

HERALD BICHIK

ЖОВТЕНЬ, 2009р. HOME P 217 PIK XVIII

OCTOBER 2009 NO. 217 VOL. XVIII Price \$2.25

The Economy Stays Bad

For some time, we have been hearing and reading about the economic recovery, but the picture being projected has been very uneven and, for working people, continuing bad.

For example, back on August 17, an article in the *Toronto Star* reporting on a Canadian Press Harris-Decima poll had the positive headline “Canadians upbeat about recovery”. The story reported that Canadians thought things were really turning around, which coincidentally coincided with the projections of Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney, “who has all but declared the recession over”.

The article was actually reporting on a survey taken July 23-26.

Furthermore, it indicated that Mr. Carney was hedging his optimism heavily. While projecting summer quarter growth of 1.3%, he made that dependent on massive governmental stimulus and keeping the central bank interest rate at 0.25%.

Three days later, the “Star” reported that “Prices fall, but we don’t feel flush”. That article looked at the inflation rate. While the inflation rate was down by 0.9% in July, most of the drop was in the price of gasoline and in mortgage interest rates.

On a wide range of goods, prices were up: food, health and personal care, alcohol and tobacco, cable TV and high-speed internet, home and mortgage insurance, and property taxes.

The articles did not mention the effect of increased service charges and fees which were imposed by the financial institution that feel so positive about the recovery.

A month later on September 18, in an article called “Grocery items chew incomes”, the *Toronto Star* indicated that August was another month of negative inflation during which the price of food continued to rise. Combined with continued high and growing unemployment rates (officially 8.7% in August — the highest in 11.5 years), rising underemployment (27,100 more jobs in August — all of them part time) and depressed wage rates.

On average, Canadians devote about 10.4% of their spending to food, but poor people spend 16.9% for food, while the rich spend 7.9%. So, how does it work? The rich feel great about cheaper air fares, and don’t feel the food price increases; the poor don’t feel the benefit of cheaper air travel but suffer badly under rising food prices. Who do you think feels optimistic?

Business bankruptcies are down (only the strong still survive, mostly), but consumer (that’s mostly us) bankruptcies are still way up, compared to a year earlier, and are expected to be high for the rest of the year.

New provisions have been added to legislation dealing with bankruptcies and like matters, effective September 18, 2009. This is a quite technical area of which I have limited

knowledge, but the essence seems to be that a previous limit has been raised. Whereas, earlier, only debtors who owed less than \$75,000.00 which they could not repay could make a partial repayment proposal to avoid bankruptcy, that limit has been raised to \$250,000.00. The examples given in the newspaper report on the change suggest that the creditors may be able to recover more of the debt, though over an extended time, and the debtor may have lower payments.

At least one bankruptcy trustee does not like the new arrangements for people with modest incomes, “because they make it more difficult for a person to get a fresh start”.

Looking to the future does not leave people feeling better.

First, nobody is predicting a turnaround soon in the factors already mentioned (jobs, food prices, and so on) which have the greatest impact on working people.

Second, Ontario, which has a rather large portion of Canada’s working people, is restructuring its taxes, with the harmonized sales tax, to make many items previously exempt from provincial sales tax fully taxable. The offsetting compensation which is foreseen will leave many working people worse off than they were before the changes.

Third, governments have resorted to deficit financing for economic stimulus. Some of those governments are already talking about eliminating those deficits and paying down the debt while reducing taxes. If history is any indicator, that combination will be accomplished by cutting program spending (meaning cutting some programs and reducing others) which bodes ill for working people — more privatization, and new or higher user fees.

Davis Denison, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, said in a speech reported in the “Star” on September 17 that Canadians are not saving enough for a comfortable retirement.

Freedom 55 is just a pipe dream for most people, as are freedom 65 and even freedom 75. Eleven million Canadians have no private pension. Most of those who do have RRSPs and/or company pension plans have been hard hit by the financial crisis.

— Wilfred Szczesny

The Poor Economy Is Damaging Health

We like to think that our health care system removes financial concerns from health care issues. However, that is only true to a limited extent; that is, within the limits of coverage by the health plan. Medical coverage in Canada is a tremendous benefit to residents in the country, but many medical goods and services are not covered. Consequently, many people have difficulty looking after their health needs.

With a high level of unemployment, tight restrictions on access to employment insurance, the change in the economy to part-time and lower-pay jobs, and problems involved in accessing the social welfare system, more people are finding that their economic circumstances are affecting their health.

On September 18, *The Globe and Mail* reported on a poll commissioned by the Canadian Medical Association (a poll conducted annually for the last nine years). The poll found that many residents of Canada, particularly in lower income brackets, are making ends meet by stinting on their spending for health.

32% of the people polled reported spending less on food. 16% of those surveyed reported skipping meals, to save money.

24% have cancelled or postponed a dental appointment to save money. Of course, many people don’t even think about spending money on a dentist until a problem becomes too painful to bear.

23% reported losing sleep because of financial worries.

22% cut back on recreational activities or sports to save money.

14% delayed buying prescription drugs, or didn’t buy them at all to save money.

10% delayed or cancelled a doctor’s appointment. A visit to the doctor is covered, but the transit ticket is not. Nor is the frustration of a too-expensive-prescription or referral.

The recession is certainly a major factor in the difficulties people find in getting their health needs, but it is not the only one.

Adding to the picture is the decades-long trend to privatizing services which used to be provided, without out-of-pocket costs, in hospitals, but are now user-pay.

Adding to the picture, too, are measures to “rationalize” the system and make it more “efficient” by centralizing some services, with resulting increased costs to patients for transportation and, sometimes, accommodations.

It is hard to foresee any general improvement in this situation, given the current concerns about governmental budget deficits. It may be that some particular improvement may be made, as happened to an extent with wait times in Ontario emergency rooms, but the financing will come at the cost of expenditure somewhere else. When Premier Harris was cutting taxes and programs, some well-off people said, “Let us pay the taxes; don’t hit the poor.” However, most of the wealthier said, “Thanks. I deserve this more than they do.”

— Volodymyr Lucky

In This Issue

25 years Together	8
About Shevchenkove	16
Another Innocent Violated	4
As the World Turns	15
AUUC Regina Branch	
Appeal	8
Olga Botan	14
The Charge Lives on	4
Commentary	4
Current Eclectic	11
Danny Schur Replies	11
Editorial	4
The Fellow Traveller	15
From Our History	3
Hahilka Choir’s 65 Years	8
Happy Birthday, Friends	16
Ivan Franko Manor	
Opened	3
Join Us!	14
Joke Time	12
Myron Shatulsky	2,10
Odds and Ends	10
Sustaining Fund	12
Taras Shevchenko	
Museum	16
Through the Financial	
Maze	2
The Toronto Declaration	13
Toronto Anniversary	
Celebrations	9
Ukrainian News Briefs	5
Ukrainian Pages	6, 7
Who, What, When,	
Where	12

PUBLICATIONS MAIL 40009476
POSTMASTER: IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO
KOBZAR PUBLISHING CO. LTD. 595 PRITCHARD AVENUE
WINNIPEG MB R2W 2K4

Voyeurism

If you walk around with a nude photo of your infant child or toddler, you could find yourself Tasered by a cop accusing you of being a pedophile.

That same cop might Taser you for objecting too strenuously to allowing a camera to strip you naked at an airport.

It was reported in *The Sunday Sun* in Toronto on September 13 that the technology had been tested at Kelowna airport in British Columbia.

Most of those subjected to the scan did not realize that their nude body was being studied.

Assurances notwithstanding, in time your choice will be to comply, or not to fly — stripping for national security.

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Ivan Franko Manor Opened At Historic Joint Convention

The material on this page appeared in the November, 1984, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*, but described events on October 6 of that year.

— Story photos: Wilfred Szczesny



The ribbon-cutting at the ceremony opening Ivan Franko Manor in Winnipeg on October 6, 1984, was done by Nick Lypka, Jeanna Strutinsky, Cindy Miller, Roy Nichol, and John Bucklashchuk.

The AUUC-WBA Joint Convention, held in Winnipeg on Saturday, October 6, was attended by 194 delegates and guests and an uncounted number of observers. It was organized in three distinct parts, each with its own significance.

The morning session, jointly chaired by Association of United Ukrainian Canadians President Peter Krawchuk and Workers Benevolent Association President Anthony Bilecki, heard papers, considered joint resolutions and witnessed special presentations.

Following the declaration by P. Krawchuk that, the majority of AUUC branches being registered and in attendance, the 36th Convention of the AUUC was in session, WBA National Secretary Zenovy Nykolyshyn presented the first paper. *The Ivan Franko Manor — "The Dream — a Reality"*, in detailing some of the history of the planning and erection of the new building, addressed the philosophical and socio-political aspects of such a project. "Ivan Franko Manor is a unique, progressive concept of housing for elderly persons, whose needs were carefully researched...", and the result is housing which will allow Senior Citizens "to select their activities, rather than the approach of a sheltered and forced sedated time until the inevitable death arrives."

"In conclusion, and in the light of all the facts," Nykolyshyn concluded, "we believe you will agree that our achievement has been a tremendous one."

The Might of the Printed Word, a survey history of publishing activity by the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community with special emphasis

on the role played by The Workers and Farmers Publishing Association Ltd. was presented by Peter Krawchuk. In addition to reviewing the quantity of printed material produced in the past, the paper presented an analysis of the importance of the press to the community. "It is through our printed word that we will find and recognize our glorious history, understand the importance of the present day and prepare ourselves for the future," said Krawchuk after outlining key elements of the publishing program projected for the coming years.

Following the presentation of Peter Krawchuk's paper, Nick Hrynchshyn, secretary of Kobzar Publishing Company Ltd, introduced the book *Our Stage*. Each delegate and guest at the session received a complimentary copy in honour of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the WFPA.

