HERALD BICHIK

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Recital in Regina



"Kubansky", a blend of Ukrainian, Russian and Georgian culture, was performed by the Poltava Ensemble at the Annual Concert-Recital of the AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts and the AUUC Poltava Ensemble on February 12, 2011. For more photos, see Page 5.

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Rape: Women Don't "Ask for It"

In this day and age, one would hardly expect a responsible official to step so far out of line, but a Toronto police officer actually told a class of aspiring lawyers at Osgoode Hall Law School, in effect, to avoid being raped by not dressing like sluts. Not surprisingly, the reaction was fast and furious, reminding all and sundry that women don't "ask for it" by the way they dress.

This form of blame the victim is particularly odious not only because it absolves men of responsibility for their behaviour, but also because it hides the true nature of rape, which is not about sex at all, but about other matters in the mind of the rapist.

"UCH" Campaign Thank You

With the end of April, the campaign in support of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* officially ended. The results of that campaign have still to be calculated, and some Branches (like AUUC Toronto Branch) are still continuing their work.

Nevertheless, it seems clear that AUUC Branches and members, as well as other readers and supporters, responded positively to the AUUC National Committee decision to make a concerted effort in support of this paper. The Board of Directors of Kobzar Publishing Company Ltd. and the people who work on the various tasks required for the production and distribution of this publication, from writing and photography to labelling and mailing and the many tasks in between, thank you for your support.

The generous contributions which were received, both large and small, are an expression of the value which our readers and supporters see in this publication, and the importance they place on its continuing publication.

We pledge our best efforts into the future to continue to earn your favour, to bring into your home eleven times a year a paper which both informs and entertains you. With Best Wishes,

Wilfred Szczesny Editor-in-Chief

Now Thinking Is a Crime

Remember those old song lyrics (1950s, probably) that say, "Brother, they can't throw you in jail for what you're thinking?" Well, it turns out they can. Yes, in Canada.

On March 31, it was reported that Mohamed Hersi had been arrested on March 29, while at the airport in Toronto to board a flight bound for Egypt. Instead of boarding the flight, he was arrested on suspicion of intending to become a terrorist in Somalia.

The one piece of evidence the police made public to justify the arrest was the Mr. Hersi had a one-way ticket. Otherwise, they indicated that they had received "considerable help from the community", as *The Globe and Mail* reported, meaning that somebody called a snitch line.

The "pre-emptive" arrest apparently took into account that other young men around the world — dozens of them — had been "flocking to the front lines of Somalia". Aside from the fact that some of them have been killed in Somalia (as well as doing some killing themselves), "authorities" are concerned that others may return to their own

countries as "battle-hardened warriors".

This being a "terrorism" case, evidence of real wrong-doing need not be provided.

Not only can they throw you in jail for what you're thinking; it turns out, that they can throw you in jail for what they think you're thinking.

Now prove you're not.

Jobs, Jobs, Job

The Canadian economy officially lost jobs in March, for the first time since September, but the unemployment rate sank from 7.8% to 7.7%.

The number of lost jobs, as reported, looks small — only about 1,500. However, the number of employees dropped by 18,900

Huh? What's that all about? It seems that, all of a sudden, 17,400 people decided to become "self-employed". No longer do people who lose their job become unemployed: they become self-employed.

How many of those, one is tempted to ask, took up selfemployment as contract workers doing jobs that they had previously done as employees? Hm.

Another interesting statistic in the March job report is that 91,000 full-time jobs were gained, but 92,000 part time jobs disappeared. Normally, that might be considered a

good change. However, Canadian Labour Congress economist Sylvain Schetange is not so sure what it means. With full-time defined as 30 hours weekly, it could mean workers getting an extra five or two or one hours a week.

Mr. Schetagne also indicated that the majority of jobs gained since the low point in July, 2009, were in sectors where federal stimulus money played an important role. Now that spending is being reduced.

For once, most observers seemed to agree: the employment picture is not pretty.

Economists Jack Mintz and Duanlie Chen of the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary know the answer: those Conservative corporate tax cuts. The prediction is 100,000 new jobs — over 7 years. We have to take that on faith. They also recommend consumption taxes instead of income taxes.

In This Issue

90 Years! The Winnipeg

Sent as a separate page.

COMMENTARY

Nurturing or Fomenting?

events in Arab countries across the north of Africa and into the Middle East were spontaneous uprisings resulting from the yearning of youth for freedom, combined with hard economic times, you might be interested in an April 14, 2011, article by Ron Nixon in the New York Times. The article talks about "a small core of American government-financed organizations (who) were promoting democracy in authoritarian Arab states".

Among the American institutions involved in this activity, according to the article, were "groups like the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, and Freedom House".

The article says that institutions like this are loosely affiliated to the Republican and Democratic parties in the United States, but they were created by Congress and are funded by the National Endowment for Democracy. National Endowment for De-

If you thought that the vents in Arab countries gress in 1983 "to channel grants for promoting democracy in developing nations", and gets a reported \$100 million annually from Congress. The bulk of Freedom House financing also comes from the government.

These institutions are clearly instruments of American foreign policy. They clearly carry on activity which, if it were done by other governments targeting the United States, would be characterized as hostile, subversive, and perhaps even terroristic.

The types of education acknowledged in the article include "how to organize and build coalitions", and "to use social networking and mobile technologies to 'promote democracy'".

Opposition groups in the target countries were given direct grants by the US government-front organizations.

In Egypt, the direct grants to opposition organizations started in 2005, under an initiative by President Bush.

When training in the target country was impossible, seminars were organized in third countries, or activists were sent to the United States for training.

The article reports at least one instance (the April 6 Youth Movement in Egypt) in which critics of the involvement of American institutions were "ousted" from an organization.

