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LEGAL SERVICES

- Top lawyers on latest trends
- Changes in regulatory environment
- Looming battle over shale gas
- How to protect personal privacy

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KyivPost

18th
Year



vol. 18, issue 7

INDEPENDENCE. COMMUNITY. TRUST

www.kyivpost.com

February 15, 2013

Gas Fever

Chevron's Peter Clark: 'We're not going to cut corners in Ukraine'

BY KATYA GORCHINSKAYA
GORCHINSKAYA@KYIVPOST.COM

After winning an official tender in May to develop shale gas in western Ukraine, Chevron is still negotiating a production sharing agreement with the government and trying to placate those who oppose the project. Chevron's country manager Peter Clark, 56, led seven seminars in Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv oblasts this month to explain shale gas development to local communities. In an interview with the Kyiv Post on Feb.12, Clark relayed some of his arguments.

KP: How did the workshops go?

PC: Really well. It seemed that people in districts around Ivano-Frankivsk seemed to assume this would eventually go forward, and their questions centered more around how we can assure that it's done safely. We did three workshops around Lviv. There were protesters at each of these events, holding signs → **8**

Shell's Graham Tiley: Ukraine can 'double, triple' gas production

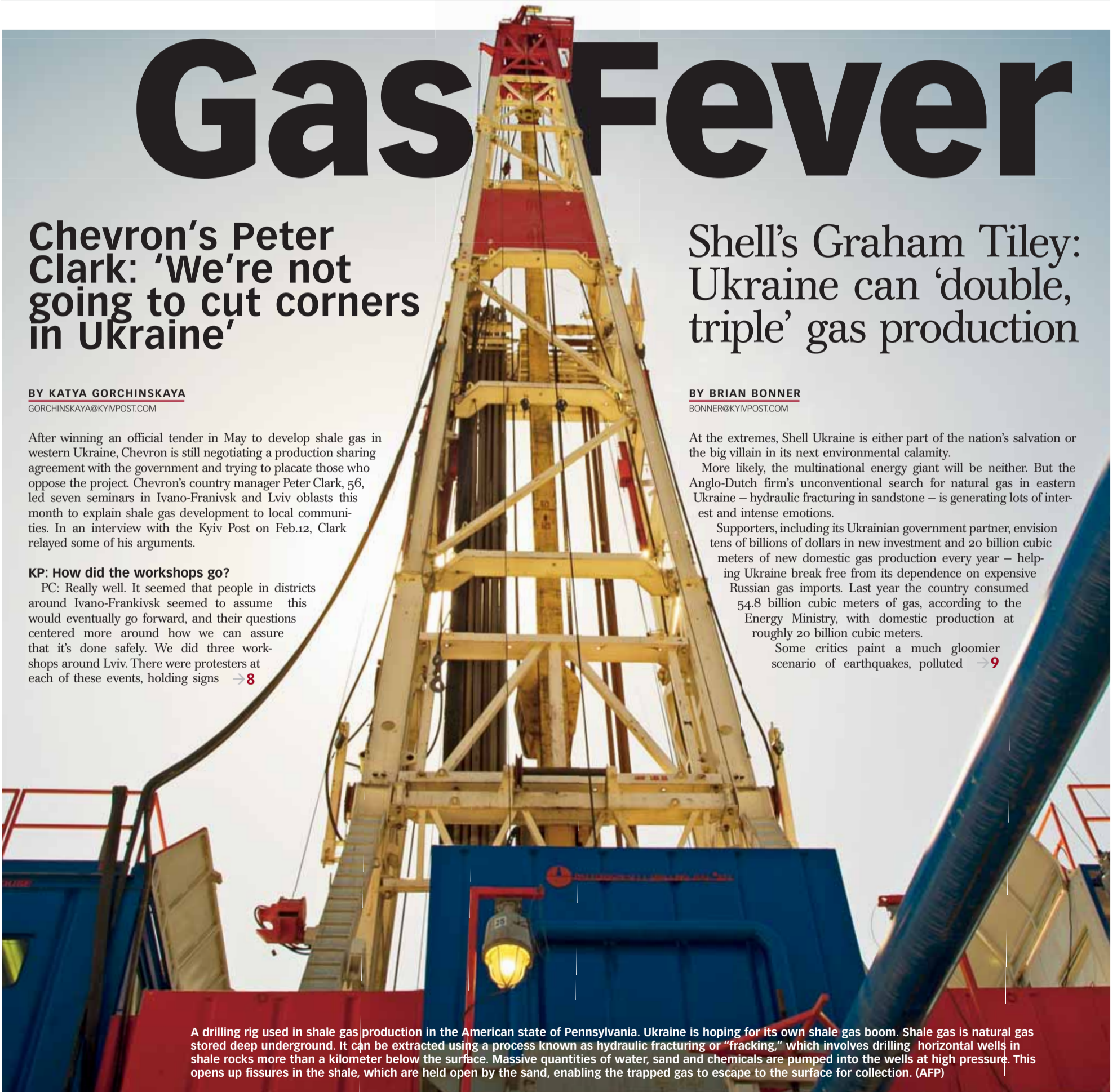
BY BRIAN BONNER
BONNER@KYIVPOST.COM

At the extremes, Shell Ukraine is either part of the nation's salvation or the big villain in its next environmental calamity.

More likely, the multinational energy giant will be neither. But the Anglo-Dutch firm's unconventional search for natural gas in eastern Ukraine – hydraulic fracturing in sandstone – is generating lots of interest and intense emotions.

Supporters, including its Ukrainian government partner, envision tens of billions of dollars in new investment and 20 billion cubic meters of new domestic gas production every year – helping Ukraine break free from its dependence on expensive Russian gas imports. Last year the country consumed 54.8 billion cubic meters of gas, according to the Energy Ministry, with domestic production at roughly 20 billion cubic meters.

Some critics paint a much gloomier scenario of earthquakes, polluted → **9**



A drilling rig used in shale gas production in the American state of Pennsylvania. Ukraine is hoping for its own shale gas boom. Shale gas is natural gas stored deep underground. It can be extracted using a process known as hydraulic fracturing or "fracking," which involves drilling horizontal wells in shale rocks more than a kilometer below the surface. Massive quantities of water, sand and chemicals are pumped into the wells at high pressure. This opens up fissures in the shale, which are held open by the sand, enabling the trapped gas to escape to the surface for collection. (AFP)

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Business → 6-9

News → 2, 15

Opinion → 4, 5, 16

Lifestyle → 17-21

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Засновник ТОВ "Паблік-Медіа"

Головний редактор Брайан Боннер

Адреса видавця та засновника співпадають: Україна, м. Київ, 01004, вул. Пушкінська, 31А, 6-й поверх.

Реєстраційне свідоцтво

Кв № 15261-3833ПР від 19.06.09.

Передплатний індекс ДП Преса 40528

Надруковано ТОВ «Новий друк», 02660, Київ, вулиця Магнітогорська, 1, тел.: 559-9147

Замовлення № 13-5402

Аудиторське обслуговування

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Browder: Magnitsky Act should apply to Ukraine

BY OLENA TREGUB

DAVOS, Switzerland – William Browder, the London-based head of Hermitage Capital, is on an unrelenting quest for justice in the 2009 death of his former lawyer Sergei Magnitsky. He wants to see America's Magnitsky Act – visa bans and asset freezes against human rights violators – adopted by the European Union and applied to other nations, like Ukraine and Belarus.

Magnitsky was a 37-year-old lawyer who was tortured, deprived of medical attention and left to die in a Russian prison in 2009, nearly a year after uncovering a \$230 million tax fraud allegedly committed by top Russian law enforcement officials. Russian officials say he was not murdered, but died of a heart attack while awaiting tax evasion charges.

The traumatic events transformed Browder into an activist.

He lobbied successfully for the passage in America last year of the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act, which denies visas to and freezes the assets of those in the Russian ruling elite implicated in Magnitsky's murder, corruption and other human rights violations. Browder says the EU should take the same track and that such laws may need to be aimed against leaders in Ukraine and other nations where human right violations are severe.

Browder is also a co-defendant in the posthumous tax-fraud trial of Magnitsky set to resume in Russia later this month. Browder will be tried in absentia, after being barred from entering Russia since 2005.

"This Mr. Magnitsky, as he is known, was not some human rights champion; he did not struggle for human rights," Russian President Vladimir Putin was quoted as saying at a December news conference. "He was the lawyer of Mr. Browder, who is suspected by our law enforcement of committing economic crimes."

Last month at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland Kyiv Post contributor Olena Tregub sat down to talk about the Magnitsky case, the Magnitsky Act and its possible implications for Ukraine.



Moscow police officers detain a protester holding a poster that says: "Are orphans guilty of Sergei Magnitsky's death? Stop the shame!" outside the lower house of Russia's parliament, the State Duma, on Dec. 19, ahead of the debate on a bill banning Americans from adopting Russian children. Russians adopted the ban after the U.S. passed into law the Magnitsky Act, a law penalizing some Russian officials implicated in the prison death of a lawyer Sergei Magnitsky. (AFP)



William Browder



Sergei Magnitsky

Kyiv Post: Bill, after all that happened, do you still see any potential in the former Soviet Union for foreign investors?

William Browder: The fact that there is no rule of law and that there are no property rights makes Russia, Ukraine and other countries in the region uninvestable ... having been involved in that part of the world for nearly two decades, I would not put any of my money in the post-Soviet space right now.

KP: There is a media campaign against you in Russia, a black PR campaign. How are you dealing with this?

WB: It is like a question: how do you prove you are not a camel? Everybody who knows anything about the case knows that all the stuff is completely nonsensical.

KP: Do you think the Magnitsky provisions should be applied to places like Ukraine?

WB: There was a very heated debate in Washington just before the Magnitsky Act was passed, about whether it should be legislation that applies globally or just to Russia. All the supporters of the Magnitsky Act

in the Senate, including Senator (John) McCain, Senator (Ben) Cardin, Senator (Joe) Lieberman, Senator (Roger) Wicker, were all extremely motivated to make it global human rights legislation. It was only because of the timing issue and the difference of opinions between the House of Representatives and the Senate that it became a Russian issue. As far as I am aware, there is going to be a very strong campaign starting in spring in the Senate to amend the law to make it a global piece of legislation.

KP: How will it affect Ukraine?

WB: It will affect every country. Ukraine is an obvious example, with imprisoning and torturing political prisoners and all the same types of atrocious behavior, as in Russia.

KP: Do you see any positive outcomes of the Magnitsky Act?

WB: Yes, the regime is shaking in their shoes right now. They are absolutely terrified because the Magnitsky law creates consequences for their behavior not just in the Magnitsky case but in all future cases like it. The Achilles heel of the Putin regime is their money abroad. They like

to behave like cannibals at home and they may dine at the finest restaurants with white table cloths in Europe. They think they can do both. All of a sudden, we created the situation that would take away that privilege.

KP: What is your prediction for Putin's future?

WB: Putin has ventured into territory that is completely unknown to him and to everybody else. He has created a situation for himself where his only option is hard-core repression in order to retain control. And how people will react to hard-core repression is unpredictable.

KP: What do you think about imprisoned ex-Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko? In Ukraine people talk about the Magnitsky list and the Tymoshenko list (of those responsible for her prosecution and conviction).

WB: I think she was completely unfairly treated based on a shocking political agenda. It is terrible for the country because the message of her arrest is that if you are in power you

can never leave power. Everyone who is in power will hold on to power in the most vicious ways to avoid her fate. Not just to Ukraine (but) to anyone in that part of the world, it sends the most terrible message.

KP: Ukrainian society does not support her actively on a mass scale because they believe that she is far from being innocent.

WB: But the same goes for many other people from Ukraine – all here at Davos. You can't have a selective justice system or no justice system. You can't send a former prime minister to jail just because she is a political opponent of the current president. Political motivated justice system is a travesty in any account.

KP: She is now facing life in prison, being accused of a murder.

WB: The fact that they put these charges against her many years after the fact is a clearly politically motivated procedure and shows that they don't do this for the purpose of justice. Ukrainians have no faith in their justice system and putting her under trial is a miscarriage of justice by definition.

KP: What's next?

WB: The Magnitsky campaign is far from over. The entire European Union needs to pass the Magnitsky Act. We are also working on an extremely difficult criminal investigation about money laundering, where \$230 million, that Magnitsky discovered, went. So far there have been a number of criminal cases opened in foreign countries, lots of bank transfers identified, assets frozen. At the end we will find out who received that money. When we do, that money will be frozen. And people who received that money will end up under criminal investigation. It is very big and important part of the project.

Olena Tregub runs an educational consulting company in Washington DC (www.GELead.org) and is a contributor to the Kyiv Post.

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Editorials

Frack ahead

After doing nothing for decades except beg Russia for cheaper gas, Ukraine is finally moving in the right direction on the energy front. But more transparency is needed on all sides – from the government to the private energy firms vying for the rights to explore what could be vast amounts of oil and natural gas.

The process for extracting the “unconventional” gas, hydraulic fracturing – or fracking – is stirring up opposition. Environmentalists fear earthquakes and potential groundwater contamination when a high-pressure combination of water, sand and chemicals are injected into the shale or sandstone rock to crack them open enough to allow trapped gas deep below the surface to escape.

However, based on the record in the United States and elsewhere, we think the environmental concerns are not serious enough to stop fracking. America's ability to become self-sufficient in gas has had tremendous benefits, improving the nation's strategic position and lowering the prices consumers pay.

Ukraine needs to move in all directions at once – more coal, more nuclear, more gas, more oil – and an even greater effort for more renewables, including solar and wind. These efforts have to be coupled with greater energy efficiency in apartments, factories and commercial buildings.

Only an all-out effort will bring Ukraine to the day, hopefully in the next decade, when its domestic energy production meets demand. Energy independence will do wonders to improve Ukraine's leverage with Russia, as market realities eat away at the political grip of state-controlled Gazprom.

Three of the most promising developments are the arrival of Shell, Chevron and ExxonMobil, working respectively in the Yuzivska area of eastern Ukraine, the Olesska area of western Ukraine and the Skifska area of the Black Sea. And the Ukrainian government recently gave the go-ahead for Vanco International to explore in the Kerch area of the Black Sea.

It's great to see that Ukraine's government is looking ahead enough to sign 50-year deals. But Ukrainians don't trust their government and many people in the world don't trust energy giants. Protecting “commercial secrets” is not enough of a justification to keep production sharing agreements confidential. If the energy majors want in, they're going to have to agree to a higher level of public disclosure. Ukrainians deserve to know the extent of tax breaks the companies are given, how they will benefit and how the environment will be safeguarded. These are issues in which neither the government nor the energy majors have an outstanding record. Ukraine also needs a website like frackfocus.org that offers a wealth of information to U.S. citizens about the shale gas process.

On balance, though, Ukraine has been facing an energy crisis for its entire existence as a nation and needs to move forward, even if it means accepting more risks.

Magnitsky Act

We are very much in favor of the European Union adopting something similar to America's Magnitsky Act to Russia, and we hope both the EU and America extend these sanctions globally, including Ukraine and the rest of the former Soviet Union.

In Ukraine's case, the EU and the United States have been jawboning President Viktor Yanukovich to end political persecutions, strengthen democratic institutions and hold clean elections since he came to power in 2010. For the most part, Yanukovich has lost credibility with the West while reinstating an updated version of ex-President Leonid Kuchma's system of crony capitalism. However, it's not playing as well in 2013 as it did in 1994 or even 2003. Ukrainians are much more civic-minded and connected to the outside world to stand for the re-imposition of strongman rule.

Still, the outside world can help. The Magnitsky Act that America passed into law is named in honor of Sergei Magnitsky, the Russian lawyer who exposed a \$230 million tax fraud by Russian officials only to pay for it with his life, dying in prison in 2009 after being beaten and denied medical treatment. The dictator Vladimir Putin, with his perverse world view, called Magnitsky the criminal and a Russian court is going ahead with trying him posthumously for tax evasion.

America decided to give itself the option of freezing the bank accounts of Russians directly complicit in the detention or death of Magnitsky and also to deny them visas. This was a stroke of diplomatic genius, since the rich and corrupt in this part of the world don't even trust their own countries enough to keep their assets at home. Denying them visas to the more civilized West keeps them trapped in the lawless lands they have helped perpetuate. As usual, Putin's anger over the Magnitsky Act prompted him to retaliate irrationally by punishing Russian orphans.