Another press presentation was made — to Nadia Niechoda for gathering the greatest number of new subscribers during the last campaign for *The Ukrainian Canadian*.

During the morning, a number of resolutions were adopted. The one with the greatest potential consequences, presented by Mitch Sago, authorized the formation of the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research, which will have as its main purpose "to open new avenues of research into Ukrainian labour history". The next resolution of the convention named Peter Krawchuk, William Harasym, Anthony Bilecki, Zenovy Nykolyshyn and Mitch Sago to the committee charged with launching and organizing the new centre for scholarly re-

search.

Also adopted that morning were: *Resolution on the 40th Anniversary of the End of World War II*, presented by William Harasym, in which a program for the 1985 celebrations was presented; *Greetings to the People of Soviet Ukraine on the 40th Anniversary of Liberation from Hitler Occupation*, presented by William Philipovich; *Resolution on Peace*, which contained five action points, and *Resolution on the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign*, congratulating the organizers of the campaign on their "dedicated efforts to ensure a peaceful and secure future for all", both presented by Lari Prokop; a resolution supporting the 12th World Youth Festival to be held in Moscow in 1985, presented by Lydia Hedrich; and a resolution, presented by Anthony Bilecki, containing a ten-point program of activity for the celebration of the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

Volodymyr Brovchenko, chairman of Society Ukraina, brought greetings from that society, from the Ukrainian Republican Peace Committee, and from the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

The afternoon was devoted to ceremonies officially opening Ivan Franko Manor and unveiling a bust of Ivan Franko.

Zenovy Nykolyshyn, presiding over the unveiling, called on V. Brovchenko who, after appropriate remarks, unveiled the bust, a gift from the Ukrainian people through Society Ukraina to Ivan Franko Manor. After the choir and orchestra of the Winnipeg AUUC, conducted by Hazel Skulsky, sang "The Eternal Revolutionary", flowers were placed at the base of the bust by students of the AUUC dance school in Winnipeg, representatives of the NEC-WBA and NEC-AUUC, the Winnipeg AUUC-WBA Coun-

cil, and representatives of the two organizations from the provinces.

WBA Vice-President Jim Skulsky conducted the Ivan Franko Manor opening ceremonies. The gathering was addressed by Manitoba's Minister of Housing John Bucklashchuk, the provincial director of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Roy Nichol, the Minister of Culture and Industry Eugene Kostyra, Burrows constituency MLA Conrad Santos, city council member William Chornopyski, legal counsel for Ivan Franko Manor Kenneth Galanchuk, and architects Orest Sedun and James McFeetors.

The ribbon was cut by WBA founding member and resident of Ivan Franko Manor Nick Lypka and Messrs. Nichol and Bucklashchuk, assisted by Jeanna Strutinsky and Cindy Miller. Following the cutting of the ribbon, those present were able to inspect the interior of the building.

(Continued on Page 14.)



Tied in with the opening of Ivan Franko Manor was the unveiling of a bust of Ivan Franko, donated to the Manor by the Ukrainian people through Society Ukraina.



Hazel Skulsky conducted the Winnipeg AUUC choir and orchestra at the ceremonies unveiling the bust of Ivan Franko and the official opening of Ivan Franko Manor.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

HERALD**Editor-in-Chief**
Wilfred Szczesny**Editorial Board**

Myron Shatulsky

Lucy Antoniw

Bureaux

Edmonton — Mike Uhryn

Ottawa — Bob Seychuk

Regina — Al Lapchuk

Sudbury — Vicki Gilhula

Toronto — George Borusiewicz

Vancouver — Dianna Kleparchuk

Winnipeg — Brent Stearns

Published monthly by Kobzar Publishing Company Ltd.
595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2K4
Phone: (800) 856-8242; Fax: (204) 589-3404
E-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

Ukrainian Canadian Herald editorial offices are located
at 1604 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 1A7
Phone: 416-588-1639; Fax: 416-588-9180
E-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.com

Subscription price: \$30.00 annually (including GST)
\$40.00 Foreign subscriptions.
Advertising rates available on request.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

Signed articles represent the viewpoint of the author, and do not
necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.

Another Violated Innocent

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

I'm glad that you have nothing to fear. Me, I'm becoming terrified — not because I am guilty of some crime or because I have something to hide, but because there are so many instances of innocents being violated and treated brutally.

The most recent example is the case of Bruce McArthur reported in *The Globe and Mail* on September 15 and the *Toronto Star* on September 16.

Mr. McArthur, 75 years old, visited his daughter and her family on August 9. When he left for home, he left behind a bit of a family history/autobiography. The document included discussion of death, expressing his preference for choosing the time and manner of his passing, rather than wasting away from some disabling disease.

At home, he showered and went to bed, only to receive a call from a 911 operator, asking about his state of mind. Finishing that conversation, he phoned to his daughter's house, a conversation interrupted by a knock on his door — two paramedics ("ambulance guys") asking to enter.

He allowed them in, and after some time they accepted that he was not suicidal. The paramedics had either just left or were leaving when two of Toronto's "finest" arrived. Silently they backed him into his bedroom and against his bed. Then they announced that they were taking him into custody and to a hospital.

When Mr. McArthur protested, they threw him face down on his bed and applied handcuffs. With the thin skin on his wrists bleeding profusely, and the bed bloody, they marched him down the hall, and into the ambulance, where the paramedics convinced them to take off the cuffs.

Mr. McArthur was taken to St. Michael's Hospital, and was released at about 4:00 a.m.

Mr. McArthur's family was concerned, and instead of talking to him, called 911. They surely did not expect such violence to ensue.

The paramedics spent a fair amount of time to determine that there was, in fact, no problem.

The police officers, apparently, just wanted to get their job done, with no nonsense and whatever level of force they deemed necessary. Mr. McArthur was lucky not to be bludgeoned or Tasered before being handcuffed.

Scary? I think so!

COMMENTARY

The Charge Lives On

The Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) for 2009 is now history, and the debate around the City to City program has moved on to other matters. Nevertheless, the discussion had some interesting aspects which are worth reviewing because they have reflection in a broad range of debates.

Over a year ago, Israel began a campaign, first conceived years earlier, to "re-brand" Israel, a propaganda offensive to improve the country's image, more urgent now in the wake of the attack on Gaza, criticism of the "security wall", and other public relations disasters which have even led to growing tensions between Israel and its American patron.

In an article in the September 8, 2009, issue of the *Globe and Mail*, Naomi Klein points out that, over a year ago, Israeli diplomats were talking openly about this Israeli public relations offensive. This "talking" included an article in the August 28, 2008, issue of *Canadian Jewish News* quoting Amir Gissin, the Israeli Consul-General in Toronto, as indicating an intent to have a major Israeli presence in the Toronto International Film Festival in 2009 (that is, this year).

Back on August 27, 2008, too, *The Jerusalem Post* web site posted an article outlining the "Israeli pilot program in Toronto", an article well worth reading. Among other matters, the article mentions that, "Most of the advertising budget for the pilot program is being provided by local philanthropists."

One would expect Israel to put its best foot forward and try to divert people from concern about Israeli violations of international law. There is nothing surprising or unex-

pected about that.

The TIFF inaugurated its City to City program at this year's festival, and chose Tel Aviv as the city to feature. In her article on September 8 mentioned above, Ms. Klein makes reference to "The Toronto Declaration: No Celebration under Occupation".

The letter, now signed by a huge number of supporters, is available on the internet, but I have not seen it printed in the Toronto dailies or other commercial press, which (however) have printed numerous criticisms, rebuttals and scathing attacks directed both at the letter and at its supporters. (To be fair, some of the media have printed material on both sides of the issue.)

To allow our readers to judge for themselves both the contents of the letter and the validity of the attacks, "The Toronto Declaration: No Celebration under Occupation", subtitled "An Open Letter to the Toronto International Film Festival: September 2, 2009" is printed on page 13. (Note: the document is printed as it appeared on the web site torontodeclaration.blogspot.com, without editing to bring it into conformity with the "UCH" stylebook.)

A bit of chronology could be helpful.

On August 28, filmmaker John Greyson withdrew his film *Covered* from the TIFF, with an open letter giving his reasons. Judy Rebick posted the letter on her blog on August 29.

On September 1, Jerome Courshon, a producer and writer from Los Angeles issued a vitriolic response to Mr. Greyson. Mr. Courshon's mis- sive was an example, but not the only one, of the worst kind of "discussion". He used in- temperate language, misrepresented the contents of John

Greyson's open letter, at- tacked the quality of the movie *Covered* and the motives of John Greyson. Instead of recognizing the legitimacy of in- ternational concerns about Is- rael's activity, he just dis- missed it, hinting that it was nothing but anti-Semitism. (What do I mean "hinting"? He wrote of the situation in the United Nations, where only the United States consist- ently supports Israel, as speaking, "... volumes about the world's prejudices still ex- isting today. Volumes.")

On September 2, a commit- tee of eight cultural workers, five of them Jews of whom one is from Israel (the rest are from Canada, including John Greyson), issued "The Toronto Declaration". The "Declaration" was immedi- ately the target of an attack that grew ever more vituperative, until the language was such as to make Jerome Courshon's letter appear to be a model of restraint.

An example is the letter by Robert Lantos posted by the *National Post* on September 11. In a fashion typical of some writers for the *National Post*, Mr. Lantos seems to set himself the task of finding whether the "NP" has any boundaries on abuse of freedom of speech (it doesn't seem to), while at the same time avoiding any sem- blance of reasonable or rational argument.

Thus Robert Santos calls Naomi Klein a liar, while him- self making a statement which is a boldfaced lie, unless it is accompanied by some sort of clarification. "There was no such thing as Palestine prior to 1948," he writes, just as baldly as that, without telling us what the League of Nations was so concerned with in the 1920s, what the British Mandate was all about, and so on. This concern for truth in- forms the rest of his article.