All of which brings to mind questions about the role of American institutions (and possibly like institutions from other countries) in the Orange Revolution in Ukraine and in the many similar events in former socialist countries.

It also invites the question, "When does nurturing democracy become transformed into fomenting revolution?"

Reluctant Allies

These things can change quickly, but at the moment there seems to be a great tug-of-war in NATO concerning action in Lybia. The tenacity of the government in resisting regime change is contributing to the differences.

(Continued on Page 4.)



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Musings about the **Federal Election**

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

As this was being written, the federal election was still two weeks off; as it is being read, those elections are already history. The reader is permitted to cheer or jeer, as may be appropriate, while contemplating these musings.

At this moment, it appears probable that the Conservatives will emerge from the election with an increased number of seats. It is incomprehensible why the electors would vote for a leader and a party with such a record of disdain for Canadian parliamentary rules and traditions and such a cynical attitude toward the electorate, but the expectation is that they will. (I really do wonder what the voter participation rate will be.)

At this moment, the question is whether the increase in Conservative seats will be enough to provide a major-

If the Conservatives do get a majority government, it is anybody's guess what kind of country Canada will be when the next election comes around. The only certainty (I would guess) is that it will be very different — and not better in terms of democracy and prosperity for most people.

A continuation of minority government will be barely better. Harper will claim to have a mandate to rule as he will — until it suits his purpose, again, to have another election. Ignatieff will not be able to challenge him effectively, having unnecessarily painted himself into a "no coalition" corner.

In fact, Ignatieff seems at this moment (unless he wins a totally unexpected majority) to be rapidly approaching the end of his career as leader. The Liberals will have to find a leader without Ignatieff's baggage, and one who will not allow Harper to frame the narrative (and maybe one who has no problem with coalitions, if that's what it takes to take power).

There is some slight chance, given recent events that the Conservatives will actually lose some seats. A Liberal minority government, governing with NDP and/or Bloc Québecois support, is not impossible. The question would be how long that could last.

A Liberal minority, currently a very long shot, would be the most promising for the general good of the country and its people.

What's life without dreams?

COMMENTARY

(Continued from Page 3.)

One source of friction is the reluctance of some NATO members — among them Italy, Spain and Germany to contribute to the military attack on Libya. At this writing, only six of NATO's 28 members are "striking targets"; i.e., participating in bombing Libya.

The most hawkish are England and France, which are pressing for more direct action toward "regime change".

Though the United Nations resolution mandating action against Libya was restricted to protection of civilians, the present overt intent is to depose Col. Qaddafi. Maintaining a no-fly zone quickly became attacks on ground targets.

So far, there has been no military land invasion (though foreign forces are believed to be with the rebels in various capacities).

Other measures to support the rebels have been implemented, including the diversion of Libyan state funds held abroad (which were frozen) to use by the rebels. The rebels have also been enabled (with the assistance of Qatar, which is participating in the bombing) to sell oil to buy weapons and othe supplies.

There has been growing pressure to permit the supply of weapons to the rebels. The immediate suggestion is that "defensive" weapons be permitted. That category of arms is not well defined, and a rapid escalation to the full range of battlefield weapons, including surface-to-air and other missiles can be expected.

NATO and its allies, after three weeks of attacks, are reported to be frustrated by their inability to force the departure of Col. Qaddafi, who appears to have the loyal support not only of Libya's armed forces, but also a sizeable portion of the country's popula-

Goldstone Retracts

Judge Richard Goldstone, you may recall, headed an investigation into Israel's military campaign in Gaza in December, 2008, and January 2009. He and three other investigators issued a report that was severely critical of Israel as well as of the Pales-

Judge Goldstone was selected for the task because of his stature as a principled juror and his reputation as a respected Jew.

When the "Goldstone Report", as it was known, was released, Israel and its supporters launched a vicious attack on the judge.

In his native South Africa, he was attacked by the Israeli sympathizers, and was almost excluded from his grandson's bar mitzvah.

Israeli agents around the world unleashed an unremitting barrage of hateful namecalling besmirching the judge's reputation, and his integrity as a Jew.

Prime Minister Netanyahu reportedly listed him with the nuclear program of Iran and the rockets fired by Hamas as the three main strategic challenges facing Israel.

Then, on April 1, 2011, The Washington Post published an article by Judge Richard Goldstone, in which he apparently retracted the conclusions of his report.

Judge Goldstone now faced criticism from another direction from critics like Roger Cohen, writing in The New York Times on April 7, who accused him of buckling to the pressure and questioned his courage.

Some commentators, like Yaniv Reich and Jeremiah Haber (a pseudonym), after careful analysis, claim that Judge Goldstone has actually retracted nothing.

On the other hand, Israel has used Judge Goldstone's recent article as the basis for an offensive to have the "Goldstone Report" retracted. "I really enjoy the 'UCH', This may be an instance where appearance trumps reality, whatever the reality.

From Our Readers

After giving it much thought, I have come to the conclusion that I no longer wish to subscribe to the "UCH".

Today, in the 21st century, information about Ukraine can be obtained from other sources; e.g., computer and library.

With all due respect, Mr. Shatulsky's articles are of little interest to me.

As a means of communicating, there was a definite need for such a publication. However, in my humble opinion, in the present form it has outlived its usefulness.

Wishing you success with future issues.

> - Elsie Kushnir Calgary AB

Enclosed please find our donation of two hundred dollars to the "UCH" Sustaining especially articles regarding Fund. We sincerely hope that the US." this donation will help the "UCH" continue the work of

http://ult-wpg.ca/

promoting Ukrainian culture and human dignity, with articles that expose human suffering happening around the world, and all the progressive issues, including PEACE.

