







### Welcome,



As we approach the halfway mark of 2023, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our achievements over the past six months and discuss our future direction. Process development has been a key objective for us in 2023, not only internally within CKH but also in terms of process improvements for our clients. I'm proud to say that we have made significant progress in this area.

During our recent executive meeting, we

recognized the need to embrace automation and artificial intelligence (AI) to propel CKH group into the new world. To that end, we have decided to establish an automation/AI team. This team will play a crucial role in integrating process improvement initiatives with automation and AI technologies, creating a symbiotic approach that will drive our success.

I encourage each of you to share your ideas and suggestions on how we can leverage automation and AI to enhance our processes and operations. We believe that by harnessing the power of these technologies, we can achieve greater efficiency, productivity, and innovation across the organization. Remember, this is a collaborative effort, and every contribution matters. No idea is too big or too small. Let's brainstorm together and explore the possibilities that lie ahead. Together, we can transform CKH into a frontrunner in the AI-driven landscape.

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment. I'm excited about the future and the positive impact we can create as a team. Feel free to reach out to the automation/ Al team with your thoughts or suggestions.

NICO MEYER

#### A word from the Marketing Team,

The Marketing Team is excited to announce that we will be attending many tradeshows and conferences in the coming months! This includes SSON Select in June, where Nico Meyer and Kate Kudrenko will have the chance to sit down with prospective clients for a series of one-on-one meetings. Additionally, the Business Development team will also be attending the Pioneer



RESA Conference this June, where will be sponsors! We hope these events expand our CKH Group network and provide new opportunities for the firm.

And as always, the Marketing Team is here to help you. If you need items such as a presentation deck or an org chart made (or have any other creative requests), please scan the QR code and fill out a quick form to submit a request. The Marketing Team would like to raise awareness that there will be new Standard Operating Processes being implemented. We want to be able to fulfill your requests in a timely manner while also having the capacity to grow and develop our marketing strategy! We thank you for your patience, and please be on the lookout for more information on our Standard Operating Processes.



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#### The Grand Ledger Magazine

DESIGNER/EDITOR Storm Haas

> COPY EDITOR Clara Busé

CONTRIBUTORS
Claudia Kaczmarek
Elpida Tsaroucha
Livia Juliani
Shakira Parker
Anna Yermak
Nico Meyer
Franco Cicchiello
Roger Nixon

www.ckhgroup.com CKH GROUP HEAD OFFICE 303 Perimeter Center North Suite 200, Atlanta, GA USA

> For More Information +1 770 495 9077 info@ckhgroup.com

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### Office Announcements

### **Upcoming National Days and Holidays**

Here are the upcoming national days or holidays celebrated across all of our offices\*. More information about the following holidays and if the office(s) will be celebrating or recognizing them in any way will be given via email. Check your inboxes for updates!

#### Month of June

Pride (LGBTQ+) Month African American Appreciation Month

June 5 - Eastern Orthodox Whit Monday

June 14 - Flag Day (USA)

June 16 - Youth Day (South Africa)

June 18 - Father's Day

June 19 - Juneteenth (USA)

<sup>\*</sup>Are we missing a holiday? Let us know! This is a great opportunity to learn more about the cultures in each office.





# **Leadership Lessons:** Facilitate Collaboration

Will Duke talks about leaders speaking last during thought sessions. This is extremely important because, depending on the situation, by speaking only at the very end, leaders allow the group to produce solutions using their own skills. 'Listen twice as much as you speak,' some may say and assist in facilitating thoughtful collaboration rather than leading it. Duke discusses the 1-2-4-All rule. The 1 rule allows individuals to think on the objective or solution. The 2 rule allows them to share their idea with just one other member of the team. The 4 rule brings two pairs together to produce a decision. The All rule is where the leader brings the entire team together for a final decision and course of action.