It should be noted, as is stated in "The Toronto Declaration", that among Israel's Canadian partners in launch- ing Brand Israel was one of *The Jerusalem Post's* "local philanthropists" David Asper of Canwest Global Communi- cations, which owns the *National Post*.

Similar themes, if different linguistic tones, came from other quarters.

For example, a Dr. Howard Tannenbaum, a professor at the University of Toronto, wrote, in a letter published in the *Toronto Star* on Septem- ber 9, of "the utter hypocrisy of those who are threatening to withdraw from the TIFF". The only publicized with- drawal from the TIFF was by John Greyson, at the end of August. All other indications that I have seen or heard stressed that there was no call to boycott, and no protest against any of the Israeli films

(Continued on Page 13.)

SEE US ON THE WEB!

Edmonton AUUC, Trembita Ensemble
www.ukrainiancentre-edm.ca

Regina AUUC, Poltava Ensemble
<http://www.poltava.ca/>

Taras Shevchenko Museum:
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum

Vancouver AUUC
<http://www.auucvancouver.ca/>

ADVERTISING RATES

1 page \$600.00
1/2 \$350.00

Smaller Ads:
\$5.00 per col./cm
(or \$12.50 per col./inch)
Plus G.S.T.

We invite readers to submit their views in let- ters to the editor. Letters must be signed. Letters may be edited, but their sense will not be changed.

Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

“No” To Anti-Semitism

At a reception held on September 6 by the Jewish community in the western Ukrainian city of Uzhhorod, Rabbi Berel Lazar, Chief Rabbi of Russia, abjectly refused to be honoured by the Mayor of Uzhhorod.

The drama took place after the uncovering of a special memorial commemorating the Jews murdered in Uzhhorod during the Holocaust. Towards the end of the event, a representative of the Mayor attempted to award Rabbi Lazar with a medal of honour. However, the Rabbi refused to accept the medal due to anti-Semitic remarks that the Mayor made in public.

Mayor Serhiy Ratushnyak is known to have made anti-Semitic remarks on several occasions. In a recent election campaign he called an opponent “an impudent little Jew.” He later told a news agency, “I don’t like Jews.”

The incident is a worrying sign of persistent anti-Semitism in a country that lost 1.4 million Jews, many of them in western Ukraine, during the Second World War.

Rabbi Lazar said he would not take the medal until Mayor Ratushnyak apologizes to the Jewish community.

World’s Biggest Flower Clock

The biggest flower clock in the world, built in Kyiv, and installed on the slope of Instytutka Street (near *Maidan Nezalezhnosti* — Independence Square) on August 23, was damaged after only two days of operation. People trampled on it while taking pictures, and as a result, the clock hands got bent.

“Unfortunately, due to the carelessness and irresponsible actions of some citizens a unique clock-work has been considerably damaged,” said Yuriy Khaev, the director of Kyivzelenstroï (green plantings) municipal company.

Fortunately the gears were not damaged, so the repairs and testing took only a few weeks. A small fence was built around the clock to protect it and to prevent people from riding on the hands.

The mayor’s office has asked the militia to patrol the vicinity of the clock.

The dial diameter of the clock is 16.5 metres, while the overall diameter is 19.5 metres. Its minute hand is 7 metres long, while its hour hand is 4 metres long. About 50,000 flowers (mainly begonias, kalanchoe, and chrysanthemums) were planted on its

face.

The second biggest flower clock in the world is located in Tehran (the capital of Iran), and has a dial diameter of 15.5 metres.

Adoption Blocked

Sir Elton John can not adopt a 14-month-old Ukrainian boy because he is not married and because he is too old.

The entertainment star, 62, had said that he hoped to adopt a boy whom he met while touring an orphanage. But Ukrainian government minister Yuriy Pavlenko stated that the age difference between an adoptive parent and a child must be 45 years or less.

Furthermore, added the minister, Sir Elton John’s civil partnership with David Furnish would not be recognized in Ukraine as a marriage.

“The law is the same for everybody — for a president, for a minister, for Elton John,” said Mr. Pavlenko.

Sir Elton said at a press conference in Ukraine that the boy, whom he met at an orphanage for children whose lives had been affected by HIV/AIDS, “had stolen my heart.”

He and his partner, David Furnish, 46, had always “talked about adoption”, he said. “But having seen Lev (the Ukrainian boy), I would love to adopt him.”

Elton John and David Furnish (a Canadian) were married in 2005 in one of Britain’s first legalized civil partnerships.

Two years ago the singer gave a free concert on the main square in Kyiv, attended by tens of thousands of people, to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS.

Ukraine has the fastest-rising HIV rate in Europe.

Back To 1917?

Encyclopedia Britannica — “By the time of the Russian Revolution of 1917, more than 70% of Ukraine’s population was illiterate. The Soviets’ policy of compulsory education helped to wipe out illiteracy in the younger generation, and virtually the entire adult population can now read and write.”

Encyclopedia Wikipedia — “Due to the Soviet Union’s emphasis on total access of education for all citizens . . . the literacy rate (in Ukraine) is an estimated 99.4%.”

2009 (after 18 years of capitalism) — “One of the main problems of Ukrainian education is its low quality. In the mid-’90s, the number of universities and other educational institutions mushroomed. *Half of them were*

private (my emphasis - GB).

Currently we have 881 universities, colleges, and technical schools, while France, with a similar numbers of citizens, only has 80 or so.

We had professors and academicians who received their honours in a dubious manner and lack professional knowledge required for teaching.

We had universities that accepted students without any transparent exam system and not on the basis of merit.” (Quotation from Ivan Vakarchuk, currently Ukraine’s Minister of Education).

Bank Official Resigns

Oleksandr Savchenko, Deputy Head of Ukraine’s National Bank (central bank), resigned recently. The resignation, and a currency corruption probe, are threatening to plunge Ukraine’s central bank into turmoil, undermining Kyiv’s ability to stabilize its currency and pull out of a deep recession.

Ukraine’s currency, the hryvnia, has plunged more than 10% in recent weeks and 44% in the past twelve months.

Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko has initiated an investigation into the reasons for the currency crash, and hinted darkly that central bankers have been “plundering” tens of millions of dollars by taking part in currency manipulations, and providing financial assistance to friendly banks for kickbacks.

The controversy will place a further cloud over Ukraine, which has received \$11 billion from the International Monetary Fund in the past year in an effort to keep the country from sliding into an economic melt-down.

Pay Up! Or Else!

A Ukrainian power company used a photograph of a German World War II soldier in an attempt to convince customers to pay their utility bills.

Posters in an advertising campaign running in the east Ukrainian city Donetsk depict a dejected German Wehrmacht soldier in winter clothing, with the words: “They froze because of their stupidity and greed . . . and you?”

The Donetsk power company was to use the poster to convince local residents to pay their heating and water bills or else, according to reports.

Because heating and water were free in socialist Ukraine, non-payment of utility bills in capitalist Ukraine is widespread. Utility companies face difficulty in cutting off

individual customers because the city systems lack the technical means to switch off a single family without cutting off supplies to an entire apartment building, or even an entire city block.

Deaflympics

The Deaflympics (previously called World Games for the Deaf) are an IOC (International Olympic Committee) event at which deaf athletes compete at an elite level.

The first such competitions took place in 1924 in Paris, France, and have been held every four years since.

The latest ones were held in Taipei, the capital city of Taiwan, and were just completed on September 14, 2009.

The athletes from Ukraine did themselves proud! They won 19 Gold Medals out of a total of 85 available, 22 Silver Medals out of 95 available, and 25 Bronze Medals out of 88 available.

The total medal count of 66 put Ukraine in second place, behind Russia, who took a total of 97 medals. In third place was Korea, who took a total of 34 medals.

Hooray for our side!

Five Minute Seduction

Lonely men in Kyiv can now learn the secrets of seduction from a 24-year-old “master” at special courses starting from Hr 1,000 (about \$125).

Some of his teachings:

Do not cave in to her.

Do not call her more than she calls you.

Do not do more for her than she does for you.

Do not pay for her more than she pays for you.

Do not love her more than she loves you.

(Wow, this is going to be easy. I can hardly wait to try it out!)

Apparently these are some of the main rules of professional pick-up artists. Now, everyone can go to school to learn these and more lessons of love and lust.

PickupArt Centre in Kyiv is open for business.

Anton Golovnya, a 24-year-old pick-up coach at PickupArt Centre makes the following claim, “Any man can seduce any woman to sex in five minutes. I did it and I can teach any man to do it.”

(Do WHAT to a woman in five minutes? This is Toronto The Good, not Sin City Winnipeg or Wild West Regina.

Holy Cow! Where did I leave the Viagra pills? Does this mean that I have to take another bath? Will they fail me if it takes me six minutes instead of five? How many

would I have to score to pass the final exams?)

Unfortunately, PickupArt Centre does not offer a money-back guarantee. If at first you don’t succeed, they will be glad to take more of your money for additional lessons.

(Maybe I’ll just have another beer and forget the whole thing. Having to take another bath is just too much trouble.)

Who Is The Enemy?

According to a report in an August issue of the right-wing British magazine *The Economist*, a recent poll taken in Ukraine showed that Ukrainians think that their own government is a bigger security threat to their country than is Russia.

Some of the problem areas are as follows:

Corruption and squabbling inside the ruling Orange coalition have paralysed governance.

The majority of presidential decrees do not get implemented.

Since June, Ukraine has not had a defence minister.

Its economy contracted by 18% in the second quarter of this year.

“People have lost any respect for their own state,” says Yulia Mostovaya, an influential journalist in Kyiv.

National ideals have been discredited by cynicism and the corruption of ruling politicians.

In the same poll, more than 90% of Ukrainians say they feel positive about Russia.