Continue the good work serving the progressive Ukrainian and all other progressive communities.

This donation was unanimously supported by our entire membership.

- Dr. Jack Tarasoff Chairperson Federation of Russian Canadians Calgary AB

Love the paper, enjoy reading it.

- Anne and Joseph **Bobrovitz Brantford ON**

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

Regina Concert-Recital

The Annual Concert-Recital of the AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts and the AUUC Poltava Ensemble at the Regina Performing Arts Centre on February 12 featured over 110 performers, from beginners to the elite Poltava Ensemble.

— Story photos: Mark Greschner



The Beginners class, under the direction of Katie Wihak and Ayla Dmyterko, perform "Hutzulka".



The Pre-Poltava Dancers, under the direction of Lisa Wanner and Daniel Hebert, performed "Moldovchanka", with its intricate and fast footsteps.



At only age 3, the Novice class, instructed by Katie Wihak and Ayla Dmyterko, impressed the audience with their "Perogy" dance.



Under the direction of Lisa Wanner and Daniel Hebert, the Lileya Dancers performed "Volynsky Tanok".



Poltava Ensemble Dancers Laura Fellinger and Jeff Lozinsky perform "The Gypsies".



"Veseli Hutzulyata", performed by the Intermediate dancers and instructed by Laura Fellinger and Nicholas Dmyterko.



The central dance, "Kozachok", was performed by the Junior dancers, instructed by Laura Fellinger and Nicholas Dmyterko.



The Poltava Orchestra under the direction of Natalia Osypenko.

Toronto Branch Tribute



Toronto Branch President George Borusiewich opened the event with a "welcome" to those attending. Later on, he presented the tribute to Wilfred Szczesny.

On Sunday, March 20, 2011, the AUUC Toronto Branch hosted a gathering to honour Wilfred Szczesny and Peter Krochak for their contribution and dedication to the Hahilka Choir/Singers and to the AUUC.

Musical talent is the common thread shared by these two gentlemen, with Peter's outstanding skill as a pianist and a vocalist and Wilfred's magnificent vocal ability as a soloist and within the group. Wilfred can now add acting to his resume, as his performance shines in several group songs that focus on theatrical humour.

The two special guests were greeted at the door with the gift of a red rose boutonniere, and warmly welcomed by members, friends and family.

Toronto Branch President George Borusiewich began the celebration by greeting all of the guests, and inviting everyone to enjoy the Ukrainianstyle buffet lunch, catered by Baby Point Lounge.

The musical program began with three beautiful songs sung by Renata Duma, a friend of Peter's, with keyboard accompaniment by him.

These were followed by two duets — "Verkhovyna maty moya" (Verkhovyna, Mother Mine) and "Oy chey to kin stoyit?" (Oh, Whose Horse Is That") — by Wilfred and Peter, accompanied by the Hahilka Singers, directed by Natalka Mochoruk.

Hahilka members Lorna Clark, Claudia Rabzak, Maria Gargal and Anna Kulish performed the public premier of "Po sadochku pokhodzha-yu" (I Wander through the Garden), with music composed by Natalka. The concluding song was a rousing version of "Kolomeyky" featuring Wilfred, Lorna and Claudia.

The audience showed its (Continued on Page 7.)

Edmonton Seniors Highlight Shevchenko

In March the birthdays of Lucy Antoniw, Merle Schnee and Mike Ursuliak were recognized at the monthly gathering of the Edmonton AUUC

Mike Ursuliak was unable to attend, so his wife Marian Ursuliak sat at the head table in his place. Marian brought greetings from her husband to all of us.

Maybe, now that the Edmonton AUUC hall is having a chairlift installed to the upper and lower levels of the hall, a welcome addition, it will be easier for people like Mike Ursuliak to come to our gath-

Then there was a problem! The birthday celebrants forgot to blow out their candles, so people from the floor took the opportunity to make wishes for them. Some of these included wishes for "peace", "health, love and happiness" as well as "Go for it, girls!"

This month our meal was catered. Both the usual cooks and the audience thought this was a good idea. Many of those coming each month (and this month was no exception) look forward to the hot, fullcourse meal being served.

Eva Doskoch reminded us of, and shared with us her passion for the recognition of, International Women's Day, on March 8, 2011. She went on to remark profoundly, "Let us remember that this year we celebrate the fact that for the past 100 years we've been celebrating International Women's Day, as well as inching our way along the road to equality."

Our seniors' program for March was to join the Ukrainian and international communities in marking the 150th anniversary of death of Taras Shevchenko. Attention was drawn to the article in the March, 2011, issue of the Ukrainian Canadian Herald, "Final Years and Burial of Taras Shevchenko".

The hall was decorated in tribute to Taras Shevchenko. On tables were laid many pictures and statuettes of Shevchenko.

Shirley Uhryn, as a member of the Board of Directors, gave a favourable report on her attendance at the 15th Annual General Meeting of the



William Uhryn led the singing of "My Testament".

Taras Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation on March 12, 2011, in To-

Some highlights in the President's Report by Andrew Gregorovich were that he prepared a Shevchenko chronology leaflet to distribute to visitors, like school children. In 1999, he founded the Shevchenko web-site at www. infoukes.com/ shevchenkomuseum/. He went on to say that this is the first Shevchenko internet site in the

In addition, it is thanks to Lyudmyla Pogoryelov's competence as a computer programmer that the site continues to grow, and is so attractive.

Mr. Gregorovich represented the Museum at the 2010 Conference of the Ontario Museums Association, since it is important to contact museums and museum people in the province.

The excellent Shevchenko Library has been enhanced with some new Shevchenko books from Ukraine.

