

HERALD ВІСНИК

ТРАВЕНЬ/ЧЕРВЕНЬ, 2012р. HOMEP 243 PIK XXI

MAY/JUNE 2012 NO. 243 VOL. XX1 Price \$2.25

Welland Orchestra Concert



Soloist Margaret Card was among the performers when the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra (AUUC) presented a concert at the Ukrainian Labour Temple on April 15. A report with pictures appears on Page 6.

Some New(ish) Medical Information

Researchers keep on coming up with health information. Some of it is new, some of it challenges established beliefs, and some of it confirms and/or explains what we always knew.

People frequently ask why, with all the money donated to cancer research, no cure has been found yet. The short answer is that a cure has been found — to some forms of cancer. Some preventative measures have also been found, for some cancers.

In fact, cancer research seems to have been making great strides recently.

Unfortunately, cancer is not one disease, but many. Very recently, Canadian scientists discovered that breast cancer is actually 10 distinct diseases,

each with its own genetic characteristics. Previously, “only” four breast cancer subtypes had been identified.

Also on the cancer front, Italian researchers recently found a new, more effective drug for the treatment of certain cancer. Unfortunately, this new drug increases the danger of heart toxicity, so it must be used with care.

Autism is another disorder which includes many distinct diseases. Some forms of autism (about 10% of cases, it is believed at the moment) are caused, or at least have as a risk factor, mutations in the DNA, usually in the father’s sperm (but sometimes in the mother’s ovum).

Other autism factors are thought to be environmental. Research on autism ap-

pears to be in early stages, for the most part.

One of the interesting relatively recent developments in medical research is the emergence of genetic mutation as an important element in many diseases.

It has long been a truism that parental divorce is harmful to children, and can lead to behavioural problems. Recent research has shown that it’s not so much the divorce as the parental fighting.

New research techniques, including developments in imaging technology, have allowed researchers to establish the mechanisms by which high stress, unresolved over long periods, can lead not only to behavioural problems, but also to learning difficulties.

The culprit is the cortisol which is created under stress, and affects the operation of the hippocampus, an area of the brain which is critical to learning and memory.

Wonders of Economics

Reports continue to come in that the growth of consumer debt is slowing. Nevertheless, borrowing by households continues to be the big threat facing Canada’s future. Being pro-active in the face of reduced borrowing, Canada’s big (and very profitable) banks have taken steps to forestall the threat as they see it. They have raised user fees once again to maintain profit levels.

Newspapers’ business writers were overjoyed to report that the rate of inflation had fallen to about 1.9% in March. At least one report stressed that consumers should not expect to see lower prices as a

result. Pure genius!

Anyway, as a result of that lower rate of inflation, the Governor of the Bank of Canada has decided not to increase interest rates.

Jason Myers, President and CEO of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, extolling the benefits of business tax cuts in a letter to the *Toronto Star*, threw in a string of meaningless and/or irrelevant statistics in an awesome display of bafflegab. He mentioned, for example, how many new jobs have been created since 2007, without mentioning how many were lost, and without showing how tax cuts played a role.

The Next Issue

The next issue of the “UCH” will be dated July/August, 2012. Announcement of events in July, August or early September should be in our office by June 10, along with articles for the July/August issue. Thank you for your consideration.

Disquieting Assurances

One of the features of the last federal budget was across the board targets for deficit reductions. Numerous voices were raised to express concerns about threats to public health and safety.

Intending, no doubt, to quell our fears, George Da Pont, President of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, wrote a letter to the *Toronto Star* in which he informed us that the Agency “will not make any changes that would in any way place the health and safety of Canadians at risk”.

He wrote that “Budget 2012 identified funding of \$51 million over two years for key food safety initiatives.”

At first glance, that sounds good. However, it is actually less than \$26 million annually for all of Canada. Furthermore, the statement could lead one to believe that this money is for new initiatives. We suspect that is misleading.

And what is “key” in this context?

The letter goes on to list some fine things that have been done since 2006 to make our food safer.

Then comes the disquieting part.

The letter notes that, “We are contributing (to) the government’s deficit reduction plan.”

It continues to say, “Nearly 50 per cent of our reductions come from internal efficiencies that will not affect our programs.” The letter does not say where the other **over 50 percent** will come from — external efficiencies, or internal efficiencies that will affect the programs?

(“Efficiencies” is such a wonderful word, so elastic and just waiting for some content to be added.)

We are informed by Mr. Da Pont that the CFIA will focus on its core mandate: food safety, animal and plant health, and consumer protection. Grading and product quality will have less emphasis.

As a minimum, that suggests that lean ground beef

may get a bit fatter, large eggs may get a bit smaller, and making the pork look fresher than it really is may be a viable marketing strategy.

As for listeriosis and stuff like that, if not before, then it will certainly be found after people get sick — which is not much different from the present situation, except (possibly) for frequency.

No agency of the present government will say that the resources at its disposal are inadequate — the cost is too high. However, Canadians remember the consequences when a penny-pinching Conservative government in Ontario undervalued water quality control. To mention just one case.

Is anyone reassured?

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

**Sent as a
separate
page.**

Current Eclectic — Long and Short

Hounded Over 10 Years

As the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* goes to press, a decision is pending on an application to the Federal Court of Appeals by Mohammad Mahjoub to have his case quashed. This is one of the horror stories of security certificates as applied after September 11, 2001. That it is happening in Canada demonstrates the shameful depths to which the administration of public security has sunk.

Mohammad Mahjoub, a refugee and torture survivor from Egypt, has been detained

without charge in Ontario for over eleven years, in prison (often in solitary confinement) and under house arrest. All of this was based on secret information which the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) has admitted was likely obtained under torture.

Mohammad Zeki Mahjoub came to Canada in 1995 from Egypt, where he had been detained without charge and tortured. He was accepted as a refugee in 1996, settled in Toronto, got married, and had two young sons.

In June 2000, Mr. Mahjoub was arrested on a security certificate.

In April 2006, Mr. Mahjoub, along with three other security certificate detainees, was transferred to the Kingston Immigration Holding Centre" a six-cell facility opened specifically to detain Muslims held on security certificates.

(Soon dubbed "Guantanamo North", the facility, which now stands empty, cost tax-payers \$3.2 million to build, and two million a year to operate with one inmate.)

He was finally ordered transferred to house arrest on February 15, 2007. It took

months for Mr. Mahjoub to be transferred from prison after the federal court ruling, and when he was, it was under conditions that in practice turned his home into a prison and his family into his prison guards.

In February 2007, the Supreme Court struck down security certificate legislation as unconstitutional but gave the government a year to respond.

A year later, in February 2008, the Canadian government passed new security certificate legislation, which was essentially the same as the old law.

New certificates were immediately issued against Mr. Mahjoub, Mahmoud Jaballah, Hassan Almrei, Mohamed Harkat and Adil Charkaoui. All five men remained in prison or under house arrest and had to begin the process all over again.

On 18 March 2009, Mr. Mahjoub returned to prison at Guantanamo North in Kingston, no longer willing to subject his family to the intolerable and humiliating invasions of their privacy that the conditions of his house arrest required.

On 30 November 2009, Mohammad Mahjoub, then the sole prisoner at "Guantanamo North", was again ordered transferred to house arrest in Toronto, this time by himself.

In summer, 2010, the Federal Court ruled that part of the case against Mr. Mahjoub was probably gleaned from torture, and could not be accepted by the Court. However, Mr. Mahjoub was not released; nor was he informed (directly or through his lawyer) of the extent of that ruling.

In November and December, 2011, the court reviewed Mr. Mahjoub's bail conditions (as it is legally required to do every six months). On February 3, 2012, over 11 years after his detention, the Federal Court ruled that the government failed to show that it is reasonable to maintain intrusive conditions of control and surveillance on Mohammad

Mahjoub.