Donbass Arena

The grand opening of Donbass Arena, which is the first soccer stadium in eastern Europe to be designed and built to Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Five Star standards, took place in the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk on August 29.

The stadium can seat 50,000 people, and its UEFA Five Star rating means it will be able to host European Cup and Champion League finals.

The star of the ceremony which was attended by over 45,000 people was the American singer Beyonce Knowles.

The stadium will now become home to UEFA Cup Champions, Shakhtar Donetsk.

The last decade has seen Shakhtar establish themselves as one of Ukraine’s strongest teams, as they have also emerged as a force around Europe.

Financed by Ukraine’s richest man, Rinat Akhmetov, the arena cost \$400 million.

**Ukrainian
Page
Submitted
Separately**

**Ukrainian
Page
Submitted
Separately**

Hahilka Choir's 65 years

The history of the Hahilka Choir is well-known to many of us. However, on a milestone occasion such as today's 65th Anniversary Celebration, it is important to acquaint newcomers with the details of Hahilka's past, and to refresh our own memories about some of the choir's early beginnings.

The choir was organized in the mid-years of the Second World War. A group of 16 progressive Ukrainian-Canadian women in Toronto had banded together to send clothes and food to the soldiers of the Canadian Armed Forces. As a fund-raising effort, they staged the Ukrainian opera *Zaporozhian Cossack Beyond the Danube*.

The chorus has blossomed in Toronto ever since.

Right at its beginning, Hahilka was very fortunate to have attracted Mary Pashka Kuzyk as its founding conductor. Another valuable early addition was well-known soloist Sophia Romanko Mutzak,

who was at that time a popular radio and stage star.

The choir grew under Mary Kuzyk's leadership, and quickly developed an enthusiastic and loyal following.

Some years later, the late Eugene Dolny took over the baton from Mary, and continued to expand the choir's repertoire and audience. One of the choir's peak accomplishments under Eugene's leadership was the staging of the opera *Katerina*, which was performed with such professionalism that many still recall it to this day.

Because of the huge workload of cultural work that he was carrying, Eugene had to relinquish the conductorship, and Mary Kuzyk competently stepped back in.

In 1979, Natalka Mochoruk, who was a choir member since 1963, became conductor and artistic director, and has led the choir ever since.

While with the choir, Natalka has sung leading roles in the Ukrainian folk operas

Katerina, Natalka-Poltavka, and Zaporozhets za Dunayem.

As artistic director, she does all of the music and choreographic arrangements for the choir.

The Hahilka Choir has performed hundreds of concerts at the Ukrainian Labour Temple and at nursing homes, hospitals, churches, and senior citizen clubs.

In recent history, the chorus's high-point was certainly the 1984 tour of Ukraine, which took place at the invitation of Ukraine's Society Ukraina. The tour was an artistic success, with Ukrainian audiences and Ukrainian media giving our group a reception they'll never forget.

The Hahilka story has by no means ended. Their numbers may be smaller, but to compensate, their hearts have become bigger. Through Natalka's imagination and creativity, the choir continues to find new ways to delight their audiences.

— **George Borusiewich**
September 13, 2009



A highlight of Hahilka Choir history was the 1984 concert tour in Ukraine. Above, the Hahilka Choir, with the AUUC's Toronto String Orchestra (augmented by AUUC musicians from Welland), are shown under the baton of Natalka Mochoruk at the Philharmonic Concert Hall in Chernivtsi, Western Ukraine. The photo is from the October, 1984, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*.

AUUC Regina Branch Appeal for Help

Association of United  Ukrainian Canadians
Товариство Об'єднаних  Українських Канадців

Dear Friends,

2009 marked the 80th cultural season for the AUUC Regina Branch at its location 1809 Toronto Street Regina. Over the 80 years our building has seen some improvements with basement renovations in 1964 and main floor renovations in 1974. As the years have passed, like any home, our building once again was ready for some much needed repairs.

The Regina Branch of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians is currently undergoing renovations to our home, the "Ukrainian Cultural Centre". So far work has been completed to repair foundational damages as well as replacement of our basement floor and completely updating our washrooms. We have added a metal roof and many other updates and fresh coats of paint.

As these renovations are extremely expensive, we are asking for your help. If you wish make a donation to assist us it would be more than graciously accepted.

Donations can be made out to Regina AUUC Inc.

Thank so much,

Sasha Lapchuk
Chairperson, Regina Branch of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians

25 Years Together

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowsky



Nancy and Mark Stewart, celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary.

Following the AUUC Toronto Branch monthly membership meeting at the AUUC Cultural Centre on Sunday, August 23, Nancy and Mark Stewart hosted a celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary with their AUUC friends as guests.

Nancy is the Treasurer of the AUUC Toronto Branch, as well as the Treasurer of the Resident Executive Committee of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memoria Park Foundation.

Mark, a member of the Toronto AUUC Branch Executive, is the manager of the AUUC Cultural Centre.

The wine and the trays of cheese with crackers were supplemented by trays of melons and other fruit, vegetables with dips, smoked salmon

sandwiches, and other snacks from Baby Point Lounge — and, of course, desserts.

Music from AUUC performers' cds, piped over the hall's sound system, added to the feeling of community.

Without a great deal of ceremony, the reception offered a relaxed and friendly atmosphere in which guests and hosts enjoyed shared company, until it was time to part.

The guests left with appreciation of the treat they had received, and with sincere best wishes for Mark and Nancy for the next 25 years.

Nancy and Mark, the hosts, expressed their appreciation for those good wishes, and for the company of friends at such a significant milestone in their lives.

— A participant



Shown above are some of their friends who helped Nancy and Mark celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. In traditional Ukrainian Canadian fashion, one table was women while another was (mostly) men.

Toronto Anniversary Celebrations



Natalka Mochoruk, artistic director who has conducted the group for about 30 years spoke on behalf of the Hahilka Choir.



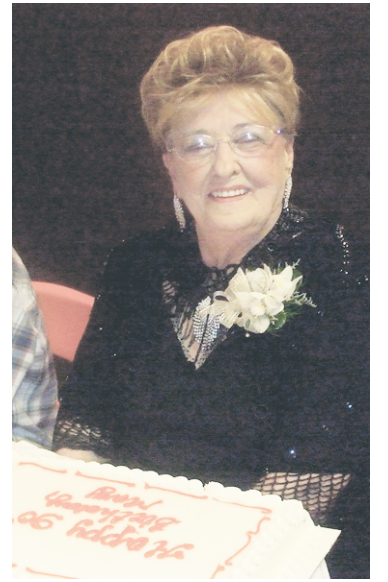
Peter Krochak played a solo number, accompanied Connie Prince in "Na kurhani", and accompanied the Hahilka Choir.



George Borusiewich, AUUC Toronto Branch President, acted as MC and presented a tribute to Hahilka Choir



Connie Prince sang "Na kurhani", accompanied by Peter Krochak, and presented the tribute to Mary Kuzyk.



Mary Kuzyk, celebrating her 90th birthday this year, was a guest of honour.

1944 — the year when a war-weary world began to see the longed-for light at the end of a terribly dark and very costly tunnel. The Red Army was rapidly liberating Eastern Europe, the western allies finally launched the second front by landing troops in France, and Nazi Germany's "1000-Year Reich" began its slide to historical oblivion.

In Toronto, that eventful year found a group of sixteen young women assembled into the Chummy Club to send parcels of food and clothing to their men (husband, brothers, sweethearts) in the armed forces.

As told in the article on

page 8, this group was transformed into a choir. Six and a half decades have passed, and the choir has performed hundreds of times at home, out west, down south, and in Ukraine. They have appeared on TV, and turned out tapes and CDs. They have always been rewarded by attentive and appreciative audiences.

Such an attentive and appreciative audience filled our gaily decorated AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto on Sunday afternoon, September 13, to pay homage to Hahilka and its past successes, and to help celebrate Mary Kuzyk's 95th birthday.

George Borusiewich, To-

ronto AUUC Branch President, welcomed all and briefly spoke of the significance of this event. He congratulated past and present Hahilka members, and greeted Mary Kuzyk, a founding member of Hahilka and the first conductor of the choir.

He called on Hahilka accompanist Peter Krochak to open the program. Peter displayed his talent on the piano with a lively collection of Ukrainian melodies with a Gypsy flavour to accommodate Mary Kuzyk's musical taste.

Next, Connie Prince, a past member of the choir, paid her respects by singing the haunt-

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky

ingly moving "Ha kurhani", said to be Mary Kuzyk's favourite song.

Natalka Mochoruk led the choir through three songs, at times ably assisted by Wilfred Szczesny, the long-suffering male caught by vengeful females in delightful ditties. Their final number, featuring two upset neighbours and a scrawny chicken, has to be seen to be fully appreciated.

Peter, Connie and Hahilka were rewarded with loud applause and calls for more.

Connie Prince, daughter of Mary Kuzyk's oldest and closest friend, Anne Krane, spoke wittily of Mary's long career. Mary Kuzyk (née Pashka) was born in Saskatoon. At an early age she showed musical talents and was sent to a six-month organizational course in Winnipeg.

Settling in Toronto, she continued her musical career at "the Hall" and elsewhere; her talents were always in demand.

Through the Kranes, Mary met Tony Kuzyk, married, had a son and lived happily together till Tony's death.

Connie's remarks won the audience with her warmth and good humour. She ended with a toast and "Happy Birthday", with everyone singing along.

George Borusiewich continued with a tribute to Hahilka. (His remarks appear on page 8 of this publication. — Ed.)

All these program items, characterized by warmth and sincerity, served as a prelude to a hearty, delicious Ukrainian meal (catered by Baby Point Lounge) topped off with birthday cake and coffee.