Museum Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelov says, in the first sentence of her report, "Year 2010 was filled with many ac-



Pauline Warick addressed the meeting.

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complishments for the Taras Shevchenko Museum." Some of the highlights from her report follow.

The website has been visited by over 250,000 worldwide visitors since its establishment in March, 2000. The Museum library has been recently catalogued and is on the website. The Ukrainian TV program "Svitohliad" filmed the Museum in April, 2010. The Museum publishes a newsletter twice a year. Last year the Museum made contact with the Institute of Literature of the Academy of Sciences in Ukraine and thus acquired a rare publication of Kobzar, a book of Shevchenko poetry, with illustration by V. Sedlyar.

Ms. Pogoryelov said that, "Community interest in the Museum is growing!" She concluded by expressing the "...Foundation's profound thanks to everybody who generously donated for helping; make the Museum success."

A commemorative closing was presentation by Lucy Antoniw, Shirley Uhryn and William Uhryn closed the commemoration. Lucy (in Ukrainian) and Shirley (in English) did a dramatic reading of Taras Shevchenko's "My Testament" (Zapovit), written in Pereyaslav on December 25, 1845. William Uhryn then invited members to join him in singing the musical version of "My Testa-



Lucy Antoniw (right) read Taras Shevchenko's "Zapovit" in the original Ukrainian, and Shirley Uhryn (left) read "My Testament", a translation into English.

ment". Tears came to some singers' eyes as they paid tribute, through music, to Taras Shevchenko, the Bard of Ukraine.

"When I die, let me be buried

In beautiful Ukraine..."

Mary Tropak shared a story about her father, who visited Ukraine many years ago. The highlight of his trip was to see the Shevchenko statue in Kaniv. He stood and looked up the hill in awe. Mary said that as a result of that experience, her father came home 10 years younger.

The executive of the Ed-

monton AUUC seniors, meeting on March 3, 2011, recommended that a donation of \$400.00 be given to the Taras Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation. This was ratified by the members present at this March seniors' gathering.

Program Co-ordinator Eva Doskoch, with her committee, has arranged for our guest speaker next month to be Nurse Shelly from the Grey Nun's Hospital. She will be sharing with us her knowledge of bones, joints, diet and exercise — osteoporosis.

- Shirley Uhryn

Mary Prokop Memorial Meeting



Bill Harasym delivered the

A memorial meeting for Mary Prokop, jointly sponsored by the Taras H. Shevchenko and Memorial Park Foundation and the AUUC Toronto Branch, was held at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto on April 3, 2011.

Reflecting Mary's diverse interests and activities, the gathering was attended by members of many organizations, including the Federation of Russian Canadians, the Canada-Cuba Friendship Association, Shevchenko Musical Ensemble, the Museum, and the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

Museum Vice-President William Harasym gave the eulogy. His speech (scheduled for printing in a later issue of the "UCH") detailed the dif- read from Robert Seychuk,



GEORGE BORUSIEWICH

ficult life immigrant families faced back then, and how Mary successfully overcame the myriad obstacles and became a leader in the fight for social justice.

Family members attending the meeting were Mary's daughter-in-law, Pat Prokop, Pat's children Alyson and Robbie, Pat's mother Marion O'Rourke, Pat's brother David O'Rourke and his wife Mary Fraser.

During the meeting, the microphone was offered to anyone who wished to tell the audience about how Mary had touched their lives. Several people, including Pat Prokop, Larissa Stavroff, June Morris, and Lillian Carrigan, took the opportunity to tell us more about Mary.

Written messages were



Mary's daughter-in-law Pat spoke about her.

the National President of the AUUC, on behalf of the National Committee, the Canadian Peace Congress over the signature of CPC President Dave McKee, and local councillor Gord Perks.

Absolutely delicious sandwiches, coffee, and pastries were served at the end of the proceedings. The volunteers who prepared (and generously donated) the food included Ann Malnychuk, Otti Nicolai, Nancy Stewart, Bernardine Dobrowolsky, Natalie Mochoruk, Vera Borusiewich, Lillian Carrigan, and Marie Harasym.

The event could not have taken place without the serious help of the behind-thescenes crew: Jerry Dobrowolsky, Mark Stewart, Nancy Stewart, and Bernardine Dobrowolsky.

— George Borusiewich

Toronto Branch Tribute



The Hahilka Singers, conducted by Natalka Mochoruk, gave "Po sadochku pokhodzhayu" its public premiere.



All the seats were sold when AUUC Toronto Branch hosted an event to honour Peter Krochak and Wilfred Szczesny at the AUUC Cultural Centre on Sunday, March 20.

(Continued from Page 5.) appreciation for all of the performances by offering extended applause.

To begin the tribute portion of the afternoon, Natalka paid homage to Peter. Recognizing Peter's profession as lawyer, Natalka proceeded to place him on trial and grilled him about his life. She asked him about growing up in St. Catharine's, his introduction to and involvement in music, his initial connection to Hahilka and his success in immigration law.

Ultimately, he was found guilty by the Hahilka jury of being an accomplished musician, a devoted family member, a much-appreciated accompanist and a wonderful human being. He was then given a life sentence with the Hahilka "Chain Gang".

Peter then very graciously thanked everyone for this beautiful occasion.

AUUC Welland Branch President Clara Babiy congratulated Wilfred and Peter on behalf of the Welland AUUC Branch and paid special tribute to Wilfred for his involvement with the Welland Orchestra. Clara presented \$100.00 each to the AUUC Toronto Branch and to the T.H. Shevchenko Museum, and gave the gift of a bottle of wine each to Wilfred and Peter.



Peter Krochak brought along a friend — Renata Duma — who opened the concert with three well appreciated songs.