The next time your department needs to make a decision, do your best to facilitate the conversation by speaking last, thereby allowing individuals to think first and apply the 1-2-4-All method. In order to do this, you as a leader must think ahead, think early and optimize the size of the group by keeping to small numbers. You might find that the group produces a better idea than the leader or identifies potential threats that might not have occurred to you, had you been leading collaboration rather than facilitating it.

#### **Delegate and Trust**

A leader can delegate authority but never responsibility. Remember you are responsible for everything your team does or fails to do. The best leaders never blame their subordinates or point a finger if the right training and resources to accomplish the mission were not provided in the first place. Leaders, the next time you delegate authority make sure your people are properly resourced and correctly trained. These responsibilities fall on you and not your subordinates.

For example, Kate Kudrenko took it upon herself to set up sales training for a group. She did this without being asked and took the initiative to ensure that everyone was trained to a certain level. She went the extra mile when she did not have to and prepared detailed lesson plans. Eon and Kate and others then conducted role playing. The lessons learned from these various scenarios served us well and will continue to do so. The takeaway from these exercises is that both leaders took time to help everyone improve themselves. This is the kind of attitude and behavior that high performing teams must have.

-Roger Nixon, VP of Business Development





### MEET OUR GLOBAL

# OFFICES

#### Presence

Teams in 8 global locations, employing 200+ professionals

#### **Global Footprint**

Strategic geographical positioning of offices to ensure consistent availability to any and all client needs

#### **Expertise**

Utilizing local talent to ensure dynamic expertise and the most accurate results

#### **MSI Global Network**

250 legal and accounting member firms located in over 100 countries. Access to network firms to enhance local technical expertise



















# **SOUTH AFRICA**

Since its establishment in 2014 to support the US headquarters in Atlanta, the Cape Town office has brought together a diverse pool of accounting, finance, and consulting talent.



#### South African Language

Something we often find whilst traveling is that the same words in your country mean something completely different in another country. For this edition of the Grand Ledger we have included some common phrases in South Africa that may be confused when visiting from abroad, along with some common slang words and their meanings so that you are well-prepared when you visit us:

#### 1. "Eish!" (American: "Jeez!")

This word may originate from the Xhosa people in South Africa. This word is used across most language speakers in South Africa and a few neighboring countries. It can express excitement, disbelief or anger. "Eish! You startled me there."

#### 2. "Ach, shame." (American: "What a shame.")

In America we say "what a shame" when something unfortunate happens. However, South Africans use "ach, shame" for any situation, such as giving thanks, shouting praise, mourning, etc. It's a well-used filler word in South Africa. "Here is a picture of our baby." "Ach, shame! He's too cute!"

#### 3. "Braai" (American: "Barbecue")

"Come down to the braai, we've got boerewors (sausage) cooking."

#### 4. "Boet" (American: "Bro" or "brother")

This word can be used to refer to an actual brother or a dear male best friend. It's an affectionate term of endearment. "He's my boet, I can't imagine life without him."

#### 5. "Robot" (American: "Traffic light")

The light resembles that of a robotic machine, hence the slang term. "I'll meet you at school in 20 minutes. Take back-streets so that you don't get stuck at that robot on 7th Avenue."

#### 6. "Eina!" (American: "Ouch!")

This can be used when experiencing any kind of pain, but it's mostly used when experiencing a sharp, sudden pain like a bee sting or a paper cut. "Eina! I always cut myself on this paper."

#### 7. "Howzit?" (American: "How's it going?")

This shortened version of "how's it going?" in South Africa when someone says "Howzit?" it doesn't actually require you to say how you are doing. "Hey dude." "Howzit. Nice to see you"

#### 8. "Is it?" (American Version: "Is that so?")

Like "howzit?" this shortened term is pleasant to say in conversation and doesn't require an answer."I found out today that daddy long legs aren't even spiders." "Is it?"

#### 9. Now now

An immediate but not literal declaration of impending action, may be past or future tense. From the Afrikaans expression "nou nou". If someone tells you they are coming now, now; they probably are not coming right now.

