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Poroshenko inaugurated as Ukraine's fifth president

by Zenon Zawada

KYIV – Petro Poroshenko, 48, was inaugurated as Ukraine's fifth president on June 7 amidst unprecedented challenges for independent Ukraine that threaten its very existence. The Russian Federation has launched an undeclared hybrid war, having occupied the Crimean peninsula and dispatched weapons and soldiers to the Donbas region.

Inauguration day ceremonies drew 56 foreign delegations to Kyiv, including U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and European Council President Herman von Rompuy, as well as representatives of Ukraine's political and business elite, including billionaires Rinat Akhmetov of Donetsk and Igor Kolomoisky of Dnipropetrovsk.

The rite drawing the most public acclaim was Mr. Poroshenko's inauguration speech in the Verkhovna Rada in which he addressed Ukraine's crisis with Russia and set the priorities for the first year of his presidency, including concrete steps to resolve the war in Donbas. (See the full text of Mr. Poroshenko's speech, which begins below.)

"Speech of Ukrainian President Poroshenko during his inauguration was the best thing I've heard from any Ukrainian politic [sic] in my life," tweeted professional tennis player Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukraine's ATP Tour champion.

Mr. Biden said the speech was "impressive, but the substance was more important than the delivery." During an afternoon meeting with Mr. Poroshenko at the Presidential Administration, he commended the declared plans to combat corruption, secure the border with Russia and end the violence in Donbas.



Vladimir Gontar/UNIAN

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Petro Poroshenko takes the oath of office as Ukraine's president on June 7.

FOR THE RECORD: Inaugural address by President Petro Poroshenko



Official website of Ukraine's president

Petro Poroshenko in the Verkhovna Rada for his inauguration.

Below is the full text of the address delivered by Petro Poroshenko on June 7, as he was inaugurated president of Ukraine. An English-language translation of the speech was provided by the Press Office of Ukraine's President. (It is available online at <http://www.president.gov.ua/en/news/30488.html>.)

Dear compatriots from Lviv to Donetsk, from Chernihiv to Sevastopol!

We, Ukrainians, "are a living spark in the family of European nations and active members of European civilizational work." These are the words of Ivan Franko.

"To stand with one's feet and heart in Ukraine and one's head in Europe," Mykhailo Drahomanov commanded.

The return of Ukraine to its natural, European state has been long awaited by many generations.

The dictatorship that ruled Ukraine in recent years sought to deprive us of this prospect – people rebelled.

The victorious revolution of dignity has not only changed the government. The country has changed. People have changed.

The time of inevitable positive changes has come. To implement them, we need first of all peace, security and unity.

A real war, planned and unleashed in the Ukrainian Donbas, became an obstacle for enormous opportunities that opened for the European modernization of Ukraine after the fall of tyranny.

Until now, many people thought that we got indepen-

dence without any difficulty. It is not true! Entire generations of Ukrainian patriots struggled for our independence. The heroes of Nebesna Sotnia died for it. Warriors and civilians of Ukraine die for it.

Let us honor the memory of those who died for freedom and independence of Ukraine with a moment of silence.

I become a president to preserve and strengthen the unity of Ukraine, to ensure lasting peace and guarantee reliable security. I know: peace is the main thing aspired by the people of Ukraine today.

The head of state has a wide choice of various instruments to ensure the territorial integrity of Ukraine and peaceful life of citizens. I will have enough powers and determination. I do not want war. I do not want revenge. Even though there are great sacrifices of the people of Ukraine before my eyes.

I want peace and I will secure the unity of Ukraine. Thus, I begin my work offering a peaceful plan.

I strongly urge everyone who illegally took weapons in their hands to lay them down. In response, I first of all guarantee the exemption from criminal responsibility for those who do not have blood of Ukrainian soldiers and civilians on their hands. And those who are not involved in funding terrorism.

Second, a controlled corridor for Russian mercenaries who would like to return home.

Third, peaceful dialogue.

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ANALYSIS

Putin says Poroshenko has 'right approach' to Ukraine crisis

RFE/RL

Vladimir Putin and Petro Poroshenko met on the sidelines of the June 6 D-Day anniversary events in France, their first meeting since Mr. Poroshenko was elected president of Ukraine on May 25.

Mr. Putin later told reporters that during the 15-minute meeting he and Mr. Poroshenko discussed the main issues related to settling the crisis.

He said he welcomes Mr. Poroshenko's position that the bloodshed in eastern Ukraine needs to be stopped. The Russian president said he expects the Ukrainian leadership to show "good will" and "state wisdom."

He also reiterated Russia's position that what Moscow describes as a "punitive operation" by security forces in eastern Ukraine must stop.

The Kremlin earlier said Messrs. Putin and Poroshenko had called for a quick end to the bloodshed in eastern Ukraine and agreed that hostilities must be stopped by both sides— the Ukrainian armed forces and the militants.

Mr. Putin also said he did not discuss gas prices with Mr. Poroshenko, but he said he believed Russia's Gazprom and Ukraine's Naftohaz were "close to a definitive deal."

Mr. Poroshenko separately told reporters in Normandy that he sees "good chances" of successful dialogue with Russia.

Mr. Putin also spoke with U.S. President Barack Obama at the D-Day ceremonies. A senior U.S. official said Mr. Obama told Mr. Putin personally that he must de-escalate tensions in Ukraine or face further isolation.

Ben Rhodes, a deputy U.S. national security advisor, also said Mr. Obama indicated that, if Russia engaged with the new government in Kyiv, "there could be openings to reduce tensions."

Mr. Putin described his talks with Obama as "substantial."

The meeting was the first face-to-face encounter between the U.S. and the Russian leaders since the Ukrainian crisis erupted.

The events to mark the 70th anniversary of the 1944 landings of Allied troops in Normandy came amid a deep rift between Russia and Western nations over Moscow's actions in Ukraine.

The events were preceded by intense diplomacy in the hope that the gathering of world leaders would lead to a thaw in tensions.

Mr. Putin also said separate talks he held in France with the French, British and German leaders were "very positive."

At a summit in Brussels last week, leaders of the Group of Seven leading industrial countries said they were prepared to impose further sanctions against Russia unless Moscow recognized the legitimacy of the Ukrainian government and ended support for the separatist insurgency in eastern Ukraine.

With reporting by the Associated Press, Agence France-Presse and Interfax.

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Pressure mounts to revoke Russia's hosting of FIFA 2018 World Cup

OTTAWA – A global campaign calling for consumers to boycott sponsors of FIFA's World Cup has now expanded to include Visa, Kia Motors and Sony. The international campaign was launched last month, initially targeting Anheuser Busch InBev.

United with Ukraine, the Ottawa-based organization spearheading the campaign, was formed to mobilize global grassroots opposition to Vladimir Putin and Russia's illegal annexation of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula and its orchestration of violent terrorist activities across eastern and southern Ukraine.

The 2018 World Cup was awarded to Russia by FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association), the international governing body of the sport of soccer (football).

"We have presidents and prime ministers of Western nations looking for additional economic sanctions to further punish and isolate Russia. And, we have this opportunity standing right in front of us to have FIFA strip Russia of its 2018 World Cup hosting rights, which is estimated to be worth \$20 billion to that country. I can think of more than 100 countries that would be far more deserving of that \$20 billion than Russia," said Eugene Melnyk, chairman of the Campaign Advisory Committee for United with Ukraine.

"Russia has illegally invaded a sovereign nation, broken international laws and is orchestrating daily terrorist activities within Ukraine. I do not believe Anheuser Busch InBev, Visa, Kia and Sony are companies that want to align or associate their brands with Vladimir Putin and Russia. These

global companies and their once loyal customers have an important principled choice to make."

Mr. Melnyk is a Ukrainian Canadian businessman and owner of the Ottawa Senators of the National Hockey League.

The campaign has a comprehensive website www.boycottputinnow.com which includes informative online videos in 12 different languages to help facilitate global awareness and to promote the hashtag #boycottputinnow through social media.

Since its launch last month, the "Boycott Putin Now" campaign has received widespread media coverage in Canada, Europe and the United States. A sampling of the media coverage can be found on the campaign's website.

FIFA's voting for the 2018 (Russia) and 2022 (Qatar) World Cup hosting rights took place under the same process and involved only FIFA's 24-member Executive Committee. United with Ukraine said it believes this voting process was tainted with corruption. Thus, the organization is calling upon FIFA's sponsors, as well as governments of all 209 FIFA member nations, to revoke these hosting rights and to initiate a new, transparent selection process that includes human rights considerations as part of its voting protocol.

United with Ukraine is an international human rights organization that is focused on ending the ongoing Russian military aggression against Ukraine and its illegal occupation of Crimea. The organization is taking a number of steps to support the

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NEWSBRIEFS

Dzhemilev: Kremlin uses Soviet policy

PRAGUE – Crimean Tatar leader Mustafa Dzhemilev says that after Russia's annexation of Crimea, Moscow is relying "on the old Soviet policy of dividing the Crimean Tatars." In an interview with RFE/RL's Russian and Tatar-Bashkir Services on June 11 in Prague, Mr. Dzhemilev said that after attempts to persuade the supreme representative body of the Crimean Tatars to cooperate failed, now "there is every sign that the Mejlis will be closed and banned" throughout Crimea. He also said that Moscow's annexation of Crimea is "damaging to the basic interests of Russia and the Russian people," and "a path to catastrophe, isolation, and loss of respect" for the country. Mr. Dzhemilev, a Soviet-era dissident, has strongly protested Russia's annexation of Crimea in March. (RFE/RL, with reporting by RFE/RL's Russian and Tatar-Bashkir Services)

OSCE chair commends Poroshenko

KYIV – OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Swiss Foreign Affairs Minister Didier Burkhalter on June 7 welcomed the efforts of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko to resort to international diplomacy and high-level contacts to create a new dynamic in favor of the resolution of the crisis regarding Ukraine and in order to strengthen partnerships that are indispensable for de-escalating the situation and lowering tensions in the country. Mr. Burkhalter, who met Mr. Poroshenko on the margins of his inauguration ceremony, as well as acting Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk in Kyiv, commended Mr. Poroshenko's intention to engage in dialogue and to continue the process of National Unity Roundtables. Mr. Burkhalter confirmed to the two leaders that the OSCE is ready to support this process further. They discussed the potential renewal of the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine beyond September 20 for another six-month term, Mr. Burkhalter said, as well as the OSCE's readiness to assist the authorities in establishing a program for the disarmament of illegally armed groups. Furthermore, they talked about the situation in the east of the country, particularly also the situation regarding the two missing teams of the

Special Monitoring Mission. Mr. Burkhalter called for their unconditional release and stressed that getting them free was a priority, and expressed his gratitude to Messrs. Poroshenko and Yatsenyuk for the close cooperation in this regard. (OSCE)

OSCE rep to be at bilateral talks

BERN – Didier Burkhalter, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and Switzerland's foreign affairs minister, on June 8 confirmed his agreement to send seasoned Swiss diplomat and Ambassador Heidi Tagliavini to accompany talks between Ukraine and the Russian Federation aiming at ending violence in Ukraine. Ms. Tagliavini has arrived in Kyiv. Mr. Burkhalter welcomed Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's initiative to launch talks on stopping violence rapidly. He underlined that the silencing of weapons would significantly improve conditions for meaningful dialogue, which is key for stabilizing the situation in Ukraine and resolving the crisis. (OSCE)

Russia welcomes humanitarian corridors

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia – Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergei Lavrov said Moscow welcomes Ukraine's decision to establish humanitarian corridors in eastern Ukraine where government forces continue fighting pro-Russian separatists. Mr. Lavrov said on June 10 he hoped Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's decision was "not a military move" to give security forces a free hand. Mr. Poroshenko said on June 10 the move was aimed at preventing "new victims" in areas where the government is conducting what it describes as a "counterterrorist operation." Washington also welcomed the move, with State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki urging Kyiv to work with the United Nations and other aid groups to ensure the safety of civilians fleeing the fighting in eastern Ukraine. Mr. Lavrov said an end to the military operation against the rebels is "key" to a settlement. He said that if this was done, "the people you call separatists will reciprocate." He was speaking at a joint press conference after talks in St. Petersburg with his

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Editor: Matthew Dubas

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ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator
and advertising manager

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040
fax: (973) 644-9510
e-mail: adukr@optonline.net

Subscription Department

(973) 292-9800, ext. 3040
e-mail: subscription@ukrweekly.com

NEWS ANALYSIS: Could Normandy help Ukraine contain Russia?

by Pavel K. Baev
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Russian President Vladimir Putin had more meetings than could have been expected with his European peers and even with U.S. President Barack Obama during the ceremonies in Normandy on June 6, which marked the 70th anniversary of the Allied D-Day invasion.

This exemption to the policy of isolating Russia, which Mr. Obama had declared successful only a week prior, was granted not only due to the special occasion but also on the condition that Moscow refrained from inciting further unrest in eastern Ukraine. One key demand from the G-7 summit that had taken place in Brussels on June 5 (instead of the G-8 summit in Sochi that would have included Russia) was for all international actors to recognize the legitimacy of the Ukrainian government (Nezavisimaya Gazeta, June 6). Mr. Putin obliged by meeting President-elect Petro Poroshenko under the watchful eye of German Chancellor Angela Merkel and uttering some political words about the need to stop violent clashes (Kommersant, June 7).

This handshake was a major success for Mr. Poroshenko, who used his inauguration ceremony on June 7 to declare that political power in Ukraine would be de-centralized and local authorities would be empowered according to a new Constitution, but that Ukraine would remain a unitary state (http://www.gazeta.ru/politics/2014/06/06_a_6062509.shtml). This firm rejection of Russian demands for Ukraine's federalization and the new president's pledge to restore territorial integrity are certain to increase the desperation of Moscow-backed separatists engaged in heavy fighting against government troops around Sloviansk (Moskovsky Komsomolets, June 7). This small town has become the epicenter of the war waged increasingly by Russian "volunteers" of different persuasions, who continue pouring in across the border, which the Ukrainian forces cannot control and the Russian authorities deliberately keep open (Vedomosti, June 6).

The war has gained much force, and Mr. Poroshenko as the commander-in-chief has to gather every military instrument available (including the trickle of U.S. aid) in order to defeat the warlords without alienating the population, because his next step has to be staging legitimate and representative parliamentary elections.

This mission may be accomplishable only if Russia proceeds from its low-profile



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Ukrainian President-elect Petro Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin during D-Day commemorations in Normandy.

manipulation of the localized hostilities to real non-interference; but that would signify a complete reversal of the Kremlin's policy of protecting Russian-speaking "compatriots" abroad and an admission that the Ukrainian revolution has triumphed (http://slon.ru/world/pochemu_putin_sdast_donbass-1103680.xhtml). The former is unacceptable to Russia's domestic "patriots" who have been riled up by the hysterical state propaganda. Mr. Putin's diplomatic maneuvering in Normandy, for that matter, is hardly going to inspire public support due to the public's negative attitudes toward the United States and the European Union, which have reached an all-time high (<http://www.levada.ru/05-06-2014/otnoshenie-rossiyan-k-drugim-stranam>).