For the first time since 2000, Mr. Mahjoub will be able to go anywhere in Toronto without supervision or notifying the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA); his curfew will be lifted and a camera in front of his house removed; and he will be able to travel anywhere in Canada.

Many intrusive conditions nevertheless remain. He must wear a GPS-tracking bracelet and report once a week to the CBSA; he can't use the subway, a cell phone, any phone outside his house or the internet; all his phone calls are recorded, and all his mail is opened.

Outside Toronto, he must travel with a court-appointed supervisor and provide an itinerary seven days in advance to the CBSA.

These conditions were imposed with sole reference to the government's arguments; the court ruled that it could not take Mr. Mahjoub's representations into account.

In July of 2011, government officials entered a confidential room in the Federal Court, took boxes of documents belonging to Mr. Mahjoub's lawyers, viewed and read the materials, and commingled them with their own documents.

More than a month later a government lawyer told the defence lawyers that they had the files. Later, they admitted to having "much more" of the material.

Petitioned to release Mr Mahjoub without conditions because of this breach of lawyer-client confidentiality, Federal Court Judge Edmond Blanchard reserved a decision on stopping the proceedings in light of the document fiasco.

Instead, he ordered the two sides to separate the materials, saying he would then hear further submissions on the harm caused.

Mahjoub's lawyers say Blanchard's order is unreasonable and could result in the loss of solicitor-client privilege, a bedrock of the justice system, related to the documents.

If that happens, the government could use the information any way it wants — even cross-examining him on it.

They are hoping the Federal
(Continued on Page 4.)

Cuban Award to AUUC Member

AUUC Toronto Branch Executive member Liz Hill, President of the Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association Toronto, was recently awarded the Friendship Medal of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba, "in recognition of her outstanding example of solidarity with the Island".

The medal was presented by Kenia Serrano, President of the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP), in a simple ceremony on February 15 at ICAP headquarters.

In making the presentation, Ms. Serrano noted that, "Over the past several decades, Liz Hill has opened her home in Toronto to a countless number of Cuban artists, intellectuals and civil servants."

Erperanza Luzbert, Director of ICAP's North American Department, emphasized that, "She has carried out tireless work for the liberation of the Cuban Five and for an end to the blockade."

Ms. Hill is also co-Chair of the Canadian Network on Cuba.

In her acceptance speech, Liz Hill said among other things,

"I never expected to receive such an esteemed medal just for doing what I believe in.

"This recognition is not for me alone but for everyone who is part of the Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association and its sister organizations that make up the Canadian Network on Cuba.

"The CCFA-Toronto was founded 35 years ago when 17 people gathered together in someone's living room to organize a group in support of Cuba. We appreciated the assistance of the Vancouver-based CCFA, which was the



Liz Hill (left) received the Friendship Medal from ICAP President Kenia Serrano.

second such organization created in the world after the triumph of the revolution and the formation of ICAP.

"Long before that meeting I had actually fallen in love with Cuba when I was in high school. Our school books, our music and our economy were dominated by our biggest neighbour, the USA. I resented this and believed Canadians had a right to their own culture and destiny. I was deeply inspired when Cuba, a country so much smaller than Canada, stood up to the United States and said it would run things its own way.

"No more casinos, no more discrimination, no more foreign domination.

"The people of Cuba chose independence and sovereignty that worked for the wellbeing and justice of its own people inspired by the visions of its leaders: Jose Marti, Che, Celia Sanchez, Fidel and Raul Castro and numerous others. This is the vision that I wanted for Canada too.

"For 35 years the CCFA Toronto has organized many activities up-holding its founding statement. We signed protocols with ICAP which included celebrating important historic events such as July 26th, Jose Marti's birth date, the victory of Playa Giron, and exchanging literature and other written materials.

"—The CCFA Toronto

started a bimonthly newsletter *Amistad*.

"—We brought outstanding representatives of Cuban culture to perform in Toronto: Noele Nicola, Vicente Feliu, our beloved and never forgotten Sara Gonzalez, Grupo Moncada, Septiembre 5 and others. Also Cuban writers and poets such as Pablo Armando Fernandez and Nancy Morejon.

"—We organized Discovery Tours across Cuba and supported the Canadian Che Guevara Volunteer Brigade.

"—We organized and sponsored a visit by family members of Terry Fox to participate in the 2010 Terry Fox Run in Cuba.

"—We participated in the hurricane relief fund for Cuba which raised more than \$400,000 for Cuba, and initiated the Cuba for Haiti Campaign, which raised over \$400,000 in support of the Henry Reeve Medical Brigade working in Haiti.

"Over the years I've learned a lot, met wonderful people in Canada and Cuba, and worked with a great collective in the CCFA, CNC, ICAP and the Cuban Consulate and Embassy in Canada. And I bring greetings from one of these individuals, our beloved 96-year-old honorary chair, Professor Lee Lorch.

"So this Friendship Medal and honour from ICAP is for everyone, to celebrate our collective work and goals. This medal is a symbol to inspire and find new energies and friends, and to strengthen the struggle to Free the Cuban Five, End the Blockade and create lasting friendship and solidarity between Canadians and Cubans.

"On reflection, friendship means peace. We need it as we need life."
(Compiled with material from *Amistad* (Mar/Apr 2012), *People's Voice* (March 1-15, 2012)

Welcome to the only
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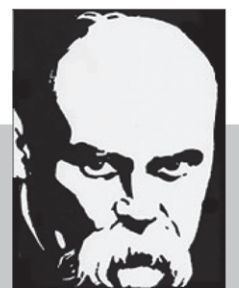
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595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2K4
Phone: (800) 856-8242; Fax: (204) 589-3404
E-mail: mail@auuckobzar.netUkrainian Canadian Herald editorial offices are located
at 1604 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 1A7
Phone: 416-588-1639; Fax: 416-588-9180
E-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.comSubscription 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.**What's Going On?**

AN EDITORIAL BY WILFRED SZCZESNY

Once upon a time, it was much easier to know what was going on in Canada. For one thing, in the past anyone caught lying to Parliament would probably have to resign. Today, it seems, the government considers it normal to lie, inside the House and out.

Of course, there are various kinds of lies. There are straight out lies, which the government has been caught telling. Its response has been, "So do us, and our majority, something."

More insidious than those are the lies of misdirection, misrepresenting reality while technically staying within the truth. A case in point is a letter to the editor of the Toronto Star by Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews.

Mr. Toews seemed to be trying to convince readers that the tough-on-crime legislation passed by the government would have no cost.

Mr. Toews wrote, "... our government has not, and will not build any new prisons." Is that true? Only the Cabinet (maybe) knows for sure, but it ignores the truth that provinces and territories have built, or are building, 22 new prisons and 17 additions, according to Dr. Jason Demers, also in the "Star". Also, additions are being made to federal penitentiaries, like Collins Bay.

"We will not spend a dollar on corrections," Mr. Toews wrote, "that is not needed to keep Canadians safe." What does that even mean? It is a senseless statement which would be consistent with any expenditure that government deems necessary.

And keeping Canadians safe, apparently, includes double-bunking inmates in facilities not designed for it. That probably comes under finding "efficiencies in its operations".

"...will continue to use existing facilities," can also cover a broad range of sins — overcrowding (which carries its own costs), expansion of existing facilities, facilities existing at the time they are brought into use (but not necessarily existing at the time the Economic Action Plan was put forward).

And how often have we seen "The government...has no intention...", here referring to building new prisons, become "The situation has changed, and now we intend to do it."

This form of deception (technically not lying) is not new. Go back over governmental budgets, for example, and see governments of all stripes proclaim, in large type "A new x-million dollar program", and inform us in small type that most of the money will be diverted from an existing program and spent over several years.

COMMENTARY**The World of Fantasy**

Among the world's economists are more than a few who look at Germany's economy with awe. As the Euro zone sinks under the burden of austerity imposed on one country after another, these thinkers advise everyone to study Germany as the model which can ensure eternal and universal economic stability.

