# HERALD BICHIK

ЛИСТОПАД, 2014p. HOMEP 262 PIK XXIII

NOVEMBER 2014 NO. 262 VOL. XXIII Price \$2.25

## Bill Harasym's 90th



Bill Harasym turned 90 on October 23. On October 5, AUUC Toronto Branch held a celebration in his honour. Among those attending were Cheri DiNovo, MPP, (shown above) and Peggy Nash, MP, both of whom presented framed scrolls, A report on the event is printed on page 6.

## **Profits Trump Safety**

We recently saw the spectacular results of railroad company's disregard for public safety, putting a single employee in charge of a train of scores of cars carrying dangerous cargo. The practices leading to the tragedy at Lac Mégantic were not unique to one episode or to one company. They were motivated by the drive to increase profits by reducing costs. Safety issues

asleep on the job. Again profits are the motivation.

Now, at long last, Transport Canada is stepping in to regulate commercial aviation, limiting the hours a pilot can work. The industry response? Complaints that the new rules

The proposed new regulations, replacing rules set 18 years ago, are being introduced to reduce errors, and even accidents, resulting from pilot fatigue.

will raise the operators' costs.

were either down-played or

ficially regulated to control

unsafe practices, including

long hours behind the wheel.

Even so, there is concern

about infractions which lead to

drivers hallucinating or falling

The trucking industry is of-

ignored completely.

The restrictions are not all that severe. Companies will still be able to keep pilots on duty 13 hours a day, instead of 14. (Ten hours, if flying overnight.)

The changes are not expected to affect major carriers, like Air Canada, covered by union contracts. They will affect smaller companies, some of which are claiming that labour costs will go up by as much as 30%.

How many hours do their pilots fly now?

## The Next Issue

The next issue of the "UCH" will be dated December, 2014. Announcements of events in December, 2014, or early January, 2015, as well as articles for the December, 2014, issue should be in our office by November 10, 2014. Thank you for your timely consideration of this matter.

## **Big Brother is Watching**

Do you get the feeling that you're being watched? You probably are.

For example, Halifax professor Darryl Leroux organized a public panel discussion at Concordia University, and ended up in an RCMP report.

Federal departments and law enforcement agencies have observed hundreds of events since 2006, and their reports have landed with the Government Operations Centre. The GOC prepares responses to emergencies.

The government characterizes that as keeping tabs on any event deemed a risk to the public.

What does the government consider a risk?

A partial list includes peace and church groups' opposition to military trade shows; human-trafficking awareness demonstrations; any activity opposing oil-sands development; a National Day of Action by the Assembly of First Nations; trade union rallies and demonstrations.

Law enforcement and security agencies made over a million requests annually for user data. Before the Supreme Court of Canada ruling in June that such requests without a court order were a violation of privacy, most of these requests were "informal", based on voluntary compliance by telecommunications service providers.

Reports on activity are not just filed and forgotten. The government is actively engaged in discouraging political activity, advocacy or criticism.

In 2012, the government launched a program costing over \$13 million to audit chari-

table organizations. It has been reported that 52 charities have been targeted. Some have had their funding withdrawn or reduced for "political" activity. Some have had to close their doors.

The process started with audits of environmental groups opposed to the government's energy and pipeline policies. Soon anti-poverty, international aid, human rights and other groups were added to the list for investigation, leading to an advocacy chill.

The government has also attacked the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, on the grounds that it appeared biased and one-sided. The CCPA often criticises government policies.

The government has not taken similar action against the many right-wing think tanks which share its biases.

Over 400 academics have demanded that the audit of the CCPA be stopped until a neutral and fair method of selecting audit targets is implemented.

Museums, like all institutions getting public funding, are not exempt. The Canadian Museum for Human Rights has been asked to supply a complete list of exhibits referring to the government. Of course no one dares suggest that the request has anything to do with message control.

# Drumming Up Fear

On and around September 9, Canadian commercial news media carried a report, attributed to The Canadian Press, that Canadian and US jets had been scrambled to intercept Russian war planes over the Arctic — twice in one week.

Reading one printed report, a reader had to get past a four-line head, a two-line subhead and a short opening paragraph to learn that the Russian planes had not violated Canadian or American air space.

Two more paragraphs preceded the information that such events were common, involving some 50 Russian planes over the previous five years. (How many of these were reported in the commercial media before recent events in Ukraine?)

Three paragraphs follow before the conclusion, quoting Lt. Col. Michael Jazdyk of NORAD, who said, "They're in international airspace so there is no reason why they can't continue, but we'll monitor that, make sure there is no threat."

So, there was no threat, just a routine event, which a newspaper report turned, for a headline scanner (or even a casual reader), into a perception of unusually aggressive Russian behaviour.

Scaremongering is one of the practices that arise during periods when a government is seeking to justify its hostility toward another government.

Currently the government of Canada is at loggerheads with the government of Russia. Having imposed sanctions on Russian institutions and individuals, some of which harm Canadians, the government of Canada misses no opportunity to justify its actions by demonizing, even vilifying, Russia's government.

Unfortunately, all too often mass media are quite ready to contribute to the heightening of tension. Unfortunately, it seems that one can not expect even respected commercial media like the *Toronto Star* to resist falling into the role of a tool for governmental scaremongering.

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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.

### Ellen Fullman Concert

AUUC branch were approached with a rental proposal for a week's occupancy of your main hall for the purpose of constructing a 50foot-long string instrument on which a public concert would be played?.. You would probably have rolled your eyes in disbelief and then agreed, just as did the Winnipeg Branch executive. After all this was Art, wasn't it, and far better than a raucous social and less

What would you say if your damaging to the hall. You might have had second thoughts about it, as did the Winnipeg executive, when the renters brought in a bundle of two-by-fours and a circular saw, and started banging away, using a banquet table as a carpenter's bench.

It turned out that the project had the best of credentials. It was part of an annual series of concerts and lectures, Send & Receive, A Festival of Sound, sponsored in part by Groundswell, a New Music concert series, with a long list of government and corporate sponsorships. Ellen Fullman g from the San Francisco Bay area supervised the installation of the instrument and of played it in concert with the cellist Acheng Lee on Octo- S ber 3. Her instrument, which was not given a name, consisted of three dozen strings stretching from the plaque at the entrance end of the hall to the skirt of the stage. If there are three dozen metal strings stretched to pitch over a 50foot expanse, pressure will be exerted at both ends; hence the need for two-by-fours to provide stability. The strings were divided into two banks or sets with an aisle separating them. In performance Ms. Fullman walked slowly backward and forward, facing the stage all the time, causing vibrations in the strings with her resined hands used as "bows". At the stage end the strings were pegged into two sound boxes, and there was a microphone for amplification placed before each sound box.