America should also look at targeted sanctions against Ukrainian officials complicit in human rights violations – from political persecutions to attacks on freedom of the press and financial corruption. A step in the right direction took place when America revoked the visitor's visa of prosecutor Renat Kuzmin for violating the terms of his status by investigating the 1996 Yevhen Shcherban murder while on a visit last July to America. The shock waves that the Kuzmin incident sent through Ukraine's elite show that Western nations have hit upon an effective diplomatic weapon, if applied judiciously.



NEWS ITEMS: Serhiy Vlasenko, lawyer for imprisoned former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, raised eyebrows on Feb. 11 when he was quoted by UNIAN newswire as saying that he is being spied on by Security Service of Ukraine officers dressed in “cartoonish bear costumes.” Later the same day, UNIAN ran a correction quoting Vlasenko as saying that he meant general prosecutor spies, not those with the secret service. The next day the scandal erupted as Vlasenko denied ever speaking to UNIAN.

Svoboda promoting hatred in Ukraine



OLEKSANDR
FELDMAN

One of the most recognizable figures of Ukrainian Jewish descent, the beautiful and talented actress Mila Kunis, recently fell victim to the hatred of a member of the Ukrainian parliament from the far-right Svoboda Party – a party which is notorious for regularly injecting anti-Semitism into their speeches and public pronouncements. He sneeringly proclaimed that she was not “Ukrainian but a zhydovka.” This deeply hurtful slur for a Jew was an alarming gutter effort to inject Jew-hatred into the acceptable bounds of mainstream Ukrainian discourse.

Despite the widely accepted notion that we live in an ever-more globalized world, too many people are skeptical that what happens in the halls of some far-off parliament on the other side of the world bears any impact on our way of life. On the contrary, I fear that events now developing here in Ukraine should remind us that our world is now inextricably intertwined. Every person who dreams of a more tolerant and peaceful international community is obliged to sit bolt upright and take notice.

I speak directly to this growing trend, wherein an anti-Semitic collection of hate-mongers are abusing the democratic Parliament of Ukraine to spew messages and incite

→ Calling actress Mila Kunis a ‘zhydovka’ is a deeply hurtful, anti-Semitic slur by far-right party

violence, in ways that we had hoped were relegated to the distant past. In our recent elections, I was horrified to witness Svoboda gain over 10 percent of the national vote. Like all ultra-nationalist parties, they campaigned and were elected on a message intended to inject fear into society. They shrilly warn that foreigners and minorities are positioned to take over the country. Idolizing some of the most virulently anti-freedom icons of generations past, including most prominently the architect of Nazi propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, Svoboda works hard to make hatred commonplace – and acceptable – throughout Ukrainian society.

Regrettably, Svoboda Party leaders realize that they have fertile ground on which to harvest such a dangerous agenda. While it has been on the decline in recent decades, there is no disputing that anti-Semitism, particularly among → **16**

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Published by Public Media LLC

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Rhetoric vs. reality in investment climate



RYAN W. LIJDSMAN

Ukraine is governed in a memory vacuum. Every year politicians make the same grandiose proclamations about raising the country out of the morass of economic stagnation, and each year insignificant progress is made.

This year, heralded by Royal Dutch Shell's multibillion-dollar gas exploration deal, Ukrainian politicians are proclaiming not only an improvement to the business environment, but an entirely new business paradigm. In reality, these statements are more rhetoric than reality, and Shell's transaction is more an insular investment than transformational change.

The business environment in Ukraine is much the same as it was at independence – centralist, corrupt, and perpetually transitioning from a soviet state to a market economy. Both empirical and anecdotal evidence contradict the assertions of a paradigm shift. The Global Competitiveness Index, published by the World Economic Forum, ranks Ukraine a respectable 73rd out of 144 countries. The ranking is skewed upwards due to Ukraine's large market size, extensive education system, and regional macroeconomic conditions. However, the true story is in the ranking of the non-market economic conditions: property rights 134th, bribery 133rd, legal framework 141st, customs procedures 138th, and soundness of banks 142nd.

The World Bank's Doing Business index of 185 countries shows similar results. Ukraine ranks 137th overall, compared to the regional average of 73 and Poland's 55th place ranking. Particularly troubling is that investor protection is ranked a mere 117, whereas the regional average is 62.

Potential investors need only look at the business headlines, typified by stories of the growing economic influence of President Viktor Yanukovich's inner cabal and the opaqueness of business transactions, to see why Ukraine ranks so low. Moreover, there is a dearth of Ukrainian initial public offerings on the London and Polish stock exchanges and those that do come up are agriculturally focused. In 2012, Ukraine's main stock index, the UX, fell by a third; Poland's WIG rose by 26 percent. Many international companies have left Ukraine, including Marathon Oil in 2008, BG Capital in 2011, and Renaissance Capital this year.

Shell is not investing in Ukraine because of a paradigm shift or improvements to the business environment. Shell, like Chevron and Exxon who are also looking at potential investments, is big enough



President Viktor Yanukovich takes part in the opening ceremony of the drilling of the well Belyayevskoye-400 in Kharkiv Oblast. Shell, Chevron and ExxonMobil are among the international energy majors seeking to tap new supplies of oil and gas for energy-hungry Ukraine. (www.president.gov.ua)

to accept the risks associated with a poor business environment and invest based on the market fundamentals of supply and demand.

The Yuzivska field, where Shell is exploring, is comparable in size to the Marcellus or Barnett fields in the US, holding an estimated 42 trillion cubic feet (1.2 trillion cubic meters) of gas and, unlike the Lublin basin that straddles the Ukraine/Poland border that has had a reserve downgrade, the Yuzivska field has been known since Soviet times so the geology is better understood and there is less exploration risk to Shell.

Global interest in shale gas is high. Daniel Yergin, chairman of IHS Cambridge Energy Research Associates, has said shale gas is the most important innovation in the energy sector in the past decade and Peter Voser, CEO of Royal Dutch Shell, has said it is the biggest hope for future decades. Therefore, it is no surprise that a multi-national company like Shell has an interest in Ukraine's potentially immense shale gas fields.

In addition, Ukrainian domestic demand for gas is strong. Ukraine uses approximately 55 billion cubic

meters of gas every year and produces only 20 billion cubic meters. The remainder is supplied by Russia and Turkmenistan via Russian pipelines. Disputes between Ukraine and Russia have caused well publicized supply disruptions and price increases to Ukraine, raising the demand for more domestic gas production.

The announcement of Shell's \$10 billion agreement to explore for gas led some Ukrainian politicians to herald in a new business paradigm, but the reality is that Ukraine's business climate is no better today than it was last week, last year, or 10 years ago. Shell made the decision to invest in spite of all the problems, because they have the size and international influence to insulate themselves from the political and regulatory problems that would cripple a smaller company. That is not to say that Shell's activities in Ukraine won't be positive for the country and act a catalyst for future change, but in the present change is more rhetoric than reality.

Ryan W. Lijdsman is a Canadian-based business consultant.

VOX populi

WITH ELENA PASHKOVSKAYA



What was your most memorable Valentine's Day?



Ekaterina Mesheriyakova, tourism manager
"The most memorable St. Valentine's Day for me was when I

was in Venice. The funny thing is that I don't date that guy any more, but all the emotions and impressions from Italy are still with me."



Olga Kondratiuk, bank employee
"The best memories I have are feeding fishes with my future husband.

Actually, I mean getting a fish massage – when little fishes nibble the skin on your feet."



Umi Musa, student
"The most romantic thing that ever happened to me was when my boyfriend lit candles and brought

me a lot of roses."



Boguslav Polyak, student
"You should love and take care of people that you love every day."



Yancya Solnceva, student
"The most interesting Valentine's Days for me were in school. We had a 'wall of love,'

where everyone could place a note. And sometimes there were not confessions of love, but notes with some unpleasant words."



Aleksey Mushak, entrepreneur
"The best memories about this day bring me to my university days, when we had lots

of parties. There were many women and many gifts from them, because now I'm married and there is only one woman and one gift for this day."

Help me, please! I'm stuck in Italy without any documents



ALINA LYKHOLAT

ROME, Italy – So the story started in January 2012, as I sat in a restaurant in Rome with my friend. When the time came to pay the bill, I realized that my bag was gone – the bag with all my documents, including international and internal passports, a student permit to stay, etc.

Of course, the first thing that I did was go to the police. So I spent all day with Italian officers, who sent me to another police department to take my fingerprints. When everything was done and they saw that I was really Alina Lykholat, they let me go

with an official document that confirmed that all of my ID's were stolen.

After that, I went to the Ukrainian Embassy in Rome. Compared to all the other embassies that I have seen in Rome the Ukrainian one was the worst one. While some Malaysian, Bangladesh and Indian embassies were located in the central part of the city, the Ukrainian one was forsaken by God and situated in one of the worst Roman districts.

I shouldn't even bother with the fact that Ukrainian Embassy employees don't know what it means to be polite. I had to spend 40 minutes in the rain, waiting for the guard to let me and 10 other people inside. When I finally entered and got to the person who was responsible for documents, I was treated like a homeless dog. I was treated this way by my own people who are from the same homeland.

The embassy had to issue me a so-called temporary passport, valid for one month. But since I didn't

→ **Former Kyiv Post intern has not been able to leave Italy for over a year now**

have anything confirming my identity, I couldn't get even this temporary passport. Because of this, the Ukrainian Embassy in Rome sent a request to the Ukrainian passport office to confirm that I, Alina Lykholat, really had a passport with this name. → 16

Ukraine is No. 1 violator of legal copyright protections

BY OKSANA GRYSTENKO
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For the second time in its history, Ukraine has been called world's No. 1 copyright pirate.

The International Intellectual Property Alliance, an association representing the U.S. copyright-based industries, said the Ukraine has "severe legal and copyright enforcement problems," and recommended to immediately suspend country's benefits in trade with the U.S.

Copyright piracy has already hit Ukrainian business in 2002, when the U.S. Trade Representative imposed 100 percent tariff sanctions on \$75 million worth of Ukrainian annual exports to the U.S. The sanctions were removed only in 2005.

"The piracy rates and level of copyright protection in Ukraine have worsened over the past two years," the IIPA said in its report on Feb. 7. Among the major problems it outlined the use of unlicensed software, unauthorized camcording of films, as well as open markets with illegal copies of music, films and software functioning all around the country.

Jorge Zukoski, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine, called this move a reaction to absence of any protection of intellectual property here. "This recommendation can and most likely will have a major negative impact on Ukraine's international reputation and will even have financial consequences," he said.

Ukrainian society, poor and with short traditions of copyright protection,

tion, has little sympathy for the U.S. concerns.

When in January 2012 the authorities tried to shut down ex.ua, the country's main file-sharing website, numerous government websites, including those of the central bank and the state security services, were shut down through distributed denial of service attacks. Public pressure finally prevailed, with police officials allowing ex.ua to continue operating and later closing a criminal case against its owners.

Volodymyr Polishchuk, the Interior Ministry's spokesman, acknowledged that police are also at fault as almost half of the software on their computers is illegal.

Unlicensed software is installed at 84 of every 100 Ukrainian personal computers, according to the research done by Business Software Alliance, a market research firm, in 2011. The joint cost of all unlicensed software in Ukraine reached \$647 million in 2011 by the same source.

In early 2013, Microsoft filed, through its legal representative Lexfor, a number of lawsuits worth more than \$120,000, complaining about the use by firms of unlicensed Microsoft products. In October 2012 Microsoft won a lawsuit for Hr 66,000 against state-run Uzhhorod airport after local police revealed unlicensed software installed at six computers and ticket offices. The Microsoft rep-

resentatives say they are especially concerned by the huge level of pirate software among government agencies. "Over 70 percent of programs at state enterprises and state bodies are unlicensed," said Yuriy Omelchenko, anti piracy manager at Microsoft Ukraine, calling the situation "catastrophic."

Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister Kostiantyn Gryshchenko said that the country has to urgently amend copyright legislation in reaction to the U.S. concerns. "The threat of adding Ukraine in the category of major global offenders in that area is a great challenge for us," he said on Feb. 12.

But experts say current laws are enough to fight piracy if only they are properly implemented.

Oleksiy Khrystoforov, head of Kharkiv office of Ilyashev & Partners law firm, said that thanks to the new Criminal Code that came into force in November 2012 a single complaint to the police would be enough to bring a person to criminal responsibility for violation of copyright. "The illegal use and sharing of computer programs and databases presumes imprisonment from three to six years," Khrystoforov said.

Julia Semeni, partner at Konnov & Sozanovsky law firm, said there were many cases in Ukraine when people have been criminally persecuted for piracy. "But in most cases those brought to justice were just the minor malefactors," she admitted. More often, she added, such cases end up as civil disputes leading to fines, which may reach up to Hr 57 million.

But any punishment would be useless in a society that knows little about persecution for piracy, lacks available alternatives to pirated copies and fails even to understand why this is wrong.

Zukoski believes that the joint efforts of business and authorities are needed. "These measures should be extended far beyond the fight against counterfeiting and software certification and include the development of an educational and cultural environment



Demonstrators protest against the closure of ex.ua, the country's main file-sharing website, on Feb. 1, 2012 in Kyiv. (UNIAN)

that fosters and celebrates the development and protection of new innovative products and services through ensuring that the intellectual property rights of the creators are protected and that they receive appropriate compensation for what they have made," he said. "Without that basic protection,

Ukrainians will simply not invest the time, resources and efforts to develop super cool new things that will benefit society and be used around the world," he added. Kyiv Post staff writer Oksana Grytsenko can be reached at grytsenko@kyivpost.com



Jorge Zukoski



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Expats to Watch

Franke says goodbye to Volia to embark on new adventure

BY MARK RACHKEVYCH
RACHKEVYCH@KYIVPOST.COM

Besides his trademark short-boxed beard, another constant to Dutch-born Eric Franke is a big-picture management style and ability to bring change at companies.

"I'm very good looking at processes... at figures, structures, at how things work, how to improve things (and deciding) where to push, and where not to push," said the outgoing CEO of Volia in his office on Jan. 25, the country's largest cable TV operator.

It's a unique trait that has served the executive well time and again ever since he first stepped foot in Moscow in 1994 to launch mobile telephone operations for Sweden's Ericsson.

New industries and markets were popping up throughout the former Soviet Union at a time of chaotic transition. Franke was tasked with setting up an office and a training center when it was logistically difficult to hire reliable people, buy computers and even purchase basic office supplies.

Later in Ukraine, he would build on this experience.

"This was difficult, but it was fun. Everybody knew each other in Moscow – on Friday evenings we all went to the Canadian embassy to eat hamburgers – I was young, enthusiastic and full of energy," recalled Franke.

Yet like many expatriates in the region, Franke said he ended up here by accident. "It was a huge opportunity, and I was lucky to find the right combination of a certain amount of disorder and my being able to look into that, structure it and make something very good out of it," he reflected.

But it was his love for radio technology that steered him toward mobile communications after he graduated from Delft Technical University. Ericsson in 1982 was looking for someone with radio knowledge and an interest to build a new mobile telephone network.

He worked his way up to vice president at Ericsson in the Netherlands. Then he hit a plateau. The only way to advance was to go international.

After the Russian ruble crisis hit in August 1998, Franke joined GTS which later became known as Golden Telecom to oversee 13 mobile companies in Russia and Ukraine. This was when he first saw Kyiv and when his knowledge of Russian vastly improved.

And when GTS sold most of its assets to Mobile TeleSystems, he was faced with the decision of either joining the new company or leaving with a nice premium. At the same time in 2001, a headhunter had approached him in Ukraine with an offer to take over UMC, the heavyweight mobile phone operator today known as MTS, his former employer.

Then, UMC was owned by state-owned Ukrtelecom with a 51 percent controlling stake, as well as Western telecoms Deutsche Telekom, Holland's KPN and Denmark's Tele Danmark. "I still remember that interview, because I wasn't so fluent in Russian, but I had to come in and speak with the head of Ukrtelecom and explain who I am in Russian," recollected Franke.



Eric Franke

Age: 57

Citizenship: Dutch

Position: Outgoing CEO of Volia

Years in country: Since March 2001

Tips for succeeding in Ukraine: "Adapt, get used to, apply, understand all the peculiarities of the Ukrainian environment. Try constantly to coach and teach the people you work with how you also can do things without getting frustrated why Ukrainians do things different. Deal with the politics and corruption without getting angry."

Under his watch, UMC, and later MTS (when the Russian company bought it in 2003 and re-branded), went from having 400,000 subscribers to overtaking chief competitor KyivStar in 2005, with more than 11 million subscribers.

Franke said that when he came in, UMC was in severe financial trouble. So he cut costs and focused on corporate clients. In the summer of 2005, Moscow called him again to become first vice president at MTS to take care of the parent company's technical and IT activities with a \$4 billion budget. Once he got that under control, mainly by remapping Russia into supplier regions, he was asked to head Comstar-UTS in 2006 shortly after its initial public offering of that year, a provider of integrated telecommunication solutions in Russia.

But he and his Ukrainian wife began to miss Ukraine.

Microsoft Ukraine appointed Franke in November 2007 when the IT and telecom world was in full integration mode. Sales jumped 45.2 percent when he was there. But soon he was faced with the global financial crisis. "We went from 100 to 30 people ... I was told I couldn't be sustained as a very expensive expat on the payroll. Nobody was to blame for that, it wasn't

related to performance," he said.

After doing some short-term consulting, Franke decided to look for something more stable.

He ended up speaking with Michael Bleyzer in 2009, the founding partner and president of SigmaBleyzer, whose two private equity funds are a shareholder in Volia. And after talks with another Volia shareholder, Providence Equity Partners, Franke was hired in November 2009.

Under Franke's leadership, Volia witnessed growth while he undertook an acquisitions-based strategy. He also rolled out HD service in 14 cities. After purchasing Odeko in October, Ukraine's third largest cable TV player, for an estimated \$14 million, Volia now services 3.5 million households, and has operations in 29 cities and towns.

The company estimates it has up to 59 percent share of the pay TV market and 20 percent of the Internet market.

Franke is vague about the future.

"If you look at my resume, I'm a fixer – I've two options of either being an executive or a non-executive, but I don't know if I want to do this again (executive role) because it takes so much (out of me), the 12-hour work days."

Kyiv Post editor Mark Rachkevych can be reached at rachkevych@kyivpost.com.

Netherlands' Aegon enter Ukraine's insurance market

BY CHRISTOPHER J. MILLER
MILLER@KYIVPOST.COM

Dutch-based Aegon in December became the first multinational company to enter Ukraine's promising insurance market since 2008 after it purchased Fidem Life from Horizon Capital.

Aegon and private equity firm Horizon Capital didn't disclose the financial details of the sale to the public.

Ukraine's anti-trust body approved the acquisition on Jan. 22, and the transaction closed in early February, Natalie Jaresko, CEO and founding partner of Horizon Capital told the Kyiv Post.

As part of the deal, Fidem Life – which was the fifth largest player in the country's life insurance market – will be rebranded Aegon Ukraine and will be integrated into the governance and management structure of the company, according to an Aegon press release.

Aegon Ukraine will initially focus on growing life insurance operations in what some banks and industry experts say is a burgeoning sector of the market, with significant growth expected in the next decade.

"Given the sizeable population and low penetration of life insurance in the country, Ukraine offers Aegon an attractive long-term growth opportunity," said Gabor Kepecs, CEO of Aegon Central and Eastern Europe and the company's management member. "Ukraine has a developing middle class that will increasingly require the essential products and services we provide. Consequently, we intend to fully leverage our broad capabilities as a leading provider of life insurance across the Central and Eastern European region to provide quality and reliable solutions to meet these emerging needs."

The company, headquartered in The Hague, first entered the region back in 1992 and currently has operations in Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania and Turkey.

Jaresko expressed her delight with the deal. "We are proud that Fidem Life has attracted a world-class insurance firm to the Ukrainian market,"

she said. "The entry of a global insurance leader like Aegon is certainly a sign that Ukraine's life insurance sector is of great interest. Given the low per capita life insurance consumption levels in Ukraine today as compared to neighboring countries, and with further reform of the pension system, increasing disposable incomes, and a return to overall macroeconomic growth, there are substantial long-term growth opportunities in this sector."

Natalia Hudyma, president of the League of Insurance Organizations of Ukraine, a non-profit group that conducts independent market analysis, called the purchase "another confirmation that the Ukrainian life insurance market has huge potential, is promising and interesting to Western investors."

But not everyone is as optimistic.

"At first glance, Ukraine's insurance sector appears to be one of the largest, and the fastest growing in Central and Eastern Europe," began Business Monitor International's 2013 Ukraine insurance report.

Further into the report, however, the outlook takes a darker turn. "The life segment barely exists ... in a country where the average person spends less than \$5 a year on life insurance, it is clear that the constraints and obstacles are huge."

Preliminary data for 2012 showed more than 1.4 million Ukrainians were covered by life insurance, up 13 percent from 2011, according to LIOU statistics. And Fidem's chief financial officer, Tatyana Blinov, said Ukraine's life insurance market stood at \$225 million in 2012, rising 40 percent over the previous year.

Kepecs said that Fidem Life's dedicated customer centric business approach would fit well with Aegon's strategy.

Horizon Capital, a private equity firm with offices in the U.S., Moldova and Ukraine, invested in Fidem Life using funds from its Emerging Europe Growth Fund II back in 2010. The company's most recent EEGF II investment was last October's purchase of Russia's Tinkoff Credit Systems Bank, one of the country's credit market leaders, for \$40 million, according to Jaresko.

Kyiv Post staff writer Chris Miller can be reached at miller@kyivpost.com.

→ On the move

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NATASHA ANSELL, Managing Director, was appointed as the Head of Corporate Bank at Citi Ukraine responsible for all client business, including multinationals, local corporates, financial institutions and public sector. Natasha has had a 20 year career at Citi, including last 15 in various regional roles in London, which spans across the Banking and Asset Management businesses. Natasha became a Managing Director in 2005 and a Business Senior Credit Officer in 2012. Natasha is a British national, was born and raised in Berlin, Germany, and holds a Masters degree in International Finance from Kiev State University in

Ukraine. Citi, the leading global financial services company, has approximately 200 million customer accounts and does business in more than 160 countries and jurisdictions. Citi celebrated its 200th anniversary in 2012. Citi established a Representative Office in Ukraine in 1997 and was incorporated as a wholly-owned subsidiary in 1998, making it the 100th country in Citi's global network. Citi Ukraine provides a full range of services to corporate and commercial banking clients, leads important financing transactions for the Government of Ukraine, as well as key multinational companies and top tier Ukrainian companies.

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Chevron answers questions, educates in western Ukraine

→1 outside. There were additional "we don't want this" statements in the audience.

KP: How do you feel about local councils dominated by the Svoboda Party, who are against, or cautious about, shale gas?

PC: We got mixed signals. There were people who stood up and said they were representing Svoboda's interests and that Svoboda was not opposed to shale gas development per se, but they wanted two things: to reassure everyone that it could be done without hurting the environment, and they'd like a share in the revenue stream in the region.

KP: Your dialogue with local authorities started very late after winning the tender. Why is that?

PC: In hindsight, I think it would have been better had we engaged earlier. Our delay in getting to the district level let a lot of misinformation to spread so people had preconceived perceptions before we had our chance to get our point across.

KP: These workshops come ahead of local council voting to approve the PSA before it is signed. When do you feel that might happen?

PC: I don't know. The PSA needs to be approved by the local authorities before it comes into force. To my knowledge, they haven't even seen it yet.

KP: Have you got a timeline on your activities? The PSA, the first well?

PC: We hoped to reach an agreement with the central government on the PSA terms before the last election and sign by the end of last year. We missed those targets. There is some work that we're doing now that puts us in a better position once the PSA gets moving. We're attempting to purchase pre-existing seismic data from the area which would give us a better idea how to move forward. We hope to start drilling the first well perhaps a year or 1.5 years after the PSA is signed.

KP: How many wells are you going to sink during the exploration stage?

PC: Probably somewhere between five and 15. Some of those, the first few wells, would just be vertical wells. (Then) we will drill a few horizontal wells, and - assuming we can get the permits to do that - hydraulically fracture them to get a much better idea of what initial flow rate we would get, how they tail off.

KP: So, how dangerous is fracking going to be in western Ukraine? Are there going to be mini-earthquakes?

PC: There are cases of drilling activity causing earthquakes when people inject large volumes of water over a long time. If you inject into a natural fracture, it can cause a shift. It's believed that there was an earthquake in the UK that was caused by hydraulic fracturing activity. My understanding now is that they injected directly into a structural fault, and it moved a little bit. One of the things we want to do is stay away from faults.

KP: How do you deal with the other two concerns of water and

Demonstrators protest shale gas extraction in Donetsk on Feb. 1. (UNIAN)



chemicals use in fracturing?

CP: There are multiple issues with water. The first one is supply. This is one of the items of misinformation. Word is out there that it takes huge amounts of water. Natural gas from shale uses very little water to produce a given amount of energy because you only fracture the well one time.

KP: Do you know where your water is going to come from?

CP: No.

KP: Are you planning to recycle your water?

CP: In the exploration phase we'll recycle as much as we can, but it's somewhat difficult. In the production phase, we will try to do the same thing as we're doing in Pennsylvania right now, which is that 100 percent of the Chevron's flowback water is recycled today - we're not going to cut corners in Ukraine.

KP: How do you address one of the major concerns that you're not revealing the chemical formula you pump into the well?

CP: The chemicals that we pump into the wells in the U.S. right now are listed on frackfocus.org. Every well is listed individually. The properties of the shale will guide the selection of the chemicals. Even more important is the water.

KP: Will you reveal the composition of the chemicals for each well here just like you do in the states?

CP: Yes. But it is a problem that we haven't done it in advance, so the protesters had room to complain it's a point of contention.

KP: Another concern is that in Ukraine you will be drilling in populous areas, while in the U.S. much development is done in the desert. How do you address that?

CP: Once the well is drilled and put into production, they'll take away much of the equipment and reclaim the land. One of the things about horizontal drilling is...you can group six, eight, 10 wells together, on one pad, and take much less land, build fewer roads, disturb less countryside.

KP: How are you going to negotiate land access?

CP: We're not going to force anyone off their land - that's just not good business. So, we need to go out and negotiate with individual landowners ... And unless the village council is convinced that this is good for the village, it's not going to go forward.

KP: When you negotiate with landowners, do you usually buy or rent land?

CP: I think it will more of a rental arrangement, or a lease.

KP: What is the estimated investment going into the project?

CP: It will be a few million dollars a year potentially during the exploration phase, and something more than that set aside for social infrastructure during the production phase when, hopefully, we'll start making money.

To be clear, the exploration phase is a five-year commitment and a specific dollar amount that we're required to spend, it will be hundreds of millions of dollars. And it's 100 percent Chevron cost.

KP: The estimates of how much gas could potentially be extracted from shale in western Ukraine really vary. What is your working figure?

CP: I really don't have one. The geologists...think it could be comparable to some of the shales that we're producing from in the U.S.

KP: What are the full investment figures like?

CP: Full development will be tens of billions, assuming that it's commercial. And how much gas you can produce depends on so much more on just the gas and the rock. If it takes two years to get all the permits to drill each well, even if you had a great reservoir there, it would not be economical to produce it. It depends on free access to the distribution

system.

KP: Are you negotiating that yet?

CP: We're suggesting legislation that would continue to open up the pipeline system so that multiple producers could put gas in, and multiple customers could pipe the gas out in some kind of market system.

KP: Are you hoping to sell in Ukraine or export?

CP: We're hoping to sell to the highest bidder. The local market is advantageous because the transportation tariff would be less. So, there is a built-in advantage to use the gas locally.

KP: You have said the deposit in Ukraine may be similar to Pennsylvania. What is the extraction cost there?

CP: If we found Pennsylvania's big twin shale in Ukraine, if five years from now the industry had advanced to the same point in Ukraine that Pennsylvania had advanced to, the price would be \$100 per 1,000 cubic (meters).

KP: What is the pessimistic scenario?

CP: The pessimistic scenario is that if we don't have an open market, we may have a hard time beating Gazprom's current price of \$430 per 1,000 cubic meters.

KP: You're supposed to be signing a deal with a joint subsidiary of Naftogaz and SPK Geoservice, a Ukrainian company that has been tied to a

grouping close to President Viktor Yanukovich's son. How do you feel about that?

CP: It's very common in the beginning of a PSA for the government to assign somebody to represent the national interest, and that partnership will be with Nadra Olesska.

KP: Does this company exist yet?

CP: Certainly they have to be legally registered before we can partner with them.

KP: What about SPK Geoservice? Do they provide any services? Do you see them at all? Do they take part in workshops, etc.?

CP: We don't have an agreement with them. There are actually two agreements we're negotiating. One is the PSA...The other is the joint operating agreement, which is an agreement between Chevron and Nadra Olesska, which defines the relationship between the partners: who proposes the budget, who votes on the budget, how the funds are provided, how the funds are dispersed.

KP: If there is any corruption discovered associated with your partner SPK Geoservice, you could potentially fall under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act in the U.S. Do you see any risk in it?

CP: My job, and the job of the legal team's job, is to make sure it does not happen.

KP: How can you make sure of it?

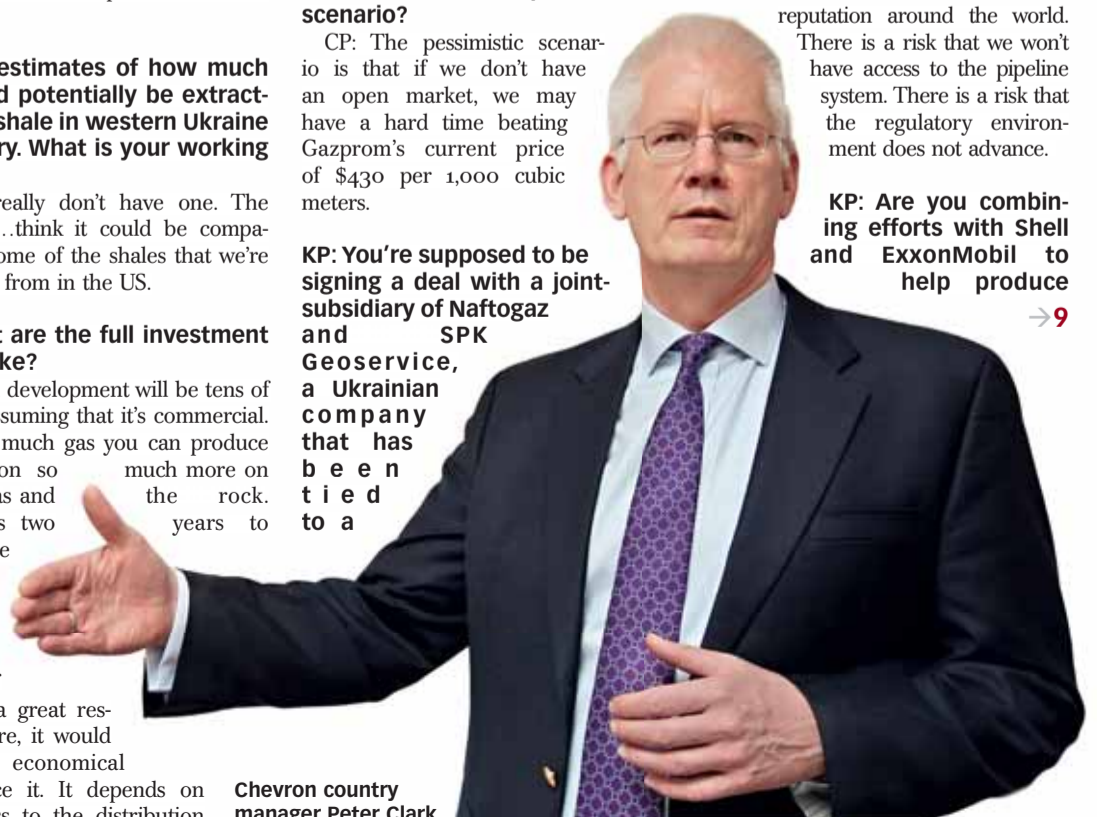
CP: We're going to abide by all the FCPA rules and regulations; we're going to keep our books straight - we're just going to run a very clean ship here. There were people inside Chevron who didn't want to bid for this project because they looked at the charts that rank countries in ease of doing business. And Ukraine is not high on the ease of doing business chart.

KP: What risks have you identified in Ukraine?