Such a prescription for global economic health represents a world view more based in fantasy than serious contemplation or study. Whether a deliberate deception or wishful thinking, looking to Germany as the model for prosperity for all is the result of selecting a very limited selection of facts and interpreting them in a very limited way.

Here are some specifics.

If the history of international economics in the last fifty years teaches anything, it is that today's economic miracle is tomorrow's economic disaster. Think "Asian Flu" as just one of the many examples.

There is no room here for a complete explanation of why this is so, but the short answer is that capitalism, in all its forms around the world, is a competitive and, ultimately, anarchistic system. The very drive for profit which is admired as the source of efficiency and rationality is also the source of dislocation and instability. Because capital constantly seeks, and must

seek higher rates of return, stable capitalism continues to be, and must continue to be, an oxymoron, a contradiction in terms.

In Europe, a common market and, later, a common currency zone (the two not totally overlapping) were adopted to strengthen European capitalists against those based in the USA and Japan (at the time). However, competition within the market was not eliminated. Furthermore, the attitude of Germany (and to a lesser extent other European countries) toward their neighbours like Greece, Spain, Italy and others, shows that the conflict between countries was also not eliminated.

The arrangements in Europe were designed to encourage freedom of exploitation across (as well as within) borders, but had nothing to do with sharing the wealth.

Germany proved strongest in the competition, and is now asserting its right not to share, by beggaring its neighbours. Many economists, those who do not worship at Germany's altar, are concerned that the determination to impose austerity on those who are struggling poses a threat not only to the economy of Europe, but to the fragile recovery around the world.

The man on the global street is being sold a bill of goods, the story of the fiscally disciplined European North against the profligate South.

From Our Readers

As I am unable to participate in activities at the present time, I still look forward to hearing news and future endeavours in the organization. I miss you all.

— Helen Baker
Toronto ON

* * *

Your publication is the one newspaper I look forward to receiving each month.

Since our publication *The Ukrainian News* ceased publishing, yours is the only one that is very informative, plus including the interesting articles by Myron Shatulsky.

I wish continued success for many more years of existence.

Fraternally,
— Genevieve Hanusiak
New York NY USA

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www.ukrainiancentre-edm.ca

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Taras Shevchenko Museum:
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum

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

Winnipeg AUUC
http://ult-wpg.ca/

However, that's a fairy tale. Studies repeatedly show that Germany and the northern countries are no more frugal than the southern ones when it comes to social programs. The difference is that the northern ones have prospered, and are relatively rich, in part at least at the expense of the southern ones.

The people of Spain, Italy, Greece, Ireland and others are asking, if we are part of a common market, why should we not share in the wealth? Which would not seem to be unreasonable.

In fact, it is so reasonable that people around the world are asking similar questions.

The Occupy Movement, which lives on, is a large scale demonstration of growing opposition to the arbitrariness of capital's action.

As the "UCH" goes to press, students in Quebec are being arrested as they protest higher tuition fees, and there is a surge of opposition in Ontario to budgets which attack workers' jobs and living standards. What's next?

Hounded Over 10 Years

(Continued from Page 3.) Court of Appeal will set the ruling aside. Among the possible outcomes: The court rules that the state's uncivilized behaviour is acceptable (though obviously not in those terms) and the process continues; the judge rules that the state has gone too far, and frees Mr. Mahjoub (most unlikely); the judge devises a way to scold the government and its lawyers while keeping Mr. Mahjoub on the hook (most likely, given the history).

In spite of the conditions on his movements which still apply, making travel difficult, Mohammad Mahjoub is planning a speaking tour in May mainly in Ontario. He intends to speak in Ottawa, Montreal, Kingston, Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo and Toronto.

(This article is based mostly on internet material from Support Mahjoub, with confirmation through a *Huffington Post* article from The Canadian Press.)

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Edmonton AUUC Seniors' March Meeting

The March gathering of the Edmonton AUUC seniors saluted many people.

First, it was Lucy Antoniw to whom accolades were extended, because it was she who celebrated her birthday, our honoured guest. To her, we all extended wishes of good health, love and happiness.

Then, a moment of silence was observed in memory of Mike Feschuk of Vegreville, Alberta, who passed away on March 15, 2012.

Mr. Feschuk was a long-standing member of the AUUC and President of the AUUC Vegreville Branch. We sent our condolences to

Hilda and family members.

A luncheon of hamburger buns and a complete selection of condiments was provided again by our appreciated caterer, Dianne Ries.

Being the month of March, a salute was given to Ukraine's poet Taras Shevchenko, marking 150 years since his death.

Shirley Uhryn recently attended the Taras Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation Annual General Meeting in Toronto as the delegate from the Edmonton AUUC Branch.

Shirley gave a report of the Convention to the seniors. In the March edition of the



Lucy Antoniw was the birthday celebrant.

Ukrainian Canadian Herald, Wilfred Szczesny provided a report to which I refer you for coverage of the AGM.

In addition, March 8 was International Women's Day.

Taras Shevchenko had a dream. Outstanding Canadian women also had a dream. To them we paid tribute and salute.

In keeping with International Women's Day, each senior received a slice of bread and each woman received roses.

The association of International Women's Day with bread and roses has been long. In the 1910s a song called "Bread and Roses" was first compiled. The lyrics were by James Oppenheim, the music by Martha Coleman or Caroline Kohlsaat.

"As we go marching, marching in the beauty of the day,

"A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill lofts gray, "Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses,

"For the people hear us singing: 'Bread and roses! Bread and roses!'

"As we come marching, marching, we battle too for men ...

"As we come marching, marching, unnumbered women dead...

"As we come marching, marching, we bring the greater days,

"The rising of the women means the rising of us all, better ways..."

A laminated book mark was presented to all present. On one side of this book mark was a self-portrait of Taras Shevchenko at his desk, followed by an extract from his poem of lament "My dear, ill-fated Oksanochka..." At the bottom was a picture of Katerina.

On the reverse side of the bookmark was our salute to some outstanding Canadian women through time, such as Agnes Campbell Macphail (born in 1890, who was the only woman elected to Canada's Parliament in 1921, when women first had the right to vote in parliamentary elections), Dr. Roberta Bondar (an astronaut and neurologist),

along with the Canadian Women's Olympic Hockey Team 2010 Gold Medallists.

Those are only three of 25 who were recognized by us for International Women's Day. Brochures were distributed to all in attendance to petition the Alberta government for better care for our seniors. The message was that we believe that Alberta

seniors deserve quality public care. Through Public Interest Alberta we support the following:

create viable and responsive public home care;

strengthen the Nursing Home Act — don't circumvent it;

build more long-term care facilities;

establish a Seniors Advocate as an Officer of the Legislature;

make seniors care facilities more democratic.

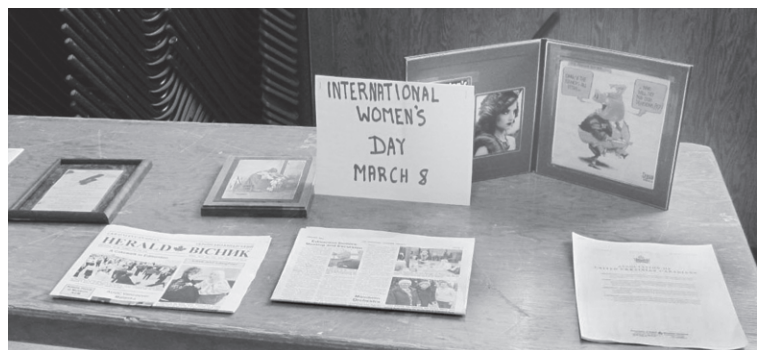
Public Interest Alberta is working to cover seniors and the disabled with the medicare umbrella.

In addition, literature was given to those in attendance from the city of Edmonton about their Edmonton Waste Management Centre which we will visit later this spring.