#### 10. Just now

Sometime in the near future or the near past, not necessarily immediately. Expresses an intention to act soon, but not necessarily immediately. Like now, now.. Don't expect just now to mean the person will do what was asked right away.



# Cape Town Team Building

The Cape Town team got their inner detective on last week when they boarded the lost ship of Captain Kalman in search of the Royal Family's stolen sacred Jewels. Little did they know they had to recover the jewels before the approaching storm hit and sunk our boats... forever.... Okay so maybe it wasn't THAT dramatic but the South Africa Office did have lots of fun during our escape room teambuilding with a late lunch together afterwards.





# BIRTHDAYS

June 6 - Jaimy Jonkers

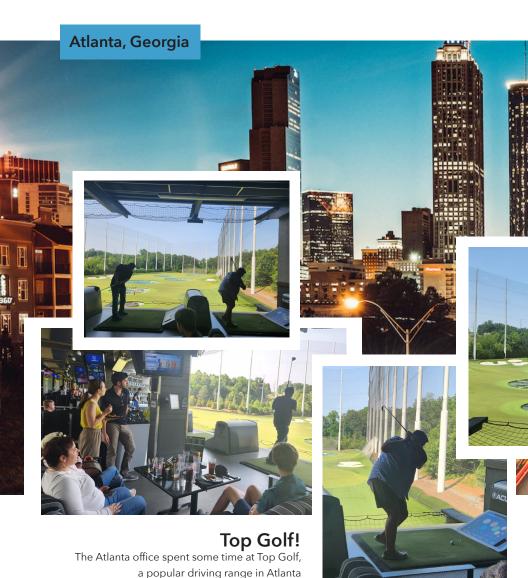


Happy Birthday to Carita Jansen Van Rensburg!



# **ATLANTA**

Atlanta, Georgia is home to CKH Group's headquarters. The company's head office smoothly manages the work of its international network while giving autonomy to the firm's local offices worldwide.



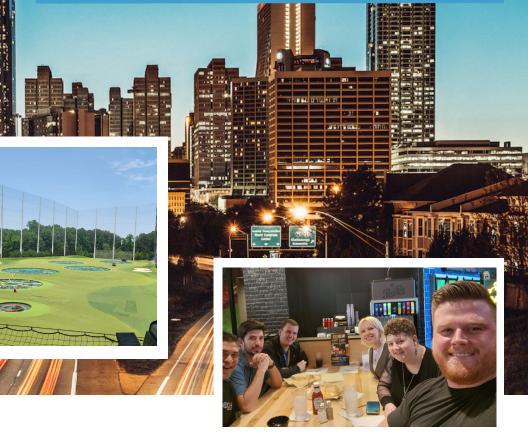
**©**KH

# NEW HIRES



Joely Goss Indirect Tax Associate Intern

"I grew up outside Atlanta, and I am so happy to be back in the city to work with CKH! I am a senior at The University of Alabama, and I am working towards a bachelor's degree in environmental science. In my free time, I love spending time in nature, and I enjoy documenting my adventures through drawing and watercolor painting."

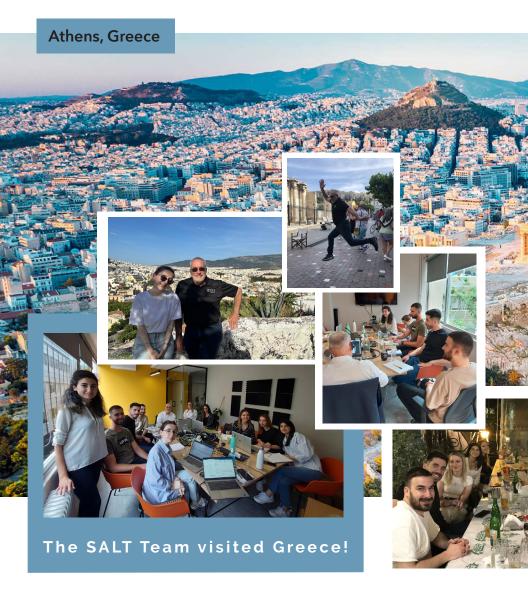


The Atlanta office welcomed thier new intern, Joely Goss with a lunch together.



