

In this Issue:

Global Action Week 2006 **1-2**

Rebeka in our lobby group **3**

Megjashi on Buskerfest **4**

Trainings in Pretor and Ohrid for the youth **5**

29.350,00 denars raised form cash boxes **5**

New campaign with NOVA high school **6**

SOS Helpline; Violations of children's rights **7**

Global Action Week 2006 "Let's include all the children into education"

The last week of April (24.04-30.04) we have devoted to the Global Action Week 2006, whose topic this year was "Let's include all the children in education". On global level, The GAW is organized by the international network **Global Campaign for Education**.

"From 24 – 30th April, civil society, made up of child rights activists, teacher unions and NGOs showed they really care about ensuring every child gets a quality education, delivered by a quality teacher. United in their asks, across the world, in 112 countries, millions of children and campaigners held mock court hearings,

taught lessons, marched streets, painted pictures, made posters, met officials, voted for teachers and added their voice to the campaign. " Among the celebrities which were involved in this campaign was he famous actress **Angelina**



450 children and their teachers were marching on the City Square



Jolie. Macedonia was also part of this global event. The Campaign started with march on the City Square. Thanks to Accent Media, 10 billboards with the message

"Every child needs a teacher! – If you can read this, Thank a teacher!" were placed in the center of the city to announce the beginning of the campaign. (continues on pg 2)

As in every NGO, also in the

Diplomatic Corps

- The Italian Ambassador, **H.E. Antonio Diletto** has a redesigned web site for our Embassy in Italian language: www.childrensembassy.it
- New member of our Diplomatic Corps is **H.E Marc Faucher, Honorary Consule** in Lamenezan – France, bearer of diplomatic passport No. #00254

International volunteers in the Embassy Megjashi

First Children's Embassy in the World- Megjashi volunteer support is of utmost value. Besides the current possibility for volunteering on the SOS helpline 800 1 22 22, the free Legal Service and Social Service, children's workshops and on project activities, form recently volunteering can be done in the fundraising department as

well. Another news is the involvement of international volunteers in the work of the Embassy Megjashi: **Hetty Nieuwenhuizen** (Netherlands) – fundraising ; **Jory Sonneveld** (Netherlands)- children's workshops and fundraising; **Sanne van den Heuvel** (Netherlands) – project activities; **Bona Imami**

(Switzerland) – fundraising and Legal Service and **Victor Aleksejvs** (Latvia) – project activities and children's workshops.

We thank them!

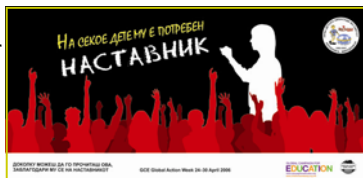
On 26th April 450 students from Skopje, together with their teachers were marching on the City Square. They

Global Action Week 2006 (continues from pg.1)

were marching with trans- parents and messages for inclusion of all the children in the education. The same event took place in other cities in Macedonia as well, with total participation of over 2000 children on national level.

On 27th April, we organized a meeting with the Deputy Minister for finances, Mr. Maksut Ali. On this meeting the children and the teachers were asking increasing of the budget for education- only for inclusion of the children who don't go to elementary school, which is guaranteed by the Constitution of Republic of Macedonia and the Convention for Children's Rights. The same day, children and teachers had a meeting with the members of the Parliament

form the Commission for education, science and sport. On this meeting, the children asked for: all the children who don't go to school (18.000) to start their education and a meal to be organized for them, new classes for this children and more teachers to be employed, while the Centers for Social Works to ask a form the social aid beneficiaries written confirmation from school that their child goes to school. Support for the Global Action Week 2006 we have received from: **President of Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Branko Crvenk-**



ovski, the Mayor of City Skopje Mr. Trifun Kostovski , Ministry of Finance, the Parliament of Republic of Macedonia, the City of Skopje, Municipality Veles, Municipality Bogovinje, Municipality Mogila, Municipality Rosoman, Municipality Stip, Municipality Negotino, Elementary School "Zivko Brajkovski" - Butel, Elementary School "K.P. Misirkov" - Radovis, Elementary School "Lazo Trpovski" - Skopje, Elementary School "11th October" - Skopje, Elementary School "Trajko Andressv" -Veles, Elementary School "Rajko Zinzifov" Dolno Orizari, Veles, Special Elementary School "Idnina" -Skopje, Elementary School "Goce



