

# United States Embassy Macedonia

## Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



*Global articles for your interest  
Issue 14  
September 1 - September 16, 2009*

### Contents:

#### **1. Obama Urges Congress to Pass Health Care Reform**

In a nationally televised address to a joint session of Congress, President Obama implores representatives and senators to overcome doubts and considerable misinformation that has plagued debate on health care reform legislation and support his proposals. ...

#### **2. US Emphasizes Freedom of Expression at Human Rights Council**

The United States will emphasize freedom of expression as it takes its seat on the U.N. Human Rights Council, says Assistant Secretary of State Esther Brimmer. Although fighting xenophobia and racism is critically important, she says, constrained speech does not accomplish these goals. ...

#### **3. Obama Urges America's Students to Fulfill Responsibilities**

Drawing from his own life experiences, President Obama, in a nationally televised address, urges America's schoolchildren to take responsibility for their own education and take advantage of the opportunities that an education offers. ...

#### **4. A New Germany Rises from Wall's Fall**

Roy Ginsberg, a professor of government at Skidmore College, reflects on the fall of the Berlin Wall, which symbolized the final ending of World War II, as it was frozen in place during the long Cold War. ...

#### **5. President Obama Hosts a White House Iftar**

As America recognizes the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, President Obama says, "we also celebrate how much Muslims have enriched America. ... The contributions of Muslims to the United States are ... interwoven into the fabric of our communities and our country," Obama says at a White House iftar...

#### **6. World Climate Conference Launches Global Climate Services Effort**

Global leaders, climate scientists and experts from sectors such as water, agriculture and health finish work at the third World Climate Conference, launching an effort that will help people everywhere better understand and adapt to a rapidly changing planet. ...

**In case you missed it:**

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Facebook](#) page



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*Ambassador Reeker and Minister of Culture Elizabeta Kanchevska-Milevska sign the grant agreement. / (LP)*

 **video** - MTV1 footage - size 4.24MB

## **Ambassador's Fund Enables Restoration of Daut Pasha Hamam**

September 16, 2009

On September 16, Ambassador Reeker and Minister of Culture Elizabeta Kanchevska-Milevska signed a grant agreement for the restoration of historic Daut Pasha Hamam. The \$54,000 grant is administered through the U.S. Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP), established by Congress in 2001 to assist developing countries in preserving their cultural heritage. This is the seventh year that Macedonia has been awarded funds through the AFCP, with the most recent project being the conservation of 12th-15th century Slavic and Greek manuscripts in the National Institute and Museum in Ohrid in 2008.

- ◇ To read a copy of Ambassador Reeker's speech, please [click here](#).
- ◇ To view local coverage (MTV 1 video footage- WMV file, size 4.24MB) of this event, please [click here](#).
- ◇ To see more photos from the event please [click here](#).



*Ambassador Reeker and Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs Vasko Naumovski sign the Memorandum of Understanding. (LP)*

 **video** - MTV1 footage - size 4.56MB

## **Protecting a Valuable Investment**

September 15, 2009

On September 15, Ambassador Philip Reeker joined Deputy Prime Minister Vasko Naumovski in signing a Memorandum of Understanding that will ensure that individuals who receive training sponsored by the United States government will remain in positions where their training can benefit the citizens of Macedonia. Both the Ambassador and the Deputy Prime Minister acknowledged that this will improve the civil service within Macedonia by preventing the removal of qualified trained individuals from important positions in the government, military, police, judiciary and education sector.

- ◇ To read a copy of Ambassador Reeker's speech, please [click here](#).
- ◇ To read a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding, please [click here](#).
- ◇ To view local coverage (MTV 1 video footage- WMV file, size 4.56MB) of this event, please [click here](#).
- ◇ To see more photos from the event please [click here](#).



*Ambassador Reeker takes questions from a reporter after meeting with the former mayoral candidates in Cair. / (LP)*

## **Ambassador Reeker Visits the Municipalities of Cair and Saraj**

*September 10, 2009*

On September 10, Ambassador Reeker met with the former mayoral candidates in Cair and Saraj to congratulate them for participating in fair and successful elections. The Ambassador also spoke with the current mayors, Izet Mexhiti of Cair and Blerim Bexhiti of Saraj, about various issues concerning their municipalities. These visits are part of Ambassador Reeker's continuing tour of municipalities across Macedonia after the conclusion of local elections.

◇ **To see more photos from his visit, please [click here](#).**



*Musicians Ari Roland (left) and Chris Byars (right) in Gostivar's City Square. LP*

## **Jazz Quartet Completes 3-City Tour of Macedonia**

*September 7-9, 2009*

For 3 days in September, the Ari Roland Quartet brought a uniquely American musical form to the cities of Kumanovo, Veles, and Gostivar. People of all ages turned out in considerable numbers, despite rain and cold, for an evening of jazz classics performed by bassist Ari Roland, pianist Sacha Perry, saxophonist Chris Byars, and drummer Keith Balla. The US Embassy was proud to sponsor these outstanding musicians and honored the group with a Cultural Diplomacy Award for their years of work as jazz ambassadors across the region.

◇ **To see more photos from the event please [click here](#).**



Remembering 9/11

## **Remembering 9/11**

### ***Obama Declares National Days of Remembrance***

September 11, 2009

In a Presidential proclamation, President Obama paid respect to the victims of the attacks of September 11, 2001. They were daughters and sons, sisters and brothers, mothers and fathers, spouses and partners, family and friends, colleagues and strangers. They hailed from cities and towns across our Nation and world... [Proclamation](#).

**For All Embassy News go to:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

**Small Grants information:** [http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small\\_grants\\_program.html](http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small_grants_program.html)

**American Educational Exchange information:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/aec.html>

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