# **GREECE**

In 2018, our Italian SME (subject matter expert) relocated to Athens, GR in order to set up an additional European center that would cater to additional EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa) projects. Since then, CKH has also opened an office in Lemnos.





# **UKRAINE**

The Kyiv office was established in 2016 at a time when few international companies considered the Ukraine as a destination for establishing a back office support for its financial and accounting services worldwide.



### **NEW HIRES**



Liudmyla Riznychok AP Specialist

I have a lot of experience in accounting and have been working in various accounting fields. I have dealt with preparing invoices, and tax returns, managing tax audit, performing month-end-closure, preparing internal reports. My family is my life. I am fond of planting and home baking. In my opinion, flowers, planted with your own hands is a great pleasure.



Ivan Ilmeyev Financial and Tax Specialist

I'm happy to be the part of the team again after quite exciting journey outside of CKH for about one year and a half. I have background in audit within KPMG and previous experience in accounting and finance consulting in CKH. I like to spend my free time with family, traveling and playing all kind of games.



Viktoriia Lehusova

Hi everyone! I'm Viktoriia the new member of AR team in Ukraine. I have master's degree in finance and 2 years of work experience as an accountant. I worked with primary documents and 1C program. Sometimes I supervised the work of employees and acted for my manager. I like nature, pine forests and rest in tents. I spend my free time with my big family.



Tetiana Hryvenko Statutory Accountant

I'm a highly organized and detail-oriented accountant with five years of experience in Ukraine. I have processed financial documents efficiently and accurately. I'm an effective team player and reliable individual with critical ability to function well in fast-paced and deadline-driven environments. In my free time, I love reading and camping.





The team during Vyshyvanka
Day- an international holiday that
aims to preserve the Ukrainian folk
traditions of creating and wearing
ethnic embroidered clothes called
vyshyvankas. It is celebrated the third
Thursday of May.



# **POLAND**

The Poznań office's strategic geographic position allows the firm to solidify its presence in Europe and better serve our customers' needs on short notice. The Poznan office is an integral part of CKH.



#### **CAREER DAY**

Although the university has an economics major, with a specialisation in accounting and bookkeeping, we were the only company from the sector. Most of the students were interested in agricultural fields but we were able to acquire some valuable contacts.





### HOLIDAYS

#### May 1 - Labour Day

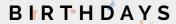
The International Day of Solidarity of Working People has been celebrated all over the world since 1890, and in Poland it was established as a public holiday in 1950.

#### May 2 - Flag Day

The aim of the Flag Day is to spread knowledge about this national symbol, as well as to promote patriotic attitudes - Poles proudly display flags outside. Each of us can celebrate the White and Red by hanging it, for example in the window or on the balcony of our apartment or in front of the house.

#### May 3 - Constitution Day

The Constitution of 3 May 1791 was adopted by the Grand Parliament, also known as the Four-Year Parliament. It was the most important reform and government Act – it regulated the rights and obligations of all residents and the principles of organization of state power. In this sense of the word, it was the first government law in Europe, the second in the world.



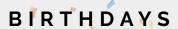
June 10 - Claudia Kaczmarek June 26 - Jan Drzewiecki

## **SPAIN**

The Barcelona office is one of our newer additions to the CKH Group network. The team supports our other offices and solidifies CKH Group's presence in the EMEA region.

