

September 5, 2006

Recently at the Embassy

Ambassador Foley Visits Szentendre



On 28 August, Ambassador April H. Foley visited Szentendre, a picturesque town north of Budapest, where Mayor Ferenc Dietz hosted her for lunch. In the afternoon she visited the headquarters of the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC). Ms. Márta Szigeti Bonifert the CEO of REC, Senior Advisor János Zlinszky, and Deputy Executive Oreola Ivanova briefed the Ambassador on the history, structure and activities of the Regional Environmental Center and its country offices. [More about REC](#)

U.S. Embassy Honors Victims of St. Stephen's Day Storm

At noon August 25, the U.S. Embassy lowered the American flag to half staff and paid a moment of silence to honor those had been killed or injured in the violent storm that occurred on St. Stephen's Day.

New Passport Regulations for U.S. Citizens

Under the proposed timeline of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorist Prevention Act of 2004, all travelers to and from the Caribbean, Panama, Bermuda, Mexico and Canada must present a valid passport or other secure, valid document when entering the United States as of January 8, 2007 by air or sea. This regulation will apply to land borders as of January 1, 2008. [More about Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative](#)
The U.S. Embassy in Budapest processes passport applications in just five business days. Don't wait - apply for your passport today!
[American Citizen Services](#)

Charles Gati Book Launch

Professor Charles Gati launched his latest book, "*Failed Illusions: Moscow, Washington, Budapest, and the 1956 Hungarian Revolt*" on September 4 at the National Széchényi Library. It is simultaneously published in 5 languages and deals with many of the "what might have been" questions in Hungary in 1956.

Looking Ahead

"1956 and Hungary: The Memory and the Vision of Eye-witnesses—In Search of Freedom and Democracy"

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, the U.S. Embassy in cooperation with seven other Embassies and three international humanitarian organizations will organize an international conference on September 28-29 in the Italian Institute of Culture in Budapest. Related to this event, photo exhibits will open and documentary screenings will start on September 12. The events are open to the public. The Embassy cordially invites all interested. [Conference](#)



©AP/WWP



U.S. Embassy Honors 9/11

On September 11, the U.S. Embassy will host an advance showing of the Oliver Stone film "World Trade Center," to an audience of invited guests. Ambassador Foley will make brief remarks on the importance of international efforts against terrorism. There will be a moment of silence before the start of the film to remember those who died on September 11.

"Together - Együtt" Concert

The Center for Emerging Art and the Fabini Foundation will arrange a concert on September 10 at 7:00 p.m. to promote cultural exchanges between the United States and Hungary. The "Together-Együtt" Concert will present U.S. violinist David Andai, Hungarian pianists Krisztina Szabó and Tamás Németh as well as the Ungária Piano Quartet. Venue: Nádor Hall (Nádor Terem) of the Institute for the Blind, Ajtósi Dürer sor 39, Budapest XIV. [More▶](#)

Webchats

America Extends Welcome to Visitors: Travel Since 9/11 with Tony Edson on September 6 at 10:00 a.m. EDT (1400 GMT); in the Five Years After 9/11 series: **Foreign Policy Challenges** with Herbert London on September 12 at 9:30 a.m. EDT (1330 GMT); and **U.S. and International Strategic Responses to Terrorism** with Bruce Hoffman on September 14 at 10:00 a.m. EDT (1400 GMT). [Webchats▶](#)

New Publications

IRC Newsletters: *U.S. Society and Values* [Newsletter▶](#)
Information Technology, E-Government and E-Commerce [Newsletter▶](#)

In the News... from Washington

Bush Pledges \$230 Million in U.S. Aid to Lebanon

Calls for international force to be deployed "as quickly as possible"

President Bush pledges the United States will increase its humanitarian and reconstruction aid to Lebanon to \$230 million to help the country recover after weeks of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah.

[U.S. Assistance Projects for Lebanon \(State Dept. Fact Sheet\)▶](#)

U.S. Envoy Discusses Benefits of Incentive Package with Iranians

The incentive package offered to Iran in June to abandon its controversial uranium enrichment program would benefit the people of Iran, bringing new opportunities for economic growth and "reintegrating Iran into the world economy," says the chief U.S. representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Ambassador Gregory Schulte. His August 28 remarks are part of an ongoing U.S. Department of State online dialogue with Iranians in Persian that began on August 14 and is scheduled to run through September 15. [Remarks▶](#)



©AP/WWP



Photo courtesy of CEA



©AP Images



©AP Images