

INSIDE:

- World Press Freedom Day is observed – **page 3**
- A look at a “scandalous” exhibit in Kyiv – **page 7**
- Chrystia Freeland’s book on plutocrats – **page 9**

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXXI

No. 20

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2013

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Nationalists defy authorities in dismantling Soviet past

by Zenon Zawada

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Ukrainians’ efforts to dismantle the Soviet past got a renewed impetus under the presidency of Viktor Yushchenko. Now the torch is being carried by the nationalist Svoboda Party, whose politicians are taking up the cause in defiance of authorities.

In mid-February, National Deputy Ihor Miroshnychenko, 37, assisted by a dozen colleagues, pulled up in a truck to the Vladimir Lenin monument in the town of Okhtyrka (population 50,000) in his native Sumy Oblast. Openly defying a team of policemen, he climbed the monument, attached a steel towing cable, hopped back in the cab and began slowly driving until the statue snapped in half.

“In an independent Ukrainian state, there can’t be monuments to those people who denied its existence and participated in its destruction,” he told The Ukrainian Weekly.

Soon afterwards, local police announced that those involved could face up to four years’ jail time. Mr. Miroshnychenko enjoys prosecutorial immunity as a national deputy, though that didn’t stop the local Communists from distributing a flier depicting Mr. Miroshnychenko in prison garb behind bars beneath the words, “Prison for vandals!”

In the last decade, Ukrainian society has vacillated between two extremes: the Yushchenko administration encouraged

destroying Soviet monuments – and offered the legal means to do so, while the administration of President Viktor Yanukovich has made vandals out of the same dismantlers and has prosecuted mere protesters.

A notable example was Hanna Sinkova, 21, who wanted to expose what she described as the Yanukovich administration’s hypocrisy towards Red Army veterans by frying eggs on the eternal flame at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Glory Park in Kyiv in December 2010. If the state has enough funds to fuel the eternal flame, she argued, then it should have enough to pay veterans better pensions and provide them with that same natural gas for their home stoves.

Instead of a being slapped with a standard fine and three-day arrest for hooliganism, she spent three months in detention before receiving a three-year suspended prison sentence in October 2012 for dishonoring a grave – though not a single soldier is buried at the site.

With such prosecutions, the Party of Regions and the Communist Party of Ukraine have milked incidents involving Soviet monuments in hopes of reaping electoral dividends from their loyal base of pensioners and Soviet nostalgists, observers said.

“The Ukrainian authorities are people raised in the Soviet Union with that very

(Continued on page 4)

Ukraine’s foreign affairs minister makes the rounds in Washington

Opposition activist Doniy also visits U.S. capital



Yaro Bihun

Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Leonid Kozhara (right) continues his discussion with Rep. Christopher Smith (R-N.J.), the co-chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, at the conclusion of his testimony before the commission at the Senate. Standing next to him is Ukraine’s Ambassador to the U.S. Olexander Motsyk.

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – The foreign affairs minister of Ukraine, Leonid Kozhara, met with his American counterpart, Secretary of State John Kerry, on May 10, to discuss their

bilateral relationship, Ukraine’s developing relations with Europe and the West, and other important international issues of mutual interest.

Several days earlier, a Ukrainian opposition activist, Oles Doniy, came to

(Continued on page 4)

Behind the scenes during the Bandurist Chorus’ concert tour



Matthew Dubas

The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus is introduced to students of the Ukrainian School (Ridna Shkola) in Warren, Mich., by School Director Andriy Pereklita.

by Matthew Dubas

This is the second installment of a three-part series on the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus’ concert tour “The Sounds of Spring: Songs of Easter, Shevchenko and Nature,” held April

19-21, in Windsor, Ontario, Detroit and Cleveland. This report focuses on the “behind the scenes” aspects of the tour, including a performance at a local Ukrainian school, and highlights of an ethnomusicologist researching the bandura and the UBC.

DETROIT – Before the first note of any performance is played or sung, the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus (UBC) has a rehearsal. Prior to the concert in Windsor, Ontario, at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, members of the UBC gathered in the gymnasium of St. Vladimir Church and members greeted one another with an embrace and the Ukrainian formal greeting of three kisses, as they arrived from cities across the United States and Canada. Instrumentalists began tuning their banduras and stretching their vocal chords in anticipation of the rehearsal to begin.

The rehearsal came to order under Oleh Mahlay, artistic director and conductor of the UBC, and with a group massage performed by the members standing in arranged rows, with instrumentalists up front and vocalists grouped by vocal range. The massage included shoulder rubs, chopping, shoulder rolls and facial massage. This was followed

(Continued on page 15)

**On the road with
the Ukrainian
Bandurist Chorus**

INTERVIEW: EU enlargement chief finds many ways to say 'more work needed'

by Daisy Sindelar
RFE/RL

PRAGUE – European Union enlargement chief Stefan Fule has lashed out at a defiant Belarus and bemoaned a political crisis that threatens to upend the EU aspirations of Moldova, a one-time star pupil in Western integration.

Speaking at RFE/RL headquarters in Prague on May 9, Mr. Fule addressed a variety of issues related to the enlargement aspirations of the six Eastern Partnership countries and the nations of the western Balkans.

But he reserved his strongest rhetoric for the two countries that have traditionally been at opposite ends of the enlargement spectrum.

Mr. Fule said Belarus, which remains under EU sanctions following a flawed presidential vote in 2010 and a massive crackdown on opponents, has seen civil liberties strangled by autocratic leader Alyaksandr Lukashenka.

"In Belarus, it is not only political prisoners; it is the level of the democracy, the level of the rule of law in Belarus, it is the absence of free and fair elections for years in Belarus," Mr. Fule said. "There is actually no space for democratic forces to operate without harassment by Belarusian authorities. This is the very substance of the Lukashenka regime that makes the member states pursue this policy of critical engagement."

Mr. Fule's comments came as Mr. Lukashenka, speaking at a Victory Day commemoration in Minsk, said the West resettled Belarus for refusing to serve as a "banana republic dancing to the tune of overseas democracies."

President Lukashenka often criticizes the West as a way of currying favor with Moscow, on which Belarus is dependent for energy and subsidies. Mr. Fule said that EU ties with Minsk need not preclude a strong Russian-Belarusian relationship.

Turning to Moldova, Mr. Fule said that small country was facing a "huge test" as political infighting threatened to derail it from the relatively stable pro-Western course of the past several years.

Mr. Fule said Chisinau has "days not weeks" to re-form a government after pro-European Prime Minister Vlad Filat was forced to dismiss his government and barred by opposition lawmakers from running again.

"I think we're saying basically three things," Mr. Fule said. "Number one, please put the genie back into the bottle and cease the hostilities, which have a very personal dimension. Second, please avoid adopting anything which would be a clear contradiction to the European aspirations and the European agenda. And number three, we're

saying that we stand ready to assist you whenever there is a good time in helping the parties to make those final steps in building up on this European agenda."

Mr. Fule adopted a decidedly softer tone on Azerbaijan, which has escaped EU sanctions despite mounting international condemnation of that energy-rich country's heavy-handed tactics with journalists and protesters.

On a more positive note, Mr. Fule suggested both Armenia and Georgia could expect to take steps forward in their EU integration bids this fall, when the bloc hosts an Eastern Partnership summit in Vilnius.

Mr. Fule said Georgia's shift in political leadership had not set back the country's Western-integration aims, although he called on Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili and outgoing President Mikheil Saakashvili to do more to set their political differences aside and cooperate on policy goals.

The enlargement chief offered muted encouragement to Ukraine, whose own integration aims have faltered over the jailing of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and her political allies.

The EU has repeatedly condemned the Ukrainian leadership for indulging in what it calls "selective justice," and has warned Kyiv will see no progress on signing a much-desired EU Association Agreement without a series of judicial and electoral reforms.

Mr. Fule on May 9 welcomed Kyiv's recent move to release former Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko and former Environment Minister Heorhii Filipchuk from prison but said that "more needs to be done."

Turning to the Balkans, Mr. Fule urged Kosovo and Serbia to spare no effort in upholding last month's landmark normalization agreement. His remarks came one day after talks between the two sides in Brussels broke down on how to implement the deal.

Mr. Fule also called on leaders in Bosnia-Herzegovina to put aside "narrow political interests" and carry out constitutional reforms that would lift a ban on ethnic minorities like Roma and Jews running for political office.

The EU enlargement commissioner also expressed concern at Macedonia's continued failure to implement a deal meant to end a parliamentary stalemate between the country's political factions. Mr. Fule said the lack of action raised questions about the "strength of democratic institutions in that country."

Mr. Fule's remarks come at a time of increasing uncertainty about the 27-member European bloc, which has been beset by a series of massive financial bailouts and political divisiveness.

But pointing to Croatia, which is set to join the EU this summer after a decade-long run-up, Mr. Fule said the bloc still had much to offer its potential future members.

"We have our problems; we're addressing them," Mr. Fule said. "And we are far from dissolving this union. Actually we're going exactly in the other direction. And I think what we can offer is exactly what we've been offering through all these years: one of the most important, most successful, peaceful projects in European history."

RFE/RL's Belarus Service contributed to this report.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Kirill: Rus' celebration to begin in Moscow

LVIV – The head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill, stated that the international events for the 1,025th anniversary of the Baptism of Rus' would begin in Moscow. He said, "the events will begin in Moscow on July 24, on the day of Holy Righteous Princess Olha, the grandmother of Prince Volodymyr, who can be called the first Christian ruler who prepared the Baptism of Rus in many ways." Speaking in an interview with TV channels Russia-1 and Russia-24 broadcast on May 5, the patriarch said the celebratory service will be conducted in the Church of Christ the Savior and that the heads of local Orthodox Churches are invited. A popular festival on the occasion is also planned for that day. The events will then move to Kyiv, where a celebratory service is to be held on St. Volodymyr's Hill. "We hope that the heads of the Churches will be present. The Ukrainian leadership came forward with an initiative to invite to this event, the prayer service on St. Volodymyr's Hill, the heads of the Orthodox Churches and heads of states where most of the people belong to the Orthodox Church," said Patriarch Kirill. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Russian ambassador visits Pope Francis

LVIV – Romereports.com reported that for the first time since establishing full diplomatic relations in 2009, Russia has appointed an ambassador to the Holy See. Pope Francis welcomed him on the morning of May 2 to accept his credentials. With the assistance of a French interpreter at times, Ambassador Alexander Avdeev, former culture minister for the Russian Federation, met with the pope for a brief audience at the Apostolic Palace. After the meeting, Mr. Avdeev introduced the Embassy staff to Pope Francis. Though the two states have had relations since 1990, four years ago Russia elevated its representation to the Vatican to a full-fledged Embassy. As a gift, Pope Francis gave the Russian ambassador a newly minted papal medallion of his pontificate. Russian President Putin appointed Mr. Avdeev, 66, as Russia's new ambassador to the Holy See and to the Order of Malta. The career diplomat is replacing Nikolai Sadchikov,

who is at the end of his term. Mr. Sadchikov was the first ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Vatican after full diplomatic relations were established in 2009. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

CPU: GTS should remain state-owned

KYIV – The Communist Party of Ukraine will adopt and defend a principled position during the vote on a bill on the possible lease of the Ukrainian gas transport system (GTS) to third parties. A member of the CPU faction in the Verkhovna Rada, Oleksander Holub, said in an interview with the GolosUA online newspaper that the GTS should remain state property. "If the question about the need for the lease is raised really acutely, the Communist Party will do everything possible at the legislative level to ensure that such a lease brings major dividends only to the state. We will prevent the enrichment of oligarchs," the politician said, according to May 14 news reports. As previously reported, the question of the status and functioning of Ukraine's GTS has been put on the agenda of the Verkhovna Rada. (Ukrinform)

Kozhara addresses U.N. Security Council

UNITED NATIONS – OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Leonid Kozhara, Ukraine's foreign affairs minister, in his address to the United Nations Security Council on May 7 stressed the importance of further developing the partnership between the two organizations in promoting international peace and security. "It is a great responsibility for Ukraine to guide the OSCE towards implementing a shared vision of a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security Community, as set forth in the 2010 Astana Commemorative Declaration," Mr. Kozhara said. He stressed that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe "needs to retain political momentum provided by the Astana Summit" and the Helsinki +40 process initiated last year offers a "promising framework for this," as the OSCE moves towards 2015, a year that marks four decades since the signing of the Helsinki Final Act. "We strongly believe that this anniversary should serve as a catalyst for re-energizing the organization. The Ukrainian

(Continued on page 12)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
Yearly subscription rate: \$65; for UNA members — \$55.

Periodicals postage paid at Caldwell, NJ 07006 and additional mailing offices.
(ISSN — 0273-9348)

The Weekly:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510

UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to:
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
P.O. Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

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The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, May 19, 2013, No. 20, Vol. LXXXI
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Corrections

In the special supplement "A Ukrainian Summer" (May 5), the name of the sports organization Chornomorska Sich was incorrectly rendered as Ukrainian Athletic-Education Association (and the word "association" contained a typographical error). The correct name is Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association Chornomorska Sich. The correction has been made in our online edition.

In the May 12 issue, on page 8, in the continuation of the "Bandurist Chorus presents 'Sounds of Spring' concert series," St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral was misidentified in one reference as Catholic.

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WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

Journalists must work in safety, says OSCE

KYIV – Ahead of World Press Freedom Day, the chairperson-in-office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Leonid Kozhara stressed the importance of the OSCE participating states' commitment to freedom of the media and their duty to respect and uphold the right to freedom of expression.

"Regretfully, even in the OSCE region there are reasons for concerns about journalists' rights, including their security. Many of the attacks against them are never resolved, the perpetrators and the masterminds are not prosecuted. This is unacceptable. All journalists and media workers need to work without fear, in security and safety. There can be no impunity for crimes against them," Mr. Kozhara said on the eve of World Press Freedom Day, which is observed on May 3.

"The themes of this year's World Press Freedom Day reflect every day work of the OSCE. Our representative on freedom of the media supports the OSCE participating states in finding ways to ensure the safety of journalists, both online and offline, and combating impunity," said the chairperson-in-office, reminding that media freedom belongs to the top priorities of the Ukrainian chairmanship. "Addressing the issue of legal framework to ensure media freedom would contribute to strengthening the OSCE commitments in this area," Mr. Kozhara added.

An OSCE human dimension seminar on Media Freedom Legal Framework will be held this year. The OSCE participating states and other stakeholders will be able to share best practices and discuss challenges in the area of media law and policy, as well as strategies for better implementation of OSCE commitments on the national level.