George Borusiewich then paid tribute to Wilfred. He spoke of Wilfred's contribution and dedication to the AUUC in all of its facets from his early years to the present. An active youth in the organization, Wilfred displayed a keen interest and talent in journalism from the onset as well as a love for and gift in music

George emphasized the respect that is held for Wilfred in his dedicated roles of Editor-in- Chief of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, member of the AUUC National



AUUC Welland Branch President Clara Babiy presented cheques to the AUUC Toronto Branch and the Shevchenko Museum.

Executive Committee and member of the AUUC Toronto Branch Executive. His passion for Ukrainian culture and his musical talents have made his contribution to both Hahilka as vocalist and to the Welland Orchestra as vocalist and mandolin player most invaluable.

Several members of Wilf's family were in the audience and their feeling of pride for the esteem in which he is held was most evident.

Wilfred expressed a sincere thanks and appreciation for this honour and to all of those who have been with him along the way.

It was indeed a happy event, enjoyed by all who attended!

B. Dobrowolsky



Peter Krochak and Wilfred Szczesny, backed up by the Hahilka Singers, sang two vocal duets.



Lorna Clark delivered the verdict of the Hahilka jury, and the sentence — guilty of being an accomplished musician, a devoted family member, a much-appreciated accompanist and a wonderful human being.

AUUC Toronto Branch AGM

On the afternoon of Sunday, April 17, the AUUC Toronto Branch gathered at the AUUC Cultural Centre for its Annual General Meeting.

A highlight of this meeting was a presentation by AUUC National President Robert (Bob) Seychuk, who spoke about the circumstances (primarily the financial situation) of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians. He also spoke about possible solutions to the problems. The National President expressed confidence that the difficulties will be resolved.

In the last few months, Mr. (Continued on Page 10.)



The newly elected AUUC Toronto Branch Executive: seated, left to right — Nancy Stewart (Treasurer), Natalka Mochoruk (Member), Liz Hill (Member), Bernardine Dobrowolsky (Recording Secretary); standing, left to right — George Borusiewich (Vice-President), Lorna Clark (Member), Jerry Dobrowolsky (President), Mark Stewart (Member) and Wilfred Szczesny (Vice-Recording Secretary).



Claudia Rabzak (left), Wilfred Szczesny and Lorna Clark stepping it up in "Kolomeyky".

PAGE 8

Sent as a separate page.

Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

Hate Crimes

The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) has just released a report stating that there have been nearly 200 serious hate crimes at recent football (in Europe, soccer is referred to as football **gb**) matches in Ukraine and Poland. This has heightened fears that the 2012 European Championship finals, hosted by Ukraine and Poland, could be marred by racist incidents.

The report discloses disturbances including anti-Semitic chants and banners, hooligans abusing their own team's black players, and violent attacks against anti-racist

There have been 133 reported incidents in Poland over the past 18 months.

At a first-division match between Polonia Warszawa and Arka Gdynia, hooligans displayed a banner featuring a *Totenkopf* skull-and-crossbones symbol identical to that used by the Nazi SS (The Waffen SS was a military unit established by the Nazis in Germany in 1940. They wore black uniforms with a skeleton's head on their hats and were, reportedly, responsible for the deaths of three million Soviet prisoners-of-war during World War II. - **gb**).

While the UEFA report found fewer (62) hate crimes in Ukraine than in Poland, some of the crimes have been more violent.

In August, 2010, around 30 Arsenal Kyiv supporters, known for their left-leaning views, were attacked by 50 neo-Nazi fans of Dynamo Kyiv. The attackers shouted "Heil Hitler" and "white power", and an Arsenal Kyiv fan was stabbed in the back three times. Others suffered multiple injuries.

Both the Ukrainian and Polish governments have promised to take corrective

Michel Platini, President of UEFA, has promised "zero tolerance" at Euro 2012.

Pollution Worsens

Despite its large number of rivers, Ukraine is one of the countries in Europe with the greatest water deficit.

Each year the rivers are becoming increasingly pol-

According to Vasiliy Shevchuk, former Minister of the Environment, "88% of the rivers in Ukraine are in a catastrophic state. And, unfortunately, the overuse of rivers and damage to the river banks leads to the rivers being unable to cleanse themselves."

Over the past decade (un-

20,000 small rivers in Ukraine have disappeared. At present, the total number of rivers in the country is around 73 thou-

Environmentalists say they estimate almost one in ten Ukrainians have access to polluted drinking water, including above normal concentrations of chloride, nitrate, ammonia and other chemicals.

The most polluted are in the basins of the Dnipro, the thirdlargest river in Europe, which serves as the main source of drinking water for Ukrainians.

The causes of water pollution come mostly from the industrial sector. Some companies refuse to instal water treatment facilities.

According to Vasiliy Shevchuk, "Companies began to save on sewage treatment plants in the pursuit of profit — and sometimes, just out of the desire to survive."

Ecologists say that the most polluted water is in the eastern of Ukraine, with contaminant levels reaching 80% over what's considered good clean drinking water.

Poor? Too Bad!

Ukraine must enact unpopular economic reforms before it can obtain further credit from the (U.S.-based **gb**) International Monetary Fund, a senior IMF official said recently.

An increase in the price of energy sold to consumers and an overhaul (destruction - **gb**) of the pension system are key preconditions for a resumption of loans to the former Soviet republic, said Max Alier, IMF resident representative in Ukraine. IMF managers believe Ukraine must increase the retail price of heating by 50% beginning in April.

Ukrainian media has been, almost without exception, skeptical of the IMF loan program, which many Ukrainians see as aimed at protecting international business interests in the country, rather than improving the lot of Ukrainians.