— Shirley Uhryn



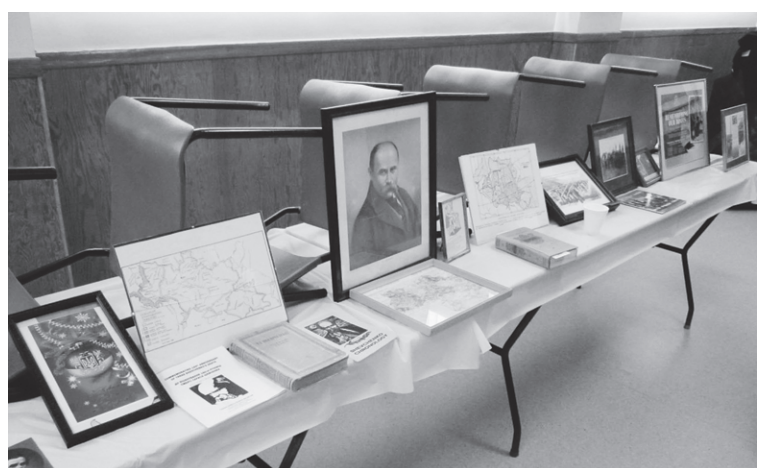
Shirley Uhryn (left) presented roses to Dianne Ries, the hard-working caterer.



International Women's Day was among the items on the busy agenda of the March meeting of the Edmonton AUUC Seniors.



Shirley Capowski (left) got a rose. Anne Husar (right) received two.



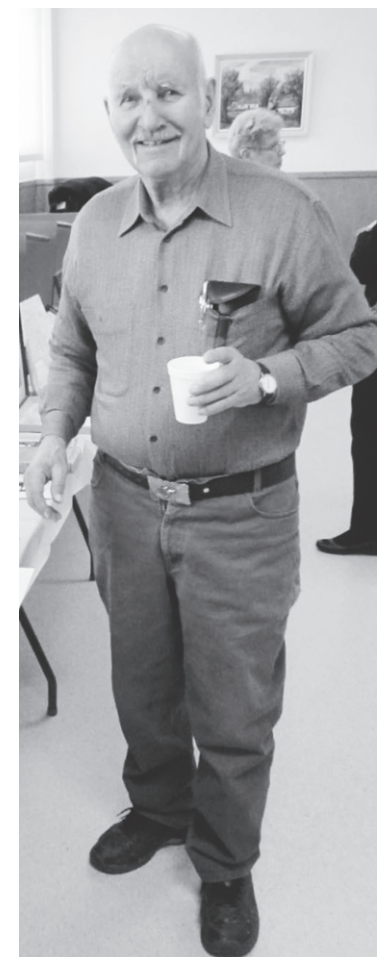
There was a display marking the 150th anniversary of Taras Shevchenko's death.



Shirley Uhryn presented a report on the Annual General Meeting of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation.



Pauline Warick lead the group in a moment of silence for the late Mike Feschuk.



Bill Uhryn's materials for the Shevchenko display were much appreciated.

AUUC Toronto Movie Day

On Sunday, April 1, the AUUC Toronto Branch held its latest Movie Day with a showing of the film *Mamma Mia, the Sing-Along Version*.

On entering, the audience was immediately immersed in the spirit of the Greek islands with the sound of music from the movie's setting.

Further enhancing the cultural flavour of the film and its wedding theme, everyone was treated to the tastes of tzatziki, feta cheese, pita bread, kalamata olives and a glass of festive wine.

As the movie progressed, the voices became more and more confident in the musical numbers — aided by the

bouncing ball subtitles. By the end, it was quite apparent that many members of the audience could have very successfully auditioned for parts in the film.

Both laughter and tears were seen and felt as the plot thickened and the happy ending was reached.

So festive was the final song, that several "dancing queens" jumped to their feet to enjoy the rhythm of the sound.

The afternoon was truly a great time!

— B. Dobrowsky

Support our newspaper!

Great Food and Music at Welland AUUC

On Sunday, April 15, along with my husband, children and a nephew, I attended a luncheon and concert at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Welland.

It has been a long time since I was at such an event at the Welland Branch of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, and even longer since I've been asked to write about it. Reviewing the event changes the entire experience; I listen to the music with a more critical ear than I usually do.

What I heard was great music that might have been recording quality at times during the performance; music that was performed by people who clearly enjoy playing together; music that, when paired with great food, brings people together to reflect on the things that are most important to them.

Since I was a kid I've been going to AUUC concerts with no greater objective than cheering on family and eating cabbage rolls, home-made perogies — food that would only be served at home for special events, like Christmas dinner. I loved the music too,

and eventually came to appreciate the Ukrainian folk music sound.

It didn't really matter that I had no idea what words the Hahilka Choir was singing; their expressiveness always managed to tell the story.

And I always loved the sound of mandolins. I even tried to play the mandolin as a kid. I gave up when I could not master (or even get the hang of, really) the tremolo. I have great respect for the mandolin players of the orchestra, as they put my own "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" to shame.

As I get older, I realize that these AUUC concerts are a great connection to my Ukrainian heritage. I'll bring my kids along, just as my dad brought me, as a way to help them stay in touch with this side of themselves.

Everyone that I spoke to assured me that Sunday's event was the same as it has been every year, but I immediately noticed the greater-than-usual number of young people there, and so many faces that I've never seen before.



Having eaten a delicious meal, diners at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Welland on April 15 prepared to take in a concert by the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra (AUUC).



The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra AUUC presented a program of "music that ... brings people together to reflect on the things that are most important to them".



Rudy Wasylenky (left) and Ken (Bud) Speck joined voices in "My Melody of Love".

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowsky



Wilfred Szczesny (right) performed six vocals on the program, five of them in duet with Rudy Wasylenky.

These aren't the only differences I noticed. The food set-up is never exactly the same from year to year, but this time the appetizer course reflected Ukrainian Easter: hard-boiled eggs served with ham, Polish sausage, and fresh rolls.

For the main course, we ate cabbage rolls, perogies, perfectly seasoned mashed potatoes, and tender roast beef. On the side was the most amazing beet horseradish, mild but also lively.

After dinner, there was only a short wait before Clara Babiy, head of the AUUC Welland Branch, addressed the crowd to start the show. Ms. Babiy brought bad news: we were informed that Alice Beasley, perogy maker extraordinaire, has passed away leaving behind some very big shoes to fill.

Wilfred Szczesny, acting announcer for the concert, also had some bad news: Peter Krochak the Hahilka Sing-

ers' accompanist, was ill, so the group was unable to perform. I was really looking forward to their set, so I was really disappointed, but I was glad to hear that Peter's illness was temporary.

There was also good news — great news: The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra welcomes bassist Angie Atkinson to the group, perfect for all of the young people in the crowd, who, if they're anything like me, love bass.

Angie adds richness and depth to the music, and will likely settle into the orchestra beautifully. This was particularly evident during "Centennial Tribute", a piece which features music from Canada's various prairie communities, presented at the 2005 National Ukrainian Centennial Festival in Regina. Medleys like this one are really what the orchestra does best. In some sections of the number, the mandolins could have been a little more precise, but overall they sounded smooth and cohesive.

Another medley was "Prairie Dances", which uses Joy Edward's accordion to set the stage and create some tension. She has a talent for grabbing the interest of the audience, making you catch your breath in anticipation as you wait for the mandolins to take over the melody.

It is dramatic elements like these that make the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra so exciting. The group can be so expressive that the audience barely notices, or cares, about the minor stumbles.

Featured singer Margaret Card's concert debut even brought the audience to tears during "Vera Lynn Medley", when she invited them to sing along to the nostalgic tunes. I was reminded of the song "Goodbye" in *The Sound of Music*, when the guests echo the children as they sing goodbye to the party. Margaret was just as enchanting; the orchestra needs more of her classic female voice to balance the male voices of Ken (Bud) Speck, Wilfred Szczesny, and orchestra conductor Rudy Wasylenky.