The latter is personally infuriating for Mr. Putin, who has placed the resolute struggle against "color revolutions" at the center of Russian military doctrine and foreign strategy, including in the newly strengthened alliance with China (<http://newsru.com/russia/06jun2014/patrushev.html>). Playing with the rebellion without committing to its victory might appear to the Kremlin to be a better option, but this game is too transparent and Mr. Putin has been warned by Ms. Merkel about possible new sanctions (http://www.gazeta.ru/politics/2014/06/05_a_6059837.shtml).

The sanctions already at work mostly

target individuals, and they do not even cover the Mistral-class amphibious assault ships being constructed in France for Russia, which are supposed to make a major incentive for Mr. Putin to behave (http://ria.ru/defense_safety/20140604/1010728497.html). Despite talks about possible further contracts, investors are wary of high-risk premiums and of Russia's reputational damage, since the global public attitude toward the country has become strongly negative (<http://newsru.com/world/04jun2014/bbc.html>).

The combination of high inflation and negative growth requires a strong economic policy to regain dynamism, but presently Ukraine is far more likely to launch painful reforms in order to pull back from the brink of state failure than Russia, where political will is focused on geopolitical ambitions. Mr. Putin pins his expectations on mega-projects like the natural gas pipeline to China, but their costs rise beyond any reasonable measure. For example, the newly designed bridge to the Crimean peninsula across the Kerch Strait has a price tag of \$10 billion (RBC Daily, Nezavisimaya Gazeta, June 6). Riding the "patriotic" wave makes it possible for the Kremlin to remain in denial about the detrimental impact of state control over the economy, but in the course of backpedaling to calmer waters, the inadequacy of economic decision making is inevitably revealed.

Mr. Putin likely understands that the diplomatic dance in Normandy cannot help him resolve Russia's problems of falling revenues and rising expenditures — at best it can only ease him down the slippery slope of economic dislocation. The Russian president probably also has few illusions regarding the usefulness of the new energy contracts with China, and not only because his Beijing counterparts firmly put their economic interests first, but also because Chinese business remains impregnable to Russian corruption, while producing plenty of its own.

The European market, on the contrary, has for years been the main destination for Russian corruption, so Mr. Putin is now trying to use the convenient conduits, such as Cyprus or Austria, to influence the opinions in the key financial centers of London and Frankfurt. One particular case involves the South Stream gas pipeline, which is designed to cross the Black Sea well clear of Crimean shores; the European Commission seeks to put this controversial project on hold, but Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary and Serbia are eager to proceed with their special deals with Gazprom (http://slon.ru/world/kak_es_svergaet_pravitelstvo_bolgarii_chtoby_ostanovit_yuzhnyy_potok-1109648.xhtml).

Ukraine has only a small opportunity to escape from economic implosion and state failure, but even this slim chance constitutes a major threat to Mr. Putin's Russia. If reforms and reconciliation put Ukraine on the track of building a democratic and European state identity, Mr. Putin's corrupt authoritarian petro-state project would be compromised and defeated. Moscow, therefore, will make sure that every step Kyiv makes along this track is punished by economic sanctions and military threats.

Strained dinners and reluctant handshakes offered in Normandy cannot dissuade Mr. Putin from delivering this punishment, but Euro-Atlantic unity, on which Mr. Obama is working hard, can deter the Kremlin from experimenting with proxy war. The annexation of Crimea eliminates the West's political options regarding creating incentives for Russia to cooperate on rehabilitating Ukraine. Consequently, the need is greater for building credible instruments of containing the inherent aggressiveness of an arrogant and desperate regime.

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

Ukraine Little Leaguers ignore violence, play ball

by Zenon Zawada

KYIV – Basil Tarasko, 67, has attended every championship of the Little League he helped launch in Ukraine, but he wasn't sure if he was going to attend this year.

Kyiv is recovering from this winter's violence (baseball bats surfaced on the Euro-Maidan, but he can't confirm their origin) and the Donbas region is engulfed in war. Moreover, the Little Leaguers between the ages of 13 and 16 said they weren't going to compete.

But not the 11- and 12-year-olds – the key age group in Little League. With Kyiv having largely returned to its normal way of life, the kids wanted their chance to play there to compete for the honor of travelling to the Europe and Africa regional championships in Kutno, Poland.

"If they wanted it bad enough, then I was



Viacheslav Babii (left), 12, the captain of the Kirovohrad team that will play for the Europe and Africa region championship in Kutno, Poland, in July, with Oleksandr Levandovskiyi (right), 11, the captain of the Rivne team that lost to Kirovohrad in the finals this year.

going to be there with them," said Mr. Tarasko, who helped organize and even kept score for the games, played on June 5-7 in Kyiv.

They held particular significance because they marked the 15th championship of Little League Ukraine. Yet, on the downside, only three of the eight teams from last year's championship showed up this year. Two Donetsk teams didn't show.

"If everything was stable in Ukraine, with a decent president and no conflicts, there would have been eight teams here," Mr. Tarasko said.

Though baseball remains an obscure sport not only in Ukraine but all of Eastern Europe, Little League Ukraine has had its fair share of successes. Its 13- to 14-year-olds travelled to Taylor, Mich., twice, in 2007 and 2010, to compete in the World

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Poroshenko...

(Continued from page 1)

"There's a window for peace, and you know as well as anyone that it will not stay open indefinitely," Mr. Biden said, as reported by Voice of America. Mr. Biden pledged \$48 million to help Mr. Poroshenko "conduct key reforms, building law enforcement capacity and strengthen national unity."

"America's with you. That is not hyperbole," Mr. Biden said.

The Russian government also demonstrated that it wants to have ties with the new president, having reinstated its ambassador to Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov, on the eve of the inauguration, thus enabling him to attend the ceremonies.

Also attending was Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, who has begun to make more statements affirming Ukraine's independence after the Crimea invasion.

"I was always for Ukraine's unity and integrity," he told reporters after the ceremony. "Ukraine should be unified. You need to reach an agreement that Crimea will remain Ukrainian. Don't lose it."

Poroshenko family members attending were his father, Oleksii, wife, Maryna, and one of their four children, 13-year-old Mykhailo.

Former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, his rival in the presidential election, was seated next to Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate. The leaders of all major religious organizations were invited to the inauguration, unlike in the days of Mr. Yanukovich, who invited only the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate.

The day's events began with the latest slip-up to mar an otherwise festive Ukrainian inauguration ceremony.

Just as Mr. Poroshenko approached the Parliament building, a soldier standing on guard alongside the red carpet began fainting and dropped his bayonet as the president walked past him at arm's length. Mr. Poroshenko narrowly escaped being struck by the bayonet's knife tip.

The heat-stricken soldier, 20-year-old Oleksandr Sikalo, then fell forward onto the carpet and landed on his left knee. He picked up his bayonet before being helped up and escorted away by a fellow soldier.

Still very much a superstitious nation, Ukrainians were divided on whether the soldier dropping his bayonet so close to the newly elected president was a good omen. Most remember how Parliament's doors closed on Mr. Poroshenko's predecessor, Viktor Yanukovich, as he tried entering the building for his inauguration, with the negative aftermath now obvious.

National Deputy Inna Bohoslovskaya, who has been labeled a sorceress by National Deputy Oleh Lyashko, said the bayonet's fall means there will be many deaths in the current war.

Yet astrologist Liliya Romanova had a different view. "If the falling rifle had shot someone or inflicted injury, that would have been a bad sign," she told the Segodnya newspaper. "But the weapon fell at a time when the country needs peace. That means that weapons will fall out of the hands of all those holding them now."

Once inside the Parliament, after the national anthem and amidst boisterous applause, Mr. Poroshenko swore an oath on the Peresopnytsia Gospel and the Constitution of Ukraine to serve the Ukrainian people and preserve the country's sovereignty and independence.

The Peresopnytsia Gospel, completed in 1561, was one of the first, if not the oldest, texts written in the vernacular Ukrainian language of the period. It is a translation of the four books of the Bible's New Testament.

Mr. Poroshenko was then handed the symbols of the Ukrainian presidency – the seal, collar, badge and bulava (mace) – which he raised over his head, as is traditional, to wide applause.



Official website of Ukraine's president

Newly inaugurated President Petro Poroshenko waves to the crowd gathered near St. Sophia Square.

Indeed, Mr. Poroshenko would be hearing much more applause as his speech was interrupted more than 30 times, including four standing ovations. But then came the second major gaffe.

Just as Parliament Chair Oleksandr Turchynov was introducing Mr. Poroshenko's speech, the choir began singing, "Bozhe Velykyi, Yedynyi," Ukraine's spiritual hymn. It's unknown whether Mr. Poroshenko knew the hymn was in the inauguration program; unlike his predecessor, however, he actually knew all the words and sang them.

Mr. Poroshenko appropriately began his address with the words, "Glory to Ukraine," which is how Ukrainian patriots greet each other. The hall responded, "Glory to the heroes."

He offered no surprises, outlining those major policies that had been widely expected of him: Ukraine won't relinquish its claim to Russian-occupied Crimea, Ukrainian will remain the single state language, he is ready to sign the free trade portion of the European Union Association Agreement. Mr. Poroshenko also spoke of his commitment to a parliamentary-presidential republic and early parliamentary elections, amending the Constitution to accommodate government decentralization, rejecting any federalization of the country, and rebuilding the army with the support of domestic industry, which he identified as his top priority.

At one point, Mr. Poroshenko even joked that Ukrainians have matured so much that "we've even learned to stop resenting the success of a neighbor or a colleague."

To end the war in Donbas, the president proposed three steps: amnesty for those who do not have the blood of Ukrainian soldiers and civilians on their hands and those who did not finance terrorism; a corridor for Russian mercenaries to return home; and a dialogue with the peaceful residents of the region.

Mr. Poroshenko directly addressed the residents of the Donbas in the Russian language, assuring them that the Ukrainian government wouldn't abandon them in these difficult times.

"With what will I, as president, come to you in the nearest future?" the president asked rhetorically. "With peace. With a draft of decentralizing power. With the guarantee of free use of the Russian language in your region. With the firm intention not to divide Ukrainians between those who are right and wrong."

The president's use of the Russian language, even briefly, drew the accusation of "unprecedented lackey behavior" from Iryna Fariion of the Svoboda party, an outspoken nationalist and defender of the Ukrainian language.

"Never on the day of consecrating the president in the Verkhovna Rada has a speech in Russian been uttered by a president," she wrote on her Facebook page. "The Ukrainian language never been subjected to such humiliation."

In addressing Donbas residents in Russian, the president was demonstrating the typical behavior of a "Maloros," who doesn't have national dignity and on a subconscious level hasn't freed himself from his fear before the imperialist," Viacheslav Hnatiuk, a senior lecturer at Lviv Polytechnic, wrote in a commentary posted in Ukrainska Pravda.

"Their status as highest-ranking in the state requires Petro Poroshenko and [Prime Minister] Arseniy Yatsenyuk to use the state language exclusively in their public addresses," he wrote. "Only that can consolidate the country, make it a single whole, renew national dignity and the national self-fulfillment of the Ukrainian nation, which still hasn't completed its formation."

Upon completing his speech, Mr. Poroshenko departed for St. Sophia Cathedral, where a prayer service was held with all the heads of major religious organizations in Ukraine participating. At St. Sophia Square, the newly inaugurated president assumed command of Ukraine's Armed Forces with tears in his eyes during the ceremony.

Afterwards, a reception was held for the foreign guests. Among those in the U.S. delegation were Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Victoria Nuland, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) and Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), as well as Ambassadors Geoffrey Pyatt, envoy to Ukraine, and Daniel Baer, envoy to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Ukrainian VIPs attended an evening reception held at the Mystetskyi Arsenal museum complex. Most of the major players in Ukrainian politics and business were present.

Among those attending was Oleksandr Yefremov, the head of the Party of Regions parliamentary faction who has been accused by numerous state officials of supporting the terrorists of the "Luhansk People's Republic."

Also in attendance was Mr. Akhmetov, who passively supported the pro-Russian separatists until mid-May, when they began demanding money from him and destroying his properties. Since then, he has officially condemned the terrorists, but some observers believe he could still be in contact and even working with them.

Yurii Lutsenko, a Euro-Maidan leader who was beaten and bloodied during the protest, was photographed with his wife, Iryna, laughing alongside Mr. Akhmetov at the reception, drawing criticism from the Euro-Maidan crowd for associating with the shady oligarch.

Some speculated he was trying to recruit Mr. Akhmetov's support for a new political party. Three days afterwards, Mr. Lutsenko told Hromadske TV that he considers Mr. Akhmetov "a fellow traveler in the Ukrainian revolution" and a supporter of "Ukrainian economic nationalism."

"I never hid having spoken with Akhmetov before my imprisonment, afterwards and now," Mr. Lutsenko said. "And I'm confident that without Rinat Akhmetov peace in Donetsk will be, if not impossible, then its achievement will be made severely more complicated."

"Imagine Akhmetov's capital and 300,000 people that work on his enterprises. Imagine if they support the Donetsk People's Republic. I spoke with him to ensure that doesn't happen," Mr. Lutsenko stressed.

It was at the evening reception that Mr. Poroshenko also announced the one thing that could have exceeded his awe at being inaugurated president of Ukraine: Yulia, the wife of his 28-year-old son Oleksii, had given birth that day to his first grandson.



Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko and U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden meet.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Discovery Camp 2014 invites kids to discover their heritage

by Dmitri Lenczuk

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Soyuzivka Heritage Center and the Ukrainian National Association this year are proudly presenting the newly revamped program for a summer favorite: Discovery Camp.

Geared towards children ages 8 to 15, the 2014 camp theme will be "Discover Your Heritage." Camp participants will learn all about the Ukrainian culture through various mini-workshops and practical lessons on Ukrainian history and current events, while simultaneously enjoying the experience of a sleep-away camp on the beautiful Soyuzivka grounds.

"The Discovery Camp will give campers the opportunity to learn Ukrainian traditions and arts," says Bohdana Puzyk, the camp organizer. "I want them to know that it's cool to be Ukrainian!"

She said the camp – henceforth to be known as "Discover Your Heritage Camp" – will feature the customary Discovery Camp program with a new element focused on Ukrainian culture. Campers will partake in traditional Ukrainian cultural activities, like Ukrainian Easter egg (pysanka) writing, wood carving, ceramics and beading.

Craft-making, long a part of the Discovery Camp's program, this year will have a cultural twist. "Campers always made crafts in Discovery Camp," Ms. Puzyk says. "But the crafts now have an identity – a Ukrainian identity."

Campers will also have daily lessons on this year's cultural topics, including the works of Ukraine's bard, Taras Shevchenko, the 200th anniversary of whose birth is being marked worldwide in 2014, and the art of the Maidan,



Adoptive Families Weekend attendees participate in one of its many workshops – this one in pysanka writing.



George Hanushevsky

The newly revamped program of Discovery Camp draws from the cultural programs of the annual Adoptive Families Weekend. Above families are seen with personnel from Ukraine's Consulate General in New York and the Ukrainian National Association.

which has strongly influenced Ukrainian artistic and political life in Ukraine and its diaspora.

Of course, campers will still participate in all the usual camp traditions, like hiking, singing, swimming and bonfires. There will even be an opportunity for campers to zipline and compete in a Ukrainian version of the "Amazing Race." However, the focus will include not only the discovery of nature, but also the discovery of what it means to be Ukrainian through engagement with Ukrainian traditions.

