



Ambassador Graber Takes Part In Mayo Clinic Ribbon Cutting



On October 24-25, Ambassador Richard Graber traveled to Brno to take part in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Mayo Clinic's International Clinical Research Center (ICRC). The opening of the ICRC represents major opportunities for U.S. medical equipment and technology companies. The ICRC project is a joint project of the Mayo Clinic and St. Ann's Hospital in Brno. Strategic partnerships for the project have also been signed with a number of U.S. companies, including GE, Pfizer, Arrow, and IBM.

U.S. Embassy Joins in Planting New Trees Along Greenways Bike Path



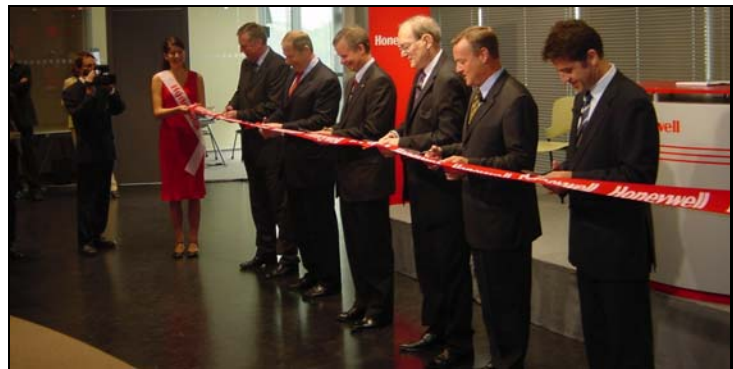
U.S. Embassy Press Attache Vicki Silverman joined Přisnotice Mayor Jarmila Pavelkova, students of all ages, and representatives of the Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation in planting 124 linden trees on November 3 along the road connecting the towns of Vranovice and Přisnotice in southern Moravia. The trees will benefit not only the local residents, but also devoted cyclists following the *Greenways* route developing from Krakow through Moravia to Vienna. The U.S. Embassy has worked with the Environmental Partnership Foundation since it was established in 2001. Today EPF works with many local partners like the Prague International Marathon.

Bell Helicopter Delivered To Czech Police



The October 26 one-hour flight inaugural flight over Prague and the Czech countryside of the Czech police's new Bell 412 Enhanced Performer helicopter marks a \$6.7 million success for Fort Worth, Texas, based Bell Helicopter Hextron. The Czech Police already have a small fleet of five Bell 412s that are used for special operations including mountain rescues, security monitoring, transport of injured victims, highway patrol, etc.; they frequently cooperate with their European neighbors in trans-border operations. U.S. Embassy Prague is working with Czech Police contacts to help them continue to modernize their helicopter fleet with U.S. equipment.

Grand Opening of Honeywell's New Center in Prague



On October 20, Ambassador Richard Graber, Honeywell CEO Rob Gillette, and then-Prime Minister Mirek Topolánek took part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Honeywell's new Aerospace Global Business Center in Prague. The facility will offer support for Honeywell's business operations in aerospace; next year it will also support the company's automation and control solutions as well as global credit and treasury services for activities across Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. It is anticipated

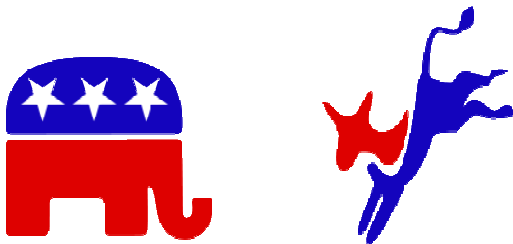
that by next year, the center will employ 475 people. According to Honeywell leadership, expanding the company's aerospace activities in the Czech Republic helps the company to better support its customers and improve its position on global markets. Honeywell currently employs over 2,000 people in the Czech Republic.

Don Juan in Prague...and in New York



With U.S. Embassy support, the Strings of Autumn music festival featured *Don Juan in Prague*, the U.S. adaptation of *Don Giovanni*. Performed by U.S. singers along with famous Czech vocalist Iva Bittova and the Agon Orchestra, this performance added a special Czech - American voice to the Mozart anniversary celebrations (the October 22 performance at the Estates Theater will be followed by performances in New York, December 13 - 15). During the same festival, the phenomenal U.S. pianist Brad Mehldau fascinated the packed Dvorak Hall at the Rudolfinum with his improvisations which received standing ovations. (Photo: Iva Bittova as Elvira).

Ambassador Graber On Similarities and Differences in U.S. and Czech Elections



We asked U.S. Ambassador Richard Graber how he would compare Czech and U.S. elections. This year, both the U.S. and the Czech Republic have seen several elections: congressional and gubernatorial elections in the U.S. and parliamentary, Senate and local elections in the CR. "I think there are more similarities than contrasts when we compare our elections," he began. "To look at some contrasts, there seems to be a tremendous emphasis in the Czech Republic on billboards and print media, as opposed to the greater emphasis in the United States on television, radio and recently the Internet. But a lot is the same, especially people-to-people contact, which is very, very important. And the conversation that surrounds elections – speculation about who will win, what will happen after the election – is very similar," said the Ambassador.

Working and Traveling in the U.S.



Don't know what to do during your summer vacation? Interested in spending it in the United States? The popular Summer Work and Travel Program, administered by a variety of private agencies, enables university students to experience summer the way students in the U.S. do. The agencies can help you find a temporary job, often at a summer resort. This gives you the chance to experience the U.S., and pay for some of your expenses while you're doing it. The staff of U.S. Embassy Prague's consular section has taken turns traveling to universities around the country to talk about this program, including Prague, Usti nad Labem, Plzen, Pardubice and other locales. For more information about the program, please visit the following web page:

http://prague.usembassy.gov/uploads/images/Ds0k5qbQBn8hM_kJcIKR6Q/visa_WorkTravel2.pdf

Next Month in the Newsletter: Grand Opening of American Center

Our American Information Center, currently located within the Embassy, will move next door to beautifully-renovated space in Vratislav Palace at Trziste 13. It will become part of the new American Center, which will also feature exhibition and conference space. **Due to the move, the AIC will close to the public the week of November 27 and reappear as part of the new Center on December 4.** We look forward to welcoming you in our new space!

Ongoing and Upcoming Events

- Thru Nov. 24** *Visual Metaphors -- Exhibit*
The Art of Mark Podwal
American Center, Trziste 13, Prague 1
- Nov. 28-29** NATO Summit in Riga
- Dec. 7- 8** **Grand Opening of the American Center at Trziste 13, Prague 1**
- Dec. 7** Opening, Nancy Crampton photo exhibit
American Center, Trziste 13, Prague 1
- Dec. 16-18** Michael Cunningham, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Hours*
Municipal Library, Dec. 16
American Center, Dec. 18

Embassy of the United States of America
Trziste 15, 11801 Praha 1, Czech Republic
Phone (+420) 257 022 002; fax: (+420) 257 022 814
e-mail: PragueNewsletter@state.gov

To subscribe, please visit our web site: <http://prague.usembassy.gov/>