



Private ownership helps aid greater attractiveness
First Initial Public Offering (IPO) planned for Belarus **Page 4**



Contrasting treasures of Ivenets enthral
Unique ceramic articles produced and ancient bells sought on banks of Volma River **Page 7**



Hospitable warmth of Braslav Lightning
International holiday of traditional culture gathers guests from eight countries in Braslav **Page 9**



WW2 veterans honour memory of those who died

It's vital that war never breaks out

On June 22nd, the country celebrated a tragic date: 70 years ago the Great Patriotic War broke out — one of the most terrible wars in our history

When many decades separate us from past events, we perceive them differently: less emotionally and with a more balanced and analytical eye. Today, much research is appearing relating to tactics and military strategy, with young historians seeking definite answers to fundamental questions regarding who is to blame and why. The numbers of those killed and wounded are being exactly calculated, as are material losses. Of course, all this is correct and necessary but we should not forget the faces behind the dry figures and scientific facts. The tragedies of millions are compartmentalised by contempo-

rary researchers as 'victims of military actions' yet all were someone's children or parents. They were given beautiful names, warming their loved ones with the warmth of their hands, inspiring with a glance and speaking kind words. The war was merciless in taking their lives but the pain of those who survived remains and will never fade...

Commemorative services dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the beginning of the Great Patriotic War have taken place at Brest Fortress, attended by the President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko.

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Support granted to those who deserve it

During his visit to the Brest Region, President Alexander Lukashenko tackled the issue of national business development, stressing that domestic Belarusian investors will enjoy most support from the state → **3**

Pure trade no longer fashionable

French companies interested in joint projects with Minsk Region → **4**

Time to see how rate works out

National Bank increases refinancing rate to 18 percent → **5**

Power of word comes through true coverage of reality

Minsk hosts 6th Belarus International Media Forum → **6**

Amber tears of the sea and fragments of the sun

Exhibition of amber and amber goods opens at Gomel's Rumyantsev-Paskevich Palace → **9**

Wonderful legacy of great duke

Vilnius and Shchorsy celebrate 220th anniversary of the birth of Joachim Chreptowicz, the Rzech Pospolita's first Foreign Minister → **10**

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The license for carrying out activity as gambling business № 022/10/027/2960 given by Ministry of Sport and Tourism of the Republic of Belarus, for a period since 26.03.2007 until 26.03.2012.