Love

According to a recent survey, most citizens of Ukraine marry for love.

The main reasons for getting married for Ukrainians are love (66.9%), a wish to have children (39.2%), common interests and viewpoints (32.5%), traditions (16.9%), the partner's charm (8.9%), pregnancy (8.4%), and loneliness (6.7%).

A number of other, less-important, reasons were also listed.

At the same time, 48.1% der capitalism - gb), almost felt that a marriage contract was important, while 28.4% believed that a marriage contract was not important.

According to the poll, 59.7% stated that 2 children is the best number in a family, 19% said that one child is enough, while 10.7% said that the best number is 3. (How did you score? - gb).

Outlaw Neo-Nazi **Activities**

The Donetsk Regional Council has sent an appeal to the Ukrainian Parliament demanding the adoption of a law prohibiting nationalist activi-

The initiator and author of the document is a deputy of the regional council of the Communist Party of Ukraine, Irina Popova. According to her, in twenty years of independence Ukrainian nationalism has been transformed into neo-fascism.

It acquired a special impetus during the presidency of Viktor Yushchenko (Orange Revolution co-leader - gb), when Nazi henchmen and torturers Stepan Bandera and Roman Shukhevich were declared heroes. Their followers throughout Ukraine began to stage neo-Nazi marches and other activities.

Qaddafi's Nurses

In the end, it was the crummy wages in Kyiv that drove Oksana Balinskaya, a trained nurse with shoulderlength, brown hair, to get in touch with an employment agency three years ago. She wanted more than the \$100 to \$130 average monthly wage she would get in the Ukrainian capital.

The agency served as mediators between Ukrainians and a particularly deep-pocketed client in the Middle East whose weakness for nurses from Eastern Europe is wellknown: Muammar Qaddafi, Leader of Libya.

Though Qaddafi is condemned by the United States (could his socialist politics have anything to do with that? - gb), Balinskaya, in a recent interview with the Russian daily Komsomolskaya Pravda, had only kind words for her former employer, a man she calls "Papa".

Once in Tripoli, the Ukrainian was led, together with other young women, to Oaddafi's tent. There, the dictator himself took care of the casting, "eyeing them steadfastly" and asking about the women's' individual areas of specialization as nurses. Then he made his decision — Balinskaya was hired at a much more generous salary than she might have earned back in Ukraine.

Qaddafi and the women who surround him are the stuff of legend. He is provided with protection, for example, by an "Amazonian Guard" of stunningly attractive women. And, of course, there is his "harem" of Ukrainian nurses, including the "voluptuous blonde" Galyna Kolotnytska.

But, according to Balinskaya, the reports of "intimate relations" are untrue. The only thing that went on is that the despot got regular medical check-ups.

Balinskaya says that Qaddafi is in much better shape than a lot of people. She says she is hoping for a quick end to the war — and that she will soon be able to return to her job in the service of the despot.

Political Mood

President Viktor Yanukovich is still Ukraine's most popular politician. He leads the polls, with 22% of Ukrainians stating that they would again vote for him.

Yulia Tymoshenko (who lost to Yanukovich in last year's presidential election) receives 13% of the public's support. Arseniy Yatsenyuk receives 9% of respondent's support.

If a parliamentary election were to be held now, the Party of Regions (Yanukovich's party) would receive 21% of the vote, the Fatherland Party (Tymoshenko's party) would get 13% of the vote, the Front for Change (Yatsenyuk's party) would be supported by 8% of the population, while the Communist Party would receive 4% of the vote.

Still another poll found that 64% of Ukrainians are dissatisfied with life, while 33% are satisfied.

About 70% of citizens rate the country's economic situation as generally bad, while 27% said that it was average and good. The number of respondents who rated the economic situation as average and good has fallen 9% since December 2010.

April Fool

Large festivals dedicated to April Fool's Day were held in Ukrainian cities on April 1, which is a day of humour in Ukraine.

Odessa, a city situated in the south, is considered to be most famous for humour and jokes. In Odessa, April 1 is now an official holiday. To commemorate the day, Odessa held a special carnival called Humourina at which nearly 200,000 people participated. A huge clown festival,

with artists from Britain, Russia, Israel, and Ukraine, was part of the celebrations.

The April Fool's Day celebrations in Kyiv took a different approach. Winners of humour contests won office chairs as their reward.

In Europe, such competitions are a tradition, but in Kyiv this was staged for the first time.

Pavlik, the **Octopus**

Following the success of the German octopus, Paul, in predicting results at last year's soccer World Cup in South Africa, it seems that there is a new eight-armed kid on the block at the Alushta Aquarium in Crimea.

Head keeper Vitaly Stukanov said, "The octopus's name is Pavlik. The staff of the aquarium will teach him to see the future like the German octopus, Paul."

Paul was the most famous star in the South Africa World Cup 2010. He guessed the outcome of all seven of Germany's games and the Spain-Netherlands final correctly.

He made his forecasts by opening one of two boxes with a national flag painted on the side. Both boxes contained mussels.

The Ukrainian octopus has already shown signs of being able to see the future. He correctly guesses the tasks about to be given to him by the aquarium staff.

Pavlik's owners are hoping for a long and successful career for their new star. Otherwise, they might just be forced to look up the recipe for Octopus Carpaccio.

Chornobyl Conference

Medics, scientists, and technical specialists who helped Chornobyl victims, took part last month in an international conference in Berlin. The three-day forum was organized by the German Society for Radiation Protection (GfS).

Representatives from Germany, Russia, Japan, Ukraine, Belarus, Britain, and Switzerland participated in the event, which came close on the heels of Japan's Fukushima nuclear plant crisis.