The initial idea to update the Discovery Camp program to a "Discover Your Heritage" theme came from another Soyuzivka project that Ms. Puzyk heads: the Adoptive Family Weekend. Boasting a total of some 85 participating families, the weekend program teaches children adopted from Ukraine – and their adoptive parents and families – about their ancestral culture and traditions.

The new Discovery Camp program also draws from the existing Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp. Now, children in their preteen and teenage years will be able to discover their Ukrainian heritage much like their younger friends and siblings already do.

In the seemingly endless sea of Ukrainian summer camps, parents might find that choosing a camp for their child is difficult, given that many of the most popular ones require membership in a Ukrainian youth organization. Like all of Soyuzivka's camps, however, the new Discover

Your Heritage Camp invites all Ukrainian youth to participate and is open to the entire Ukrainian community.

"Our campers don't have to be members of any organization," says Ms. Puzyk. "Anyone can join."

Furthermore, language will not be a barrier: the Discover Your Heritage camp program will be bilingual – for those who speak Ukrainian and/or English.

Ms. Puzyk said she expects attendees will belong to many different generations of Ukrainian Americans, including the newest wave of Ukrainian immigrants. This diversity will enrich the experience of every camper and will create lasting friendships among all generations of Ukrainians.

The weeklong sleep-away camp begins on July 13, just as Soyuzivka's annual Ukrainian Cultural Festival comes to a close. It concludes on July 19, during the Adoptive Family Weekend. An end-of-camp show, featuring the projects participants engaged in and crafts they created, will be presented for the enjoyment of parents and Soyuzivka vacationers alike.

"The point [of the new heritage program] is to help our children stand up and be proud Ukrainians," Ms. Puzyk observes. "This camp is a great way for children to learn about their culture."

For more information on the new Discover Your Heritage camp program, readers may contact Soyuzivka at soyuzivka@aol.com or 845-626-5641.

Children enjoy 11th annual Easter egg hunt



NEW HAVEN, Conn. – On Palm Sunday, April 13, after the divine liturgy celebrated by Father Iura Godenciu, an Easter egg hunt was sponsored by Ukrainian National Association Branch 414 of New Haven. Gloria and Donald Horbaty organized this fun event for the children of the parish; they were assisted by Halia Lodynsky. Ms. Horbaty is an advisor on the UNA General Assembly and the financial secretary of the branch. The children found many games to play and many prizes to win.

– Halia Jurczak-Lodynsky

Young UNA'ers



Levi Karmazyn Cook, son of Andrea and Jon Cook of Beaver, Pa., is a new member of UNA Branch 120. He was enrolled by his great aunt Olga Karmazyn.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Our new endowment fund

Back in 2010, at the 37th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association, delegates representing the UNA's membership from across the United States, voted to adopt a convention resolution in support of the UNA's beloved newspapers.

As presented by the Resolutions Committee at the convention, the measure read: "Whereas, the official publications of the Ukrainian National Association – Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly – represent a crucial public image for the Ukrainian National Association and are indispensable for the organization in the Ukrainian community at large, be it resolved that a UNA Publication Endowment Fund be created to ensure the future of the UNA's official publications – Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly – via a permanent reserve fund."

Just prior to the 38th Regular Convention held in May, the UNA did just that by donating \$10,000 of seed money to an account set up for the endowment. Loyal readers and supporters of our newspapers now have an opportunity to secure their future by donating to the Publication Endowment Fund via the UNA's charitable arm, the Ukrainian National Foundation.

The interest earned from the endowment's account will be used to support Svoboda (founded 1893) and The Weekly (founded 1933), whose combined years of devoted service to our community now exceed 200. To be sure, what is needed for such an endowment to be effective – i.e., to truly serve its purpose in providing for the newspapers' continued activity – is an essential sum of money that can earn a substantial amount of interest.

To contribute to the endowment, donors should make checks payable to the Ukrainian National Foundation with the notation in the memo line: FBO (that's short for "for the benefit of") Publication Endowment Fund. Checks should be mailed to the UNA Home Office at 2200 Route 10, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

(Also part of the Ukrainian National Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation, is the Press Fund, which accepts donations earmarked for the UNA's newspapers and forwards them to the two publications. And, of course, you may still donate directly to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund and the Svoboda Press Fund, whose monthly reports you see on the pages of our newspapers.)

With the establishment of the Publication Endowment Fund, the UNA has taken a step toward ensuring the continuing good work and service to the community at large of its two most important fraternal benefits. Thank you!

June
18
1953

Turning the pages back...

Sixty-one years ago, on June 18, 1953, representatives of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) sent a report on the situation in Berlin following an anti-Communist demonstration where scores of people died and hundreds were wounded.

The executive committee of the UUARC decided to open an office in Berlin as a first aid station for Ukrainian and non-Russian escapees from behind the Iron Curtain. The UUARC team was led by Dr. Walter Gallan, executive director for UUARC, and Andrew Diakun.

In his report on June 20, 1953, to the UUARC, Mr. Diakun wrote:

"...Curiosity brought me to Potsdamer Platz, where West meets East here in Berlin. Half a mile from the trouble area, W. Berlin police and U.S. MPs had blocked all access to the sector frontier, for even at that distance the chatter of Soviet tommyguns could be heard. My U.S. High Commissioner accreditations brought me past these obstacles right into the border area, where I immediately had to take refuge behind a W. German police truck, for Russian bullets, fired over the heads of the East German demonstrators, were coming in to our area. Seventeen persons were wounded by these 'strays' on the side of Potsdamer Platz."

Mr. Diakun described how demonstrators heaved cobblestones at Soviet T34 tanks and engaged a Soviet armored division. "The square was soon a shambles as the crowd burned Red banners, tore down billboard declarations of Russian-German friendship, put several bookshops to the torch and finally set fire to a large Communist warehouse," he wrote.

During the confusion, many members of the "People's Police" sought to escape to the Western sector. Soon thereafter, several platoons of Soviet soldiers arrived to reinforce the People's Police and the Red Army soldiers who came in atop their tanks.

The anti-Communists formed a human wall as the Soviet reinforcements advanced. Demonstrators attempted to disable the tanks by stuffing the tank gun barrels with wood or jamming the tank treads with similar objects. Two of the disabled tanks turned their turrets in the direction of the demonstrators and, with Soviet soldiers, opened fire on the crowd.

After two and a half hours of fighting, Mr. Diakun retreated to the Western sector and noted that the fighting on Potsdamer Platz was the bloodiest of similar demonstrations throughout East Berlin, which was under the control of the Soviets.

Escapees from the Soviet sector described mass arrests, police breaking into homes in the early morning hours to pick up suspects. There was no transportation and food items were scarce.

The riots, which were begun by construction workers, started on June 16, 1953, after an increase in work schedules by the Soviets. On the second day, the number of protesters had grown to approximately 30,000 to 50,000 people. Leaders of the protests issued a call for a general strike, the resignation of the Communist East German government and free elections. By June 17, 1953, the Soviet military commanders declared martial law and, by evening, the protests were disbanded.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower noted how the brutal Soviet action contradicted Russian propaganda that the people of East Germany were happy with their Communist government.

The Soviet assault set a precedent for later interventions into Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968.

Source: "UUARC representative in Berlin in front-line battle," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 27, 1953.

WINDOW ON EURASIA

Putin won't make further concessions on Ukraine, say two Moscow experts

by Paul Goble

Over the last several days, many in the West have professed to see Moscow pulling back from its subversive aggression against Ukraine and expressed confidence that the crisis caused by Vladimir Putin's actions there is approaching an end that both Russia and the West will be able to live with, however angry Ukrainians may be.

But two Moscow analysts, Vitaly Leybin and Valery Fadeyev, argue in *Ekspert* that Russia's "political leadership has taken the maximum possible number of steps to meet its Western partners concerning the situation in Ukraine." Instead, they say, "the struggle for Ukraine is moving toward a decisive stage" (expert.ru/expert/2014/24/myi-ih-ne-brosim/).

They suggest that Mr. Putin's next actions in support of the "Russian world" in the southeast of Ukraine may take different but no less consequential forms as far as the future of Donetsk, Luhansk, the Donbas more generally, and Ukraine are concerned – even if, and indeed because, they may attract less attention and opposition from the West.

That conclusion rests in part on the evolving conditions on the ground, the two analysts say. The pro-Russian forces and those who backed them had expected Moscow to support them in the way it did their counterparts in Crimea, but that has not happened and Kyiv forces have inflicted real losses on them.

At the moment, those identified as pro-Russian still are, but "the situation could change" and do so quickly because many of them see the concessions Moscow has made in response to Western demands as "the betrayal of 'the Russian world.'" And others elsewhere who are watching this are drawing similar conclusions.

But in thinking about the future, one needs to understand what the real limiting factors are on all the actors involved. Ukraine, they say, "even if it is preserved as a single country (without Crimea) will never be what it was. A return to the times before the Maidan is impossible."

Moreover, the two Moscow analysts continue, "the Donbas already will never be part of Ukraine if the latter tries to stand on the foundations of unitarism and an ethno-national ideology. The Donetsk and Luhansk people's republics in a definite sense are already a part of Russia" and important players in the struggle for "the Russian world" that Moscow cannot avoid pursuing.

In reality, Messrs. Leybin and Fadeyev say, "the rapid unification of the Donetsk and Luhansk republics with Russia as happened with Crimea is impossible for a variety of reasons," including the ethnic composition of the population, its attitudes toward Moscow and Kyiv, and the absence of a major Russian military base as in Sevastopol.

Blocking NATO from expanding into Crimea as part of Ukraine was and remains

Paul Goble is a long-time specialist on ethnic and religious questions in Eurasia who has served in various capacities in the U.S. State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the International Broadcasting Bureau, as well as at the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Mr. Goble writes a blog called "Window on Eurasia" (<http://windowoneurasia2.blogspot.com/>). The article above is reprinted with permission.

far more strategically important, they say. "One must not lose Sevastopol, [and] this in fact has been recognized by the West." There is no equivalent in Donetsk or Luhansk.

Moreover, the annexation of Donetsk and Luhansk "could lead to an uncontrolled escalation of tensions between Russia and the West," a development that would entail "risks – political, economic and military" for both the international system as a whole and for Russia in particular.

A civil war of the kind now raging could have been avoided, the two analysts argue, if Kyiv had met the relatively limited demands of the people of the southeast for elected governors, greater autonomy, fiscal federalism and the provision of official status for the Russian language. But that is something Kyiv would not and will not do, they say.

After the events in Odesa, they continue, the residents of Donetsk and Luhansk were radicalized and voted for independence. In response, the two Russian analysts say, "Kyiv began its punitive operation against the citizens of its own country."

Kyiv's leaders do not yet understand that "a unitary Ukrainian state in its former border is impossible," they write. There are only four possible outcomes: the military victory of the regional groups and the creation of an independent state of Novorossiia, the victory of these groups and the inclusion of the two republics in Russia, the forcible suppression by Kyiv of the regions, or the restoration of relations between Donetsk and Luhansk with Kyiv.

"It is important to note," they say, that in none of these cases will Ukraine be able to return to the status quo ante.

They ask: Could the two oblasts remain in Ukraine? That would require that Kyiv agree to end military operations, negotiate with the activists from the two places and seek a compromise resolution – something Kyiv is unwilling to do because that would change the nature of the Ukrainian state.

In principle, such an outcome would not be impossible nor would it be inconsistent with what the Russian Federation has done in the past. Moscow, the analysts point out, "has its own experience of complex federative relations of the center with the regions," as with Chechnya, which has, as is quite obvious, "relations which are not the same as those with the Tambov Oblast."

If the Ukrainian military defeats what it sees as the secessionists, something it can do only with outside assistance, the consequences would be dire in the case of the two oblasts but also for Ukraine as a whole, they say, adding this would mean Ukraine could exist as "a mono-cultural and mono-national state" only by repression.

The possibility of a complete victory by the irregular forces supporting the self-proclaimed regimes in Donetsk and Luhansk is also improbable unless they receive massive outside assistance. "The most probable outcome of military actions" is thus not the victory of one side or the other but "a continuation of local clashes."

According to Messrs. Leybin and Fadeyev, a Novorossiia would have a much greater chance "to acquire real independence" than have Abkhazia or the Transdnier. It would have a vastly larger population – 6.6 million as opposed to the 240,000 of Abkhazia or the 513,000 people in the Transdnier; it has a larger industrial base; and it has more direct access to Russia.

(Continued on page 9)

CURRENT POLITICS IN UKRAINE

‘King Coal’ and the future of the Donbas region

by David Marples

The separatist insurgence in Donetsk and Luhansk has raised questions about the future of this region as part of Ukraine. Opinion polls suggest that the supporters of separatism constitute only a small minority (<http://uacrisis.org/kiis-survey-ukraines-southeast/>). On the other hand, much of the population was disaffected by the events of the Euro-Maidan and alienated by the interim government that was formed after the departure of former President Viktor Yanukovich. In late May, about 1,000 miners took part in a pro-separatist rally against the Ukrainian government’s “anti-terrorist operation” in the region, led by a miners’ union with close ties to the former president (<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/news/article/donetsk-miners-rally-in-favor-of-separatists-in-eastern-ukraine/501043.html>).

Clearly many miners are disaffected and discontented. The question that should be at the forefront of attention perhaps is the future of the coal industry – a sector that has been struggling since the 1980s, but retains the potential to play an important role in Ukraine’s economic recovery. At the same time this area and industry were central to the authority of the ex-president, as well as his chief financial supporter Rinat Akhmetov, the major owner of privatized coal mines today. What is the current state of the Ukrainian coal industry and what role can it play in Ukraine following the election of its new president, Petro Poroshenko?

The importance of this region to Ukraine was highlighted during the recent election campaign by the most popular campaigner in eastern Ukraine, former Vice Prime Minister Sergey Tigipko, who stated that the Ukrainian government should create conditions for the people of the “South-East” that would prevent them from even considering separation. He suggested that it was important to struggle for Donetsk and Luhansk to remain in Ukraine, and that the hypothetical loss of the Donbas would have enormous negative consequences for the country: 7 million people and, in economic terms, 30 percent of its GDP and 25 percent of its exports. Essential in Mr. Tigipko’s view is decentralization of power, raising the influence of the regions, electing local governors, and expanding the use of the Russian language (<http://www.segodnya.ua/politics/pnews/za-doneck-i-lugansk-nuzhno-borot-sya-tigipko-521632.html>).

Granted the theoretical imposition of such policies, would they be enough to ensure the revival of the region? The response here is limited to the coal industry, which is the most important industry in the two major regions.

In the Soviet period, prior to the large-scale development of nuclear power, Donbas coal (by which is denoted here the Donetsk and Luhansk, but not the Russian Rostov part of the coalfield) fueled thermal power stations that accounted for up to 75 percent of Ukrainian electricity production.

David R. Marples is Distinguished University Professor and director of the Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine at the University of Alberta.