#### Barcelona, Spain





June 7 - Stefan Weber June 28 - Carmen Floruta

#### Happy Birthday Malena and Danny



The Spain office had a brainstorming session in the office on the 18th of May, followed by a shared lunch

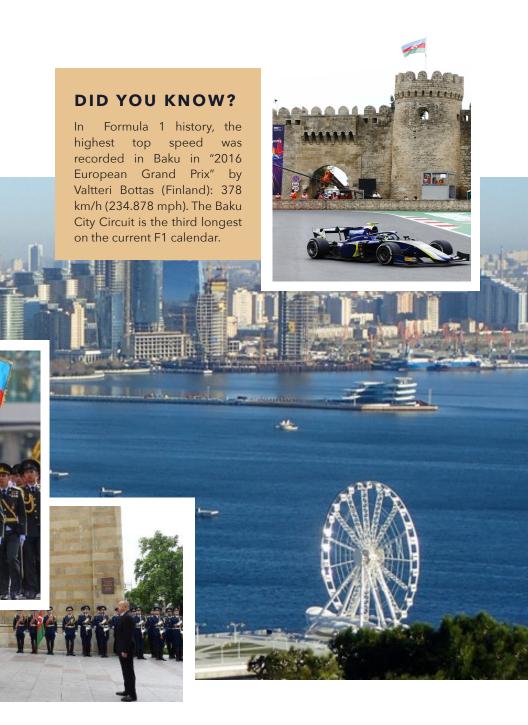


# **AZERBAIJAN**

Our Azerbaijan team officially has an office space in Baku! It is our latest addition to the CKH Group network. Our Baku team supports a variety of departments including SALT, Augmentation, Special Projects, and GL Accounting.







# The Kudos Corner

#### Yuliia Osadcha,

I am very grateful for your help, useful tips and honest work. You are a wonderful person, always stay positive, believe in yourself and



keep going to your goals! Remember, you can do everything, life is so exiting!

Kudos to **Helen Kisteniuk** who is always positive and amazing to work with! You are CKH sunshine!



**Shakira Parker**, your sunny disposition and willingness to lend a hand make our work environment brighter and more supportive. Your presence alone has a profound impact on the team, and we are grateful for your constant positivity and willingness to assist others. Thank you for being an exceptional colleague.

Thank you **Yvette Hasbrouck** for being such an integral part of the office. You do so much to keep everyone and everything afloat. You're very patient when I have questions or need help. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

**Carmen Floruta**, wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation for your incredible power and guidance in our office. Your leadership has been instrumental in making our team strong and confident. Knowing that we have someone like you to look up to fills us with inspiration and determination. Thank you for being such an amazing colleague and leader.



Thank you to **Eon van Wyk** for always being extremely dependable and timely. I'm always able to trust that you will follow up on deadlines or projects and really value the time you put in to ensure that.



**Elpida Tsaroucha,** your unwavering dedication and passion have made you a true inspiration to our team. Your leadership style and ability to motivate others have set the bar high, encouraging us all to reach for our full potential. Thank you for

guiding us with your remarkable vision and serving as a role model for excellence.

If you would like to praise a coworker on a job well done, scan this qr code to fill out the form! (can be submitted anonymously)





### **Chatting with Franco**

A column dedicated to the thoughts and writings of Franco Cicchiello from our Barcelona office. Reach out if you would like to contribute too!



#### For the Love of Marathon

It is the 9th of March 1896. Carlo Airoldi is running for his life. He has met some people in the town of Split in Croatia. They know he is a runner. They propose a bet on who will win the race around the city walls - Carlo or the local running champion. He accepts and wins the race. But now he is being chased by a group of Croatian men with moustaches and knives in their hands. Clearly, they are not going to honor the bet by paying their not going to honor the bet by paying their dues to the winner. As he runs for his life, Carlo's mind also works overtime. "These bandits stole my money, and I lost the sausage meal from home! I hope I didn't lose the crackers prepared by grandma Cesira!" And then, "Stop thinking. Run Carlo, run!"

He escapes and returns home to Milan where he works in a plant. chocolate 27 years old, he is an enthusiastic athlete. He has won some local races but also, in 1895, the Milan - Barcelona race, after 1.000 dramatic

Kilometers.