Mary Kuzyk rose, to great applause, and in her usual modest, down-to-earth style, thanked all present for their good wishes. She acknowledged her deep debt to the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians for her chance to flower as a musician, the many friends she made, and the colleagues who helped her, including Eugene Dolny, John Moscow, Alec O'Chiena and John Ambrose.

The love between Mary and the audience was expressed (Continued on Page 16.)



Hahilka, shown at the completion of "Oy slaba ya, slaba" (Oh, I Am Ill, So Ill) performed three numbers.



Florenz Seychuk extended greetings on behalf of the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble Guild of Canada.



The assembled guests toasted Mary Kuzyk after the tribute by Connie Prince, and Hahilka after the tribute by George Borusiewich.



Natalka Mochoruk (left), Mary Kuzyk, and writer Bill Hrynchak enjoyed a few relaxed moments in the lounge.

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Danny Schur Replies

I read with great interest Myron Shatulsky's "Once more into the fray" article in your September, 2009, issue. I should state from the outset that I consider Mr. Shatulsky a friend and a mentor. Much of my awareness of the history of Winnipeg's Ukrainian Labour Temple, and of the 1919 General Strike itself, comes from Myron. His knowledge of this history is first rate and I do not challenge it in the slightest.

I do, however, challenge some of Myron's assertions as to my intent and research, and do so in a gentlemanly, and (hopefully) scholarly fashion, in keeping with the nature of Myron's and my relationship.

I will begin by stating that I believe Myron has misinterpreted my answers within the *Progress* article. In the article, I was referencing the dramatic constructs of the musical *Strike!* more than the historic event of the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike.

I point out that *Strike! - The Musical* is a work of historical fiction. As such, historical facts are bent to suit the drama. But Myron should not presume me to be a sloppy historian; indeed, the very opposite is the case, and I can assure Myron and readers of the "Herald" of the rigour of my research. I can show where my musical does not follow the historical record, as I do below.

The clue that Myron misinterpreted my intent came early in his article, when he stated that I am "looking at the strike through his [my] religious eyes" — something I have never done.

The author of the *Progress* Q & A article (Father Richard Soo) was interested in my interpretation of what Gospel messages MIGHT be present for those who chose to interpret the musical thusly.



DANNY SCHUR

The question posed to me was, "What Gospel or spiritual message does your musical portray?" My answer clearly states several Gospel messages, and goes on to state "the big theme of the play is overcoming one's prejudices..."

When I was so clearly referencing the play, for Myron to follow that I should have "paid more attention to the actual reasons for the events that occurred" or that "religion did play a role in the strike, but not as portrayed romantically above by Schur" is to ascribe to my answers something I did not imply in the slightest.

And Myron goes further, stating that I have "fallen for this ruse" — namely the "deliberate, deceptive smoke screen set up by the federal government ..." charging "that the strike was instigated by Bolsheviks and was the beginning of a revolution".

Nothing could be further from the case. I agree with Myron entirely that the main theme of the strike was exploitation. In fact, the musical shows this exploitation very clearly. But the main theme of the musical is overcoming one's prejudices.

I point this out because, while the musical is set against the strike, it does not attempt to be a note-by-note recreation of the chronological record; rather, it alludes

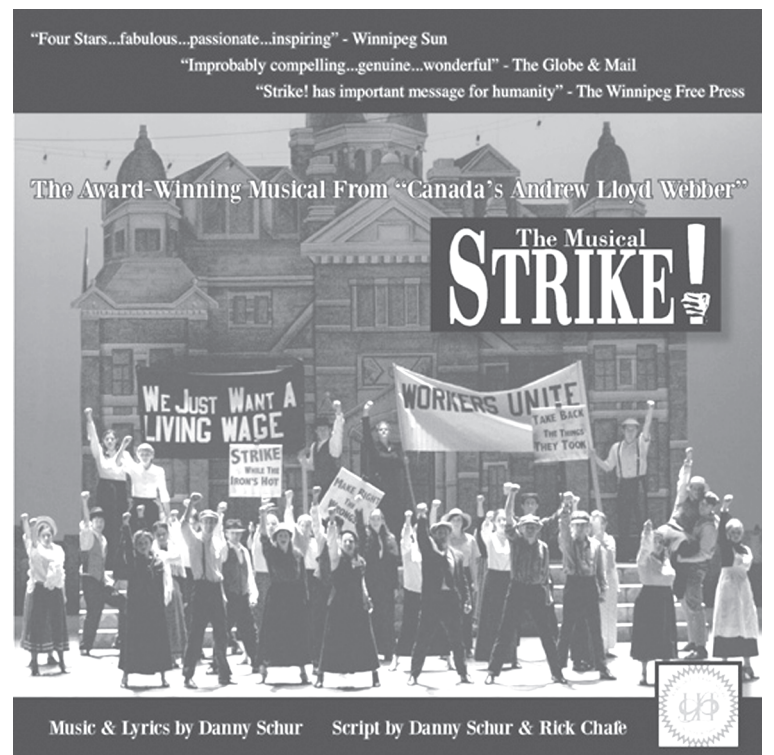
to many facets of the era, merging disparate historical facts into a plausible dramatic outcome.

The musical creates a plausible means by which the historic figure of Mike Sokolowski could have come to be killed on Bloody Saturday, June 21st, 1919. Without giving away the plot of the musical, I created a fiction whereby Mike Sokolowski is present on Bloody Saturday in an attempt to free his wrongfully imprisoned Jewish radical neighbour, Moishe Almazoff. (The real Almazoff was wrongfully arrested based on false evidence provided by his Ukrainian Catholic neighbour, information I obtained from the excellent research of Winnipeg's Henry Tractenberg.)

Within the musical, Mike Sokolowski fears deportation, and the prospect of return to the internment camps, like nothing else. For him to risk both is an extremely high stake — evidence of his changing character arc, considering he started the story an anti-strike anti-Semite.

In real life, Mike Sokolowski did have his wife and children in Winnipeg but within the musical, I put his wife and children in Ukraine, and him in Winnipeg, further upping his stakes. I mention this because Myron would ascribe some sinister motive to me in proclaiming the First War internment camps as exclusively housing Ukrainians. I am quoting from General Otter's report of the Internment Operations (page 79) when I state my awareness that, of the 8579 interned, 99 were Bulgarians, 205 were Turks, 2009 were Germans, 312 were "miscellaneous" and 6954 were lumped under the Austro-Hungarian banner, which included Croats, Ruthenians [the common term for Ukrainians in the era], Slovaks and Chzecks [sic].

I do not, as Myron suggests, "have a habit of viewing events through a prism which



breaks down facts". On the contrary, I am a writer of historical fiction. In the world of the musical, all Mike Sokolowski cares about is that Ukrainians were interned. For him, it makes his fear of the arbitrary nature of authority very real, and yet he still shows up on Bloody Saturday in support of his former enemy.

And that's the point of my story: former enemies come around to supporting each other. My historical fiction suggests that Mike Sokolowski was a right-wing Ukrainian who feared involvement with the strike but who came around to sympathizing with its goals.

I am not suggesting that to be fact; indeed I welcome any information that gives us a clearer understanding of who Mike was.

The most recent research, from the summer of 2009 by Victoria's Mike Dupuis, author of the upcoming General Strike book *A Cloak for Something Deeper*, indicates that Mike was (according to eye-witness reports from freelance Canadian Press journalist Fred Livesay) shot down while in the crowd at the

corner of Market and Main.

There is no indication by Livesay as to Sokolowski throwing a brick, as was widely asserted in the Winnipeg press. I mention this because, as far as can be ascertained at this juncture, Mike was shot as an innocent bystander.

The story of an innocent bystander does not a musical make. I will be the first to admit where my story takes liberties with the historical record, but Myron should not judge me too harshly for doing so.

All this said, I bear no ill will towards Myron. That we should even be discussing the specifics and legacy of the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike at this juncture is proof of my greater purpose — that there is much to be learned from a frank analysis of our past, and more to be discussed once it is the subject of historical fiction.

I look forward to commenting about the second half of Myron's column after your October issue.

— Danny Schur

(Danny Schur of Winnipeg is Composer/Producer of *Strike! - The Musical*.)

Stirring It Up for TSFAs

After an initial flurry of propaganda from the Harper government telling us how great the plan was, and advertising from financial institutions singing their own praises, tax free savings accounts pretty much dropped out of sight.

Anyone planning to save some money might as well put the money into a TFSA. However, unless you have some investment that will produce a

Conservative Justice

"Hang them high,"
Rings out the cry.
"No!" in reply —
"Hang them higher!"

— Anon.

Current Eclectic — Long and Short

real windfall, do not expect much benefit. Even a 10% return on the maximum investment allowed of \$5000.00 annually, multiplied by your tax rate, is not a benefit that will make you rich.

Then, out of the blue, on September 16, a long article by Madhavi Acharya-Tom Yew appeared in the *Toronto Star*, touting TSFAs as "a big help to small business". CIBC Mellon is the only financial institution mentioned, raising questions about the article.

Still, it could be legitimate. The government and the banks have been expressing concern about the possibility of infla-

tion because of the large deficits even Conservative governments are running. Pushing TFSA is one way of taking money out of the commodity economy.

Another way is to increase the amount people spend on lottery tickets. The most recent move in this area is replacing Super 7, costing \$2.00/play, with a lottery costing \$5.00/play. It was not that long ago that Lotto 6/49 went from \$1.00 to \$2.00/play.

On the other hand, consumer spending is required to resurrect the demand for goods and services. Thus, there is also a campaign to

build consumer confidence.

There is the contradiction: taking out the cash, but building up the spending, means generating more buying on credit.

The stage is being set for the next big crisis.

When Will We Ever Learn?

Rick Salutin is one of the more interesting columnists in *The Globe and Mail*, partly because he writes well and partly because he is not one of the Conservatives in that paper's stable.