There were several numbers on the program in which these singers were featured.

Bud and Rudy paired up in the Polish folk song "My Melody of Love", the perfect song to highlight Bud's very smooth and melodic voice.

The rest of the duets showcased Rudy and Wilfred. We

(Continued on Page 7.)



Margaret Card, a recent addition to the orchestra's personnel, moved people to tears with a "Vera Lynn Medley".



AUUC Welland Branch President Clara Babiy, a mandola player, played a role in the opening and closing of the orchestra presentation.

Great Food and Music

(Continued from Page 6.) often hear these two singing lively, upbeat songs like “*Yak tantsooyoot Kozaky*” (When Cossacks Dance), and

“*Yeechaly chloptsi*” (The Boys Were Riding), and they sounded great together, as always. They play off of each other so well, and I even overheard someone in the audience whispering to her neighbour about how catchy the songs were.

The orchestra was support-

ive during the duets, keeping great time, while the accordion provided the perfect counterpoint to the voices.

It’s catchy Ukrainian folk songs that I loved so much about coming to AUUC events like the Spring Concert when I was a little girl, and they are still providing so

many people with an opportunity to gather together to relax and have fun. I know my kids enjoy coming to eat great food that they don’t get to eat very often and to hear some cool music that they don’t really get to hear anywhere else, and I feel inspired to listen to my CD’s of the orchestra

more often.

Even though I really love just sitting back and enjoying the show, I had fun writing about such an exciting day. I hope that next time I do this I get to hear the Hahilka Singers, and maybe even a vocal trio with the orchestra.

— Zorya Murphy

First Semester Ends at Poltava School



The Lileya dancers, age 9 and 10, are under the direction of Lisa Wanner and Daniel Hebert.



The “Zaichyka” novice dancers, ages 3 & 4 years, are under the direction of Dallas Montepetit and Katie Wihak.



The Pre-Poltava dancers range in ages 11 to 14 years and are under the direction of Lisa Wanner and Daniel Hebert.

Upon completion of its first semester, the Regina AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts had its class pictures taken.

The School (along with the Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance) was featured in the Annual Concert Recital (March 3) held before a capacity audience at the Regina Performing Arts Centre. The concert will be reported with a fea-



The “Malyatka” beginner dancers, aged 5 years old, are directed by Dallas Montepetit and Katie Wihak.



The “Yalynka” intermediate dancers, ranging in ages 7 to 8 years, are under the direction of Laura Fellingner and Nicholas Dmyterko.

— Story photos: Mark Greschner



The “Kalyna” junior dancers, age 6, are directed by Laura Fellingner and Nicholas Dmyterko.

ture in the next issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*.

The second semester will have the School preparing for Regina’s Annual Mosaic Festival. Featuring some 20 ethnic pavilions, Mosaic will be held May 31, June 1-2. The dance school will be featured in five 30-minute programs during the 3-day event at the Poltava Ukrainian Pavilion, located at the Regina Performing Arts Centre.

JoKe TiMe

Seeing two men pulling another ashore using a rope, the priest said, “That’s what I like to see, a man helping his fellow man.” As he walked away, one of the men said, “He sure doesn’t know anything about shark fishing.”

“Heard you were moving your piano, so I came over to help.”

“Thanks. Got it upstairs already.”

“Do it alone?”

“Nope. Hitched the cat to it.”

“How would that help?”

“Used a whip.”

— Monty Python

Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

- Nester Bagan
- Sandy Gordey
- Paul Greene
- Nick Kereliuk
- Ed Makowecki
- Sophie Sywolos
- Mike Uhryn
- Virginia Witwicki
- Mary Woyewidka
- 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 and June celebrants:

- Joe Dzatko
- Nita Miskevich
- Natalie Mochoruk
- Anne Omylanowski

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

The Vancouver Seniors Club extends best May and June birthday greetings to:

- Mary Fedosenko
- Charles Hegeous
- Carol Snider
- Sylvia Surette
- Anna Withers

Hope you have a great day!!

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

- Lida Braun
- Ron Hlywka
- Millie Kish
- Joan Sitak
- Leonard Whatmough

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



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Free Admission by appointment only

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separate
page.**

Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

Brain Drain

Ukraine is facing a significant brain drain as talented professionals leave the country to work abroad.

"The number of highly skilled specialists with knowledge of foreign languages that are looking to move abroad has risen sharply in recent times," according to Pavel Rosenko of the Razumkov Centre in Kyiv. The average age of a potential emigrant from Ukraine was 30 years, he stated.

According to studies conducted by local researchers, about a quarter of Ukrainians aged between 18 to 40 years consider going abroad.

"Russia, Canada, some European countries, and the U.S. are the locations that attract thousands of Ukrainian professionals with wide employment opportunities," Rosenko said.

"The government needed to improve working conditions and to provide decent wages for young professionals to hold them," he added.

According to the expert, IT (internet technology) specialists, programmers, and scientists head the list of those seeking a better life abroad.

Official figures show that unemployment in Ukraine among youth under 25 is currently 20 percent. Some 40 percent of college graduates cannot find a job in their profession.

Cheap Trains For EURO

Russian fans travelling by train to Ukraine and Poland for the EURO 2012 football (soccer - **gb**) matches are to get cut-price tickets under an agreement announced by state-owned Russian Railways.

The European continent's top national team competition is on June 8 to July 1, with matches in the Polish cities of Warsaw, Wroclaw, Gdansk, and Poznan, and the Ukrainian cities of Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kyiv, and Lviv.

Passenger groups of eight or more travelling to any of these cities around these dates will get discounts of up to 25 percent, a Russian Railways statement said. Smaller discounts are available for single parties.

Extra trains are to be laid on to Warsaw, where two of Russia's three group matches will be held.

EURO 2012 Sold Out

With less than two months remaining before the EURO 2012 kickoff, all the tickets for the continental football (soc-

cer - **gb**) championship have sold out.

The tournament in Ukraine and Poland broke all records in terms of fan interest, with over 12 million ticket applications.

"There won't be an empty seat at any stage of EURO 2012," stated Martin Kallen, EURO 2012 operations director. "This championship will be a landmark event. Never before in the history of European football have we witnessed such huge attention towards the Euros."

An unfortunate side-effect is the shocking escalation in hotel-room rates. As an example, the 4-star Shakhtar Plaza in Donetsk has hiked its rates 400%, from \$150 per day to \$600 per day.

There are no bargains. All remaining rooms in the city are going for more than \$450 per day.

The lowest price any where in Donetsk is at the budget-priced Agat Hotel. Its usual, pre-EURO price of \$60 per day has been hiked to \$450 per day, a budget-buster increase of 760%!

Please come to EURO 2012, but bring a suitcase full of money with you!!!

EURO 2012 Stars

The eyes of the football (soccer - **gb**) world will be fixed on Poland and Ukraine this summer for the EURO 2012 European Championships, one of the greatest exhibitions of international football in the world.

Many of the world's best players will be plying their trade for their countries. But often the most exciting performances come from those from whom the least is expected. Every year there are a few unknown players who shine under the bright lights of the Euros and stun the world with their performances.

While watching established stars may be entertaining, be sure to keep an eye out for these two players, who just may stun the football world this summer.

Oleh Husyev (Ukraine):

Despite accumulating 249 appearances for Dynamo Kyiv, and 68 caps for Ukraine, Oleh Husyev has gone largely unnoticed by the international football community. Known mainly for his tremendous pace, Husyev can wreak havoc on the right side of the midfield, and this uncommon asset has made him a fixture in both his club and national team sides. Husyev can score goals or provide assists, and is the oil in the engine of whatever team he plays for.