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

By 2011, however, that proportion had declined to one-third, despite the fact that coal reserves, at 54 billion tons, are practically infinite, equivalent to a further 390 years at the present rates of production (<http://www.mbendi.com/indy/ming/coal/eu/ua/p0005.htm>). In that same year 149 coal mines were operating in Ukraine, 120 of which were state-owned, employing 271,000 people. Since 2010, a program to privatize coal mines has been under way. Today the biggest private energy company, DTEK (Donbas fuel-energy company, the energy sector of Mr. Akhmetov’s company System Capital Management), produces about 20 million tons annually, roughly one-quarter of the total coal output (<http://eurocoal.org/pages/layout1sp.php?idpage=269>). Prior to the present troubles, the privatization of about half the coal mines saw a rise in production, peaking in 2012, that resulted in a coal surplus and concomitant lower coal prices (see Table 1). The government thus asked some state companies to lower production and shut down 17 percent of mines on a short-term basis (<http://www.coalage.com/features/3235-ukraine-faces-oversupply-crisis.html#.U5Y3qZSSxs>).

Table 1: Ukrainian Coal Output, 2010-2014	
2010:	75.2 tons
2011:	81.8 tons
2012:	85.9 tons
2013:	83.7 tons
2014:	83.0 tons (projected)
<i>[Approximately 62 percent of coal produced is steam coal used for energy generation and the remainder is coking coal.]</i>	
<i>Source: http://www.worldcoal.com/news/coal/articles/2013_coal_output_falls_in_Ukraine_466.aspx#.U5ZYVPmSxe8; http://sadovayagroup.com/operations/ukrainian-coal-market/ [Accessed June 10, 2014].</i>	

Unsurprisingly, the violent encounters between government and separatist forces in eastern Ukraine in the spring have had a negative impact on coal production. From January through April, coal output declined by 0.4 percent, at 27.87 million tons, signifying a potential annual output of around 83 million tons (http://coal.steelguru.com/cis/16164/ukrainian_coal_mining_output_down_by_0_4pct_in_jan_apr_2014) (see Table 1). Paradoxically, however, a small drop in production may benefit the coal industry because of the likely rise in prices, as long as it does not have a significant impact on those industries dependent on coal: thermal power stations, coke and metallurgical plants. In the case of the latter two sectors. Ukraine cannot provide all their needs because they require coking coal with low sulfur content, which, as Ilona V. Kochura points out, is only found regionally in the coalfields of the Russian Federation (<http://gse.vsb.cz/2012/LVIII-2012-1-17-23.pdf>). But the main critiques of coal mining in contemporary Ukraine are less about production per se, than about organization, planning and renovation – all areas in which the country appears to be lacking.

An analysis published in a Kyiv-based newspaper (no author was cited) offered a forthright criticism of the current leaders of independent Ukraine for the decline of the

(Continued on page 9)



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

Patriotism, politics and fashion



At the inaugural ball in Kyiv (from left) are: Sofiya Fedyna of Lviv (president of the World Federation of Ukrainian Lemko Associations), wearing a Lemko wedding “krysa”; President Petro Poroshenko; and Dr. Maryna Poroshenko, wearing a stylized necklace by Roksolana Shymchuk.

She could have selected a Dior, a Valentino or a Chanel outfit for the inauguration of her husband. But Dr. Maryna Poroshenko chose the creations of Ukrainian designers. The new president’s wife (I refuse to use the term “persha ledi,” or first lady, as she herself has said she doesn’t like that title) is a beautiful, most elegant and intelligent woman of whom Ukrainians are proud. And her wardrobe is one small indication of this.

For the inauguration itself and the moleben in St. Sophia, she selected a lavender blue dress and coat in a fine silk by Viktoriia Hres of Kyiv. The hem of the dress and the lower sleeves were embroidered in satin stitch in the same-colored thread as the fabric.

The designer stated that in some measure the design followed the tradition of the Reshetlyivka embroidery masters, whose creativity is well-known in the world because of the unique technique of tone on tone. (In English, the designer’s surname is Gres, so it is difficult to know what the original name is Hres or Gres. Maybe now with the inauguration of the new president and the new hope in Ukraine, the designer’s website will be in Ukrainian, along with the present English and Russian.)

The evening ensemble for Dr. Poroshenko was designed by Lilia Pustovit of Kyiv. Ms. Pustovit has long incorporated Ukrainian folk motifs in contemporary cosmopolitan urbanist fashion. The gown was made of the finest sky blue wool and pale-yellow cotton. The design was a collaboration, with Dr. Poroshenko as a co-designer. “When I thought about the question of the inauguration gown, I wanted very much not to concentrate only on the shape, but to incorporate an important concept into the design. We had begun work on the design, and in one moment I saw this gown before my eyes – long, with a double skirt in yellow and sky-blue colors, which are now known around the world, and are a symbol of freedom, independence, and the unity of a great people,” said Dr. Poroshenko.

As UNIAN reported, Ms. Pustovit noted that the idea for the blue and yellow colors was Dr. Poroshenko’s. When the president-elect’s wife proposed this, Ms. Pustovit “immediately remembered the people on the Maidan who wrapped themselves in the flag, and wore it both as clothing and as a mystical protector – so this idea seemed very natural to me. As to the style of the gown’s skirt – this is a contemporary stylized ‘plakhta’” with a

“pidtychka” (a full-length “sorochnka” bottom edge) and the overskirt.

The ensemble was completed with a single-strand necklace by Lviv designer Roksolana Shymchuk. The traditional “balamuty” (large mother-of-pearl beads from the conch shell, popular in the Khmelnytsky and Vinnytsia oblasts) are combined with a pendant inspired by Hutsul “zgarda” motifs.

Ukrainian folk motifs in fashion are not a fad. For decades, folk motifs have been an integral part of contemporary Ukrainian clothing, before the designers emerged. We can remember the popular “vyshyvani vechornytsi” (embroidered evenings, or dances) in North America, where dresses and gowns – and some men’s shirts – were lovingly worn by attendees.

In Ukraine – and everywhere else – the “vyshyvanka” (embroidered shirt) is worn for the most important family, social and official occasions. This was evident at the inauguration, to which many members of the Verkhovna Rada wore their vyshyvanky. The new president chose to wear a blue-and-yellow striped tie.

Previous prominent women in Ukraine have also promoted the new Ukrainian fashion. Kateryna Yushchenko often wore beautifully designed outfits based on the folk costume. Yulia Tymoshenko was known for her many stylized ensembles based on various regional costumes. These women popularized this fashion in a most elegant manner. A number of singers also wear stylized stage ensembles – singer and community activist Sofiya Fedyna of Lviv being a prime example.

A memento of the Maidan is the incorporation of the “tryzub,” or trident, the Ukrainian state emblem, into the embroidery of a man’s sorochnka. Quite a few versions of this have emerged. I came across a much earlier example of this in the book “Ukrainskyi Striy” by M. S. Bilan and H. H. Stelmashchuk (Lviv: Apriori, 2011). The man’s sorochnka from the Borshechiv region, late 19th/early 20th century, incorporates the tryzub in gold thread in the ornate design on the chest and on the cuffs. It’s remarkable that this sorochnka survived Soviet times.

Considering that just some time ago a Ukrainian could be persecuted and even shot for wearing a vyshyvanka, we’ve come a long way. Thank God!

Orysia Tracz may be contacted at orysia.tracz@gmail.com.

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Ukraine Little...

(Continued from page 3)

Series, representing the Europe and Africa region.

In 2010, the 11- to 12-year-olds almost made it to the World Series in Williamsport, Pa., but lost their final, decisive game to a team that was composed of American kids from army bases.

Most of the players of all three of these Ukrainian teams came from Kirovohrad, which is the powerhouse of baseball in Ukraine.

It was no different this year as the 11- to 12-year-olds from Kirovohrad defeated their challengers from Rivne, 13-1, and Kyiv, 14-1, to make it to the finals on June 7, where they faced a rematch against Rivne, which also has one of Ukraine's strongest Little League programs.

"The Little League players in Kirovohrad and Rivne are now playing on adult teams," Mr. Tarasko said. Meanwhile, the current youngsters could some day form a Ukrainian team to compete in the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Among the game's highlights was a storm of cottony fuzz from nearby poplar trees that blew across the field in the first inning, making it appear that the game was being played in the winter. "Is it snowing or what?" a startled Mr. Tarasko shouted as he kept score from his seat behind home plate.

By the fourth inning, the Rivne boys

were on their way to an upset with a 15-8 lead. But Kirovohrad would not go down without a fight, tying the game in the sixth, final inning after a bases-loaded walk made the score 17-17, with no outs.

The next hitter's line drive was bobbled by the third baseman, giving Kirovohrad its sixth trip to Kutno in the last seven years.

Serhii Lymarenko, the Kirovohrad head coach, said his 11- to 12-year-olds have lost only twice in the last 15 years, one of those losses being against Rivne last year.

This year, "Rivne was leading from the first inning, at one point by seven runs," he said. "We waited patiently, tried to get even and then finished them off. It was far from our most mature game. But even when the game doesn't go our way, you need to slowly get your result, whatever the price."

The game was played on a soccer field at Kyiv's Trukhaniv Park, which will soon have the city's only Little League infield. Kyiv's last infield was taken over in 2006 by a construction company to use as storage for concrete slabs, said Dmytro Matsulevych, the president of Kyiv Little League. "That's our lawlessness," he said.

The lawlessness on the international level has cost Ukrainian Little League its teams in Crimea, who are already playing for Russia's Little League. Meanwhile, the annual orphans' championship held in Kremenets, Ternopil Oblast, in September is questionable since the best teams come from the Donetsk Oblast.

Financing remains an issue, as it has



Basil Tarasko, founder of Little League in Ukraine, signs a baseball bat for the Kirovohrad players at the championship final on June 7.

always been. Mr. Tarasko recalled giving 20 new baseballs to the coach of the Kirovohrad team playing in Taylor, Mich., to help them look and feel up to par. Yet he found out from an umpire during the tournament that the team was still practicing with its torn-up balls. The coach had tucked away the new balls to bring them back to Kirovohrad, where supplies were scarce.

To raise funds, Mr. Tarasko suggested the Ukrainians follow the example of Americans. "I said go to the local meat mar-

ket where your parents go and ask them for money to buy some caps," he said. "They think people throw money at you in the U.S. I said, 'No, you gotta knock on doors.'"

Fortunately, the trip to Kutno is paid by Little League, and the Kirovohrad boys will be playing on July 14-21.

"Baseball isn't only about the physical," said Viacheslav Babii, the 12-year-old captain of the Kirovohrad team. "You need to think and play out all the outs. It's very complicated and requires years of studying."

'King Coal'...

(Continued from page 7)

industry. It noted that in spring 2014, most coal enterprises had continued to work despite the blockade of Sloviansk and Kramatorsk. Yet miners were afraid of the forthcoming removal of subsidies to unprofitable mines, which would force Ukraine to raise imports of gas, the price of which exceeds coal more than 1.8 times, even taking into account state subsidies. The impact on those industries that depend on Donbas coal would also be catastrophic, it continued. Yet the newly elected president appeared ready immediately to sign an agreement on economic integration with the European Union, meaning that Kyiv would have to completely abandon subsidies in all sectors of the economy, including the coal industry. In the independent period, moreover, many industrial research institutes had been closed and their financing practically ended. The branch has long needed a full "technical retooling" to make it cost effective, but instead the region has been sucked into war and is being dragged into the EU (<http://www.rg.kiev.ua/page5/article30891/>).

In truth, the problems of the region are somewhat deeper than the above article suggests. For many years, and especially during the Yanukovych presidency, the coal industry has been mired in corruption. In an important investigative article, Denys Kazansky and Serhiy Harmash reveal the

findings of the East-European-based Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project. They show how companies connected to former government officials and businesses owned by the former president's son – and almost all linked in some way to the former president – regularly sold coal on the black market. About 11 percent of Ukraine's annual coal output is derived from illegal mines that operate outside both the state and private system, and can be found wherever coal seams exist, including in fields and around private homes. Miners work for abysmal pay and in very dangerous conditions in so-called "kopanki" (illegal coal mines), mainly around Donetsk. National Deputy Oleh Medunytzia (For Ukraine faction) requested an investigation after it was noted that the amount of coal transported on railways exceeded official annual production by almost 6 million tons. The coal mined at kopanki is sold at about 20 percent of the official price to managers and "businessmen," who in turn resell it at "normal" prices to buyers (<http://getq.am/eng/print/54829>).

Another critique of this practice was offered by First Vice-Minister of Energy and the Coal Industry Yuriy Zyukov (he took up the post only in April), who noted the high rates of corruption and that state mines were selling coal to private companies at cheap prices, with numerous intermediaries taking a slice of the profits, before it was resold to the ultimate buyers for higher prices (http://coal.steelguru.com/cis/16216/ukrainian_cabinet_to_sell_off_coal_mines_and_reduce_subsidies_report).

Most coal mines in Ukraine are unprofitable. Eighty percent have been operating for more than two decades without being modernized or upgraded, coal seams are very deep, and methane gas explosions are common.

In 2004, the Ukrainian government established a state company, putting an end temporarily to privatization – Vuhillya Ukrainy (<http://www.mbendi.com/indyming/coal/eu/ua/0005.htm>). In 2008, nonetheless, during Yulia Tymoshenko's second term as prime minister under President Viktor Yushchenko, some \$22 million worth of illegal coal was sold to electric power stations. The situation was no better after Mykola Azarov (prime minister under Mr. Yanukovych) cancelled Vuhillya Ukrainy's monopoly in the spring of 2010, because that decision allowed private entrepreneurs to profit from the underground sales of coal (<http://getq.am/eng/print/54829>).

Donbas miners justifiably have felt for some time that they are a forgotten factor in what was once considered a proud industry. Indeed coal mining could in theory be revived, especially as a means to avoid future reliance on Russian oil and gas. Much depends on the major oligarch Mr. Akhmetov, assuming that he can retain his large holdings in the industry both from separatists and demands for the closure of losing mines by the International Monetary Fund, in return for its now-essential loan to Ukraine (<http://uk.reuters.com/arti>

cle/2014/03/27/uk-ukraine-crisis-idUK-BREA2J1E820140327).

In the past Ukrainian miners have demonstrated that, once called into action, they can be a formidable force, particularly during the coal miners' strike in the late Soviet period, which turned briefly into a powerful political movement. Today, however, they appear to be at a crossroads, not least because of the unstable political situation and the uncertainty of their position within independent Ukraine.

How can the financially struggling Kyiv government invest sufficient funds in the industry to modernize it, and, if not, how many coal mines would survive 100 percent privatization? Without doubt that would entail closures and job losses. As was the case with the recent presidential elections, the industry may have to rely on its oligarchs, regardless of their past deeds or affiliations. In the past these figures plundered Ukrainian industry and resources for their own benefits. Today the Donbas miners no doubt hope Mr. Akhmetov and others make some sacrifices for the good of the country.

Coal is no longer "king" in Ukraine, but it is plentiful and a potential source of economic survival – it remains the most viable long-term resource the country possesses. And while few miners wish to see their regions separate or be answerable to separatists, they oppose just as vehemently the corrupt practices in the coalfields and the current inclination of Kyiv leaders to orient Ukraine toward Europe.

Putin won't...

