



**U.S. Embassy Ashgabat • Quarterly Newsletter • Winter—Spring 2008**

**IN THIS ISSUE**

- ◆ From Editor
- ◆ FLEX Student Saves His Host Father's Life
- ◆ The Successful Story of Alumni
- ◆ Black History Month Alumni Talent Show
- ◆ Alumni Opportunities
- ◆ Orphanage visit in Bakanabat
- ◆ The Most Successful Event of Flex Alumni for 2007
- ◆ Alumnie letter
- ◆ Announcement
- ◆ Believe or not?

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**FLEX Student Saves His Host Father's Life**



In this photo: Mihail Chariyev and his host family. The letters received from Mihail Chariyev's host mother Laura Manners recognizes for his timely action that saved his host father's life. Read more about this on page 3.

**Welcome Greetings from Editor**

**Dear Reader!**

We hope you find this Alumni Boom issue exciting and interesting. We are reviving traditional quarterly newspaper after long period of time, and we are proud to offer our winter-spring issue with news from different parts of the country. If you have interesting stories we encourage you to share your success with alumni. Tell us how you are contributing to our society! We want to share with you more interesting and outstanding stories of alumni life.

I would like to use this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Guncha Komekova, and I am the Alumni coordinator for Public Affairs Section, at the



**Guncha Komekova, Alumni Coordinator, Public Affairs Section, American Embassy in Ashgabat, Alumna of JFDP Program 2006-2007**

*(Continued on the page 2)*

## Welcome Greetings from Editor

American Embassy in Ashgabat. I am also Alumna of JFDP 2006- 2007.

My original background is in Mathematics and Computer science. I have 12 years of experience in teaching at Turkmen State Power-Engineering Institute. While there, I had experience in leadership as a leader of the Youth Organization of Turkmen State Power Engineering Institute. In addition, I have been on international exchange programs, making two trips to study the IT field at the Technical University of Hamburg - Harburg in Germany.

I enjoy the position of Alumni coordinator, because I can use my creativity on this job. I work with many interesting individuals, who have huge potential for aiding the development of our country. This is a really incredible opportunity for me to establish myself as the liaison between the American government and the Alumni on many interesting projects. As a teacher of Higher Education, with more than 12 years experience, I would like to mention that for our students, faculty, and professors exchange programs is an incredible way their career goals. All exchange programs give good opportunities for students, faculty, and professors to develop their knowledge, to connect with a new culture, to improve their English language skills, as well as their skills using information technology in different fields. At this time in Turkmenistan, we need these kinds of experts. They will make great contributions to the economy of Turkmenistan, and take it to a new, high level, establishing connections with other countries to inspire reforms in the educational system.

In 2006-2007, I was a participant on the JFDP program. All aspects of my experience U.S were incredible. I presented my country for different audiences, college students, high school students, faculty members, and communities. My five articles about Turkmenistan were published in local newspaper in Nebraska State. Each time I began my presentation with these words: "It is my pleasure to introduce my country". I love my country, my culture, and my traditions- it was great to share this pride with the American people. A lot of people who I met there now know about my country, and its culture. I was glad to be in the U.S., to find out about American culture, the American Higher Education system, and the American people; now I have so many friends in different states of the USA.

Briefly I want to tell you about the projects which I am working on. I joined the U.S. Embassy in December, 2007. Since that time I have been working on many projects and am so proud and happy to collaborate with

Alumni.

We have created an alumni listserv, a useful tool for distribution of information and for alumni networking. If you are not receiving my emails, please contact me and I will add you to the alumni list serve.

We also created the Alumni Club. The main goal of this club is the creation of an Alumni Association. Alumni are working on all the papers for registration, and deciding on activities for the Alumni Association. Please join us Alumni Club meetings in Public Affairs conference room on Fridays at 18.30.

In collaboration with IREX and ACCELS, we organized an Alumni Talent show event dedicated to Black History Month. It was a successful project, and I had good feedback from the Alumni who attended it.

I am currently working on the Alumni Reunion, which will be held May 16-18, 2008, in Ashgabat, at the "Nebitchi" hotel. We received applications to attend this event from many Alumni. Thank you for your interest in the 2008 Alumni Reunion.

Furthermore, I am posting articles about our activities, news, and job possibilities on [www.alumni.state.gov](http://www.alumni.state.gov) site. I want to encourage Alumni who have not already registered on this site to do so. It is a significant tool for staying updated on all events and news about Alumni of U.S. government programs from all over the world. I encourage you to add news about your successful projects to <http://alumni.state.gov> site.

Finally, I am also working on alumni grants. Alumni have many great ideas for community development, and we are helping them to implement those ideas. I want to encourage Alumni to be active, apply for grants, and implement your ideas for the development of Turkmenistan. All of you do a wonderful job with contribution to community. I apologize if we did not include your stories; I encourage you to send them to me for the next issues. If you have any ideas to work on, do not hesitate to stop by my office and share them with me; together we can implement them successfully.