Artem Dzyuba (Russia):

As a generation of Russian forwards begins to age and deteriorate slightly, Spartak Moscow striker Artem Dzyuba has found himself thrust into Russia's first team. Dzyuba is an archetypal target man, using his 6' 4" frame to get above defenders and make full use of crosses put into the box. He can also play as a winger when needed, giving him valuable versatility in the Russians' fluid attacking system. Only 23, he has 82 league appearances for his club side, and though he just broke into the Russian national team, his coach would be well-advised to break out this versatile and prolific forward during the Euros this summer.

"Death Match"

It's a game that every Ukrainian knows about: the "Death Match" of 1942, when top Kyiv soccer players trounced a team of Nazi occupiers and reportedly paid for it with their lives. But Ukrainian authorities last month froze the release of a movie depicting that Soviet defiance of Nazi Germany.

The movie tells the story of the August 9, 1942, match which pitted a German *Wehrmacht* team against players from Kyiv's top club, Dynamo. The Ukrainian team won the match 5-3 despite reported warnings from the SS that they must lose to their occupiers. Most team members were arrested soon after.

"Some things are worth dying for," the actor playing team captain Nikolai Ranovich says in the film, his eyes filling with tears, as he convinces his team to beat the Nazis in a show of resistance and patriotism.

A monument to the Ukrainian footballers who beat the Nazi team stands outside the Dynamo stadium in Kyiv. According to Ukrainian media reports, the movie, a joint Ukrainian and Russian production, could upset local audiences because the film depicts several Ukrainians as Nazi collaborators.

Movie producer Dmitry Kulikov has accused the Ukrainian movie officials of bowing to pressure from "radical nationalist groups".

"There is nothing anti-Ukrainian about this movie," Kulikov says. "We made a movie about the heroic deed of Ukrainians and Kyiv residents during the war."

The movie was well-received by some current Dynamo Kyiv footballers who had attended a private screening of the film.

The film will open an international football film festival in Brazil, running from May 24 to June 3 in two major cities,

Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. It will also be screened at a major film festival in Russia.

Neo-Nazi Assault

The Jewish community in Kyiv reported recently that one of its members was brutally attacked by a group of skinheads, and is in critical condition. He was found lying unconscious and bloodied in the street, and was rushed to a hospital.

Reports state that he suffered serious head injuries caused by glass bottles. The director of the Jewish community in Kyiv, Yakov Zilberman, said, "Attacks by neo-Nazi groups have happened here before. There's a sense of anger and some fear."

"We've warned against a rise in anti-Semitism here and about cases of verbal assaults."

The community believes the assault was racially motivated, but according to Zilberman, the police are reluctant to investigate the crime as an anti-Semitic incident and are trying to cover it up.

Local police officials stated that the investigation was ongoing, and that they are also looking into the possibility that the young man tripped on the street.

Ultra-Nationalist Svoboda Party

(The following are excerpts from an article posted on www.opendemocracy.net by Ivan Katchanovski, a teacher at the School of Political Studies at the University of Ottawa. - **gb**)

"A far-right Ukrainian party, misleadingly called Svoboda (Freedom), became involved in an international scandal when it employed threats of violence to cancel a series of public lectures on the party's ideological origins, which were to have been given by Grzegorz Rossolinski-Liebe, an academic historian of Polish origin from Germany.

Svoboda succeeded in forcing all Ukrainian institutions to cancel lectures about the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and its leader Stepan Bandera.

When black singer Gaitana was selected to represent Ukraine in the Eurovision contest this year, one of the leaders of Svoboda, Yuri Syrotiuk, went public with his contention that her race makes her unfit to represent Ukraine in the European contest.

These are just the latest cases of controversial and

extremist public pronouncements that have put this ultranationalist party in the spotlight in Ukraine.

"The rising threat to democracy and freedom represented by the so-called Freedom Party has attracted little attention or concern from Western media and politicians." Katchanovski writes further, "Svoboda may have abandoned its Nazi-like swastika logo and changed its name from the Social-National Party of Ukraine to the politically more emollient Freedom, but the organization continues to promote an illiberal, anti-democratic ideology and to glorify its radical nationalist and fascist predecessors.

"It receives support from the opposition parties that are regarded as pro-Western and democratic."

(Unfortunately, space constraints prevent me from excerpting more of this exposé of the viper lurking in the bowels of the new, capitalist, Ukraine. Please visit the website given above to read more of this academic's analysis of the re-emergence of violent right-wing extremism in Ukraine.)

World Happiness Report

The Earth Institute at Columbia University made a list of the happiest countries and commissioned it for the United Nations Conference on Happiness.

The World Happiness Report ranks the happiness of the world's nations based on a "life evaluation score" that is a number between 0 and 10 that measures several factors including health, family and job security, and social factors like political freedom, social networks, and lack of government corruption.

Northern European countries turned out to be the happiest countries in the world. Denmark is first, followed by Norway, Finland, the Netherlands, Canada, Switzerland, Sweden, New Zealand, Australia, and Ireland.

Belarus is 62nd, Cuba is 69th, Russia is 76th, and Ukraine is 91st.

The African countries of Togo, Benin, Central African Republic, and Sierra Leone were last.

156 countries were evaluated for this report.

Ukrainian Cuisine

When most people think of Ukrainian cuisine, the first images that spring to mind are of borsch and Chicken Kiev.

(Continued on Page 10.)

Who, What, When, Where

Calgary — The Calgary Ukrainian Hopak Ensemble, with special guest artists, Edmonton's Trembita, invites you to the annual **Spring Concert** on Thursday, **May 3 at 7:00 p.m.** at the **Rozsa Centre**, University of Calgary. Please join us for an enjoyable evening of Ukrainian music, song and dance. Tickets are **\$15.00 advance and \$20.00 at the door**. To reserve your tickets, call the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre at 403-246-1231** or **Darlene at 403-271-2379**.

* * *

Regina — Regina's annual festival featuring some 20 ethnic pavilions, **Mosaic** will be held **May 31 to June 2**. The **AUUC Poltava Ukrainian Pavilion**, located at the **Regina Performing Arts Centre**, 1077 Angus, will operate from **5:00 p.m. to midnight on Thursday and Friday**, and **2:00 p.m. to midnight on Saturday**. The Poltava Pavilion will feature **Ukrainian cuisine, displays, Ukrainian folk art**, and **22 half-hour programs** featuring over 100 performers of the Poltava Ensemble and the School of Dance. **This year, the Pavilion will be dedicated to the 90th anniversary of the AUUC (ULFTA) orchestra**. Passports, available at the RPAC Box Office or at the Pavilion door, cost: **Adults — \$14.00; Seniors/Children — \$9.00**.

* * *

Toronto — Look for information about **Canada Day**.

* * *

Winnipeg — The **Festival of Mandolins** will be staged at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, **Pritchard and McGregor**, on Saturday, **May 12**, starting at **8:00 p.m.** Tickets: **\$15.00**.

* * *

Winnipeg — The **Spring Concert**, featuring the **Festival Choir, Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, The AUUC School of Folk Dance** and the **Yunist Dancers** in their final concert of the year, will be presented at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, **Pritchard and McGregor**, on Sunday, **May 13**, starting at **2:00 p.m.** Tickets: **\$15.00**.

* * *

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.

Sustaining Fund Donations

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Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 9.)

But the country's food is so much more than that. It is hearty, seasonal, and imaginative. It makes the most of available ingredients and it reflects the Ukrainians' profound attachment to the land (plus the need to stay warm in the winter).

Borsch, which originated in Ukraine, is one of the cornerstones of Ukrainian cooking. A slow-cooked dish, it involves adding different ingredients to the bouillion base one by one to bring out each flavour. Beetroot, dill, potatoes, and cabbage are typical additions, but most Ukrainians throw in whatever is at hand. A proper borsch is thick and hearty.

Borsch may be served with *pampoushki* (soft, garlicky buns), and/or sour cream.

Chicken Kiev is a chicken cutlet made of pounded breast meat and filled with garlic butter.

Despite its name, Chicken Kiev is not a Ukrainian creation. The Russian historian Pokhlyobkin asserts that it was invented in the Moscow Merchants' Club in the early 20th century and exported to Ukraine.