But In 1896, he is stronger than ever and has heard that no

Italian athletes will be competing in the first Olympic Games of the Modern Era in Athens. He decides that he has no alternative but to go and run the Marathon for his Country! With no money, he will have to get there on foot. If he leaves on the 23rd of February, he can be in Athens before the beginning of the Games on the 6th of April, 1896. So he sets off. When he reaches Dubrovnik he meets

the Italian Consul who, knowing Carlo's intentions gives him some friendly intentions, gives him some friendly advice: "Carlo, don't do this" the diplomat says. "Avoid Albania because there are no roads and too many brigands. Go to the

Port and take a ship"

So Carlo finds a ride on a ship to Patras with a stop in Corfu. As the ship sails along, Carlo is impressed by the beauty of the Islands on the Greek coastline. He finally reaches the destination port. Once there, he decides to walk along the railway lines because, this way, he is sure to reach Athens in the shortest time possible. Another 200 kilometers on foot is not a short distance, but he walks it all

On the 31st of March 1896, after 32 days, Carlo reaches Athens. He is ecstatic

when he sees the city.

The Parthenon, Plaka, Syntagma Square are all impressive but, when he sees the Kallimarmaron Panathinaiko Stadium, he starts to dream about winning, for himself, for his family, for Italy. After all, he was Carlo Airoldi, from Milan. He was the man of the Games. Nobody could beat him.

On the 2nd of April he goes to the Olympic Committee to register for the Marathon. The first two people he sees are the Prince of Greece, Konstantinos,

chatting with Pierre De Coubertin. And there he was, the poor Italian with the two VIPs!

Carlo finds office secretarial and, there, he discovers a second surprise: when he won the 1895 Milan Barcelona race he was supposed to receive 20 Lira ( around 90 euros today). This was the sum

that made a professional athlete out of him, and the money that he used to get back home. But, these winnings also meant that he could not take part in the Olympic

Carlo was desperate! All he wanted to do was run. He did not care about the medal. All he wanted was to experience a unique unforgettable moment in his life. The day of the marathon he started to run without a bib number. This adventure led him straight to jail. The police stopped him and took him to jail where he was kept for one night.

After everything, he still declared he was happy because, on foot, he saw beautiful countries and, in particular, it was Greece that left an indelible memory in his heart. Carlo was a poor and humble man but also a true sportsman and a

passionate runner.

Once back in Italy, he continued with his running, achieving record times greater than that of the Athens gold medalist. This is the story of Carlo Airoldi: a Great Italian, a winner without medal.



# **TEAM HIGHLIGHTS**

# **Business Development**

The Business Devlopment Team won CKH Group's first ever Government Contract. Not only did they win the bid, but they won the first proposal they had submitted. The Business Development team, Nick Catrakilis and Roger Nixon, alongside Eon Van Wyk and Storm Haas worked together to submit this.



### **Audit Team**

To the CKH Audit team, a big thank you for the hard work and effort throughout the Tech Mahindra quarter close. Given the tight deadline we were able to close out the audits within the required deadlines. Thank you Kathryne Wenn, Terak Ismail, Ferdinand Sieg, Nigar Haytaoghlu, and Daria Zamohylnova

# **Genesys Team**

Thank you to the Genesys team for assisting the audit team during the Tech Mahindra quarter close. We appreciate the time spared and also the willingness to assist, this was done while working on the Genesys project.

#### **Congrats Ferdinand!**

Ferdinand Sieg is excelling in his new role as interim CFO at Gielissen at their US offices in Flowery Branch, GA". CKH Group successfully filled its first position in the "CFO as a Service" space.







