” (Velykodnia Pisnia) with music by artistic director and conductor Oleh Mahlay, as well as the 18th-century English-language song “Christ the Lord is Risen Today,” arranged by chorus member Ihor Stasiuk for the UBC.

(Continued on page 8)

On the road with the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus

ANALYSIS

Politicization of Islam in Crimea threatens peninsula's stability

by Paul Goble

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Islam is being politicized in an unusual and somewhat unexpected way in Crimea. Certain Crimean Tatar leaders have been using the existence of Islamic groups on the peninsula to advance their own communal demands, even as some Ukrainian and Russian leaders have been invoking the existence of those groups as a reason for turning such demands down, according to a detailed new study of Crimea by Andrey Baranov, a political scientist at Kuban State University, in the current issue of the Moscow Institute of Sociology journal, "Vlast" (isras.ru/files/File/Vlast/2013/04/Baranov.pdf).

As a result, Mr. Baranov says, the leaders of Islamic religious groups, both those officially registered and those who head unregistered and often more radical ones, have become "influential actor[s] in the political processes in contemporary Crimea." Their influence is far greater than would otherwise be the case were they strictly playing a role in ethno-political schemes of mobilization and demobilization.

And, after having traced the rise of Islamic groups as political actors over the last 20 years, the Kuban political scientist argues that the most effective way of preventing the politicization of Islam from threatening Crimea's stability is a concerted effort to "integrate the Crimean Tatars into a secular state" by means of "the construction of mechanisms of a consolidated democracy."

According to the last Ukrainian census, ethnic Russians formed about 60 percent of the population of the peninsula, ethnic Ukrainians about 23 percent and Crimean Tatars about 10 percent. Twenty years ago, Crimea had relatively few religious organizations, but it now is one of the leading areas in Ukraine in that regard, largely thanks to the explosive growth in the number of Islamic groups. Orthodox Christian groups form 40 percent of the registered groups, Mr. Baranov says, while Islamic congregations and groups form only 28 percent. But if one includes the 600 unregistered Islamic bodies, the Muslims now equal or exceed the number of Orthodox Christians.

Like the ethnic communities they serve, these two religious groupings are located in very different places: the Orthodox serve the ethnic Russians and the Ukrainians in the peninsula's cities, while the Muslim

ones support Crimean Tatars in rural areas. But, just as the Orthodox leadership is involved in pushing the political goals of its followers, so too the various Muslim groups seek to promote the values of their community. That means that Islam has been politicized not only over big issues like the future status of Crimea, but also over smaller ones like land ownership, road signs and the role of institutions that seek to bridge the gap between the three ethnic groups.

Mr. Baranov reports that this process has been intensified by the fact that there are deep splits within the Muslim community between the traditional Crimean Tatar Muslims who still dominate the scene and the appearance of radicalized Islamic groups. He suggests that the radicalization of Islam in Crimea began in the mid-1990s with the arrival of separatists from Chechnya who formed the Imdat organization in 1995, which organized protests in Sudak and continues to function illegally.

Another radical Islamist party, Hizb ut-Tahrir, made its appearance in Crimea at the end of the 1990s. Some years later, Mustafa Jemilev, the leader of the Crimean Tatars, said there were some 500 to 600 Wahhabis in Crimea, and the local mufti complained that the Russian authorities had given "a green light" to the Islamists even as they continued to block the traditionalists in order to give the Crimean Tatars a bad name and justify ignoring their demands, a rare description of what Mr. Baranov implies is a far broader phenomenon.

But the most important reason for the politicization of Islam in Crimea, the political scientist said, is the fact that people on both sides of the religious divide see religious conflicts as having their roots in political and national disputes and in the contrasting economic interests of those involved, according to the findings of one of the rare polls taken on this issue in Crimea in recent years.

Moreover, respondents in that poll, again on both sides, were inclined to blame foreign political and social structures as having greater responsibility for religious and ethnic conflicts on the peninsula than local groups. That survey also found that the level of criticism of those in power in Crimea did not correlate positively with levels of religiosity on the peninsula.

Such attitudes would appear to open the door to a more peaceful future, but there is a powerful reason why "the radical Islamist project [remains] capable of destabilizing the balance of ethno-confessional interests": Young Crimean Tatars, those aged between 17 and 36, believe that their community will be able to establish an independent country within 20 years, a belief that will inspire them, frighten the Russians and Ukrainians, and encourage both sides to continue to play the Islamist card.

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

NEWSBRIEFS

PACE seeks Yulia's release

KYIV - Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) have called on Ukraine's authorities to take steps to release former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko following the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in her case, the PACE press service said on May 7. "We specifically expect the Ukrainian authorities not to wait with this until the court in Strasbourg rules on her appeal against her conviction by the Ukrainian court. That would not be justifiable in the light of the court judgment," reads a joint statement by the co-rapporteurs for Ukraine of the PACE Monitoring Committee, Mailis Reps (Estonia) and Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin (Sweden), as well as Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands), rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights. The statement notes that the two co-rapporteurs for the Monitoring Committee will visit Ukraine in the beginning of June and that Mr. Omtzigt will present his report as adopted by the committee in April at the PACE plenary session in Strasbourg in June. As reported, on April 30, the European Court of Human Rights delivered a judgment in the case of Ms. Tymoshenko recognizing the illegality of her arrest on August 5, 2011. (Ukrinform).

U.S. calls for Tymoshenko's release

KYIV - The United States is continuing to urge Ukrainian authorities to release former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Acting Deputy Spokesperson at the U.S. Department of State Patrick Ventrell, speaking at a press briefing on April 30 in connection with the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights, said: "We reiterate our call that Mrs. Tymoshenko be released and the practice of selective prosecution in Ukraine end." (Ukrinform)

EU expects judiciary reform

KYIV - The European Union has praised the progress made by Ukraine in the sphere of EU integration reforms and expects tangible progress, first and foremost, in the judiciary and electoral law. European Commissioner for Enlargement

and European Neighborhood Policy Stefan Fule, while summing up the visit to Brussels by Ukraine's First Vice Prime Minister Serhiy Arbuzov, said on April 30: "We have seen a number of processes launched in Ukraine to address the EU's expectations and the Ukrainian government's own commitments and we look forward to see tangible progress in areas such as selective justice, electoral code and judiciary reforms." The European politician said that the joint task for both sides is also to improve the business and investment climate in Ukraine and to be able to use to the full extent the foreseen economic integration of Ukraine into the EU. Mr. Arbuzov was on a working visit to the governing institutions of the European Union in Brussels on April 29-30. (Ukrinform)

Kozak monument unveiled in Vienna

VIENNA - A monument to the Ukrainian Kozaks who participated in the defense of the Austrian capital 330 years ago was unveiled on April 23 in a park located near the Ukrainian Catholic church in Vienna. Present at the unveiling were the Kyiv City Administration's head, Oleksander Popov and Mayor Michael Haupl of Vienna, as well as a delegation from Kyiv and Austrian citizens. The monument's presentation was part of the Days of Kyiv in Vienna, which were celebrated on April 22-24. The monument was funded by a Ukrainian businessman who now lives and works in Austria; its erection was supported by the mayor of Vienna. The monument was designed by sculptors Volodymyr and Oleksiy Chepelyk of Ukraine. "This place has become the cornerstone of our common past. We remember and honor it, but at the same time we are oriented toward the future. I am convinced that Kyiv and Vienna have excellent prospects of joint development and mutually beneficial cooperation," noted Mayor Haupl. Mr. Popov noted: "We are proud of our joint history and we maintain the tradition of friendship that has developed between our nations." Kyiv and Vienna have been sister cities since 1992. (Kyiv City Administration Press Service, Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

(Continued on page 12)

Corrections

In the May 5 issue, summer issue pull-out section, page S3, the "Nadiye Yel" festival website address was incorrectly listed. It should read www.cym.org/us-ellenville.

In the April 7 issue, in the Generation Uke section, on page 11, the upper right photo caption was incorrect. It should read, "Team Great Britain at IUFT 2009 in Nottingham, England."

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“Rise Up, Ukraine!”...

(Continued from page 1)

cle, “the opposition” largely refers to Batkivshchyna and UDAR.]

Ideals lacking

When more than a dozen opposition deputies don’t vote in such crucial moments, “that calls forth serious and critical rebuke and even suspicion that there are elements of a twofold game,” said Mr. Fesenko, the “twofold game” being deputies who are opposition in name but vote along with the ruling majority.

“In my view, among those who didn’t vote on this issue are deputies who can become potential ‘tushky’ and join the side of the government. Opposition deputies themselves said of several deputies with business ties that some of them were promised [by the ruling majority] to have their value-added tax returned,” he added.

That’s quite an enticement to abandon the opposition, considering that the Ukrainian government has gained an international reputation for failing to return value-added taxes to businessmen.

Such suspected backroom dealing between opposition and ruling deputies gives voters further reason to believe the opposition isn’t worth supporting, and they’re no different than the ruling Party of Regions, observers say.

“There are several reasons why people don’t trust the opposition,” said Petro Oleshchuk, a political science lecturer at Shevchenko National University in Kyiv. “It doesn’t offer new faces and new ideas; it’s identified with the Orange era and, therefore, quarreling and unfulfilled promises; it doesn’t show how its actions specifically can help the average citizen; it doesn’t demonstrate a readiness to go to the full extent in defending its ideas and it has a distinct image of ‘losers.’”

Trust lacking

The lack of trust in the opposition leaders is fueled by the “tushky,” who have been a staple in Ukrainian politics for as long as Ukraine has been independent.

The literal meaning of “tushka” (singular) is canned carcass. The term is used to describe the Verkhovna Rada, which serves as the can for the carcasses of politicians who are dead to their original party and sold out to the Party of Regions.

This month, for example, three deputies abandoned the Batkivshchyna parliamentary faction to join the ruling majority. They were brought to Batkivshchyna, the biggest opposition party, by Mr. Yatsenyuk, who was predicted by experts to become a victim of tushky (plural) as early as before the October parliamentary elections. A fourth “tushka” who defected to the majority was brought to the Batkivshchyna party under the quota allocated for National Deputy Anatoliy Grytsenko.

They followed in the footsteps of Oleksander and Andrii Tabalov, the father-and-son duo who led the Kirovohrad Oblast organization of the Front for Change party that was founded by Mr. Yatsenyuk and which he later merged into Batkivshchyna.

Once they were elected, the Tabalovs ditched Mr. Yatsenyuk to join the majority. In a famous scene from this parliamentary session, they were physically tossed from the Parliament hall during the opening session by Svoboda nationalists. Yet they returned to subsequent sessions escorted by Party of Regions deputies.

“Batkivshchyna is the weak link in the parliamentary opposition,” Mr. Fesenko said. “It now has the possibility of repeating the sad fate of Our Ukraine.”

Indeed, Mr. Klitschko has surpassed Mr. Yatsenyuk as the most popular opposition

leader. Yet UDAR also fails to inspire Ukrainian voters, Mr. Fesenko said, particularly after it failed to support the vote to dismiss Mr. Azarov. “That caused significant and serious criticisms in his direction, which Vitali himself should answer, otherwise that can strengthen suspicions about not only Klitschko himself but UDAR,” he said.

New tactics lacking

Another demoralizing episode for the opposition was the April 2 protest at the Verkhovna Rada, after the majority failed to set the Kyiv City Council elections for June, as required by law.

The ruling Party of Regions knows it will lose them handily, which is why it has postponed the municipal elections ahead of the presidential vote. It’s seeking to control the capital city, through Kyiv State Administration Chair Oleksander Popov, should mass protests erupt over the election results, as they did in 2004.

Yet only about 4,000 to 5,000 demonstrators came to the protest, many of them paid. Noticeably missing was Kyiv’s important middle class. Part of the reason for the low turnout is that most Ukrainians aren’t interested in the same old demonstrations – for abstract causes such as local elections – that don’t produce any tangible results, observers said.

“People simply don’t associate themselves with the problems that are being addressed,” Mr. Oleshchuk said. “For them, they’re an abstraction created by politicians, nothing more. People don’t understand how all this can affect their lives.”

Another opposition protest is planned in Kyiv on May 18, Europe Day. Observers are already expecting that to be another flop.

The opposition has no strategy, not for gaining power, not for developing the country once they come to power and not for how to change the nation’s economic situation, said Denys Bohush, president of Bohush Communications and vice-president of the Ukrainian PR League.

“The plus of this [May 18] protest will be only for the opposition to see how many people it can simply mobilize, without any ideas: to bring them out only so that they stand up and show that they’re against this government. It’s not worth expecting anything else,” he told the gazeta.ua website in an interview published on May 6. “No matter how many show up, it’s not clear for what. The protests aren’t geared towards an election or a [possible] referendum.”

Yet the opposition needs to do more than simply organize protests, observers said. Throughout the last decade, its parties have failed to organize local organizations that would mobilize citizens to address common, everyday problems on the local level, such as deteriorating roads and utilities.

Opposition parties failed to attract young activists, who are more willing to engage in civil disobedience and more capable of employing new Internet-based technologies to communicate and organize effectively.

“They aren’t used to real politics, such as work with citizens and contemporary mobilization technologies,” Mr. Oleshchuk said of the opposition parties. “They wish to limit themselves to virtual projects.”

Political program lacking

Ukrainians have little faith in what opposition leaders would do should they come to power, particularly after being burned by the disgrace brought to Ukrainian governance by the vicious, public conflict between former President Viktor Yushchenko and former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

The current opposition has yet to convince the public of its unity, particularly when Mr. Klitschko and the UDAR party have distanced themselves from the Batkivshchyna and Svoboda parties ever since the October parliamentary elections.

Mr. Yatsenyuk has criticized Mr. Tiahnybok in the past. In turn, Svoboda party members don’t hide their contempt for the liberal, democratic positions of Batkivshchyna and UDAR.

“President Vitali Klitschko would try to dismiss the government of Arseniy Yatsenyuk, while National Security and Defense Council Secretary Anatoliy Grytsenko would start anti-corruption investigations against Klitschko,” said Dmytro Vydrin, the director of the European Institute of Integration and Development, in describing what the opposition government would look like.

“Tymoshenko would be freed, yet they’d quickly find a reason to imprison her again. Meanwhile, it’s unlikely there’d be [judicial] processes against the current government. No more than an imitation, because quite a few opposition politicians have common business with the Party of Regions. They’re like the left and right hands. The right won’t tear off the left, and vice versa.”

Opposition parties have also demonstrated that they’re committed to the same formula for distributing power once in office. Politicians representing oligarchs, as well as the most loyal party functionaries, would gain the lucrative ministerial posts, regardless of their qualifications, observers said.