One of the ten billboards, donation from Accent Media



The march on the City Square

Delcev" - Stip, NGO "Doverba" - Kumanovo, PHURT - Delcevo, Children's Home - 11th October - Skopje, Elementary School "Vasil Glavinov" - Veles, Elementary School "Blaze Koneski" - Veles, Elementary School "Sv. Kiril i Metodij" - Veles, El. S. "Blagoj Kirkov" - Veles, Elementary School "JJK - Dginot" - Veles, Elementary School "Stojan Burceviski - Butridan" - Veles,

DPTU Milk Restaurant (Bakery) "VEGERA" - Skopje helped us with supplying the snacks during the march in Skopje, **AD "Pivara" Skopje-** supported the campaign and donated 20 packets of juices for children participating in the march, **Ms. Violeta Tomovska - singer, Stefan Pleskonik- child Ambassador of the FCEV- Megjashi, Beni Sakiri- singer, The children from the**

television show-"Nase Maalo Ms. Kristina Dikinson - Human rights activist.

For more information on this action in other countries, visit the web site of the international network Global Campaign for Education:

www.campaignforeducation.org

If you can read this—Thank a teacher!

Birthdays with "Rosana"

Three more birthdays of the children in the Shelter Center for internally displaced persons were celebrated with the cakes from the pastry shop "Rosana". Once again, "Rosana" entrusted us with their support and donated three cakes for the celebration of these children's birthdays. This is just

one of the many examples of humanity of Rosna's staff who really know how to win



over the hearts but also the bellies of these children and their birthday guests.

The cooperation with "Rosana" lasts more than five years, and during this period they have donated more than 40 big birthday cakes!! **Enormous Thank You for "Rosana"** for their selflessness.



Rosana made 40 birthdays more beautiful!!!

Children's Embassy Megjashi guest of the International School QSI

Lots of foreigners that live temporarily in Macedonia, after a certain period decide to go back to their home countries or somewhere else. Those people usually sell the items they cannot take with themselves at the so called "garage sales". Therefore, every year the QSI School organizes a sale in their yard, where at one single spot- everyone can

display and sell what he/she is not able to take with him. At this event, the Children's Embassy also had a stand of its one, among all those fancy cars and artistic paintings, numerous books, CDs, roller-skates, bicycles, international cuisine's specialties and exotic spices, toys and pieces of furniture. Even though there was a very high competition, with the

sale of our decorative magnets and origami flowers we managed to raise a total of 3.400 denars. What makes us always remember this wonderful event is the terrific atmosphere as well as the outstanding collaboration with the QSI that we managed to establish.



The Garage Sale International School QSI

NEWS FLASH!



The Software Company **Nextsense** donated the production of the new web page of the Embassy Megjashi, together with the license for **webBuilder**, a tool for manipulating contents—on which platform the web solution will be developed. The official opening of the re-design of our web site is announced for the next month. We're looking forward to it!

Rebeka joins our lobbying group for the youth who leave the home "11th October" and foster-families

As a part of the project Psycho-social and educational support for the children without parents after their departure from the orphanage "11th of October" – whose goal is to contribute in the socialization as well as the strive towards independence of the young people who leave the orphanage – the First Children's Embassy in the World – Megjashi organized training lectures in

project, supported by the World Bank, we organized



several activities whose goal was to lobby for the employment of the youth engaged in this project. We contacted the Employment Agency of R.M., and we managed to have several young people recruited for the cleaning and decorating action organized by the "City of Skopje" and we are also negotiating for the further hiring of one more youth. At the same time, the Embassy Megjashi lobbied for the employment of one person at the City Parking – and at the very same month of March 2006, this firm hired him as a messenger.