Ms. Fullman describes her music as "overtone-rich". Overtones sound rather ethereal, which was the general impression one got from the hour-long concert. Take a cello and bow an open string. What you will hear predominantly is the fundamental pitch



The audience sat on both sides of the "instrument" which divided the hall in half with 50-foot strings.

to which the string is tuned. Overtones are part of the sound wave complex, but you will not be aware of them. To listen to the overtones, you have to block out the fundamental pitch. You can do this by placing a finger of the left hand lightly on the string without pressing the string down to the fingerboard or neck. Then while you are bowing, run your finger lightly up and down the string. The effect will be spooky as you are awash in overtones. Ms. Lee often used this technique in her cello playing, while Ms. Fullman had dampers on some of her 50-foot strings so that the overtones could be brought to conscious awareness. The idea was to explore and exploit the harmonic potential of overtones.

Next, bow the cello on an open string. Then try bowing on the same sting at a different location on the string, say near the bridge. You will still hear the fundamental pitch to which the string is tuned but the sound will be different, mellow near the centre of the string, and a more treble timbre towards the bridge. The difference is in the overtones produced by the vibration of the string. So then imagine Ms. Fullman bowing with her resined hands while moving along a fifty-foot expanse. The effect will be a sustained drone note but with many subtle differences as she moves along the string.

Was the concert pleasurable? People will differ on this. The harmonics of overtones is so complex that distinctions fall away and the experience of the mystic is suggested. Listening to the music required a disciplined concentration, so one might want to say that the experience was more like intellectual contemplation than mystical absorption. In any case, there was no rhythm and no melody, just an auditory kaleidoscope of weird harmonies.

One outcome for me was that afterwards I found myself more aware of the "noises" which surround me from my computer, refrigerator and other sound waves produced by the friction of machines. I got to thinking about the overtones produced and the harmonic possibilities which lie within the sounds which I dismiss as noise. Art after all involves taking the ordinary things we find around us, a bar of soap, a piece of driftwood, or whatever, and bringing out its potential for significant form.

The seventeenth and eighteenth century rationalist philosophers talked sometimes about "the music of the spheres". Obviously we will never be able to bring that music into the concert hall. I suspect that if there is such a thing as cosmic music it would not be at all like Bach or Mozart, but would be more like Ellen Fullman's eerily undulating harmonies, wave frequencies set up by matter and energy in dynamic interaction.

(Note: I thank David Swatek of the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra for conversations which helped me develop the ideas in this review. Mistakes, however, are mine and not his.)

— Brent Stearns

## Ukrainian Canadian Herald **Season's Greetings**

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the Ukrainian Canadian Herald, either in the December, 2014, or the January, 2015, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. See the diagram on this page for sizes. Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

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

Ukrainian Canadian Herald editorial offices are located at 1604 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 1A7 Phone: 416-588-1639; Fax: 416-588-9180

E-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.com

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

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

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

## **Attacking the People**

AN EDITORIAL BY WILFRED SZCZESNY

Politicians in Ukraine are on the path of attacking great numbers of people; apparently so are some politicians in Canada. The reference is, of course, to Prime Minister Harper and the government he heads.

Here are a few examples.

The government passed legislation making detention by immigration officials easier. Now the Canadian Border Services Agency is detaining so many people that it is running out of space to hold those people. The proposed solution? To put them into federal penitentiaries. This suggests, once again, that the Harper government loves to put people into prisons, and that it thinks that immigrants are mostly criminals.

Many members of the armed forces who are wounded or suffer from post-traumatic stress could serve in noncombative roles. The government position, however, is that those unfit for deployment to combat zones are released. This affects their access to pensions, and has reportedly limited, at least in some cases, access to medical treatment. The government, which originally denied that there was a problem, has said that it would examine the policy.

The government is planning to give the Canadian Security Intelligence Service additional powers to keep their informants secret as well as more power to enable foreign intelligence services to investigate Canadians. The details are not available at press time, but defence lawyers are concerned about the anonymity of informants. They also cite the case of Maher Arar to demonstrate the danger of contracting out investigation to other agencies. The government doesn't care.

There is continuing concern that scientists in government service are restricted in communicating their findings to the public. The group Evidence for Democracy gave federal science departments very poor grades for their policies on communicating with the media. The best ranked was National Defence. American scientists communicate much more freely.

The government is working toward changing copyright laws to allow politicians to use the content of news articles for political advertising. The media and reporters are opposed to the plan because it would be unauthorized and uncompensated use of their intellectual property, and also because there would be no control over distortion of the material, including removing it from relevant context.

There are many other issues. The official attitude seems to be, "if it serves me, who cares?" and "If I'm safe, I don't care who's sorry.

## COMMENTARY

## **Politics in Ukraine**

As we go to press on October 20, Ukraine is less than a week away from parliamentary elections. Widespread reporting to the contrary notwithstanding, these are by no means snap elections. In fact, they arise out of calculated actions by right-wing politicians and parties in Ukraine to collapse the parliament elected in 2012. To accomplish this, at the end of July, 2014, two right-wing parties (UDAR and Svoboda) in collusion with President Petro Poroshenko withdrew from the governing coalition.

President Poroshenko and the right-wing parties wanted an early election, instead of waiting for 2017, when elections would normally be held, because they sense that the situation is ripe for them to take full control. With the Crimea reunited with Russia and significant eastern Ukrainian regions in a state of war, over 20% of people eligible to vote in the last election are disenfranchised. These are the regions which gave the Party of Regions, ex-President Yanukovich's party, at least half of that party's support. These areas also gave strong support to the Communist Party of Ukraine.

It has been estimated that half of the people who voted for the Party of Regions and the Communist Party in 2012 would be excluded in this election.

The obvious hope is that the opposition to the right-wing forces will be eliminated. President Poroshenko calls it "cleansing the Parliament". The Party of Regions is not fielding candidates. The CPU may not reach the 5% threshhold required for election on the party slate.

Things are not being left entirely to chance, however. Moves to declare the Communist Party of Ukraine illegal are being taken through the courts. If these moves succeed, of course, any elected Prosecutor General, has CPU members of parliament, warned that the law may con-

should there be any, would be expelled from the Supreme Council (as well as suffering unknown other penalties).

As things stand, the right wing does not have untrammelled control. For example, it has been unable (so far) to pass legislation declaring that Nazi collaborators were patriotic heroes. It was also unsuccessful in efforts to change election rules to eliminate first-past-the-post ridings. Nor has it been able to pass a law to declare the Communist Party of Ukraine

What sort of legislation can we expect if the right wing wins in Ukraine?

We can certainly expect that Nazi collaborators will be declared heroes. We can also anticipate that the Communist Party of Ukraine will be banned.

Beyond that, we have a sample of what to expect from a right-wing parliament: the law on lustration ("lustration" is a polite synonym for "purging").

The law on lustration was finally passed on September 16. Only 246 members of parliament (in a house with 450 seats) were present. Of those present, 231 supported the

The law targets about one million civil servants and officials who served during the presidency of V. Yanukovych, as well as Communists and members of the Young Communist League. The law is written to ensure that certain people (for example, those who "persecuted" Nazi collaborators) will not escape being purged, but was rewritten to exclude people like President Poroshenko, who served under President Yanukovych.

As we go to press, it has been reported that 39 highranking officials have already been purged.

Vitaly Yarema, Ukraine's

travene Ukraine's constitution as well as international law. Others have expressed concern that the law violates human rights.

President Poroshenko's response has been that the law would be changed if international authorities found it in violation. Of course much damage will have been done before international opinion causes a reconsideration — if it ever does.

The law on lustration, glorification of Nazi sympathizers, the expected election of a right-wing parliament, and many other aspects of current Ukrainian politics can only produce continued conflict in the country. Certainly, the rebels in eastern Ukraine will become more determined than ever to establish independent republics, perhaps closely linked with Russia. The people throughout the country who are victimized by the law on lustration can be expected to be resentful and, at least some of them, to act accordingly. The Communist Party of Ukraine, if banned, like its counterparts around the world (including Canada, in its time) will be driven underground but not eliminated.

As the pressure of the European Union and international financial institutions becomes more onerous, opposition to the right-wing parties can be expected to grow.

At this time, no one can say whether the struggle will be relatively short or protracted, but it can be said with a high level of confidence that the unrest in Ukraine has just be-

Wilfred Szczesny

### People's Republics?

The following item was originally submitted for inclusion on page 9 with *Ukrain*ian News Briefs. — **Sz** 

(October 12. New events unfolding quickly. The following is a summation, based mainly on an October 10 report in The Los Angeles

Six months of fighting between Russia-backed separa-(Continued on Page 12.)

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Taras Shevchenko Museum: www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum

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

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

## "Old Man Uhryn Had a Farm"



In September, for their monthly meeting, Edmonton seniors gathered at William Uhryn's farm for a bit of a picnic. They sat at tables around a fire. Author Shirley Uhryn is at left.

In September the Edmonton seniors, family and friends gathered for a sunny memorable day in the country at the farm of William Uhryn.

Birthday celebrants acknowledged were Bill Askin, Olga Horon, Anne Parfeniuk and Shirley Uhryn.

Everyone was seated at ta-



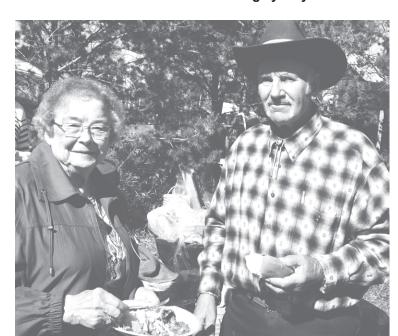
Writer Shirley Uhryn.

bles surrounding the fire pit where wieners were roasted.

As they arrived, all were encouraged to go to the garden to guess the weight of Chloe Uhryn's pumpkin. Bill Askin was the first to arrive and he used his cane to lift its neck and then cradle it in his arms. He estimated that it weighed 125 lbs. because he said that as he got older things weighed more than they actually did in life!



Birthday celebrant Bill Askin estimated the weight of the pumpkin at 125 lbs missing by only 109 lbs.



Anne Hussar and Bill Uhryn shared a moment.

The pumpkin really weighed 16 lbs. and there were five winners whose estimates ranged from 15 to 17 lbs. The winners then had their choice of prizes from a Galileo Barometer (Lucy Antoniw), canned Saskatoon fruit (Sandy Gordy), beet pickles (Monica Von Meirheimb), 2 jars of bread and butter pickles (shared by two seniors) and a quart jar of canned venison meat (Andy).

Then a family friend, Tammy, brought Chloe's little ponies for all to pet.

Next, Tammy went back to the corrals and got Stacy Uhryn's own full-grown horse, because Nestor Began remembers being at the farm a few years back when Stacy's horse was a pony. Nestor expressed his love with scratches behind its ears and a big hug around its neck!

Also featured at the gathering was a 2.5' x 2.5' professionally framed picture of a rooster which Anne Hussar made decades ago. Anne made this rooster from seeds such as sunflower, beans and particularly rice — painted fingernail polish RED!

At the base of this picture is inscribed, "When I was babysitting evenings in 1975 to send parcels to Ukraine, when the children went to sleep, I worked on the rooster, hen and chicks. I had a pattern from another lady. The comb is white rice and I used red nail polish to turn it red! Then I painted it with lacquer to make it shiny!"

Anne Hussar was born in 1921 in Edmonton, Alberta.

Bill Uhryn gave each departing guest a beet or two from his garden. It had leaves, too, because he wanted to make sure that each person would be able to make a pot of borshch at home!



Nestor Began (left) and William Uhryn with Stacy Uhryn's horse, which Nestor remembers as a pony.

Incidentally, one of the ate!" dishes of food was a 3-gallon pot of borshch, filled right to the top!

Virginia Tautchin filled her soup bowl, as others did, a few times. Virginia tipped the pot over so that she could get even the last drop!

This pot of soup arrived successfully wrapped in two blankets, sitting on a hot brick in a stainless steel cream separator bowl! Laugh not! How does one transport a boiling-hot pot of borshch from the kitchen to the farm without it spilling?

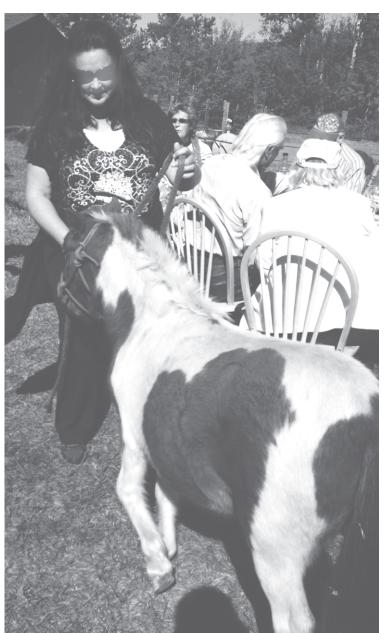
Lucy Antoniw reflected, this was a rewarding experience, "to be out in the country with people you appreci-

Seniors also met in July and August at the hall this year for social gatherings. There the meals were prepared by our chefs Diane and Mike who, in July served a meal of pulled pork which Diane experienced from travels this summer in the USA, and the August meal featured lettuce and strawberries from Mike's own garden!