When Mr. Yushchenko became president in 2005 for example, pop singer Oksana Bilozir became culture minister and Yuriy Lutsenko became internal affairs minister, though he never served as a police officer.

David Zhvania became emergency situations minister despite never having served in that ministry. Quite the contrary, he earned his millions in the shady international trade of nuclear fuel rods.

Meanwhile, former Finance Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, who abandoned the Tymoshenko government at the height of Ukraine’s financial crisis in February 2009, is an UDAR national deputy, implying that he’s jockeying to return as finance minister despite his failures.

In the event of their election, “the opposition would have to sacrifice itself: break down the wall and then leave, giving the reins away to professionals,” Lviv author Yuriy Vynnychuk told the Krayina weekly magazine. “I doubt they’d do that. Each of them, inside, carries a little Yanukovich, which at any moment can grow to great proportions.”

Then there’s the great unknown of what policies the opposition would pursue once in power. UDAR’s political platform is limited to vague declarations, committing itself to little more than “European standards.”

It mentions no concrete program of reforming the corrupt courts and establishing rule of law, or addressing the control of Ukraine’s oligarchs over the economy, particularly the mass media. (Mr. Yatsenyuk enjoys close ties to Ukrainian oligarchs such as Victor Pinchuk.)

Although UDAR National Deputy Rostyslav Pavlenko told The Ukrainian Weekly that the party supports Ukraine’s

integration with NATO, he has since backtracked on that claim as UDAR has been trying to appeal to eastern and southern Ukrainians, who are Russian-oriented.

As part of that effort, both Batkivshchyna and UDAR largely support the status quo on the Ukrainian language and the de-Sovietization of society, without any new proposals in their respective programs.

Charisma lacking

The reality is that the current opposition leaders aren’t nearly as inspiring and eloquent as Ms. Tymoshenko, whose charisma is unparalleled in Ukrainian politics.

It’s Ms. Tymoshenko’s charisma that Viktor Yanukovich fears so much, having avoided any debate with her during the presidential campaign and then arranging for her imprisonment once he became president – as alleged by Western governments – to remove her as his main challenger.

The current opposition leader, Mr. Klitschko, stumbles over his words – no matter what language he speaks – and can’t ad lib in front of an audience, a skill that Ms. Tymoshenko has mastered. All his speeches are prepared, his responses at press conferences carefully rehearsed.

Missing the Azarov vote wasn’t Mr. Klitschko’s first major absence – he failed to attend the first several marches of “Rise Up, Ukraine!” in Vinnytsia and Lviv in March, drawing a slight rebuke from Mr. Yatsenyuk. Such absences cast doubt on his commitment to the opposition.

Meanwhile, Mr. Yatsenyuk can come off as arrogant and not genuine, observers said, not nearly as compelling as the prior head of the Batkivshchyna party, Ms. Tymoshenko.

Ukrainian literary figure Mykhailo Slaboshpytskyi last month compared Mr. Yatsenyuk to a dried fish: “Yes, he’s an intelligent man. But no charisma, eccentricity or creativity,” he said.

“Yatsenyuk, Tiahnybok and to some degree Klitschko are now learning to work with the streets, with the maidans and with people,” said Mr. Fesenko of the “Rise Up, Ukraine” campaign, which has drawn adequate support in certain cities.

The April 7 rally in Kyiv drew at least 10,000 supporters (five days after the lackluster turnout at Parliament), though that’s not going to be enough to impress the Yanukovich administration.

“This is practically their first experience for them and they can’t opt out,” Mr. Fesenko said.

That they appear as if they’d want to opt out of interacting with citizens is why the opposition is not drawing the support it needs. After the March 16 “Rise Up, Ukraine!” rally in Lviv, for example, Mr. Yatsenyuk reportedly went to a local café with his party allies and arranged for it to be closed to the public.

The report was offered by the newspaper Segodnya, a daily tabloid aligned with the Party of Regions, but similar reports surfaced in the opposition media as well.

Quotable notes

“... the ECHR [European Court of Human Rights] has clearly demonstrated that Yulia Tymoshenko has been a victim of arbitrary and selective justice whose objective was to isolate her from political life. The only way Ukraine can restore Yulia Tymoshenko’s rights is by releasing her.”

“The EPP [European People’s Party] will not support the signing of an Association Agreement with a country which does not respect the fundamental principles of democracy and independent justice. The Association Agreement with Ukraine will be signed in Vilnius in November only if the Ukrainian authorities fulfill the conditions put forward by the European Union, including the end of selective justice and the immediate release of Yulia Tymoshenko.”

– Statement by Wilfried Martens, the president of the European People’s Party, the largest and most influential European-level political party of the center-right, on April 30 in reaction to the European Court of Human Rights ruling in the Tymoshenko case.

Ukrainian American...

(Continued from page 1)

Complementing Mr. Berman's remarks, the representative from the State Department spoke about the future of U.S.-Ukraine relations, including the fiscal crisis currently affecting Ukraine; energy security and the transit of natural gas; as well as the internal political dynamics in Ukraine.

Dr. Viatrovych discussed the current situation in Ukraine's civil society and the importance of integrating into Euro-Atlantic institutions.

That afternoon was dedicated to meetings with various congressional offices, among them those of: Rep. Chris Gibson (R-N.Y.), Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.), Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio), Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), Rep. Leonard Lance (R-N.J.), Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.), Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Rep. Mike Doyle (D-Pa.), Rep. David Joyce (R-Ohio) and Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-N.J.).

Representatives Gibson, Pascrell and Frelinghuysen joined their staffers to acquaint themselves with the community representatives' concerns regarding U.S.-Ukraine relations.

In the evening, Ukrainian Days participants were warmly welcomed at the Ukrainian Embassy where they had an opportunity to meet several Ukrainian diplomats to discuss U.S.-Ukraine relations and other issues of concern to the community.

Yaroslav Borsiuk, deputy chief of mission at the Ukrainian Embassy, welcomed the Ukrainian American community representatives and urged them to continue their involvement in Ukraine's political process. "We have a common goal before us: we all are striving to integrate Ukraine into Euro-Atlantic structures and return its



Ukrainian Days 2013 participants with "Friend of UNIS" honoree Orest Deychakiwsky (center, holding plaque).

former status of a prominent European state. Together, I am confident we will successfully resolve our issues."

UNIS Director Sawkiw, Jr. presented the first ever "Friend of UNIS" award to Orest Deychakiwsky, a longtime staff member of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (the Helsinki Commission) and friend of the Ukrainian American community. Mr. Deychakiwsky humbly thanked those in attendance, and reflected on the work and achievements of the Ukrainian community in its efforts to attain and solidify Ukraine's independence.

On Thursday morning, April 18, Ukrainian Days participants gathered for a congressional breakfast with the staff members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. The group discussion focused on the current internal situation in Ukraine. In his remarks, Mr. Sawkiw underscored that such events are essential for expanding the community's voice regarding U.S. policy toward Ukraine.

Later that morning, participants of

Ukrainian Days joined forces with the Central and East European Coalition's (CEEC) advocacy event. The CEEC embodies 18 national ethnic organizations that represent nearly 22 million Americans of Central and East European descent. The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

The 2013 Ukrainian Days in Washington focused on defending civil liberties in Ukraine and promoting Ukraine's entry into the European Union.

was a founding member of the CEEC in 1994.

During the CEEC's morning briefing session, the coalition's representatives reviewed the CEEC Policy Brief, which was distributed to congressional offices during the advocacy event. The policy brief sum-

marizes issues the CEEC currently advocates in Congress: an open-door policy for NATO enlargement; democracy, human rights and rule of law in Central and East Europe; energy security in the region; undue Russian influence upon countries in Central and East Europe; a visa waiver program for Central European countries; as well as a new type of visa to the United States for cultural groups.

The late morning and afternoon hours of April 18 were dedicated to meetings with various congressional offices or committees.

In all of their meetings on Capitol Hill, Ukrainian Days participants presented members of Congress with various policy papers on issues of importance to the Ukrainian American community, as well as informational brochures about the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Ukrainian National Information Service and the Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933. Policy paper topics covered included: U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine (including that of the U.S. Agency for International Development); the Holodomor, or Ukrainian Genocide of 1932-1933; the

Congressional Ukrainian Caucus; and civil liberties violations in Ukraine. Much of the focus during the discussions with various congressional offices was on Ukraine's inclusion as an associate member of the European Union and promoting congressional support for this process.

Mr. Sawkiw explained that, while not everyone is able to attend Ukrainian Days, members of the Ukrainian American community are urged to make every effort to meet with their elected officials in their respective district offices. Copies of the policy papers presented at Ukrainian Days can be obtained at the Ukrainian National Information Service by calling 202-547-0018 or e-mailing unis@ucca.org.

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Insurance MATTERS...

by Irene Jarosewich

Simple, versatile: Single-premium whole life

Year after year, the most popular life insurance policy offered by the UNA continues to be single-premium whole life. This no-fuss, no-muss policy was mentioned briefly in an earlier column, but now let us consider more fully the reasons why the single-premium whole life may be a good choice for you.

The first draw is simply the simplicity of the product – this policy requires only one premium up front. There is a sense of relief that comes without having to think constantly about monthly or annual payments.

Often people in their 50s will receive an inheritance from elderly relatives and, from this sum, a certain amount can be allocated to the purchase of a single-premium whole life policy. While it is tempting to use extra cash or unexpected cash to increase retirement funds or decrease debt, typical concerns for those who are in middle-age, allocating a certain amount to a single-premium whole life policy would be a smart move financially for many of the reasons noted below.

Seniors in their 60s and 70s are at the stage in life when they are aware of what they will need to retire and often have extra money, more than is needed for daily living, tucked away in various CDs, savings or money market accounts, underperforming mutual funds. Consolidating this scattered money into one single-premium payment for tax-deferred growth in a life insurance policy is more beneficial financially than continuing to pay taxes and fees on low-interest investments.

Besides simplicity and financial strategy, whether it is \$5,000 or \$50,000, the initial premium buys a larger benefit, often referred to as face amount, payable to your beneficiaries in the future. In this way, a purchase of a single-premium whole life policy immediately increases the value of your estate and increases the amount that heirs can inherit. This is the leveraging benefit of the single-premium policy.

Furthermore, the policy begins to earn tax-deferred growth shortly after payment

of the single-premium. Since the policy is fully funded from the beginning, the cash invested increases rather quickly through compounding interest. Besides increased face amount, this tax-deferred growth is another way to increase the value of your estate.

Besides increasing the amount that can be left to your beneficiaries, this increased value can be passed on to your heirs free of income tax. A tax-free transfer of wealth is always a good reason to choose a financial product. Besides an income tax-free transfer of wealth, the ease of the transfer is also important. All that is needed is a proper designation of beneficiary and the benefit amount is paid directly without probate or fees.

Or, if necessary, the value of the policy can be used as collateral during your lifetime in the event that you wish to take a loan. Since the interest rate on the loan is usually the same or close to the rate of interest that is being paid on the policy, in effect, you are giving yourself an almost-interest-free loan. Certain conditions must be met with such a loan, nonetheless, the conditions are not onerous.

Along with all life insurance policies, if you designate your estate as the beneficiary, single-premium whole life offers immediate liquidity. Often after death, your heirs must pay outstanding expenses. Leaving them with access to immediate cash through a life insurance policy removes the burden of payment from them and allows you to take care of your future responsibilities before you die.

Besides liquidity after your death, single-premium whole life buys you protection while you are still alive. For many seniors, term life insurance is prohibitively expen-

sive, and few want the burden of extended payments of a standard whole life policy. A single-premium buys protection for a spouse or other family members for whom you would like to provide income after your death.

Many single-premium whole life policies also allow for the withdrawal of the cash value of the policy in the event that long-term care is needed, or for medical expenses in the event of terminal illness. If necessary, certain policies can be sold in order to obtain required cash. These types of options are frequently referred to as the living benefits of the single-premium whole life policy.

Finally, another major reason for the popularity of the single-premium whole life policy is the conservative nature of the investment itself. A fixed interest rate provides the safety and stability of constant growth in your policy; the death benefit is established when the policy is purchased. A guaranteed benefit, with a guaranteed minimum rate of interest that provides compounded growth, no risk to principal and the stability of an insurance company – really, what's not to like about this product?

With more than a century of service as a fraternal benefit society, the UNA continues to live by its motto "The UNA and the Community: Partners for Life." To find out more about how UNA products can help you, contact the UNA Home Office at 1-800-253-9862, the UNA sales staff directly at 1-888-538-2833, or find your local UNA branch secretary through the UNA website at www.ukrainiannationalassociation.org. Find the full series of "Insurance Matters" articles on [Facebook.com/UkrainianNationalAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/UkrainianNationalAssociation) or on the UNA's website under the "Latest News" link.

Young UNA'ers



Katherine Elizabeth Rhea, daughter of Mark and Martha Rhea of Columbus, Ohio, is a new member of UNA Branch 112. She was enrolled by her grandparents Dr. Rodion Palazij and Irene M. Palazij.



Daniel John Zynych, son of Walter and Tania Zynych of Yardley, Pa., is a new member of UNA Branch 221. He was enrolled by his grandparents George and Sonia Petrasz.



Mia Anna Burachinsky, daughter of Erik and Kristina Burachinsky of Boonton, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 777. She was enrolled by her grandparents Ihor and Nadia Salabay.



Zenon and Axel Kolcio, sons of Katja and Bohdan Kolcio of Higganum, Conn., are new members of UNA Branch 277. They were enrolled by their grandparents, Magda and Nestor Kolcio and Irma and Wolodymyr Pylyshenko.



Stephen and Sofia Handzy, children of Damian and Renata Handzy of Westfield, N.J., are new members of UNA Branch 777. They were enrolled by their parents.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Sevastopol was the first step...

It was just over three years ago, on April 21, 2010, that Viktor Yanukovich, Ukraine's newly elected president, signed a deal with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev that was seen as a deep betrayal of Ukraine's national interests. The most controversial part of the pact extended Russia's lease on its naval base in Crimea in exchange for a lower price for Ukraine on natural gas purchases. Known as the Kharkiv Accords, the deal kept the Russian Black Sea Fleet stationed on Ukrainian territory until 2042 (with an option to renew for another five years) – extending the lease that was to expire in 2017 – and cut Ukraine's price for Russian gas by 30 percent through 2019. It was in direct contravention to Article 17 of the Constitution of Ukraine which states: "The location of foreign military bases on the territory of Ukraine shall not be permitted."