On September 18, con-

scious of the death of Mary Travers of Peter Paul and Mary, Pete Seeger's "Where Have All the flowers Gone", and the ...war in Afghanistan (which) looks like it's drawing to a close," Mr. Salutin wrote:

"Is this the lesson never learned? That when you invade, no matter what you say your reasons are, you are seen as an invader and occupier? Despite the good deeds you do or claim to do. When our bombs kill civilians, they're the invader's bombs, different from those of the home-grown oppressors. The locals we set up are tainted by occupation."

Sustaining Fund Donations

Len Sedun, Toronto ON \$70.00
 Natasha Sawchuk, Toronto ON 40.00
 Jeannie Romanoski & David Mackling,
 Winnipeg MB, *In memory of Nettie Billows ...* 30.00

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND THANK THE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. IF YOUR DONATION HAS NOT APPEARED ON THE PAGES OF THE "UCH", WATCH FOR IT IN FUTURE ISSUES.

Ukrainian Canadian Herald Season's Greetings

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, either in the December, 2009, or the January, 2010, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. **See the diagram on this page for sizes.** Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

Deadlines: November 10, 2009, for December, 2009.
 December 10, 2009, for January, 2010.

Send your request to:

SEASON'S GREETINGS MESSAGE
 595 Pritchard Avenue,
 Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
 Phone 1-800-856-8242, Fax: (210) 589-3404
 e-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

or: SEASON'S GREETINGS MESSAGE
 1604 Bloor Street West
 Toronto ON M6P 1A7
 Phone : 416-588-1639 Fax: 416-588-9180
 e-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.com

Please indicate the desired ad size:
 \$10.00 (One line: name and city only)
 \$20.00 (Two-line greeting — up to 10 words)
 \$25.00 (Three-line greeting — up to 15 words)
 \$30.00 (Four-line greeting — up to 20 words)
 \$35.00 (Five-line greeting — up to 25 words)
 Other

Issue requested:
 _____ December issue (deadline November 10)
 _____ January issue (deadline December 10)

Greeting in: English _____ Ukrainian _____

Request sent by:
 Mail: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 e-mail: _____ Or in person: _____

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Prov. _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 e-mail: _____

MESSAGE:

Date: _____ Signature: _____
 Cheque enclosed _____
 Invoice required _____ Office receipt # _____

JoKe TiMe

George got a new job. His colleagues met for a round of golf every Saturday. They invited George to meet them at

10:00 a.m. George replied that he would love to, but he might be six minutes late.

On Saturday morning, George was there at exactly 10:00 a.m. He golfed right-handed and won the round. The next Saturday, George

said that he would be there, but he might be six minutes late again. He showed up right on time. This time, he golfed left-handed, and won the round.

This continued for the next few weeks, with George always saying that he might be six minutes late, and then always winning the round of golf, either left- or right-handed. The other players decided to ask him what the deal was.

They said, "George, every Saturday you say you might be six minutes late. You never are. Then you show up and golf either right-handed or left-handed, and always win. What is up with that?"

George replied, "Well, I am a very superstitious kind of guy. Every Saturday, when I wake up, I look over at my wife. If she is sleeping on her left side, I golf left-handed. If she is sleeping on her right side, I golf right-handed."

"Well," one of the employees asked, "What happens if she is lying on her back?"

George replied, "Then I am six minutes late."

The country's worst air disaster occurred early this morning when a two-seater Cessna plane crashed into a cemetery. Search and rescue workers have recovered 1826 bodies so far and expect that number to climb as digging continues into the night.

A man ran into the vet's office carrying his dog, screaming for help. The vet rushed him to an examination room and had him put his dog down on the examination table. The vet examined the limp body, and after a few moments told the man that his dog was dead.

The man demanded a second opinion.

The vet went into the back room and came out with a cat which he put down next to the dog's body. The cat sniffed the body, walked from head to tail poking and sniffing, and finally looked at the vet and meowed.

The vet said, "I'm sorry, but the cat also thinks that your dog is dead." The man was still unwilling to accept that his dog was dead.

The vet brought in a black Labrador. The lab sniffed the body from head to tail, and finally looked at the vet and barked.

The vet said, "I'm sorry, but the Lab thinks your dog is dead, too."

The man, finally resigned to the diagnosis, thanked the vet and asked how much he owed.

The vet answered, "\$650." "\$650 to tell me my dog is dead?" exclaimed the man.

"Well," the vet replied, "I would only have charged you \$50 for my initial diagnosis. The additional \$600 was for the cat scan and lab tests."

Who, What, When, Where

Toronto — The AUUC Toronto Branch will host Oktoberfest at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West, on Sunday, **October 18**. Good food, fun and games. Doors open at **noon**. **Admission: \$11.00/person (children under 12 — \$5.00).**

* * *

Toronto — The Shevchenko Museum, 1614 Bloor Street West, is continuing *A Point of View*, an exhibition of art by Oryst Sawchuk, which will run to March 10, 2010.

* * *

Readers of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* are invited to submit items of interest to the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community for free listing in this column. The deadline for material is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Season's Greeting Ad sizes at Various Prices

Name and city (one line only)	10.00
Two-line greeting	\$20.00
(up to 10 words)	
Name and city	
(up to 15 words)	\$25.00
.....	
Three-line greeting.....	\$30.00
Name and city	
.....	
(up to 20 words).....	\$30.00
.....	
Four Line Greeting.....	\$35.00
.....	
Name and city	
.....	
(up to 25 words).....	\$35.00
.....	
Five-line greeting	\$35.00
.....	
Name and city	



Home Repairs & Renovations
By Eli Prociw
 Professional Renovator over 20 yrs
 Design and blueprint services
 Consultation services

Sawtooth Construction
 Caledon, Ontario

Renovations and Additions
 Quality Workmanship
 Fully Insured

Tel: 905 838-4566
 Cell: 416 806-4566
 E-mail: sawtoothconstruction@yahoo.ca
 Servicing Toronto, Mississauga, Brampton, Bolton, Caledon, Orangeville

The Charge Lives On

(Continued from Page 4.) or film makers. There was only a criticism of the organizers of the TIFF, who wittingly or not, became part of the Israeli propaganda offensive.

Inevitably, a group of filmmakers, etc., had to make themselves heard in opposition to "The Toronto Declaration". Among others in this group were David Cronenberg, the previously mentioned Robert Lantos, and many others. The charge they levelled to start was of "political censorship", but as the case of Lantos shows, many went much farther. What that might mean was not clear, based on the text of "The Toronto Declaration", as well as repeated assertions by supporters of "The Toronto Declaration", that they oppose neither the films being shown, nor the filmmakers, but only the decision by TIFF to inaugurate the City to City program with the

selection of Tel Aviv as the spotlight, consistent with Israel's diplomatic offensive.

Then Rabbi Marvin Hier, considered by some, like *Newsweek*, to be America's most influential rabbi, came to Canada to add his own little bit of escalation, so that a protest against a decision of the TIFF organizers was now "a recipe that calls for the destruction of the state of Israel".

Naomi Klein, who is herself Jewish, responded that the charge was "an absolutely absurd claim and profoundly unfair."

Not everyone, however, stood so strongly against the criticism. Rabbi Hier was reported in the *Toronto Star* on September 11 as having directed criticism at Jane Fonda by name. On September 15, the *Toronto Star* reported that, on September 14, Ms. Fonda had recanted, indicating that she had "signed the letter without reading it carefully enough".

Of course, fairness has nothing to do with it: in North America, criticism of Israel —

even by Jews, including Israeli Jews — is just branded as anti-Semitism aimed at the destruction of the state of Israel. We have been informed, that the same approach is not taken in Israel, which that country's defenders repeatedly remind us is a democracy.

Toronto Star columnist Martin Knelman inadvertently made the point for supporters of "The Toronto Declaration". On September 11 and 14, he went through the routine criticism of the critics of TIFF. He maintained the canard that "The Toronto Declaration" was a call for a boycott, and reminded us that Israel was a democracy where "human rights are respected and artists have the right to free expression".

(The same can be said about Canada, but only for those artists willing to be charged with anti-Semitism and accused of seeking the destruction of Israel.)

Then, on September 16, Mr. Knelman wrote about the film *Lebanon*, and film maker Samuel Maoz. The film, Mr.

Knelman tells us is "a devastating and upsetting account of how young troops experienced the horrors of what has come to be known as the First Lebanese War." Furthermore, "the Israeli government has been very supportive of this movie".

However, Mr. Knelman also tells us that, "At TIFF, *Lebanon* is slotted into the Visions program rather than the besieged City to City program, but Moaz lives and works in Tel Aviv..." It does not strike Mr. Knelman to ask why *Lebanon* is here and not there. Could it be because it does not fit the rebranding of Israel, unlike the films which are in City to City?

On September 13, Frank Dimant, CEO of B'nai Brith Canada, joined the parade, claiming in the *Toronto Star* that "The Toronto Declaration" and its support by "Star" columnist Antonia Zerbisias are "effectively" and "de facto" a call for "a cultural boycott of Israel".

Again, the text of the statement is irrelevant, the interpretation by the North American Jewish establishment is the important thing.

Why bring the North American Jewish establishment into it?

Just a few of the rabbis opposing a non-existent boycott have already been mentioned.

To the clerics can be added institutions like the Simon Wiesenthal Center (lo and behold — Rabbi Hier).

B'nai Brith Canada CEO Frank Dimant has already been mentioned for crying "boycott", though he added qualifiers like "effectively" and "de facto", meaning "not really, but we'll say so anyway". In his straightforward way, Mr. Dimant plays the Israeli destruction card with an insinuation — "or would the world's only Jewish state being wiped off the map suit them just as well?"