(Continued from page 6)

Moscow can and Mr. Putin should and probably will help, they say. "The official introduction of regular [Russian] forces is now impossible." It would cause a self-inflicted wound on Russia and would "not help the residents of the Donbas because it would lead to the escalation of the conflict," they write.

More limited military intervention, however, remains possible, especially regarding the provision of airpower and heavy artillery. If Moscow provides these, then there

will be no chance for Kyiv to have any "illusions that a military victory" by Ukrainian forces will ever be possible.

But, equally important, Moscow can provide humanitarian and economic assistance, something that "in contemporary wars" is especially important because no side can win "without the support of the population, and the support of the population [for pro-Russian forces] must be guaranteed."

Not surprisingly, the leaders in Donetsk and Luhansk are focused on military issues, but they need to do a great deal more to shore up their position with the civilian population, and Moscow can help them.

The possibilities in this regard are large, and not all of them are financially onerous or likely to spark antagonism in the West.

Among these are giving medical help to those who have been hurt by Ukrainian attacks, eliminating quotas on university enrollment in Russia for Donetsk and Luhansk students, providing assistance for those who wish to resettle in Russia, and sending specialists and investment to help build up the economies of these hard-pressed regions.

Moreover, Russia needs to be ready to help Donetsk and Luhansk deal with a step Kyiv has not yet taken but could. The banks in these two oblasts are branches of

Ukrainian banks, and Kyiv could tie up the economy of both by restricting the flow of cash. Moscow needs to open Russian banks there and consider the introduction of Moscow-backed national currencies, Messrs. Leybin and Fadeyev say.

Such actions would go a long way to ensure that "the Russian world" would be defended and that Putin would have a kind of victory. And they would do so in ways that neither Kyiv nor the West is likely to be able to mobilize in response. As a result, the two analysts say, these are Mr. Putin's likely next steps and the reason he won't make any more concessions on Ukraine.

OUR COMMUNITY BY THE NUMBERS

Changes in the population dynamics of Ukrainians in the New York-New Jersey Metropolitan Area

by Oleh Wolowyna
and Vasyl Lopukh

The New York-Northern New Jersey Metropolitan Area (New York Metro Area or metro area, for short) has the largest number of Ukrainians in the United States, 113,114 in 2010, with Philadelphia a distant second with 52,000 and Chicago in third place with 47,000. The New York Metro Area encompasses the five boroughs of New City, Nassau and Suffolk counties, Putnam, Westchester and Rockland counties in the north, and 12 counties in northern New Jersey. (We expanded the official definition of the New York Metro Area, to include some northern counties with a total of 15,000 Ukrainians: Ulster, Sullivan, Orange, Dutchess counties. These additions increase the total number to 123,785, and that's the number used in this analysis).

Data recently acquired by the Center for Demographic and Socio-Economic Research of Ukrainians in the United States (center for short) allow us to make a detailed analysis of the demographic dynamics of Ukrainians in the New

Table 2.- Percent Distribution of Total, US born, 4th wave and Other Immigrants by County, 2010				
A.- New York State part				
County	Total	U.S. born	4th wave	Other immigrants
North counties*	15.3%	26.8%	9.3%	13.7%
Bronx	2.2%	2.2%	0.3%	3.0%
Brooklyn	41.4%	12.4%	62.6%	35.3%
Manhattan	10.2%	19.2%	3.2%	15.7%
Queens	11.6%	8.5%	10.5%	11.1%
Staten Island	3.5%	4.8%	11.1%	6.3%
Nassau	7.1%	11.7%	1.2%	9.1%
Suffolk	8.7%	14.5%	1.8%	5.7%
Total NY part	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Number	79,296	39,631	29,148	10,517

* Ulster, Sullivan, Orange, Dutchess, Putnam, Westchester, Rockland

York Metro Area. We present data for 1990 and 2000 from respective population censuses and from the American Community Survey in 2010, a national survey conducted yearly by the Bureau of the Census.

Ukrainians are defined as persons who declared "Ukrainian" as their ancestry (single, first or second ancestry), and Fourth Wave immigrants are defined as persons who arrived in the U.S. after 1987 and were born in Ukraine.

During this 20-year period Ukrainians in the New York Metro Area experienced significant changes in terms of numbers, distribution and composition. There was a significant increase in the total number between 1990 and 2000, from 98,000 to 139,000 (42 percent), mainly due to the influx of Fourth Wave immigrants, and a reduction of 11 percent between 2000 and 2010 (Table 1). In 1990 the

Table 1.- Population Dynamics of US born, 4th Wave and Other Immigrants by New York and New Jersey Parts of the New York Metropolitan Area: 1990, 2000, 2010								
	Numbers			Percent distribution			% (2000-1990)/	% (2010-2000)/
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000
NY part of MA:								
U.S. born	41,396	40,711	39,631	79.5%	45.4%	50.0%	-1.7%	-2.7%
4th wave*	1,289	32,027	29,148	2.5%	35.7%	36.8%	2384.6%	-9.0%
Other immigrants	9,384	16,959	10,517	18.0%	18.9%	13.3%	80.7%	-38.0%
Sum	52,069	89,697	79,296	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	72.3%	-11.6%
NJ part of MA:								
U.S. born	38,805	37,729	31,436	84.1%	76.1%	70.7%	-2.8%	-16.7%
4th wave*	87	5,481	7,676	0.2%	11.1%	17.3%	6200.0%	40.0%
Other immigrants	7,268	6,348	5,377	15.7%	12.8%	12.1%	-12.7%	-15.3%
Sum	46,160	49,558	44,489	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	7.4%	-10.2%
Total Metro Area	98,229	139,255	123,785	NA	NA	NA	41.8%	-11.1%

Sources: 1990 and 2000 census and 2009-11 American Community Survey
* Born in Ukraine and arrived to the US in 1988 or later (for 1990, persons born in USSR)

distribution between the New York and New Jersey parts of the metro area was close to 50-50 percent, while in 2000 and 2010 two-thirds of all Ukrainians in the metro area resided in the New York part. This radical change in the distribution is due to the very uneven growth of Ukrainians in the two parts between 1990 and 2000: 72 percent in New York and only 7.5 percent in New Jersey. As we shall see, this is a consequence of the large influx of Fourth Wave immigrants and their predominant settlement in the New York part. In the next decade the number of Ukrainians decreased by 12 percent in New York and by 10 percent in New Jersey.

The large influx of Fourth Wave immigrants, as well as other factors, resulted in significant changes in the composition of Ukrainians in terms of three subpopulations: U.S. born, Fourth Wave immigrants and other immigrants. (The

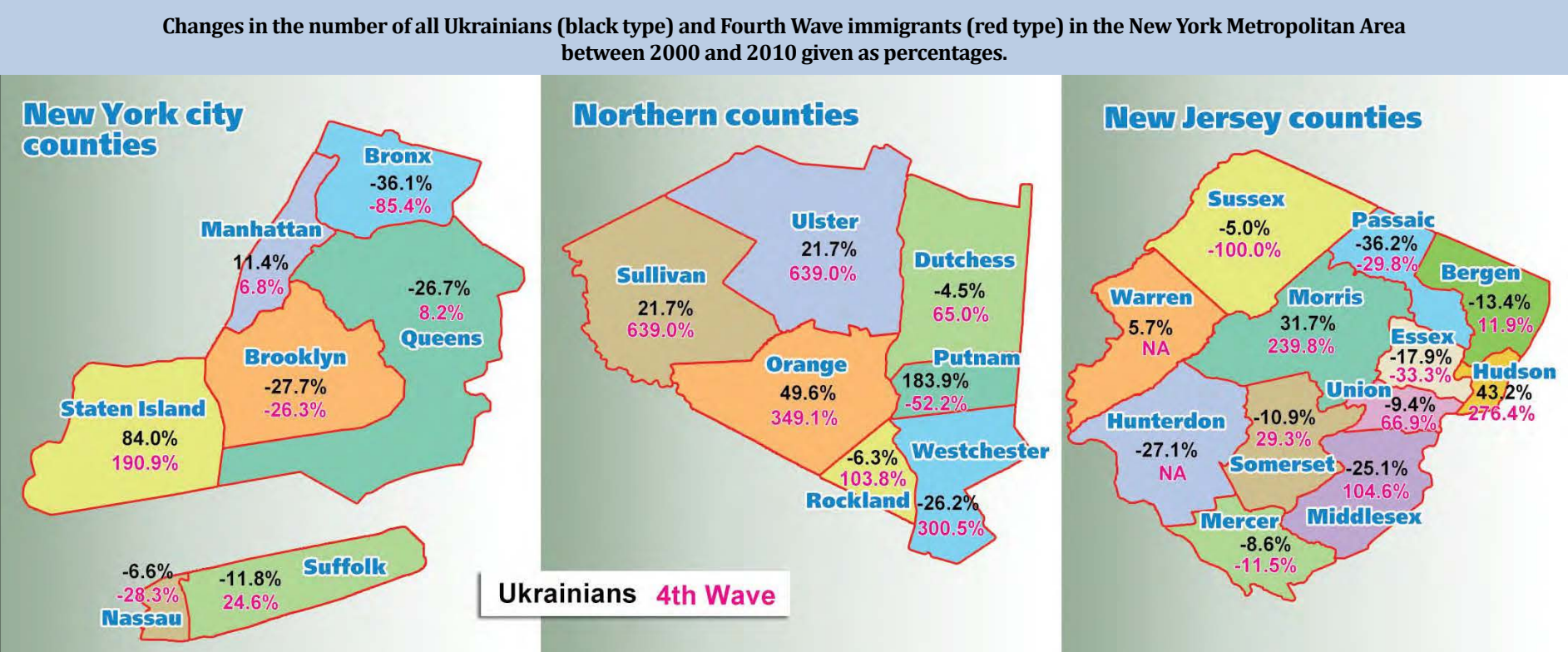
Table 3.- Percent Distribution of Total, US born, 4th wave and Other Immigrants by County, 2010				
B.- New Jersey State part				
County	Total	U.S. born	4th wave	Other immigrants
Bergen	15.3%	12.3%	21.9%	18.8%
Essex	8.1%	7.1%	6.2%	10.7%
Hudson	4.3%	6.0%	8.9%	8.4%
Hunterdon	3.4%	3.8%	0.1%	0.3%
Middlesex	19.9%	14.1%	25.5%	18.5%
Morris	8.9%	14.3%	10.9%	9.4%
Mercer	6.1%	6.5%	4.4%	7.2%
Passaic	8.5%	5.8%	5.6%	8.0%
Somerset	8.5%	9.8%	4.5%	6.3%
Sussex	2.9%	4.2%	0.0%	0.4%
Union	10.9%	10.8%	11.3%	12.1%
Warren	3.3%	5.4%	0.6%	0.0%
Total NJ part	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Number	44,489	31,436	7,677	5,376

subpopulation "other immigrants" is composed of all immigrants who arrived in the U.S. before 1988 and all immigrants arriving after 1987 who were not born in Ukraine. This category is a mixed bag, from immigrants arriving before and after World War II to recent immigrants born in any country except Ukraine). For the whole metro area in 1990 U.S. born comprised 82 percent of all Ukrainians, Fourth Wave immigrants 1.5 percent and other immigrants 17 percent. The number of U.S. born has been declining steadily, from 80,000 in 1990, to 78,000 in 2000 and 72,000 in 2010. The number of Fourth Wave immigrants, on the other hand, jumped from 1,400 in 1990 to 37,500 in 2000, and decreased slightly to 36,800 in 2010. The other immigrants category, with 16,000 in 1990, increased to 23,000 in 2000 and declined to 15,000 in 2010.

In Table 1 we present the dynamics of the three subpopulations – U.S. born, Fourth Wave and other immigrants – separately in the New York and New Jersey state parts of the metro area. We notice that in all three years the number of U.S. born is only slightly smaller in the New Jersey than in the New York parts, while there is a big difference in the number of Fourth Wave immigrants. There was a steady decline in the number of U.S. born in both New York and New Jersey during the last 20 years, on the order of 2-3 percent, with the exception of the period 2000-2010 in New Jersey, with a 17 percent decline. This decline is probably due to three factors: mortality, assimilation and outmigration to other states, presumably more from the New Jersey part than from the New York part during 2000-2010.

There were only 1,300 Fourth Wave immigrants in the New York part in 1990 and practically none in the New Jersey part. In 2000 the number of Fourth Wave immigrants increased to 32,000 in New York and to 5,500 in New Jersey. In 2010 the number of Fourth Wave immigrants declined by 9 percent in New York, from 32,000 to

(Continued on page 13)





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(Continued from page 2)

German and Polish counterparts. Mr. Lavrov also said that Ukraine was free to sign the Association Agreement with the European Union but warned that Moscow would be forced to protect its markets by introducing tariffs. Poland's Radoslaw Sikorski called on Russia to help defuse the crisis in Ukraine by preventing militants and weapons from crossing into eastern Ukraine. He said Russia should not feel threatened by Mr. Poroshenko's plans for closer ties with the European Union, adding that Ukraine's membership in NATO – which Moscow opposes – is an issue that is “not on the agenda.” President Poroshenko's order says, “In order to avoid new victims in the area of the counterterrorist operation, the president instructed heads of law enforcement and military agencies to provide all the necessary conditions for civilians willing to move.” Authorities have said that counterterrorist operations were continuing in the Donetsk

and Luhansk regions, with a spokesman for the security forces saying some “40 mercenaries” had been killed when the Ukrainian military responded to a sustained mortar attack in Krasnoyarsk. (RFE/RL, based on reporting by Interfax, ITAR-TASS and Agence France-Presse)

Poroshenko on relations with Canada

KYIV – Ukraine and Canada can start a new page in bilateral relations and work on their further development, newly inaugurated President Petro Poroshenko said during his June 7 meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada. “I am confident that after the inauguration we can start a new page in relations between Ukraine and Canada,” he said. Mr. Poroshenko thanked Mr. Harper for the support provided by Canada to Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. “We are thankful that Canada supports Ukraine, Ukrainian integrity, solidarity and the fight of Ukraine for its territorial integrity and independence,” he said. Mr. Poroshenko also highly appreciated the relations between the people of the two countries. “I am thankful for the special treatment to the Ukrainian community in

Canada on the governmental level. I consider that this also will enhance ties,” he told Mr. Harper. “Canada is the first state that recognized the independence of Ukraine. Thus, I consider it symbolic that you are the first delegation with which I met as the president.” The prime minister noted that Canada is united with Ukrainian people and “believes in its European future.” (Official website of Ukraine's president)

UGCC Metropolitanate in Brazil

VATICAN CITY – The Vatican announced on May 12 that Pope Francis had raised the current Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church's (UGCC) Eparchy of St. John the Baptist in Brazil with a seat in Curitiba to the status of an Archeparchy and the Seat of the Metropolitanate. The current eparch, Bishop Volodymyr Kovbych was named its first archbishop-metropolitan. Simultaneously it was announced that Pope Francis had created a new UGCC Eparchy of the Immaculate Conception with a seat in Prudentópolis, separating its territory from that of the newly created Archeparchy of St. John the Baptist and placing it under the jurisdiction of this Metropolitan Seat. Bishop Myron Mazur, presently the auxiliary bishop of the Curitiba Eparchy, was named the first eparch of the newly formed eparchy. The history of UGCC in Brazil began with the arrival of Basilian missionaries who followed the migrants who more than 120 years ago headed across the ocean in search of a better fate. The Sister Servants arrived soon thereafter. The Apostolic Exarchate for the faithful of the Byzantine Rite in Brazil was created in 1962 by Pope John XXIII, and nine years later it was elevated to the status of an eparchy. (UGCC)