GfS President Sebastian Pflugbell said the situation at Fukushima differed from that at Chornobyl, where an explosion had occurred followed by an immediate release of radiation. In Japan, things are happening gradually but the level of radioactivity at the Japanese reactors is higher than that at Chornobyl.

Another difference was (Continued on Page 10.)

Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 9.) that radiation after the Chornobyl explosion was detected at an altitude of 11–15 kilometres, which explained such a wide spread of radioactive fallout in the Northern Hemisphere, affecting some regions far from the nuclear plant more than those near it.

Pflugbell also expressed regret that Japan's information policy in connection with their nuclear accident did not differ from that of the Soviet authorities during the Chornobyl disaster.

Happy Birthday, Friends!



The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrants of May:

> Maurice Warick Pauline Warick

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

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

Mary Kuzyk Nita Miskevich

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

The Vancouver Seniors Club extends May birthday greetings to:

Charles Hegeous
Sylvia Surette
Anna Withers
Hope you had a great day!!

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

Victor Babiy Millie Kish Joan Sitak

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

Have you renewed your "UCH" sub?

Who, What, When, Where

Calgary — The Calgary Ukrainian Hopak Ensemble, with special guest artists, the Trembita Choir from Edmonton, invites you to the annual Spring Concert, Sunday, May 8 at 2:00 p.m. at the Rozsa Centre, University of Calgary. This concert will include a musical tribute to Taras Shevchenko, as well as joyfully celebrating 120 years of Ukrainian pioneers to Canada.

Remember that May 8 is also Mother's Day, so treat your mom to an afternoon of music, dance and song.

Tickets are \$15.00 advance or \$20.00 at the door. Reserve your tickets by calling the Ukrainian Cultural Centre at 403-246-1231 or Darlene at 403-271-2379.

Regina — The AUUC Regina Branch and the Poltava Ensemble will participate in Mosaic Festival of Pavilions, June 2, 3, 4. The Poltava Pavilion will be at the Regina Performing Arts Centre. Passports available at the door.

Toronto — AUUC Toronto Branch will host a concert of the Hahilka Singers and the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra of the AUUC on Sunday, May 1, at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West., at 2:00 p.m. Coffee and sweets will be served. Admission — \$20.00/person. For tickets, call the AUUC at 416-588-1639.

Toronto — AUUC Toronto Branch presents a The AUUC Annual Bazaar from 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 28, at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West (between Dundas and Keele streets). Look for arts and crafts, a bake sale, a white elephant table, Tarot card reading, Bingo, coffee and sweets, hot dogs, sausages and soft drinks, and bargains galore! To rent a table, call 416-763-1599 and leave a message.

Vancouver — The AUUC School of Dancing will participate in the BC Ukrainian Dance Festival and Competition on Saturday, May 7, at Clarke Theatre, Heritage Park Secondary School, 33700 Prentis Street in Mission, BC.

Vancouver — The Vancouver AUUC will host the End

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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.

of the Season Concert on Sunday, May 29, at 2:00 pm at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre at **805 E. Pender Street.** The concert will be dedicated to the works of Taras Shevchenko featuring songs based on his poetry as well as a display of his paintings. There will be a full Ukrainian dinner following the concert. For more details call **604-254-3436**.

Vancouver — The AUUC Vancouver Branch, in conjunction with the Vancouver Historical Society, will host a Perogy Lunch at \$10.00/plate that will be served on Sunday, June 5, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 E. Pender Street. For more information, call 604-254-3436.

Winnipeg — As part of May Works, the AUUC Winnipeg Branch is staging a Festival of Mandolins at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, featuring the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, and guest artists Squirrel Creek. Admission: \$15.00. Tickets available at the door.

Winnipeg — As part of May Works, the AUUC Winnipeg Branch is presenting the Spring Concert at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 15. The program for this last concert of the season features the AUUC School of Folk Dance, Yunist Dancers, the Festival Choir, the Senior Dancers, and the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra. Admission: \$10.00.

Winnipeg — May Works presents Victoria Park 1919 Cabaret at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, with musicians Dan Frechette, Emma Cloney, What's Left, and Three Blind Mice, comedian Paul Rabliauskas, and magician Joe Kaufert. Admission: \$28.00.

Winnipeg — As Part of the Open Doors program within May Works, the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday May 29, with tours of the building every hour on the hour. At 2:00 p.m., the Winnipg Mandolin Orchestra will preent a concert to celebrate its 90th anniversary.

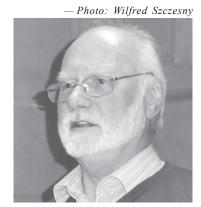
Readers of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* are invited to submit items of interest to the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community for free listing in this column. The deadline for material is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Toronto Branch AGM

(Continued from Page 7.) Seychuk has attended meetings with AUUC Branches in Vancouver, Edmonton, and Calgary as well.

The meeting stood for a moment of silence in memory of Mary Prokop, Bill Morris and Mary Mihay, who had passed away since the last AGM.

A nine-person Branch Executive was elected: Jerry Dobrowolsky – President; George Borusiewich – Vice-President; Nancy Stewart – Treasurer; Bernardine Dobrowolsky – Recording Secretary; Wilfred Szczesny – Vice-Recording Secretary; and members Liz Hill, Natalka Mochoruk, Mark Stewart and Lorna Clark.



AUUC National President Bob Seychuk addressed the AUUC Toronto Branch Anual General Meeting on April 17.

Elected as auditors were: Bill Malnychuk, Vera Borusiewich and Olesya Pogoryelov. April 15, 2012, was set as the date for the next AGM of the AUUC Toronto Branch.