Then there is the UJA (United Jewish Appeal — Ed.) Federation of Greater Toronto, which joined with the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles (Rabbi Hier's city) to buy a full-page ad in the *Toronto Star* on September 15 to oppose "blacklisting" of Israeli films and those ... "who refuse to see these films for themselves or prevent them from being seen by others".

These and others in the establishment were in the good company of such worthies as the Jewish Defence League.

On September 11, Kathy Wazana wrote the column "To criticize Israel is a dangerous thing in today's Canada", in which she said, *inter alia*:

"In the week since the publication of the letter, the authors of the letter have been called hypocrites, censors and, worse, anti-Semites. A ludicrous charge: five of the eight

are Jewish and one is an Israeli.

"These accusations seek to intimidate us into silence and shut down substantive discussion. This, ironically, is the very charge that is being levelled at us.

"It's hard not to see these attacks as part of a deliberate strategy to divert attention from the real issues, namely Israel's gross violations of human rights and disregard for international law and, in this instance, the hijacking of Toronto's premier cultural event and putting it at the service of Israel's political agenda.

"I am Jewish, with deep ties to Israel, and to my family members living there. Speaking out against the State of Israel neither diminishes my Jewishness nor puts Israel at risk of destruction.

"It calls on Israel to live up to the standard of Jewish ethics that I grew up with."

The TIFF is long gone for another year, so why bring it up now?

Because the spectacle of Jews (let alone Arabs — the other Semites — and the rest of us), including Israeli Jews, being called anti-Semites by other Jews (particularly North American Jews) who brook no criticism of Israel continues, and no one is immune.

Even before the Toronto Film Festival ended, on September 16, the report prepared for the United Nations by Judge Richard Goldstone was released. Twenty-four hours later, the *Globe and Mail* reported on September 18, "the internet bulged with 94,000 blogs and articles" concerning the 575-page report.

There must be many very fast readers out there.

Most of that early reaction consisted of "personal attacks on the integrity of Judge Goldstone", writes Erna Paris.

Judge Goldstone's report is said, by reporters who are not beating a drum, to suggest that both Hamas and Israel might have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity during last winter's war in Gaza. Judge Goldstone's recommendation is that both sides conduct their own transparent investigations into his charges, failing which the matter be referred to the International Criminal Court.

Israel rejected the very concept of the United Nations' inquiry, did not cooperate with it, and unleashed an international campaign to reject the report. A highly respected jurist internationally, Judge Goldstone, who is a self-identified and widely recognized Zionist, is being called a self-hating Jew, an anti-Semite, a hater of Israel, and the creator of a new "blood libel".

No one is immune from the insanity.

— Wilfred Szczesny

The Toronto Declaration: No Celebration of Occupation

An Open Letter to the Toronto International Film Festival: September 2, 2009

As members of the Canadian and international film, culture and media arts communities, we are deeply disturbed by the Toronto International Film Festival's decision to host a celebratory spotlight on Tel Aviv. We protest that TIFF, whether intentionally or not, has become complicit in the Israeli propaganda machine.

In 2008, the Israeli government and Canadian partners Sidney Greenberg of Astral Media, David Asper of Canwest Global Communications and Joel Reitman of MIJO Corporation launched "Brand Israel," a million dollar media and advertising campaign aimed at changing Canadian perceptions of Israel. Brand Israel would take the focus off Israel's treatment of Palestinians and its aggressive wars, and refocus it on achievements in medicine, science and culture. An article in Canadian Jewish News quotes Israeli consul general Amir Gissin as saying that Toronto would be the test city for a promotion that could then be deployed around the world. According to Gissin, the culmination of the campaign would be a major Israeli presence at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival. (Andy Levy-Alzenkopf, "Brand Israel set to launch in GTA," Canadian Jewish

News, August 28, 2008.)

In 2009, TIFF announced that it would inaugurate its new City to City program with a focus on Tel Aviv. According to program notes by Festival co-director and City to City programmer Cameron Bailey, "The ten films in this year's City to City programme will showcase the complex currents running through today's Tel Aviv. Celebrating its 100th birthday in 2009, Tel Aviv is a young, dynamic city that, like Toronto, celebrates its diversity."

The emphasis on 'diversity' in City to City is empty given the absence of Palestinian filmmakers in the program. Furthermore, what this description does not say is that Tel Aviv is built on destroyed Palestinian villages, and that the city of Jaffa, Palestine's main cultural hub until 1948, was annexed to Tel Aviv after the mass exiling of the Palestinian population. This program ignores the suffering of thousands of former residents and descendants of the Tel Aviv/Jaffa area who currently live in refugee camps in the Occupied Territories or who have been dispersed to other countries, including Canada. Looking at modern, sophisticated Tel Aviv without also considering the city's past and the realities of Israeli occupation of the West Bank

and the Gaza strip, would be like rhapsodizing about the beauty and elegant lifestyles in white-only Cape Town or Johannesburg during apartheid without acknowledging the corresponding black townships of Khayelitsha and Soweto.

We do not protest the individual Israeli filmmakers included in City to City, nor do we in any way suggest that Israeli films should be unwelcome at TIFF. However, especially in the wake of this year's brutal assault on Gaza, we object to the use of such an important international festival in staging a propaganda campaign on behalf of what South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, and UN General Assembly President Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann have all characterized as an apartheid regime.

This letter was drafted by the following ad hoc committee:

Udi Aloni, filmmaker, Israel; Elle Flanders, filmmaker, Canada; Richard Fung, video artist, Canada; John Greyson, filmmaker, Canada; Naomi Klein, writer and filmmaker, Canada; Kathy Wazana, filmmaker, Canada; Cynthia Wright, writer and academic, Canada; b h Yael, film and video artist, Canada.

Olga Botan

Olga Botan was born Olga Teleglow in Druszkopol, Ukraine, on January 16, 1923. She came to Canada with her family in 1937. In declining health, she lived at home until a stroke in February, 2007, left her paralysed. On March 25, 2009, Olga Botan died after contracting pneumonia.

Olga's daughter Darlene Hrynychshyn submitted the following memorial article. Olga's son Peter provided the photo.



OLGABOTAN

I offer my most heartfelt thanks to Winnipeg's Ukrainian Labour Temple for allowing us to hold the funeral reception lunch for my mom. She spent so much time at the "hall", that I could not think of another place that would suit this sad occasion.

I can't express enough gratitude to Tusia Kozub and all the lovely ladies of the choir, who sang my mom's favourite song. It brought tears to my eyes because I know many of the ladies have long since "retired" from the choir, but there they were, singing just for her. And to hear Harry Stefaniuk sing again took me back 35 years when we sang together in the Russian choir.

Mom loved to sing! This was probably the only thing that truly made her happy. The Hall was a place of refuge from her chaotic household. It was also a place of rejuvenation for Mom, for it was here that her spirit was allowed to soar. She sang to everything.

When she sang to the radio, she made up her own words to the English songs. We use to laugh at her interpretations, but she didn't care.

She even sang with the Russian choir and Ukrainian choir at the same time. Because she was always singing, I didn't realize how very special a singer she was. Perhaps she didn't either. She was always embarrassed when people praised her singing. It was just something she did! Even as she got older, her voice retained its beautiful soprano quality. The stroke that took away her speaking voice, took her singing voice too. And that truly broke her heart.

Mom's life was busy raising seven kids. Money was always tight, but there was al-

ways food on the table, and no one went without. Birthdays were a big deal, with Jeannie's cake and that special present. At Christmas, you couldn't see the tree for all the presents piled around it. She didn't sleep much Christmas Eve — She was still wrapping and taping all those presents! Then she would start early making Christmas dinner — and of course everything had to be made fresh and on that day. So, while we were busy playing with Christmas toys, she was chopping, stirring, and cooking up a storm.

Mom always planted a garden. It was something from her farming background. She had no need for a garden when living by herself, but I think she still needed to nurture something.

How was she able to raise seven kids who all turned out to be self-sufficient? Those of us who have children of our own realize now what an ar-

duous task it is to be a parent. How was she able to work and still ensure supper would be on the table? How was she able to go to all our teacher interviews and only tell us the nice things the teachers said! How was she able to walk from Safeway with at least six bags hanging from each arm? How did she not fear travelling the city by bus at night?

Mom was always in motion. She was always "running" somewhere: to see someone in the hospital; to help out at the hall; to go to Bingo or bowling; to visit the cemetery; to go shopping. And did she ever move! I could never keep up with her when we were walking somewhere.

It is hard to believe that it has been six months have since Mom passed away. Her passing has left us all saddened and somewhat lonely.

At one time the house was full of people speaking Ukrainian, sharing jokes around the table filled with holobtsi, pyrohy and, of course, vodka! Or it was full of kids, laughing, fighting, singing and just carrying on. Our house seemed to be the meeting place for all our friends, and you never knew just how many kids you would find there.

Mom never turned anyone away. If you needed a meal, you got one; if you needed a place to sleep, she would make room for one more.

The house stands silent now, but my memories are still vivid. Mom was the glue that held the family together.

Rest now Mom, be at peace.

Ivan Franko Manor Opened

(Continued from Page 3.)

Anthony Bilecki served as master of ceremonies at the Convention Banquet in the evening, during which the 28th National Convention of the WBA was officially closed. The diners heard comments from Z. Nykolyshyn, W. Chornopyski, Merv Worden of the actuarial firm Turnbull and Turnbull, Canadian Peace Congress Vice-President Michael Korol, First Secretary of the Embassy of the

USSR Anatole Arsenko (who presented an oil painting from the friendship society), Conrad Santos and William Harasym.

The banquet ended with concert entertainment presented in part by the folk choir and string orchestra of the Winnipeg AUUC, conducted by Hazel Skulsky, and the Yunist Dance Ensemble directed by Maureen Skulsky, and in part by visiting Ukrainian artists Maria Zubanych, Hrehoriy Harkusha and Volodymyr Stetsun.