OSCE media freedom representative calls for action to ensure journalists' safety

SAN JOSÉ, Costa Rica – OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatović on May 3 called upon all 57 participating states of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe to take real action to ensure journalists' safety.

"It is deeply worrying that we, in the 21st century, mark yet another World Press Freedom Day where the theme is journalists' safety. Threats, intimidation, harassment and physical assaults on the members of the media are escalating," Ms. Mijatović said in San José at a UNESCO conference marking World Press Freedom Day.

"I call upon all OSCE participating states to take real action to defend media freedom. We need to ensure that each and every member of the media, online and offline, is able to work without fear of violence and intimidation. Safety is a fundamental prerequisite for free expression and free media," she underscored.

Ms. Mijatović pointed to OSCE commitments on free expression and free media and said that a joint effort is required to stop the rising number of imprisonments, detentions, beatings and murders of members of the media. "We – international organizations, governments, NGOs, journalists and societies – have an obligation to act. And we need to act now; there is no time to wait," Ms. Mijatović said.

Ms. Mijatović, along with three special rapporteurs on media freedom from United Nations, the Organization of American States and the African Commission on Human and People's rights, are attending the UNESCO conference, where they launched a joint declaration on the protection of freedom of expression and diversity in the digital terrestrial transition.

"This is a pressing issue not only for the OSCE region, but globally," Ms. Mijatović said. "The digital switchover gives us all a unique chance to embrace and foster media pluralism, which is a longstanding OSCE commitment. I call upon the OSCE participating states to proactively seize this opportunity."

World media freedom at low point

RFE/RL

WASHINGTON – Media freedom throughout the world declined last year to its lowest point in almost a decade, according to a new report from Freedom House, a U.S.-based democracy-monitoring organization.

Releasing the group's annual "Freedom of the Press" report on May 1 in Washington, project director Karin Deutsch Karlekar said the findings showed "negative trends in most regions of the world."

North Korea and Turkmenistan tied for the title of the worst country for media freedom, with Uzbekistan and Belarus close behind.

Ms. Karlekar maintained that, although Kyrgyzstan was in the "not free" category, it has a number of independent outlets and called it a "bright spot in the Central Asia region." She also noted that Kazakhstan appeared to be heading in the wrong direction.

"Kazakhstan is also very restricted and actually this year we're highlighting Kazakhstan because of a fairly significant decline that we noted in 2012, where the space for independent voices was sort of narrowed even further," she said, making reference to the "authorities banning around 40 opposition media outlets, increasing levels of violence and [the] legal persecution of independent media and journalists."

Georgia and Armenia were praised for showing strong improvements, but Ms. Karlekar warned that Azerbaijan's media environment had deteriorated.

"Azerbaijan is also a country of concern for us and scores quite bad," she said. "It's similar to [the] situations in Kazakhstan and Russia."

Ms. Karlekar attributed the decline in Azerbaijan's rating to "increased violence against journalists and also legal amendments that further limited access to information."

Freedom House found the Russian government has almost "complete control over television, radio, and the print press."

Ms. Karlekar suggested that Russian President Vladimir Putin used that control during last year's presidential election and in a number of other ways.

"The situation continued to be quite bad and quite restrictive in Russia and we were particularly concerned with some of the laws that were enacted during the year, particularly, on the media front, a law that basically would

allow for further censorship of Internet-based content, and that law took effect in November," she said.

"And, given that the Internet is this sort of relatively open space in Russia, that was definitely an issue that caused concern during the year for us," she added.

Afghanistan ranked as the second-most-improved country in Asia and was considered to have been one of the year's "success stories" thanks to the decrease in violence against journalists and a reduction in the official censorship and prosecution of the press.

"Afghanistan actually showed a big improvement this year in our index," Ms. Karlekar said. "Apart from Burma, it was the country in Asia that showed the biggest improvement, and we really saw a number of positive trends in 2012, including a decrease in violence against journalists,

"Ukraine followed its three-point drop in 2011 with a decline from 59 to 60 – just short of the not free range – due to the politicized nature of the digital licensing process, which resulted in a number of independent stations losing their licenses. The year 2012 also featured the abuse of state media to favor the ruling Party of Regions during parliamentary elections, as well as an escalation in threats and attacks on journalists in the pre-election period."

– Excerpt from the Freedom House report "Freedom of the Press 2013."

an increase in the number of new private media outlets that were more able to freely criticize the government and other political actors, and a decline in [the] official censorship and prosecution of journalists."

Ms. Karlekar said little had changed in Iran and the Islamic republic remained ranked in the bottom eight worldwide for media freedom.

She described Pakistan as having a very vibrant media, but cited a "very high level of violence and intimidation against journalists."

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Sen. Cardin calls for end to violence against journalists

U.S. Helsinki Commission

WASHINGTON – On World Press Freedom Day, U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin (D-Md.), chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (U.S. Helsinki Commission) called for an end to violence against journalists, highlighting four murders from the 57-country region of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

"A free and independent media is one of the cornerstones of the commitments adopted by the 57 participating states in the OSCE. But in too many places, journalists continue to face harassment, threats, intimidation and violence. In the worst places, journalists have been murdered and their attackers go without punishment. The risks are especially great for investigative reporters who seek to expose corruption and human rights abuses," Sen. Cardin noted.

"This year marks the 14th anniversary of the April 1999 murder of prominent Serbian journalist and editor Slavko Curuvija, who testified before the Helsinki Commission on the abuses of the Milosevic regime just months before his death. In February, the government in Belgrade established a commission to investigate the deaths of Curuvija and other journalists. I hope that this initiative will result in a long over-due measure of accountability," he continued.

"It has been six years since the murder of 26-year-old Alisher Saipov, a Kyrgyzstani journalist who had started an Uzbek-language newspaper and contributed to the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty before being gunned down in Osh. Last year, Kyrgyzstan's highest court ordered a new investigation in the case."

(Continued on page 7)

OSCE media freedom representative denounces U.S. Justice Department's seizure of reporters' phone records

OSCE

WARSAW – OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatović on May 14 said she was distressed over revelations that in 2012 the U.S. Department of Justice secretly seized two months of office, home and cellphone records from up to 20 phone lines assigned to Associated Press reporters.

The Justice Department admitted the surveillance on May 10. No reason was given for the action.

"There is simply no justification for such a broad violation of these reporters' constitutional rights," Ms. Mijatović said. "There may be occasions when, in the

interest of security, a limited intrusion on reporters' activities, judicially authorized, may be justified, but the sheer scope and breadth of this action is simply a deprivation of basic constitutional rights," the official of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) wrote in a letter to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. "The action also calls into question the ability of sources to talk to reporters without fear of government eavesdropping."

"It is now urgent for the authorities to conduct a fully transparent investigation into who ordered the seizure and why," she said, while attending an OSCE event on media freedom being held in Warsaw.

Nationalists...

(Continued from page 1)

model of thinking rammed into their heads, which means a certain reaction to the 'holy past,' said Petro Oleshchuk, a political science lecturer at Shevchenko State University in Kyiv.

"What's more important is that the same collection of stereotypes has been rammed into the heads of their voters. The single thing that can unite the Donetsk billionaire with the miner is a collective, post-Soviet identity. Declaring respect for Soviet symbols, these leaders want to show their electorate, 'Look, we're your people, not like those Banderites.'"

Ukraine's other famous Lenin destroyer, Mykola Kokhanivskyi, 41, has yet to receive a verdict for his June 2008 defacement of the Lenin statue in central Kyiv.

On April 9, a Kyiv court was supposed to offer closure, possibly handing down the maximum five-year prison sentence for hooliganism, but instead delayed its ruling indefinitely. The judge's term expires soon, which could require retrying the case before another judge. Mr. Kokhanivskyi's four accomplices face the same charges.

Since the incident, Kyiv's Communists have turned the Lenin statue into a rallying point, erecting a party tent that has stood there ever since, with constant patrols to ensure no repeat defacement.

As with the Kyiv monument, the Communists in Okhtyrka used private funds to renovate the Lenin statue in the middle of the night, despite a City Council

vote establishing a moratorium on any monuments.

After the Okhtyrka incident, cities such as Kharkiv posted 24-hour guards on their Lenin statues, with City Council Chair (Mayor) Hennadii Kernes vowing "to break two arms and two legs."

"Imagine that no victor was declared when the Civil War concluded in the U.S., the reconstruction of the South wasn't conducted, a U.S. president emerged from the South praising slavery with the North emphatically opposing him," Mr. Oleshchuk said of Ukraine's current situation. "The events that began in Ukraine in 1991 haven't come to a conclusion and are proceeding erratically."

When it comes to cultural issues in Ukraine, the president's political will is the most important factor in implementing policies, said Serhiy Rudyk, the head of the secretariat of the Svoboda parliamentary faction.

The necessary laws, procedures and mechanisms for removing Soviet monuments by legal means are already in place, he said. All they require is a leader willing to mobilize citizens to make use of them.

To prepare for commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Holodomor, President Yushchenko signed a decree in March 2007 that recommended the removal of all monuments that honor those Soviet officials who organized and executed the Holodomor and mass political repressions in Ukraine. Several resolutions followed.

Subsequently, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism issued an order the next year removing more than 2,000 monuments (as estimated by Mr. Rudyk) from the local reg-



National Deputy Ihor Miroshnychenko of the nationalist Svoboda party in mid-February demolished the centrally located statue of Vladimir Lenin in the Sumy Oblast town of Okhtyrka in defiance of local authorities. They had earlier agreed to allow a church to be erected in its place, he said.

istries of fixed monuments, which offered them protected status. That paved the way for their demolition, but resulted in only several dozen monuments being removed between 2008 and 2010.

"Yushchenko's decrees weren't fulfilled in central and eastern Ukraine, where Soviet myths were rooted deeper than in western Ukraine and continue to live," Mr. Miroshnychenko said. "There, local governments sabotaged Yushchenko's decrees."

Hundreds of Soviet monuments still

enjoy protected status on the National Registry of Fixed Monuments and about 1,400 Lenin statues remain in Ukraine, the Svoboda nationalists said.

Patriots led by Oleh Osykhovskiy, now a Svoboda national deputy, directed their pressure on former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who signed a resolution in January 2010, at the peak of her election campaign, removing most of them from the national register.

(Continued on page 18)

Ukraine's foreign...

(Continued from page 1)

Washington as part of a weeklong visit to the United States to share his perspective about political developments in Ukraine.

Mr. Kozhara's meeting at the U.S. State Department came during the minister's three-day visit here, which also included an appearance before the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) and a roundtable discussion at the National Democratic Institute (NDI).

While neither side reported on what was discussed during the State Department meeting, their own remarks to the press before the meeting pointed to some of the topics that were uppermost on their minds.

Secretary Kerry spoke about improving the U.S.-Ukraine relationship in weapons proliferation and security matters and Washington's commitment "to helping Ukraine become a prosperous European

democracy" and an associate member of the European community.

And, he added, "we're particularly anxious and hopeful that the leaders will work through some of the difficult issues with respect to that transition, including, hopefully, the ending of the prosecution of some people, and particularly the former prime minister, [Yulia] Tymoshenko."

In his brief statement, Mr. Kozhara did not mention Ms. Tymoshenko or any other specific issue that he planned or expected to discuss. However, on the previous day at NDI, according to a Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty report, he said he would urge Secretary of State Kerry to look beyond the Tymoshenko case and focus on potential areas of cooperation between the countries.

"If we put away this single question on Mrs. Tymoshenko and look at what we have, it's an extremely positive record of bilateral relations," Mr. Kozhara said.

The jailing of the former prime minister in 2011, allegedly for abusing her office for

personal gain, has been widely condemned in the West as politically motivated.

Minister Kozhara said President Viktor Yanukovich could not honor Western calls to pardon Ms. Tymoshenko, since "to intercede would unduly influence the country's independent judicial system."

The Tymoshenko case was a recurring theme at the May 8 hearing of the Helsinki Commission at the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The four commission members participating in the hearing brought it up in their opening remarks – in addition to other bilateral and OSCE issues – and continued pressuring Minister Kozhara on it during the question-and-answer session of the hearing, when he articulated his government's explanation of the matter.

"We accept that the former Prime Minister Tymoshenko's case is a problem in relations of Ukraine with the European Union," he said. "And believe me," he added, "no one is happy that she is in jail today. But at the same time, millions of people in Ukraine believe that Mrs. Tymoshenko was convicted rightfully by the Ukrainian criminal court."

The foreign affairs minister stressed that it was "extremely important that everything related to Mrs. Tymoshenko should be done in full compliance with the Ukrainian law." Otherwise, he said, critics would point to the "so-called selective justice in Ukraine" if she were released "out of the legal frameworks in Ukraine."

Responding, Helsinki Commission Chairman Ben Cardin (D-Md.) said that, while that is a good principle of democracy, "we've seen in too many cases where young democracies have done very well in their first and second elections, but then we see that the opposition usually ends up in jail."

And this view "is further bolstered by the human rights court of Europe in their findings suggesting that there was too much politics played in this case," he added.

Mr. Kozhara testified before the Helsinki Commission both as the foreign affairs minister of Ukraine and as the chairperson-

in-office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The hearing covered many other issues of importance to the United States, Europe and Ukraine, including anti-Semitism, human trafficking, orphans, the rights of Europe's Roma and other minorities.

On the following day, May 9, Minister Kozhara presented a similar assessment of these issues at a roundtable discussion at the National Democratic Institute. There, he also met with the former U.S. secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, who emigrated to the United States with her family during the Communist takeover of Czechoslovakia in 1948.

Doniy's visit

On the eve of Minister Kozhara's visit here, an outspoken member of the opposition to the Yanukovich administration, Mr. Doniy, came to the U.S. capital to express his views on developments in Ukraine. Speaking at the National Endowment for Democracy on May 7, he presented a contrasting assessment of the current political situation in his country, castigated President Yanukovich for his political persecution of Ms. Tymoshenko and suggested ways the opposition should organize its political forces and the Ukrainian community to return the country on the road to becoming a true democracy.

Now an independent opposition member in the Verkhovna Rada, Mr. Doniy has a history of being in the opposition. He was the leader of the Ukrainian Student Union as a teenager in the late 1980s and deputy chairman of the popular opposition Rukh movement. He has been active in activities of the Soros Foundation and the Smoloskyp organization. Most recently, he has focused his attention on reversing the law passed last year that restricts the use of Ukrainian as a national language.

Mr. Doniy's weeklong U.S. visit, sponsored by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, also included meetings with representatives of Ukrainian American communities in New York, Cleveland and Chicago.



Oles Doniy, an opposition member of the Ukrainian Parliament, presents his critical assessment of the current Ukrainian government's policies during a roundtable discussion at the National Endowment for Democracy. Sitting next to him is moderator Nadia Diuk of NED.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

In Moscow, Kerry punts

Just a few days ago, Human Rights Watch posted the following online: "Starting in early March 2013 the Russian government launched a nationwide campaign of inspections of non-governmental organizations, unprecedented in its scale and scope. ...To date, hundreds of organizations in different regions of Russia have been subject to such inspections; most have yet to be informed of the inspection findings. However, it is clear that the main objective of these inspections is to identify organizations the government deems 'foreign agents' and force advocacy groups to either assume this false, misleading and demonizing label, or suspend their work." Among those targeted, according to the New York-based rights monitor, are such groups as the Association of NGOs in Defense of Voters' Rights Golos (Moscow), the Anti-Discrimination Center Memorial (St. Petersburg), the Institute of Press Development – Siberia (Novosibirsk) and the Baikal Environmental Wave (Irkutsk).

When he visited Moscow earlier this month, the U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry assured leading Russian rights activists that Washington is concerned about this crackdown on NGOs, some of which receive U.S. funding. But you wouldn't have known that from his public statements in the Russian capital. (Significantly, the secretary of state's visit came a year and a day after thousands of opposition activists clashed with Russian police on the eve of Vladimir Putin's third inauguration, when he swore to "respect and protect human and civil rights and freedoms." What followed, as we all know, was a crackdown on the opposition and those seen as potential opponents. New legislation put the kibosh on protests, activists were targeted, many facing dubious or trumped-up charges; the U.S. Agency for International Development was kicked out of Russia...)

Reporting on the Kerry visit, the Associated Press noted that Human Rights Watch senior researcher Tania Lokshina said Mr. Kerry told rights activists he had been up until 2:30 a.m. discussing the legal pressure on NGOs with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. She explained that classifying NGOs in Russia as foreign agents "has only one single interpretation: it reads like foreign spies." Agence France-Presse pointed out: "On his first visit to Russia as the top U.S. diplomat, Kerry conspicuously steered clear of criticizing Moscow in an apparent attempt to soothe months of tensions after President Vladimir Putin's return to the Kremlin for a new term last May. After meeting Kerry, representatives of several rights groups accused Washington of turning a blind eye to a crackdown on freedoms and prioritizing cooperation with the Kremlin over human rights."

Indeed, in Moscow Mr. Kerry stressed that disagreements between Russia and the U.S. should not hurt their "larger interests." The U.S. ambassador to Russia, Michael McFaul, wrote on Dipnote, the official blog of the U.S. State Department, "...while [Secretary Kerry] acknowledged that there have been some disagreements between our two countries, he noted that on really important issues like Iran, North Korea and Afghanistan there has been a tremendous amount of cooperation," adding that Mr. Kerry "also stated our belief that we share some very significant common interests with respect to Syria."

An RFE/RL analyst, Pavel K. Baev, aptly commented after the Kerry visit that for President Putin and his team "the value of the newly upgraded dialogue" with Washington "is primarily in establishing the fact of [President Barack] Obama's readiness to accept Russia's harsh repressions against the pro-Western opposition with only pro forma complaints." This readiness is seen by many observers as a betrayal of democratic values.

To be sure, we cannot know what exactly was discussed behind the scenes in Moscow and how, but the public perception created by the Kerry visit was that human rights and civil liberties are no longer among "the really important issues" in this bilateral relationship. Clearly, Secretary Kerry had chosen to punt.

May
20
2009

Turning the pages back...

Four years ago, on May 20, 2009, Shakhtar Donetsk defeated Werder Bremen of Germany 2-1 in overtime in front of 53,000 fans at Sukru Sarcologu Stadium in Istanbul and an estimated 18 million television viewers, and won Ukraine the UEFA Cup. It was one of its most historic sports victories and the biggest victory for a Ukrainian soccer club on the international stage. It was also the 38th and last time the tournament would use the UEFA Cup name,

as it was renamed the UEFA Europa League Final.

More than 7,000 Shakhtar fans at the match cheered as Shakhtar team captain Darijo Srna of Croatia hoisted the UEFA trophy and teammates tossed team owner Rinat Akhmetov in the air in celebration. Among Shakhtar's supporters in the stands were the Turkish fans, for the fact that Shakhtar's coach, Mircea Lucescu, had served as head coach of two Turkish clubs, Galatasaray SK and Besiktas JK. Loud chants of "Shakhtar" filled the stadium, as German support was inaudible.

Luiz Adriano scored the first goal of the match off a pass from Willian 25 minutes into the first half. Ten minutes later, Bremen responded off a free kick by Naldo in the 35th minute. The second half was filled with missed chances, with Shakhtar gaining some opportune breaks, sending the match into overtime. Brazilian midfielder Jadson scored the decisive goal from a pass from Darijo Srna seven minutes into overtime.

An open-air fan zone was set up in Kyiv, where 2,000 fans watched the game at the Friendship of Peoples Arch.

Natalya Lavska, 28, commented that the game was dynamic in the first half, and it was clear that Shakhtar deserved the win; she said the victory was special for Ukrainian fans because they believed in their own team. Though Dynamo Kyiv is Shakhtar's biggest soccer rival (along the way to the UEFA Cup championship final, Shakhtar had defeated Dynamo Kyiv), the historic match enabled Kyiv fans to bring themselves to support even their enemies – they simply chanted "Ukrayina" instead of "Shakhtar."

Yevhen Sazhniev of Berdiansk said that he was entirely comfortable among Kyiv fans, and the Shakhtar victory raised the prestige of Ukrainian soccer throughout the world.

Source: "Shakhtar wins UEFA Cup," by Yuriy Borysov, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 24, 2009.

COMMENTARY

How not to debate Ukrainian history (at Columbia University or elsewhere)

by Taras Kuzio

It was only after accepting an invitation to participate in the workshop "Russian and Ukrainian Nationalism: Entangled Histories" at Columbia University's Harriman Institute on April 22–23 that I realized I had walked into a minefield.

I soon learned of colleagues who declined invitations, citing concerns about some of the workshop organizers and participants who support restrictions on freedom of speech and promote stereotypes of Ukrainians. The workshop's organizers were Tarik Cyril Amar, Per Anders Rudling and Andreas Umland.

The workshop opened with a useful session on modern nationalism before and during World War I. Profs. Eric Lohr (American University), Serhii Plokhii (Harvard), Serhy Bilenky (University of Toronto) and Richard Wortman (Columbia) explained how modern nationalism or nationalisms developed in the Russian Empire, including in Ukraine, and contrasted the aims, strategies and outcomes of different state actors and social strata involved in those developments. These presentations and a small number of others were the exceptions in what otherwise failed to become a scholarly forum for the study of Ukrainian and Russian nationalisms.

To begin, although the workshop was supposed to explore Russian and Ukrainian nationalisms and their interplay, there was almost nothing presented on Russian and Soviet nationalisms and no analysis of Russian national identity and its relationship to Ukraine. That is, nothing on Putinism, or "Nashi," or Zhirinovskiy, or neo-Stalinism. And, the majority of workshop sessions utterly failed to provide any comparative perspectives, which is both imperative when discussing nationalism in whatever forum and contrary to the workshop's purported theme. Then, many discussants were not specialists and their remarks were often weak and insufficiently analytical.

Much of the workshop was instead devoted to Ukrainian "nationalism" and "Nazi collaboration." There is, of course, nothing wrong with devoting a workshop to Ukrainian nationalism; there is, of course, nothing wrong with criticizing Ukrainian nationalism. But why do so under the camouflage of a workshop on Russian and Ukrainian nationalisms that has little or nothing to do with Russian nationalism? And, more importantly, why do so without providing any context for what was happening at various points in time when Ukrainian nationalists were active, what options were available to them, and what their goals were – unless the agenda is a political rather than an academic one?

There obviously is much more to analyze and discuss about Ukrainian nationalism than the cooperation, collaboration and armed conflict, at different times, of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists or the Ukrainian Insurgent Army with different factions in the Nazi Germany state apparatus than is captured by the simplistic notion of "Nazi collaboration."

The workshop at Columbia was also

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marred by unacceptable intolerance. Volodymyr Viatrovych, former director of the Security Service of Ukraine (ex-KGB) archives, attended the first day's afternoon session. The panel chair grumbled quite loudly and only then reluctantly allowed Dr. Viatrovych three minutes in the discussion, and then cut him off as he attempted to reply to allegations raised by a session presenter.

I asked Andreas Umland (National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy) and other organizers why Dr. Viatrovych was not simply asked to give a presentation, maybe in a separate additional panel, but I was rebuffed. So was my suggestion to bring him with us at the end of the first day to the restaurant for dinner, where he could have mingled with other speakers. There appeared to be zero interest in or tolerance for a discussion.

I, for one, fail to understand why there was so much intolerance towards Dr. Viatrovych. But intolerance in the form of marked tendentiousness was exhibited in other ways as well. For example, certain speakers who appeared to have pre-planned goals of portraying Western Ukrainians as Nazi collaborators and anti-Semites arranged facts to fit their conclusions.

Dr. Rudling gave a paper on Mykola Lebed that purported to cover his entire political life with the single goal of portraying him as a war criminal. "He never faced justice or accountability for his wartime activities," Dr. Rudling lamented. Putting aside the fact that it is not the task of academics to serve as courts of law, the obsession with Lebed's alleged war criminality ignores, to cite one example, his leadership and organization of Prolog Research and Publishing for a quarter of a century from 1953 to 1978, during which it became the center of Ukrainian diaspora liberal political life.

Selecting elements of Lebed's biography from the 1930s, certain allegations about his wartime activities and then the Village Voice's attempt to "expose" him in the mid-1980s while ignoring everything else can hardly be construed as objective scholarship. This would be the same as focusing only on Menachem Begin's and Nelson Mandela's respective leadership of the Irgun and Umkhonto we Sizwe terrorist groups while ignoring their subsequent political biographies in Israel and South Africa, respectively. There are countless terrorists who become politicians and state leaders from, for example, Ulster, South Africa and Israel.

Charles de Gaulle served as prime minister and president during five of the nine years (1958-1962) of the Algerian war of independence (1954-1962) during which 1.5 million died from conflict, executions and torture. But, a biography of de Gaulle that focused only on his responsibility as head of state during the commission of French war crimes in Algeria would not be a valid representation of his political life.

For some reason, younger revisionist Western historians of Ukraine seem to be unwilling to bring comparative studies into their analysis of Ukrainian history. Is this because that would get in their way of sensationalizing Ukrainian nationalist war crimes?

Another workshop presenter, Anton Shekhovtsov (Vienna Institute for Human Sciences) – who although from Sevastopol,

(Continued on page 13)

FOR THE RECORD

UCCA remembers Konovalets

The following statement was issued by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) on May 9.

On May 23, Ukrainians around the world will solemnly mark the 75th anniversary of the death of Yevhen Konovalets. On this date, the founder and Commander of the Ukrainian Military Organization (UVO) and leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) was murdered. His commitment to his country serves as a reminder of the many valiant individuals who gave their lives for an independent Ukraine – ranking Konovalets as one of the most prominent figures in 20th century Ukraine.

Born on June 14, 1891, in the village of Zashkiv near Lviv, Konovalets spent his youth studying law at the University of Lviv. In 1914, when the first world war broke out, Konovalets enlisted in the Austrian Army, where he served as second lieutenant. A year into the war he was captured by Russian forces and interned in a POW camp near Tsaritsyn. This proved to be a blessing of sorts, for while he was in the POW camp he met many Ukrainian nationalists and former Galician officers who further fostered his pride for his country. Together with some of his fellow countrymen, Konovalets escaped to Kyiv, where in November 1917 he organized a battalion of Sich Riflemen. Serving at the helm of this force he helped to suppress a Bolshevik uprising in Kyiv in early 1918.

To help strengthen Ukraine's ever-growing struggle for liberation, in the summer of 1921 Konovalets became the commander of the famous Ukrainian Military Organization (UVO), an underground organization specializing in the military training of young Ukrainians and promoting armed resistance against Ukraine's oppressors.

The activities of the UVO soon caught the attention of the Soviets, who in turn, sought to arrest Konovalets, forcing him to flee beyond Ukraine's borders. Despite hav-

ing to emigrate, his service to his country and his desire for an independent Ukraine never wavered. Konovalets continued leading the UVO and actively worked to promote the development of Ukrainian community organizations. Additionally, he worked to establish contacts with foreign intelligence and military circles, and promoted the creation of foreign-language press bureaus and publishing houses – all to bring the Ukrainian national question to the forefront.

In 1929 Konovalets participated in the first Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists in Vienna where the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) was founded and during which he was elected its leader. His exceptional organizational skills and unwavering loyalty to Ukraine enabled him to advance the OUN's growth and influence outside the borders of Ukraine. It was at this time that the goal of the OUN became the unconditional independence and sovereignty of Ukraine by any means necessary.

These persistent efforts to revive the nationalist underground in Soviet Ukraine led to his assassination on May 23, 1938, in Rotterdam. Yevhen Konovalets tragically died when a bomb, disguised as a present, exploded. It was later revealed that the bomb had been given to him by a Soviet agent.

Konovalets was one of the most prominent figures in 20th century Ukrainian history. As a military officer he was recognized for his organizational abilities and loyalty to the Ukrainian National Republic. As a political leader he enjoyed enormous personal authority among OUN cadres, and the respect of even his political adversaries.

Yevhen Konovalets made the ultimate sacrifice. He gave his life for Ukraine and the lives of his countrymen. He will always be remembered and honored for his determination and perseverance on behalf of the Ukrainian national liberation struggle. Yevhen Konovalets is the epitome of a true hero of Ukraine.

Glory to Ukraine! Glory to her heroes!

Sen. Cardin...

(Continued from page 3)

Turning to Ukraine, the senator said: "I also urge Ukrainian authorities to ensure that there is a thorough investigation into the murder of Vladimir Goncharenko, editor of the environmental security newspaper EKO Bezpeka. Goncharenko was beaten to death in July 2012 but his assailants have not yet been brought to justice."