Supporters of the deal said it would save Ukraine billions of dollars, while opponents said Ukraine's sovereignty had been sacrificed. "Sevastopol is the first step," said opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko. "Ukraine has begun the process of losing its independence." Analysts said Moscow had achieved one of its most important strategic goals: keeping a military foothold in Crimea.

Amazingly, President Yanukovich argued that "The continued presence of the Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol will increase regional security." Opponents disagreed, pointing to the exact opposite: Russia had used ships from its Black Sea Fleet during its short war with Georgia in August 2008; the fleet's vessels patrolled the coast of Abkhazia and sank a Georgian missile boat. Indeed, Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili stated that the deal was further evidence of Moscow's expansionist agenda and warned the Obama administration not to give Russia a free hand in what it sees as its "sphere of influence."

Former President Leonid Kravchuk commented that Kyiv had consented to remain a country with restricted sovereignty until 2042, adding, "There has never been a single disputable question between Ukraine and Russia, be it the Black Sea Fleet or distribution of former Soviet property, in which the gas valve was not used as a lever of pressure on us."

Those words should be recalled today, as Russia seeks to gain control of Ukraine's gas transit system (GTS), threatening to yet again undermine Ukraine's independence.

According to a report from the Eurasia Daily Monitor, Russia has been pressuring Ukraine to accept Russian investments in the modernization of Ukraine's GTS (which carries Russian gas to Europe), giving Gazprom de facto control over the system. That would mean Ukraine would not have the possibility to freely use its own pipelines in the "reverse mode" to access gas from Europe, leaving it even more vulnerable to Russian pressure. At the same time, Russia has been seeking other routes to bypass Ukraine's pipelines. As Vladimir Socor explained in EDM: "Moscow can shift gas export volumes... away from Ukraine's gas transit system to Europe, eventually nullifying that system's value. Under such pressures, Ukraine is expected to hand over its transit pipelines to Gazprom."

Moscow is also suggesting to Kyiv that a bilateral consortium be created to manage the GTS. That goes against Ukraine's proposal for a trilateral consortium that would involve the European Union. Meanwhile, a bill initiated by Prime Minister Mykola Azarov and registered in the Verkhovna Rada would amend current legislation that bans the privatization of the country's main pipelines – yet another dangerous prospect as it would open the door to Gazprom's "investment." Critics of the bill say it would pose a grave threat to Ukraine's energy security.

"Control over Ukraine's energy [resources] gives Russia the ability to more easily pull Ukraine into its Eurasian integration project," commented Mykhailo Honchar, a well-known energy expert from Kyiv. "Gaining control over the infrastructure, first of all the energy-related infrastructure, ...means that the political orientation of the country can be changed from Europe to Russia."

Former Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak put it even more bluntly: "Russia without Ukraine will never become an empire. But, having subordinated Ukraine, it automatically becomes an empire. It is absolutely clear that if the Ukrainian gas transit system is in foreign hands that entity could on any day bring in its troops under the guise of protecting the pipeline."

For Russia, Sevastopol was the first step, and Ukraine's GTS is the next.

May
12
2008

Turning the pages back...

Five years ago, on May 12, 2008, Presidents Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine and Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania met in Vilnius, Ukraine's presidential press service reported, to discuss bilateral cooperation and intensification of trade relations, as well as Ukraine's integration with NATO and the European Union.

At the time, Mr. Yushchenko noted the importance of enhancing interregional economic ties and strengthening bilateral investment

cooperation, especially when Ukraine was in the planning stages of hosting the Euro-2012 soccer championship.

The Ukrainian president thanked Lithuania for its clear and open support of Ukraine's Euro-integration aspirations, and noted Lithuania's stance during the NATO summit in Bucharest.

Mr. Adamkus responded with a promise of continued support for a NATO Membership Action Plan for Ukraine during the alliance's upcoming meeting in December 2008.

The two presidents signed a joint declaration that day, which highlighted that the relations between the two countries had entered a stage of strategic partnership, including areas of energy safety and transparency, European market energy integration, and joint participation in energy projects with consultations on alternative energy sources and green technologies.

The declaration also noted the cooperation of the two countries in the further development of a transport corridor between the Baltic and Black Sea regions, with expansion proposed toward the Caspian-Caucasian and Scandinavian-West European directions.

The Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 was also a point in the declaration with both countries agreeing to unite efforts to honor the memory of victims of totalitarian regimes. Both

(Continued on page 13)

COMMENTARY

To Ukraine, with love; or, Russia's comedy show

by Mykola Riabchuk

On April 25, Russian President Vladimir Putin set another record, answering citizens' questions in a televised Q & A session for five hours. The show was staged well, so that no uncomfortable or unexpected questions could offend the tsar's ears.

Many participants actually strove not so much to ask their president anything but rather to express their gratitude for his wise and benevolent policies. A Paralympic swimmer thanked him on behalf of all Paralympic athletes for taking care of their needs, a local teacher praised the president for his tireless care of the nation's morale, and a vice-president of the association of Arctic researchers expressed his gratitude for support and, in part, for drafting a decree by which the president declared May 21 the Day of Arctic Researchers.

Mr. Putin's answers ranged from traditional castigation of petty bureaucrats (one of them was labeled a "pig" for his unresponsiveness) to no less traditional crude jokes (a poor Arctic researcher who asked him to speed up the formalities hindering the official introduction of their professional holiday was advised to "start celebrating it right now and we'll sign the decree when we are ready").

In his usual way, Mr. Putin dismissed "Russia's negative image abroad" as a "stereotype imposed on the world public" by unspecified enemies, and lambasted the arrogant West for its desire to impose very dubious values and standards upon Russia.

Rather than discuss issues like human rights, civic freedoms and rule of law in the session, the emphasis was primarily and exclusively on the issue of sexual minorities, presented by the president in his favorite caricatured way: "You know, they have their own standards... If a Dutch court allowed the activity of an organization popularizing pedophilia, why should we adopt such standards? If they want to reproduce themselves through immigration, let them do so. We are not meddling with their affairs" (<http://www.itar-tass.com/en/c549/719682.html>).

Ukraine was mentioned only twice in the session, and in both cases Mr. Putin's responses seemed very friendly. First, the Paralympics swimmer complained about the lack of training facilities: "These swimming pools exist in Europe and even the Ukrainians have them, and are we in any way worse than them?"

"In some ways, Ukraine is better than us," Mr. Putin admitted generously. "I love Ukrainian culture, the Ukrainian people, they're a part of our collective soul. What's so surprising that they've overtaken us in some areas?"

One may guess in which other areas the smart Ukrainians have overtaken the "older brothers," and how the privilege of being a part of Russia's collective soul corresponds with the idea of "Russkiy Mir" and with Mr. Putin's earlier statement that Ukraine "is

Mykola Riabchuk is an author and journalist from Ukraine, and a leading intellectual who is affiliated with the journal Krytyka.

The article above is reprinted from the blog "Current Politics in Ukraine" (<http://ukraineanalysis.wordpress.com/>) created by the Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine, a program of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta.

not even a nation."

Answering the second question, about Ukraine's prospective membership in the Customs Union, the Russian president assured the audience that Ukraine itself and its people should reach a position on the issue, and that Russia would respect any decision. He reminded the audience only that the Ukrainian and Russian economies are linked through extensive cooperation, and its rejection would lead to irreparable losses for both countries. "Whereas Russia might be able to recover these losses somehow, for Ukraine it would be extremely difficult. I fear that this could lead to de-industrialization of some industries... According to our estimates, [Ukraine would lose] \$9-10 billion a year" (<http://en.for-ua.com/news/2013/04/25/154810.html>).

Remarkably, neither the source nor details of these encouraging estimates have ever been disclosed. In the meantime, two other countries that have already joined the Russia-led Customs Union do not appear very enthusiastic about their newly acquired experience in the organization.

The estimates of Ukraine's gains and losses should it sign the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) with the European Union are much more modest. The first years, specialists argue, would bring rather mixed results, even though eventually the net balance of benefits versus losses would grow noticeably and sustainably. But still, it largely depends on Ukraine's ability to use all the venues and instruments that DCFTA provides to reform its economy, legal system and society in general.

In a way, DCFTA is much more about the fishing rod than the fish, and this makes it profoundly different from the Customs Union incentives generously offered by Mr. Putin (<http://www.ceps.eu/system/files/simplenews/2011/05/NWatch88.pdf>).

Not all Ukrainians understand the economic subtleties of both unions, and not everyone is ready to take a fishing rod instead of the real (or virtual but real-looking) fish. Two years ago 44 percent of Ukrainian respondents preferred Ukraine's accession to the EU, 30 percent preferred the Customs Union, and the rest opted for non-secession or had no clear opinion (http://news.dt.ua/POLITICS/bilshist_ukrayintsiv_viddae_evrosoyuzu_perevagu_pered_mitnim_soyuzom-89632.html). Today the first group that prefers the EU has shrunk to 41 percent, while the group, supporting the Customs Union has grown to 36 percent (http://www.razumkov.org.ua/upload/Ukraine-2013_eng.pdf).

The Russian "fish," however, has a price – as one can easily figure out by taking a look, for example, at the "float for gas" deal (the so-called Kharkiv Accords) gullibly signed in 2010, shortly after his election, by Viktor Yanukovich. Even if the mythical figure of \$10 billion per year is going to materialize, it would most likely end up in the pockets of the "family" members and friendly oligarchs rather than in any viable program of national modernization.

And this is the point. Any Russia-led union means preservation of today's inefficient, corrupt and incurably backward economy for years to come. And, to be sure, it entails also a continuing disrespect for human rights, civic liberties and rule of law (<http://www.pravda.com.ua/articles/2013/02/18/6983699/>).

(Continued on page 13)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Book's author donates to scholarship fund

Dear Editor:

Ukraine is a country I knew very little about until just a few years ago. I had often heard it referred to as "the Ukraine," and the term confused me, leading me to believe it was a province of Russia because whenever I heard it mentioned, it was usually within a context or connection to Russia. My limited understanding of Ukraine's place in the world abruptly and shockingly ended when I unraveled the mystery of my family, as told in my memoir, "The Night Sky: A Journey from Dachau to Denver and Back," which Christine Syzonenko graciously reviewed in the March 31 edition of *The Ukrainian Weekly*.

When I unraveled the mysterious disappearance of my family, I also uncovered Ukraine's tragic history. I visited my homeland in 2009 and marveled at the exquisite architecture, the golden domes shining more brilliantly than the morning sun, and the rich, dark soil that can produce enough food to feed the world. But I also noticed the Stalinist, austere buildings that blighted the warmth of Ukraine, and the polluted rivers and lakes. Russia had left its mark on Ukraine's landscape, and it was not a good one. It is the legacy Russia gave to Ukraine's people that especially disturbed me.

When I met my family that had been lost to me for nearly a half century, I learned of Stalin's mass executions, exiles to Siberia and the murder of my cousin, whose head was mounted on a post in the center of the village as a warning to insurgents. Ukraine was no longer a country whose place in the world I could not identify.

Ukraine's identity is once again being threatened. It begins subtly with allowing the Russian language to be used in court proceedings and official government records; it could lead to more assertion of power and forcibly bending the Ukrainian people to Russia's will. Ukraine must be vigilant in defending its identity through education that remembers the past.

My ancestors died for Ukraine's independence from Russia. I do not want their suffering and deaths to be for nothing, and that is why I am donating \$10 for every purchase of "The Night Sky" to the

Ukrainian National Women's League of America Scholarship Fund, so that the torturous memory of the Russian occupation will not be forgotten.

Please contact me at suttonall@comcast.net if you would like to purchase my book, or send a payment of \$23.67 to Maria Sutton, 85 South Lupine St., Golden, CO 80401. A donation of \$10 will be made to the Scholarship Fund for each purchase. Your donations are sincerely appreciated and will help preserve Ukraine's identity.

Maria Sutton
Golden, Colo.

Applause for decision of Human Rights Court

Dear Editor:

The Canadian Group for Democracy in Ukraine (CG4DU) applauds the unanimous decision by the European Court of Human Rights in condemning the violations of human rights of Ukraine's former prime minister and key leader of the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko in her detention and incarceration by Ukraine's authorities.

Specifically, the court decided that "Ms. Tymoshenko's pre-trial detention had been arbitrary; that the lawfulness of her detention had not been properly reviewed; and, that she had no possibility to seek compensation for her unlawful deprivation of liberty."

The CG4DU wishes to point out the error in public statements by Ukraine's authorities that interpret the court's finding as censuring Ms. Tymoshenko for "contemptuous behavior" during proceedings. In fact the opposite is true. On this point the court states that it "found that, given that the judge had referred to her alleged hindering of the proceedings and contemptuous behavior, her right to liberty had been restricted for other reasons than those permissible."

The CG4DU strongly supports Canada's position as stated by Minister of Foreign Affairs John Baird: "With this ruling, the European Court of Human Rights sends a clear message that court proceedings in Ukraine fell short of internationally recognized norms of fairness, transparency and due process."

Like Canada, the CG4DU remains concerned about the political bias and arbitrary prosecution in this and other cases that undermine the rule of law and continue the back sliding in Ukraine's democracy.

It calls on President Viktor Yanukovich to ensure a return to the rule of law. It also calls on Canada, with other like-minded friends, to exert the greatest pressure possible on Ukraine's president to comply with conditions set out by the European Union for further integration via the Association Agreement. The most critical is the release of Ms. Tymoshenko.

The CG4DU also urges NGOs mandated to uphold human rights, promote democracy, justice, rights of women, etc., to support publicly the court's decision. The Ukrainian World Congress has already done so. Other Ukrainian organizations in Ukraine and in the diaspora may wish to state their position clearly as well.

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn
Andy Holowaty
Myroslava Oleksiuk
Oksana Shmigelsky
Marta Onufriw
Ottawa

CROSSCURRENTS

by Andrew Sorokowski

Confessions of a Europhile

Ukraine's regime keeps playing off East and West, like a two-timing cad playing off one girlfriend against another – until they wise up and jointly dump him. Meanwhile, Ukraine's intelligentsia knows where its heart lies. Since independence, many Ukrainian intellectuals have travelled to Western Europe, some settling in positions at universities or research institutes. They constitute an important cultural lifeline for their country. Along with their principled espousal of European values, their personal encounters with the continent contribute to Ukraine's re-integration with its natural cultural habitat.

It's not hard to guess what attracts them. For those who grew up in the USSR, "Europe" is everything that Bolshevism and Communism destroyed: human rights and democracy, tolerance and civility, "bourgeois" manners and morals, the Classical and Judeo-Christian heritage. And by contrast with both the Soviet Union and the United States, which tried to melt various ethnic traditions into a single civic culture, Europe preserves strong ethno-national identities, even in an age of Euro-integration.