The consensus of those participating through the day was that the Joint Session of the AUUC and WBA National Conventions had been a great success, worthy of the significant events — opening of the manor, unveiling of the bust, inauguration of a research centre, and so on — of the day in the Ukrainian Canadian community.

— Volodymyr Lucky



JOIN US!

Join us for a new season of AUUC activities! Each Branch has a unique schedule of events and activities. To discover what we have to offer, contact the AUUC in your area:

AUUC NATIONAL OFFICE

National Executive Committee AUUC
595 Pritchard Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
Phone: 800-856-8242 Fax: (204) 589-3404
E-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

VANCOUVER BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
805 East Pender Street
Vancouver BC V6A 1V9
Phone: (604) 254-3436 Fax: (604) 254-3436
E-mail: auucvancouver@telus.net

CALGARY BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
3316-28 Avenue SW
Calgary AB T3E 0R8
Phone: (403) 246-1231 E-mail: calauuc@telus.net

EDMONTON BRANCH

Ukrainian Centre
11018-97 Street
Edmonton AB T5H 2M9
Phone: (780) 424-2037 Fax: (780) 424-2013
E-mail: auucedm@telus.net

INNISFREE BRANCH

c/o Mike Feschuk
Box 216
Innisfree AB T0B 2G0
Phone: (780) 592-2127

VEGREVILLE BRANCH

c/o Lil Humeniuk
Box 481
Vegreville AB T9C 1R6
Phone: (780) 632-3021

REGINA BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
1809 Toronto Street
Regina SK S4P 1M7
Phone: (306) 522-1188

WINNIPEG BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
591 Pritchard Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
Phone: (204) 582-9269 Fax: 589-3404

OTTAWA BRANCH

c/o Robert Seychuk
24 Attwood Crescent
Ottawa ON K2E 5A9
Phone: (613) 228-0990

SUDBURY BRANCH

Jubilee Centre
195 Applegrove Street
Sudbury ON P3C 1N4
Phone: (705) 674-5534

TORONTO BRANCH

AUUC Cultural Centre
1604 Bloor Street West
Toronto ON M6P 1A7
Phone: (416) 588-1639 Fax: 588-9180
wilfredszczesny@gmail.com

WELLAND BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
342 Ontario Road
Welland ON L3B 5C5
Phone: (905) 732-5656

CROPO

Funeral Chapel

1442 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
586-8044

www.cropo.com

Sir Thomas B. Cropo, K.C.S.G.
Founder
1925-1998

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Anniversary Celebrations

(Continued from Page 9.)
by the standing ovation she received.

Also joining in the greetings were Florenz Seychuk, President of the Shevchenko Guild, and former dance director Nick Pelowich.

The MC read a personal greeting from Rita Bobruk, of the Beryozka Choir of the Federation of Russian Canadians.

Clara Babiy, President of the AUUC Welland Branch, presented a donation from her

Branch and a personal one on her 75th birthday, to the Taras Shevchenko Museum.

Natalka Mochoruk replied on behalf of Hahilka, inviting aspiring singers to join the group as it prepares for future performances.

A surprise announcement thrilled all present — the gift of a CD of a 1974 concert of the Hahilka Choir at the Ukrainian Labour Temple at 300 Bathurst Street. The concert was taped over 30 years

ago by Jerry Dobrowolsky, filed away and only recently rescued. Having the technical ability, Jerry transferred it to CDs provided and labelled by George Borusiewich, and the Branch provided each family present with this precious memento. Many thanks were expressed that afternoon, and gratitude will return with each playing of this gift.

It was a magical afternoon filled with good will, humour and appreciative applause. Was the magic brought on by the warm late summer day that covered Toronto, or the bright

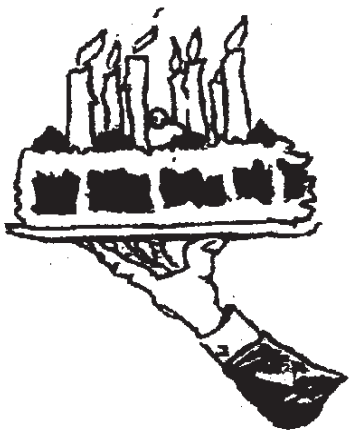
welcome that greeted the audience indoors? Certainly there was a touch of magic in the high level of artistry in the presentations by Peter Krochak, Connie Prince and the Hahilka Choir, and in the sincerity of the tributes.

Perhaps everything and

everyone added to the enjoyment of the most satisfying afternoon, totally befitting birthday celebrant Mary Kuzyk and our dear, beautiful Hahilka Choir, which 65 years later is still singing and bringing joy to their audience.

— Bill Hrynychak

Happy Birthday, Friends!



The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens' Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrant of October:

Sherry Capowski

May you have good health, happiness and a daily sense of accomplishment as you go through life.

The **Toronto Senior Citizens Club** extends best birthday wishes to October celebrants:

Helen Banville
Rose Manning

May good health and happiness be yours in the coming year!

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** wishes the best of health and happiness in the coming year to October celebrants:

Stella Moroz
Audrey Moysiuk

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

The **Welland Shevchenko Seniors** extend a happy birthday wish to October celebrants:

Clara Babiy
Bert Braun
Alex Moskalyk
Janice Robins
Rudy Wasylenky

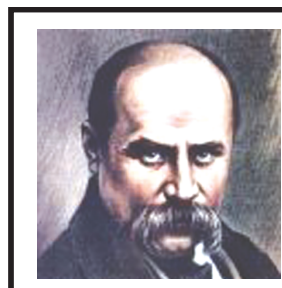
May the coming year bring you all the best in health and happiness!



Terry Rivest (dark hair) and Mary Kallis sang the duet in Hahilka's second number "Oy verbychenko" (Pussy Willow).



Maria Gargal (left) and Lorna Clark dispute the ownership of a "bare naked" fowl in the last number of Hahilka's set, a piece popularly known as "The Chicken Song".



Taras Shevchenko Museum

About Shevchenkove

The village of Shevchenkove (formerly Kerelivka) is located just 35 kilometres from the administrative centre and formerly railway station called Horodyshe. 3002 people live on the 764.4 hectares of Shevchenkove village.

One of the first records about Kerelivka can be found in a document from the mid-17th century. On the map of Kyiv province charted by French engineer G. Boplan, there is Kereliv Forest between Vil'shana and Lysianka. There is mention of Kereliv settlements on Vil'shanka River in Polish historical sources in 1618. People who lived near the forest made their living by making *kereli* — wooden scoops for sifting grain. Like any settlement of that time, Kerelivka was divided into parts by the trade that people of that particular area practised. The names of the areas, as well as the name of the village itself came from those trades.

There are four small lakes in the village — Toopchiv, Hromadsky, Kovbin, and Pansky.

In 1911, two schools (a 2-grade school and a 4-grade school) existed in Kerelivka. Only children of priests and wealthy villagers attended the 4-grade school. In 1918, a new school was opened on the foundation of the 2-grade school. A physics room was established, as well as a library with over 1000 books. The school had various interest clubs and a choir.

In 1921, Kerelivka became a regional centre. After Ukrainian territorial reform in 1923-1925, Kerelivka became part of Cherkassy province. In 1929, Kerelivka was renamed Shevchenkove. In 1930, an agricultural school was opened. In the same year, on June 1, a monument to Taras Shevchenko was erected in the central square of the village. The Taras



The monument Taras Travels was unveiled near the Shevchenko homestead in Shevchenkove in 1992. The sculptor was A.V. Kushch; the architect, M. Baranovsky.

Shevchenko monument that stood in Oakville (Palermo), Ontario, from 1951- 2006 was an exact copy of the monument in Shevchenkove.

In 1935, a 10-grade school opened its doors to students for the first time. The Taras Shevchenko Memorial Literary Museum was founded in 1939, in commemoration of the 125th anniversary of his birth. The Museum was constructed on the Shevchenko homestead, where Taras lived from 1815 to 1829, and visited in 1843, 1845, and 1859.

Taras's mother's grave remains there. According to her bequest, she was buried in the garden of the family homestead. Taras's father's grave is located in the centre of the village, where a cemetery used to be. Not far from the Museum is Deacon Bohorsky's house, where Shevchenko learned how to read and write. This house was built in 1782, and recently was renovated.

About 30 of the poet's relatives, descended from his sisters and brothers, live in Shevchenkove. One of the grandsons of Taras Shevchenko's brother worked in the Museum for many years. The brother's daughter, V. Shevchenko, continued his work as a director of the Museum for 30 years. In 1992, the Museum became the centre of the state historic and cultural park Taras Shevchenko Land, which includes three villages of the poet's childhood: Morentsi, Budyshe, and Kerelivka. Honoured Cultural Worker of Ukraine Lyudmyla Shevchenko has been at the head of the park since 1995. On January 26, 2006, Taras Shevchenko Land was granted national status.

The pride of Shevchenkove village is Apple Orchard agricultural farm. This farm conducts gardening workshops and seminars for farm workers from around the world.

Among prominent Ukrainians who have lived and worked in Shevchenkove are nationally awarded teachers, doctors, academicians, scientists, writers, artists, and musicians.

Shevchenkove is visited by people from all over the world. They come to tread the soil that nurtured Taras Shevchenko — poet, artist, academician of engraving, spiritual father, teacher, and prophet.

— Lyudmyla Pogoryelov

Welcome to the only
Taras Shevchenko Museum in the Americas!

Запрошуємо до Єдиного на Американському
Континенті Музею Тараса Шевченка!

Open Monday to Friday
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Weekends and Holidays by Appointment

Free Admission – Donation Appreciated

Завітайте до нас за адресою:

Taras Shevchenko Museum

1614 Bloor Street West • Toronto,

ON M6P 1A7 • Phone: 416-534-8662

Або відвідайте наши веб-сторінки на

www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum

