

Student village to be built... by students

Over 9,000 people will join volunteer groups this summer, taking part in the construction of residential houses and landmark sport facilities of the capital

By Yury Pinchuk

Those in the Belarusian Republican Youth Union know that young people have a great deal to offer and love to be involved in worthwhile projects. For a while, we seemed to forget the great value of volunteer groups but the student labour movement in Belarus has been revived, enabling those on their summer holiday to help in major projects of national importance, including building works.

Legendary Shurik, in the famous film by Leonid Gaidai, recorded 'folk tales and legends' in the Caucasus Mountains, as well as working part time on a construction site. In Soviet times, such work by students was considered honoured and important: rightly so. This summer, about 9,000 students will take up a spade or wheelbarrow, with many helping build the new student village — of course, some may end up living there! Others will be seen at the emerging site of Chizhovka-Arena while a great many will be helping reconstruct the capital's Young Spectators' Theatre, the ath-

letic arena on Pobediteley Avenue, the Stepyanka Water-Rowing Base and Raubichi Sports Complex, among other facilities. About 4,000 students are helping build dairy farms in the Mogilev Region: almost double last year's number.

The construction companies have created a pot of at least Br4m with which to pay the students: a great help to those who wish to no longer be reliant on parents' generosity. No doubt, some will then use their earnings to travel abroad, or to buy their own laptop or other major item long yearned for.

Minsk students will also be a wonderful addition at children's camps around the capital area, joining Russian and Ukrainian students across Belarus. Some of our students will even travel to the Golden Spike camp in the Tuapse District of Krasnodar Krai.

Certainly, such opportunities are fantastic for our students, giving them a chance to flex their wings, make a worthy social contribution, build confidence and to expand their experience of working in the 'real world'.



Artem Moseichuk and Vladislav Rudenya work in student village

Mighty power of steel dragon

Belarusian Railways takes part in 12th International Inter-Transport Exhibition-Conference in Odessa

The event, hosted by Odessa's Sea Commercial Seaport Expo Centre, brought together representatives of transport and cargo logistics companies, as well as their potential customers across the CIS and Europe. Over 1,000 specialists from 150 companies attended, from about two dozen countries, discussing prospects for development in the transport and logistics industry and sharing experience, while meeting new business partners.

Such events are a unique opportunity for Belarusian Railways to showcase its services to leading transport and cargo companies, strengthening its position on the international market. In particular, specialists from Belarus conducted a series of meetings with leading rail operators and forwarding companies from Russia, Latvia, Lithuania and Ukraine — all of which use rail transportation.

The Viking train service and ZUBR container train are successful examples of co-operation between Belarusian Railways and foreign partners in the Black Sea region. The trains regularly travel between Ilyichevsk and Odessa, as well as between Lithuanian and Latvian Baltic ports. From January-April 2013, the ZUBR train completed 200 trips: up 34 percent on the same period of 2012.

Quicker pulse for 'black gold'

Belarusian scientists develop unique equipment for efficient oil extraction

The Belarusian Scientific-Research Institute has joined Gomel's State Technical University in developing and testing a unique pulsa-

tion system. The device enters a drill hole, creating a continuous flow of powerful impulses, which raises access to oil deposits. Tests conducted at Novo-Davydovo oil mine (Gomel Region) have proven a success, extracting more oil than usually ex-

pected within a certain time frame. Accordingly, over the next two years, the same technology is to be tested at four other Belarusian mines. Scientists assert that the device is truly unique and, with adaptation, an application will be made for a patent.

Between Earth and sky



Successful space-terrestrial communication

By Marina Samonchenko

Belarusian students interview crew members of International Space Station for the first time

Recently the ISS crew chatted to students from the Belarusian State University, who were gathered in a room within the

International Relations Faculty. 'The crew members of the 36th expedition of the ISS are speaking: pilot-in-command Pavel Vinogradov, and flight engineers Fiodor Yurchikhin and Alexander Misurkin' were the first words spoken in the 11 minute conversation, in which students

asked eight questions. These ranged from finding out how the crew members were spending their time to a light-hearted check on whether the men were still shaving.

More seriously, Sergei Ablameiko, Rector of the BSU, asked whether the photo spectral system developed at the BSU is working well on the ISS. Fiodor Yurchikhin answered, "It's excellent. Literally yesterday, Pavel Vinogradov was using this equipment." Mr. Ablameiko noted afterwards that the BSU is keen to have its own satellite. He explained, "There is a projected plan and, in truth, we could build a satellite ourselves.

However, we need official help in launching from Roscosmos; the latter offers a free support programme for university satellites in Russia, so we're negotiating. We could build a satellite together, combining efforts with other universities, or we can work alone."

Airbus to lay the route

Vueling Airlines to fly from Minsk National Airport to Barcelona from June

The Spanish Airline intends to use its Airbus A320 for the route, once a week on Sundays. Travel time is 3 hours and 10 minutes and a single journey will cost 200 Euros. An extra charge will be made for baggage (up to 23 kg) of 12 Euros.

Barcelona is the second most populous city in Spain, and is already served by Belavia National Airline from Minsk three times a week.

Medicine delivered by 'magnetic guide'

Belarusian Magnomed wins gold medal for best innovative technologies in medicine at All-Russian Zdravnitsa-2013 Forum

The Forum gathered over 300 institutions and companies from 18 countries, with Belarus showing its innovative magnetic delivery of medicine to the brain. Alongside business circles, members of the common free market zone attended, as did the heads of governments of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia.

The unique magnetic treatment is simple in theory, yet requires skill to deliver, since the brain is so well protected: against potential toxins but also against the potential help of healing medicines (for example to combat tumours). During animal testing in Belarus, magnetic nanoparticles have been directed by a magnetic field, ensuring penetration to the desired location. Of course, it's important that the particles do not form a 'lump' which could block capillaries and it's vital that the composition of the medicinal remedy remains unchanged by magnetism. Research continues but patents have already been applied to various discoveries. Now, significant financial resources are required from investors, requiring promotion through international forums.

Internet helps tourists find their ideal trip

Tourist webinars being organised in Belarus

A webinar is a variety of seminars conducted online, requiring only a computer, Internet access and a web camera to take part, regardless of location worldwide.

Belarusian tourist companies began using webinars in late May to chat to potential tourists coming into and leaving Belarus. The service is free of charge and can be scheduled at clients' convenience.

Although the idea is widespread abroad, it is relatively new for Belarus; it should help tourists greatly, while allowing tourist agencies to expand their customer base and better understand the requirements of contemporary tourists.