### **WORK ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **Atlanta**

June 1 - Frank D'Urban Jackson (18 years!) June 20 - Tykera Lenoir (1 year)

#### Baku

June 1 - Zack Gasimov (5 years) June - Leyla Hasanova (1 year)

#### Greece

June 1 - Tzogia Zapanti (1 year)

June 1 - Adelaida Myrtollari (1 year)

June 3 - Christos Kleftakis (4 years)

June 10 - Afroditi Zerva (4 years)

June 20 - Maria Kondylaki (1 year)

June 29 - Eda Agian (3 years)

#### **Poland**

June 1 - Andrzej Badura (9 years)

#### **Spain**

June 13 - Thais Tibau (1 year)

#### **South Africa**

June 1 - Carita Moolman (1 year)

June 6 - Stephné Kukard (1 year)

June 13 - Lize-Mari Badenhorst (1 year)

June 27 - Kyle Loubser (1 year)

#### **Ukraine**

June 9 - Olesia Honcharyk (3 years)

June 9 - Yuliia Pryshko (3 years)

June 30 - Anastasiia Artiukh (3 years)

# **Local Favorites - KYIV**

#### **Employee Reccommended Restaurants**

**Imbir** Vegetarian food and the relaxing atmosphere of a library or bookstore is what you'll find at Imbir.

One of the only restaurants in the city to provide a completely vegetarian menu. Their drinks are as healthy as their food: different sorts of tea and fresh fruit juice, almond milk, and detox smoothies.

Kanapa Located on Andrew's Descent, one of Kyiv's most famous streets, Kanapa perfectly reflects the area's historic and creative significance by serving modern reinterpretations of traditional Eastern European dishes like caviar and beetroot soup. In the summer,

guests can enjoy the terrace.

Shoti Shoti, a Georgian restaurant, is where you'll find some quintessentially Georgian dishes such as pork and veal khinkali (dumplings) and a type of cheesefilled bread known as khachapuri. Its exquisitely designed award-winning interior and summer terrace make it a very attractive location

**Tsarske Selo** Right opposite the world-famous Pechersk Lavra monastery, Tsarske Selo is popular with tourists looking to try Ukrainian cuisine. The interior is a recreation of a typical 17th-century house in a Ukrainian village, and food is prepared following

traditional recipes and methods.

**BEEF Meat & Wine** At this restaurant you will be served excellent meat, cooked in the best traditions of world cuisine, and the staff will also recommend a fine wine. The steaks. roast beef, and carpaccio are of extremely good quality and made on the basis of secret recipes that were created decades ago.













# **MONTHLY KAHOOT**

Every Third Friday (June. 16, next month)

**June Theme: Georgraphy** 



**Joely Goss** 

Ivan Ilmeyev





Renia Kourti



Want to read me on the go?

Scan here to read online.

Magazine content for next month due:

June 23



# **TOP 5 GLOBALLY**

Ella Baila Sola by Eslabon Armado, Peso Pluma
WhHERE SHE GOES by Bad Bunny
un x100to by Grupo Frontera, Bad Bunny
Le Bebe - Remix by Yng Lvcas, Peso Pluma
Cupid - Twin Ver. by FIFTY FIFTY



### GREECE

**Blue Iguana** by Hawk, X ORFEAS **AGAPI - Remix** by Sigma, Light **DEJA VU** by LILA, RACK, Beyond

### POLAND

Taxi by Kizo & more

Cha Cha Cha by Käärijä

Supermoce by Męskie Granie Orkiestra

### USA

Ella Baila Sola by Eslabon Armado & more
Last Night by Morgan Wallen
WHERE SHE GOES by Bad Bunny

### GERMANY

Wenn das so bleibt by Apache 207 Komet by Udo Lindenberg & more TABU. by Yung Yury, Damn Yury

### UKRAINE

**Зеркало** by kizaru **Скажи мне кто ты** by xxxmanera **погляд** by YAKTAK, SOBOL'

### SPAIN

WHERE SHE GOES by Bad Bunny
Acróstico by Shakira
Supernova by Saiko

### **SOUTH AFRICA**

Mnike by Tyler ICU & more
Hamba Juba by Lady Amar & more
All My Life by Lil Durk, J. Cole

### CYPRUS

AGAPI - Remix by Sigma, Light

Pes by ZAF

Tattoo by Loreen



# THE GRAND LEDGER

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