After the meals Morindi Began taught us how to play card bingo. A good time was had by all.

Edmonton seniors wish all our readers a rewarding fall season filled with bounty and splendour!

-Shirley Uhryn



Family friend Tammy led out Chloe Uhryn's pony.

# Toronto AUUC Opening Banquet

It was with anticipation that we held our season opener on September 7. Time to renew friendships with old comrades, time to quaff a brew in the familiar surroundings of our hall, time to break bread, and time to plan the coming season.

This year being the 200th anniversary of Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko's birthday,

It was with anticipation that we had an additional reason e held our season opener on to celebrate.

Because of Shevchenko's birthday, we leaned heavily on the Shevchenko Museum for participation in the various events of the day. Museum Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelova cooperated with enthusiasm. She supplied us with a major display, occupying most of the wall space in our hall,

Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



Lorna Clark (left), Wilfred Szczesny and Natalka Mochoruk presented "Oy mi myliy varenechkiv khochy" (Oh My Darling Wants Perogies), to the keyboard accompaniment of Peter Krochak.

detailing Taras' life and his accomplishments.

Our indefatigable Bernardine Dobrowolsky was tasked not only with the job of explaining the display to our audience, but also (in Lyudmyla's absence) with the reading of Shevchenko's biography as prepared by Lyudmyla.

Ever-inventive Natalie Mochoruk and her Hahilka Singers amused us with a number of acting/singing performances. Lorna Clark was very convincing playing the part of a carefree young woman, while Wilfred Szczesny was in good voice as the man in her life.

Talented Peter Krochak demonstrated his skills on the keyboard to a very appreciative audience. We truly are fortunate to have someone of his calibre volunteering his time with us.

Peter invited a friend, clarinetist Carlos Melendes, to appear at our party. The man's music was amazing — soothing, melodic, haunting, mesmerizing. Several members of the audience had their eyes closed as Mr. Melendes' melodies washed over them!

All told, our season-opener was a success. And Bill Harasym's closing comments in praise of Taras Shevchenko ended the afternoon on a very satisfying note.

George Borusiewich was Master of Ceremonies.



Carlos Melendes, on clarinet, and Peter Krochak played two duets: Rachmaninoff's "Vocalise" and a Shevchenko medley arranged by Peter. Between those two pieces, Peter demonstrated his virtuosity with Chopin's "Ballade No. 3".



Writer George Borusiewich was Master of Ceremonies.



Bernardine Dobowolsky presented a bigraphy of Taras Shevchenko.

## **Bill Harasym Honoured**

William (Bill) Harasym worked full-time for the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians for over forty years. Most of that time, he was engaged in national leadership. Bill continues to be active, particularly with the Shevchenko Museum.

On October 5, Bill was feted at a celebration party held in his honour by the AUUC Toronto Branch. The 90th birthday party attracted about 55 members, friends, and dignitaries from various organisations.

Included were Ms. Peggy Nash (NDP, Member of Parliament), Ms. Cheri DiNovo (NDP, Member of Provincial Parliament), Robert Seychuk (AUUC National President), Helen Klukach (President, Federation of Russian Canadians Ontario), Stan Nazarec (executive member, Club 626), Lyudmyla Pogoryelova (Director, Shevchenko Museum), and Roy Semak (long-time AUUC activist).

All of the above took the microphone to praise Bill's leadership of the AUUC and contribution to the cause of social justice in Canada.

A surprise, but very welcome, speaker at the microphone was John Boyd, who voiced a complimentary greeting to Bill. As John left the mi-



In responding to the many speakers, Bill urged those present to vote for Olivia Chow for mayor in the October 27 municipal election.

crophone, Bill Harasym stood up, walked towards him in the middle of the AUUC Cultural Centre, and embraced him, in a show of spontaneous comradeship. The two men stood in a strong embrace for several seconds, to the applause of the people in the room. It was a powerful emotional moment!

Written greetings were presented from the United Jewish Peoples Order, the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble, and the Communist Party of Canada.

Natalie Mochoruk and Wilfred Szczesny provided refreshing entertainment.





AUUC National President Bob Seychuk spoke on behalf of the National Committee.

Natalie, as usual, donated much-prized handiwork for a raffle.

To stage such an event took much work, willingly donated, by many people. These included (in no particular order):



Member of Parliament Peggy Nash extended her best wishes and presented a framed scroll to Bill.

Zena Bolychuk, Bernardine and Jerry Dobrowolsky, Natalie Mochoruk, Lorna Clark, Nancy and Mark Stewart, Constance Prince, Otti Nikolai, Diane Garrett, Jennifer Szczesny, and Vera



Member of Provincial Parliament Cheri DiNovoalso extended best wishes and presented a framed scroll.

Borusiewich (and God help me if I've missed anyone).

As proof of the success of our efforts, about half of the guests were still in the hall, celebrating, four hours later.

— George Borusiewich

## **Welland Orchestra Entertains Seniors**

Welland Ükrainian Mandolin Orchestra, conducted by Rudy Wasylenky, appeared in concert at Seasons First Avenue, a retirement community in Welland. This was a return engagement, just over a year that location.

Eight of the sixteen numbers on the program were repeated from last year. These included audience favourites "Embraceable You", "My Heart Will Go On", "Try to Remember", and "Vera Lynn Medley", all sung by soloist Margaret Card.

Also repeated were two duets by Wilfred Szczesny and Rudy Wasylenky: "Jamaica Farewell" and "Ukrainian Folk Medley".

The only instrumental which was repeated at this performance was "Italian Medley".

"Beer Barrel Polka", the rousing finale by Margaret



When he isn't playing the mandola, Wayne Hosick contributes on his guitar.

On September 17, the Card and Rudy Wasylenky, also a repeat, has become the unofficial sign-off piece for the orchestra.

> As they did last year, the audience reacted very positively to these familiar tunes.

Margaret Card's selections since our last appearance at included four which she had not performed here before. These, too, were familiar hit songs from various eras: "Imagine", "You Needed Me", "Could I Have This Dance", and "Hey, Good Lookin". The quality of the songs and the quality of the singing both contributed to the appreciation of the listeners.

There was also a new vocal duet, the Ukrainian hit "Chervona Ruta", performed by Wilfred Szczesny and Rudy Wasylenky. The response of the audience was evidence that a good song can be appreciated even if the words are not understood.