We, alumni of U.S. exchange programs, have huge potential for the development of Turkmenistan. I want to encourage you to collaborate with each other and to have an impact on the progress of our society.

I wish you success in all your projects,

My contact info: Guncha Komekova, Alumni Coordinator, PAS of American Embassy in Ashgabat, Tel: 363331, 866308010, [KomekovaGT@state.gov](mailto:KomekovaGT@state.gov)

**...I am also working on alumni grants. Alumni have many great ideas for community development, and we are helping them to implement those ideas.**

## FLEX Student Saves His Host Father's Life



The letter to the right comes from Mihail Chariyev's host mother Laura Manners. In her letter she praises Mihail's brave action that saved his host father's life. We are honored to publish the letter in full.

To whom it may concern:

Allow me to introduce myself, I'm Laura Manners host mother of Mihail Chariyev. I would like to give him recognition him for his actions on September 23, 2007. Though five months have past, from the date, still does not minimize his role in the saving of a life.

Mihail while helping his host family with the fire wood for the up coming winter found himself in a traumatic situation that would be difficult for even an adult to handle, he was able to act quickly and responsibly. His host father while cutting a large log when the log shifted causing it to roll over him. In doing so leaving him severely injured. Mihail once told by his host sister that his hosts father was injured Mihail went over to render aid till help arrived. He applied a towel to a large laceration to the head of his host father controlling the bleeding and keeping him still until further help arrived. I was away on training in Maryland at the time when this happened.

Once help arrived, Mihail helped direct Emergency medical personnel to the site where his host father was. He then stayed with his host sister and brother and grandmother comforting them while medical and fire personnel was tending to his host father. Once his host father was taken to a helicopter, he helped picked up tools that was scattered about were the accident occurred. Mihail did whatever was needed to be done. He showed great courage and compassion in the time of this traumatic emergency.

During the days that followed, he and his host family visited his host father in the hospital and helped greatly around the home of his host family. These simple acts of kindness brightened the spirits of his host father and helped reduce the stress of his host mother. For all of that, I would like you to consider some form of recognition of his outstanding action, for with out his help, his host father's condition would not have been as positive outcome as it has.

Mihail is a wonderful, bright, loving young man, who has become one of the family. We have learned a great deal about his home country and his family. We feel he is truly a remarkable young man deserving of some form of recognition for his actions. He truly saved a life.

I would like to thank you for your consideration of this recognition. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
 Laura Manners  
  
 Robert Manners

(413) 625-2914

## Alumni Success Story



*Murad Haitov, Law Professor, Fulbright Alumnus-04*

Murad Haitov, Professor of Law from Turkmenistan, Fulbright Alumnus-04 is a specialist in Constitutional and International Law. He has participated in several international programs, including time spent as a research scholar in Hamburg, Germany. He has also spent significant time in the United States, working as a legal expert in court procedure in Houston, Texas, and later participating in the Fulbright Scholar program, as a research scholar at the Seton Hall Catholic University's school of law, in Newark, New Jersey.

Dr. Haitov's academic career includes degrees from the State and Law Institute of the Academy of Science of the Soviet Union, and Moscow State Lomonosov University in Moscow, Russian Federation.

He also participated in a science mission to Sofia Uni-

versity in Bulgaria. For many years, Dr. Haitov served as an expert and local legal advisor to many international organizations throughout Central Asia, including UNDP, UNHCR, the International Red Cross, USAID, the American Bar Association, and several foreign embassies in Turkmenistan, among others. He has also worked for the Justice Ministry of Turkmenistan, and the public organization of Alumni of the U.S. Embassy in Turkmenistan, and acted as a legal expert for the European Commission during their Mid-Term Review of the Government of Turkmenistan-UNICEF Country Program. He was also an arbitration judge of the International and National Commercial Arbitration of the Baltic States, a member of the executive board of the International Law of Russian Federations, and a member of the editor's board of the Moscow Journal of International Law.

Within Turkmenistan, Dr. Haitov has worked as an expert of national and international law for the Government of Turkmenistan, the Justice Ministry of Turkmenistan, and the Education Ministry of Turkmenistan, as well as various other government organizations. He currently works as a member of the work group of Parliament of Ashgabat City of Turkmenistan, as well as being the General Legal Advisor of the National Center of the Trade Union Organization of Turkmenistan. In December of 2007, he was elected to the position of Senator of Khalk Maslakhaty of Ashgabat.

He believes that his background and Law experience, particularly his international experience with the Fulbright Scholars program, as well as his participation in a wide variety of law-related activities has contributed greatly to his professional success today.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**For managing work with the Democracy Outreach Alumni grants for this fiscal year we have chosen the deadline: **May 28, 2008.****

Please be aware that any grant sent is to be on consideration at least one month. The Democracy Outreach Funds are available for your applications, and The Grants for Community Development are of priority.