CP: First of all, there are geological risks. Another risk is that if he have an industrial accident - the consequences are huge, we'll probably be out of Ukraine, and it would tarnish our reputation around the world. There is a risk that we won't have access to the pipeline system. There is a risk that the regulatory environment does not advance.

KP: Are you combining efforts with Shell and ExxonMobil to help produce

→9



Chevron country manager Peter Clark.

'There is no Chernobyl to the fracking world,' says Tiley

→ **1** drinking water and increased carbon emissions by a secretive, unresponsive global giant in cahoots with a secretive, corrupt government.

British citizen Graham Tiley, Shell's top representative in Ukraine, is confident these fears will eventually be erased as Ukrainians see the lasting benefits of the company's work.

In America, for example, the shale gas revolution has caused natural gas prices to plummet. Together with more easily transported liquefied natural gas, America is set to become a gas exporter for decades to come. In Europe, by contrast, opposition to shale gas on environmental grounds is much fiercer.

Environmentalists say that some of the carcinogens used in the fracking fluid remain in the ground after wells run dry, and that the process produces airborne pollutants like methane, benzene and sulfur dioxide.

"A lot of it is fear of the unknown," Tiley told the Kyiv Post during an interview from his Kyiv office, only a few weeks after Shell on Jan. 24 entered into a 50-year production sharing agreement with Ukraine's government. The deal was signed in the presence of President Viktor Yanukovich on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

"In the past, oil and gas companies were not always respectful of the public's need for information, of its right to be informed," Tiley said. "We certainly learned our lesson."

Others beg to disagree. Ivan Varchenko, an oppositional deputy on the Kharkiv Oblast Council and an active campaigner against shale gas, says people in the Yuzivska area have been kept in the dark about key issues, such as environmental impact, that will affect their lives. They have had no communication with Shell as the product sharing agreement was rushed through and hushed up ever since, Varchenko says.

A London native with a Ph.D. in geological sciences, Tiley has spent 15 months in Ukraine and 25 years with Shell. He is confident in the environmental safety of "fracking."

"More than a million wells have been

hydraulically fracked in the United States," Tiley said. "To my knowledge, there are no documented cases linking fracking to significant damage to the environment. There is no 'Chernobyl' to the fracking world. There is no 'Three Mile Island.' That is important to recognize. Fracking itself is demonstrably safe. It's been done for decades. It's been done in Ukraine since the 1950s."

He's also convinced that natural gas is a purer, more environmentally friendly hydrocarbon than oil or coal and noted that, even under optimistic scenarios, renewable energy sources will only cover 30 percent of the world's demand by 2030.

The fracking process involves drilling holes deep underground and injecting a high-pressure mixture of water, sand and chemicals into the tight sandstone to create fissures that allow gas to escape and be captured. Tiley said the aquifers that are drilled through on the way down are insulated from dangerous chemicals by steel casings.

Shell's Yuzivska project encompasses the heavily populated eastern oblasts of Kharkiv and Donetsk. Future steps include: developing a formal agreement with the state partner, Nadra Ukraine; doing environmental assessments; and, if all goes well, the start of exploration. If everything is promising, 15 wells will be drilled and Shell will then know more about how much commercially viable gas can be extracted.

Government officials believe the Yuzivska field can produce 20 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually, and have also said the government will be entitled to 31 to 60 percent of the gas produced. They expect Shell will invest at least \$10 billion.

Tiley will not confirm or deny those numbers. He said that a minimum investment of \$3.75 billion is guaranteed by Shell. He won't talk about the 360-page production sharing agreement, even though details have been leaked to the public. He won't confirm or deny whether big tax breaks have been granted for purposes other than

gas exploration.

"It's supposed to be confidential," he said. "Other people may have leaked stuff. I'm not going to."

But he defends the principle of a 50-50 partnership with the state as a guarantee that the interests of both sides are protected.

"Production sharing agreements were invented to give governments more direct benefits from these projects," Tiley said. "The government and the people of Ukraine will get the lion's share of the benefits."

Varchenko, who leaked a version of the agreement on the web, claims the agreement is written in such a way that Ukraine effectively will get between 31 to 40 percent of gas produced by the joint venture with Shell.

Ihor Shvaika, a member of parliament with the opposition Svoboda Party, said he has challenged in court the procedure for approval of the product sharing agreement by the Kharkiv Oblast Council, which was a precondition for the signing of the agreement. "The first hearing is scheduled for Feb. 27," he said.

But Tiley said he's not aware of any lawsuits affecting Shell. In contrast to the refusal to discuss details of the production sharing agreement, Tiley said Shell is open about the investments it will make in the regions where it works as well as the steps it will take to protect the environment.

But Tiley said that Ukraine's energy future is distinctly brighter with the emergence of Shell's Yuzivska project in eastern Ukraine, Chevron's western Ukraine Olesska project and ExxonMobil's deepwater Black Sea Skifska project (in partnership with Shell).

Taking the optimistic scenario, "it's entirely possible Ukraine could double or triple its domestic production into the next decade," Tiley said.

Tiley says he is not particularly vexed by the opposition on political, legal and environmental grounds as people learn more about the technology.

As for the politics of energy, Shell appears to prefer to let Ukraine's government battle critics, which include



Graham Tiley, Shell Ukraine's vice president, rose through the technical ranks to lead a national team that numbers 2,000 people and is set to grow as the energy giant ramps up its shale gas exploration. In his Kyiv office on Feb. 13, he holds a sandstone sample to show the type of rock that Shell will attempt to extract shale gas from. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

the Communist Party, the opposition Svoboda Party, numerous citizens, and, truth be told, probably Russian Gazprom, which wants to keep selling Ukraine lots of gas.

"Oil and gas have been at the heart of politics for 100 years," Tiley said.

"I don't think I'm going to change that overnight. We learned not to get mixed up with politics; we've made a deal with the legitimate government of Ukraine — a good deal and fair deal."

Kyiv Post chief editor Brian Bonner can be reached at bonner@kyivpost.com

Chevron says it will bring jobs in western Ukraine gas hunt

→ **8** this legislation?

CP: There are several ideas floating around there, whether the Ministry of Ecology would drive this process forward. I think one of the avenues we would anticipate using would be the American Chamber of Commerce...I think we need to find any way we can.

KP: So far, the regulatory tide is going against you. Batkivshchyna is suggesting a moratorium on exploration of alternative hydrocarbons; Svoboda is holding a hearing on shale gas in March. Will you attend?

CP: I read in the press that Svoboda is going to hold a hearing on March 20.

I haven't heard anything ever since. I hope we're asked to participate.

KP: One of the concerns of those campaigning against shale gas is a risk of industrial accident. I presume there is a provision in the PSA which spells out how to deal with that?

CP: The short answer is that if we cause a problem, we fix the problem. The law in Ukraine is pretty specific on it as well, and there will be further language in the PSA to that effect.

KP: How specific is that part on the document?

CP: One of the points we made in the

workshop, is we're gonna go out to every water well within a two-kilometer radius, and will offer to test the water at our expense. We'll use certified laboratories in Ukraine. We'll probably send some samples out of Ukraine to cross-check and verify. The results will be shared with the local authorities, with the well owner, and we'll keep a copy. At various times we will come back to the same wells, run the same tests and compare, and share that information. There has been no case when somebody was able to demonstrate that fracturing [at two to four kilometers under the ground] has contaminated ground water.

KP: How will you address con-

cerns about a potential water source?

CP: In Poland, we have been using deeper aquifers, where the water is not drinkable or not used for anything. Other options are to use fresh water, if there is lots and lots. We were advised there are some waste pits around Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv, old industrial processes with polluted water. In some of them the water level is rising because creeks feed them and rain falls into them. You'd have to filter it, so there is a processing cost.

KP: What other potential benefits are you offering?

CP: The primary list is jobs. If we

go into production phase, it's everything from geologists and engineers, and lawyers, and office managers, and logistics managers, and truck drivers, and security guards. All those people are going to stay in hotels, and eat in restaurants, they're going to need their laundry done. So, the ripples go through the economy.

Also, social investment projects. We will contribute to things like schools and water supply systems, and so forth.

Editor's Note: A longer version of the interview can be read on www.kyivpost.com.

Kyiv Post editor Katya Gorchinskaya can be reached at gorchinskaya@kyivpost.com.

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Suspicious fire intensifies Hostynny Dvir dispute

BY OKSANA FARYNA
FARYNA@KYIVPOST.COM

A fire at a Kyiv landmark on Feb. 9 has intensified a dispute between preservationists and a property developer who wants to transform the place, known as Hostynny Dvir, into an office and shopping center.

Activist Yevhen Parfionov, who was on the night shift at the Podil landmark to prevent the developer from bringing in construction equipment, said he smelled smoke around 2 a.m. He then saw smoke billowing on the roof over the western arch and called firefighters.

It took more than five hours to contain the blaze. Police blamed the fire on faulty electric wiring.

The ruling is disputed. "There are several arguments that all this was not accidental," said Vladyslava Osmak, another activist. "It was a whole system clearly aimed at completely destroying the building."

Firefighters couldn't access the attic because the doors had been welded shut by the property developer. Crane-equipped fire trucks arrived only an hour and a half after the fire started. Activists stayed behind to assist the firefighters while the developer's security guards disappeared.

The preservationists believe the fire started in three places, not in one. The fire also forced a state institute located on the second floor to vacate.

"This is, in fact, what the developer was dreaming about and what he badly needed now," Ihor Lutsenko, head of nongovernmental organization Save

Old Kyiv, wrote on his Facebook page.

The only institution left in the building is a state-owned architectural library.

Dmytro Yarych, director of Ukrrestavracia, the property developer that wants to transform the landmark and which currently rents the building from the State Property Fund, denied any responsibility for the fire. He accused activists of starting the fire.

"We believe the fire happened because activists illegally connected to

the grid on the first floor to heat the rooms where they stayed," Yarych said. "Because of that the old wiring on the attic broke and wooden parts of the roof were set on fire."

The fire destroyed at least 15 percent of the attic floor and roof. The building had also been waterlogged.

"Clearly, it's very dangerous for the building during winter," warned Lutsenko.

Kyiv Post staff writer Oksana Faryna can be reached at faryna@kyivpost.com.

Timeline of Kyiv landmark Hostynny Dvir

1971-1990 – Reconstruction of Hostynny Dvir based on the 1809 project by neoclassical architect of Italian origin Luigi Rusca.

Aug. 15, 2011 – Prime Minister Mykola Azarov signs a decree, according to which Hostynny Dvir was excluded from the list of architectural monuments protected by the state.

April 26, 2012 – Kyiv City Administration issues a permit to property developer Ukrrestavracia, a company owned by Cyprus-registered Afidreko Holdings Limited, to develop a land project for future reconstruction of Hostynny Dvir into a shopping and office center.

May 26, 2012 – During celebrations of Day of Kyiv, public activists take over the courtyard of Hostynny Dvir and start to hold lectures, exhibitions, concerts, movie screenings and other public events there to protest plans to turn the historical building into a shopping and office center without public debate.

June 20, 2012 – Activists initiate a law-

suit to the Administrative District Court of Kyiv in order to resume Hostynny Dvir's status as an architectural monument. Judges Vitaliy Ameliokhin, Yevhen Ablov and Andriy Fedorchuk four times deny activist requests to order construction stoppages while case is being heard.

July 5, 2012 – Verkhovna Rada vote to exclude Hostynny Dvir from a list of monuments of cultural heritage that cannot be privatized.

Dec. 19, 2012 – Masked security guards of Ukrrestavracia use tear gas in a brawl with activists. Members of parliament, including Vitali Klitschko, visit the site of conflict.

Dec. 21, 2012 – Ministry of Culture recognizes Kontraktova Square, where Hostynny Dvir is located, a monument of city construction.

Feb. 6, 2013 – Ukrrestavracia attempts to bring in construction vehicles and equipment but is stopped by activists.

Feb. 9, 2013 – A night fire that lasts over five hours destroys part of Hostynny Dvir's attic floor and roof.

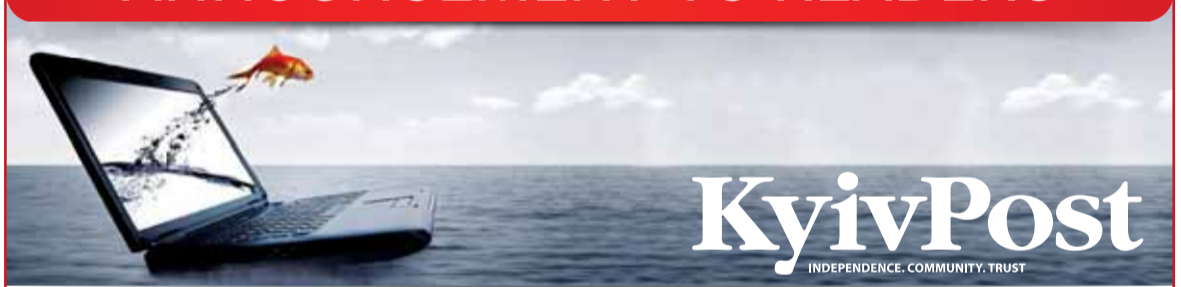
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Going Out Guide

● – see address in the box below and on the pull-out map.

Comments and tips are welcome. Email the lifestyle team at ls@kyivpost.com

For tickets online, please visit kvytky.ua, parter.ua, freedomhall.com.ua, bilethouse.com.ua, karabas.com, or biletik.ua.

Courtesy

Feb.15



Vanessa Mae to play in Kyiv

Violin virtuoso Vanessa Mae is set to perform in Kyiv's Palats Ukraina on Feb.15. Accompanied by a symphony orchestra and choir, she will present her 2-hour Magic Violin program which was a smashing success in Europe.

Vanessa describes her style as "violin techno-acoustic fusion." She usually plays acoustic or electro violin, often mixing classical music hits and modern jazz compositions. This will be her second time in Kyiv after a 14 year break.