Margaret Card sang nine of the 16 numbers on the program, to audience delight.



Joy Edwards on the accordion plays a key role in most of the arrangements played by the orchestra. In the foreground is first mandolin play Mary Wasylenky.

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The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra of the AUUC, conducted by Rudy Wasylenky, with vocal soloist Margaret Card (far right) and Jessie Stanford, who played the spoons.

Two of the three instrumental numbers ("Zapletu vinochok" and the medley "Mariana/Bachko Kolo") were selections familiar to this orchestra's regular listeners, though new to this audience. The third instrumental was in its debut performance — "Tea for Two" featured Jessie Stanford on spoons, creating the illusion of tap dancing.

With a mere two rehearsals after a two-month lay-off, the performers were aware that their presentation lacked some polish.

The audience, however, was very forgiving, and expressed sincere gratitude. Many of them took the trouble to thank the players.

The orchestra is now preparing for a Shevchenko concert to be presented at the Welland Ukrainian Labour Temple. Originally scheduled



Conductor Rudy Wasylenky (left) and mandolin player Wilfred Szczesny joined voices in three duets.

for October, the presentation had to be postponed for reasons of health, weddings, birthday celebrations, and such like. A date is being sought.

— A participant.



The "bottom end": Angie Atkinson on bass, with Ken Speck and Natalie Silkiewycz on mandocello.



Jessie Stanford played the spoons in "Tea for Two".



Rudy Wasylenky was a study in concentration as he conducted the orchestra with the audience behind him.

### Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewich

### **Refugees Flee**

In a September report, the UN said that over one million people have been displaced as a result of the Ukrainian crisis. "It's safe to say you have over a million people now displaced as a result of the conflict, internally and externally together," Vincent Cochetel, director of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Bureau for Europe told reporters in Geneva.

"I mean 260,000 in Ukraine, 814,000 in Russia, then you add the rest — Belarus, Moldova, the European Union (the U.N. count for the E.U. is 4,106. - gb)," he said, adding, "In terms of the ongoing fighting, in Donetsk, Luhansk, and in the south of Donetsk Oblast (district), we (are) very concerned about risk of further exodus."

UN High Commissioner for refugees Antonio Guterres has issued a statement expressing deep concern about "the risk of further displacement of major proportion in that part of the country."

"If this crisis is not quickly stopped, it will have not only devastating humanitarian consequences, but it also has the potential to destabilize the whole region," Guterres added

To the above U.N. report, the Iranian news agency presstv.ir added the following comment: "Since Kiev launched military operations to silence the pro-Russian protesters in mid-April, Ukraine's mainly Russian-speaking regions in the country's east have witnessed deadly clashes between pro-Moscow forces and the Ukrainian army which have claimed the lives of over 2,600 people."

### Nazis in Plain Sight

(Excerpts from an October 7 report on the Canadian website global research.ca).

The website report begins by quoting *The Washington Post:* "Anti-Russian protesters in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, pulled down a massive statue of Vladimir Lenin late Sunday (September 28 - gb), a sign of hardening anger toward the Kremlin in an eastern Ukrainian area where sympathies are split between Kiev and Moscow."

Global Research then goes on to say: "As usual with reports from the Western press, the deception can manifest itself just as much from what is omitted as from what is actually said. The Washington Post maintains that those who destroyed the statue were merely 'anti-Russian protest-

ers.' In reality, it was a mob led by literal Neo-Nazis of the notorious Azov Battalion — fielded and directed by Kiev's Interior Ministry itself.

"While The Washington Post attempts to claim the statue's destruction was a manifestation of the people's will in eastern Ukraine, it was in reality a stunt pulled by some of Kiev's most vicious, ultra-right, and illegitimate supporters — supporters the West works continuously to obfuscate from public view. Azov's role in the Kharkiv incident was revealed not by the Russian media, but instead by the European Union and NATO's Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) monitors on the ground in Ukraine.

"Submitting daily reports often ignored by the western press, the OSCE stated in its September 29, 2014 briefing that 'The crowd, composed of men and women of different ages and including children, was led by members of the Azov Battalion, as well as young men and women with masks.""

## Ukraine's Own Worst Enemy

(Excerpts from an October 7 letter to *The New York Times* by Kyiv resident Aleksandr Lapko).

"This summer I received an official letter informing me that I had been called up for service in the Ukrainian Army, and that in a few weeks I would be deployed to the east, where our soldiers are fighting Russian-backed separatists.

"I care deeply about my country and I want to defend it. But I was facing a dilemma: should I go to war knowing that I will have to pay more than \$2,000 out of my own pocket to get the military equipment that could save my life because official corruption has left the Ministry of Defense without enough adequate supplies to issue to new recruits? Or should I pay a \$2,000 bribe to obtain papers falsely testifying that I am medically unfit and should be taken off the conscript list?

"I've always been deeply opposed to corruption, a major problem in my country, not least for our soldiers fighting the insurgency.

"My brother, who is serving in the east, wasn't issued anything but an old-fashioned AK-47 (Soviet-designed rifle - gb) when he joined the army. My family, like too many others, had to spend their own money to buy what he needed: We found a secondhand NATO uniform, body armor, a helmet, a gun sight for his weapon, and kneepads and boots, all for roughly \$2,400,

including winter gear.

"We were fortunate to have the money. The median monthly salary in Ukraine is about \$260, which means that it's impossible for the average family to equip their sons and brothers for war."

"In times of peace, corruption hurts people indirectly. In times of war, corruption can be as deadly as a bullet." (Aleksandr Lapko is a senior specialist-assistant in the NATO Liaison Office in Ukraine.)

#### "Uneasy Truth"

(The following are excerpts from an article with the above title in the October 7 issue of *Forbes*, an American business magazine.)

"The hard-fought truce in southeast Ukraine is broken almost daily at the cost of several deaths. A plan to create a demilitarized corridor between the fighting parties, while laudable, seems to acknowledge a separation of Donbas and Luhansk from the rest of the country (my emphasis - gb). The underlying crisis will not go away as long as the rights of Russian speakers are not recognized and respected in the region. While the Ukrainian parliament has (belatedly - gb) granted special status to parts of these regions, with self-administration and rights for the use of the Russian language, pending local elections are unlikely to herald an enthusiastic return into the fold of Ukrainian territorial integrity and will possibly lead to an effective split."

"There needs to be freedom for Russian language schools, Russian churches, Russian media and literature, but within a country that has another majority language or culture. There are plenty of advisers from Switzerland, Canada or Belgium to explain how to run one country with several languages and cultures."

## A House Divided

(Excerpts from a report filed in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine, and printed in the October 8 issue of *USA Today*.)