We have also included our

famous pop-singer, **Rebeka**, as a member of our lobbying group. On the 1st of June this year, she was our guest at the Children's Embassy – Megjashi and met with the children involved in the project. This wasn't their first meeting with Rebeka. They have already met her at the orphanage, so the meeting itself and the conversations developed very spontaneously.

Rebeka expressed her willingness to help with the future employment of the youth. On this pleasant meeting, she shared some of her live experiences and attitudes towards her work, thus giving a great deal of moral support to these young people. Ultimately, everyone who was present got her newest CD as a present, which contributed to the really enjoying atmosphere of this event.

Rebeka asked for a CV from each youth, in order to help them with employment



computers, foreign language courses, specialized cookery training, reinforcing and encouraging them towards a life on their own, lobbying, representing and immediate psychosocial counseling. Within the framework of this



CDs for the youth included in the project ... autographed, of course!

Our volunteer Irina Nosaceva goes to Romania

We, at Megjashi, know how to reward our volunteers. Irina Nosacheva, volunteer of the SOS helpline for children and youth, participated in the International seminar in Brasov, Romania. The seminar "From Multicultural to Intercultural Communities" was held from 22 - 26 May, 2006, in organization of the Council of Europe.

Beside Irina, the seminar had twenty more participants from seven European countries: Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Bulgaria, Moldavia and Turkey. Within the

framework of this seminar, Irina tells us, various issues were elaborated: culture, identity, conflict, xenophobia, homophobia, romaphobia, islamophobia etc. Different workshops were used as working methods, as well as group discussions, plenary sessions, role-plays and so on.

The main purpose of these organized activities and workshops were to indicate the consequences occurring from stereotypes for certain groups of people and the prejudices that everyone of us has towards the others. "This seminar was a pleasant and enormous experience for me. I had an

opportunity to learn a lot, to acquire methods and techniques that I haven't met before. Moreover, I visited different places, met wonderful people from many countries and made new friends", said Irina.

This is just one of the many examples of successful visits to international seminars, on which we regularly send our dedicated and motivated volunteers.

Each motivated and dedicated volunteer is rewarded!

NEWS FLASH!

Audit

The First Children's Embassy in the World– Megjashi was audited for the year 2005 by the independent audit house "KPMG". The project "Friendship through multi-ethnic cooperation in 5 multi-ethnic clubs" and the program activities of the organization in 2005 were audited. The independent audit report will be published in our Annual Report on our web site and in the daily press.

Our Origami teacher - Cece with own act on Buskerfest

During the Buskerfest festival, which was held from 26. May till 4. June 2006, the Origami teacher from the children's workshops – Cece Vasilevska, has three performances on the festival.

On the children's stage, Cece had an interactive act with her origami creations, and the present children and parents carefully repeated each step - some more, some less successfully. Those children who immediately fall in love with the ancient skill and art Ori-

gami, immediately asked their parents to start taking them in our free children's workshops so they can improve this interesting skill. For the most skillful once,



there were prizes– provided by **Radio Ravel**, the host **Ivce Pivce** and the sponsor of this event.

Cece herself, was more than pleased with the attendance and the interest of the present audience, and to the youngest ones she gave gifts– her special Origami flowers. Origami flower and Origami book marker also got **Scott McGovern**, with whom Cece shared a performance, and who was present on Buskerfest as a Balloon Master.



Buskerfest
26. May - 4. June 2006

The youth from the project "Psycho-social support of the children leaving the orphanage "11th October"" on a seminar

From **12-14 May**, 2006, at the youth hostel "Mite Bogoevski" in **Pretor**, we have organized a two-day seminar on the topic Creative conflict resolution, with the young that have left the orphanage "11th October". The program planned by the training team of the First Children's Embassy in the World – Megjashi, consisted of exercises for creative resolution of conflicts, forum theatre through simulation of conflict situations with role acting, as well as room for group discussion – which helped for a better overlook of the personal attitudes of

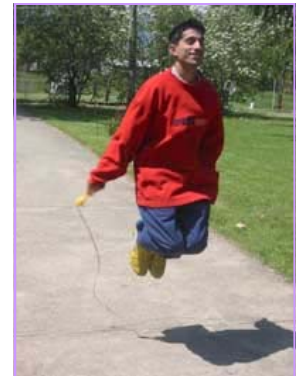


the youth of conflicts and conflict situations. This has been the second seminar with the whole group and there is a sense that the

members are more reasonable for workshop approach of seminars. Besides the

exercises planned by the agenda, we spent our free time with the group as well. We took walks along the shore of the Prespa Lake during the afternoon breaks, in the evening hours we played games and had fun dancing and singing.