To us Americans, Europe has the style and culture we think we lack. Yet, in many ways, America is itself a cultural emanation of Europe. And we shouldn't forget how enthusiastically Europeans took to the poetry of Poe, or the genius of jazz. For that matter, so did Soviet Ukrainians.

I imagine that Ukrainian visitors to European cities are struck by the same markers of cultural memory that initially impressed me: plaques identifying the lodgings of Baudelaire, Verlaine, Apollinaire; the house on London's Mount Street, Mayfair, where Handel wrote the "Messiah;" the apartment on Rome's Via Sistina where Hohol worked on "Dead Souls." I think it was George Steiner who pointed out that no matter how lonely you are in Europe – and a foreigner in Europe is likely to be lonely – you have the ghosts of the past to keep you company.

For those accustomed to the bland comforts of America, a trip to the Old World used to be an adventure. In my Edinburgh garret, where I had to keep feeding the heater with sixpence that chilly August of 1967, the milk was delivered in glass bottles by a horse-drawn cart. You could barely balance your teacup in the swaying, clattering third-class carriages of the "Flying Scotsman." In a boarding-house near London, it took a couple of coins and two hours to heat the water for the bath, in competition with several other boarders, some of whom managed to bathe only once a week (and you could tell). Later, in my own damp brick-walled flat, I would doze by the "electric fire" – there was no central heating – until awakened by the smoke from the tips of my slippers. Such features would hardly impress a visitor from the far more "exotic" USSR.

Nor did these charming inconveniences impress my fellow Americans. One preferred Germany to Italy chiefly because the bathrooms were almost as clean and comfortable as those back in Iowa. Another complained that the stores closed from Saturday afternoon through

Sunday. Some even criticized Italian food: a student from Georgia pined for fried chicken, referring disparagingly to saltimbocca as "toothpick surprise"; another decried those tiny Italian coffees. And the Venetian canals stank. To them I say: let's change places, so you can go back to the odor-free land of comfy bathrooms, megasized coffee and round-the-clock fast food.

Family memories no doubt contributed to my fascination with the Old World. In Vienna, I could gaze at the same Ferris wheel that my grandfather admired in the Prater during the first world war, or squeeze my way into the Café Hawelka, where my father used to read the papers after the second. I grew up with my parents' stories of wartime Vienna, where despite the cold and hunger and the Allied air raids they enjoyed a student camaraderie that I never experienced in America. That, too, was part of the attraction – an illusory attraction, because an American could never really be a part of it.

For it is one thing to be a tourist or a student in Europe, getting the wanderlust out of your blood, and quite another to live and work there. Perhaps, I thought, a few years of real life would cure my Europhilia – especially if I lived on a meager stipend rather than an American-size salary and an executive expense account for theater, opera and ballet. It didn't work. The malady has proved incurable.

Today, many will say, Europe is unraveling. Economies are foundering, social benefits are threatened, the indigenous population is dying out. Immigrants from Africa and the Near East are filling the void. They want to live in Europe, but do they want to become Europeans? "Why in God's name," asks the German jurist Udo di Fabio, "should a member of a vital world culture want to integrate into Western culture, when Western culture is not reproducing itself, no longer has any transcendent idea, and is approaching its historical end?" (quoted by Robert Carle, "A Grand Illusion," *Touchstone*, January-February 2012, p. 46). While I hate to see shrinking families and empty cathedrals, I would not mind one bit if the sex-shops and night-clubs staffed by trafficked East European women were all replaced by mosques.

Meanwhile, Europe has become passé. The young of America and Ukraine flock to China and India, Ethiopia and Vietnam. There, no doubt, lies the future. And, as if to add insult to injury, we diehard American Europhiles are accosted daily by pathetic imitations, or desecrations, of our beloved continent's cultural artifacts.

Ukrainians, at least, have no need for imitations. To be sure, Lviv's Tsukernia seems almost more Viennese than the Landtmann or Griensteidl – though the hospitable waitresses are a far cry from the grumpy Herr Ober who chides you for hogging the "Wiener Zeitung." But if you sit on the terrace at Svit Kavy, wrapped in a blanket against the cold as you admire the Baroque façade of the Boim Chapel, you need not imagine that you are in Europe. You are already there.

Andrew Sorokowski can be reached at samboritanus@hotmail.com.

GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. 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.

Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at staff@ukrweekly.com. The daytime phone number and complete mailing address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. (A daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.)

Please note: The length of letters cannot exceed 500 words. Letters may be edited or abridged.



Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus President Anatoli Murha addresses the audience.



Soloists (from left) bass Oleh Zmiyiwsky and first tenor Taras Zakordonski harmonize during "Velykodnia Pisia" (Easter Song).



Matthew Dubas

Oleh Mahlay, artistic director and conductor, summons the necessary response from the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, during the second half of their performance in Windsor, Ontario.

Bandurist...

(Continued from page 1)

The program continued with songs of spring adapted from poetry by Ukraine's bard, Taras Shevchenko, including, as described in the program booklet, "Sontse Hriye" (The Warming Sun), "Oy Hop Taki-Tak!" (Let's Dance Handzia!) and "Berestechko" (Why Has the Green Field Blackened?), with music by Mr. Mahlay based on a Kuban Kozak melody. The first half concluded with "Dumy Moyi" (My Thoughts).

Following a 15-minute intermission, for a costume change and re-tuning of the banduras, the chorus returned to the stage.

The second half featured imagery of nature during springtime as depicted in Ukrainian song. The nearly 50-man chorus thundered "Hey Brattia Opryshky" (My Brethren Opryshky) describing the mountains that provided the hideout for Oleksa Dovbush - Ukraine's Robin Hood, followed by a stroll in the evening with "Vechir Nadvori" (In the Evening), then out to the forest as they sang "Moyi Yaseny" (The Ash Trees) and "Oy Divchyno Shumyt Hai" (The Singing Forest), led by assistant conductor Roman Beley. Continuing to other scenes of nature, the next five songs were arranged by Hryhory Kytasty. As described in the program booklet, a song about a pond, with "Oy Hilya, Hilya" (Good Evening, My Love), under the direction of assistant conductor Yuriy Petlura, then to the orchard, with "Sadom Sadom Kumasenko" (Through the Orchard), then to the rivers and seas with "Karpatski Sichovyky" (The Carpathian Freedom Fighters), with words by Ivan Bahranyni. (Translations in the program booklet were not literal, but stylized to appeal to non-Ukrainian audience members.)

During the concert, Mr. Murha recounted his own personal 20-year journey with

the UBC and the donations from the members' time and community sponsors, which have made the UBC's mission and its 95th anniversary possible. The UBC is just one of a handful of bandura groups in the world, Mr. Murha noted, that is continuing the tradition of the instrument that has become known as "the voice and soul of Ukraine."

As the UBC concluded its program with Shevchenko's rousing traditional "Reve ta Stohne" (The Mighty Dniro), followed by the audience's standing ovation and shouts of "bravo," the UBC indulged the hungry listeners with a double encore - featuring "Rozpriahayte" (Unbridle Your Horses), and "Mnohaya Lita!" (Many Years).

Following the concert, the president of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral thanked the UBC for making its first stop of the tour in Windsor. She also recalled how leading members of the UBC assisted the parish choir to flourish, and wished the UBC continued success as the UBC's 100th anniversary draws closer. Audience members then gathered in the church's hall for socializing with members of the UBC.

Prior to the concert, a major sponsor of the event - the Ukrainian Credit Union Limited in Windsor, and members of its board, Mykhailo Zinchuk, manager of the credit union's wealth strategy group, and Michael Kryworuchko, credit union branch manager - presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to Mr. Murha. Other major sponsors, whose contributions totaled \$3,100, mostly private donors, were recognized in the program booklet, and St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church donated the use of its cathedral and cultural center for the concert.

Back home in Detroit

The following evening, the chorus performed another concert, this time in its home city of Detroit at the Sterling Heights Performing Arts Center, which seats

approximately 800 in a stadium-style arrangement. The evening was made possible by donations from the Ukrainian Future Credit Union, Ukrainian Selfreliance Michigan Federal Credit Union and private donations, (a total of \$2,400).

As audience members mouthed the words to Shevchenko's "Reve ta Sohne," they remained on their feet as flowers were presented to Mr. Mahlay. The UBC treated the audience to a double encore with "Rozpriahayte" and a medley of Ukrainian songs called "Tankova Viazanka" (Dance Medley), which features "Zhuravel," "I Shumyt i Hude" and "Vid Kyiva do Lubin."

Also in attendance was the Ann Arbor Boychoir (www.aabochoir.org). Alex Sutton, assistant music director for the choir, said: "The kids loved it - dancing and conducting in their seats, and they wanted to learn more about the bandura. The boys were blown away! We don't live with that kind of sound!"

Only a few of the 35-member boys' choir attended, as many were exhausted from a concert they had performed the previous night. Now in its 26th season, one of the choir's dedicated mothers went to school with Mr. Mahlay; the choir looks to collaborate on future projects with the UBC. Many of the boys came to the stage after the UBC concert to meet the performers and try their hand at plucking a few bandura strings.

On to Cleveland

On Sunday afternoon, the UBC made its final stop of the "Sounds of Spring" tour at the Cleveland Museum of Art's Gartner Auditorium - a major performance space in Cleveland with seating for nearly 700. Sponsors of that evening's nearly sold-out concert included Cleveland Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, local businesses and private practices, (official donations totaled \$3,275).

Audience members came up to the microphone during both halves of the con-

cert to express how the music of the UBC had moved them, and to thank the UBC for continuing the kobzar tradition and elevating it to such a high form of art.

Mr. Murha said that as the UBC marks its 95th anniversary, the chorus has begun to think about its 100th anniversary.

"And then comes the question - okay, what are we going to do? How to commemorate the anniversary? One proposed idea, has been for the creation of a UBC endowment fund as a project for the chorus to foster the development of the bandura in Ukraine and across North America," Mr. Murha said.

Mr. Mahlay noted that this concert series was the first themed concert for the UBC in recent memory and he was satisfied with the efforts of the UBC, considering all of the new material.

"As the UBC celebrates its 95th anniversary, we are humbled by the generations that have answered the call to continue this legacy, from its origins in the struggle for Ukrainian independence," said Mr. Mahlay. "We hope that our work does not disappoint our forebears and that we can continue to promote the bandura and the group." He added, "I truly feel rejuvenated after a weekend like that!"

Some of the selections performed during the "Sounds of Spring" concert series are available on CD or DVD. To purchase a copy, or to make a donation, readers can visit the UBC website, www.bandura.org; write to: The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, c/o Wolodymyr Murha, 15256 Ellen Drive, Livonia, MI 48154-2318; or call, 734-953-0305.

NEXT WEEK: UBC "behind the scenes," featuring commentary by a Michigan State University ethnomusicologist researching the bandura and the UBC, and the bandurists' performance at the Ukrainian School in Warren, Mich.



The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus enchants and moves the audience at Gartner Auditorium at the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland.

Mobilizing outrage: Joining forces to combat gender violence in Ukraine

by Marta Kichorowska Kebalo

The World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations (WFUWO) was a joint organizer of a panel titled "When Will the Violence Against Women and Girls Stop? Global Solutions." The panel was held in conjunction with the 57th annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations. Below is the slightly abridged text of the presentation by Marta Kichorowska Kebalo, Ph.D., WFUWO's main representative to the U.N. Economic and Social Council. The panel was held at the U.N. Church Center on March 8. The presentation is being published in two parts.

PART 1

Ukraine was one of the first countries to officially support United Nations General Secretary Ban Ki-moon when he announced the UNiTE to End Violence Against Women campaign in 2008. Ukraine's government was right to do so: A 2009 national survey commissioned by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the European Union (EU) estimated that 44 percent of all Ukrainian women have suffered domestic violence, defined as "a pattern of abusive and threatening behaviors that may include physical, emotional, economic and sexual violence, as well as intimidation, isolation and coercion...[in order] to establish and exert power and control over another." The Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, which reported the problem as serious in 2000, reported little improvement over the decade by 2009.

It might surprise you to find out that, according to Alexandra Hrycak (writing in 2010), Ukraine is actually one of the very few post-Soviet states that has even begun to create a national system to deal with domestic violence. Let's look at the history: The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic signed the 1979 convention of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 1980. But it was not until Ukraine's independence in 1991 that Ukraine's commitment to the elimination of discrimination and violence against women was put to review. In 1995, in preparation for the Fourth United Nations World Women's Conference in Beijing, Ukraine held its first ever parliamentary hearings on compliance with the U.N. Declaration on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women and the terms of the 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women. These hearings were Ukraine's first opportunity to collect, analyze and publish data on discrimination against women and the exercise raised the state's awareness of just how widespread – and under-reported – is Ukraine's problem of domestic violence.

In 1998, when the news about Ukraine's trafficking problem broke, the first Women's Congress in Ukraine (held in Kyiv on May 21-23, 1998) acknowledged the direct connection between domestic violence and the vulnerability of Ukraine's young women to forced prostitution and trafficking, an analysis also supported by subsequent research by Jane Rudd (2003). Ms. Hrycak points out that in 1998 Ukraine, to its credit, became the first post-Soviet country to criminalize trafficking in persons and in 2001 became the first to define domestic violence as a criminal offense.

Ukraine's law of 2001 "On Prevention of Violence in the Family" mandated a nationwide network of crisis centers and made provision for protective restraining orders. Ms. Hrycak explains that after 2001



Dr. Martha Kichorowska Kebalo speaks at the March 8 panel on the topic "When Will the Violence Against Women and Girls Stop? Global Solutions."

Ukraine's government directed women to crisis centers, shelters and hotlines to receive services mandated by law, but that these services were actually provided not by the state but by NGOs, and only by virtue of foreign funding. In most of Ukraine, these services were spotty and are, in actuality, only starting to appear now, more than a decade later.

Another problem was that the language of the 2001 law itself was flawed, allowing the police to look the other way in domestic violence cases. Finally in 2008, an amendment removed language that allowed police to cite a woman's "provocative" or "victim" behavior as justifying a physical attack on her. Besides requiring retraining of abusers, the amendment also helped by expanding the legal concept of family to include co-habiting but unmarried couples.

After 2004, gender violence got some much-needed attention from Ukraine's government. With Ella Lamakh as director of family and gender policies within the Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports (2005-2011) Ukraine regularly supported the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaigns (initiated by the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University) and enlisted prominent men to support an anti-gender violence stance as part of a domestic campaign called "Stop Nasylstvu!" (End Violence!).