"Russia remains, by any accounting, the deadliest place for journalists in the OSCE region. On April 8, journalist Mikhail Beketov died of complications stemming from a 2008 beating that left him a multiple amputee, in a wheelchair and unable to speak. A community organizer and editor of a small newspaper in Russia, Beketov challenged local authorities and the corruption surrounding a controversial plan to construct a highway through the popular old-growth forest on the outskirts of

Moscow in the city of Khimki," Sen Cardin's statement read. "In 2007, shortly after calling for the resignation of the Khimki administration, his dog was killed and his car set on fire. Undaunted, Beketov continued reporting until his voice was silenced forever by assailants with baseball bats. Adding insult to grave injury, Vladimir Strelchenko, mayor of Khimki and a suspect in the beating, won a defamation case in 2010 against Beketov. And even in death, Khimki authorities sought to thwart Beketov's desire to be buried in the town he loved. To date, no one has been brought to justice for this heartbreaking crime against Mikhail Beketov and the people he sought to inform."

The Helsinki Commission chairman commended OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatovic "for her sharp focus, timely reporting and efforts to protect a free and independent press," adding, "Her frank periodic assessments to the participating states will help ensure that these cases are not forgotten."



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

'Scandalous' exhibit at Honchar Museum



Bohdan Poshyvailo

Fufaiky, or kufaiky, in the Ivan Honchar Museum in Kyiv as part of the exhibit "Etnohrafichni Nebylitsi" (Ethnographic Nonsense).

With tongue planted firmly in cheek, and yet deadly serious, Petro Honchar discussed the latest exhibition at the Ivan Honchar Museum in Kyiv, which conveniently opened on March 29, right before April 1. The director of the Ukrainian Center of Ukrainian Culture – The Ivan Honchar Museum opened "Etnohrafichni Nebylitsi" [Ethnographic Fables or Nonsense], an exhibition like no other at the museum. Up until this show, all the others since the museum's opening in 1993 were elegant, refined, and presented with the utmost taste and beauty.

This exhibit was different. Hanging on the walls, with the appropriate display labels, were "fufaiky," the Soviet-era grungy quilted grey or black jackets that had been worn by working people in the villages and towns. They were torn, patched, stained and never-cleaned, just worn to death.

As described in Rukotvory (rukotvory.com) in the post "Petro Honchar discovered his formula of Ukrainian culture of the 20th century," the guests coming to the opening of the exhibit did not know what artifacts to expect. There was very little information provided in advance, other than the promise "You have not seen something like this before!"

Before the doors to the gallery opened, Mr. Honchar invited the guests to a reception. Holding up a goblet of red wine, he stated that the artifacts are all genuine and all data about them are credible. Then he shouted out "Budmo" [the toast "let us be," which means let us survive], and opened the doors to the display of the grungy jackets and the pile of treasured Ukrainian embroidered and woven textiles on the floor.

This exhibition was Mr. Honchar's idea. "I collected and displayed. I traveled throughout Ukraine. Every fufaika was selected from the Sian to the Don Rivers, and from north to south. I concluded that this is our national idea – the fufaika. This is one more visual formula of Ukrainian culture of the 20th century and we do not have to invent anything. We are already dressed and united by the fufaika... 'they' united us."

The reaction from attendees, the media and the cultural community was divided, with some applauding his commentary, others appalled at the lack of respect for the treasured items in the massive pile in the middle of the gallery floor. I have compiled information and comments from the museum itself and from the media, and the storm of comments from various online groups related to this theme.

"I am very disillusioned with this exhibition and its organizers. Obvious that this is on the level of jeans... [i.e., there's no point to this] This is repugnant to the depth of the

soul. Who do they take us for? And to show this at Lent? After such a display the facilities should be reconsecrated..." wrote Kostyantyn Cheremsky.

Lena Utkina commented, "Really, we have never seen anything like this! I have been disappointed by the Honchar Museum for the first time. I have never seen before that the museum would pile up so plainly the priceless rarities our ancestors so carefully stored in their 'skryni' [chests], and which miraculously survived to our days. What is the point of this display and what does it teach us? Maybe someone from the museum can explain? I had paid the photography fee, but didn't even take my camera out. Forgive me for my intolerance."

One newspaper headlined the story with "Honchar Museum transformed into a second-hand [store] of embroidery."

Blogger Lesia Hasydzak of the Ukrainian Center for Development of Museums, wrote: "...For many generations, the kufaika became one of the symbols of the Soviet Union. The kufaiky [also known as fufaiky, tilohriyky – body warmers], were the most widespread (and for a long time the only) type of outerwear in the totalitarian state. They appeared in 1931 as a warm uniform for workers and soldiers of the working and peasant Red Army. They were worn under the coat, against the frost, because they were sewn from cotton, with the padding acting as insulation... After World War II, the kufaika became the everyday and even special event outerwear for the regular population who could not afford anything better. Because THERE WAS NOTHING BETTER [author's capitalization]. The embroidered shirts and moth-eaten kozhuky [sheepskin coats] were in the attics, on the floor or in the fire, and the kufaiky were hanging on the walls – this is the story of Ukrainian culture. This is the EVIDENCE OF THE UNIFICATION OF CULTURE THROUGH DEFORMATION, RUINATION, PROHIBITION, AND DEGRADATION to create a 'homo Sovieticus' with the label 'Soviet Union' on the working days and the kufaika wearer's stooped spine... Obviously, no one would be discussing so tumultuously a show of photocopies or violets. Only a real event could create so many emotions in the museum realm... This is not a vulgar installation, this is not a stream-of-consciousness and, thank goodness, this is not 'contemporary art,' under which term it is accepted to include anything and from those incapable of creating art. This exhibition is an x-ray of each of us and our culture in the whole of the 20th century."

The fufaiky were also worn in other parts of the Soviet Union but, in this exhibit, the

(Continued on page 16)

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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.

CONCLUSION

Ukraine's new feminist agenda

As of 2008, the new feminists of Ukraine took up an important campaign of adjusting Ukraine's attitudes, hoping to enlighten not only the wider public, but particularly their government officials, the police and Ukraine's parliamentarians about the patriarchal aspects of their views and actions. Their first mission was the reclaiming of International Women's Day. Over the years of Soviet rule, March 8 – which was once a day of recognition of women's equal rights to work and pay – evolved into a holiday to celebrate women for their femininity.

Dr. Oksana Kis, a women's historian and director of a feminist center in Lviv, has been especially active in reminding Ukraine that this day would best be utilized as a political holiday – not so much to return to the politics of 1910 when it was first proposed by the socialist Klara Zetkin, but to adopt it in the present moment as a political platform of women's unity for the recognition of their dignity and human rights.

March 8 of this year was marked by several innovative demonstrations, some very humorous. Dr. Kis described a street demonstration staged by one feminist group in the western Ukrainian city of Chernivtsi on March 8, 2011. They paraded a garlanded mare (a workhorse) identified as "Marta" through the city streets. This reference to the biblical Martha was meant to highlight the drudgery that most Ukrainian women face daily, and their "decoration" for it on March 8. Among the demonstrations with a more serious tone, was one staged by the Feminist Offensive, which marched in Kyiv carrying banners demanding the separation of Church and state.

But as extreme as their message may seem, their effect is mild compared to the spectacle of FEMEN. FEMEN, too, marked the day demonstrating topless in Turkey, and then returned to Kyiv to climb the bell tower of the Cathedral of St. Sophia to protest the threatened ban on abortion, chanting "Our children – our choice." A polarizing element from its first appearance, FEMEN has consistently confused the public with its nudity (a quick check on the Internet will soon reveal a big difference between FEMEN and Russia's PussyRiot group, for example). And then there's also FEMEN's penchant for staging demonstrations in other countries rather than focusing on home. The mystery of its big bucks funding has furthermore convinced many that FEMEN is primarily a business proposition. If so, it is a politically diversionary one at that, subverting Ukrainian feminism while possibly driving women into religious counter-discourses.

Oddly, FEMEN has desecrated Ukrainian Greek-Catholic space but not any sites of the Russian Orthodox or Moscow Patriarchate in Ukraine. Lately FEMEN has started to make statements about reclaiming the female body and returning power to that body by combining nudity with aggres-

sion against wrongs done to women. But despite the sensationalism of their performances, FEMEN's messages are not really that different from that of other current activist groups, whose protests are effective even without taking their clothes off.

One example is the SlutWalk, a protest born in Canada on April 3, 2011, after a Toronto policeman suggested that women would do better "not to dress like sluts if they didn't want to be raped." The co-founders of SlutWalk (Sonya Barnett and Heather Jarvis) explain that his words were "slut-shaming" and that such talk only added to women's oppression by increasing the sense of surveillance and disciplining that is already felt around women's behavior. The SlutWalk model was taken up in several cities around the world. Most SlutWalk participants dress "normally," but some have purposely dressed in stereotypically "slutty" attire (for example, the participants in New York City's SlutWalk in Union Square in October of 2011), in order to make a point about "provocative dress." For this, they have sustained criticism, for conforming to male expectation of women's sexuality. More importantly, this relates to a debate that is long-standing in the feminist community – over whether public sexuality is empowering or harmful to women. Personally I'm inclined to think it is harmful – and not only to the woman disrobing, but to all of us, as I will explain through a personal anecdote.

Image of Ukrainian women

In 2003 Victor Malarek, a Ukrainian Canadian award-winning investigative journalist, wrote "The Natashas," a book that exposed trafficking in women into sexual slavery as "organized crime's fastest growing business." For several years, the name Natasha, which had long been used in the West as a code name for Russian-speaking women, came to represent the trafficked Ukrainian woman.

My name is Martha – and what does this have to do with me? I'd like to share with you one of my own personal uncomfortable moments. When I hired a moving company in 2005, a representative of the company, a man with a Middle-eastern accent, came to my mother's apartment in Queens to assess the volume of the move. He noted her collection of fine Slavic folk-art that I identified as Ukrainian. On the day of the move, a Hispanic-speaking crew came to my mother's door, and asked to speak to "Natasha" – apparently I had been referred to in conversation as "some Natasha" meaning that as a Ukrainian, I had been objectified. Despite a lack of any physical contact, I felt violated.

A similar incident, but on a much grander scale, moved Irina Somer, a resident of the Netherlands, a journalist and the manager of the Interfax-Ukraine news agency in Brussels, Belgium, to videotape an appeal (dated October 9, 2012) to diaspora Ukrainian women's organizations, asking them to monitor the misrepresentation of Ukrainian women through the use of a new global "stereotype."

The background to this is that during the summer before the start of the Euro-2012 soccer matches held in Ukraine and Poland, a commercial aired on Dutch TV. It was an advertisement produced for NLE, a Dutch energy company. It warned Dutch wives to not let their husbands go to Ukraine for the Euro cup games because of the sex tourism and the ready availability of Ukraine's women. I urge you to view the full video appeal (recorded in Ukrainian language) or even just the first two minutes of it, which will give you a viewing of the commercial in question, which needs no translation. (For the Somer video go to this link: <http://vimeo.com/51088721>). The commercial

starts off with a Dutch wife doing a Google search and finding ample reason to be worried about Ukrainian women. The ad suggests a solution: take out a contract with NLE, get a free gift of a home beer-brewing machine and your husband will be just as happy sitting at home in front of the TV, well out of temptation's reach.

On May 10, 2012, Ms. Somer filed a complaint with the Netherlands Committee of Advertising Ethics asserting that Ukrainian women are being misrepresented and demeaned by this commercial. In fact, the Google search depicted in the commercial was not the result of an actual Google search, but a composite made up of pornographic photos available on the Internet, including some from one Internet source called Oekraïense Vrouwen (Ukrainian women) owned by a businessman who deals in pornography and Internet sex chat sites.

Ukraine's women are not uniquely victimized by sex trafficking, but they do appear to be targeted as an icon of it. However, as to the problem of the media objectifying women, this is a worldwide problem that is getting attention. One interesting activist group along these lines is a women's human rights group called OBJECT. OBJECT made a name for itself targeting the Sun, a popular British tabloid, on the 42nd anniversary of the tabloid's practice (since 1970) of showing topless women on its "Page 3." The protesters made a huge poster-birthday card showing pictures of men and pictures of women taken from the same Sun tabloid, and asked passers-by whether they could tell a difference – it was simply "clothes" (see www.object.org.uk). The birthday card was delivered to the Sun's editor, sending a strong message against the paper's treatment of women. Thus, OBJECT is one of those women's groups that aims to reclaim the female body and to stop the subjugation of women through their nakedness. But apparently for these women taking control of their own bodies does not mean putting them back on display again.

In 2009, when the scandal that involved the Murdoch News Corp. of the United Kingdom led to an extended investigation into the ethics of the practices and culture of the press, Lord Justice Leveson accepted oral and written testimony from many groups, including OBJECT (see <http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2012/nov/28/leveson-inquiry-report-essential-guide#108>). The report submitted to the Leveson Inquiry in September 2012 by OBJECT – is called the "Just the Women" Report. It covers a lot of good ground based on good research, to illuminate how women are harmed by "persistent objectification, stereotyping and prejudicial reporting." But in that report, which includes a chapter on rape culture, a chapter on the parading of sexualized little girls, and one on the trivialization of women, there is also a chapter on the "mainstreaming of the sex industries in newspapers" titled "Irina is a Booty." (You can check the report out yourself at this link: <http://www.object.org.uk/files/Just%20the%20Women%20-%20Nov%202012.pdf>.) Apparently "Irina" is the new "Natasha," since the otherwise excellent report never explains who "Irina" is and does not in any other instance use a woman's name in this generic sense. The point I'm making is that this also is objectification and we women need to be on the watch to respect one another, as well in conducting our activisms.

Family-centered vs. woman-centered approaches

Currently in Ukraine, there is no gender department or any other special govern-

ment body charged with keeping track of women's issues and promoting their equitable treatment. The Ministry of Social Policy (established on December 9, 2012, and headed by Natalia Korolevska) has been assigned responsibility for women's programs – its structure includes a Department of Prevention of Violence in the Family, and it promises to soon establish a trafficking department as well. But in the meantime, such cases as Oksana Makar's murder raise questions beyond Ukraine's "family violence" or "nasylstvo v simyi" approach. Any discriminatory act that falls outside of the family framework is difficult to discuss as violence when domestic violence is the only available framework.

In terms of social activism against gender violence, this focus on the family, as opposed to a focus on the women, creates limitations and problems. The family focus as compared to a women-centered one sees the cause of violence as a factor of faulty relationships (rather than societal patriarchy), and diagnoses it as a social illness (rather than emphasizing its criminality) and points to both men and women (not just women) as its victims. The treatment strategy of the family focus favors private counseling within the family (rather than public group discussion) and talks about the family as the unit that needs to be supported (rather than focusing on the battered woman and her prospects). The family approach leads to low political engagement; the woman-centered, or feminist, approach sees political engagement as key.