Russian Cossacks attack church

LVIV – A group of criminals identifying themselves as “Russian Orthodox Cossacks” on the morning of June 1 barged into a local church of the Kyiv Patriarchate in Crimea in the town of Perevalne during Sunday divine liturgy. They beat members of the congregation, including a pregnant woman and a young girl with cerebral palsy, and then attacked the car of the parish priest. The gang members said they were seizing the building for the Moscow Patriarchate. Police came after three hours and stood on a side of the attackers saying that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate is anti-Russian. Neither the local bishop nor any of the hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church have spoken against the act. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Putin offers Ukraine gas discount

MOSCOW – Russian President Vladimir Putin says Russia is ready to reduce by \$100 the price Kyiv pays per 1,000 cubic meters of Russian natural gas – from \$485 to \$385. Mr. Putin and Russia's energy minister, Aleksandr Novak, said on June 11 that the government was also ready to guarantee the discounts will remain in place for one year, to assuage Kyiv's fears. Mr. Putin said the offer was made in a “partnership” spirit, and warned that if Kyiv turns it down, “we will move to quite another stage.” But Ukrainian Energy Minister Yuriy Prodan said Kyiv was not accepting the offer and was ready to take the issue to the Stockholm International Arbitration Court. Ukraine is willing to pay \$268 per 1,000 cubic meters. Mr. Prodan spoke in Brussels after gas talks with Russia mediated by the European Union. European Union Energy Commissioner Guenther Oettinger said the two sides will continue to try and make progress in the next 48 hours. Russia has set a June 16 deadline for Ukraine to pay its outstanding gas debt that Moscow estimates to be \$2.8 billion, with an additional \$1 billion due on June 26. A Ukrainian source did,

however, tell RFE/RL that Moscow is unlikely to stop gas deliveries as long as negotiations are ongoing. Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk on June 11 dismissed Moscow's offer as a “Russian trap.” He said, “If gas is a commodity, as it is all over the world, then we are trading on the basis of the contract and not on the basis of whether Russia likes or dislikes the Ukrainian government.” Russia more than doubled Ukraine's gas price – from \$268 to \$485 per 1,000 cubic meters – after pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovych was ousted in February. (RFE/RL, with reporting by Reuters, the Associated Press and Interfax)

80 percent distrust Russian media

KYIV – The vast majority of Ukrainians – a total of 79.5 percent of respondents in all regions of the country – distrust the Russian media, according to a survey conducted by the Razumkov Center in April. Sociologists noted that the Russian media are trusted a little more often in the east and south of Ukraine than in the western and central regions. However, even in the south the Russian media are distrusted by 74 percent and in the eastern regions by 64.3 percent. In the east, there is also a situation where many respondents distrust both the Ukrainian and the Russian mass media (59 percent and 64.3 percent, respectively). Also, more than half of those surveyed do not trust political parties (76.2 percent), commercial banks (73.5 percent), police (66.7 percent), the National Bank of Ukraine (57 percent) and the Security Service of Ukraine (56.3 percent). Among public institutions, trust has been most often expressed in the Church (65.6 percent), the Ukrainian media (61.5 percent) and the Armed Forces of Ukraine (58.9 percent). The poll was conducted by the Razumkov Center on April 25-29; a total of 2,012 respondents age 18 and up in all regions of Ukraine, except Crimea, were interviewed. (Ukrinform)

Terrorist teams formed in Caucasus

KYIV – Numerous groups of mercenaries working today in the east of Ukraine, are formed primarily in the Caucasus, according to the coordinator of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk. Speaking at a briefing on May 28 in Kyiv, he commented on a statement by President Ramzan Kadyrov of Chechnya that there are no organized Chechen groups in Ukraine. “According to our data, among the mercenaries killed over recent three days in the ATO area, besides citizens of Ukraine, there were also Serbians, as well as Russian citizens from Ingushetia, Chechnya, Dagestan, as well as Abkhazian citizens,” Mr. Tymchuk said. (Ukrinform)

Kharkivites: end ‘Russian Spring’

KHARKIV – Hundreds of people marched through Kharkiv on June 1 to protest what Russian state media organizations have dubbed the “Russian Spring,” the rise of pro-Moscow separatism in Ukraine's east. The protesters carried a giant Ukrainian flag and sang the national anthem at the foot of the Independence Monument in central Kharkiv. (RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service)

Yanukovych son quits PRU faction

KYIV – National Deputy Viktor Yanukovych, a son of former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych, has quit the Party of Regions faction in the Verkhovna Rada. Ukraine's interim President and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Turchynov, said this in Parliament on May 13, “I have an application from Viktor Viktorovych Yanukovych on his leaving the Party of Regions faction.” The deputy wrote on his Facebook page that his decision was linked to the “degradation of the party.” (Ukrinform)

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The Ukrainian Weekly, 973-292-9800, ext 3040.

Changes...

(Continued from page 10)

29,000, while it increased by 40 percent in New Jersey, from 5,500 to 7,700. This shows that proportionally more of the 11,000 new Fourth Wave immigrants who arrived in the Metropolitan Area during 2000-2010 settled in New Jersey than in New York, and that a significant number of previous Fourth Wave immigrants are moving from New York to New Jersey.

The other immigrant category comprises 13 percent of all Ukrainians in the New York part (10,500) and 12 percent in the New Jersey part (5,000) in 2010. As mentioned above, it is difficult to analyze its dynamics as it is a very heterogeneous group. The majority of recent immigrants in this group came from other parts of the former Soviet Union and, to a lesser degree, from Canada.

Data on migration is available for two periods: 1995-2000 and 2009-2010, with the question on country, state or county of residence five years or one year ago, respectively. There are two types of migration: external (to and from the metro area) and internal (migration within the metro area). External migration can be divided into international and within the U.S. In the case of international migration, we only have data on immigration; for migration within the U.S. we have data by state, for both in- and out-migrants.

Of the 11,636 Ukrainians who arrived in the New York Metro Area from abroad during 1995-2000, 86 percent were born in Ukraine. The other major countries of origin are: USSR, Europe (no country stated), Israel and Canada. During this five-year period the metro area had a net loss of 3,311 Ukrainians to the rest of the U.S., with about one-third going to retirement states (Florida and Arizona), 19 percent to northeastern states, 17 percent to southern states, 9 percent to California and 21 percent to the other states.

During the 2009-2010 period 65 percent of all international immigrants came from Ukraine, 4 percent from other Eastern European countries, 21 percent from Western European countries 1.5 percent from Brazil and 9 percent from Asia. (In order to make this one-year migration data equivalent to the 1995-2000 five-year data, we have multiplied the number of 2009-2010 migrants by 5). Within the U.S., the metro area had a net loss of 1,365 migrants for 2005-2010, compared to the 3,311 net migrants for the 1995-2000 period. As we have migration data for only one year, the number of migrants captured is quite small, the data are not very reliable, and we cannot infer with certainty that outmigration from the metro area was about 2.5 times higher during 1995-2000 than during 2005-2010. What probably is true is that the level of outmigration diminished between these two periods. Also, due to these data problems, we are not able to disaggregate the net migration within the U.S. for the 2009-2020 period by state.

Some information about internal migration within the metro area for the 2009-2010 period was presented above. Additional information about migration within the different counties of the metro area can be inferred from maps below, which present relative changes in the total number of Ukrainians in each county during the 2000-2010 period.

Panel A of Table 2 shows the distribution of U.S. born, Fourth Wave and other

immigrants in 2010 by counties in the New York part of the metro area. Brooklyn has by far the largest number of all Ukrainians in the New York part with 41 percent, followed by the northern counties with 15 percent. The Bronx and Staten Island have less than 5 percent each and the other counties have between 7 percent and 12 percent. The northern counties have the highest concentration of U.S. born with 27 percent, followed by Manhattan with 19 percent. The Bronx and Staten Island have less than 5 percent each, and the other counties have between 8.5 percent and 14.5 percent. About two-thirds of all 4th wave immigrants in the New York part reside in Brooklyn. There are practically no Fourth Wave immigrants in the Bronx and less than 2 percent in Nassau and Suffolk. The rest are more or less evenly distributed in Staten Island, Queens and the northern counties, with approximately 10 percent each.

If we examine the composition of each county, between 68 percent and 84 percent of all Ukrainians in Suffolk, Nassau, Manhattan, the northern counties and the Bronx are U.S. born; in the other counties U.S. born comprise less than 50 percent. The largest proportions of Fourth Wave immigrants are found in Brooklyn (68 percent), Staten Island (56 percent) and Queens (40 percent); in the northern counties they make up 18 percent of the total, and in the other counties they are less than 10 percent.

The distribution of Ukrainians in New Jersey counties in 2010 is presented in Panel B of Table 2, and it is fairly uniform. Middlesex, Bergen and Union counties have more than 10 percent each of all Ukrainians in the New Jersey part; four counties – Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon and Hudson – have less than 5 percent each, and the rest between 6 percent and 9 percent each. The distribution of U.S. born among the different counties is fairly similar to the distribution of all Ukrainians, as they comprise 71 percent of all Ukrainians in the New Jersey part.

The distribution of Fourth Wave immigrants, on the other hand, is quite uneven. Two counties, Middlesex and Bergen, have more than 20 percent each of all Fourth Wave immigrants in New Jersey, and Morris and Union counties have around 11 percent each. Three counties, Hunterdon, Sussex and Warren, have practically no Fourth Wave immigrants, and respective percentages in the remaining five counties vary between 4.5 percent and 9 percent.

If we consider the distribution of these three subpopulations within each county, U.S.-born Ukrainians constitute the majority in all counties. In seven of the 12 counties more than 70 percent of all Ukrainians are U.S. born, while in the other five counties the range is between 59 percent and 68 percent. About one-quarter of all Ukrainians in Bergen, Hudson and Middlesex counties are Fourth Wave immigrants; in five counties this percent varies between 12 percent and 18 percent, and there are practically no Fourth Wave immigrants in Hunterdon, Sussex and Warren counties. As indicated before, it is difficult to interpret the distribution of the category other immigrants.

Changes in the number of all Ukrainians and Fourth Wave immigrants between 2000 and 2010 in the different counties are presented in three maps. As shown in Map 1, Manhattan and Staten Island experienced increases among all Ukrainians and Fourth Wave immigrants; the Bronx,

Brooklyn and Nassau County experienced losses in both populations, and Queens and Suffolk County experienced losses among all Ukrainians and gains among Fourth Wave immigrants.

The large increase among all Ukrainians in Staten Island is due mainly to an almost 200 percent increase of the number of Fourth Wave immigrants, from 1,100 in 2000 to 3,200 in 2010. Most of these Fourth Wave immigrants moved from Brooklyn; during this period a total of 6,500 Fourth Wave immigrants moved out of Brooklyn. The Bronx experienced a significant loss in the number of Ukrainians, from 1,900 in 2000 to 1,300 in 2010; in particular, out of the 577 Fourth Wave immigrants in 2000 there were only 84 left in 2010. Total losses in Nassau and Suffolk counties are relatively small. The larger percent changes for Fourth Wave immigrants in these counties (loss in Nassau and gain in Suffolk) are somewhat misleading, as the absolute numbers of Fourth Wave immigrants in both counties are small, i.e., less than 500 in each case. The 27 percent total loss in Queens is due to a 30 percent loss among U.S. born, with the largest stream migrating to Brooklyn.

Map 2 shows 2000-2010 changes for the Northern counties. Overall, there was a 7.4 percent increase in the total number of Ukrainians, with a 5 percent loss among U.S. born and an extraordinary 185 percent increase among Fourth Wave immigrants, from 952 in 2000 to 2,709 in 2010. Of the seven counties only two, Putnam and Orange, had significant gains among all Ukrainians; there was little change in the other counties. With the exception of Putnam and Dutchess counties, all the other counties experienced significant increases among Fourth Wave immigrants during this period, from 104 percent in Rockland to 639 percent in Sullivan and Ulster counties. These increases need to be put in the context of small numbers of Fourth Wave immigrants in practically all these counties in 2000. However, it is a fact that we are witnessing a significant move of Fourth Wave immigrants to these counties.

The New Jersey part experienced a 10 percent loss among all Ukrainians and a 40 percent gain among Fourth Wave immigrants during the 2000-2010 period. County wise the situation is quite complex. In five counties – Sussex, Hudson, Mercer, Hunterdon and Sussex – both all Ukrainians and Fourth Wave immigrants experienced losses. In Hunterdon there were practically no Fourth Wave immigrants, and the loss was only among all Ukrainians; in Sussex the loss among all Ukrainians was minimal and significant only among Fourth Wave immigrants. Gains among all Ukrainians and Fourth Wave immigrants are found in Hudson, Warren and Morris, but the gain was significant only among Fourth Wave immigrants in Hudson and Morris, while Warren had no Fourth Wave immigrants and the gain was among all Ukrainians. In Somerset, Middlesex and Bergen there were losses among all Ukrainians and gains among Fourth Wave immigrants.

Changes in total numbers were relatively small in all counties, while there were large increases of Fourth Wave immigrants in Middlesex (105 percent), Morris (240 percent) and Hudson (276 percent) counties. These percentages need to be put in context: the absolute numbers of Fourth Wave immigrants in these counties are relatively small. The general conclusion is that, over all, the total number of

Ukrainians in the New Jersey part of the metro area is increasing, but mainly due to the migration of Fourth Wave immigrants from New York City.

The Fourth Wave immigration has had an extraordinary effect on the spatial dynamics of Ukrainians in the New York-New Jersey Metropolitan Area. After a very large increase in the total number of Ukrainians during the 1990-2000 decade, in spite of continuing, albeit at a slower pace, immigration from Ukraine, we are back to the declining trend we had before this most recent migration wave. The U.S. born population is on a steady decline, while the growth of the Fourth Wave has entered negative territory, and the other immigrant population is following a similar pattern. This declining trend, most likely to continue and accelerate in the future, is the result of the combined forces of diminishing immigration, mortality, out-migration to other States and assimilation.

Inside the metro area we observe several trends in the redistribution of Ukrainians, and most of this dynamics is determined by Fourth Wave immigrants. Initially, Fourth Wave immigrants settled mostly in the New York part of the metro area, but in recent years more of them have tended to settle in the New Jersey part. A second trend is the gradual migration from New York to New Jersey with some surprising results: first, the volume of outmigration is not large, but has the potential of increasing in the future; second, most of these movers seem to be Fourth Wave immigrants. In the New York part we see two major streams composed mainly of Fourth Wave immigrants: to the northern counties and to Staten Island. Initially, the great majority of Fourth Wave immigrants settled in Brooklyn and in spite of their migration to New Jersey, the northern counties and Staten Island, 68 percent of them still resided in Brooklyn in 2010. Although 56 percent of all Ukrainians in the metro area are U.S. born and the Fourth Wave comprises only 30 percent, they seem to be the main engine of population redistribution within the metro area. The U.S. born population appears to be much less mobile.

