

NEWSLETTER

May 2015



Ambassador's Message: "This month marks the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII in Europe. The people of the Czech Republic remain extremely grateful to the Allied forces for their courage and sacrifice. The Western part of our country and Pilsen, one of the largest Czech cities, were liberated by US forces. Since 1990, our people celebrate these brave veterans during the Liberation Festival. Tens of thousands attend the annual celebrations. During this year's commemorations, the Convoy of Liberty, a considerable parade of historical military vehicles and costumes, rolled through the streets. Pilsen has expanded its significance in 2015 even further as it was named the European Capital of Culture. Please come by the Czech Embassy on May 9 to view two profound exhibitions, honoring the Greatest Generation." ~ Petr Gandalovič

- LATEST NEWS & EVENTS -



President Zeman Visits Washington

Czech President Miloš Zeman visited Washington, DC, on March 1-2, 2015. He held a speech at the AIPAC conference, met with the Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu, paid a tribute to 9/11 victims at the Pentagon Memorial, laid a wreath at the T.G. Masaryk statue and met Czech compatriots. | <u>Read more</u>.



Deputy Prime Minister Visits U.S.

Andrej Babiš, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the Czech Republic visited the U.S. on April 13-20, 2015. He met with UN GS Ban Ki-moon, Chairman of the Economic Council Advisers Jason Furman, IRS Commissionner John Koskinen, and U.S. company representatives, and took part in the WBG/IMF Spring Meeting. <u>Read more</u>.





EU Open House - May 9!

The Embassy opens its doors for the annual EU Open House on May 9, 10 am-4 pm. The event includes a vintage motorcycle show, trained police dogs, live music, delicious food and the world famous Pilsner Urquell beer. Commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII and learn how you can visit Pilsen – European Capital of Culture 2015. | <u>Read more</u>.

WWII's End and Pilsen Liberation

In recognition of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Pilsen and the end of WWII, the Embassy of the Czech Republic will open two exhibitions, *Broken Wings* and *WWII – War and Peace*, during the EU Open House on May 9, 10 am-4 pm. | <u>Read more</u>.



Director Debuts Fair Play in DC

The Avalon Theatre will screen *Fair Play* on May 13, at 8 pm, followed by a Q&A with director Andrea Sedláčková. Called "a gripping tale of grace under pressure" by *The Hollywood Reporter*, the film explores just how far one would go to pursue one's dreams. Meet director and delve into the film nominated for 15 Czech Lions. | <u>Read more</u>.



International Roma Day

The Embassy of the Czech Republic celebrated International Roma Day on April 8, 2015, with an address from Jiří Dienstbier, Minister for Human Rights, Equal Opportunities and Legislation of the Czech Republic and a panel discussion. The talented pianist Tomáš Kačo performed a beautiful concert of Roma music to commemorate the special day. | <u>Read more</u>.



Craft Brewers Conference

Supported by the Embassy's economic diplomacy project, Czech hop growers (Bohemia Hop, Hop Growers Union) and Czech hop breeders (Hop Research Institute) participated in the Craft Brewers Conference/Brew Expo America. It is the largest brewing conference and beer trade show in the U.S. that took place in Portland on April 14-17, 2015. <u>Read more</u>.



Havel Fellows Share Views on Freedom

On April 15, the Embassy of the Czech Republic, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Hudson Institute hosted a discussion with Václav Havel Journalism Fellows. The young talented journalists from Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia and Belarus discussed their views on the future of freedom of expression and independent journalism in the post-Soviet region. | <u>Read more</u>.



Honorary Consulate Closes in Florida

The Honorary Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Fort Lauderdale was closed permanently as of March 31, 2015. | <u>Read more</u>.



Czechs Eligible for Temp Worker Visas

The Czech Republic made the list of eligible countries for H2A and H2B temporary agricultural and non-agricultural workers, after approval from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the State Department. The visas will expand the existing travel options for Czech citizens. More information is available in Czech only. | Read more.

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