It is clear, however, that the official approach to gender violence approved and supported by the Ukrainian government and acknowledged by Ukrainian society is currently focused on the family as the unit of concern, in keeping with a traditional definition of women as mothers and family caretakers. This focus is, however, insufficiently wide if it is to also address the many other facets of gender violence in Ukrainian society, a point that the feminist agenda consistently pushes.

Backlash against new feminism

In the 1990s, there was a small feminist community in Ukraine, working mostly through Western-supported NGOs, which succeeded in raising women's critical awareness and provided a preliminary assessment of women's problems. Among these earlier feminist organizations are several that remain influential, such as the LaStrada-Ukraine (March 1998), Ukraine's League of Women's Voters 50/50, the UNDP Gender Program in Ukraine and others.

Since 2000, a wider network of new indigenous Ukrainian feminist organizations has joined the older ones. This feminism has several nodal points: the Museum of Women's History and the Women's

Movement, founded and directed by Tetiana Isayeva (<http://gender.at.ua>); a Kharkiv-based NGO called Krona, which is an education center for women's rights and equality and participates in the European 50/50 campaign for women's parity in representative government (<http://www.grassrootsfeminism.net/cms/node/1211>); the Ukrainian Association of Researchers in Women's History founded in 2000 by Dr. Oksana Kis (<http://www.womenhistory.org.ua>); and Feministychna Ofenzyva (Feminist Offensive), a grassroots organization that stands in opposition to all forms of patriarchy in Ukraine, including compulsory heterosexuality and compulsory child-bearing (<http://ofenzyva.wordpress.com>).

These younger feminists are addressing the patriarchal actions of their country's national leaders while calling on the transnational women's community to back them up in support of women's interests and basic human rights.

Tamara Martsenyuk of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Ukraine recently wrote in 2012: "During the last two years, feminism, as activism and as intellectual discussion, has finally appeared in Ukraine's public space – and not a moment too soon, as grassroots initiatives present a counterweight to the rising attack on women's rights." (See <http://www.isa-sociology.org/global-dialogue/2012/07/ukrainian-feminism-in-action/>).

Indeed, after the election of President Viktor Yanukovich, social unrest has mounted in Ukraine. People are incensed over increased poverty and social inequality (90 percent of Ukraine is now in poverty, and 60 percent of Ukraine's wealth is said to be held by only 100 of its families). Concern is ever-rising over the crippling of normal business and the rampant corruption. In the fall 2011 issue of the journal Krytyka, Yevhen Zakharov wrote about the state repression of all political opposition.

The arrest and sentencing of Yulia Tymoshenko underlined the fact that even privilege and social status does not protect women in Ukraine. Experts describe an increase in structural violence against women, meaning that the state is failing to legislate changes to practices that directly harm women and limit their access to essential resources. There is also an intensifying trend of neo-traditionalism, boxing women into identities based on maternity or certain brands of religiosity. These overall patterns affect the security of women in a range of domestic, intimate and public settings.

The year 2012, particularly the month of March, however, surpassed all misgivings,

presenting us with a round of policy reversals on women's rights and highly public traumatic events. On March 1, 2012, the then-speaker of Ukraine's Parliament, Volodymyr Lytvyn, publicly voiced his reservations about the rightness of a draft law (of May 2011) on gender quotas. He questioned women's participation in Ukraine's government, citing women's naturally subordinate status based on the Biblical story of Eve's creation from Adam's rib.

A letter campaign ensued, calling for his resignation. The letter was posted on the website of the feminist Gender Museum site (<http://gender.at.ua/news/2012-03-06-947>). It was signed not only by women's organizations in Ukraine but also by the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations and the Ukrainian National Women's League of America – the first time that organized diaspora women openly joined the feminist-minded NGO community of Ukraine in a common front.

Immediately after that, Ukraine's highest authorities of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic and Roman Catholic Churches lobbied the Ukrainian Parliament to repeal the availability of abortion, which had remained accessible in Ukraine during the first two decades of post-Soviet independence. The statements blamed women for Ukraine's decreasing population. Under current law, a woman may choose to abort before 12 weeks' gestation. On March 12 there was a proposal in Parliament to criminalize a woman's or doctor's interruption of pregnancy (except where the mother's life was threatened). The ensuing protest raised arguments on several fronts, including the need to keep Church and state separate, and the inadvisability of imposing this law on all of Ukraine's citizens regardless of religious affiliation (or non-affiliation) and, not least, the dire consequences that the imposition of such abortion bans has had on women's health in other societies. Letters were written and heated demonstrations rocked Ukraine on both sides of this complicated issue.

March 8, International Women's Day, ironically, also brought Ukraine to a crisis over an incident of what is being called "big wig crime," a pattern of attacks on young women by young men of privilege, that have become commonplace and are committed with impunity, ostensibly because of the perpetrators' connections to state officials. For example, in July 2011, a video caught Roman Landik, the son of a Ukrainian parliamentarian, brutalizing Maria Korshunova (a young woman, who being engaged to another man, ignored his advances) in a restaurant while diners and restaurant staff apathetically looked on. In 2012 there were several such extreme attacks on Ukrainian teenage girls. March 8 of this year marked the one-year anniversary of two such cases: Aleksandra Popova managed to survive her ordeal; Oksana Makar did not.

Oksana Makar was an 18-year-old in the southern Ukrainian city of Mykolayiv. She lived in relative poverty with her widowed mother, had a sixth grade education and a record of detentions for prostitution – a victim of life several times over. Her final victimization came at the hands of three local young men, who met her in a bar, lured her to an apartment where they repeatedly violated her, strangled her and casually left her for dead, dumping her in a construction ditch and torching her body. A passer-by rescued her, barely conscious but able to identify her attackers. When the news broke, thousands wanted to help by

(Continued on page 14)

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“White Dress with ‘Princess Olga’ Decoration” (Ethno Renaissance collection) by Katya Pshechenko, 2008 (various techniques; cotton).

NEW YORK – Organized by The Ukrainian Museum, the exhibit “Out of Tradition: Contemporary Decorative and Applied Art” features the work of 35 contemporary decorative artists of Ukrainian background from Ukraine, the United States and Canada. The aim of the exhibit, which opened on April 28, is to showcase works from the innovative realm of contemporary art and design that are rooted in the tradition and aesthetic of Ukrainian folk art. Ceramics, jewelry, textiles, high-fashion clothing and accessories, and decorative items crafted from wood, glass, and silver are among the more than 150 objects in this major exhibition. “Out of Tradition” is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue with an introduction by Jaroslaw Leshko, professor emeritus of art, Smith College, and an essay written by Tamila Pecheniuk and Halyna Kusko, art historians and docents in the Art Textiles Department at the Lviv National Academy of Art.

Amplifying the main exhibition are selected objects drawn from the The Ukrainian Museum’s extensive collection of folk art. Traditional Ukrainian costumes and other textiles, pysanky (Ukrainian Easter eggs), gerdany (bead-strung necklaces) and ceramics serve to complement the contemporary works of art that allude to the ancient art forms. Shown separately, a collection of traditional Hutsul ceramics and the unique black-smoked ceramics from the Havarechyna region in Ukraine, brought together from various sources, underscores the rich artistry of Ukrainian culture.

The exhibit will be on view through September 29; museum hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second Avenue and The Bowery), New York, NY 10003; telephone, 212-228-0110; fax, 212-228-1947;



“Composition-1” (“Venetian Fantasy” series) by Andriy Bokotey, 2011 (blown-glass technique; colored blown glass).



“Blu-Rose” (two-part tapestry) by Jaroslava Lialia Kuchma, 2010 (hand-woven; wool, cotton).

“Out of Tradition: Contemporary Decorative and Applied Art”

Exhibit opens at The Ukrainian Museum

e-mail, info@ukrainianmuseum.org; website, www.ukrainianmuseum.org

Art works that ‘belong to the present moment’

by Jaroslaw Leshko

The state of the decorative arts as assessed through the prism of the artists in the current exhibition flows out of two distinct, yet complementary currents of present and past. The 20th century was witness to the revolutionary dissolution of artistic boundaries, facilitating an interactive relationship among all disciplines. This momentous shift had an enormous impact on the very nature, indeed stature, of the decorative arts. The availability of new methods and materials further enhanced the possibilities for self-expression.

The distinguishing feature of the present exhibition is the artists’ Ukrainian descent, whether they are from Ukraine itself or the United States. Their symbiotic link with the rich history of Ukrainian decorative arts is a major leitmotif of the show.

The decorative arts in Ukraine run deep in the nation’s consciousness and cut across societal and geographic boundaries. Each region takes pride in its own distinctive design, which only adds to the rich panoply of the whole. The unifying thread is the high quality of the work and its universal acceptance. Decorative art is avidly collected, proudly displayed and carefully passed down from generation to generation. It plays an integral part in religious, national and family holidays. Over the centuries of oppression, it kept alive the identity and spirit of a nation.

The story of Ukraine’s decorative art is a living and evolving one. Among its ardent proponents are some of

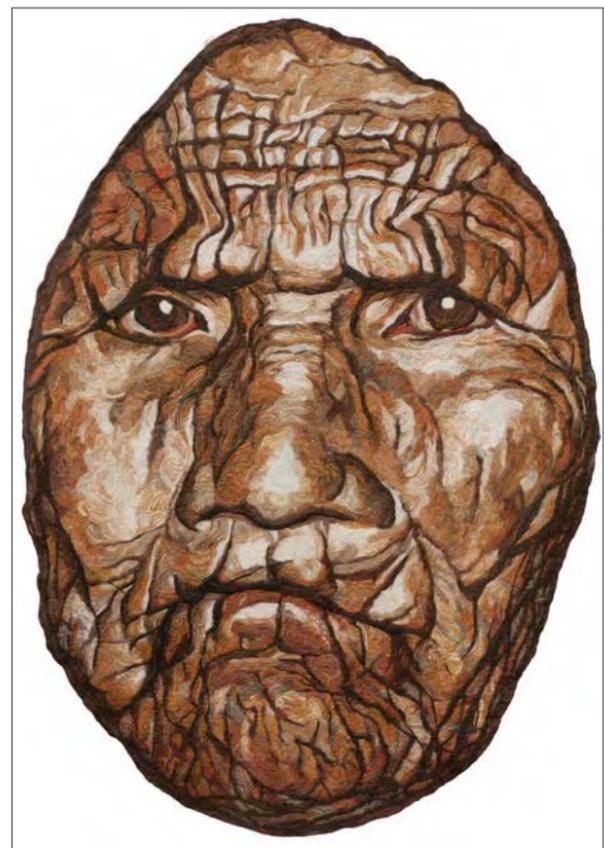


“Grasshopper” by Ulyana Yaroshevych, 2012 (wheel-thrown; clay, engobe).

Ukraine’s most celebrated artists. Sonia Delaunay’s coloristic vibrancy and clarity are indebted to it. Kasimir Malevich’s experiments with faceless heads can be traced to his interest in the similarly rendered heads of folk dolls.

The wide repertory of Ukrainian decorative art is in large measure dependent on natural forms, design motifs of the pre-Christian era and the spiritual art of Byzantium. When in the late 19th and 20th centuries the Neolithic Trypillian culture and Scythian gold treasures were excavated from the soil of Ukraine, they were viewed as a validation of a cultural continuum. Decorative artists quickly assimilated the curving designs of Tripillian pottery into their work. Alexander Archipenko, Ukraine’s greatest sculptor, who was starting his career at the time of the Neolithic discoveries, owes the sinuosity of his line in part to Trypillian design.

The exhibition brims with works of decorative and applied art that belong to the present moment — fully reflective of the current practices in the field. Yet to reference tradition in this context is both valid and necessary. Some of the artists in the exhibition make the link overtly, others evoke it more subtly. All are aware of its centrality for their art. Ukrainian decorative art anchors and emboldens these artists to explore and experiment; to unleash their imagination and take their creative impulse to new places.



“Cell Memory. BABA” by VALYA, 2009 (quilt, wet-felted, hand-quilted with felt needle; merino wool fleece, silk netting).

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Defense team to seek Yulia's release

KYIV – The defense counsel of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, Serhiy Vlasenko, said on April 30 that he believes the ex-prime minister should be released based on the ruling of the European Court of Human Rights. "Today, for the first time, a European institution has given a legal opinion on the case of Yulia Tymoshenko. Based on Article 18 of the European Convention on Human Rights, the ECHR unanimously held that Tymoshenko was arrested and held in custody unlawfully and that she is subject to politically motivated prosecution," the Batkivschyna Party's press service quoted Mr. Vlasenko as saying. He stated that the Ukrainian gov-

ernment should immediately comply with the ruling of the ECHR, releasing Ms. Tymoshenko and restoring her rights. (Interfax-Ukraine)

USTR notes Ukraine's regression

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has designated Ukraine a Priority Foreign Country (PFC) under the Special 301 statute due to severe deterioration of enforcement in the areas of government use of pirated software and piracy over the Internet, as well as denial of fair and equitable market access through the authorization and operation of copyright collecting societies. "This year's Special 301 Report demonstrates U.S. resolve to take strong action to support critical jobs and exports in IP-intensive industries," Acting U.S. Trade Representative Demetrios Marantis said on May 1. "I regret that the government of Ukraine has earned

the first new Priority Foreign Country designation in 11 years due to its severely deteriorating climate for IPR [intellectual property rights] protection and market access, and call upon that government to reverse recent backsliding and swiftly resolve the problems identified today." The Special 301 Report is an annual review of the global state of IPR protection, enforcement and market access, which USTR conducts pursuant to Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended by the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 and the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. USTR reviewed 95 trading partners for this year's Special 301 Report, and placed 41 countries on the Priority Foreign Country, Priority Watch List, or Watch List. USTR has designated Ukraine as a Priority Foreign Country in this year's report as a trading partner whose onerous or egregious acts, policies, or practices have the greatest adverse impact (actual or potential) on the relevant U.S. products. In addition, Ukraine is not entering into good faith negotiations or making significant progress in bilateral or multilateral negotiations. Trading partners on the Priority Watch List present the most significant concerns regarding insufficient protection or enforcement for intellectual property rights, or otherwise limited market access for persons relying on intellectual property protection. Ten countries are on the Priority Watch List, and 30 are on the Watch List. (Office of the U.S. Trade Representative)

Kravchuk: draft Constitution in late May

KYIV – The new draft Constitution of Ukraine will be ready by the end of May, Leonid Kravchuk, Ukraine's former president who is chairman of the Constitutional Assembly, said in an interview with the Segodnya daily. "On Tuesday we considered and approved the first version of the prepared amendments to the Constitution, decided to set up a working group so that together we could summarize all the proposals that the same thoughts do not flow from one section to another. After May 10, when the May holidays end, we will consider them again and the organizing bureau, I think, will send out the new draft Constitution and present it on May 20-25," he said, according to April 25 news reports. Mr. Kravchuk said that members of the Constitutional Assembly are considering reducing the number of national deputies of Ukraine to 300 and introducing a bicameral Parliament. "These are not just verbal proposals, but they have not yet been approved. Although, it seems to me, it is not so important how many houses there are in Parliament. There are countries with a unicameral Parliament, others with two chambers. Everything depends, not on the number of chambers, but on the composition of the Parliament and its responsibility: people came to the Parliament either to work for the people or to use the people," he emphasized.

Russians visit Kyiv most during May

KYIV – Kyiv is a much-in-demand city for Russians to spend their May holidays. The Svidomo portal reported this news on May 7, referring to the Russian online hotel reservation service Oktogo.ru. "According to data, Ukraine's capital headed a kind of Top-10 for Russian travel. Next come Riga, Prague, Helsinki, Vilnius, Berlin, Paris, Vienna, Amsterdam and Tallinn. But our neighbors come here for a short period of time, less than three nights on average," a statement reads. At the same time, the report notes that accommodations at Kyiv hotels are not the cheapest among the top-10 cities. The least expensive accommodations are found in Riga and Vilnius at \$70 and \$73 (U.S.), respectively, per night. Paris and Amsterdam are the most expensive, at \$250 and \$185 per night, respectively. A night in Kyiv costs between \$80 and \$150. (Ukrinform)

Ukraine marks International Workers' Day

KYIV – May Day is still celebrated around the world as a proletarian holiday of solidarity, and Ukrainians marked International Workers' Day on May 1. The day commemorates the 1886 Haymarket affair in Chicago, when police tried to disperse a public assembly during a general strike for the eight-hour workday. When an unidentified person threw a bomb at them, the police reacted by firing on the workers, killing four demonstrators. In 1889, the first congress of the Second International, meeting in Paris for the centennial of the French Revolution and the Exposition Universelle, called for international demonstrations on the anniversary of the Chicago protests in 1890. May Day was first celebrated in 1890 in Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Spain, Italy, the United States, Norway, France, Sweden and other countries. For a long time, May Day was a symbol of revolution and irreconcilable class conflict. In the Soviet Union, International Workers' Day became a major public holiday. The last official May Day demonstration in the USSR was held on May 1, 1990. The holiday is now celebrated in 142 countries. (Ukrinform)

Ukrainians approve of study abroad

KYIV – Almost 49 percent of Ukrainians with such a possibility would send their children to get higher education at foreign universities, the chief editor of the weekly Comments, Tetiana Mokrotovarova, said at a press conference reporting the results of a national online survey conducted in Ukraine. "If possible, 49 percent of Ukrainians would send their children to pursue higher education abroad, 22 percent would choose a metropolitan university, and one in five Ukrainians would insist that his/her child pursue higher education close to home," Ms. Mokrotovarova said, according to April 22 news reports. She said 45 percent of Ukrainians sent documents to as many universities as possible; and only one in five to the most famous universities. A total of 87 percent of respondents said that they try to get state-subsidized education, but if that is not possible they are ready to pay. "And one in 10 are not ready to pay for their child's education," the expert added. The survey also found that 25 percent of those polled are ready to pay for education a sum of \$500 to \$1,000 (U.S.) per year, and 24 percent would pay \$1,000 to \$2,000. At the same time, 8 percent of Ukrainians said they do not have the financial means to pay for a quality education for their children, and 5 percent said they would not pay as a matter of principle. Ms. Mokrotovarova also noted that 38 percent of Ukrainians believe a higher education diploma gives a person confidence in his/her abilities and capabilities; 27 percent believe that a diploma is a chance for a successful career; 17 percent associate it with high-paying job. "Only 15 percent of Ukrainians call a higher education certificate a formality," she underscored. (Ukrinform)

Youths prefer socializing online

KYIV – The majority of young Ukrainians during their time free from study and work readily communicate with friends; every second respondent claims that he or she could not live without social networks. These are the results of a sociological study conducted by the Gorshenin Institute whose results were released on April 22. The vast majority of young Ukrainians (70.2 percent) usually meet with friends in their free time. The majority of Ukrainian youths (72.3 percent) cannot imagine their life without the Internet. One in four respondents (25.9 percent) said they could do without the Internet. Every second representative of Ukrainian youth (49.6 percent) claimed that he/she could not live without social networking. At the same time, 47.0 percent of the respondents believe that they

(Continued on page 13)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 12)

could do without such communication. The survey also revealed that during their leisure time 42.6 percent of youths said they play computer games and spend time on the Internet; 36.7 percent walk in the fresh air; 35.8 percent are engaged in household chores; 32.6 percent listen to music and the radio; 30.9 percent do sports; 29.6 percent go to bars and restaurants; 26.3 percent watch television; 24.6 percent visit clubs, discos; 19.6 percent go to the movies; 18.6 percent read newspapers, magazines, books;

15.4 percent increase knowledge through private lessons, self-study; 13.6 percent go to the theater, concerts, exhibitions; 11.3 percent engage in a hobby; and 4.1 percent of the respondents go to church or participate in a religious community. The answer "other" was chosen by 1.9 percent of the respondents; 0.5 percent claimed they have no time to spare; 0.8 percent of the respondents found it difficult to answer this question. The sociological study was conducted on March 1-20, 2013 among 2,000 respondents age 15-21 in cities with a population of over 100,000 people located in 24 regions of Ukraine and Crimea. The survey's margin of error is +/-2.2 percent. (Ukrinform)

To Ukraine...

(Continued from page 6)

So far, the enormous natural resources have not helped Russian kleptocrats to modernize the country (http://www.rf-agency.ru/acn/reiting_ru.htm), and there is no reason to believe that the union of Ukrainian kleptocrats with their Russian, Belarusian and Kazakh brethren would benefit anyone other than themselves. The myth of Russia as a rising economic power on par with China, India and Brazil (so called BRIC) was shattered by the global crisis that proved the inefficiency of corrupt institutions and a resource-based economy. As the experts of the European Council of Foreign Relations aptly noticed in the policy paper "Dealing with a post-BRIC Russia," "few still have any illusions about Russia's resurgence and many now fear stagnation and 'Brezhnevization.'" In other words, regardless of Mr. Putin's assertive rhetoric, Russia is now a "post-BRIC state" (http://www.ecfr.eu/page/-/ECFR44_RUSSIA_REPORT_AW.pdf).

This decline, they argue, forces Moscow to "pursue a more cautious foreign policy. In particular, diminished economic expectations and the increased presence of other actors in the region have seen Moscow craft a new strategy for the post-Soviet space. Though it has not given up its hegemonic ambitions, expressed in Putin's proposal for a Eurasian Union, Russia now aims for a lower-cost sphere of influence. It is deploying limited resources selectively to create a kind of 'lily-pad empire' – a net-

work of military bases, pipelines and strategic chunks of national economies that clearly clashes with the EU's own neighborhood policy."

This might well explain Mr. Putin's worry about leaving Ukraine outside the Customs Union and facing deindustrialization and annual losses of \$10 billion. As to his peculiar "love" for Ukraine, one may recollect an old Soviet joke: "Gogi, do you like tomatoes?" – "To eat them, yes; but otherwise, no."

A perfect example of this kind of "love" was demonstrated recently by popular Russian TV presenter Ivan Urgant on the show "Smak" (Taste), which runs on the state-owned Channel 1 and in which he interviews celebrities while cooking with them. Recently, he provoked uproar in Ukraine by a humorous comment made during the preparation of a soup: "I chopped these greens like a red commissar did the residents of a Ukrainian village." His interlocutor, the celebrated screenwriter Aleksandr Adabashyan, wiped the knife clean and responded with similar wit: "I am just shaking off the villagers' remains" (<http://www.rferl.org/content/russia-ukraine-comedian-massacre/24961740.html>).

Thank God, they did not refer to gas chambers.

Forced to apologize, Mr. Urgant confessed, probably quite sincerely, that he "could not imagine that the unfortunate joke in a humorous program... could spark such an acute reaction in Ukraine, a country I love very much."

It's a pity he did not feature Mr. Putin in his anecdote.

Turning...

(Continued from page 6)

presidents opened a Holodomor exhibit at the Lithuanian capital's Museum of Genocide Victims.

Mr. Adamkus highly appreciated the exposition, and said that the preservation of a nation's historical memory is key to a civilized society, and he stressed that as many people as possible see the exhibit.

On the sidelines of the meeting, President Yushchenko spoke with Lithuanian Prime Minister Gediminas Kirkilas about trade

cooperation, simplification of the visa regime, and Ukraine's European and Euro-Atlantic aspirations.

During the meeting, Ukraine's Fuel and Energy Minister Yurii Prodan signed an inter-governmental moratorium confirming the two countries' commitments on implementing the Odesa-Brody-Plock oil transport corridor, discussed cooperation on nuclear energy projects and noted future cooperation on electricity exports to Lithuania.

Source: "Ukrainian, Lithuanian presidents meet," (Ukrinform), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 2008.



Ділимося сумною вісткою, що 6 травня 2013 року у Лінколн-Парку, Нью-Джерсі, відійшов у вічність

св. п.

Василь Паниця

нар. 12 лютого 1962 року.



Парастас відбудеться 9 травня 2013 року, о год. 7:00 вечора, в Соборі Святого Вознесіння, 635 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ; (973) 473-8665

Похоронні відправи відбудуться 10 травня 2013 року, о год. 10:00 ранку, в Соборі Святого Вознесіння, а відтак - на East Ridgelawn Cemetery у Кліфтоні, Нью-Джерсі.

У глибокому смутку залишилися:

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сини - Марко й Андрій
сестра - Розмарія Доброскок з чоловіком Петром та їхні діти - Николас, Наталка й Іван
брат - Михайло Паниця
теща - Ольга Пастернак
швагер - Юрій Пастернак з дружиною Лаурою
ближча та дальша родина в Америці й Канаді.

Замість квітів на могилу, родина просить скласти пожертви на Собор Святого Вознесіння.



With profound sorrow we wish to inform our friends that our dearest mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother,

Victoria Georgescu Klos

passed away on Friday, April 26, 2013, at the age of 82.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 1, 2013, at Holy Rosary Church in Edmonds, Washington.

The burial followed at Holyrood Cemetery in Shoreline, Washington.

Victoria is survived by her four children:

Christina Spencer and son-in-law Bradley Spencer,
Marta Korduba and son-in-law Richard Ellings,
Julian Klos and daughter-in-law Kseniya,
Petro Klos and daughter-in-law Daria;

nine grandchildren:

Alexander Spencer (Donna), Anamika Bennett (Ryan),
Katherine Ellings, John Ellings (Margaret), Julia Ellings,
Ruric Ellings,
Victoria Klos, Peter Klos, Orest Klos;

three great-grandchildren:

Jadyn, Tyler and Brayden

She will live in our hearts forever.

We wish to extend our deepest gratitude to caregivers, family and friends for their support.

Remembrances may be made to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Fund.

Please visit washelli.com to sign online tribute and view biographical audio video presentation.



With great sorrow we announce that

Irena M. Hnatiuk

our much loved mother, grandmother, great grandmother, great-great grandmother passed away April 19, 2013, in her Spring Township, Pa. home at the age of 91. She was predeceased by her husband, Bohdan T. Hnatiuk (1998), her brothers: Roman (1998), Zenon (1999), Bohdan (2000) and her granddaughter Sharon (1967). Born in Ternopil, Ukraine, Irena was the beloved daughter of the late Thomas and Euphrosine (Celecka) Tomkiw. She was a member of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, Reading, Pa.

She is survived by two daughters, and a son with their families:

- Wolodymyra Gesford with husband Alvin (Florida) and Daniel with wife Jerianne, Peter, Kristi, Lisa with husband Kevin
- Irena R. Pierantozzi (Pennsylvania)
Donald, Maria, Roman, Thomas, Michael, Julianne
- Oleh Hnatiuk (New Mexico) and Kathryn, Christopher, Brent, Nicole
fourteen great-grandchildren - Alexis, Arianna, Ashley with husband John, Austin, Ava, Dominic, Kacey, Kamryn, Kelsey, Nicholas, Peter-Alexander, Rebecca, Seth, and Tyson,
three great-great-grandchildren - Nicholas, Cristian and Jayel

Funeral arrangements were by Gallman-Sonoski Funeral Home, Inc., Reading, Pa. Services were private and burial was in St. Mary's Ukrainian Cemetery, Jenkintown, Pa.

Those wishing to make a contribution in her memory may direct them to:

- Nativity BVM Ukrainian Catholic Church, 630 Laurel Street, Reading, PA, 19602
- Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Kyiv, Ukraine, c/o Nativity BVM Church, 630 Laurel Street, Reading, PA, 19602

"God's finger touched her, and she slept..." Tennyson..

Klitschko TKO's Pianeta in sixth

by Ihor N. Stelmach

SOUTH WINDSOR, Conn. – Wladimir “Dr. Steelhammer” Klitschko defended his WBA, WBO, IBF and IBO heavyweight titles with ease on May 4 by outclassing Francesco Pianeta at SAP Arena in Mannheim, Germany, stopping the undefeated Italian challenger in the sixth round.

The WBO's No.7 ranked fighter went down in the fourth and fifth rounds, took a powerful left hook to the body in the sixth and then was finished off with 25 seconds left in the final round, with a right hand-left cross combination that ended the bout.

In his 21st heavyweight title defense fight, Klitschko peppered Pianeta from start to finish, dominating in the opening round when he landed a heavy left-right combination against the younger south-paw. The champion caught the challenger with two additional big rights, but the Italian landed a left hook of his own, one of very few punches connecting with Wladimir.

Klitschko got his jab going late in the first round. He landed a series of jabs in the fourth round, then a long straight right hand planted Pianeta on the canvas for the first time. A left hook put the Italian down again in the fifth round.

The right-left combination put Pianeta down for the final count in the sixth round. He briefly attempted to continue before ref-

eree Ernie Sharif ended the fight 2:52 into the round.

The 37-year-old Klitschko improved to 60-3 after his 52nd knockout. Pianeta fell to 28-1-1, 15 KO.