There are several good programs in Ukraine that, despite the limitations of the "family" framework, are helping to broaden appreciation of the pernicious effects of violence on women and to promote an understanding that women are differently vulnerable depending on various social factors. One of these social factors is that of residence: rural women are more vulnerable than urban-dwelling women, as they are less likely to have access to social services. A project conducted by Heifer International in Ukraine is not only helping rural women's economic empowerment; it is also helping rural women to learn to be better advocates for their own needs, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Parliament's Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and Interethnic Relations and the Women's Information Consultative Center.

Another factor is age or position in the life cycle. The International Humanitarian NGO Rozrada of Kyiv is one of the organizations whose programs reflect its attention to the varied experiences of differing age groups. Children are recognized to suffer both from witnessing and experiencing physical and verbal abuse; adolescent girls and young women are targeted as the group most vulnerable to sexual exploitation and trafficking; married and middle-aged women are understood to be burdened with the pragmatic realities of family planning; elderly women are acknowledged as suffering real indignities and uncertainties within a culture that has devalued them. In March 2009, Rozrada received U.N. recognition as an exemplary project, model-worthy for other countries (see www.rozrada.kiev.ua).

Most distressing is the fact that the NGO women's community in Ukraine is reporting that pressure has intensified on specialists and organizations working within the realms of promoting gender equality and securing women's and children's rights. There is an intense anti-gender campaign afoot in Ukraine that is making precarious women's NGO gains and hindering activ-

(Continued on page 12)

BOOK REVIEW: *Freeland on the rise of the plutocrats*

"Plutocrats: The Rise of the New Global Super-Rich and the Fall of Everyone Else," by Chrystia Freeland. New York: The Penguin Press, 2012. 336 pages. ISBN: 978-1-59420-409-8. \$27.95 (hardcover).

by Oksana Zakydalsky

Chrystia Freeland is managing director and editor for consumer news at Thomson Reuters. She has worked in Kyiv, Moscow, London, Toronto and currently in New York. She is the author of "Sale of the Century" (2000) about Russia's journey from communism to capitalism and "Plutocrats: The Rise of the New Global Super-Rich and the Fall of Everyone Else" (2012) for which she won the 2013 Lionel Gelber Prize, a literary award for the world's best non-fiction book in English on foreign affairs that seeks to deepen public debate on significant international issues.

Ms. Freeland was in Toronto on April 15 to receive the \$15,000 prize, which was presented at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto.

Ms. Freeland's "Plutocrats" is an attempt to understand the changing shape of the world economy by looking at those at the very top, the richest – who they are, how they made their money, how they think, how they relate to the rest of us.

She provides a fact-based framework to her analysis of plutocracy, starting with a historical approach for comparison, quotes various writers who have been concerned with the topic of income inequality, conducts interviews with many economists, historians and politicians, and records and compares their views (a total of 289 notes completes her presentation).

The very rich of today are different from the rich of yesterday because of two phenomena: the revolution in information technology and the liberalization of global trade – globalization. People, money and ideas travel more freely today, while the fruits of this global transformation are

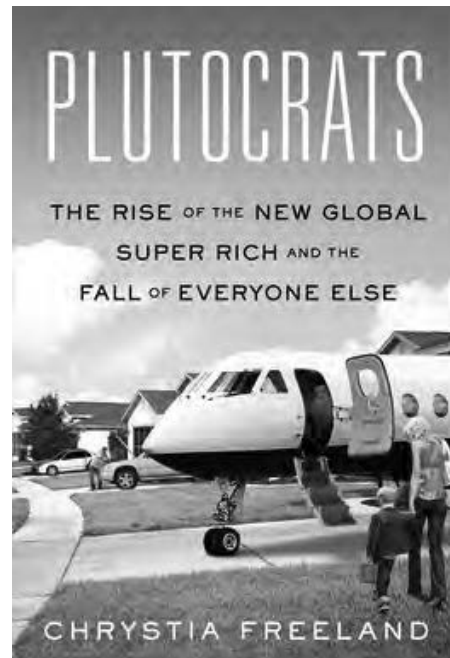
being shared unevenly. In the last 30 years, the gap between the very rich and the rest of us has become vast – Ms. Freeland calls it a chasm. "What I really worry about is, that there is so much money and so much power at the very top, and the gap between those people and everybody else is so great, that we will see social mobility choked off and society transformed," she writes.

Political, social and economic institutions established in the United States and the United Kingdom in the post-war era included strong unions, high taxes and a high minimum wage. However, in the late 1970s and early 1980s – the years of Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher – this changed. Taxes at the top were sharply cut, trade unions were reined in, social welfare was cut and the economy was deregulated. Then came the collapse of communism in the Soviet bloc and the adoption of market economics in China, which left capitalism as the only functioning system.

"Today as the world economy is being reshaped by the technology revolution and globalization, the resulting economic transformation is creating a new gilded age and a new plutocracy. Because the global economy is expanding," Ms. Freeland writes, "in the long run we are in good shape. But over the medium term, the dislocations, uncertainty and inequality are making people unhappy."

Who are the new plutocrats? Ms. Freeland looks at the top 1 percent, in particular top .01 percent. The new plutocracy is not made up of inherited wealth, but consists mostly of first-and second-generation wealth. Its members are hard-working, highly educated meritocrats, who feel they are deserving winners. They are forming a global community – a virtual global nation – and their ties to one another are increasingly closer than their ties to the people back home.

There is no longer any such animal as "the U.S. consumer" or "the UK consumer"



or the "Russian consumer." There are rich consumers, few in number, but with a huge income and huge consumption. There are the rest, the "non-rich," although many, but with a tiny slice of consumption. Once served by the domestic market, economic demand can now be imported. Accompanied by new economies, new markets and new supply chains it is bringing together countries which are very different, particularly in their wage structures.

The factors that helped the new plutocrats to achieve their status is varied: the driving force of deregulation in the U.S. and the U.K., the rent-seeking of many of the new emerging economies such as India, the socialist market economy of China.

Who was destined to join the new plutocracy? In her examples, Ms. Freeland finds some comparative indicators. For

example, who in the U.S. have been among the most successful in responding to the new global status quo? She chooses, as an archetype, "Harvard kids who went to provincial public schools." They got into Harvard, or Stanford, because they are smart and reasonably privileged. But they went to public schools. She points out Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg and others who fit this profile.

She also gives the example of the Russian oligarchs who were clever enough to get degrees from elite Moscow universities before the collapse of the Soviet Union, but they were Jewish and not fully part of the Soviet elite. Mikhail Fridman, an oil, banking and telecom magnate, was born in Lviv – smart enough to make it to an elite Moscow polytechnic institute, earning a degree in physics but not allowed to do graduate research work. Viktor Vekselberg, a metals and oil oligarch, also is from western Ukraine; he got a Ph.D. in math from a Moscow polytechnic and wrote computer software programs on the side. Boris Berezovsky, an oil industrial and media magnate, was an obscure mathematician and apparatchik. Vladimir Gusinsky, once Russia's most powerful media baron, was a Jewish theater impresario who never made it into the first circle of state-supported Soviet cultural intellectuals and who supplemented his income by trading consumer goods.

In "Plutocrats," Ms. Freeland tackles what has been called "perhaps the most important economic and political development of our era" (Martin Wolf, Financial Times). Although the book is chock full of information on today's world economy and its discontents, Ms. Freeland's extensive use of individual stories backed up by scholarly evidence makes it a very readable work.

A conversation with Chrystia Freeland



Chrystia Freeland

Chrystia Freeland was born in 1968 in Peace River, Alberta. She received her undergraduate education at Harvard University, going on to St. Antony's at the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. She is of Ukrainian descent on her mother's side and the granddaughter of Mykhailo Chomiak, editor of the Lviv paper Dilo and Krakivski visti. Her grandparents immigrated to Canada in 1948.

Following is the text of an interview with Ms. Freeland conducted by Oksana Zakydalsky.

What is the most important thing you have learned in your work?

My generation grew up in a stable, affluent society. This tends to make us conventional thinkers, opting for the status quo. In the 1980s, when talk began of an independent Ukraine, it was my grandparents who were the believers. The academia's response was: impossible, no way. It turned out my grandparents were more right than Harvard professors.

My second powerful experience was the financial crisis. The conventional wisdom was that deregulation was a great thing – this turned out to be wrong. I try to remind myself that the conventional wisdom – especially elite conventional wisdom – can be so wrong.

What in your professional life has made you the happiest?

My professional life has two strands. As editor and manager, I work in teams and I really love being part of a group of people working together to achieve something they collectively care about. The second strand of my professional life is writing – I have written two books.

Many of the individual moments of writing can be painful, but it is self-chosen pain. Although my writing doesn't pay the mortgage or the school fees, there is a feeling of immense satisfaction to be able to put the ideas together, to process them and then to put that considered view of things out into the world.

(Continued on page 17)



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GENERATION UKE



Edited and compiled by Matthew Dubas

Zvook – A new ‘sound’ coming out of Montreal

by Christina Iwanik

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Montreal Ukrainian community credits itself historically with claiming amazingly talented musicians who not only use their musical craft to advance their professional careers, but also connect musicians whose dedication and thirst for Ukrainian music brings them together to create some of the best polka and folk rock bands from North America to date. Wonderful tunes produced by these musicians are still listened to either in our homes, automobiles, or on our electronic devices. Joining this highly respected cluster is a new band called Zvook.

Their name is truly a reflection of the band's strong vocals, smooth style and upbeat rhythm that one cannot seem to get enough of. Their love for Ukrainian music is reflected in their songs in so many ways.

Working together, Zvook's members not only produce an array of eclectic versions of tradition songs, but a sound that has their followers demanding more. They realize that the closeness of the Montreal Ukrainian zabava sound gives them an advantage in creating a much more unique repertoire compared to other Ukrainian folk bands throughout the continent.

The four men of Zvook are: Greg Balycky (bass guitar and vocals), Roman Karpishka (guitar and vocals), Orest Vankevich (accordion and vocals) and Matej Wodzicki (drums and vocals). Each of these musicians brings a certain style and musical background to the group all while living in both Canada and the U.S.A. The members of Zvook have collectively performed across Canada, the USA and Australia and have been exposed to Ukrainian music from around the world. Most of them started playing instruments as early as five years old with the Montreal based Ukrainian marching band Trembita.

Greg Balycky, who came back to Montreal after attending Oxford University in England, works in business and financial advisory. Greg grew up with Ukrainian music in the home. With his father who was a band member of Yaseny in the 1970s as well as his mother who was a violinist, his personal love for Ukrainian music flourished when he himself decided to join the band Kolomeya based



Members of Zvook (from left): Matej Wodzicki, Greg Balycky, Orest Vankevich and Roman Karpishka.

out of Montreal and later Chornozem out of New Jersey.

Roman Karpishka, born and raised in Montreal, currently resides in Latham, New York. He is married with two beautiful children and is a product manager for a company. He is also currently a band member of Forthlin Road, an Irish folk band. Roman's love for Ukrainian music started when he was 13 years old, playing for the group Obrij (later changed to Troyanda). He then played for Veselka and in the 1990's went on to play for Zolota Bulava. Roman has written several original songs in both Ukrainian and English.

Orest Vankevich, from Montreal, is an accountant who loves the great outdoors and working on cars. Orest had also played for the band Kolomeya. He grew up listening to Ukrainian music, especially Burlaky and Zolota Bulava. His influences are Veselka and Samotsvit.

Matej Wodzicki, from Montreal as well, is an electrical

engineer in the aviation field. He is a seasoned musician who played for Kolomeya and then spent eight years with the band Vorony out of Syracuse, N.Y. Matej has been a fill-in drummer for several Ukrainian bands including "Hrim" from New York City.

We as Ukrainians have always enjoyed our traditional songs. Zvook is one band who delivers on its promise of providing sweet sounds of our past and a fun atmosphere during their performances. Having four talented and educated musicians together allows them to combine these sounds for our musical enjoyment. The band plans on producing a live CD in the future and is currently booking weddings and stage performances throughout Canada and the U.S.A. For more information on the band and bookings, visit them on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ZvookBandMusic> or e-mail them at zvook.music@gmail.com.

Prom guide selects Sonya Khedr for cover and scholarship



Sonya Khedr with Tyre White on the cover of the 2013 Prom Guide Magazine.

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Sonya Khedr, a senior at Westfield High School in Westfield, N.J., was awarded the Top Model cover photo of the 2013 Prom Guide Magazine and a \$5,000 scholarship, awarded by Best Buy for her volunteerism and community service work. She, and three other cover finalists, spent a full day in a high-end New York City cover shoot with the kinds of bells and whistles that only professional models enjoy, including their very own "glam squad."

"It felt amazing getting the royal treatment for the entire day and working with photographers. It's an experience I will remember forever," Ms. Khedr was quoted in the Prom Guide Magazine.

Wearing a blue gown by Blush Prom and shoes from Benjamin Walk, she was joined by Tyre White of Tampa Bay Technical School in Florida, who wore a grey tuxedo by Jan Yves. Jewelry was provided by Fitz Design and hair and makeup by JKFlashy Makeup Service. Photos were by Jeffery Bucari with stylist Cheryl D. Smith.

Ms. Khedr told the magazine that she entered the competition because she's always been interested in fashion, with some of her fashion icons being Anne Hathaway, Britney Snow and Julianne Huff.

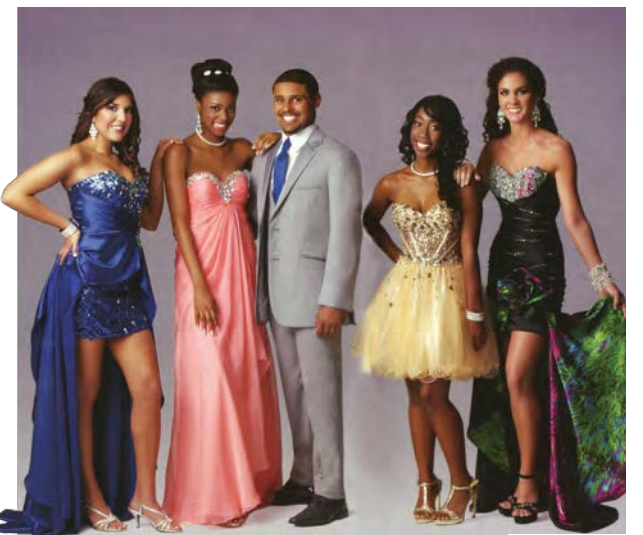
An experienced part-time model, Ms. Khedr is represented by MMG Modeling Agency of New York City. She has appeared in the television series "The Good Wife" and the movie "The Extra Man."

She represented her paternal Egyptian side last year at the international Miss Teen World Competition, as Miss Teen Egypt 2012.

