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RELEASE NEWS

THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION / EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U.S. AMBASSADOR AND MINISTER OF CULTURE TO OPEN REGIONAL LIBRARY INFORMATION CENTER IN GABALA

August 03, 2005

The Embassy of the United States of America in Azerbaijan is pleased to announce the opening of a new Regional Library Information Center in Gabala, part of its nationwide Regional Library Development Program.

The ceremony will take place in the Central City Library in Gabala on August 04, 2005 at 12:00 PM. His Excellency Polad Bul-Bul oglu, the Minister of Culture of the Azerbaijani Republic, and His Excellency Reno L. Harnish, the U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan, will participate in the opening ceremony.

The Regional Library Information Centers, which provide computers, informational materials, and Internet access for regional libraries, are being opened as part of the Regional Library Development Program (RLDP). The main goal of this program is to strengthen civil society by stimulating greater community involvement at regional libraries that function as active community centers. This project is a joint effort of the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Baku and the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX). These library activities are carried out with the cooperation of the Ministry of Culture, regional Cultural Departments, and City Administrations.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Press is invited to the event. For additional information please contact the US Embassy press service at 498 03 35/36/37.