Vanessa Mae Concert. Feb.15. Palats Ukraina (13 Veluka Vasylkivska St.). 7 p.m. Hr 300-2,500

Friday, February 15

Classical music

Transformation. Symphony Orchestra of the National Philharmonic of Ukraine Playing Bach, Bartok, Webern, Britten, Schubert. National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 30-120

Classics on Fridays. Works of Haydn (flute, harpsichord). Master Klass. 8 p.m. Hr 50

Movies

Kaleidoscope of Love (360). Zhovten. 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m, 7:30 p.m, 9:30 p.m. Hr 22-100

A Good Day to Die Hard (action). Zhovten. 12:55 p.m, 2:40 p.m, 4:25 p.m, 6:10p.m, 7:55 p.m, 9:40 p.m Hr 22-100

Safe Haven (drama). Oscar. 10 a.m., 12:20 p.m, 2.40 p.m, 5 p.m, 7:20 p.m., Hr 25

Le paradis des betes (drama). Kyiv. 5:10 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 30-40

Live music

Mad Heads UkrainSka & Mama Mia (Italian disco, rock). Docker Pub. 10 p.m. Hr 100

Motor'rola Chumaki & Red Rocks (rock). Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 75

Without Limits (rock). Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Hr 50

Rolova Model. Divan. 8 p.m. Free

Clubs

Pepsi Generation Party. Saxon. 11 p.m. Hr 20-50

Glam Punk Party. Ajour. 9 p.m. Free for females, Hr 150 for males

Make It Loud. Art Club 44. 11:50 p.m. Hr 50

Kiev House. Xlib. 11 p.m. Free

Love Shlove. Disco Radio Hall. 10 p.m. Hr 60-80

Theaters

Quartet for Two (premiere). Molody Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 50-90

Corsicanian (historical anecdote). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 50-80

The Temper (comedy). Zhovtnevy Palats. 7 p.m. Hr 100-1,350

Shows

Crazy Horse. Operetta Theater. 6:30 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 450-1,600

Vanessa Mae. Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 300-2,500

Valentyn Strykalo Band. Crystal Hall. 9 p.m. Hr 130-300

Spiritual Seasons (Irish and Scandinavian folk rock). Underground Music Hall. 8 p.m. Hr 55

Gorchitza. Tolstoy Restaurant-club. 10 p.m. Hr 100-1,500

Miscellaneous

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Introversion (art exhibition). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 10 a.m. Free

Arkan. Mikhail Demtsiu (art exhibition). Mystetska Zbirka (13 Tereshchenkovskaya St.). 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Free

Art Map of Ukraine, Slobozhanskiy Express. Modern Art Museum. 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Hr 5-20

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Hr 15-30

Saturday, February 16

Classical music

Kyiv Saxophone Quartet Playing Piazzolla (violin, contrabass, accordion, saxophone). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 20-100

Movies

Kaleidoscope of Love (360). Zhovten. 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m, 7:30 p.m, 9:30 p.m. Hr 22-100

A Good Day to Die Hard (action). Zhovten. 12:55 p.m, 2:40 p.m, 4:25 p.m, 6:10p.m, 7:55 p.m, 9:40 p.m Hr 22-100

Safe Haven (drama). Oscar. 10 a.m., 12:20 p.m, 2.40 p.m, 5 p.m, 7:20 p.m., Hr 25

Le paradis des betes (drama). Kyiv. 5:10 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 30-40

Live music

Motor'rola Chumaki. Docker Pub. 10 p.m. Hr 75

Mad Heads UkrainSka & Mama Mia. Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 75

Bangladesh Orchestra. Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Hr 50

Igor Sirodzhia (underground). Divan. 8 p.m. Free

Clubs

Sexy Disco 90s. Seven Music Club. 11 p.m. Free for females, Hr 70 for males

Play Techno. Forsage. 11 p.m. Hr 25-50 for females, Hr 30-60 for males

Battle of Djs. Egoist. 11 p.m. Hr 25

Fashion Session. Saxon. Hr 20-40 for females, Hr 25-50 for males

Theaters

Gogol... Reincarnation. Ivan Franko Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 30-70

Farewell Tango (drama). Lesya Ukrainka Theater, new stage. 6 p.m. Hr 100

Lying Naked Truth (comedy). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 50-80

Shows

Crazy Horse. Operetta Theater. 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 450-1,600

Snap. Crystal Hall. 10 p.m. Hr 120

Distemper. Bochka. 7 p.m. Hr 110-150

Mara. Tolstoy Restaurant-club. 10 p.m. Hr 200

Miscellaneous

Cooking Master Class on Japanese Cuisine. 36 Kreshchatyk St. 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. Hr 250

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Introversion (art exhibition). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 10 a.m. Free

Arkan. Mikhail Demtsiu (art exhibition). Mystetska Zbirka (13 Tereshchenkovskaya St.). 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Free

Art Map of Ukraine, Slobozhanskiy Express. Modern Art Museum. 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Hr 5-20

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Hr 15-30

Sunday, February 17

Classical music

Anatoliy Palamarenko Tribute. Symphony Orchestra of the National Radio Company of Ukraine. National Ukrainian Revutsky Male Choir. National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 40-80

Movies

Kaleidoscope of Love (360). Zhovten. 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m, 7:30 p.m, 9:30 p.m. Hr 22-100

A Good Day to Die Hard (action). Zhovten. 12:55 p.m, 2:40 p.m, 4:25 p.m, 6:10p.m, 7:55 p.m, 9:40 p.m Hr 22-100

Safe Haven (drama). Oscar. 10 a.m., 12:20 p.m, 2.40 p.m, 5 p.m, 7:20 p.m., Hr 25

Le paradis des betes (drama). Kyiv. 5:10 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 30-40

Live music

Partizanskiye Vytivky (Russian rock). Docker Pub. 9:30 p.m. Free

Beefeaters. Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Free

Murenko, Bolatov and Agabeili (jazz). Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Hr 50

Smeyushchysia Tigr. Divan. 8 p.m. Free

Clubs

Electro Lovers. Saxon. 11 p.m. Hr 15-30

Russian Party. Ajour. 9 p.m. Free for females, Hr 100 for males

R'n'B Boom. Forsage. 11 p.m. Hr

10-30

Theaters

A Profitable Position (based on Nikolay Ostrovsky novel). Lesya Ukrainka Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 15-120

Spectators are Not Allowed on Performance! (comedy). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 70-120

Until Mother Did Not Come (comedy). Molody Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 50-90

Spanish Follies (comedy). Zhovtnevy Palats. 7 p.m. Hr 200-3,600

Shows

Crazy Horse. Operetta Theater. 3 p.m, 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m. Hr 400-1,500

Dances of the World 2013 (international dance festival). Artist's House. 5 p.m. Hr 100-250

Kazhe Oboyma. Crystal Hall. 7 p.m. Hr 150-250

Chorny Obelisk. Bochka. 7 p.m. Hr 120-200

Miscellaneous

Cooking Master Class on Japanese Cuisine. 36 Kreshchatyk St. 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. Hr 250

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Introversion (art exhibition). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 10 a.m. Free

Arkan. Mikhail Demtsiu (art exhibition). Mystetska Zbirka (13 Tereshchenkovskaya St.). 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Free

Art Map of Ukraine, Slobozhanskiy Express. Modern Art Museum. 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Hr 5-20

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 12:01 p.m. - 5 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Hr 15-30

Monday, February 18

Classical music

Italian Souvenir. Works of Vivaldi, Rossini, Donizetti, Marcello (piano, organ, flute). House of Organ Music. 7:30 p.m. Hr 20-80

Dynasty. International Festival. Works of Scarlatti, Beethoven, Rachmaninov, Schubert, Schuman (piano). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 45-90

Movies

Kaleidoscope of Love (360). Zhovten. 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m, 7:30 p.m, 9:30 p.m. Hr 22-100

A Good Day to Die Hard (action). Zhovten. 12:55 p.m, 2:40 p.m, 4:25 p.m, 6:10p.m, 7:55 p.m, 9:40 p.m Hr 22-100

Safe Haven (drama). Oscar. 10 a.m., 12:20 p.m, 2.40 p.m, 5 p.m, 7:20 p.m., Hr 25

Le paradis des betes (drama). Kyiv. 5:10 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 30-40

Live music

Karnavalnaya Zhara. Docker Pub. 9:30 p.m. Free

Chill Out (disco rock). Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Free

Back to the Future (jazz). Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Free

Divan (jazz). Divan. 8 p.m. Free

Theaters

The Follies of Love (farce). Lesya Ukrainka Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 20-200

The Catcher in the Ray (based on J. D. Salinger novel). Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 100-160

Spanish Follies (comedy). Zhovtnevy Palats. 7 p.m. Hr 200-3,600

Miscellaneous

Introversion (art exhibition). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 10 a.m. Free

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Hr 15-30

Tuesday, February 19

Classical music

Works of Campra, Rameau, Franck (flute, organ, violin). House of Organ Music. 7:30 p.m. Hr 20-80

Fantasy, You Are The Magic Force. Works of Beethoven, Schubert, Schuman, Liszt, Schonberg (piano, violin). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 40-80

Movies

Kaleidoscope of Love (360). Zhovten. 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m, 7:30 p.m, 9:30 p.m. Hr 22-100

A Good Day to Die Hard (action). Zhovten. 12:55 p.m, 2:40 p.m, 4:25 p.m, 6:10p.m, 7:55 p.m, 9:40 p.m Hr 22-100

Safe Haven (drama). Oscar. 10 a.m., 12:20 p.m, 2.40 p.m, 5 p.m, 7:20 p.m., Hr 25

Le paradis des betes (drama). Kyiv. 5:10 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 30-40

Live music

Tres Deseos (latino party). Docker Pub. 9:30 p.m. Free

More Huana (best world hits). Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 20

Drimba Da Dzyga (folk rock). Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Free

Guitar House Jam Session. Divan. 8 p.m. Free

Theaters

In Captivity of Passions (based on 'Stone Lord' drama by Lesya Ukrainka). Lesya Ukrainka Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 35-80

Four Reasons to Get Married (comedy). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 70-120

Dreams of Vasilisa Yegorovna (performance by Les' Poderev'yans'ky). Kinopanorama. 7 p.m. Hr 150-300

Weird Jourdain (based on 'The Middle-Class Aristocrat' comedy by Molière). Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 70

Shows

Lolita. Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 200-1,550

Miscellaneous

Introversion (art exhibition). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 10 a.m. Free

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Hr 15-30

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Hr 15-30

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Hr 15-30

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Hr 15-30

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instytutska St.) 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Hr 15-30

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Wednesday, February 20

Classical music

Lyatoshynsky Classical Music Ensemble Playing Handel, Saint-Saëns (organ). House of Organ Music. 7:30 p.m. Hr 30-90

Movies

Kaleidoscope of Love (360). Zhovten. 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m, 7:30 p.m, 9:30 p.m. Hr 22-100

Heels over head, hand-made dolls exhibition

This exhibition will be sure to trigger childhood memories. A wonderful collection of hand-made dolls made by leading Ukrainian puppet-makers will be displayed in Kyiv's Parsuna gallery between Feb.22 and Mar.10.

Also featured will be oil paintings by young Ukrainian artist Kateryna Dudnyk, with some of the showpieces to be available for sale.

Heels over head exhibition. Feb.21-March 10. Parsuna (48 Khoryva St.). Free



Courtesy

Feb.22-Mar.10

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instyutyska St.) 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hr 15-30

Thursday, February 21

Classical music

Works of Carulli, Franck, Barrios, Tarrega, Giuliani (organ). House of Organ Music. 7:30 p.m. Hr 20-80

Opera Music Night. Arias, duets and quartets from operas by Mozart, Puccini, Bizet, Orff, Stravinsky, Bernstein (piano). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 45-90

Live music

Crazy Train. Docker Pub. 9:30 p.m. Free

Mama Mia (Italian disco). Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 30

Nirvana Cover Party. Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Hr 50

Kurt Cobain's Birthday Celebration. Divan. 8 p.m. Hr 50

Theaters

One Hundred and Fifth Page About Love (drama). Lesya Ukrainka Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 15-120

Opiskin, Foma (premiere). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 70-120

In the Burning Darkness (premiere). Molody Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 50

The Bastards (drama). Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 50-120

Shows

Kvartal 95. March 8th In a Big City. Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 80-2,000

Miscellaneous

Introversion (art exhibition). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 10 a.m. Free

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instyutyska St.) 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hr 15-30

Friday, February 22

Classical music

Subscription No.6. Violin Music. Symphony Orchestra of the National Philharmonic of Ukraine Playing Khachaturyan, Prokofiev. National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 45-110

Live music

Ot Vinta & Red Rocks (rock hits). Docker Pub. 10 p.m. Hr 75

Mad Heads XL & Rock Four (best world hits). Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 75

Led Zeppelin Cover Party. Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Hr 50

Astarta (folk). Divan. 8 p.m. Free

Theaters

Yeppe the Mountaineer (premiere). Lesya Ukrainka Theater. 8 p.m. Hr 50

Playing Chonkin (comedy). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 50-80

Welcome to Ukraine (premiere). Operetta Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 80-120

Shows

Diskoteka Avariya. Crystal Hall. 9 p.m. Hr 280-1,000

Vladimir Asmolov. Kinopanorama. 7 p.m. Hr 120-350

Astropilot (audiovisual concert). Atmosfera 360. 8 p.m. Hr 80

Sunsay. Tolstoy Restaurant-club. 10 a.m. Hr 200

Miscellaneous

Introversion (art exhibition). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 10 a.m. Free

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instyutyska St.) 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 15-30

Saturday, February 23

Classical music

Works of Liszt, Schubert, Dvorak, Brahms, Bizet, Grieg (organ). House of Organ Music. 7:30 p.m. Hr 50-200

Subscription No.8. Magic Guitar. Works of Bach, Assad, Ivanowic, Moraytis, Rack, Piazzolla, Diens. National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 45-110

Live music

Mad Heads XL & Whistlin' Dixie (country rock). Docker Pub. 10 p.m. Hr 100

Ot Vinta & Crazy Train. Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 75

Wake Up! (disco). Art Club 44. 10 p.m. Free

Theaters

Hymn of the Democratic Youth (premiere). Ivan Franko Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 15-150

The Cherry Orchard (drama, based on Anton Chekhov play). Lesya Ukrainka Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 15-120

The Queue (comedy). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 50-80

Confession of a Nun (Women Theater). Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 60-80

Shows

Oleksandr Rozenbaum. Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 250-2,500

Katya Sambuka. Stereo Plaza. 11:59 p.m. Hr 150-250

Noggano. Stereo Plaza. 8 p.m. Hr 250-1,000

Petr Nalich. NAU Center of Culture and Arts. 7 p.m. Hr 180-450

Therapy Sessions. X Years of Filth. Cinema Club. 10 p.m. Hr 140

VIA Zhyguli. Tolstoy Restaurant-club. 10 p.m. Hr 150

Miscellaneous

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instyutyska St.) 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 15-30

Sunday, February 24

Classical music

Masterpieces of Classical Music. Works of Bach, Skoryk (piano, flute). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 40-80

Live music

Animals Session (classic rock). Docker Pub. 9:30 p.m. Free

Partizanske Vytivky (Russian rock). Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Free

Give Me the Light. Divan. 8 p.m. Free

Theaters

Frederick Boulevard or Crime (premiere). Ivan Franko Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 15-120

Parable of the Prodigal Father (comedy). Drama & Comedy Theater on the left bank of Dnipro. 7 p.m. Hr 50-80

Eggnog of Two Eggs (comedy). Molody Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 50-90

Waiting for Godo (Les Kurbas theater). Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 100-200

Shows

Timur Shaov. National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music. 7 p.m. Hr 120-400

Vaya Con Dios. Palats Ukraina. 7 p.m. Hr 200-1,300

Misha Mavashi. Bochka. 7 p.m. Hr 110-190

Roma VPR. Underground Music Hall. 8 p.m. Hr 80-100

CosmoJazz. Atmosfera 360. 8 p.m. Hr 80-100

Miscellaneous

Ukrainian Formula. Landscape Line. Ivan Honchar Museum. 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 15

Martin Stranka (photography exhibition). Brucie Collections (55b Artema St.). 12:01 p.m. - 5 p.m. Free

World Press Photo 2012. Kyiv City Historical Museum (3 Instyutyska St.) 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 15-30



Courtesy

Feb.16-17

Cossack Love photo shoot

An offbeat photo shoot will take place in Mamayeva Sloboda, an open air museum just outside Kyiv.

The couples who will step forward to participate will be offered to put on traditional Ukrainian costumes and photographed by a professional photographer inside one of the museum's buildings resembling traditional Cossack houses.

The best photos will be posted on the museum's Facebook page on Feb.18. The couple whose photo scores the biggest number of "likes" in 10 days will be awarded with a certificate for a dinner in a museum's restaurant.