But her matrilineal Ukrainian roots go deep as well, having grown up dancing, along with her brother, Heema, with the Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Bound Brook, N.J., and she participated in this year's Chervona Kalyna Debutante Ball.

A polyglot, Ms. Khedr put her language skills in Spanish and Italian to use during the magazine competition, serving as a translator for many of the competitors. She is a member of both Italian and Spanish Language National Honor Societies, and is president of the Spanish Language Club at her high school. She also serves as president of the Community Service Club and is a high academic honor roll student.

After graduating high school, Ms. Khedr will be attending High Point University in North Carolina in the fall to study strategic business communications, with an emphasis on public relations. After graduating university, she hopes to become a public relations executive, working in her beloved fashion industry.



Jeffrey Bucari

Models showcase modern prom fashions and trends.



GENERATION UKE



Freestyle and slopestyle skier earns top spots at competitions

PARSIPPANY, N. J. – This was a great ski season for 19-year-old Mark Nowakiwsky, a freestyle and slopestyle competitor. He ended the season with a second-place finish at the 2013 USASA Nationals Men's Open Slopestyle competition at Copper Mountain, Colo., on April 9.

Slopestyle is a skiing or snowboarding format that requires the athletes to take three large jumps and also use steel rails and boxes. Judges watch the competitors and score their runs depending on the difficulty, style, originality, and amplitude (i.e. how high they jump).

Mark started skiing at a very young age. His parents, Roman and Olha, encouraged his interest in the sport. The family had moved to Breckenridge, Colo., when Mark was 2 years old and he had ample opportunity to ski and advance his skills: ski racing, snowboarding, and then freestyle and slopestyle. Mark started competing at age 14 as a member of the Breckenridge ski team, Team Breck, and quickly progressed

to the top tier of competitors in slopestyle skiing. He finished last year's season with a first-place finish in the USSA Junior National Championship in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Mark comes from a family of avid skiers. Mark's brother Chris and sister Tamara competed in alpine racing, while he changed to the more avant-garde slopestyle. Mark currently represents the Breckenridge Ski Resort as a Pro Team Rider. Mark's father, Roman, is a very good skier and was a member of the Karpaty Ski Club.

Mark's other notable competitions this past season included the Aspen/Snowmass Freeskiing Competition that was held in February in Aspen, Colo. Mark placed eighth in a field of 100 competitors from the U.S., Canada, and other countries.

"It's one of the greatest open events in freeskiing, without question," said Steele Spence of the Association of Freeskiing Professionals. "This year, 100 men took to



Mark Nowakiwsky on the podium in second place (left) at the slopestyle event at Copper Mountain, Colo., on April 9.



Another second-place finish for Mark Nowakiwsky (right) at the Mount Snow Open in Vermont held in Mid-March.

the slopestyle course. The level of competition is one of the highest you'll ever see at an open competition. It is one of the biggest courses. Anyone who ends up in the top 30 here, that's an extremely impressive result."

In mid-March at the Mount Snow Open in Vermont, Mark was able to earn a place on the podium. There were approximately 40 competitors in the field of amateurs and finals included the top 12. After just barely qualifying for the finals, he was able to step up his run and execute it perfectly to finish in second place for the event.

At the end of March, Mark competed in the fifth annual Dumont Cup on the slopes of Sunday River Resort, Maine, in what is the East Coast's largest and only major freeskiing event of the year. He met many of the world's top slopestyle skiers at this

professional and amateur event. Since he placed second at Mount Snow, he was prequalified in Maine for the semi-finals where he was able to achieve a sufficiently high score on one run and end in 30th position among a very talented field.

In addition to competing, Mark and his teammates made a slopestyle skiing video for the Orage Masters Elite 8. Their video was judged to be the best entry and earned them an invitation to Sun Valley, Idaho, for a week at the Orage Masters, a rider-judged team slopestyle event. Mark and his teammates were pleased to be one of the eight teams selected for this exclusive, fun event.

Mark graduated summa cum laude from Summit High School in Frisco, Colorado, and is in his sophomore year at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

chairmanship will facilitate the Helsinki +40 dialogue focused on overcoming divergences, clarifying the role and goals of the OSCE in the modern security architecture," said Mr. Kozhara. "The U.N. is the OSCE's principal partner organization and as security challenges continue to evolve, the nature of the OSCE-U.N. cooperation has to become more pragmatic, effective and results-oriented," he concluded. (OSCE)

Kozhara on Tymoshenko's conviction

KYIV – Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Leonid Kozhara said that millions of Ukrainian citizens truly believe that Yulia Tymoshenko was rightly convicted. In an interview with The Daily Telegraph during his visit to London on May 13, he said: "Millions of people in Ukraine truly believe that the former prime minister was rightly convicted. She did big damage to our economy, and overstepped the law," he said. The Ukrainian foreign affairs minister acknowledged that the Tymoshenko case is a prob-

lem in Ukraine's relationship with the European Union. However, Mr. Kozhara insisted that the court's decision was final, and that it was not for the Ukrainian government to interfere with the "rule of law." In this regard, Mr. Kozhara also recalled that a gas deal signed in 2009 had led to Ukraine paying \$6 billion a year more than it should for its gas supplies from Russia – or the equivalent of 100 euros a year for every Ukrainian citizen. "It is our strong opinion that a single criminal case should not overwhelm our relationship," he said. (Ukrinform)

Kozhara on cooperation with Customs Union

KYIV – For Ukraine, it is important to have the most favorable trade regime with its key trading partners, in particular, the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. This was stated by the head of the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Leonid Kozhara, at a hearing of the U.S. Helsinki Commission on May 8. "Russia and the Customs Union as a whole are the key trade partners of Ukraine. Should not Ukraine want the most favorable trade regime with the Customs Union? Of course, it should. Here are just two examples: the

European Free Trade Association, which unites four rich European countries [Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein] has held eight rounds of talks on a free trade area with the Customs Union. So did New Zealand," the minister said. He noted that Ukraine has applied for observer status in the Customs Union. This proposal is being considered and Ukraine hopes for positive results, Mr. Kozhara added. "It is clear that no country can change its geographical position. This means that Ukraine has no other option but to strive to maintain good neighborly and partnership relations with Russia," the foreign affairs minister said. In turn, commenting on his position to the press, the minister said that Ukraine's cooperation with the Customs Union is very important, because the Customs Union accounts for more than 40 percent of Ukrainian foreign trade. Thus, Ukraine will seek the modalities of its cooperation with the Customs Union, which would not conflict with the obligations of the state to other organizations, particularly the World Trade Organization and the European Union. (Ukrinform)

Envoys hope to visit Tymoshenko

KYIV – U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Tefft and the head of the European Union delegation to Ukraine, Jan Tombinski, have asked the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine for permission to visit former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. The U.S. ambassador, speaking at a press conference in Kyiv on May 13, said: "EU Ambassador Jan Tombinski and I filed a request for permission to visit Yulia Tymoshenko together, as we visited Yurii Lutsenko in prison. But we're currently waiting for such permission." Mr. Tefft noted that they had earlier planned to visit the imprisoned former prime minister, but this was not possible because of holidays. "We very much hoped that we will manage, and this was planned, to visit Tymoshenko before the period of these recent holidays. However, we were told that because of holidays and some changes in this regard it could not happen before the holidays. Now we hope that it will happen after the holidays are over," he added. (Ukrinform)

Herman: President will pardon Yulia

KYIV – President Viktor Yanukovich will use his right to pardon ex-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko at his earliest convenience, Party of Regions National Deputy Hanna Herman said on Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. "I have repeatedly said that I

believe in the president's mercy and I believe that the time will come when he could use his right of pardon as regards Yulia Volodymyrivna," Ms. Herman has said, according to May 11 news reports. At the same time, she said, judicial processes in the Tymoshenko case have to be completed. "She should not hide from the court, but participate in it and demonstrate to society that she has nothing to hide. I think that when all this is over, undoubtedly, everything will be done to facilitate her fate, despite the fact that decisions of the courts can be different, because actually there are serious accusations," Ms. Herman noted. President Yanukovich has been repeatedly called upon to pardon former Ms. Tymoshenko, who is serving a seven-year sentence for concluding gas contracts with Russia. In April Mr. Yanukovich pardoned ex-Foreign Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko. (Ukrinform)

President calls for reconciliation

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich on May 9 emphasized the importance of finding ways towards understanding and reconciliation between all parties to the tragic events of World War II. Speaking at a ceremony marking the 68th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War, the president said: "We should look for internal peace and tranquility in the dialogue between the Ukrainians who were separated by the war into warring camps. Each party must try to understand the other. We should understand that we need to be together, live in one country, build a common future." Mr. Yanukovich was quoted by news reports as saying that Nazi and Soviet totalitarianism are things of the past. "Democracy, freedom and social justice, spirituality, life and potential of each individual – these are our common values of national progress," he said. The president added that one of the main lessons of the war is that the strength of the Ukrainian people is in its unity. "Our state has come a long and hard way. And today we can say we have preserved a unified and diverse Ukraine, restored its statehood and laid the foundation for its future in the circle of developed European nations," he underscored. According to a poll conducted by the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, one-third of Ukraine's citizens consider May 9, or Victory Day, a great holiday. In Ukraine's west this percentage is considerably less – approximately 10 percent, but it is considerably higher in the east – over 40 percent. (Ukrinform)

Mobilizing...

(Continued from page 8)

ism. The current campaign against the concept of gender spreads as its centerpiece the false (and illogical) propagation of the idea that homosexuality is synonymous with pedophilia (a misconception not confined to Ukraine, but which ignores the element of power that obtains when a man preys on juvenile females but does not when two consenting adults engage in sex). As this "Stop gender!" campaign spreads, its misinformation and intentional disinformation is harming any progress Ukraine has made in the struggle for equal rights (i.e., what in Ukraine is called "gender politics," or genderna polityka).

There are some hopeful signs, however, that feminist social activism is finding resonance among the Ukrainian populace and that a common platform for the combating of the generalized violence against women in Ukraine may be close to development. One program serving to address this climate in Ukraine is the women's studies lectureship at the Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv, recently endowed by the

Ukrainian National Women's League of America. As expressed by Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak, the lectureship aims to emphasize the scholarship of gender studies and to promote feminism as an intellectual exercise in independent thinking that contributes to the growth and maturity of the individual.

Another project that represents a wonderfully overt manifestation of public support for feminist social activism is Ukraine's first and only Gender Museum. The Gender Museum in Kharkiv is a grassroots feminist project – which under threat of closure, recently managed to gather enough funds, hryvnia by hryvnia, from even the poorest of the rural poor, both men and women, to avoid liquidation. (Take a look at <http://www.gendermuseum.com/>.)

The women's and feminist NGOs of Ukraine are calling on the transnational women's community to back them up. The U.N. Commission on the Status of Women is an important movement to mobilize political will in Ukraine, and outside of Ukraine. Our desire as diaspora Ukrainians is to join forces with them to eliminate inequality and bring the violence to an end.

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How not to debate...

(Continued from page 6)

which has the greatest number of xenophobes and extremists in Ukraine – focused his entire talk instead on western Ukraine and the Svoboda party. He refuses to accept the existence of xenophobia, racism and anti-Semitism anywhere in Ukraine, except that which may be found in western Ukraine. Because he had not read my paper prior to the workshop, I had to repeat what was there, namely: the U.S. State Department, Council of Europe, U.S. diplomatic cables (Wikileaks) and the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS) have reported that the highest levels of xenophobia in Ukraine are to be found in Crimea, and that the greatest number of skinheads is found in eastern Ukraine (usually with ties to Russia).

The workshop also exposed how imperative it seemed to be for those who want to focus exclusively on western Ukraine and Ukrainian nationalists to try and tie them to examples of anti-Semitism, especially under “nationalist” President Viktor Yushchenko. Dr. Rudling already back in 2006 had published a study of anti-Semitism in Ukraine in Canadian Slavonic Papers. He argued there that there had been a “substantial growth in organized anti-Semitism” in Ukraine since the Orange Revolution.

I doubt that my workshop paper changed these people's minds. But I quoted U.S. cables from Kyiv that describe how the first serious attempt to combat xenophobia, racism and anti-Semitism took place under President Yushchenko and that these government policies ended in 2010 when Viktor Yanukovich was elected president.

Another inconvenient fact is that the 2012 U.S. State Department report on human rights in Ukraine cited the Association of Jewish Communities and Organizations of Ukraine (VAAD) for long-term data showing “a trend of improvement” in the level of anti-Semitism. VAAD stated that “over the last four to five years, there has been a continuous decline in the number of anti-Semitic publications in the press; in the number of acts of vandalism of cemeteries, memorials and synagogues; and the number of assaults on the street of Jewish people,” as well as declining negative attitudes toward Jewish persons in public opinion polls.

The rise of Svoboda during a period of declining anti-Semitism suggests that this was not an issue that the nationalist party used to attract votes, as believed by some at the workshop.

Holocaust denial is repugnant, but so too is denial of genocide committed against the Crimean Tatars, half of whom died during their deportation to Central Asia in 1944. There are three political forces that downplay, justify or deny that crime against the Crimean Tatars – the Party of Regions, the Communists and Crimean Russian nationalists. Holocaust denial is on the far fringes of Ukrainian nationalist politics and most Ukrainian politicians would agree that the Holodomor killed both Ukrainians and other nationalities. In contrast, the Communist Party and some Party of Regions deputies refused to stand to commemorate the Holodomor's victims last November in Parliament. Could one even imagine the reaction in the Israeli Knesset if a political party refused to stand up to commemorate victims of the Holocaust?

More bizarre was Mr. Shekhovtsov's attempt to downplay the murder of two Ukrainian nationalists in Ukraine when I discussed the absence of any murders of Russian nationalist counterparts in

Ukraine. Mr. Shekhovtsov came as close as I have ever heard anyone say that the murder in Odesa was undertaken by an “anti-fascist” defending himself against a “fascist,” Maksym Chaika (in other words, that it was justified). Mr. Shekhovtsov ignored the fact that the murderer was a member of the national Bolshevik Rodina Party, which has ties to local organized crime and was funded by Russian intelligence services (two Russian diplomats were expelled from Ukraine in summer 2009 for providing covert support to extremist and separatist groups in Odesa and Crimea).

I have attended many academic forums over the last two decades, but this is the first occasion on which I have ever heard a murder being justified because it was committed by a good “anti-fascist” against a bad “fascist.” Such claims sound very intolerant and, of course, quite Soviet.

So, ironically, Svoboda and other nationalist groups are followed in minute detail, and there are already more Western academic articles on Svoboda and western Ukrainian nationalism than the only two Western scholarly articles published in the journals Canadian Slavonic Papers and Demokratizatsiya about the Party of Regions.