Another stand-out dish is *holubtsi*, cabbage leaves stuffed with buckwheat kasha or meat and rice, or fish or meat topped with mushrooms and cheese, all baked in small clay pots (or, in Canada at least, in large roast pans).

The Ukrainian kitchen does offer a number of vegetarian dishes: potato pancakes and *varenniki* (also known, in North America as perogies — boiled dumplings filled with sour cherries or cottage cheese or a wide variety of other fillings).

Though most Ukrainians are no longer likely to present you with bread and salt as you enter to visit their home, there is no denying that bread is revered, given almost holy status. Bread, the staff of life, has always symbolized food, so it is little wonder that Ukraine was so responsive to the Communists' rallying slogan "Bread, Peace, and Land" during the Russian Revolution of 1917.

The incredible variety of breads includes rye, black sourdough, and countless buns, as well as a wealth of pastries

An important part of Ukrainian cuisine is *salo*, cured pork fatback that is typically salted and treated with garlic, paprika, or black pepper.

Thin slices of garlicky *salo* on rye go hand-in-hand with *horilka* (vodka).

At a meal, you may be invited to knock back "*Sto hram*" (100 grams).

(And now to lunch! - gb).

JOIN US!

Join the AUUC community! 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: mail@auucobzar.net

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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
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Phone: (780) 632-3033

VEGREVILLE BRANCH

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

REGINA BRANCH

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

WINNIPEG BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
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Phone: (204) 582-9269 Fax: 589-3404

OTTAWA BRANCH

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Ottawa ON K2E 5A9
Phone: (613) 228-0990

SUDBURY BRANCH

Jubilee Centre
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TORONTO BRANCH

AUUC Cultural Centre
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wilfredszczesny@gmail.com

WELLAND BRANCH

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



Taras Shevchenko Museum

Shevchenko Museum Anniversary Highlights

The information printed below (lightly edited) was prepared by Bill Harasym to mark the 60th anniversary of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum, and presented to the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation on March 10, 2012.

— File photo: Jerry Dobrowolsky

The creation of the Shevchenko Museum was initiated by a decision of the 1950 Convention of the Association of United Ukrainians (AUUC), "To celebrate in July, 1951 the 60th anniversary of the life and creative labour of Ukrainians in Canada, firstly by a great National Festival of Ukrainian and Canadian song, music and dance, and secondly, by erecting a monument in Canada to Taras Hryhorovich Shevchenko..."

While Ukraine very generously gifted both the monument and its transportation to Canada, staging a national festival and erecting the over twenty-foot high bronze statue and granite pedestal would require considerable finances so an appeal was made which read, "We Are Beginning A Great Undertaking — The Greatest In The History Of The Ukrainian Canadians!" and members, supporters and friends of the AUUC and Worker's Benevolent Association (WBA), and other Slavic fraternal organizations were also very generous to the tune of \$317,965.50 which resulted in the decision to ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL PARK AND ADD A SHEVCHENKO MUSEUM TO THE MONUMENT!!

* * *

On June 29, 1952, before an audience of about 10,000, the Taras Shevchenko Museum was officially opened in what is now North Oakville. It, and its successor, the Toronto Museum, were and remain the only Shevchenko Museums in the Western Hemisphere.

The Ukrainian State Shevchenko Museum of the Academy of Sciences in Kiev sent 500 valuable exhibits relating to different periods of the poet's life and his work to the Canadian museum. The AUUC National Convention held in February, 1954, adopted a resolution, "Our Thanks to the Ukrainian People", which reads, in part: "This museum has been visited by many thousands of



Bill Harasym presented this report to the AGM. He was re-elected Vice-President of the Board.

Canadians, not only Ukrainians, but people of other nationalities. Through this museum our sons and daughters who were born in Canada and Canadians generally will get to know the genius of Taras Shevchenko and the rich cultural heritage of the Ukrainian people."

On March 16, 1954, the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum & Memorial Park Foundation was incorporated by the Government of Ontario as a not-for-profit institution and the petitioners, who were the first Board of Directors, were Peter Prokop, John Boychuk, John Boyd, Tom Chopowick, Steve Soldat, Ann Andreyko and Helen Weir. Peter Prokop held the post of Chairman and Curator until his death in 1981. Mary Prokop became a Board Member in 1960 and with the death of her husband became the President and Curator. In Mary's report to the First Annual General Meeting (AGM) on March 8, 1997, she describes the early years of the museum. Peter Prokop was in the museum during July and August Sundays. Camp Manager John Dubno opened the museum for the occasional weekday visitors. Mary was always the museum housekeeper and from 1981 was there for three-day weekends from mid-May to Thanksgiving. She also tended the grounds around the monument and museum, planted and nurtured flowers and mowed grass. Then, for reasons unknown, by a person or persons unknown, on September 16, 1988, the museum was de-

stroyed by arson. The Shevchenko death mask, the premier exhibit in the museum today, was the only exhibit saved from the still burning coals by Lari Prokop.

From across Canada and beyond, from members, supporters and friends there was an almost automatic plea, sometimes a demand to rebuild!! And it was well understood that that in turn meant to continue the appeal for a substantially larger amount of money. The response was spectacular! Among the donations of from \$10,000.00 bequests to a few dollars there was a particularly interesting list of 75 \$1,000.00 donations that reads like a role-call of AUUC/WBA National to Local leadership and activists.

We received a \$30,000.00 grant from the Federal Museums Assistance Program. There was also an application for a Jobs Ontario grant of \$300 to \$400,000.00. Valuable textile donations were received, especially from John Alexciewich of Calgary and the Edmonton Kyforuk Collection. From Society "Ukraine" we received information that well over 1000 items of artistic value and a private Shevchenkiana collection of over 300 volumes had been donated, and a listing was provided. When it had to close we received a major portion of the Timmins Historical and Cultural Museum exhibits including an over \$100,000.00 endowment.

The way seemed clear. Rebuild! Lord Cultural Services was retained to help produce a Feasibility Study with the Ontario Government paying half the costs. Based on enthusiastic support, more Government grants and the artifact list from Ukraine there were visions of a professional-type museum of 10,000 square feet! (The original museum was about 1,800 square feet.) The Feasibility study recommended a 20,000 square foot museum costing about \$4.5 million and there was still the matter of operating expenses. The Board appointed Treasurer Lari Prokop, Member Wilfred Szczesny and Curator-Designate George Duravetz to re-evaluate. They recommended that a museum of 8,000 to 9,000 square feet would be more realistic. The architectural firm of Sedun + Kanerva was hired to design the new facility.

Again, the way seemed clear, however, further consultation and reviews concluded that while we had enough money to build, and even if the Jobs Ontario application was successful, about another million was needed to guarantee future operations and maintenance.

Meetings on May 21 and June 1, 1995, endorsed open-

ing a new temporary museum location and restructured the Board as follows: (from ON), W. Harasym, President; George Moskal, Vice-president; Lari Prokop, Treasurer; Wilfred Szczesny, Recording Secretary; Andrew Gregorovich, Vice-Recording Secretary; and Mary Prokop was elected to the new post of Past President. Later provincial members Nadia Niechoda, B.C.; Tony Mokry, AB, Bob Ivanochko, SK and Myron Shatulsky, MB joined the Board.

On September 8th, 1995, the new Shevchenko museum was opened at its temporary location on the main floor of 1614 Bloor Street West, Toronto.

The new location also presented the new Board executive with problems. A real estate firm was the former tenant so considerable renovations were necessary. The late Joe Cook came to our rescue. Later we discovered dampness in the basement where an extensive and valuable textile collection was stored. Larissa Stavroff guided us through that one. This also led to a major upgrading of the museum building to improve humidity and temperature control.