From **16-18 June**, 2006, a seminar on social learning took place in **Ohrid**, which raised the level of self-awareness in the youth of their roles in the interaction with other people.



Fun during the brakes

New children's workshop in the Embassy Megjashi

Finally the children's embassy Megjashi can proudly announce the beginning of the new sports workshop.

The organizer and trainer of this workshop is **Jori Sonveld** from Holland, and the workshop is held twice per week – Monday and Friday at 6 pm. This workshop is currently attended by 20 children, both boys and girls. Although these children sometimes play their

own games, Jori's sports workshop is an opportunity the children to form teams and play a real match. With the help of this workshop children's play is kept organized, and children learn to play sport by the rules. They learn new rules, tricks and how to play better. The sports workshop helps the children maintain their physical health, they have a regular physical activity to attend and train. Besides,

through lots of fun, the children learn to play with other children of the opposite sex, different personality, and different physical strength and flexibility. All sports are played on this workshop, but the most popular currently however, is football.

Since Jori will leave Macedonia soon, the sports workshop will be taken over by Viktor Aleksejvs.



29,350.00 denars collected from donation cash-boxes!

In mid-March, the First children's embassy in the world Megjashi began a campaign for installation of cash-boxes for donations on several frequent locations in Skopje and around Macedonia. So far, cash-boxes can be found in the shopping center **Ramstore**, the **Arka** and **Karposh hotels**, all **Cosmofon** stores, all **Skopski Pazar** markets and shops, the **giftshop** at Ruzveltova

Street, all **Tediko** markets, at **Aurora Tours** tourist agency, at **Tehnomarket**, **Okaidi** stores of Fashion Group, **Neptun** stores, **Chicco** and **Exima**.

Special thanks to **Prografika** who made the stickers for our cash-boxes. At the end of June, we made a small action of emptying the cash-boxes which were almost full. The citizens do-

nated **14,765.00** denars in the cash-box at Ramstore, **3,750.00** denars in the cash-box at SP Market - Cheshma, **2,105.00** denars in the cash-box at SP Market- Rasadnik, **4,437.00** denars in the cash-box at Unique beauty saloon; which altogether makes an amount of **29,350.00** denars. The raised money will be used for the current activities of the Embassy.

Special thanks to each citizen who has donated and thus supported the work of the Embassy

New fundraising activity in cooperation with NOVA high school

Since recently, The Embassy Megjashi started the production of decorative figures/ magnets- as a part of our fundraising activities.

The figures which are made out of special plastic and plaster were painted by hand by Megjashi's volunteers, NOVA high school students and some Dutch members of the International Women's Association. So far, more than 500 pieces of these magnets were made with which sales we

have raised 16.000,00 denars. One part of the raised money we have invested in the production of cash-boxes and with rest we have bought working materials for the free children's workshops



in the Embassy Megjashi. These decorative magnets at the moment can only be bought on the special events organized by the Embassy Megjashi or directly at our premises on Kosta Novakovic str. 22a.

Since each stage of the production process of the magnets is hand-made, everything is done very slow, but starting from September, the preparation will be included as a regular project in the program of the NOVA high school.



All figures/magnets are hand-made

Presentation in front of the International women association

On 10 May, 2006 we had the chance to introduce in front of the members of the International women association with the Embassy Megjashi. The short presentation took place at their meeting at the Day and Night restaurant, in front of approximately 100 members of the association. We presented all the activities we carried out so far,

current projects and future plans. At the end of the meeting we exhibited our special magnet figures.