This analysis is a very small part of the type of analysis that can be done with the data available. It is possible to extend this type of analysis to any metropolitan area or state, as well as the whole country, with more detailed demographic, socio-economic and cultural variables, as well as housing characteristics, or focus on specific groups like women, school age children, older persons, Fourth Wave immigrants by period of migration, etc. Some of this potential is illustrated on our website: inform-decisions.com/stat. The website has indicators and interactive tables and maps with data for all states and metropolitan areas. The website is also accessible on cellphones and tablets.

During the first 137 days of this year the website had 927 unique visits – an average of seven visits per day. Most of the visits are from the U.S. (about 60 percent) and Ukraine (about 25 percent); hits from other countries include Canada, Poland, Latvia, Russia, Hungary, Austria, United Kingdom, France, Bolivia, Argentina, Qatar, Japan, etc.

Oleh Wolowyna and Vasyl Lopukh are with the Center for Demographic and Socio-Economic Research of Ukrainians in the U.S.

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Inaugural...

(Continued from page 1)

Certainly, not with "strielky," "abvery," "bisy" and other criminals.

I am speaking of the dialogue with peaceful citizens of Ukraine – even with those who have a different opinion on the future of Ukraine. Today, I would like to address compatriots from Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

Our dear brothers and sisters, compatriots!

Many of you have already felt the "pleasures" of the rule of terrorists.

In addition to pillage and abuse of civilians, they led the economy of the region, which has already been in crisis conditions, to the brink of total disaster. But under no circumstances will we leave you in the lurch.

Nationwide presidential elections have put a bold cross on the myth of allegedly illegitimate Kyiv authorities. This myth has been created by Russian propaganda and the clan of Yanukovich who betrayed the Donbas and robbed it even more than the whole country. He has been inseparably ruling the Donetsk region for 17 years. And now, he is funding terrorists.

It is he who shall be totally responsible for the political and socio-economic situation of the region, for unemployment, for poverty and for refugees, for killed citizens and for mothers' tears.

As president, with what will I come to you in the nearest time?

With peace. With a project of government decentralization. With a guarantee of free usage of the Russian language in your region. With the strong intention not to divide people into right and wrong Ukrainians. With respect for the specifics of regions. For the right of local communities to their peculiarities in the issues of historic memory, pantheon of heroes, religious traditions. With a project on creation of

jobs in the east of Ukraine elaborated jointly with our partners from the EU before the elections. With the prospect of investment, with a draft program for the economic reconstruction of the Donbas.

Today, we need a legitimate partner for the dialogue. We will not speak to bandits. Acting local deputies do not represent anyone there already. We are ready to declare early local elections in the Donbas.

This is my peaceful plan for the Donbas and the whole country.

The issue of territorial integrity of Ukraine is not subject to discussion.

I have just sworn "with all my undertakings to protect the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine," and I will always be faithful to this sacred promise.

The number of people with whom I was honored to communicate in the course of the election campaign has exceeded 1 million. Ukraine is diverse, but it is strong and single in spirit! Striving for peace and unity of our state prevails in all regions of Ukraine. I am deeply impressed with the patriotism of citizens in the southern and eastern regions, from Odesa to Kharkiv.

Peace has not come yet, but today we can confidently say that hard challenges united the Ukrainian family. They strengthened us as a Ukrainian political nation that is confident in its European choice. Our people have never been so strong.

But freedom is not given once and forever. One must always struggle for it. The peace that we hope to achieve in the nearest time will not last long unless we strengthen our security properly.

For peace to become lasting, we must get used to living in constant combat readiness. We have to keep the gunpowder dry. The army and its re-equipment by means of the national military-industrial complex is our top priority. Moreover, state orders for military-industrial enterprises will give a boost to reindustrialization of the economy.

Those who begrudge money for the

armed forces feed a foreign army. Our army must become a true elite of the Ukrainian community. The word "general" must be associated with the word "hero," not with the word "corruption."

We ourselves must do everything to ensure lasting peace and security for Ukraine. Our most reliable allies and the best guarantors of peace are our army, fleet, the National Guard and professional special forces! Nobody will protect us until we learn to defend ourselves.

I will use my diplomatic experience to ensure the signature of an international agreement that would replace the Budapest Memorandum. Such an agreement must provide direct and reliable guarantees of peace and security – up to military support in case of threat to territorial integrity.

Any aggressor on the border of Ukraine must remember the saying from the Gospel: for all that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

Citizens of Ukraine will never enjoy the beauty of peace unless we settle down our relations with Russia.

Russia occupied Crimea, which was, is, and will be Ukrainian soil. Yesterday, in the course of the meeting in Normandy, I told this to President Putin: Crimea is Ukrainian soil. Period!

There can be no compromise on the issues of Crimea, European choice and state structure. Anything else shall be discussed and negotiated.

Any attempts of external and internal enslavement of Ukrainians meet and will meet the most determined resistance.

We want to be free. To live in a new way means to live freely under a political system that guarantees the rights and freedoms of the individual and the nation.

I would like to emphasize my commitment to a parliamentary-presidential republic. No usurpation of power!

European democracy for me is the best form of government invented by mankind. It is the European choice which tells us that significant part of powers must be immediately delegated from the center to local governments.

Reform on decentralization will begin this year with amendments to the Constitution. Newly elected local councils will receive new powers.

Still, Ukraine was, is and will be a unitary state. Dreams of federation have no grounds in Ukraine.

Early parliamentary elections are an important part of public request for a full reset of government. Let us be honest! The current composition of this distinguished assembly does not match the mood of society. For it has changed significantly in 2012. A new way to live does not mean to ignore the will of the people.

To live freely means to freely use one's mother tongue. I will be guided by Article 10 of the Constitution. It defines the Ukrainian language as the single state language, but guarantees free development of Russian and other languages.

The words "work," "peace," "salary," "pension," "scholarship" sound alike both in Russian and Ukrainian languages. Availability of work is what enables a person to live comfortably. So far, I got the greatest professional satisfaction from the creation of new jobs. What can console a man more than work and decent salary for it?

Entrepreneurs must create new jobs. And the matter of the president is to ensure conditions such that nobody and nothing interfere with work.

The state will appreciate the contribution of the employer and the taxpayer in the economy and social sphere. Providing people with work and a decent salary is the first guarantee of internal peace and national security.

While economic management falls within the competence of free market or the government, the president as a guarantor of the Constitution is obliged to provide conditions for an innovative economy and social justice.

Fair distribution of national wealth is an urgent demand of time. But we must increase the national wealth before distributing it.

Ukraine has everything to ensure European prosperity for the people. We can and want to live by our own labor; we are able to be creative and innovative. We even learn not to be jealous of the success of our neighbor or colleague. But we are still taking a back seat. Why?

Because unlike us, European countries have built an economy of free competition, an economy of new ideas, business initiative, hard work, constant self-improvement. It will be the same in Ukraine.

But we must eliminate corruption for this end. We need a national anti-corruption pact between the government and the people. It is simple: officials do not take and people do not give.

We won't be able to change the country unless we change ourselves, our attitude to our life and the life of the country. Each of us shares the responsibility for the fact that Ukraine has come to a crisis state.

Someone considered it normal not to pay taxes. Someone lived high at the cost of the state budget. Someone voted and held rallies for money. Someone received undeserved benefits and awards. Together we destroyed the foundation of public trust, principles of law and social organization.

The European choice of Ukraine is the heart of our national ideal. It is a choice made by our ancestors and prophets.

And what exactly do we have to do to live freely, to live comfortably, to live in peace and security? It is written in the agreement on political association and a free trade area with the EU.

Together we have contributed to this document. Now I dream to make it real, and for this end we need to sign the economic part of the agreement as soon as possible. My pen is in my hands and as soon as the EU approves the respective decision, the signature of the president of Ukraine will appear on this fateful document. We have no right to delay the signing of the economic part of the deal.

The same goes for the speedy introduction of a visa-free regime with the EU for Ukraine. We have completed the first stage and we will manage to finish the second stage very quickly for Ukrainians to be able to travel without visas starting from January 2015.

As for the Association Agreement, we consider it as the first step towards full membership in the EU.

Nobody has the right to veto the European choice of Ukraine. To recognize this means to pursue a policy of peace and tranquility in Ukraine. But such policy failed in the '30s of the last century.

To implement our ambitious plans, we need not only peace and unity of the country, but also consolidation of all patriotic, pro-Ukrainian and pro-European forces.

We must always keep in mind the harsh lessons of the national liberation struggle of 1917-1920s of the last century. At that time, our politicians were not able to unite and resist aggression jointly. Volodymyr Vynnychenko fought against Mykhailo Hrushevskyi, Symon Petliura fought against Pavlo Skoropadskyi. And Nestor Makhno fought against all.

Constant quarrels and conflicts among the prominent Ukrainians resulted in the loss of our independence.

Conclusions should be done not only with old archives, but also with recent events. We must not repeat old mistakes and have to ensure coordinated work of the president, the Parliament and the Cabinet.

It's time to build a new big country – a modern, high-tech, tenable, competitive country. Let us consider the experience of countries that have emerged on the political map only a few decades ago, but have become leaders by choosing the development of intellect and modern technologies.

(Continued on page 15)




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UCCA conducts civic education program before Ukraine's presidential election

UCCA

KYIV – The Kyiv office of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America implemented a far-reaching civic education program prior to the May 25 presidential elections in Ukraine. The program, "Electing the New Ukrainian President," broadcast town hall meetings on May 12-20 in the studios of oblast radio stations in seven cities of eastern and southern Ukraine: Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Poltava, Kirovohrad, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizha and Odesa.

The UCCA invited all 21 presidential candidates to participate, broadcasting the town hall meetings to over 7 million listeners.

The program featured an hour long live broadcast, aired at prime time, which familiarized listeners with the platforms of Ukraine's presidential candidates. While all presidential candidates were invited, not all agreed to participate. Those who did participate included presidential candidate Andrii Hrynenko and representatives of candidates Olha Bohomolets, Yuri Boiko, Anatoliy Hrytsenko, Dmytro Yarosh, Vasyl Kuibida, Mykola Malomuzh, Petro Poroshenko, Oleh Tiahnybok, Sergey Tigipko and Yulia Tymoshenko.



At the town hall meeting in Kharkiv.

Oleksandr Piddubny, a journalist with years of experience in television, radio and online media, served as moderator of the town hall meetings. Broadcasts were divided into subtopics featured in the platforms of most presidential candidates: security, power/energy conversion, reporting and control of the election process, and foreign policy. The format used is extremely effective in reaching a wide audience.

The goal of "Electing the New Ukrainian President" was to build confidence in the interactive relationship between citizens and their elected officials. The program did not support any particular candidate, but encouraged Ukraine's voters to acquaint themselves with each candidates' platforms and positions, empowering them to make a rational and considered decision on May 25.

"Bringing the candidates' representatives, who are typically young activists or members of their local city councils, into our studio is extremely effective, both in encouraging dialogue between them and our listeners, and providing these potential future politicians a venue to hone their debating skills," said Bohdan Haydamaka, a producer at Poltava Oblast Radio.

Voters were encouraged to call in their questions to the candidates or their representatives and (with the exception of Dnipropetrovsk, where callers submitted their questions in advance) the exchange between voter and candidate was lively. In Kirovohrad, listeners continued to phone in their questions to candidates for 30 minutes after the meeting had concluded. For many listeners, these town hall meetings were the only access voters had to the candidates.

The UCCA has conducted town hall meetings in the studios of oblast radio stations in 2004, 2006 and 2007. The entire "Choosing a New President" series is available online at MixCloud (<http://www.mixcloud.com/UCCA/>).

Financial support for the program was received from the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and support was provided by the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine.

Inaugural...

(Continued from page 14)

For the most valuable thing is not money, factories or companies, but the "human capital" of Ukraine.

I have no doubt that we will overcome all difficulties, defend the territorial integri-

ty of our country and provide peace and tranquility. Nobody will turn us into slaves of criminals and bureaucracy, servants of the colonial power.

The whole world supports us. Over the past three days I was able to verify that. The whole Ukraine and all Ukrainians worldwide united around the idea of independence, freedom, dignity, rule of law,

European integration.

The people have already had their say – in the course of the revolution, in the course of resistance to the aggression, in the course of the elections. Now it is our turn, the turn of the government.

I extend a hand of peace to those who voted for me and those who did not vote. To everyone who will help establish peace, order

and tranquility in Ukraine. To everyone who believes in the European future of Ukraine.

We, the nation that was isolated from its great European Homeland, are coming home.

Once and for all.

Peace be with us!

May God bless us!

Glory to Ukraine!



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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Los Angeles chapter of UNWLA enjoys a surprise encounter

by Khrystia Schmotolocha

LOS ANGELES – The Los Angeles chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA) annually takes part in the Spring Festival – Sviato Pysanky, held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Los Angeles. This year the event took place on April 6.

The center was filled with a vibrant atmosphere: music, dance performances, the dazzling colors of Ukrainian embroidery and pysanky, and demonstrations of traditional arts and crafts. Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians strolled about, getting acquainted and catching up on the latest news about Ukraine.

This year UNWLA Branch 111 demonstrated the craft of making vinky/vinochky from flowers. A decorative vinok (wreath) enhances any girl's looks, and the resulting smile completes the picture. Luba Keske, Halyna Poliuha and Luda Wussek initiated and worked on the project. As this venue became popular, additional on-site help was provided by Daria Chaikowsky, Olenka Krupa and Tanya Vozniuk.

Another craft, jewelry-making, was demonstrated by chapter member Lidia Tustaniwska Moore. The chance for a made-to-order necklace, bracelet or earrings brought eager young girls and women to her table.

An unusual collection of historic posters of traditional wedding costumes from many regions of Ukraine was displayed. This unique series, belonging to Luba Keske, generated much interest and many comments.

Among the visitors to the festival, was a group of four young women who had recently been with the U.S. Peace Corps in Ukraine. We invited them to our Soyuz Ukrainok table and made introductions. They were delightful young women, full of spirit and enthusiasm, happy and eager to talk about their experiences in Ukraine.

Alyese (Aly) Hobel, Erin Martin, Alison (Ali) Burch and Juliana (Julie) Roh all taught English in Ukraine as Peace Corps volunteers for about two and a half years.



Walter Keske

UNWLA members meet the Peace Corps volunteers at the Spring Festival (from left): Luda Wussek, president of UNWLA Branch 111, Ali Burch, Lidia Tustaniwska Moore, Aly Hobel, Luba Keske, Erin Martin, Julie Roh and Khrystia Schmotolocha.

Two of the young women, Ms. Hobel and Ms. Roh, who were in eastern Ukraine, were evacuated at the end of February, due to escalating political tensions, as was Ms. Martin, from the Chernivtsi Oblast. Ms. Burch, who had been in Zakarpattia, had finished her term in December. She had a chance to travel to Kyiv, to the Maidan, on her way back to the U.S. She showed photos of Christmas trees, one decorated with flags of all the oblasts, as well as photos of protective barriers and peaceful crowds, and said she felt proud to have been there.

Ukraine has one of the longest training programs in the Peace Corps, and the commitment is for 27 months. At first the applicants trained for three months near Kyiv, and then were assigned to their posts. Those who were posted to eastern Ukraine learned Russian, and all the rest learned Ukrainian.