For more information go to http://mamajeva-sloboda.ua/news.php?id=609

Cossack love photo shoot. Feb.16-17. Mamayeva Sloboda (2 Mykhaila Dontsia St.). 12 a.m. - 3 p.m. Hr 100

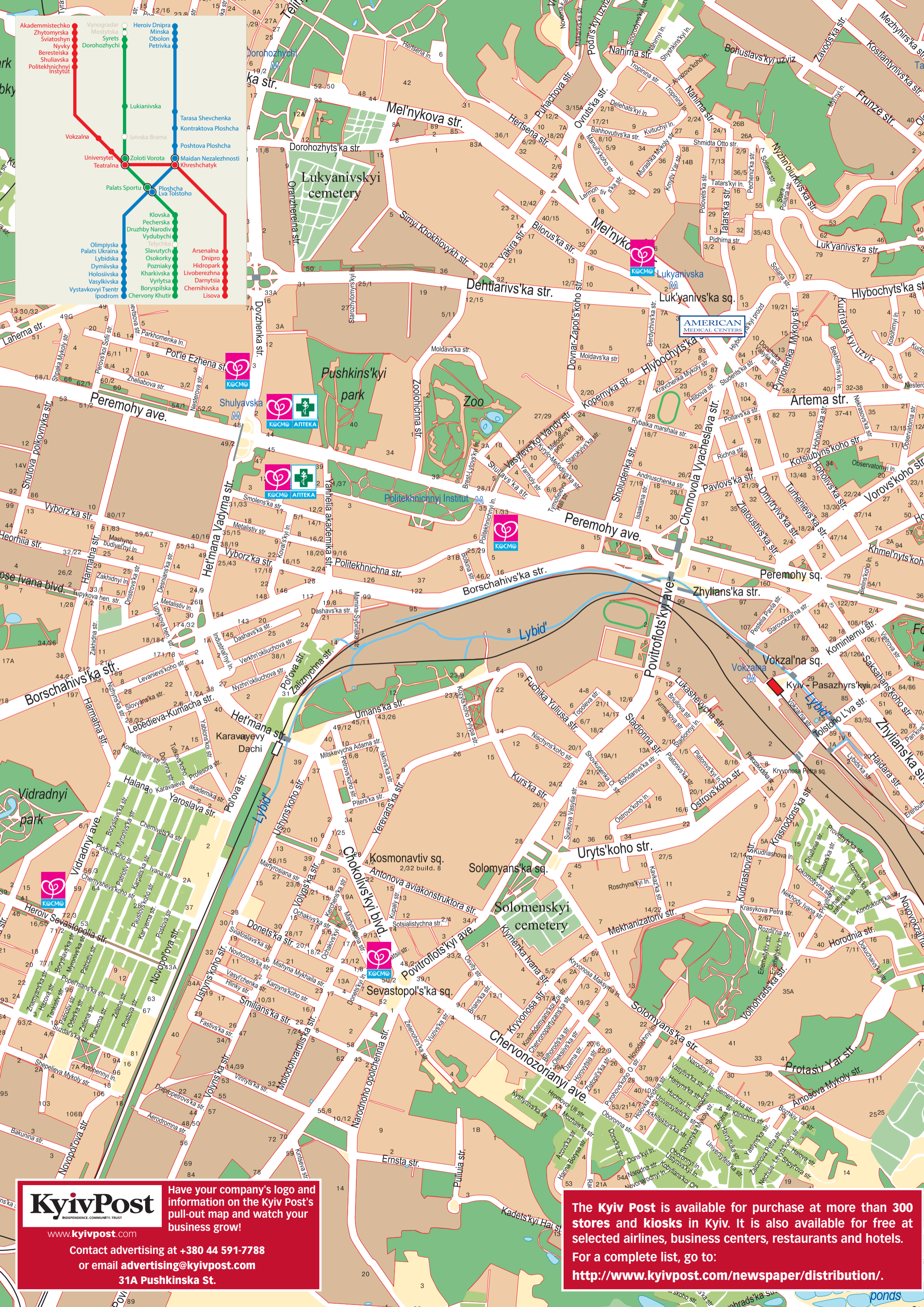
Addresses of venues

- Classical Music
National Philharmonic of Ukraine
2 Volodymyr Uzviz St., 278-1697
filarmonia.com.ua/en
House of Organ Music
77 Velyka Vasylykivska St., 528-3186
organhall.kiev.ua
School of Jazz and Pop Art
7-A Chelyabinsk St., 517-6188
National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music
1-3/11 Horodetsky St., 279-1242
operna-nmau.kiev.ua
Movies
Zhovten
26 Kostyantynivska St., 205-5951
zhovten-kinokiev.ua
Kinopanorama
19 Shota Rustaveli St., 287-3041
kinopanorama.com.ua
Budynok Kino
6 Saksaganskoho St., 287-6780
Ukraine
5 Gorodetsky St., 2796-570, 279 8232
kino-ukraina.com.ua
Outdoor cinema
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http://kinokombo.blogspot.com/
Oscar Dream Town
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oskar.kiev.ua
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Live Music
Docker Pub
25 Bohatyrsk St., metro Heroyiv Dnipro, 537-1340
docker.com.ua
Docker's ABC
15 Khreshchatyk St., 278-1717, abc.docker.com.ua
Art Club 44
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club44.com.ua
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1G Saksahanskoho St. 205-4451
se7en.com.ua
Party Room
5/3 Velyka Vasylykivska St. (former Chervonoarmiyaska), 234-7381
kievkinokom.com.ua
Kinopanorama
19 Shota Rustaveli St., 287-3041
kinopanorama.com.ua
Budynok Kino
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docker.com.ua

- forsageclub.com.ua
Prime Club
8 Nauky Av., 524-2209
primeclub.in.ua
Crystal Hall
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crystalhall.com.ua
Arena Entertainment
2A, Basseynaya St. 492-0000
arena-kiev.com/eng
Mantra
4 Basseynaya St., 504-2555
mantra.dj
Egoist
124/140 Gorlovskaya St., 223-3633
egoist-club.com.ua
Fiesta
115D Horkogo St., 353-7685
fiesta.im
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goldengatepubkiev.com
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docker.com.ua

- 50 Volodymyrskaya St., 279-1169
opera.com.ua
House of Actors
7 Yaroslaviv Val St., 235-2081
actorhall.com.ua
Molody Theater
17 prizrna St., 234-6251
molody.kiev.ua
Kyiv National Academic Theater of Operetta
53/3 Chervonoarmiyaska St., 287-6257
kiev-operetta.kiev.ua
New Theater on Pechersk
28B Moskovskiy Ave. 221-8981
Sharpei
26 Moskovskiy Ave. 390-1712
sharpei.ua
Disco Radio Hall
32 Moskovskiy Av. 428-7388
Manilov
13A Porika Av. 067-230-0272
Krasnaya Shapochka
37/41 Artyoma St. 096-027-1111
red-cap.kiev.ua
Theaters
Ivan Franko Ukrainian Drama Theater
3 Ivana Franka Sqr., 279-5921
ft.org.ua
Lesya Ukrainka Russian Drama Theater
5 Bohdana Khmelnytskogo St., 234-4223
rusdram.com.ua
Koleso Theater
8 Andriyivskiy uzviz St. 425-0422
kolesoteatr.kiev.ua
Drama & Comedy Theatre on the left bank of Dnipro
25 Brovarsky Avenue, 517-8980
drama-comedy.kiev.ua
Kiev Academic Drama Theater in Podil
4 Kontraktova Pl., 425-5489
Theateronpodol.com
National Opera Theater of Ukraine
15 Brovarskiy Avenue 538-0827
ieo-expo.com.ua
Lavra Gallery
17 Ivana Mazeply St. 280-0290
Underground Music Hall
13B Moskovskiy Avenue 360-9594
underground.co.ua
Zhovtnevy Palats
1, Instyutyska St. 279-1582
icca.kiev.ua
NAU Center of Culture and Arts
1 Kosmonavta Komarova Ave., 406-6835
ckm.nau.edu.ua
ExpoCenter of Ukraine
1 Glushkov Ave. 596-9116, 596-9101, expocenter.com.ua
House of Officers
30/1 Mykhaila Hrushevs'koho St., 253-8072
Bingo
112 Peremogy Ave. 424-2555
bingo.ua
Tolstoy Restaurant-club
19 Chervonoarmiyaska St. 200-3838
Miscellaneous
Kyiv Expo Plaza
2b Salutna St. 461-9585
expoplaza.kiev.ua
Master Klass cultural center
16 Lavrska St., 594-1063
masterklass.org
Pyrohovo Folk Open-Air Museum
Pyrohovo village, Kyiv region
526-5765
nmapu.org.ua
Mamayeva Sloboda
2 Myhayla Dontsya St. 361-9848
mamajeva-sloboda.ua
Ostrich farm
32 Pidilna street, Yasnohorodka village, Kyiv region
(04578) 232-40, ostrich.com.ua

- National Writers Unity of Ukraine
2 Bankova St., 253-4586
nspu.org.ua
Chulan
21 Pushkinska St. facebook.com/4ulan
Triptych Gallery
34 Andriyivsky Spusk
triptych-gallery.org 279-8385
Gryshko national botanic garden
1 Tymeryazevska St. 285-4105
nbg.kiev.ua
Kyiv National Museum of Russian art
9 Tereshchenkivska St. 234-6218
kmmr.com.ua
Wunjo-Art gallery
10a Stalingrada St. 228-6620
wunjo-art.com
Pinchuk Art Center
1/2 Bassejan St. 590-0858
pinchukartcenter.org
Greter art-center
6 Vadyma Getmana St. 200-0760
greter-art.com
Atmosfera 360
57/3, Velyka Vasylykivska St. 229-0193
atmosfera.com.ua
Soviart
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soviart.com.ua
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honchar.org.ua
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12 Shevchenko Blvd. 224-2556, 224-2553
www.shevchenkomuseum.com.ua
AVS-ART gallery
10b Vozdvizhenska St. 425-9090
avsart.com.ua
Kyivan Fortress
24 Gospitalna St. 235-0146
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40-B, Peremogy Ave. 456-3804
acco.ua
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museumkiev.org
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17 Tereshchenkivska St. (044)235-3290
http://www.khanenkomuseum.kiev.ua
Ya Greter Art-center
6 Vadyma Getmana St. 200-0760
greter-art.com
Alta-expo
95 G Vidradnyi Ave. 361-6699
www.alta-expo.com
Chasopys
3 Lva Tolstogo St. 094 928-7710
http://www.facebook.com/ProstirChasopys
Parsuna's Gallery
48 Khoryva St. www.parsuna.com.ua 428-8264, 097 494-0865



Legend:

- Red:** Akademmistechko, Zhytomyrska, Sviatoshyh, Beresteiska, Shuliavska, Politekhnychnyi Instytut
- Green:** Vynogradar, Mostytska, Syrets, Dorohozhychi, Lukyanivska, Livivska Brama
- Blue:** Herioiv Dnipro, Minska, Obolon, Petrivka, Tarasa Shevchenka, Kontraktova Ploshcha, Poshtova Ploshcha, Maidan Nezalezhnosti, Khreshchatyk
- Orange:** Palats Sportu, Ploshcha Lva Tolstoho, Klovska, Pecherska, Druzhby Narodiv, Vydubychi, Telychka, Slavutych, Osokorky, Pozniaky, Kharkivska, Vyrlytsa, Boryspilska, Chervonyi Khutir
- Yellow:** Olimpiyska, Palats Ukraina, Lybidska, Dymivska, Holosiivska, Vasylikivska, Vystavkovyi Tsentr, Ipdrom
- Pink:** Arsenalna, Dnipro, Hidropark, Livoberezhna, Darnytsia, Chernivska, Lisova

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Dozens of activists rally outside the Presidential Administration on Feb. 14 in Kyiv in support of Sumy graffiti artists. They hold a placard that reads: "A drawing is not a crime." (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

Ukrainian officials don't take kindly to criticism

BY OKSANA GRYTSENKO
GRYTSENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

Back in the summer of 2011, Volodymyr Nykonenko and his friend Igor Gannenko thought it would be funny to spray a red dot on the image of a man's forehead painted on a wall in the northern city of Sumy. They aren't laughing now.

On Jan. 14, a court sentenced Gannenko to one year and eight months in prison and Nykonenko to one year in a labor camp.

The friends say the harsh punishment is due to the image's strong resemblance to President Viktor Yanukovich's face.

"I couldn't believe we received such a verdict," Nykonenko told the Kyiv Post. "Now I can't call our country anything else than a police state."

Nykonenko, 24, claimed he had no desire to intimidate or offend anybody, and neither Sumy's residents nor authorities complained about the graffiti. But the court saw things differently, claiming the two young men committed hooliganism and offended the city's residents.

"Actions by Gannenko and Nykonenko were marked by extraordinary cynicism, which was expressed in putting up indecent images on buildings and construction works of Sumy," the court's ruling said.

Yevgen Zakharov, head of the Kharkiv Human Rights Group, said no crime was committed. "There was no hooliganism. The most they could be charged with is an administrative violation and no more," he said, stressing that in any democratic state, offending the country's leader would not elicit such a response.

However, Olena Bondarenko, a lawmaker of the pro-presidential Party of Regions, believes the graffiti represented a challenge to the institution of the presidency, presenting society with a very harmful message.

"On purpose or not, they led society to the idea that our president could be killed, that an attempt to assassinate him could be made," Bondarenko said. "This is not as innocent as many, who defend these guys, believe."

But Zakharov said that Yanukovich was never mentioned during the court hearings. "The police detective, prosecutor and judge were scared to talk about him, though all understood that the drawn person resembled the president," he said.

While the court made no mention of political motives, many Ukrainians saw things differently and voiced their support for the Sumy graffiti artists. About 100 people picketed the Sumy court on Jan. 19, claiming the two young men were sentenced illegally. On Jan. 21, a rally in support of the two friends

was held in Kyiv, where they were hailed victims of political persecution on par with jailed ex-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and former Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko. Another rally took place in Kyiv on Feb. 14, which riot police dispersed.

Soon graffiti images that resembled Yanukovich started appearing in many Ukrainian cities, including Kyiv, Lviv, Mykolayiv and Kryvyi Rih.

Nykonenko said he was pleased to see such support as "nobody should be persecuted for his beliefs." But he fears that despite all the protests, the appeals court, whose hearing is scheduled for late February, will not lighten the sentence.

Zakharov believes Nykonenko has chances to seek justice in the European Court of Human Rights if Ukrainian courts leave his verdict unchanged.

Some point to the case as the latest event in a worrying trend. Indeed, the European court is currently examining a similar complaint from Galyna Shvydka, a Kyiv pensioner, who cut the name of Yanukovich out from a wreath laid to the monument of Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko on Sept. 24 in 2011. The woman, who claims it was her way of protesting against the president's policies, was sentenced to 10 days behind bars for "petty hooliganism." Yanukovich later said this punishment was just.

An earlier attempt to protect the president's dignity took place in January 2012, when the police opened four criminal cases for disfiguring billboards featuring Yanukovich's face. The damaged billboards were found in the capital and the Volyn, Zaporizhzhia, Rivne and Lviv oblasts. Among those arrested was a 73-year-old man, who said this was his way of expressing discontent about Yanukovich, whom he did not consider a legitimate ruler.

The run-up to last year's October parliamentary elections had a similar episode, when a photo depicting a cat with an elderly woman who says: "I found out my grandson voted for the Party of Regions, so I rewrote (my will) to bequeath my house to the cat," gained nationwide popularity.

Its author, Maksym Holosnyi, a local village mayor, was sentenced in March 2012 for taking part in a 2005

fight. The defendant kept repeating the charges against him were political, and on Feb. 1, the High Administrative Court acquitted him.

Oleg Pokalchuk, a social psychologist, says that the nation is a witness of a return of sorts to Soviet times,

when any action against the authorities immediately gains popularity. "The stronger an action is, the stronger the reaction," he said.

Kyiv Post staff writer Oksana Grytsenko can be reached at grytsenko@kyivpost.com



Riot police disperse protesters after one of the activists pulled out a drawing of President Viktor Yanukovich – minus the red dot on his forehead – which got the graffiti artists convicted and sentenced to jail. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

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Feldman: First they came for Mila Kunis

→1 the less educated sectors of our society, remains ingrained in the minds of all too many. Svoboda has rallied behind this recognition and exploited mistrust of Jews to gain popularity among some in the lower class who painfully welcomed the chance to be a part of campaigns of hate.

I am wholly aware of the fact that if Svoboda's growing popularity goes unnoticed outside of my country's borders, we may quickly reach a point of no return. At that time, the idea of the party enjoying broad legislative powers to limit freedoms of expression amongst those who think unlike them would serve to reduce or prevent completely any immigration from nations they view as un-Ukrainian. All this could happen despite the decisive steps of the current government in Kyiv to staunchly oppose inroads made by Svoboda. One would have to be utterly ignorant of the history of this region to be unaware that campaigns born ostensibly in the guise of populism and democracy can quickly decline into mass chaos, violence and yes, even genocide.

Thankfully, we are not anywhere near that point and I don't intend to call for panic. I am in fact confident that the international institutions in place in the 21st century are strong enough to notice the rise of this devil at an early stage. Once not long ago in history, the international community looked on in silence as Hitler and the Nazis deluded the world into thinking that their Jew-hatred was not worthy or "dangerous enough" to warrant global condemnation.

When the world finally did take notice, it was too late.