"Anna and Wladislaw Rychenko's marriage ended because of irreconcilable differences: She is a Ukraine nationalist; he favors a separate Russian-aligned state for this eastern region.

"The couple met in 2005 and fell in love despite conflicting political views. 'Turn that trash off,' Anna would shout at Wladislaw when the Russian news channel was on.

"Tensions continued to

grow, and by the time the war broke out in Eastern Ukraine six months ago, the couple had split.

"Such family feuds are not unique. The conflict has divided regions, dissolved marriages, pitted siblings against each other and estranged children from their parents 'Many people in Donbass who were previously not paying attention to politics suddenly became radicalized when this conflict started,' said Maksym Butchenko, 37, ---."

"A fragile truce is holding — barely. Last week, each side blamed the other for shelling that hit a school and nearby van, killing at least 10."

(Have you noticed how the western press twists themselves into pretzels to avoid blaming the Kyiv government for wartime atrocities? The school that was shelled was in a separatist-controlled part of eastern Ukraine. Would the separatists shell their own school and kill their own children? - gb).

"Two years ago, Butchenko left Rovenki, a miners' town in eastern Ukraine and moved to Ukraine's capital, Kiev. He had always gotten along well with his parents and brother, who stayed in the east. But a few months ago, the family relationship turned sour when his father called him a 'fascist' in the middle of a heated political discussion."

"Butchenko said that his younger brother, with whom he had always been close, called in August to say that he had joined the insurgents 'to protect his land' against the Ukrainian army. His parents were also anti-Ukrainian and suddenly saw him as a 'fascist' enemy of the region."

"Butchenko said the divisions run so deep that many families and neighbours will be unable to reconcile for a long time, whether the region becomes independent or resumes closer ties with Kiev. 'This all went too far,' Butchenko said. 'I don't think we will be able to settle it and go back to the way it was before — not in this generation."

## "Way To Settle Scores"

(The following are excerpts from an article dated October 9 on the American website *news.yahoo.com*. The above title is a comment included by the authors of the article.)

"Ukraine's president approved a disputed anti-graft measure on October 9 that could see up to a million civil servants with alleged links to past Soviet or pro-Russian governments immediately

sacked."

"This is a historic day for Ukraine,' President Petro Poroshenko posted on his Facebook account. 'The state machine will be cleansed. Glory to Ukraine!'

"But the legislation has been bitterly fought by lawmakers representing Russianspeaking eastern regions the powerbase of the former regime and now partially controlled by separatist rebels. Its legality has also been questioned by the Council of Europe and business leaders who fear it will lead to a damaging exodus of competent bureaucrats. Even the president's own special representative on children's issues complained that it 'violates basic rights and freedoms of citizens, is anti-constitutional and does not correspond to European judicial procedures or standards."

"Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko — his post-Soviet group facing a nationwide ban in court — said the law 'subjects almost any civil servant to repression."

# Economy In Tatters — Poor Suffer

(Excerpts from the October 10 issue of *Euronews*, a French news agency.)

"At a protest outside the Central Bank in Kyiv, with ordinary Ukrainians finding it punishingly difficult to pay for basic goods, they have been demonstrating against monetary policy. They blame the bank for the exchange rate of the hryvnia currency, plummeting in relation to the dollar and euro in the past few years. It has more than halved.

"One protester said: 'It can't go on! Salaries haven't risen, pensions and wages are frozen and we have to pay for everything at the higher exchange rate. The hryvnia has fallen very low, and the price of everything — goods, food, petrol — is linked to that.'

"Deserted by investors and paralyzed by the armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, the economy is in tatters."

"Last year to this year Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has shrunk by 9.5%. Industrial production is down by more than 20%. This year alone, the hryvnia has lost 38% of its value. And there may be worse in store; the government is considering scrapping price controls in place for more than 10 years for many basics.

"A grandmother in central Kyiv said: 'I can't even buy a cabbage — it's five hryvnias a kilo.'"

## Shevchenko Bicentennial

In this year of the celebration of the birth of Taras Shevchenko the "UCH" has been publishing a variety of materials related to the Bard of Ukraine. In this issue we have the first instalment of a biography of the poet presented by Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, Director of the Shevchenko Museum in Toronto, at a Shevchenko celebration in Edmonton, Alberta, on March 30 of this year.

Regarding Taras Hryhorovych Shevchenko, hundreds of books have been written in a multitude of languages, thousands of scholarly essays and popular articles published, and countless speeches and addresses delivered in his honour. This huge collection of Shevchenkiana can be compared only to that of the most renowned of world poets and artists

The 19th century has gone down in history as "the century of nations". In Europe, the feudal system was being replaced by nation-states. In Britain, Byron and Shelley were coming into prominence, and the works of such preeminent giants as Victor Hugo in France and Mickiewicz in Poland were gaining in popularity. It is noteworthy, too, that in July 1814, the first verses of the young Pushkin were published.

But for the majority of the serf population of Ukraine, life consisted of monotonous days of enforced labour. People were born, toiled and died in their villages, cut off from the outside world. And yet, at this time, in one such village, Moryntsi, on March 9, 1814, Taras Shevchenko was born.

This village and other, neighbouring, villages were the property of Vasiliy Engelhardt, a member of the landed gentry, who owned 18,000 male serfs.

The six children in the Shevchenko family were orphaned by the premature deaths of their mother (when Taras was nine) and then their father (when Taras was 11).

Little Taras knew the poverty of being an orphan, but he was resolute in his wish to learn to read and write, and had an exceptional talent for drawing. This talent stood him in good stead when he was taken on as a personal servant by the young master Pavel



This portrait of Russian poet Vasiliy Zhukovskiy, painted by Karl Briullov in 1837, was raffled to buy Taras Shevchenko's freedom.

Engelhardt, who by now had inherited Moryntsi.

Taras experienced many injustices and humiliations at this house, but to a small extent, he was still able to satisfy his yearning for art — in his master's rooms were copies of famous paintings, and the lady of the house, was a music lover, and an accomplished pianist.

In 1829, Engelhardt, a lieutenant in the Russian tsarist army, left for Warsaw and then St. Petersburg, taking with him the 15-year-old Taras Shevchenko. This heralded a major turning point in Taras's life.



This 1842 Shevchenko selfportrait was presented as a gift to Varvara Repnina.



The Shevchenko family home.

Taras was sent to study to the art shop where his achievements attracted so much attention that the Ukrainian community of St. Petersburg brought the talented young man to the notice of various prominent literary and artistic individuals, including the renowned artist Karl Briulloy

Engelhardt, however, was prepared to part with his serf, only for a very large sum — 2500 roubles. To raise this money, Briullov painted a portrait of the poet Zhukovskiy. The portrait was raffled and the money was raised. The manumission was signed on the 22nd of April, 1838 and Taras was formally emancipated.