“I’m very disappointed and sad,” said Pianeta, a cancer survivor who lives in Germany. “I can’t say anything. It wasn’t my day. He’s the world champion. It wasn’t enough. That was rubbish today.”

The two boxers worked out together last year and Klitschko spoke kindly of his former sparring partner.

“Francesco tried. He has a fighting heart,” Klitschko said in post-match comments. “He’s a positive example in boxing. I’m sure he learned a lot and that he has a great future ahead of him. Francesco wasn’t easy to box. He punched with the hardest punches I’ve ever felt. Luckily, they didn’t hit me.”

Dr. Steelhammer not only won his 18th straight fight since losing to Lamon Brewster nearly 10 years ago, but he once again showcased a weak heavyweight division. This is not a slight against Wladimir or brother Vitali – the two regularly display dominant, workmanlike performance and deserve their heavyweight crowns.

The challenge posed by Pianeta serves as a perfect example of today’s heavyweight scene: an undefeated rising upstart taking on a storied champion 10 years older than him should have been a mas-



Wladimir Klitschko jabs at Francesco Pianeta, keeping the challenger at bay on May 4 at SAP Arena in Mannheim, Germany.

sively hyped fight. Instead, only a true boxing fan could have been excited about a simple bout where a dangerous lion simply toyed with his prey. It was never a question if Klitschko could overtake Pianeta, but when.

Wladimir Klitschko is expected back in the ring a little over three months from now, ordered by the WBA to defend his WBA title against Russian Alexander Povetkin (25-0, 17 KO) on August 31, if Povetkin wins his scheduled voluntary title defense against Andrezej Wawrzyk (25-0, 13 KO), the 2006 superheavyweight

European junior champion, on May 17 in Moscow.

Povetkin, the WBA’s “regular” champion and Klitschko, the “super” champion, are obligated to fight in order to unite the two titles into one lone WBA champion. The two former Olympic champions have already canceled a pair of scheduled bouts due to injuries. Russian promoter Vladimir Hryunov won the purse bid to stage the Klitschko-Povetkin match, coming in with a bid of \$23.33 million. Klitschko is entitled to a payday of \$17.25 million – 75 percent of the total purse.

Sitch men's team advances to semifinal state cup game



The Chornomorska Sitch men's team celebrates its quarterfinal match win against Jersey Shore Boca on April 21.

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – In a thrilling penalty kick shoot-out, the Chornomorska Sitch men's soccer team beat arch-rival Jersey Shore Boca 4-2 at Veterans Park Field on April 21 to advance to the semifinal round of the N.J. State Cup scheduled for May 19.

The first 90 minutes were played very evenly, with both teams playing strong defense and looking for opportunities to play to their strengths. The Jersey Shore Boca team looked very strong on set pieces (free kicks and corner kicks) creating several good scoring opportunities throughout the two halves but were thwarted by Sitch goalie Alex McDonald, who was catlike with his acrobatic diving saves. The Sitch team, on the other hand, created their scoring opportunities by playing a counter-attack style utilizing their speedy forwards and overlapping midfielders.

Mykola Kucyna, Taras O'Connell and Anatoli Sen had the best shots on goal that were stopped by a very good and sure-handed Boca goalie and after the first 90 minutes of exciting and tense play, the game remained scoreless.

The game then went to a full 30-minute overtime. In the extra time, with both teams giving all their efforts to score, it was the Boca team that struck first at the 10 minute mark of overtime as the Boca forward picked up a loose ball and slotted his shot underneath the Sitch keeper from close range for a 1-0 lead.

Shortly thereafter, a glimmer of hope came for Sitch when a Boca player got sent off (red carded) for intentionally elbowing a Sitch player in the head near midfield. After a brief argument by the Boca players, the game resumed with Sitch having a man advantage and throwing as many players into the attack as possible in order to get the equalizer.

Their strategy paid off because in the 23rd minute of overtime, Anatoli Sen passed to Dan Lewycky, who scored the tying goal, placing his shot into the left corner of the net. Then, as if there wasn't enough drama in the game already, 30 seconds after the ensuing kickoff, a Boca player dribbled down the field and into the Sitch penalty box area and was fouled, giving the

referee no alternative but to award a penalty kick for the Boca team. With things looking bleak for Sitch, the Boca player approached the ball and blasted his shot towards goal which McDonald miraculously deflected up and into the crossbar. The ball then caromed right to another Boca forward whose attempt to shoot was stopped by a frantic Sitch defense hustling back to block any clear rebound shot on goal.

The last chance of the overtime went to Sitch forward Dima Tereschuk, who sent his shot across the goal and wide, ending the game 1-1, and forcing the five-round, penalty kick (PK) shootout to decide the match.

In the first two rounds of PKs, Sitch went down 1-2 with Sen missing his PK and Kucyna scoring his. In the third round, Andrew Panas scored for Sitch to knot the score at two-a-piece at which point McDonald came up with a huge save to even things up after three rounds. In the fourth round, O'Connell scored to put Sitch up 3-2 and McDonald then came up with

his second incredible save in the PK shootout. In round five, Salim Kouidri stepped up for Sitch, knowing his shot could win it, and proceeded to strike a perfect PK to win the match and send the Sitch team and fans into pandemonium.

When Sitch Coach Bo Kucyna was asked who he felt the star of the game was, he responded: “This win was the result of a total team effort. All 14 players who showed up this morning gave 100 percent, some continued to play even with serious bruises and injuries, and I couldn't be prouder in their effort today. Alex, our goalie, well what can you say... stopping one penalty kick in a game is hard enough, but he stopped three today and that, in the end, was the difference.”

The semifinals are scheduled for May 19 at home against the Hackensack Strikers. The site and time have yet to be determined but for more information about the semifinal game and/or the team, please contact

(Continued on page 16)

Mobilizing...

(Continued from page 9)

sending money and organizing blood drives for her treatment.

When two of the three attackers were released by the police – allegedly because of their relation to local government officials – street demonstrations erupted across several of Ukraine's cities (including in Oksana's native Mykolayiv, but also in Kharkiv, Lviv and Odesa) leading to the young men's re-arrest and trial. Among those taking to the streets to protest the fate of Oksana Makar was the group called FEMEN (founded in 2008 to protest Ukraine's sex tourist trade), the bare-breasted warriors wearing the flowered wreath of Ukrainian maidenhood.

With Oksana's death on March 29, 2012, observers in the diaspora may have well expected a tsunami of anger in Ukraine over the incident. But, even as Oksana gained support, there were many voices judging her. Journalist Irena Chalupa wrote an article describing how many people were dismissing her as “just a loose girl” (reported March 30, 2012). The kind of massive taking to the streets, the outpouring of sympathy and expression of outrage over the accumulated wrongs, such as was triggered by the case of the young woman gang-raped in a moving bus in New Delhi India and led to the Valentine's Day One Billion Rising demonstrations of 2013 – did not gel in Ukraine. Apparently, there was still too much ambivalence and confusion over the issue of violence against women.

COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

During visit to Boston, Metropolitan Antony ordains subdeacon

by Peter T. Woloschuk

JAMAICA PLAIN, Mass. – Recently enthroned Metropolitan Antony (Scharba) of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. paid his first canonical visit to St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Jamaica Plain, Mass., on Sunday, March 31. During the visit he ordained and tonsured a new subdeacon, concelebrated the Sunday liturgy, preaching a homily appropriate for the Second Sunday of Lent according to the Julian calendar, and at the conclusion of the liturgy took part in a panakhyda (memorial service) marking the first anniversary of the pastor's mother's death in Ukraine. He then participated in a parochial luncheon held in the church hall.

The metropolitan was accompanied by the Rev. Anthony Perkins, pastor of St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Woonsocket, R.I.; and the Rev. Deacon Vasyl Psakas, newly ordained subdeacon Ioan Mazur and seminarian Volodymyr Yavorsky,

all of Somerset, N.J. They were joined by the Very Rev. Roman Tarnavsky and Hierodeacon Vasil Janick of St. Andrew's.

At the beginning of the visitation to St. Andrew's, which is currently undergoing major renovations, Metropolitan Antony ordained St. Andrew's parishioner Kenneth Kulmatycki to the subdiaconate.

In his homily during the liturgy, the Metropolitan stressed the need for prayer, reflection, and repentance, particularly during the Lenten season, and called on parishioners to observe the traditional Ukrainian Lenten practices, including the fasts and periods of abstinence.

Afterwards, Metropolitan Antony joined some 60 parishioners in the parish hall for a Lenten luncheon featuring fish and other dishes made without meat or dairy products.

The newly ordained subdeacon, Mr. Kulmatycki was born in Edmonton, Alberta. He is the son of Lillian and Michael

(Continued on page 16)



Metropolitan Antony with the Very Rev. Roman Tarnavsky (left) and Subdeacon Kenneth Kulmatycki.

Floridians mark Chornobyl anniversary



OSPREY, Fla. – Observances of Earth Day at Oscar Scherer State Park in Osprey, Fla., on April 21 included a special exhibit: "Chornobyl Nuclear Disaster." It was organized to commemorate the 27th anniversary of the Chornobyl tragedy by the public relations co-chairs Nellia Lechman and Vira Bodnaruk, public relations co-chairs of Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) Branch 56, with the help of Dr. Bohdan Bodnaruk of the Sierra Club. On exhibit were a fact sheet about the Chornobyl disaster, buttons and stickers prepared in the past by the Ukrainian Language Society, a commemorative envelope of the Ukrainian Philatelic Society, and books on Ukraine and Chornobyl. Throughout the day, visitors were informed in detail about the Chornobyl disaster by Mmes. Lechman and Bodnaruk, as well as Olya Hron, Areta Baranowskyj, Alexandra Popel, Christyna Sheldon, Oksana Lew, Lida Mychalowych, Roxolana Yarymovych and Ann-Marie Susla, president of UNWLA Branch 56. Other members of the Ukrainian community also lent their support. Earlier in the day there were memorial services for the victims of Chornobyl at Ukrainian churches in North Port, Fla.

– Vira Bodnaruk

Ukrainian Chorus Dumka holds election meeting

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Chorus Dumka of New York held its biennial meeting on March 10 and elected the following officers: President Paul Liteplo, Vice-President Yura Shevchuk, Recording Secretary Iryna Hnativ, Corresponding Secretary Marusia Darmohraj-Mulyk, Treasurer Alexandra Jablonsky, Librarians Wolodymyr Kornaha and Anna Ulitsky and Members-at-Large George Balynsky, Walter Safian, Lesia Cebrij-Rago, Yuri Semeniuk, Nataliya Fayfer and Alexander Alekseyenko.

The Dumka Chorus was formed in 1949 and next year will be celebrating its 65th anniversary. Since 1991, the chorus

has been very fortunate to have as its conductor, Maestro Vasyl Hrechynsky. Through his musical leadership, Mr. Hrechynsky has brought the chorus, comprising amateur singers, to a very high quality of vocal accomplishments admired by Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike throughout the United States, Canada and Europe.

The chorus is always looking for new members to join its organization. Readers who love to sing and are interested in Ukrainian choral music may feel free to visit Dumka's website at www.dumka.org or to contact the director at director@dumka.org.

Kyiv Trio performs in North Port



NORTH PORT, Fla. – A magnificent concert of the Kyiv Trio took place on Sunday afternoon, March 24, at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Religious and Cultural Center in North Port, Fla. The audience, which filled the hall to capacity, was spellbound by the breathtaking performance of the celebrated Kyiv Trio – pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky, cellist Natalia Khoma and violinist Nazar Pylatiuk. A special appearance by composer, pianist and conductor Myroslav Skoryk, whose compositions were performed, added to the very memorable event. Performed in concert were works by Schubert, Cassado, Villa-Lobos, Chopin, Haydn and Skoryk. Above, the audience gives a standing ovation to the Kyiv Trio and Maestro Skoryk.

– Vira Bodnaruk

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Photo project documents life of HIV-positive family in Odesa

NEW YORK – Joseph Sywenkyj, an American of Ukrainian descent specializing in documentary photography and photojournalism, will exhibit his long-term documentary project “Verses: A Family in Odesa, Ukraine” at the Camera Club of New York on May 9-25.

Mr. Sywenkyj began the project over a decade ago. Sasha, Ira and their daughter Masha, who are HIV-positive, are the lead characters in this ongoing project. The project documents much of 11-year-old Masha’s life. It is not only a testament to her personal strength, but also a way to observe the program that gives her free antiretroviral therapy, which keeps her healthy and alive. This is not a story of quick change or fast healing. The story progresses slowly, yet captures moments of family life and dynamics that cover a variety of situations and emotions.

In 2003 Mr. Sywenkyj moved to Ukraine on a Fulbright grant. He has been based in Ukraine since that time and has worked extensively on assignment throughout Central and Eastern

Europe, Central Asia, as well as in Africa and the Middle East.

A graduate of the School of Visual Arts in New York, Mr. Sywenkyj has exhibited his photographs in numerous galleries and museums, including the George Eastman House in Rochester, N.Y.; Musée de l’Elysée in Lausanne, Switzerland; Les Rencontres d’Arles in Arles, France; The Richard B. Russell Senate Office Building in Washington; and the United Nations Visitors’ Lobby in New York.

His photographs have appeared in various publications, among them The New York Times, Conde Nast Portfolio, Departures, GQ, Time, Newsweek and The New Yorker. His work may be viewed online at: www.josephsywenkyj.com.

The opening reception is on Thursday, May 9, at 6-8 p.m. The gallery is located at 336 W. 37th St., Suite 206, New York, NY 10018; gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. For information log on to www.cameraclubny.org.



Masha, age 6, was infected with HIV through mother-to-child transmission at birth. The photo above was taken by Joseph Sywenkyj in Odesa in 2007.



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During visit...

(Continued from page 15)

Kulmatycki and the younger brother of Lea. He attended the University of Alberta and graduated as a board certified pharmacist, practiced pharmacy for a number of years in community and long-term care settings, and then returned to school to obtain a Ph.D. in pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences.

Subdeacon Kulmatycki came to the United States in 2000 to work for a large pharmaceutical company located in Kenilworth, N.J., where he was a parishioner and served at the altar of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Ukrainian Orthodox Church. In 2009 he came to Boston to work for a small biotechnology company and is currently employed at a pharmaceutical company in Cambridge, Mass., where he conducts global human clinical trials.

St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church was founded in 1955 with the merger of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Boston and St. Nicholas Bukovinian Orthodox Church of Cambridge.

Sitch men's...