Besides their main task of teaching English, they worked on secondary projects, such as leadership programs, HIV and health education, teacher training and business development.

Ms. Burch went to Ukraine in 2011, and was assigned to the town of Khust in Zakarpattia. She taught students age 16-22 at a technical institute. Ali is third generation Lithuanian on her mother's side. She

became very interested in Ukrainian history, and said, "when you get there, you want to know more." Her own accommodations were comfortable, but she said that wasn't so for everyone.

Ms. Martin lived in Romankivtsi, a small village in Chernivtsi Oblast for two and a half years. She spoke about the friendliness of the people who welcomed her into their families and were very receptive to her presence. She said her appreciation of her own family grew because of "Ukrainians being of such a family-centered culture." She had memorable experiences taking part in various holidays and concerts, and enjoyed seeing her older students helping the younger ones with their English. Keeping in touch with many of her new friends and students is important to Ms. Martin and she said and she will be traveling to Ukraine this summer to see some of her students graduate.

Ms. Hobel also joined the Peace Corps in 2011. She was assigned to Reminna, near Luhansk, where she taught English in all grades – from 1-11. She also helped adults with their English, took an active part in the community, learned Ukrainian dancing, did ballroom dancing and loved making friends. She said she learned about Taras

Shevchenko from her students and said there were many celebrations at every turn and for every occasion. Ms. Hobel noted that she misses her students and talks to them on the Internet. She communicates on Skype everyday with her friends. When she was evacuated, she was very emotional about it, and says that her "heart is with the children there."

Ms. Roh lived in Krasnopolia, Sumy Oblast. She completed 23 months of her assignment before being evacuated. During the time of the Euro-Maidan, everything was peaceful and steady in her town. People talked about what was happening in Kyiv, but there was no violence. The host family with whom she lived, "were the most hospitable people" she had ever met. Ms. Roh still keeps in touch with her host family and students via a social media site. She says that she misses springtime in Ukraine, "when all the cherry trees blossom and people start heading to the forest for the birch juice." Ukraine will always have a special place in her heart, she said, adding that it was the people who made it so.

Meeting these wonderful young women was a highlight for us, and, after gifting each one with a vinok, we invited them to join our next meeting, which was to be held on May 11. Two of the young ladies, Ms. Hobel and Ms. Burch were able to come, and they gave a presentation to the people who had gathered for coffee after services at the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Los Angeles. A short Q&A period followed.

Ms. Burch began with "Khrystos Voskres," and Ms. Hobel greeted everyone with, "Vitayemo vas, nashi Ukrayynski druzy."

A few of the questions were of a political nature, mindful of the current situation in Ukraine. Peace Corps volunteers are supposed to be apolitical, Ms. Hobel said, so she let people talk and she listened. The number one problem, she said, was the propaganda. People didn't know what and whom to believe. Russian TV channels say one thing, and then, Ukrainian news says something else.

(Continued on page 18)

Demonstration in Miami shows support for Ukraine

by Cami Huk

MIAMI – Traditionally, Memorial Day weekend marks the end of the season in Florida and time to go north, where Soyuzivka begins its summer season. And most of the Ukrainian Americans who live in Florida do just that. But, with Sunday, May 25, marking the election in Ukraine, the members of Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 17 in Miami didn't stop their efforts to help Ukraine.

Under sunny skies – and despite temperatures in the 80s, they and members of the Ukrainian American community, held a demonstration in front of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church of Miami, after a moleben conducted by the church's pastor, Father Andriy Romankiv, and Father Marko Semehen, who was visiting from Rome.

UNWLA Branch 17 is known for its organization several months earlier of the Miami Maidan, which was featured on a local TV show. On May 25 its members stood in the heat, holding signs protesting Exxon Mobil's recent deal with Russia and support of Vladimir Putin, reading, "If your car runs smoothly on Exxon oil, so are Russian tanks."



Natalia Sluzar

Ukrainian American community members at a demonstration in support of Ukraine that was held in front of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church of Miami.

Julia Forest, who prepared many of the signs for the original Miami Maidan, created posters worthy of any produced by

Madison Avenue. Others also spent much of the days prior to the demonstration preparing posters, press releases and supplies to sustain the demonstrators. And some, like Natalie Sluzar, traveled from North Port and other Florida cities to help.

Despite the heat, which led some of the yellow and blue balloons to burst, the demonstration, a brainchild of Dzvinika Stefanyshyn, lasted close to two hours. What made this demonstration unusual was that the signs were bilingual – Spanish and English – and thus many Venezuelans and Cubans heartily supported the sentiments of "Putin – Hands off Ukraine" and "Putin is Putler" (comparing Putin to Hitler) with loud honks from their cars as they passed by.

Had the neighborhood been a residential one, there surely would have been complaints about the loud noise the passing cars made, but their horns seemed to give the demonstrators more stamina and encouraged them to run out to the cars to hand out leaflets and answer questions. At one point, the cars stopped long enough to create a minor traffic jam.

Thanks to the Spanish-speaking members of the UNWLA branch, such as Irka Palkaninec and her sister, Christina, and

Uliana Danyliv, who enthusiastically distributed the bilingual fliers and spoke to the Spanish-speaking supporters, the message clearly reached the surrounding population.

Ironically, while no invited press came to this pre-Memorial Day event although press releases were sent out, only the reporters from the left-wing newspaper Militant, a Socialist Workers publication, came to support the demonstration. Surprisingly, they have supported Ukrainian citizens and condemned Mr. Putin's actions in past articles.

As usual with any Ukrainian American event in Miami, Oksana Piaseckyj was on hand to hand out Ukrainian and American flags and to lead the demonstrators in song. The choir of Assumption Church (under the direction of Donna Maksymowich-Waskiewicz) has a reputation of being one of the country's best.

It should be noted that parishioners from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Cooper City, which hosted the Ukrainian American community at a panakhyda, or memorial service, for all the fallen heroes of Maidan a few weeks earlier, also joined the demonstration under the leadership of Ludmila Telebzda.

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Voice of Lviv Euro-Maidan to perform at 2014 Lemko Vatra in the U.S.A.

by Dianna Howansky Reilly

CLIFTON, N.J. – Sofiya Fedyna, the renowned singer from Lviv who played an active role in that city's Euro-Maidan protests, will headline the 14th annual Lemko Vatra festival to be held on the weekend of June 28-29 at the Ukrainian American Youth Association resort in Ellenville, N.Y.

Ms. Fedyna, whose performance at the Vatra will be within the framework of her official visit as president of the World Federation of Ukrainian Lemko Associations, has carved out a career that meshes her interests in both music and international affairs.

Her training as a singer started at age 3, when her parents signed her up for singing lessons and, showing no fear in front of audiences, she made her debut on the stage of the Lviv Opera House. While growing up, Ms. Fedyna participated in various youth vocal groups and developed her voice under various music teachers, including one of her mentors, the prominent Lemko singer Maria Baiko, a professor at the Lviv National Music Academy, National Artist of Ukraine, and recipient of the Taras Shevchenko State Prize.

Together with Ms. Baiko, Ms. Fedyna created two of her four albums, including one of Lemko songs called "Tam pid



Sofiya Fedyna, headliner of the Lemko Vatra festival.

Horom...h Moyim Ridnim Krayu" (There by the Mountain... in my Homeland) in 2007. Ms. Fedyna released another album of Lemko music in the summer of 2012, this time with songs from the various countries where Lemkos had been dispersed, called "Chervena Ruzhychka" (Red Rose).

Ms. Fedyna has toured countries throughout the world, ranging from Canada to the United Kingdom, including perform-

ing at Fringe, the world's largest arts festival.

Parallel to her creative work, Ms. Fedyna studied at Lviv National University in the faculty of international relations, where she defended her doctoral dissertation on the subject of international peace and received a doctorate in political science. She now teaches at her alma mater as an associate professor.

During the recent protests in Ukraine, Ms. Fedyna actively joined the demonstra-

tions and, for two months, became the voice of the Lviv Euro-Maidan. The songs she composed during that time, such as "Vperedden' Rizdva" (Christmas Eve) and "A ya zhyvyi" (I'm alive), which is dedicated to the heroes of the Euro-Maidan, can be heard on social media sites such as YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cidy28pELe4>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1WQ1qLSnA0>).

Speaking about her desire to combine diplomacy with music, Ms. Fedyna has stated: "I want to become an ambassador of peace, so that through my songs I can help solve conflicts... When I see what impact and influence songs have upon people, I believe that my dream is being fulfilled."

For more information about the Lemko Vatra, which is organized by the Organization for the Defense of Lemkivshchyna (OOL), visit www.lemkoool.com, send an e-mail to president@lemkoool.com, or call 917-678-4168. For more information about Ms. Fedyna's itinerary in the U.S., including proposals regarding meetings and presentations, readers may contact the OOL. For more information about Ms. Fedyna, see her official site: sofiyafedyna.com.

Diana Howansky Reilly is press officer for the Organization for the Defense of Lemkivshchyna.

Los Angeles...

(Continued from page 16)

People were pitted against each other, even in families. Ms. Burch said she witnessed a family that had split up because of

opposing beliefs. She also saw people coming from eastern Ukraine to Ivano-Frankivsk to escape the turmoil.

Anti-American sentiment was not evident anywhere in Ukraine when the volunteers first arrived, but was definitely present in eastern Ukraine during the last few

months, the young women said.

When asked what is their hope for Ukraine, they answered: A fair and free election, and a united Ukraine.

These young women are to be commended on their intelligence, self-assurance and public speaking skills. They shine

with bright personalities, warmth and caring. Their love for Ukraine, the people with whom they have become close friends there, the children they taught, and their positive experiences are what brought them to our Ukrainian community. We welcome them!

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OUT & ABOUT

Through July 27 Chicago	Art exhibit, "Morris Barazani: Shoots Straight, 1948-2014," Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522	July 1 Ottawa	Canada Day Concert, "Musical Kaleidoscope," Ukrainian Dnipro Choir of Edmonton, First Baptist Church, 780-430-6407 or info@dniprochoir.com
June 20 Mundare, AB	Ed Stelmach Charity golf tournament, Ukrainian Resource and Development Center at MacEwan University, Whitetail Crossing Golf Course, 780-497-4373	July 4-6 Ellenville, NY	Nadiya Ye! Festival, featuring Motor'rolla from Ukraine, Ukrainian American Youth Association resort, 845-647-7230 or www.cym.org/us-ellenville
June 20 Chicago	Black and white cocktail party, "Celebrate the Summer Solstice," Ukrainian National Museum, 312-421-8020 or www.ukrainiannationalmuseum.org	July 4-6 Alberta	Vegreville Ukrainian Pysanka Festival, www.pysankafestival.com or 780-975-8577
June 21 Perth Amboy, NJ	Ukrainian Cultural and Heritage Festival, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, www.assumptioncatholicchurch.net or 732-827-0767	July 5 Lehigh, PA	Camp performance and dance, Ukrainian Folk Dance Workshop, 570-708-1992
June 21 Ottawa	Concert, featuring "Pikkardiis'ka Tertsya," St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine, 613-723-1673	July 5 Jewett, NY	Benefit concert, featuring Spanish guitarist Virginia Luque, Grazhda Concert Hall, www.grazhdamusicandart.org
June 28 Acton, ON	Ukrainian Canadian Music Festival "Zolotyj Klen," Ukrainian Youth Association camp Veselka, www.zolotyjklen.com	July 5 Caledon, ON	Golf tournament, Ukrainian Golf Association of Canada, Osprey Valley Resorts Golf Club, 519-927-9034 or www.ugolf.ca
June 28-29 Ellenville, NY	Lemko Vatra festival, Organization for the Defense of Lemkivshchyna, Ukrainian American Youth Association camp, 845-647-7230 or lemko-ool.com	July 11 Acheson, AB	Golf tournament, Ukrainian Cheremosh Society, The Ranch Golf Course, 780-470-4700
June 28-29 Kerhonkson, NY	Tennis tournament, USCAK-East 2014, Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, 215-576-7989 or 215-266-3943	July 11-13 Kerhonkson, NY	Ukrainian Cultural Festival, Soyuzivka Heritage Center, www.soyuzivka.com
June 29 Edmonton, AB	60th anniversary concert, Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble of Edmonton, Shoctor Theater/Citadel, info@dniprochoir.com	<i>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.</i>	
July 1-2 Lehigh, PA	Gerdany beading workshop, Ukrainian Homestead, www.ukrhomestead.com or 215-657-1758		

Pressure mounts...

(Continued from page 2)

Ukrainian people as they work to restore political and economic stability. Until Russia clearly demonstrates its respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integ-

ity, United with Ukraine says it will continue to apply pressure that will further isolate Russia economically, culturally and politically.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress and the Ukrainian World Congress are supporting the campaign to revoke Russia's hosting of the 2018 World Cup. UWC President

Eugene Czolij stated: "The Ukrainian World Congress calls for FIFA to add its voice to the condemnation of Russia's actions by the international community by revoking Russia's privilege to host the 2018 World Cup, an honor of which Russia has proven itself unworthy."

The FIFA World Cup is one of the most

prestigious sporting events in the world. It is broadcast in more than 200 countries, and the championship match will be watched by more than 700 million people.

The Ukrainian World Congress has called also for a worldwide boycott of goods made in Russia in response to Russia's aggression against Ukraine.



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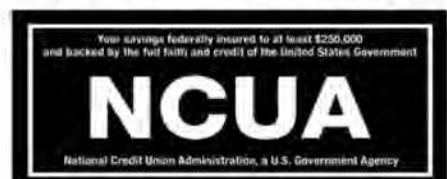
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2014 SUMMER SEASON

June Schedule

June 22-28

Tabir Ptashat session 1

June 27-29

USCAK-sponsored
Tennis Tournament

Fri - June 27

Tiki Deck -Zuki & Mike

Sat June 28

Zabava – NaZdorovya

June 29 -July 5

Tabir Ptashat session 2

July Schedule

Fri - July 4

Tiki Deck - Hrim

Sat - July 5

Zabava - Hrim

July 11-13

Soyuzivka Cultural Festival

July 18-20

Ukrainian Adoption Weekend

Fri - July 18

Tiki Deck – Zuki & Mike

Sat - July 19

Zabava - Luna

July 25-27

Fri - July 25

Tiki Deck -EMCK

Sat - July 26

Zabava - NaZdorovya

August Schedule

August 1-3

Thurs July 31 & Fri - Aug 1

Chornomorska Sitch & CYM
Sports Competition

Fri - Aug 1

Tiki Deck - EMCK

Sat - Aug 2

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance
Camp Dance Recital – Zabava Hrim

August 9-16

Club Suzie Q Week

Fri - Aug 8

Tiki Deck – Zuki & Mike

Sat - Aug 9

Zabava Miss Soyuzivka Weekend

August 15 - 17

Fri - Aug 15

Tiki Deck - Zuki & Mike

Sat - Aug 16

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Recital
Zabava - Fata Morgana

August 29 - 31

Labor Day Weekend TBA

- Zabavy – Klopit – entertainment
- USCAK sponsored Tennis Tourney
- Chornomorska Sitch sponsored Swimming Tourney

