

# *Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Czech Ambassador to Visit Texas**

La Grange—This past spring Petr Gandolovic, the newly posted Czech Ambassador to the United States, visited Texas with a delegation led by Count Karel Schwarzenberg, the Czech Republic's Minister of Foreign Affairs. During that whirlwind tour Gandolovic and the other Czech officials were surprised by the number of Texans still celebrating their Czech ancestry. Gandolovic expressed his desire to return to learn more of these ancestral Texans.

The ambassador was introduced to American life through his earlier service as Consulate General for the Czech Republic in New York City and now hopes encounter the different regional aspects of Czech Americans, including the rural roots of the Texas Czechs.

An invitation recently submitted by The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center (TCHCC) via the office of the Honorary General Consul of the Czech Republic for the State of Texas gave the ambassador an opportunity to fulfill his wish. The ambassador readily agreed to attend and to speak at the TCHCC 2011 Gala that will be held on Saturday evening, November 12, 2011, in the Fair Pavilion located adjacent to the center in LaGrange, Texas.

Honorary Czech Consul General for the State of Texas Raymond Snokhous of West, responsible for arranging this visit, states that "We are pleased and honored to have the newly appointed ambassador as our guest and we will do our best to show him a Texas

welcome.” Snokhous, of West, Texas, also serves on the board of directors of the TCHCC.

The TCHCC’s mission is to preserve and exhibit the history and culture of the Czech immigrants and of their successors’ contributions to the State of Texas as well as their ancestral homeland. Further information concerning this event or the center may be obtained at [www.czechtexas.org](http://www.czechtexas.org) or by calling 1-888-785-4500.