During this period of about six years our staff and additional help, part-time volunteers, continued building improvements while the museum was open two or three half-days a week. Yes, we had appreciative visitors but we also had too many "You were closed!" comments. We invited staff applications and received three. On May 20, 2003, Lyudmyla Pogoryelova joined our staff on a part-time, trial basis. She quickly advanced through several levels of leadership responsibility and on March 8th, 2008, the 12th AGM elected Lyudmyla Director of the Shevchenko Museum.

Thanks to the program of the 'new' museum and to the devoted volunteers and supporters of the Resident Executive Committee (REC) and Lyudmyla's initiative and energy, there has been progress.

We quickly learned that even with store-front displays visitors were few and far between so we organized exhibitions, to date 13 in our museum gallery, 4 in the Ontario Provincial Parliament, (that attracted international tourists), 3 travelling exhibitions in Vancouver and Regina, 2 in the popular Toronto Runnymede Public Library, the Slavonic Department of the Cambridge University, England, mounted, with our quality prints, a public exhibition of Shevchenko art, and with a Federal Government's Canadian Heritage Information Network, (CHIN), invitation, Lyudmyla produced a Virtual

Exhibition. Topics ranged from realistic to modern art, to Ukrainians involved in labour struggles, like the 1936-39 Spanish Civil War, and the realities of life during the 1891-1914 first wave Ukrainian immigrants to Canada. Exhibitions were intermingled with presentations on the life and work of Taras Shevchenko. While we registered about 3,500 individual and group visits to the museum, including delightful children's groups, we have reached tens of thousands with our program of exhibitions.

In 2000, with the help of George Borusiewicz and Joe Cook and Librarian Andrew Gregorovich, the Shevchenkiana Library was established and is also the only one in this part of the world. This unique library, has 1,292 texts and a second copy of most. ...We have more copies of separately published Shevchenko "Kobzars" than the Library of Congress, USA, and a valuable collection of rare books. All have been indexed and entered on the Internet by Victoria Kravchyna, Librarian since 2009.

Also in 2000 after consideration and agreement, the museum website, www.infoukes.com/shevchenko-museum was inaugurated by Andrew Gregorovich. It was, and still is, the only English language website devoted to illuminating the life, work and philosophy of Shevchenko. While Andrew continues to monitor 'visits' that have now reached 300,000, Lyudmyla has increased contents to a present 34 varied and interesting pages attractively presented and more to come.

The museum also has a number of one-of-a-kind unique exhibits: A portrait of Shevchenko hand-etched on a slab of granite ...his eyes will follow you!; an original Kiev street-poster announcing a Shevchenko tribute concert on March 9, 1937, listing honoured performing artists and groups; also a drama-concert tribute programme, held on March 10, 1909, in the Moscow Conservatory featuring Marko Kropivnytski, father of the Ukrainian drama theatre; the Shevchenko death mask, one of three in existence; and a fabulous flat-embroidered Shevchenko portrait, and there are more.

Dear Members and Friends. Today we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Canadian Taras Shevchenko Museum which, in turn, celebrates the greatest luminary in the history of Ukraine, the serf-boy who became a cultural advocate of his people, whose poetry, art and humanist philosophy inspired and inspires his people and all who suffered or suffer, to learn and work for a better life for all.

Brylynska Art Exhibition



As a teacher and an artist, Nataliya Brylynska is eager to share her passion for the arts with students and the public.

Whenever Nataliya Brylynska talks about art, her beautiful blue eyes light up. There's a palpable sense of enthusiasm in her voice and her passion is infectious. Standing in the midst of her creations at the Ben Navaee gallery, which exhibited her works from April 6 to April 15 this year, she was clearly in her element.

Nestled among some trendy shops, popular cafés and eateries in Toronto's Beaches area, the gallery is a local favourite. At the exhibition's reception on April 7, art aficionados gazed in wonderment at Mrs. Brylynska's stunning art work, which included pieces done in oils, acrylics, watercolours, and pastels.

Nataliya Brylynska began drawing and painting in her formative years while being raised in Lviv, Ukraine. Specializing in painting, she graduated with honours from the Lviv College of Applied

and Decorative Arts in 1987. She then completed training in monumental decorative arts at the Lviv State Academy of Arts, graduating in 1996. In September 1996, she returned to the Lviv College of Applied and Decorative Arts to teach drawing and painting.

She had a solo exhibition in Lviv in 1988, in addition to participating in several group shows in Ukraine. Today, her paintings can be found in private collections in Canada, England, Sweden, Ukraine, and Poland.

Upon arriving in Canada in 2000, she pursued a Bachelor of Education degree at York University, and currently she is teaching all core subjects, including Visual Arts to Grade 8 students at Elia Middle School in North York. Under her guidance in 2010, two of her students won the nationwide Nelson Mandela Poster Contest to promote the Nel-

son Mandela Children's Fund (NMF), and their poster was published and distributed to more than 60,000 schools across Canada. Her students continue to participate in various exhibitions, which will culminate in one at the Art Gallery of Ontario in June, 2012.

As the curator of Mrs. Brylynska's exhibition, Mr. Ben Navaee was drawn to her art work for several reasons. "She has a very distinct style; her palette of colour is often very vibrant and the reds are very rich. She's clearly a mature artist who knows herself."

For example, in Nataliya Brylynska's acrylic painting entitled *Paris. Woman in Red*, a statuesque woman with a swan-like neck is seen clad in a red gown that accentuates her lithe silhouette perfectly. Nearby, the opulence of the Eiffel Tower adds to the sense of splendour portrayed in the painting, and the blending of vibrant and subdued shades creates a warm effect.

To Mrs. Brylynska, that's precisely what she seeks to convey. "I pour my soul into my paintings and they radiate positive energy. People who see my paintings can feel that energy. My works of art bring joy and happiness; they radiate light."

Mr. Bohdan Vandiak, an esteemed Ukrainian Canadian artist agrees. "What I find most intriguing about her art work is her ability to combine the classical elements of design, in which she did her training, with a more contemporary style of art. The contrast creates aesthetically-pleasing results and we can see this in the rhythm of the lines; the use of both sharp and soft lines, and her sophisticated use of colours, such as with dark and light hues and warm and cold tones."

Mrs. Brylynska concurs, "I have been strongly influenced by the rhythmic shapes and colours in the works of Amedeo Modigliani, Gustav Klimt, Marc Chagall, and Wassily Kandinsky. I also credit the work of old masters such as Rembrandt van Rijn and Diego Velázquez."

Mrs. Brylynska adds that her voyages to Europe, the United States and Canada's famed provincial parks have had a substantial impact on her art. "I always bring back rich material – sketches that I use in my studio to create my compositions."

This is evident in her acrylic painting entitled, *Landscape Killarney* (Ontario). The beauty of the mountains and the sky form the perfect backdrop among the colourful trees.

As for the future, Mrs. Brylynska would like to continue to share her passion for the arts with people; both as a teacher and as an artist

through her exhibitions. "I feel inspired when I talk with interesting people; listen to beautiful music, or see harmony in nature: a little raindrop on a leaf; the rhythms of trees and rocks, or the curves on the human body."

Currently, she is working on a theme entitled *Creative Minds*. Through her figurative paintings, which are reflective of abstract expressionism, she is seeking to illustrate how vitally important the arts are to our lives. "Music, poetry and the visual arts enrich our soul; I believe that the arts play a crucial role in human devel-

opment," she explains.

According to Mr. Vandiak, Mrs. Brylynska has great potential as an artist. "I have an immense sense of admiration toward her. She's incredibly ambitious and we'll definitely see how far she goes."

For those interested in purchasing an original piece of art work by Nataliya Brylynska, please contact the artist directly at: artnatb@yahoo.ca Please note her portfolio of commissioned art work is available upon request.

— Ayah Victoria McKhail



Landscape Killarney (30"x36"). Acrylic on canvas



Horses (30"x40"). Oil on canvas



Paris. Woman in Red (24"x36"), acrylic on canvas



The Musical Garden (30"x36"). Acrylic on canvas