(Continued from page 14)

Coach Kucyna at boksoc@optonline.net. Sitch men's team roster: Alex McDonald, Andrew Panas, Andrew Kudryk, Andrew Mandzy, Roman Tabachouk, Salim Koudri, Mykola Kucyna, Marco Hordynsky, D. Loaiza, Taras O'Connell, Stepan Kolidiy, Dan Lewycky, Dima Tereschuk, Anatoli Sen, Bo Kucyna (coach), Nick Hordynsky (manager).

In regular Garden State Soccer League Super Division standings, as of press time, Sitch is in fifth place after 12 matches played and has 20 points, with six wins, two ties and four losses, with 20 goals for and 15 against.

During the spring season, Sitch won 3-0 against the Hackensack Strikers on May 3, Sitch won 3-0 against Jersey Juniors on April 30, Sitch lost 2-3 against Vistula Garfield on April 23, Sitch's April 21 match against Icon was postponed due to lack of fields, Sitch lost 3-1 against Jersey Shore Boca on April 12, and Jersey Juniors forfeited its March 22 match against Sitch, with Sitch walking away with a 1-0 win.

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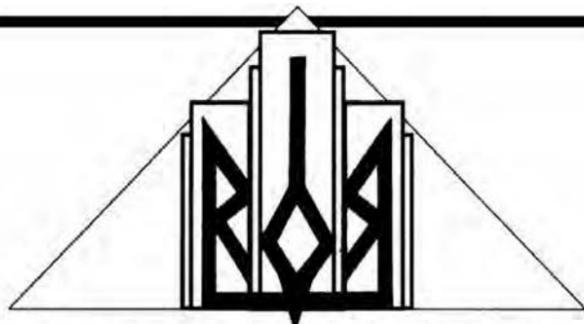
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OUT & ABOUT

- May 16
Seattle, WA Lecture by Serhiy Yekelchuk, "Memory Wars on the Silver Screen: Ukraine and Russia Look Back at the Second World War," University of Washington, 206-543-6848
- May 17
Whippany, NJ Container gardening demonstration using recycled planters, Spartanky Plast Sorority, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, krupa5@yahoo.com or 973-541-1331
- May 17-19
New York Ukrainian Festival, St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, Seventh Street between Second and Third avenues, 212-253-2417
- May 18
New York Book presentation by Vladyslav and Lyudmyla Hrynevych, Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130
- May 19
New York Family workshop, "Ukrainian Folk Painting," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 or info@ukrainianmuseum.org
- May 19
Glenside, PA Performance, "40th anniversary of the School of Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and Celebration," featuring the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble and gypsy jazz guitarists Kruno Spisic and Vjeko Dimter, Keswick Theater, 215-572-7650
- May 19
Woonsocket, RI Benefit concert with Julian Kytasty to assist fire-damaged St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Blackstone River Theater, 401-725-9272
- May 19
New York Conference celebrating the 125th anniversary of Volodymyr Myjakovsky's birth, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, 212-222-1866
- May 24-26
Horsham, PA Ukrainian Nationals Memorial Weekend Youth Soccer Tournament, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412 or www.tryzub.org
- May 24-26
Parma, OH Great Lakes Cup soccer tournament, Ukrainian American Sports Club Lviv, James Day Park, livover30@yahoo.com or 440-623-3232
- May 24-27
Ellenville, NY Memorial Day Weekend Zlet, Ukrainian American Youth Association camp, 845-647-7230 or www.cym.org/us-ellenville
- May 31
Mississauga, ON "Golfing for our Kids" tournament, Ukrainian Youth Association of Canada, info@uyagolf.ca or 647-229-0398
- June 1
Cleveland Spring concert and student recital, "Sights and Sounds of Spring," featuring the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance and the Zorya Female Vocal Ensemble, Ukrainian Cultural Arts Association of Greater Cleveland, St. Ignatius High School, Breen Center for the Performing Arts, www.ucaasite.org
- June 1
Hayward, CA Performance, "Ukraina," celebration of Park Ukraina and the Rev. Agapius Honcharenko, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council - Northern California Branch, Garin Regional Park, 650-281-6927 or www.stmichaeluocsforg/pages/honcharenko.aspx
- June 8
Wisconsin Dells, WI Golf tournament, Ukrainian American Youth Association - Mykola Pavlushkov Branch, Trappers Turn Golf Course, ukimaria@gmail.com
- June 8
Enoch, AB Golf tournament, St. Anthony Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Indian Lakes Golf Course, 780-424-5362 or stanthonny@telusplanet.net
- June 15
Ambler, PA Golf tournament, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, Limekiln Golf Club, 215-343-5412 or www.tryzub.org
- June 15
Lorraine, Quebec Plast Golf Classic tournament, fund-raiser for Baturyn camp, Club de Golf Lorraine, plastgolf@gmail.com or 514-744-9648

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



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НОВИЙ СОКІЛ Пластові Табори 2013
Registration Deadline **June 1st**

На Новому Соколі!

Табір Пташат 7/14 - 7/21 **Новацькі та юнацькі табори 7/7 - 7/27**

Таборуйте з нами!

- приємна, пластова атмосфера
- цікаві таборіві програми
- різні прогульки
- смачна домашня кухня

Visit us on the web! NovyiSokil.org

Пластова оселя Новий Сокіл, перша пластова оселя в Америці, знаходиться серед 40 акрів чудової природи недалеко від міста Баффало НЙ. Оселя гордиться приємними, малими таборами під проводом вишкolenих виховників.

За дальшими інформаціями, просимо відвідати нашу вебсторінку, novyisokil.org. На сторінці знаходяться всі потрібні інформації, анкети і форми. Так само можна дзвонити на телефон (217) 493-2690.

For more information about the Novyi Sokil Ukrainian Scout Camp, please visit our web site NovyiSokil.org or call (217) 493-2690.

UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Syracuse Plast members learn CPR



Instructor Anthony Mastracco during a demonstration with Jerry Salenko.

Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Maria Hrycelak, M.D., head of the UMANA Foundation, and Dr. Borys Buniak, president of the Syracuse chapter of UMANA, Syracuse Plast members, including counselors, teens and adults who regularly volunteer at Plast summer camps, were able to benefit from a very comprehensive four-hour First Aid and CPR training session from the American Red Cross.

To the delight of Syracuse Plast members, the instructor was a pleasant and enthusiastic young man named Anthony Mastracco,



Natalia Yuravich, Xrystyna Yuravich and Tanya Melnyk learn CPR.

by Lida Hvozda Buniak

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – The UMANA (Ukrainian Medical Association of North America Foundation) has a history of sponsoring the CPR and First Aide Training course for camp counselors from Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, the Ukrainian American Youth Association, the Ukrainian Democratic Youth Association (ODUM) and other such organizations throughout Ukrainian communities such as Chicago, Detroit and Whippany, N.J.



During the First Aid and CPR training: (front row, from left) Lida Buniak, Natalia Yuravich, Tania Melnyk, Alexandra Salenko, Adriana Buniak, Jerry Salenko, (second row) Xrystyna Yuravich, Ostap Yuravich, Anthony Mastracco, Adrian Temnycky, Ivanka Temnycky, Ira Yuravich, Iryna Gorbachevska and Roma Temnycky.

who shared with his students that he was an Eagle Scout – a perfect fit!

The class size was limited to maintain a 12:1 student-to-teacher ratio, however, there has been such a great deal of interest and enthusiasm generated from other members

of the Syracuse community, that organizers hope to do this again next year, especially including members of the UAYA.

Lida Hvozda Buniak heads the Plast Group of Syracuse, N.Y.

Hahilky and Easter egg hunt held at Hillside, N.J., parish



HILLSIDE, NJ – On Sunday, April 7, the children of Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Church learned and performed various hahilky – spring ritual dances – under the direction of Odarka Polanskyj Stockert and Christine Bohacz. The parochial vicar, the Rev. Vasyl Vladyka, joined the children in the singing and dancing of hahilky. The children were also treated to an Easter egg hunt (seen above) on the grounds of this Union County, N.J., parish.

– Joe Shatynski

Mishanyna

This month's Mishanyna is dedicated to May flowers, annuals, perennials and flowering shrubs and trees. Find the names of some of these beauties hidden in the Mishanyna grid.

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| AZALEA | GERANIUM | PETUNIA |
| CLEMATIS | HYDRANGEA | PORTULACA |
| DELPHINIUM | MARIGOLD | ROSE |
| FUCHSIA | PEONY | ZINNIA |

S	I	D	H	Y	A	C	I	R	T	M	O	M	E	R
I	M	A	Z	A	L	E	A	U	U	A	T	F	E	O
D	O	G	C	I	O	O	D	A	F	R	O	D	I	L
R	G	D	R	T	N	E	E	R	A	I	R	A	L	E
D	E	L	P	H	I	N	I	U	M	G	L	S	B	N
L	R	R	C	B	U	L	I	Y	S	O	A	C	K	T
O	A	Q	U	E	E	N	U	A	L	L	P	I	R	A
Y	N	O	S	X	O	H	C	S	Q	D	R	L	O	C
S	I	U	O	V	I	N	H	A	E	I	R	L	S	A
N	U	L	S	A	A	I	N	U	T	E	P	A	E	L
A	M	P	U	S	S	S	I	T	A	M	E	L	C	U
P	O	R	T	U	G	A	A	U	R	I	O	N	A	T
A	I	S	H	C	U	F	E	U	Q	S	N	S	O	R
W	I	L	L	O	W	D	R	O	P	S	Y	O	W	O
P	H	Y	D	R	A	N	G	E	A	A	L	S	I	P

Saint George Ukrainian Catholic Church New York, NY

Presents its 37th Annual

Ukrainian Festival May 17-19, 2013



On 7th Street between 2nd & 3rd Avenues
New York City in the East Village

featuring

Over 100 performers on stage for 3 days
including National Artists from Ukraine!!!

Ukrainian Food
Crafts and Gifts

Ukrainian Music
Children's Games

Main Stage Shows
Friday 6:30pm
Saturday 2pm & 6pm
Sunday 1:30pm & 4pm

**A NYC tradition
for over 3 decades!**



Soloist
Kristina Shafranski



SYZOKRYLI

St. George Academy Girls Choir
Iskra Ukrainian Dance Academy
School of Ballroom Dance
Roma Pryma Bohachevska School of Dance
and much, much more.....



Duet
Oros Sisters



Soloist
Bogena Dergalo

ZABAVA SATURDAY NIGHT
featuring Anna-Maria Entertainment



Artistic Director
Hryhoriy Momot

For more information
contact Andrij Stasiw
at (212) 253-2417



PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 19

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S. invites all to a memorial event marking the 125th anniversary of Volodymyr Mijakovsky's birth. The speakers will be UVAN President Albert Kipa, historian Dr. Oles Fedoruk, Oksana Mijakovska-Radysh and author Tamara Skrypka, presenting her book "Volynski Obrazky: Kovel'ska Elita Druhoyi Polovyny XIX Stolittia," in which the Mijakovsky family is included among those of Drahomanov and Kosach. The event will take place in the academy's building at 206 W. 100th St., (between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue) at 3 p.m. For additional information call 212-222-1866.

Sunday, June 16

HORSHAM, Pa.: The popular Father's Day Ukrainian Fest will commence at 1 p.m., at Tryzubivka (Ukrainian American Sport

Center, County Line and Lower State roads). A 2 p.m. stage show will feature the Voloshky School of Ukrainian Dance, the Karpaty Orchestra and more to be announced. A zabava-dance to the tunes of the band will follow. Tryzubivka will also host the U.S. Amateur Soccer Association National Cups (Open and Amateur, Men's and Women's) Region I Championship Tournament from 10 a.m. through 7 p.m. (on both Saturday, June 15, and Sunday, June 16). Some of the best amateur soccer teams in America will compete for the U.S. Open and Amateur Region I Cups. There will be plentiful Ukrainian homemade foods and baked goods, picnic fare and cool refreshments. Admission on Sunday: \$5 for adults; children 14 and under: free. Admission on Saturday: Free. For more information call 215-362-5331, e-mail eluciw@comcast.net, log on to www.tryzub.org, or visit the Facebook page for Tryzub Ukrainian Club.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

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

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

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

SOYUZIVKA HERITAGE CENTER

2013 Summer Camp Information



Soyuzivka Heritage Center
P.O. Box 529, Kerhonkson, NY 12446

Tennis Camp June 23-July 4

Kicks off the summer with 12 days of intensive tennis instruction and competitive play, for boys and girls age 10-18. Attendance will be limited to 45 students. Room, board, 24-hour supervision, expert lessons and loads of fun are included. Camp is under the direction of George Sawchak.

Tabir Ptashat

Session 1: June 23-29
Session 2: June 30-July 6

Ukrainian Plast tabir (camp) for children age 4-6 accompanied by their parents. Registration forms will also be appearing in the Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly in March and April. For further information, please contact Neonila Sochan at 973-984-7456.

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Academy Workshop

June 30- July 13

Vigorous 2-week dance training for more intermediate and advanced dancers age 16 and up under the direction of the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Foundation, culminating with performances on stage during the Ukrainian Cultural Festival weekend. Additional information <http://www.syzokryli.com/>

Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp

Session 1: July 14-19
Session 2: July 21-26

A returning favorite, in the form of a day camp. Children age 4-7 will be exposed to Ukrainian heritage through daily activities such as dance, song, crafts and games. Children will walk away with an expanded knowledge of Ukrainian folk culture and language, as well as new and lasting friendships with other children of Ukrainian heritage. Price includes kid's lunch and T-shirt and, unless noted, is based on in-house occupancy of parent/guardian.

Discovery Camp July 14-20

Calling all nature lovers age 8-15 for this sleep-over program filled with outdoor crafts, hiking, swimming, organized sports and games, bonfires, songs and much more. Room, board, 24-hour supervision and a lifetime of memories are included.

Chornomorska Sitch Sports School

Session 1: July 21-27 • Session 2: July 28-August 3

44th annual sports camp run by the Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch for children ages 6-17. This camp will focus on soccer, tennis, volleyball and swimming, and is perfect for any sports enthusiast. Registration can be completed on-line by clicking on the link found at Soyuzivka's camp website - <http://soyuzivka.com/Camps>. Requests for additional information and your questions or concerns should be emailed to sportsschool@chornomorskasitch.org, or contact Roman Hirniak at (908) 625-3714.

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Camp

Session 1: July 21-August 3
Session 2: August 4-August 17

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky), this camp is for aspiring dancers age 8-16, offering expert instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Room, board, 24-hour supervision, expert lessons and plenty of fun are included. Each camp ends with a grand recital. Attendance will be limited to 60 students.

**For applications or more info please call Soyuzivka, 845-626-5641,
or check our website at www.soyuzivka.com**