That same year, 24-yearold Taras enrolled in the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts.

But in the meantime, he had also become captivated by the world of poetry. The call of the word, had come to Shevchenko during his last year as a serf. Using scraps of paper, he began, in between painting, to "embroider" tentative lines of verse. For a long time he hid these fantasies, but an irresistible need to pour out his soul in written form had taken hold of him.

Shevchenko later, in his diary, reveals something of the dramatic nature of the intrusion of poetry into his life. "I knew quite well that painting was my future profession, my daily bread. Yet, instead of studying its profound mysteries, I composed verses, for which no one paid me any money and which, in the end, deprived me of my liberty and which, I nevertheless still scribble away on the quiet. And I even sometimes play with the idea of printing (under another name, of course) these snivelling, starveling children of mine. Strange, indeed, is this vocation."

What was this vocation, and how did it come to him?

First of all, perhaps, even from childhood, he was naturally endowed with great sensitivity to the surrounding world. He knew countless songs and he loved to sing and recite. While a student he became acquainted with the poetry of Pushkin and Zhukovskiy and later with Ukrainian poetry. And so was born his feeling of vocation, his mission which Ukraine would receive as the mission of an apostle and prophet.

At the same time, he never abandoned the paint brush, and one can only guess the heights he might have reached, had the tsar's harsh verdict not restricted his crea-



This self-portrait of Karl Bryullov, the artist whose painting of Vasiliy Zhukovsky was raffled to buy Shevchenko out of serfdom, was painted in 1848.

tivity.

Shevchenko's first surviving poem, the ballad *Bewitched*, is so melodic that at least three excerpts from this work were set to music and became folk songs: "The Mighty Dnieper Roars and Bellows", "Such is her Fate" and "The Skylark Trilled Its Melody".

Kobzar, Shevchenko's first published book, which appeared in 1840, contained only eight works. But, as Ivan Franko was to write: "This little book opened a new world of poetry, bursting forth like a spring of clear, cold water, revealing a clarity, simplicity and grace of expression unknown in Ukrainian literature before."

It is well-noted that the protagonists of many of Shevchenko's works, are female—girls, women, mothers. It came from the tradition of folk poetry, as well as from his own life—his unsatisfied craving for family, his orphan-hood—and most importantly, the brutal treatment of women and girls under serfdom.

As a young man, Shevchenko was handsome, hazeleyed, of medium height, with a strong body and broad shoulders. He had an excellent memory and a good baritone singing voice. He loved to sing Ukrainian folk songs and was an optimist.

He drank rum, wine and horilka but was seen drunk only one time in his whole life, according to his friend Kostomarov. His favourite



Painted by Taras Shevchenko around 1830, Varvara Repnina was one of the women who fell in love with the artist.

foods were borshch, buckwheat kasha and cabbage.

He was attracted to women, and one who fell in love with him was Princess Varvara Repnina. Although he proposed to several women, he never married.

The poet enjoyed smoking cigars and used a cane in his last years. He was very generous, giving money to anyone who asked. At times, his meagre finances left him penniless

In 1843, the poet visited Ukraine. Witnessing the oppressive conditions of peasant life over the nine months of his travel gave rise to his antitsarist, anti-colonialist lyric poetry.

"Each man on earth has his own fate,

Each one his highway wide: This one builds up, that one lays waste,

And that casts greedy eyes O'er all the globe, to find somewhere

A land not yet enslaved.

Which he could conquer and then bear

With him into the grave."

In 1845, upon completion of his studies at the Academy of Arts, Shevchenko was granted the formal title of "artist", and returned to Ukraine, where he obtained work with the Kyiv Archaeographic Commission.

This was the most fruitful period for Shevchenko as a poet. In the three months from October to December, 1845, he wrote 11 major poems, including his immortal "Zapovit" (Testament).

(To be continued.)



Taras Shevchenko painted this view of Voznesensky Cathedral in Pereyaslav in 1845.

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## Mary Nehoda Celebrates 100th Birthday

Mary Nehoda was born met and married her husband, Mary Predenchuk on July 6, 1914, in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Her parents, Katherine and Steven came from a village near Chernivtsi in Bukovyna, Ukraine.

She had six brothers and two sisters.

Her friends and members of the AUUC could not let this milestone go by without celebrating. On July 13, we gathered at our Ukrainian Cultural Centre with wine, cake, great food, and flowers to honour

With the help of Dianna and Larry Kleparchuk, the event came together beautifully.

Mary has lived in Vancouver for over 50 years. She George, here.

She still lives in an apartment on her own. A homemaker comes in every day to help her, and a very good friend, Nada Josich, is there to help her when she needs it. Mary is very grateful to Nada for her friendship and care.

Mary has been a member of the AUUC since about 1988, and has sung in our choirs, including the Barvinok Choir, for many years. She was a regular at the Seniors' Bingo and lunch events held at the Ukrainian and Russian halls. She remembers helping with making the sandwiches

when Stella Moroz was the organizer for the seniors.

None of Mary's brothers and sisters is living. She has some relatives in other parts of Canada and the USA, and some in Ukraine whom she has visited several times.

Led by Dianna Kleparchuk, we all sang "Mnohaya lita", and drank a toast to Mary's continued well-being. Everyone signed a card for Mary and donations for the upkeep of the hall were made in Mary's honour.

Mary donated \$600.00 to our hall, and \$200.00 to the Ukrainian Canadian Herald.

Mary repeatedly thanked us for organizing this party in her honour.

> Mnohaya lita, Mary. — Audrey Moysiuk



Mary Nehoda, born on July 6, 1914, was honoured with a hundredth birthday party in Vancouver on July 13 of this year.

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

Marth Ursuliak

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 November celebrant:

Anne Magus

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

The Vancouver Seniors **Club** extends birthday greetings to November celebrant:

**Edward Moroz** 

We wish you the best of health and happiness in the coming year!

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

> Alex Babiy Mike Kereluk Katie Mackenzie

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

## **Sustaining Fund Donations**

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Free Admission

by appointment only

# Kleparchuks' 50th Wedding Anniversary



AUUC National Committee member Dianna Kleparchuk and AUUC NC Alternate member Larry Kleparchuk celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends on August 23.

On August 23, a warm, balmy Vancouver day, there was a wonderful gathering of people at the Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood Pub to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of two of my favourite people — Dianna and Larry Kleparchuk.