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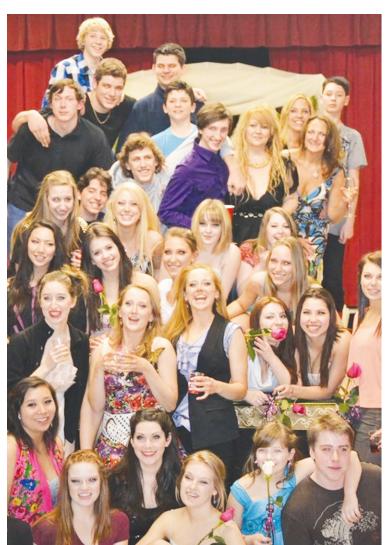
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Dovbush Stages Fashion Show







The Dovbush Dancers, the senior dance group of the Vancouver AUUC, ranging in age from 13 to 30, have many years of experience learning and performing Ukrainian dance. Whether it's pushing the limits in competitions, private events or fundraising, this group always gives a thrilling performance, gaining many opportunities, trophies and awards along the way!

This year, the Dovbush Dancers took on their largest fundraising effort to date: after months of hard work, planning and organization, Off the Barre, a spring fashion show, went off without a hitch!

The catwalk featured new designs by Designer Dolls, as well as a Ukrainian portion that took traditional costumes and gave them a new modern day look.

The show's dance-inspired theme added a twist to an average catwalk, featuring models from various dancing academies across Vancouver doing choreography on and off the floor. Additional entertainment included sponsor vendors, catering throughout, and a silent auction for guests to enjoy.

The event was put on to raise funds for the Dovbush Dancers' future trips and expenses, and it did! With the money raised, the dancers hope to attend the Cheremosh Dance Festival in Alberta next May, as well as to support the Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Vancouver this year.

Despite stress, uncertainty and dealing with never before imagined surprise challenges, (Continued on Page 12.)

— Photographer unknown



Model Rhea Sideris in "Comptine d'une autre été".

Top left and down: Models Isabel Dib, Dana Roycroft, and Emma Colling in "The Time"; The cast and crew after the show; Taralyn Karras on pointe, escorted by Louie Hauseux in "Let's Dance.



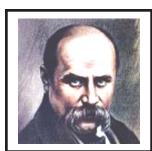
Paige Tuttosi and Jake Hobbis opened the show with the traditional bread and salt presentation.



Nicky Bizovie, Lily Parasiuk and Haley Bredin of the School of Dancing delighted the audience.



Louie Hauseux with female models in "Barbie Girl".



Taras Shevchenko Museum

Reburial of Taras Shevchenko

On the day that Taras Shevchenko died, his closest friends decided to honour his memory in accordance with his "Zapovit" (Testament) and to bury him in Ukraine. They decided to erect a monument, establish a school with the name Shevchenko, and publish an attractive edition of his works.

In April, 1861, official permission to move Shevchenko's remains from Smolenskoye Cemetery to Ukraine was given by the government.

In fulfilling the provisions in the poet's "Testament", a major role was played by the young artist H. Chestakhivsky and the future historian of Ukraine O. Lazarevsky.

On the morning of April 26, 1861, his best friends came to his grave. His coffin was dug up and placed on a wagon. M. Bilozirsky later said, "When the coffin was dug up and opened, in the two months since his death Shevchenko had not changed."

Friends and acquaintances bade farewell to the poet. The historian Kostomarov delivered the eulogy.

The funeral procession travelled to Kaniv for almost two weeks. On April 27, the remains of Shevchenko arrived in Moscow by train. The coffin was taken to the Tikhonovsky Church, where many citizens bade farewell to Shevchenko. Then the procession began its journey to Ukraine.

In Kyiv, authorities granted entrance to the lower city only. Even when dead, the poet was prohibited from entering the centre of the city. The officials were afraid of a demonstration.

Instead of horses, some students from Kyiv University, today named Shevchenko the wagon to the Church of Taras's Hill.



Jesus Christ. It was in this church that the body of their brother was first seen by Joseph, Mykyta and Yaryna Shevchenko.

"Everywhere there were police. Some people were arrested, and others in the crowds were not allowed into the Church," wrote P. Lebedyntsev.

On May 20, the procession continued from Kyiv to Kaniv on the boat Kremenchuh.

The Dnipro River, just then, was in high flood, so moving the coffin to Chernecha Hill by river was not possible. For this reason, the coffin of Taras was carried by hand the last 7 miles.

Many people came to Kaniv especially for the reburial, including professors, students of Kyiv University, the intelligentsia, clergy and representatives of the Ukrainian community in St. Petersburg.

On May 22, Taras was buried in Kaniv. A large cross with a circle behind the middle, sometimes called a Celtic cross, was erected in 1884 over his grave.

At the gravesite reburial, there were girls in Ukrainian embroidered blouses with a vinok garland or wreath of flowers on their head.

Soon after the burial Cher-University in his honour, pulled necha Hill began to be called

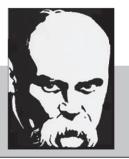
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Gina Alpen (project manager) and Montana Hunter strut their stuff.





Above, Danielle Stickney pumped up the crowd to "Rusiana"; left, models Rhea Sideris and Sydney Juzenas opened the show with "Beautiful Day". (Photos by Dan Fung, unless otherwise indicated.)



Above, Jennifer Bednard, ethnic section project manager (with Caitlynn Schell and Janice Beck); right, models Megan Hunter and Charlotte Newman in "Americano".



Fashion Show

(Continued from Page 11.) the group pulled together to make the event the amazing success that it was. With such a dedicated team, it is exciting to think of what Dovbush will do next with their new found, and well-earned confidence.

Lights down, and cue music!

- Katherine Alpen