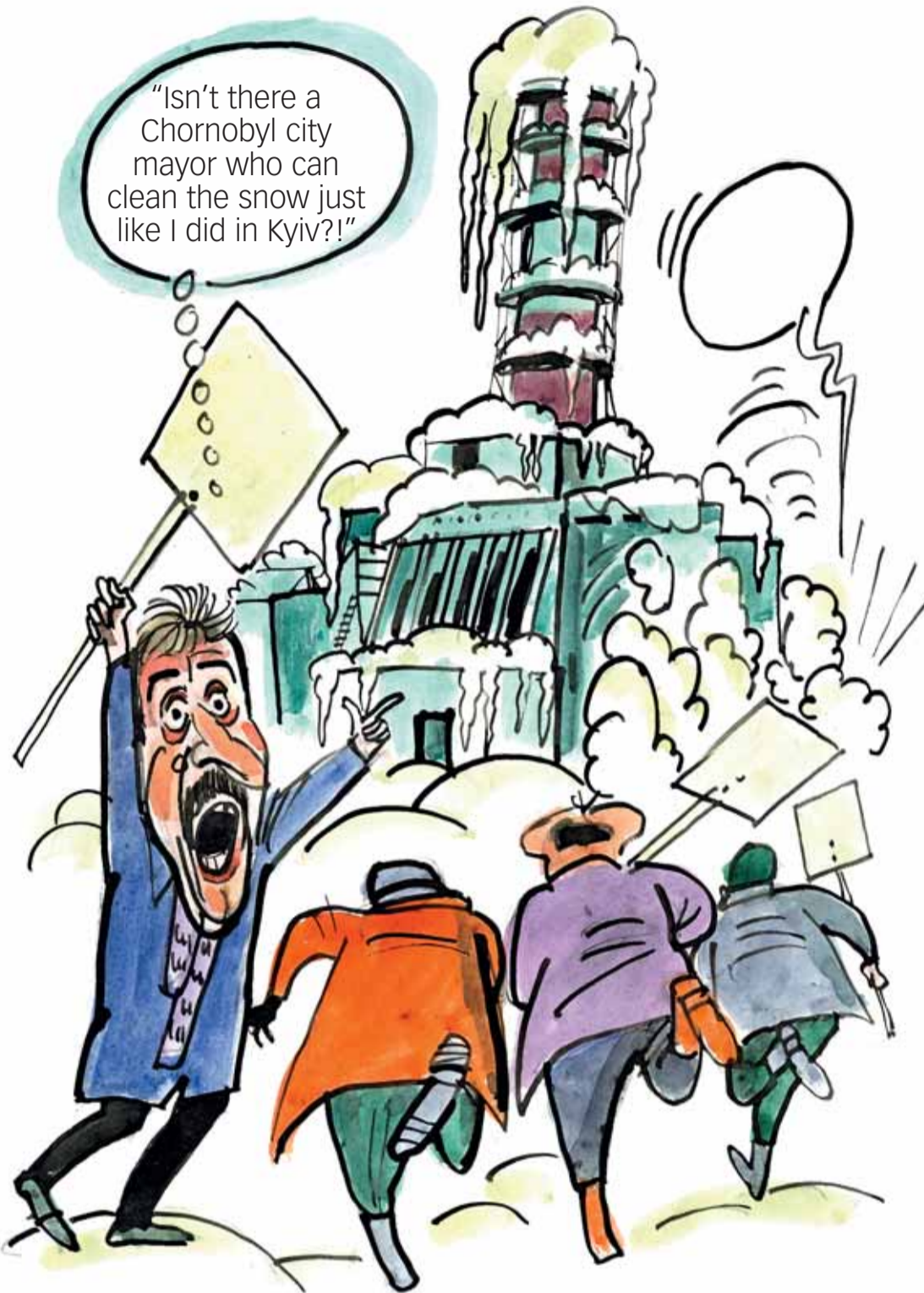
That is the lesson that I feel strongly IS worthy of taking notice. Anti-Semitism and xenophobia are the most insidiously contagious social diseases humanity has ever experienced. Civilized societies become infected with these sicknesses before they even pause and assess the damages that the illness is sure to impose.

This is an issue that cries out for the sincere attention of the international community, and most notably the leadership of the American Jewish community and the government of the United States of America. Ukraine and the USA have developed a strong alliance defined by economic partnerships and a specific diplomatic vision that there is much that unites us in how to work together to address threats and cultivate opportunities. Should Svoboda continue to expand, let no one deny this will harm regional and international agreements and impose instability on our mutual markets.

If history has taught us anything it is that hatred never ends with speech but will soon escalate to far more violent expressions. Nor can hatred be contained to any national borders, particularly in today's world of social media and instant communication.

I appeal to all peaceful and caring leaders around the world to notice this phenomenon and join me in opposing everything that Svoboda represents. Because we all know that the stakes are far too high for the world to be able to say, "We did not know and therefore we did not act."

Oleksandr Feldman is a member of the parliament of Ukraine and President of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee. This article was originally published by the Gatestone Institute.



NEWS ITEM: Uncleared snow in Ukraine can make the world nervous, especially if it leads to the collapse of a roof at the closed Chornobyl nuclear plant, the sight of the catastrophic explosion in 1986. Authorities blamed a Feb. 12 roof and partial wall collapse at the ill-fated fourth unit on heavy snowfall. While emergencies services said radiation levels did not increase after the accident, 80 workers were evacuated from the site. Construction of a new shelter to cover Chornobyl's fourth unit is scheduled for completion in 2015. A 30-kilometer exclusion zone remains around the plant.

Letter to the editor

Sri Lanka no paradise

Dear Editor,

As a Sri Lankan expatriate now living in Toronto, Canada, I was truly disappointed and dismayed at the travel piece about Sri Lanka ("Exploring Sri Lanka, island of serendipity," Kyiv Post; Feb. 1).

[This coverage ignores] the ongoing military oppression and racial discrimination to other communities of Sri Lanka and sporadic outbursts of politically motivated violence and religious intolerance reported on a daily basis. In fact, Sri Lanka is a country which is experiencing an authoritarian rule with ... abductions, torture, arbitrary killings...

Coincidentally, you have chosen Tangalle as a typical city with streets full of people where, about one year ago, a Red Cross worker and British tourist Khuram Shaikh was stabbed to death and his Russian girlfriend Alexandra was sexually assaulted and left badly injured by eight men. One of the accused includes a prominent local politician with ties to the ruling family of Sri Lanka...All the eight suspects were later granted bail.

Recently, the Sri Lankan newspaper The Island reported [that] several tourists... complained of sexual harassment in Sri Lanka and physical sexual harassment in the country.

It is interesting that most of the recent travel stories about Sri Lanka are either full of shockingly inaccurate information or completely ignore the dire situation in the north and east provinces where a portion of population is still under the military stranglehold ... this pattern of destruction and genocidal attempts are nothing new to Ukraine or many of your readers.

I respectfully urge all the travel writers and Kyiv Post to raise awareness of not just the beaches and billboards [and] look beyond the glossy marketing brochures provided by the travel agents.

*Sandy Vadi
Toronto, Ontario*

Lykholat: Abroad, treated like a dog, by my people

→5 When in the embassy, I asked how much time this process can take. They answered that, for Kyiv, it takes the longest – a minimum of three and a maximum of 12 months or more. But I also was told that if I send one of my friends to the passport office in Kyiv to intervene, I will get a confirmation in a few days. So when one of my friends in Kyiv went to the passport office, he was told that nobody's going to check anything as everybody is busy now with current visa openings for tourists.

OK, so I decided to ask my other friend who had connections inside. I was told that processing my request will cost money. I was ready to pay, just to confirm that I am !!! They told me to wait, but still nobody could find the mysterious request from the Ukrainian Embassy in Rome, although I gave them the email and fax number from where my request originated.

Nothing was found and money was useless in this case.

My student visa was expiring last summer. I miraculously found a person who understood my situation and helped me to apply for a working

permit to stay. I was told that I would get it in spring. But nobody would give me the little plastic card called "permit to stay" without an official document, like a driver's license or passport. And eventually it's a closed circle again.

So today, I've been locked up in Italy for more than year. I cannot move anywhere and I live like a criminal because my government cannot do for me the most elementary thing – to confirm that I am who I am.

I cannot open a bank account. I can't go to the hospital. I can't move around the European Union.

The scariest thing is that when my "permit to stay" is ready, I really don't know how I am going to get it in my

hands with just a student ticket and a copy of my passport.

Somebody, please help me.

Alina Lykholat, a former Kyiv Post intern, is stuck in Rome, Italy and struggling to have a normal and legal life abroad. She can be reached at liholatka@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: The Kyiv Post called the Department of State Migration Service of Ukraine in Kyiv Oblast where Alina Lykholat said the Ukrainian Embassy in Rome sent her request for a new passport. Officials told the newspaper that they receive about 1,500 requests a month and needed to know the number of this request, the address in Ukraine where Alina was registered when her foreign passport was issued and the name of the agency that issued foreign passport to her. We will update readers on her situation as we learn more.



Alina Lykholat has a copy of her old passport cover page, but no passport. She says she's been trying to get a new one for more than a year from the Ukrainian government.



Looking for the next Klitschko

City Life

WITH ELENA PASHKOVSKAYA
PASHKOVSKAYA@KYIVPOST.COM

Where to support your team

Football is not just a game. It's a bond that brings people from different countries and walks of life together. But that special relationship is shared with other fans of your team, not necessarily those of their opponents.

Supporting a local team isn't a problem, as stadiums around Ukraine have designated fan seating. But it's much harder for supporters of foreign clubs.

Nonetheless, Kyiv has a number of pubs that cater to a particular foreign football club fan base. And if you never gave your heart up to that special team, you might just be swayed by the special atmosphere and camaraderie – but, as always, remember to observe the local fan customs.

First of all, true fans support their team and the players through the good and bad times. And on match day, they wear their team jerseys and colorful scarves to symbolize their loyal support.

And of course they know the names of all the players, their strengths and weaknesses, and sometimes, even their superstitions. This acquired knowledge only comes with dedicated time and learning, so don't sweat it. What should be picked up on more quickly, however, is who the team's rivals are.

Too add to the excitement of watching your team play, a dozen songs and chants will be heard.

Such chants typically take a well-known melody and add original lyrics to them. They can be general, about the team, or about a particular player. Other chants describe moments of glory and times of defeat.

Singing them is a great way to diffuse the tension, and welcome interludes to moments of screaming, jumping and blaming the referee.

In Kyiv the four best organized fan groups cheer for Italy's A.C. Milan, Spain's Barcelona, and England's Manchester United and Liverpool.



Oleksandr Usyk of Ukraine Otamans (R) attacks Uaine Fa of British Lionhearts during a heavyweight bout in the World Series of Boxing in Kyiv on Jan. 11 (Ukraine Otamans boxing team)

BY DENIS RAFALSKY
RAFALSKY@KYIVPOST.COM

Vitali Klitschko's rising political career may or may not be good for Ukraine, but it definitely will be bad for sports.

Dr. Ironfist, as the 41-year-old world heavyweight boxing champion is known, has yet to announce his retirement from the ring after 45 wins and two losses. He is one of the most beloved star athletes to ever grace the Ukrainian sporting scene, and his

departure would leave his brother Vladimir alone at the top.

But fear not boxing fans. A new generation of Ukrainian boxers, some of whom shone during last year's Olympic Games and world championships, is rising fast.

Vasyl Lomachenko, a native of Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyi, a small town in Odesa Oblast, is only 24. But the southpaw is considered one of the world's best amateur fighters. The lightweight talent already has two Olympic gold

medals and two world titles to his name.

"I don't feel like a superstar," Lomachenko told the Kyiv Post. "I objectively demonstrate the fighting that I like and I am good at."

His energetic manner is a crowd pleaser and has attracted the attention of promoters.

"He is very strong physically. He runs 50-kilometer cross-country races, swims for four hours in the swimming pool. Competitors can't tire him out," Oleksandr Kryzhanovsky, president of

Odesa Oblast Boxing Federation, said. "Lomachenko boxes very economically. No unnecessary motion, only high speed and his fantastic physical condition."

Lomachenko bears a tattoo portrait of his father and longtime coach Anatoly Lomachenko. "He is my idol," Lomachenko Jr. said.

The Lomachenkos have been inundated with offers from promoters since Vasyl's gold medal-winning performance at the 2008 Beijing → 20

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A.C. Milan

Where to go: O'Connor's Irish pub

Cheerleader: Massimiliano Allegri
Official hymn: Milan Milan solo con te

Main competitors: Inter, Juventus

Special features: One of Italy's top clubs, it is owned by Silvio Berlusconi and supported by the fashion industry, including Giorgio Armani. The designers from D&G made a fall/winter collection for Milan players. → 21

First Person

Editor's Note: The Kyiv Post introduces a new feature called First Person. If you have an interesting story to tell, please contact chief editor Brian Bonner or email him at bonner@kyivpost.com.

A true love story unites American and Ukrainian

BY ERIC R. GILLIATT

My father used to tell me: "All that glitters isn't gold." This time-worn axiom occurred to me recently as I was watching a bewildered-looking older man, who appeared to be an American, walking with an attractive young Ukrainian woman into the Teatralna metro station.

I wondered if this fellow countryman might be "blinded" by beauty as well as a bit naive. Perhaps he only saw the "glitter" of the lovely blonde young woman beside him. He most likely didn't "see," nor had little or any idea about, the massive differences in culture, social thinking and mores between Ukrainians and Americans.

He may have thought he was looking at the possibility of finding the most "magical experience" of his life, but he could also be looking at the biggest mistake he could ever make.

So, the obvious question is simple: What is it that attracts foreign men to marry Ukrainian women?

Indeed, let's have a look at the facts, both from the "magic" and the "mistake" points of view, the "gold" and the "glitter."

Here's the "good, the bad, and the ugly" of foreigner marriages to Ukrainian women from my perspective as an American expatriate married to a Ukrainian woman.

The biggest word of caution I would give any foreign man involves marriage to a divorced Ukrainian woman. Foreign suitors should know that male chauvinism means that Ukrainian men still think of their ex-wives as "belonging" to them. Even though many Ukrainian ex-husbands don't financially support their ex-wives or children, they want to control their former spouses' lives. So, be cautious.

There are differences deeply rooted



Eric R. Gilliatt, an American educator and businessman, has lunch with his Ukrainian wife, Tania, on a recent day in Oliva Restaurant. The couple met online and have been together for two years. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

in culture. This is compounded with Soviet oppression, which left people mistreated and disrespected.

Regrettably, overcoming this legacy has led some Ukrainians to engage in ostentatious displays of wealth. The mistake is equating material goods with respect and success. These attitudes carry over to women of all ages who want expensive gifts, not merely flowers and candy. It's natural, but carried to an extreme it can be used as a benchmark of a man's worthiness in

marriage. Many want to marry millionaires so much that there are schools for women on how to attract and marry a foreign millionaire.

Language differences can never be forgotten, even if the woman speaks English well. Lack of communication is the number one reason marriages fail in any country.

Peculiar ideas

Foreign men should be aware that some Ukrainian mothers are obsessive

about their children. Men wanting to integrate into an existing family should not take it casually. My advice for coping: be patient, discard jealousy and realize only love and understanding will help. The best place to start is to hope your future wife will love you as much as she loves her children...or at least treats you equally. A divorced mother has a longer history with her children than she will ever have with a new husband. That is a key fact to take to heart.

It is not unusual to see a Ukrainian woman overdressed for a simple occasion. Western men are often quite mystified by this practice. Young women wear high heels on almost all occasions and in almost all weather. Likewise, in Ukrainian culture, it is not unusual for a woman to display her cleavage, and/or breasts, and skirts are sometimes so short the women must cover themselves with their purse when they sit down. There is a tendency among some Ukrainian women to use too many cosmetics, a surprising habit since so many women in Ukraine are naturally beautiful. My wife happens to be one of them.

Marriage failures

Here is one of the stories I know about the failures:

The man, an American, was a successful business owner from the Los Angeles area. He found a lovely, divorced woman in southern Ukraine who had two teen-aged children. After about a year, they decided to get married. The man, however, spoke no Russian or Ukrainian, and the woman had only intermediate-level English. She is well-educated and was then working as a professor at a local university.

He brought them all to live in southern California. It was a huge cultural shock for both of them. He had troubles adjusting to her children. She had problems adjusting to his long

working hours. In an effort to readjust, he sold his business and they moved to South Carolina. Even though both got good jobs, the cultural and language issues continued. They divorced after about 10 years of marriage.

'Magic' in marriage

Since I am married to a simply beautiful, fantastic and "magical" Ukrainian woman, let me start from my own perspective. I found out about Ukraine's "legendary beauties" from friends of mine in San Diego, California. A few months later, another friend of mine told me he knew about a "dating website" on the Internet where I could communicate with nice Christian women. Today, 14 years later, I have to say I am glad I found that dating website.

My wife, Tania, is indeed "magical" for me and worth all the effort I had to make. We struggle over cultural differences, and still there are language misunderstandings even though she speaks English at an advanced level. We have to work daily on adjusting to each other, but slowly and steadily we are making progress. We've been together for two years now. With Tania, I always think about the saying: "It's not your first love that matters, it's your last!" She is my last.