About 90 people, family and friends, including all but two of the original wedding party, gathered for the event. Maid of honour (and Dianna's sister) Audrey Skalbania, and best man Joe Stefiuk were there. (Joe came from Vancouver Island with his wife to be part of the celebration.)

We were treated to a multi-

screen video of photos of the wedding and scenes with their family and friends throughout their life together. When their son Kevin and his wife Marnie presented them with grand-children John and Megan, many more photos resulted.

Dianna and Larry are very fond and proud of John and Megan, and spend as much time as possible with them.

Kevin and Marnie did much of the arranging for the food, which was cooked at the pub. Kevin also prepared the video, with help from the family to gather pictures. Nostalgic '60s music accompanied the video, bringing memories of gentler times and gentler mu-

Niece Rosanda Skalbania did a lot of preparatory work, including the invitations, and niece Taryn Skalbania contributed to the delicious baked desserts.

Audrey Skalbania spoke about Dianna's and Larry's lives, and commented on how compatible they are. They spent 32 years commuting together to the schools where they taught —every day! They have also spent all those years working together at our Ukrainian Cultural Centre, which largely owes its survival to their steadfast work.

After Audrey spoke, we raised a glass to their good health and well-being. Then Libby Griffin and Audrey Moysiuk led the guests in singing "Mnohaya lita".

The food was excellent and the drinks were plentiful. A beautiful cake was brought in (with the original wedding photo embedded on top, surrounded by decorative artistry). Dianna and Larry made the first cut.

The outdoor patio gave some a cool place to sit while providing an open-air ambience to those inside.

We all had time to deliver our personal best wishes to Dianna and Larry, and time to mingle and reconnect with people we don't see often.

It was a beautiful afternoon spent in honour of some very beautiful people.

— Audrey Moysiuk

## Who, What, When, Where

Vancouver — AUUC Vancouver Branch will host the Heart of the City Festival Concert and Dinner at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 East Pender Street, on Sunday, November 9, starting at 3:00 p.m.. There will be performances by AUUC Barvinok Choir, Vancouver Folk Orchestra, Dovbush Dancers, and community groups Zeellia, Git Hayetsk Dancers and Twin Bandit. General admission: \$25.00. Call (604) 879-2089 for tickets.

Vancouver — AUUC Vancouver Branch, in conjunction with Eastside Cultural Crawl, will host the Annual Bazaar featuring crafts, baking, Ukrainian food and a cultural display at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 East Pender Street, on Saturday, November 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call (604) 254-3436.

Vancouver — AUUC Vancouver Branch, in conjunction with Eastside Cultural Crawl, will host a Perogy Lunch on Sunday, November 23, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 East Pender Street.

Vancouver — AUUC Vancouver Branch will present the AUUC School of Dance Christmas Recital at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 14, at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 East Pender Street.

Calgary – Another exciting year has started up and the Calgary Hopak Ensemble invites you to become part of it. The Orchestra is looking for orchestra members who enjoy learning to play different types of music as well as traditional Ukrainian songs. The Dance School which includes children from 4 to 12, continues to welcome seasoned dancers as well as those who are just starting out in Ukrainian Dancing. The Mixed Choir is looking for members who enjoy singing!! You don't have to know how to read Ukrainian in order to sing it!! The Hopak Dancers encourage young adults who would love to wear those red boots to contact them to join in the fun!

Rehearsals are held at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre 3316 – 28 Avenue S.W. Call 403- 246-1231 for more information.

Calgary – The Calgary Hopak Ensemble invite you to attend a Winter Concert on Sunday, December 7 at 2:30 p.m. at Calgary Cultural Centre, 3316-28 Avenue S.W. For tickets call Darlene at 403-271-2379.

Winnipeg – AUUC Winnipeg Branch will be holding a Bazaar at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, on Saturday, November 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Winnipeg – AUUC Winnipeg Branch will host a Grey Cup Social at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, on Saturday, November 29, from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Admission: \$10.00. Call Gloria at 204-467-5043 for more information or tickets.

Winnipeg – AUUC Winnipeg Branch Children's Christmas Party will be held at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Pritchard and McGregor, on Saturday, December 13, from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Toronto — AUUC Toronto Branch will hold a Remembrance Day commemoration at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West, starting at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 9. Everyone is welcome.

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.

## People's Republics?

(Continued from Page 4.) tists and Ukrainian forces has left more than 3,600 people dead and much of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, home to 6.5 million people (almost 20% of Ukraine's population), under rebel control.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko offered the separatists a more autonomous relationship within Ukraine last month but they rejected it, saying they want independence.

At this very moment, a contact group, comprising representatives from Ukraine, Russia, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and the self-

## **Sophie Nemis Called to Serve**

Every year, Manitoba Health provides about 30,000 names and addresses of people meeting the age and residency requirements for jury duty: over 18 and a Manitoba resident.

Sophie Nemis was on one such list, and she received a notice to appear at 9:00 a.m. on October 3 for jury selection.

Sophie was surprised, but tickled pink. She looked forward to serving on a Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench jury.

What was unusual about this situation? On December 3 of this year, Sophie will be 98 years old!

Her age was not a barrier, but her health might have been. Sophie has trouble hearing, in spite of her hearing aid,



Sophie Nemis, shortly before her 98th birthday.

and she needs frequent bathroom breaks.

Maybe that did it. Whatever the deciding factor, Sophie was ultimately excused from jury duty.

(Thanks to Sophie's daughter, Pat Dzatko, for bringing this Winnipeg Free Press story to our attention.)

proclaimed Luhansk and Donetsk People's Republics (LPR and DPR) is meeting.

According to the press service representative of the Ukrainian National Security and Defence Council Volodymyr Polevoy, "The OSCE monitoring mission and the joint contact group on ceasefire monitoring and establishing the demarcation lines are currently working in eastern Ukraine."

DPR Prime Minister Alexander Zakharchenko confirmed that the border demarcation between Ukrainian forces and eastern Ukraine independence supporters would pass along the line of contact of September 19.

The separatist leaders announced in late September that they would hold elections on November 2 for representatives to parliament-like bodies to govern their regions.

(It would be well to remember that offers of autonomy, offers of amnesty, offers of safe passage, and other such offers come from officials who are determined to classify the rebels as terrorists, and will probably do so after the October 26 elections. The promises are not trusted, and the offers offer nothing to the active rebels. — Sz)

#### CORRECTION

One of the captions on page 12 in our September/October, 2014, issue should have read "The Dovbush Dancers entered 'Na hutsulsky poloni' into competition at the BC Ukrainian Dance Festival in Mission." We apologize to the Dovbush Dancers, the Poltava Dancers and, of course, our readers, for the error.