In 2002 then Donetsk Governor Yanukovich wrote a preface to a history of the security services in his oblast in which he praised the Cheka and NKVD – but this has failed to illicit any critical response. If Svoboda leader Oleh Tiahnybok would have in the same manner praised the Gestapo, this would have no doubt led to numerous journalistic and academic articles, open letters and petitions. Why the double standard when the Cheka and NKVD were the Soviet equivalent of the Gestapo in terms of organizations that committed mass crimes against humanity?

Dr. Umland is fascinated by Russian nationalism in Russia, which he follows in minute detail, but for some reason he doesn't find the topic of Russian nationalism in Ukraine of interest, instead saving his energy exclusively for western Ukraine and for ethnic Ukrainian nationalism.

Similarly, Mr. Shekhovtsov is uninterested in doing research in his home region of Crimea, about which he said, “I have not seen anti-Tatar graffiti.” Such violent conflicts as those that take place in the Crimea between Russians and Tatars (see a recent violent conflict at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kfLkND6XkT8>) do not take place in other regions of Ukraine – except when, as in May 2011, Russian nationalists traveled to Lviv and during the ensuing fracas shot a Svoboda supporter.

Why have we arrived at this seeming impasse in intellectual debate on Ukrainian history? One reason is the acute level of provincialism in Ukrainian academia, where most scholars from Ukraine do not know English, do not publish in the West or read Western publications. Only five Ukrainians are members of Ponars (www.ponarseurasia.org/), the network of post-Soviet scholars. And, in the third decade of Ukrainian independence, there still is little integration or cooperation between Ukrainian and Western academia.

Another problem is the lack of true debate (not polemics) between various academic groups, including what I call the revolutionary revisionists (i.e., newcomers to Ukrainian studies) and democratic centrists (often the old guard). These two groups discussed historical and political questions during the normal intellectual environment that existed for most of the 1970s and 1980s, and the first two decades of Ukrainian independence. The Ukrainian Canadian Socialist political group (Dialoh), to which controversial workshop participant John-Paul Himka (University of Alberta) belonged, cooperated with

Lebed's Prolog and Ukrainian American liberals, but now Dr. Himka is the de facto leader of the revolutionary revisionists.

Reviving contacts and holding debates between the revolutionary revisionists and democratic centrists will be difficult but should be attempted. Dominique Arel (University of Ottawa) gave a balanced paper at the Columbia workshop and perhaps could use his annual conference on Ukraine as a venue. Political scientists, such as Dr. Arel, should take the lead because they integrate Ukraine within comparative frameworks and understand how history is used and abused in contemporary Ukraine.

In the light of the above, one has to conclude that the workshop at Columbia University failed in its objective of becoming a scholarly discussion of Ukrainian and Russian nationalisms – and especially in discussing the wide range of nationalisms in Ukraine (this author was the only one to discuss the most violent and neo-Soviet political force in Ukraine – the Party of Regions). Further, it remains unclear if there currently can be dialogue between the Ukrainian studies establishment in North America and revisionist historians – even though the field urgently needs this step to be taken.



It is with deep sorrow we wish to inform our friends and the Ukrainian community that

Wolodimir Baransky

our loving Father, Husband and Grandfather, peacefully passed into eternity at 92 years of age on Saturday, March 23, 2013, at his home in South Florida.

He was an accomplished opera and concert singer, performing throughout Italy, US and Canada. He loved his native Ukraine and was a true nationalist.

He will always be in our hearts and alive in our memory.

wife	Cecilia and family
sons	Walter with wife Patricia
	Yurij with wife Leslie
grandchildren	Robert
	Isabel
	Eva
	Alex
his extended family	Baransky
	Onyshkewych
	Rondiak
	Samilenko

May His memory be eternal!



It is with deep sorrow we announce the loss of our beloved

mother, grandmother (Busia), aunt and companion,

Vera Kwit-Pestyk née Karmazyn

who passed away on March 15, 2013. The funeral took place in St. Petersburg, Florida on March 18, 2013. Burial services took place at St. Andrew's cemetery in Parma, Ohio, on March 23, 2013.

Vera was born on January 26, 1926 in Lviv, Ukraine. She immigrated to the United States in 1949 to Cleveland, Ohio where she raised her family. In 1981 she retired to St. Petersburg, Florida. Vera lived for her family, yet she always found time for her church and the Ukrainian women's league in St. Petersburg. Vera had an immense heart. Her perpetual smile and laughter was contagious, her high energy and strength was endless, and her warm and loving spirit was ever present. She was loved by all who knew her.

Вічна їй пам'ять!

She remains in the memory of:

her beloved companion –	Stefan Rywak
her daughter –	Marusia Kwit and husband Jerry Flynn
her son –	Ihor Kwit
her son –	Roman Kwit and wife Lucinda
her grandchildren –	Larissa Steinhagen
	Marko Steinhagen
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extended family –	in the US, Canada, and Ukraine

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Behind the scenes...

(Continued from page 1)

by vocal exercises, with Mr. Mahlay reminding the singers to breathe from their diaphragms.

As the rehearsal progressed, Mr. Mahlay noted that poor acoustics in a venue is something the singers and bandura players would need to adjust to, with an emphasis on clarity of words, enunciation and refinement of volume dynamics. Mixing humor with technical correction, Mr. Mahlay told them to be mindful of trailing tones, and he worked with each vocal range individually (first tenors, second tenors, baritones and basses), then all together. Then they moved into the performance space at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral to get more comfortable with the venue and its acoustics.

At the conclusion of the concert that Friday, the majority of the chorus members departed for Detroit, across the river from Windsor, nearly 20 minutes by car (plus the inevitable border-crossing delay) for the continuation for the "Sounds of Spring" concert series.

School concert

The whirlwind tour schedule had the chorus performing a mini-concert around noon on Saturday, April 20, for the students at the "Ridna Shkola" Ukrainian School in Warren, Mich.

Andriy Pereklita, director of the Ukrainian School, was a former member of the UBC in his late teens and early 20s, and attended bandura camps. Mr. Pereklita helped to coordinate the event with the UBC to expose the children to Ukrainian culture and language through this community performance.

This was just one of six planned events for the Ukrainian school this year, Mr. Pereklita explained, to maintain Ukrainian traditions and foster a love for them among the students. Other projects include pysanky-writing demonstrations, Hahilky singing and dancing, and bandura performances.

"It's different to view a video versus a live concert with 50 men," Mr. Pereklita noted. "We try to offer the kids a chance to work on their level through a variety of means that are less intimidating and more inviting."

Mr. Pereklita said that other events, including a visit by composer Roman Hurko, help the students to develop a love of their Ukrainian heritage. The school has seen a tremendous growth in six years, from 100 students to its current enrollment of 145 students.

During the school concert, Mr. Mahlay explained to the children the different musical instruments used by the UBC, including a bass bandura as well as the standard banduras, noting their Ukrainian character and roots. Many of the children had never seen or heard a bandura before.

Mr. Mahlay added information about Taras Shevchenko, the UBC's patron, and the role of the "kobzari" – the Ukrainian minstrels who recounted historical events and delivered news of the day through ballads and songs. This revival of the past was brought to the students through the UBC concert, as Andriy Kytasty performed a solo selection about a Kozak and his horse.

As Mr. Mahlay worked with the children, he got all of them to say together, in Ukrainian, "I want to hear capella!" (Ya khochu chuty Kapeliu!) Once they all said the line together, the UBC sang five selections, including "Moyi Yaseny" (The Ash Trees), "Oy Hilya, Hilya," "Oy Divchyno Shumyt Hai," "Oy Hop Taki-Tak" and "Rozprihayte."

In between songs, while the bandura players re-tuned, Mr. Mahlay explained to the children how the members of the UBC travel from all over the U.S. and Canada and volunteer their time to maintain this unique tradition.

At the conclusion of the concert, Mr. Mahlay invited all of the children to join chorus members at its bandura summer camps, Kobzarska Sich, at All Saints Camp in Emlenton, Pa. He recounted the experience of a Japanese man, Charlie Sakuma, who



A Ukrainian School student plucks on the bandura along with Anatoli Murha, president of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, after its performance at the school.

loved the bandura and Ukrainian culture so much that he came to bandura camp, began playing bandura, moved to Ukraine and even attached a suction-cup scalp-lock (oseledets) to complete his stage persona while performing on the streets of Ukrainian cities.

(For more information about Kobzarska Sich, readers may send an e-mail to ks@bandura.org or visit www.bandura.org/bandura-school.htm.)

Mr. Mahlay said he hoped the chorus performance was interesting for the students, and invited them to the full concert that evening.

Members of the UBC answered questions about the bandura and allowed the children to pluck at the strings, hold the instruments and learn more about them. Many of the students noted the long fingernails of some of the bandura players.

Mr. Pereklita thanked the UBC for its performance and invited the UBC to return to the school.

An ethnomusicologist's research

Dr. Laurie K. Sommers, a research associate with the Michigan State University Museum's Michigan Traditional Arts Program (MTAP) and assistant professor of ethnomusicology at Valdosta States University in Georgia, was invited by the UBC to attend its evening concert on Saturday, April 20, at the Sterling Heights Performing Arts Center near Detroit.

During the rehearsal, Dr. Sommers answered some questions from The Weekly's reporter about her research on the bandura and the UBC.

The MTAP researches and presents arts of Michigan, and this was not the first time

Dr. Sommers had heard Ukrainian music, but it was her first time with the UBC. Her research was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to study ethnic immigrant music in Michigan.

The co-director of the MTAP, LuAnne Kozma, is of Ukrainian descent and is friends with Peter Kytasty, a member of the UBC, and she also attended bandura camps. Dr. Sommers was in touch with Anatoli Murha, president of the UBC, and purchased a ticket for the evening concert.

Meanwhile the UBC's "Sounds of Spring" performance at the Cleveland Museum of Art used a high-profile venue to attract both the local non-Ukrainian and Ukrainian audiences, and demonstrated a significant effort on the part of the UBC to reach out to non-Ukrainians.

Past efforts to fulfill the UBC's role as cultural ambassadors and to play to a mainstream audience, noted Mr. Murha, happened during the UBC's 2007 "Bandura – The Soul of Ukraine" tour that stopped at the Max M. Fischer Music Center in Detroit (home of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra), and at Baldwin Wallace University, in Berea, Ohio, during its 10-day, nine-city tour.

Making it all possible is the inner workings of the UBC's structure, which is broken down into two entities – the executive board and the Artistic Council. Both are made up of members of the UBC, and all are volunteer positions.

The executive board is headed by Mr. Murha, president; Roman Beley, first vice-president; Ivan Kytasty, second vice-president; Teo Bodnar, secretary; Volodymyr Murha, treasurer; Bohdan Sklierenko, starosta (elder); Ihor Stasiuk, archivist; Andriy Sklierenko, member-at-large; and regional representatives Jeff Smolilo (Cleveland), Volodymyr Brechun (Canada), Ihor Kuznir (East Coast) and Bohdan Pryjma (Detroit).

This group is responsible for all of the administrative tasks for the UBC, including scheduling concerts and rehearsals, including travel arrangements for the performers.

The second half of the UBC is managed by the Artistic Council, headed by Mr. Mahlay, artistic director and conductor; Mr. Kuznir, assistant conductor; with members Anatoli Murha, George Metulynsky and Andriy Kytasty. The artistic council approves new members (candidates) and conductors, as well as assistant conductors, and other matters of artistic planning. (Candidates or new members of the UBC go through a two-year apprenticeship before being approved by the Artistic Council for full membership in the UBC.)

The UBC's rehearsal structure is a bit of a challenge as well, with instrumentalists meeting two or three times per year, depending on new material. Each UBC branch, based on geographic location and number of members, has its own rehearsal schedule that includes bandura players and vocalists, and then there is the general rehearsal that happens approximately three times annually, which includes the branches of Detroit, Cleveland, Toronto and Chicago (the core of the UBC), and then everyone, which usually happens three to four times a year. Over the years, rehearsals that used to take place in Detroit are now happening in Cleveland, to accommodate the shift in the Ukrainian community and the UBC's members.

Mr. Murha explained: "We, Oleh and I, truly have a great working relationship. It's rare to find that in any organization, let alone a Ukrainian one. We [Mr. Murha, 35, and Mr. Mahlay, 44] have constant communication to ensure that both of our respective organizational bodies (the executive board and the artistic council) are working together." There is no room for ego in this, "the UBC is not about Oleh or me, a soloist, or the member with 30 years of seniority, it's about how a unique group is run and has a great synergy," Mr. Murha added.

For more information, readers can visit the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus website at www.bandura.org, or the UBC's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ukrainianbanduristchorus.

NEXT WEEK: Individual interviews with members of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus.

UBC challenges

A look at the structure and operations of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus is also necessary to understand how the chorus is able to function and bring all of its volunteer performers from across two countries together.

Mr. Murha explained that even selecting a venue for a tour is a challenge. "It's not that finding one is difficult," he said, "it's that it needs to meet certain capacity requirements, and is accessible to Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian audience members."

At Christmastime, the UBC performed at venues such as Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church and St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, both in Parma, Ohio, for more of a Ukrainian community audience.

'Scandalous'...

(Continued from page 7)

"Ukrainian" ones were exhibited.

Oksana Kovalenko remembered that her mother's family were "Stalin's exiles" (Russians) of the 1930s to the Kirovohrad region, "and they said "fufaiky," but her father's Ukrainian family, in the same village, called the jackets "kukhvaiky, kufaiky." All wore them all the time, even in the summer evenings. The kufaika represented warmth for her grandfather in his old age. The kufaiky were hung separately from the dressy clothing, the coats and jackets. "My husband's grandmother, 87, still wears her kufaika outside and going out into the world, i.e., to the center of the village. Only our interference will convince her to wear something else."

Iryna Pihovych wrote that "the exhibition is interestingly presented, it is a parallel with the present-day consciousness of our people. The fufaika is a symbol of the ordinary but not patriotic Ukrainian. This is a spiritually cultural provocation. Interesting... and even more interesting would be to look through the clothing lying on the pile."

Dr. Maryna Hrymych of Kyiv National University commented that "this is a controversial theme, but in this is its point. Our grandmothers and mothers wore these fufaiky/kukhvaiky all their lives. From one aspect, this was a thing very utilitarian for village life and for work, at a time when there was not the contemporary technology to produce warm clothing. These 'teplushky' [warm things] saved the [political] prisoners in [Siberian] lumber camps from freezing. This was also a unique Soviet expression of 'gender equality' and the emancipation of women (of course, in a Soviet understanding). This is particularly why many who are commenting on these fufaiky speak about them with even a kind of sentimental-



A pile of Ukrainian embroidered garments and woven textiles on the floor of the museum symbolizes the state of Ukrainian culture today.

ity, because these jackets were the only things in that ascetic way of life. Another part of the public considers this as a 'manifestation of our slavery' in Soviet times. And, not so strangely, both sides are correct."

