



HUNGARIAN HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

On April 16, 2009, Chargé Jeffrey Levine participated in a memorial event marking the sixty-fifth anniversary of the Hungarian Holocaust.

Organized by the Holocaust Memorial Center in Budapest, the program included a high school students' music concert followed by presentation of pictures of Holocaust victims. Students submitting the best photos and personal histories were recognized as winners of the "Faces of the Victims" photo competition. At the end of the event, commemorators lit candles at the Memorial Wall of Victims.

Chargé Jeffrey Levine with pictures of Holocaust victims ([full size photo](#))

Recently at the Embassy



Dialogue on Obama's First 100 Days

On April 24, Public Affairs Officer Michael Hurley delivered remarks and then generated a lively discussion on the topic of President Obama's first 100 days in office. The Fulbright alumni association in Hungary gathered an audience to meet at the new American Corner at Corvinus University to talk about achievements of the Obama administration thus far. [More](#)



Embassy Award for Tony Curtis

In recognition of his long time association with the country of his parents' origin, and honoring his work in restoring and preserving synagogues and Jewish cemeteries throughout Hungary, visiting Hungarian-American movie star Tony Curtis was presented with the U.S. Embassy Award for Cultural Diplomacy. [More](#)

EARTH DAY COMMEMORATIONS



Art from Waste

To commemorate this year's Earth Day, the U.S. Embassy organized a Trash Art Competition for high school students to call their attention to the importance of recycling. The contest highlighted responsibility to our environment, and emphasized appropriate waste management as one of the key steps to being good stewards of our immediate environment. [More](#)



Earth Day Cleanup in Nagykovácsi

[Full size photo](#)

The Embassy teamed up with the American School (AISB) and the Nagykovácsi International Club to sponsor an Earth Day cleanup event in Nagykovácsi Saturday afternoon, April 25. Members of the three communities picked up metal cans, plastic bottles and other rubbish on a heavily-littered forest path used by hikers to climb up to the EU-protected Nagyszénás nature reserve.

AMERICA DAY/AMERICAN WEEK EVENTS



America Week at the Veszprém American Corner

April 20-24 was "America Week" in Veszprém, with a series of events dedicated to the study of American culture. This program was a collaborative effort between American and Hungarian teachers and experts, many of whom are current and former Fulbright Scholars or serving officials. From economy and music to politics, media, language policy, legal and environmental issues and even 9/11, these events explored American culture from a variety of different perspectives. [More▶](#)



America Day a Success in Rural Hungary

On April 8, Cultural Attaché Carolyn Glassman and Regional English Language Officer Lisa Harshbarger visited the rural city of Balassagyarmat to participate in an "America Day" program, organized by Szent-Györgyi Albert High school, in cooperation with the Hungarian Ministry of Education and Culture.

[More▶](#)

HONORING INTERNATIONAL ROMA DAY AND TOLERANCE



Embassy Officials Roll-Up Their Sleeves to Support International Roma Day

Chargé Jeff Levine and ten other American and Hungarian Embassy officials participated in a blood drive event to honor the International Roma Day on April 8. Organized by the Budapest Gypsy Self-Government and the Hungarian Red Cross, the event aimed to promote cooperation, social responsibility, and helping others. [More▶](#)



Embassy Public Affairs Section Celebrates International Roma Day

Cultural Attaché Carolyn Glassman visited a local learning center in Bátonyterenye, a small village in Northern Hungary with a large Roma community. Under the auspices of an NGO, the center operates a "care school" for socially disadvantaged children. Ms. Glassman joined with students and teachers in learning Roma songs and dances in celebration of Roma culture. Following the program, the Attaché joined with the teachers in a discussion of the challenges faced by Roma in the village and nationwide. [Full size photo▶](#)



John Farrell Builds Bridges of Peace and Hope

On March 25, peace educator and songwriter John Farrell gave a concert to about 150 students from the American International School and the Kolozsvár Primary School of Budapest. The students sang together with him about love, family and the importance of recognizing that people are more similar than different. At the end of the concert youngsters held hands together and built the bridges of peace and hope by singing a song about tolerance. [Full size photo▶](#)



Ambassador Foley Paid a Farewell Call to Foreign Minister Göncz

On March 26, Ambassador Foley and Foreign Minister Göncz discussed the positive developments that occurred during Ambassador Foley's tenure including Hungary's entry into the Visa Waiver Program and the selection of Pápa Air Force Base to host NATO-consortium aircraft. [Full size photo](#)



Larry Pressler Promotes Fulbright Program

From March 23-24, former U.S. Senator Larry Pressler from South Dakota (1979-97), currently in Bologna on a Fulbright fellowship, traveled to Budapest to deliver the keynote address to new donors to Hungary's Fulbright Program. [More](#)

Looking Ahead

WEBCHATS IN CELEBRATION OF WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY (MAY3)

U.S. Support for Independent Media/with Ambassador Karen Stewart
(Text Webchat); May 4, 16:00 GMT [Webchat](#)

Is Independent Media Possible?/with Deborah Potter, executive director of NewsLab
(Text Webchat); May 5, 13:00 GMT [Webchat](#)

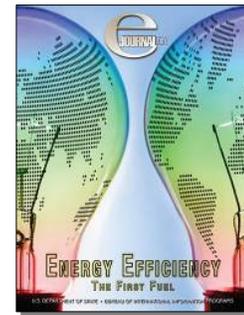
Giving Local Media a Voice/with David Hoffman, president of Internews
(Text Webchat); May 6, 16:00 GMT [Webchat](#)

Is the Economic Downturn a Threat to Journalism?/with Dr. Sherry Ricchiardi and Frank Folwell (Text Webchat); May 7, 13:00 GMT [Webchat](#)

New Publications

Energy Efficiency: The First Fuel eJournal USA Vol 14, No4. April 2009

Increasing the efficient use of existing energy supplies is widely acknowledged as the fastest, cheapest, and cleanest way to meet future energy needs. The eJournal examines the strong U.S. record of tapping efficiency as a resource, and the accelerated efforts by individuals, organizations, and governments to squeeze greater productivity from all energy sources. [eJournal](#)



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