What does it take?

Finally, I would say that the answer to success in marriage between a foreign man and a Ukrainian woman isn't really too much different than it is in another country. There are obstacles with culture and language. However, because of our human natures, marriage isn't always easy in any circumstance. My parents were married for 65 years. They married at age 18 and theirs was not a perfect marriage. They had many differences of opinion, and despite having the same native language and culture, they still had to find compromises.

However, just as Tania and I have, my father and mother found the keys to marriage success: they had great love and dedication to each other. Dedication is what makes the difference, in being able to find gold, not just see glitter. Tania said personally for her, the biggest challenge has not been language, but opposite cultural ideas and norms. That and the fact men and women think differently, plus the normal joining of any existing family unit with children is difficult from all sides, even when everyone wants the integration to work. And there are the problems of the diabolical ex-spouse wanting to be vindictive. For Tania, it has been really challenging at times.

So I remind any foreign men wanting to find a Ukrainian wife that they should come with more than just love to give in their hearts. They must be prepared to make extra efforts to find the "gold"...the real magic of Ukrainian women. I can tell you, it is there.

Eric Gilliatt is an English language educator and business consultant in Kyiv and a professor of business and tutor for the Edinburgh School of Business. He may be contacted at ericgilliatt@yahoo.com or ericgilliatt@iib.com.ua.



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Where to jog in Kyiv



Babiy Yar



Obolon Embankment



Fomin Botanical Garden



Druzhbi Narodov Park



Gryshko Botanical Garden



Solomenskiy Park



Rusanovska Embankment



Park of Partizan Glory

BY OLGA RUDENKO
RUDENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

Park of Partizan Glory

Metro Borispolskaya

Also known as Road of Health, this park on the left bank of the Dnipro River is extremely popular among runners, including professionals. Parks are considered best for running, since they have unpaved paths.

Obolon Embankment

Metro Obolon

Although it is loved by many joggers for its nice view and good location, it is not the best jogging choice. It is paved, which makes it undesirable for beginners who can't control the way they step yet and risk pain. For experienced runners, Obolon embankment is an acceptable option.

Babiy Yar

Metro Dorogozhychi

Although the park is best known as the place of one of the World War II tragedies, its grim background doesn't prevent it from being as normal of a park as all others. With a nice location and paths both paved and unpaved, it's a nice play for everyday jogging. But avoid nighttime jogs. The park is not lighted well.

Botanical Gardens

Metro Universitet and metro Pecherskaya

Out of two Kyiv's botanical gardens, professional runners recommend the one near Pecherskaya metro station. It is, they say, less crowd-

ed than its counterpart at Universitet. Also, Pechersk's garden is hilly, which is just a challenge advanced runners are looking for.

Rusanovska Embankment

Metro Livoberezhna

This embankment at the city's left bank is less crowded than the one at Obolon, and is another nice option for those

who get their running inspiration from being close to water.

Solomenskiy Park

Metro Solomenska Street

This resort spot is both close to the city center and not as crowded as central parks. Both facts make it an attractive jogging destination.

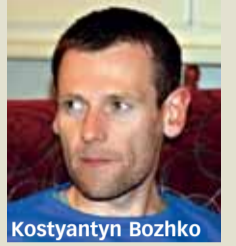
Druzhbi Narodov Park

Moskovskiy Avenue

Located on Trukhaniv Island between Obolon and Troyeschina, Druzhbi Narodiv park has no metro access, but is still loved by professional and amateur runners. It is one of the places where Kyiv Running Club has its training sessions.

Jogging for dummies

Director of KM Running Club Kostyantyn Bozhko shares basic advice for those willing to start jogging.



Kostyantyn Bozhko

Good shoes. Some beginners are skeptical about buying special running shoes, but they shouldn't be. Sneakers designed for running help protecting the foot, so that the runner won't hurt his spine or joints when making intense steps during the run. That is especially important for beginners. Not knowing the right running technique, they have risk harming the spine and joints in the wrong shoes. During sales, running shoes are available at Hr 300. Don't overdress. In summer, some people wear sweat pants for the run, thinking that feeling heated will help them lose weight. Instead, they are risking heatstroke. To really start losing weight, one must run for at least 30 minutes without stopping, and that is not a beginners' level. Shorts and shirt are proper for summertime. In winter, it's not recommended to run in casual coats and warm hats. Instead, wear special underwear that keeps warm and professional wind jacket.

No running at once. If you are completely inexperienced in jogging, start with walking for up to 30 minutes. After that, go running, but for the first time it shouldn't be longer than five minutes. Next time, add five minutes more to your running time, and keep adding more.

Take a friend with you. All running must be done in normal pace. To clarify what is your normal pace, take a friend with you, and talk to him while running. When talk gets hard, run slower or start walking.



Kyiv Post staff writer Olga Rudenko can be reached at rudenko@kyivpost.com.

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KyivPost



Double Olympic Champion and boxing superstar Vasyl Lomachenko (L) celebrates victory over Filipino Charly Suarez of Dolce & Gabbana Italia Thunder in the lightweight match in the World Series of Boxing in Kyiv on Feb. 8. (Ukraine Otamans boxing team)



London 2012 Olympic Games bronze medallist Oleksandr Gvozdyk shows his class in a light heavyweight bout on Feb. 8 with Lithuanian Vitalijus Subacius of Dolce & Gabbana Italia Thunder. (Ukraine Otamans boxing team)

Boxing looks ahead to post-Klitschko era

→ 17 Games. But he hasn't decided whether to leave the amateur ranks yet.

"I have grandiose plans but I don't know what will come out," Lomachenko said. "I will choose myself, though my father's wise advice is always of primary importance to me."

Lomachenko's close friend and teammate Oleksandr Usyk, a 26-year-old heavyweight from Simferopol, also gained prominence after winning his first gold at the London Games and last year's world championship.

Born on Jan. 17, like his idol Muhammad Ali, Usyk is known for his showmanship. And that is what crowds really enjoy. Among boxers, the 6-foot-3 Usyk is known as a brainy, cold-blooded, calculating fighter.

"Usyk defeats his contenders because

of his high speed. There are few heavyweights speedy enough to catch up with him," Vasyl Lomachenko said.

The bruiser also conquered hearts in Ukraine through his cultivation of Kozak traditions, wearing a traditional Kozak haircut called the chub (a long lock of hair on an otherwise shaved head), entering the ring to the sound of folklore songs and celebrating his victories with a hopak, a Ukrainian jig.

Advertisers have followed his rising popularity closely.

Many hope that Usyk will be the one to pick up the baton from the Klitschko brothers. When asked about this, he objected with calm confidence by saying he wouldn't replace anyone but would simply "take the place he is supposed to have."

Usyk is certain Ukraine will hold its own in boxing because of its talented coaches and hungry fighters. "Boxing is the sport of poor men who want to break out, give a good account of themselves and make a lot of money," Usyk said.

The nation has a lot of cream to skim.

After their triumphant Olympic performances, Lomachenko and Usyk joined the World Series of Boxing, launched by the governing body of the amateur sport. Teams from different countries include the world's top amateurs. But in this league, boxers don't wear headgear or vests. They get paid, but retain their Olympic eligibility.

Besides Lomachenko and Usyk, the 21-strong Ukraine Otamans include a

tough trio from Ukraine's Olympic boxing team, namely silver medal winner Denys Berinchyk (light welterweight), and bronze medalists Taras Shelestyuk (welterweight) and Oleksandr Gvozdyk (light heavyweight).

Dmytro Gastruk, manager of the Ukrainian team, says the federation counts on the rise of popularity of boxing. "The federation is sure there are new stars of boxing in Ukraine," Gastruk said.

The Otamans lost in their debut fight against the Astana Arlans of Kazakhstan on Nov. 17. The team then lost three matches, although Olympics medalists Lomachenko, Usyk and Gvozdyk defeated their opponents from the British Lionhearts, contributing to the Otamans' second victory

in Kyiv on Jan. 11. Lomachenko and Gvozdyk also took part in defeating Italy Thunder in Kyiv on Feb. 8.

"Lomachenko's success is a stimulus for his teammates," Gastruk said. "He has already done better than Vladimir Klitschko in amateur boxing. This fighter leads the team and motivates other guys."

Lomachenko still prefers to stay with the national federation and amateur boxing, but doesn't know for how long. He and his medal-winning teammates are confident Ukraine will benefit from their victories.

"When we win we glorify Ukraine," Usyk said. "We bring fame to our country, coaches, parents and families."

Kyiv Post staff writer Denis Rafalsky can be reached at rafalsky@kyivpost.com

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Where football fans gather

→ 17

Barcelona

Where to go: Victory 7 pub
Coach: Tito Vilanova
Official hymn: Cant del Barca
Main competitors: Real, Espanyol
Special features: This is one of the most popular clubs in Spain, where it shares a bitter rivalry with Real Madrid, mixing sports, politics and language – Spanish in Madrid and Catalan in Barcelona.

Manchester United

Where to go: Blind Age
Coach: Sir Alex Ferguson
Official hymn: Glory Glory Man United
Main competitors: Liverpool, Manchester City
Special features: Also known as Red Devils, MU is one of the most successful clubs in England and one of the most popular worldwide. Beware: don't mix up Manchester United and Manchester City.

Liverpool

Where to go: Lucky Pub
Coach: Brendan Rodgers
Official hymn: You'll Never Walk



Supporters of Manchester United watch the game between their favorite team and Real Madrid in Blind Age bar on Feb. 13. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

Alone
Main competitors: Manchester United, Everton
Special features: Fans of Liverpool were present at two of the biggest football disasters: in 1985 match with Juventus 39 fans were killed by a collapsing stadium wall, and in 1989 "The Tragedy at Hillsborough" led to the trampling of 96 fans.

Basketball in Palats Sportu

Kyiv's Budivelnik team, a legendary club whose history dates back to Soviet days, will clash with the Russian Lyubertsy's Triumph for the right to continue playing in the Euro Cup, which is a second-tier international basketball tournament in Europe. Ukraine's Budivelnik will only graduate to the quarter-finals if they win the Feb. 20 game. It seems that Budivelnik has a fair chance because the team had already won when they played in Russia in January.

Feb. 20 game in Kyiv between Budivelnik and Russian Lyubertsy's Triumph at Palats Sportu (Sportyvna square, 1) at 7 p.m.

Ticket Prices: between Hr 20-50.



Courtesy

Feb.20

O'Connor's Irish pub
 15/8 Horyva St.
 +380 44 425-77-88
 oconnors.kiev.ua

Blind Age
 15 Malaya Zhytomyrska St.
 +380 44 278-15-11
 http://blindage.kiev.ua

If you don't support any of these teams, a range of pubs caters to varied audiences.

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- 10 Bastiona St.
- 26 Lesi Ukrainki Blvd.
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- 60 Pobedy Avenue
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- 65 Heroiv Stalingrada Ave.
- 27 Heroiv Stalingrada Ave.
- 17 Teligi St.
- 9 Gnata Yuri St.
- 2 Zholudeva St.
- 20 L.Tolstoho St.
- 45 Peremohy Avenue
- 4 Antonova St.

'TVOYA PRESA' KIOSKS

- ✈ Kyiv Boryspil Airport Terminal 'B'
- ✈ Terminal 'D'
- ✈ Terminal 'F'
- ✈ Kyiv Zhuliany Airport Terminal 'A'
- ✈ Lviv Airport Terminal
- 🚉 Symferopil Train Station

PRESS SECTIONS IN STORES

- 🛒 Megamarket store in Kyiv 6, V. Getmana St. 50, Gorkogo St. 6, Moskovskiy Ave. 3, Syrikova St.
- 🛒 Megamarket store in Brovary 316, Kyivska St. [Terminal mall]
- 🛒 Megamarket store in Khodoseevka village 7th km Novo-Obuchivska road
- 🛒 Silpo store in Kyiv 4 Lavruchina St.

Senior Technical Advisor, MIS
MSH seeks a Senior Technical Advisor for MIS with its Center for Pharmaceutical Management Program SIAPS (Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services) in Kyiv, Ukraine.

- Qualifications:**
- Degree in Computer Science, MIS or closely related field or equivalent work experience required.
 - At least seven (7) years' progressively responsible experience in an independent MIS position with advanced MIS operations management and/or computational responsibilities.
 - At least ten (10) years' experience in developing training materials and the delivery of training sessions.
 - At least seven (7) years' of managing/supervising development and implementation of systems.
 - At least seven (7) years of experience in overseeing the entire product development lifecycle.
 - At least three (3) years' experience in working with web-based solutions and web based tools.
 - At least three (3) years' experience in working with database systems like Oracle, SQL, MySQL.
 - At least five (5) years of experience managing project across multiple stakeholders.
 - Fluency in spoken and written English and Ukrainian.

Interested applicants should submit applications at <https://jobs-msh.icims.com/jobs/6296> (full vacancy description is available here) no later than February 28, 2013. You may also email CV and cover letter in English to jcockerham@msh.org. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.



Project Director
MSH seeks a Project Director with its Center for Pharmaceutical Management Program SIAPS (Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services) in Kyiv, Ukraine.

- Qualifications:**
- Advanced degree in a health-related field required; physician or pharmacist qualification preferred.
 - Ten plus (10+) years of progressively responsible experience in senior level position(s) in international public health is required.
 - Experience with public health programs supported by bilateral agencies, such as USAID, and international agencies, such as WHO and World Bank, preferred.
 - Demonstrated ability to build and maintain relationships with senior-level colleagues, particularly interacting productively, proactively, and comfortably with government agencies, NGOs, USAID.
 - Excellent writing and presentation skills in English and Ukrainian and/or Russian are required.

Interested applicants should submit applications at <https://jobs-msh.icims.com/jobs/5434> (full vacancy description is available here) no later than February 28, 2013. You may also email cv and cover letter in English to blim@msh.org. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Senior Technical Advisor — Supply Chain Management
MSH seeks a Senior Technical Advisor for Supply Chain Management with its Center for Pharmaceutical Management Program SIAPS (Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services) in Kyiv, Ukraine.

- Qualifications:**
- Advanced degree in supply chain management, pharmacy, medicine, logistics, business management or related field with background in public health.
 - At least seven (7) years progressively responsible experience in supply chain management/logistics at the policy level with advanced knowledge of logistics techniques and applications including quantification tools.
 - Knowledge of international commodity procurement systems and procedures.
 - Strong project management and communication skills required.
 - Previous Excellent written and oral communication skills.
 - Fluency in spoken and written English and Ukrainian; knowledge of Russian is helpful.
 - Excellent interpersonal skills and demonstrated ability to interact professionally with culturally and linguistically diverse staff, clients and consultants, sound judgment and communication skills.
 - Demonstrated computer skills in Microsoft Office Suite applications.
 - Experience working with USAID-funded programs highly desirable. Willingness and ability to travel within Ukraine as needed.

Interested applicants should submit applications at <https://jobs-msh.icims.com/jobs/5474/technical-senior-advisor-supply-chain-management/job> (full vacancy description is available here) no later than February 28, 2013. You may also email CV and cover letter in English to jcockerham@msh.org. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.



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Public Private Partnership Development Program (P3DP) is seeking an **EXPERIENCED CONSULTANCY** for a short-term assignment to calculate greenhouse gases emissions reduction to be achieved as a result of the pilot PPP projects implementation. Interested candidates should send inquiries for a Request for Application to p3dp@fhi360.org.

Due date of Applications: February 28, 2013 by 17.00 Kyiv time.

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Invites applications from proactive and goal-oriented Ukrainian professionals with a University degree for the following position:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

(full time, commencing in March 2013)

The closing date for applications is February 27, 2013

Please send your Curriculum Vitae and covering letter in English with a statement "Administrative Assistant" in the subject line to allak@agriteam.ca

Detailed information on this position and application procedure can be found at <http://youthjustice.org.ua/en/vacan>

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The closing date for applications is February 25, 2013

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Please visit web pages: hh.ua/vacancy/7355702; hh.ua/vacancy/7355712; www.kyivpost.com/employment for more details.

Candidates are asked to submit resumes and cover letters to: violetta.kalynovska@giz.de indicating the position title in the subject line by February 25, 2013. Only successful candidates will be contacted.

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to our dear Kyiv Post colleagues this month!



Katya Kalendruz on February 20

Oksana Grytsenko on February 21

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