Dr. Hrymych continued, "Those who know Petro Honchar understand that there is great irony in the title of the exhibition. Yesterday he told me that the idea for this came to him at this year's official Shevchenko evening which, as people told me earlier, was a completely appalling event. This installation is a act of protest. As Petro Honchar stated, 'People are discarding genuine ethnographic objects because they are worthless rags. When asked what they are holding on to, the people point to these disgusting never-cleaned things. And these are our people.'"

Oleh Iwanusiw of Toronto commented online: "At first I was stunned by the exhibit. But later on, thinking about it, I believe Honchar is making a statement – the fact that Ukrainians are abandoning their traditions, they are abandoning their home-

made, home-sewn and finely embroidered clothing and turning to this drab, dirty, torn made-in-some-foreign-land clothing."

One commentator wrote online that "Kufaiky on the wall, and embroidered clothing in a pile [on the floor] as if no longer wanted? I don't understand something. This is an artistic project? If so, this is very sad." In reply, another person wrote, "This is the whole point of this artistic project, that the kufaiky are on the wall and embroidery on the floor. This is a metaphor for all Ukrainian culture of the 20th century."

"These hanging fufaiky from many regions and the pile of 'second-hand' embroidery on the floor in the middle of the gallery works. It forces us to powerfully feel and relate with someone or something, which can't be understood right away. A strongly impressive idea, it strikes a blow," commented a person identified only as Iryna.

"And in the middle of the main hall of the museum, an enormous pile of authentic Ukrainian folk clothing. Of course, this cuts the eye and the soul, but the purpose of the

project is that people pay attention to what we value and what we do not," Viktoria Khomenko wrote in Gazeta.ua.

Someone writing under the name "Zarobitchanka" (wage-earner) commented: "...No object can be the national ideal – neither the ugly dirty fufaika, nor even such an aesthetic thing like the festive embroidered shirt. These are only symbols. The kufaika is a symbol of a hard life and the eradication of the individual during Soviet totalitarian society, while the embroidered shirt is a symbol of the continuity of the traditions of the Ukrainian peasant nation. Neither one nor the other can be absolute, because neither guarantees a free and harmonic development of a citizen. One can wear an embroidered shirt and be on his or her knees, obsequiously serving, forgetting honor and conscience because of a piece of bread or a position or who is in the government. On the other hand, one can wear a kufaika all his or her life and still be a dignified honorable person..."

"It seems obvious to me that the museum is making a strong, if ironic, statement that whereas in the past Ukrainian people have created works of aesthetic beauty, current conditions have impoverished the Ukrainian spirit, reducing it to the shabby, if barely functional. Yes it is shocking – but in the sense of shock therapy, which hopefully can bring the society back to its senses," observed Marijka Ulanowicz of Maryland.

Compared to other installations in fine museums around the world, this one is neither scandalous nor pointless. I remember two-by-fours on the gallery floor, the vessel of an artist's blood suspended from the ceiling, rabbit carcasses hanging from trees, doll heads in suitcases, and exhibitions thrown out by the janitor as garbage because he truly thought that's what they really were... In these cases, the medium was the message, with no message at all.

However, with this exhibition, Petro Honchar clearly sent a message.

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Ukrainian scholarly publications celebrated at University of Alberta



Oleh Ilnytskyj

At the Ukrainian Culture, Language and Literature Program's launch of two new scholarly publications are: (from left) Lois Harder, Mykola Soroka and Svitlana Kukharenko.

EDMONTON, Alberta – The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies generously supports undergraduate and graduate students who take Ukrainian studies courses in Canada and abroad, as well as helping them advance their careers. The recognition of the success of Ukrainian scholarly publications in Western academia that partially resulted from such support took place on April 3 at the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, University of Alberta.

For the Ukrainians who came to Canada during the course of the past 120 years, education has been a tool that enabled success in their new Canadian home. Education has also been crucial to maintaining identity. The concentration of Ukrainians on the prairies and their support of education has enabled the University of Alberta to become a centre of Ukrainian studies, recognized around the world.

The Ukrainian Culture, Language and Literature program celebrated recent achievements with the launch of two new books and the recognition of an award conferred on a language textbook that had been launched earlier. All three books are student-focused and demonstrate how the Ukrainian program contributes to Alberta's future and the future of Ukrainian studies in general.

Alla Nedashkiska's "Ukrainian Through its Living Culture" is a textbook for advanced students published by the University of Alberta Press in 2010. In January 2013 the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages identified this book as the best in foreign language pedagogy. Given by a professional association based in the United States, the award recognizes the fact that the University of Alberta serves its students with the best research in applied lin-

guistics and the teaching of Ukrainian.

The two books launched on April 3 were "Faces of Displacement: The Writings of Volodymyr Vynnychenko," written by Mykola Soroka, and "The Paths of Folklore," edited by Svitlana Kukharenko and Peter Holloway.

Both Dr. Soroka and Dr. Kukharenko are former students who received their degrees from the University of Alberta. Both held many prestigious fellowships during their graduate career and were awarded post-doctoral fellowships upon the completion of their degrees. Their achievements show that the Ukrainian program attracts the best students and gives them a superior education which allows them to succeed.

The celebration began with Lois Harder, associate dean for research and graduate studies in the Faculty of Arts, welcoming the many academics and community members present. She also reminded the audience that, in 2008, Ukrainian disciplines had been identified as an area of research excellence. She then introduced Profs. Oleh Ilnytskyj and Natalia Pylypiuk, who co-supervised Dr. Soroka's dissertation. Dr. Ilnytskyj, in turn, introduced Dr. Soroka who spoke about the inspiration behind his book and thanked the many people who helped him along the way.

Dr. Pylypiuk then introduced Dr. Kukharenko and Mr. Holloway. Dr. Kukharenko spoke about the volume she put together in honor of her dissertation supervisor, Dr. Natalie Kononenko. This volume is student-focused in two ways: it consists of essays written primarily by Prof. Kononenko's students – along with a few of her colleagues – and it was prepared by a student. Prof. Kononenko offered her thanks for this honor and said how much students have meant to her during her academic career.

A conversation...

(Continued from page 9)

It's interesting that you find working in a group-like situation satisfying – in Alberta you were a member of the Ukrainian scouting organization Plast. Was that an influence?

Absolutely. Plast was a very important part of my life growing up and it is a very important part of my daughters' lives. I grew up in a Ukrainian community and was active in Plast. Now my two daughters are active plastunky in New York (my son is only 3 years old). My elder daughter went to Lviv this summer for the 100th anniversary of Plast.

In a recent issue of the Globe and Mail, you wrote that Canada needs to find its strategic niche in the new world economy. How is such a niche identified?

How do you identify the niche – it is the big job of national governments today to fig-

ure this out. The government has to be plugged into the world economy, able to think ahead and able to marshal the resources to invest in the direction that they choose.

South Korea is a potent example. We think of it as powerful and rich, but not long ago they were the poorest in Asia. They made their strategic choices – education, technology. A globalized world means globalized skills.

Ukraine is one of the success stories as a source country. Ukrainian engineers, who work for 20 percent of wages, are a big success as sources.

What sort of future do you see for Ukrainian plutocrats?

I am less worried about the future of Ukrainian plutocrats than I am about the future of Ukraine. I'm sad to have to say this. Ukrainian plutocrats should be doing more to secure a positive future for all of Ukraine. Now is the time when they should be selfless and contribute to the common good. But I'm sad and worried about Ukraine.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 16

PROGRAM

10:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M. – National Cup Games (continuous)

1:00 P.M. – Festival Begins

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm: Festival Stage Show Featuring:
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3:00 pm – 6:00 pm – “ZABAVA”

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ADMISSION (all events & soccer included): \$5.00; Kids 14 & under: Free; Free Parking

Reserve the Date:

Sunday, August 25, at 12 o'clock noon

UKRAINIAN FOLK FESTIVAL

Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

(Philadelphia, PA)

Violinist Innesa Tymochko Dekajlo

(Lviv, Ukraine)

The Fourth Wave Ensemble

(Philadelphia, PA)

Iskra Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

(Whippany, NJ)

The Vox Ethnika Ensemble

(New York City)

The Karpaty Ensemble

(Philadelphia, PA)



“Zabava” Public Dance ~ The Vox Ethnika Dance Band

Nationalists...

(Continued from page 4)

Therefore, all that's needed now to demolish Ukraine's remaining Soviet monuments is one of two events, depending on who you talk to. Mr. Rudyk said a signed order from the chair of a City Council (mayor) is enough to do the trick, while Mr. Miroshnychenko said the mayor also needs to muster a majority vote on the City Council.

“When there's political will from the nation's leader and accordingly, a respectful attitude from a City Council chair to the nation's leaders, these issues can be resolved in two days,” Mr. Rudyk said.

In Kyiv, for example, three Soviet monuments remain on the national register: the Chekists' monument on Lybidska Square and the Lenin and Dmytro Manuisky statues in central Kyiv.

There's also a statue of World War II Red Army General Nikolai Vatutin in Mariyivskyi Park, where's he buried across from the Parliament building. His grave and monument have become a rallying symbol for Russophile Ukrainians because he was killed by soldiers of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA).

Yet Ms. Tymoshenko's long-awaited resolution came too late to be implemented. Immediately upon his election, Mr. Yanukovich introduced neo-Soviet cultural policies. Few City Council chairs will now risk their careers in supporting the demolition of a Soviet monument.

“In my native Sumshchyna, I spoke with various City Council chairs, and they have a clear understanding of who are Lenin, Postyshev and Petrovskyi, for whom streets remain named,” Mr. Miroshnychenko said.

“They said we support changing all this, but we're not willing to go against the com-

munity. Why does the local community support all this? Because it continues to live on the myths of Soviet ideology that were imposed for more than 70 years. It continues to receive zombie therapy séances from television and radio because the mass media in Ukraine are controlled by Moscow.”

Mr. Miroshnychenko said he targeted Okhtyrka because the situation there is particularly absurd. Its Lenin statue was established on land where a Ukrainian church once stood but was destroyed by the Bolsheviks in the 1930s. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate gained a long-term lease to build a church on the land, but can't do anything with it because the City Council or its chair won't act.

To add insult to injury, the church has to pay rent for the land where the Lenin statue not only stood but was renewed following its destruction in February.

“I spoke with the parish priest and told him that if you can't demolish the monument in a legal way, I will do it in the way that every Ukrainian should,” said Mr. Miroshnychenko. “After 22 years of independence, we can't get anything done by the government, which isn't Ukrainian. So Ukrainians should act themselves to establish order in their own ‘sadyba’ (farmstead).”

Mr. Miroshnychenko's native town of Lebedyn (population 27,000) still has a Lenin monument, which he said he plans to replace with a monument to the victims of “the murderous Moscow tyrant.” He asked for ideas on how it should look like, as well as financial support, on his Facebook page.

“It has been demolished eight or 10 times, but the Communists find money for its renovation,” he said. “It's not Miroshnychenko destroying it. Our community doesn't want to see it. But the Communists keep renewing it.”

Kobzarska Sich Programs

Bandura Course

August 3 – 17, 2013

This two-week course focuses on over seven hours of daily group instruction in: the technique of playing bandura, bandura history, solo and ensemble playing and singing, music lectures, elementary music theory (as needed). This course is designed for teenaged children (12 and older) and adults of all ages.

Junior Bandura Workshop

August 3 – 10, 2013

This one-week workshop covers the basics of playing bandura and bandura history. Participants are introduced to ensemble playing and singing, music lectures, elementary music theory (as needed). This workshop is designed for children ages 9 – 11.

Ukrainian Sacred Music Workshop

August 7 – 11, 2013

This four-day workshop provides an opportunity to sing sacred works by Ukrainian master composers and provides practical pointers for church singers, cantors, and conductors alike relative to common areas of church singing. Listening lectures will open up many hidden aspects of sacred music tradition. This workshop is designed for older teenagers (ages 15 and older) and adults of all ages.

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August 3 - 17, 2013

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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY JULY 5, 2013

OUT & ABOUT

- Through June 16
New York Art exhibit, "Contemporary Artists From Ukraine," Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660 or www.ukrainianinstitute.org
- May 19
New York Commemorative program marking the 125th anniversary of the birth of Volodymyr Mijakovsky, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, 212-222-1866
- May 24
Cleveland Artist talk with Andrij Maday, "Woodcuts and Drawings: works on paper and their process," Morgan Conservatory, www.morganconservatory.org or 216-361-9255
- 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, lvivover30@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 26
Ottawa Concert and art exhibit, Telnyuk Sisters and Ihor Polishchuk, Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Ottawa Branch, St. Paul University, 416-505-9391
- 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, ukimario@gmail.com
- June 8
Enoch, AB Golf tournament, St. Anthony Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Indian Lakes Golf Course, 780-424-5362 or stanthony@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
- June 17
Sherwood Park, AB Golf tournament, Friends of the Ukrainian Village Society, Broadmoor Public Golf Course, villagegolftournament@gmail.com or www.friendsukrainianvillage.com
- June 18
Burlington, ON Golf tournament, Fellowship of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, St. Volodymyr Cultural Center, Indian Wells Golf Club, 416-766-9288

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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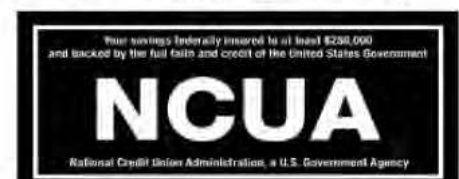
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, June 7-Sunday, June 16

NEW YORK: La MaMa Experimental Theater and Yara Arts Group present "Fire. Water. Night." – a new World Music Theater Performance on the Move based on "The Forest Song" by Lesia Ukrainka and Kupalo songs that explores our relationship to water, trees, fields and our digital landscape. The production is created by Virlana Tkacz, with music by Alla Zagaykevich and the Lemon Bucket Orkestra. Show times are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m., plus Sunday, June 9, at 7 p.m. La MaMa Experimental Theater is located at 66 E. Fourth St. Admission: \$25; \$20 for seniors and students; \$10 for children. For tickets call 212-475-7710 or visit www.lamama.org.

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 orchestra 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; free for children 14 and under. 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.

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

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.

2013 Summer Camp Information



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



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