Most of the members of the association liked so much the First Children's Embassy in the World - Megjashi that they promised to come and visit us. Since the meeting was short, and we had so

much to tell about our accomplishments, the International women association promised us another more elaborate presentation of the Embassy, which is planned to take place after the summer holidays. Meanwhile, some of the members have already visited the Embassy and been our guests.



Great interest for our Embassy

SPECIAL THANKS!

The First Children's Embassy in the World - Megjashi would not exist without the support given by humane individuals, associations and representatives of the business sector.

We'd like to give our special thanks to: **Macedonian Telecommunications, Sto-**

panska Bank, Rosana, Prografika, Ramstore, Peksim Computers, Nextsense, Viva juices, Jogo Merkur, Avizo, Fuga.

Once again, SPECIAL thanks to all the individuals who are supporting us!

Signing-up for the free children's workshops

The sign-up process for the free children's workshops in Megjashi will begin on 1st September.

The sports workshop will continue during the summer, ever Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 18:30 h on the playground behind Megjashi's building.

Everyone interested can apply by phone on 02/ 2465 316, or directly at the Embassy.

First Children's Embassy in the World-
Megjashi, Republic of Macedonia

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Foreign currency account: SWIFT STOB MK 2X
ID 1066179 0006233480 Euro; 0007535360 USD

Visit us on the internet!
www.childrensembassy.org.mk

Детска Амбасада – Меѓаши



Italian version:

www.childrensembassy.it

The First Children's Embassy in the World- Megjashi was founded on **29th April 1992** in Skopje, as a world association and the first registered international non-profit, non-party and non-governmental organization in Republic of Macedonia for protecting children's rights.

The **Embassy Megjashi** stands for respecting children's personality, lobbying and advocacy of children's interest making the childhood safe and creative. The Embassy Megjashi strengthens the NGO movement for children's rights through developing the volunteer approach and cares for implementation of the UN Convention of Children's Rights.

The Idea, the name and the mascot (Tousley) are registered and copyrighted in the Ministry of development of R. Macedonia, Institution for protection of industrial property under brand no. 864, 864 and 865 in 1994y.

Donate **50 denars (0,80 EUR)** with call or sms

075/141-525



SOS helpline for children and youth 0800 1 2222

The free SOS helpline for children and youth in the First Children's Embassy in the World- Megjashi (0800 12222) continues with it's work. It is the first SOS helpline for children and youth in the country and exists more that 13 years (since 1993). Working hours are every working day from 08:00 to 20:00 h.

On 30.06.2006, at 10 o' clock, at the premises of the Children's Embassy - Megjashi we held a press conference to issue the six-months report for 2006 of the SOS helpline.

On the press conference we have introduced the media with the situation of the SOS helpline form January to June 2006. For these six months, there is alarming increase of violence-related cases. From the total of **451 registered calls**, 90 calls - or **20% are violence related**. It usually concerns physical violence (35,6%) and sexual violence (18,8%), which often happens within the home (35,6%), but not rare the violence happens within school - by teachers or between the children.

The SOS hipline is financed by **Macedonian Telecommunications** and **Stopanska Banka**. Part of the funds needed for volunteers, soon will be covered by **Pexim Computers** and the **Irish SOS helpline**.



Violations of children's rights registered on the SOS helpline

1. Sexually abused five-year-old girl by a thirteen-year-old boy.
2. Sexually abused minor boy, abused by Angelce P. Angelce already has a record of 63 criminal appeals for different violations.
3. Psychological violence by two teachers from the elementary school Koco Racin from Prilep, over a student in their school.
4. Appeal for physical abuse of a wife and three minor children (3, 9 and 12 years) by their father.
5. Two children, 8 and 11 years old, are kidnapped by their mother and taken out of the country. The father of the kidnapped children is searching for them.
6. Adopted girl is physically offended by the neighbor who made and violent entrance in the house where the girl was living with her father. The case was reported by the father.
7. Physical violence on two sisters (9 and 13 years old) by their own mother.
8. A mother seeks her right to see her four-year-old daughter over which the father has the custody.