**You are welcome to apply for Democracy Outreach Grants.**

Find the application form online at:

<http://turkmenistan.usembassy.gov/alumni.html>

## «Alumni Opportunities» Alumni Networking Event



*Alumni and guests discuss their experiences in the United States*

On the evening of February 27, the American Embassy in collaboration with ACCELS and IREX, hosted an Alumni talent show in honor of Black History Month. The event took place at the Nissa Hotel and included performances and presentations by many members of our Alumni community.

Public Affairs Officer Andrew Paul opened the evening with a speech about the significance of Black History Month and the civil rights movement in America, not only as they pertain to the African-American community and America, but to all people of all cultures everywhere. His remarks were followed by a beautiful performance of George Gershwin's "The Man I Love," sung by Ogulgan Kar-ryeva. Her piece was followed by 2005 Muski Alumnus's Berdiyev

Vepa slide show presentation about prominent African-Americans in the fields of science, entertainment, and politics. This was followed by Tazegul Velmyradova's lovely rendition of another Gershwin song, "Clara's Lullaby," from the well-known opera, "Porgy and Bess."

During dinner, Alumni were treated to selected clips from the civil rights movement film, "Boycott." The film focuses on the events that began the civil rights movement in the 1950s, namely, the Alabama bus boycott in 1955, and how this led to other similar events in support of equal rights for all American citizens.

A discussion panel, composed of several Alumni as well as a Peace Corps Volunteer Stephanie York and an American embassy intern

Sarah Solomon they discussed their experiences with the black community in America, long with their observations about the level of diversity within communities all around the country, stereotypes, and their hopes for the direction of modern civil rights.

There was a spirited quiz game competition, with our Alumni divided into six groups to answer the same set of questions. First place and a small prize package went to the group that answered an impressive nine out of ten questions correctly! We congratulate them and our other participants, who all displayed a remarkable level of knowledge about African-American history.

The final part of the evening included readings from the works of several prominent black authors, including Martin Luther King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech, read by FLEX 2007 Alumna Kristina Fateeva. FLEX 2007 Alumna Naza Jafarova presented a slide show about Rosa Parks. An original jazz composition by Ildar Hudjev made for an exciting conclusion to the evening, and set the tone for the jazz and blues concert presented the following evening by the American Embassy and the Ministry of Culture of Turkmenistan. This was followed by concluding remarks by Cultural Affairs Officer, Peter Galus.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our Alumni for their participation, and their help in making the evening a success! We hope to see you all at our next Alumni reunion on May 16-18 2008 in Ashgabat.



*Alumnus Eldar Hudiyev Performs a Jazz composition*



*Alumni Participate in the Black History Heritage Quiz*

## «Alumni Opportunities» Alumni Networking Event

On January 27 2008, Dayanch Hojagyeldiyev, UGRAD'2005, organized networking event entitled "Alumni Opportunities" for alumni of different U.S. Government-sponsored programs. Over 50 UGRAD, FLEX, MUSKIE and other programs' alumni as well as representatives of international organizations based in Turkmenistan gathered at the Ak Altin hotel in Ashgabat to strengthen Turkmenistan alumni network. During the whole evening participants cooperatively brainstormed ideas for future socially beneficial projects; alumni also learnt about various opportunities they could exploit in their endeavors.

One of the main ideas of the project was to give alumni another good opportunity to get together, converse, learn more about taking advantages of opportunities, and consequently discuss various projects for the next year of 2008. Another important aspect was to involve new members of the Turkmenistan alumni community in this event. This way they could learn about previously performed projects, gain impetus to lead similar or different projects, and find future counterparts.

Event started with welcome words of Mr. P.Galus, U.S. Embassy Cultural Attaché, Mr. Schiller, Country Representative & Education Programs Manager at International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), and Ms. McGoldrick, Country Director of American Councils for International Education (ACCELS). Afterwards, guests learnt about successful projects performed in the years of 2006 and 2007: Ms. Sultanova (FLEX'06) and Mr. Hojagyeldiyev presented slide-show on different initiatives of FLEX, UGRAD, TASP, and other programs' alumni. One of the challenges of this project was to find a subject of joint interest for alumni of different age and program. As a way to han-



**Alumni during the brainstorming session on Reunion 2008**

dle it, Dayanch Hojagyeldiyev invited representatives of different grant donating organizations – U.S. Counterpart Consortium. The event participants had a chance to learn about the opportunities offered by the organizations from motivating presentations about grant opportunities led by Ms. Jepbarova, Youth Liaison at Counterpart Consortium in Turkmenistan, Mr. Akyev, Grants Coordinator at U.S. Embassy in Ashgabat, Mr. E.Schiller, Country Representative of IREX, and Ms. Chariyeva, FLEX alumni coordinator at ACCELS.

Alumni also had a chance to learn more about opportunities from colorful paper and CD handouts kindly provided by the World Bank Office in Ashgabat and Counterpart Consortium representation in Turkmenistan. "This event was very interesting and exciting. We had a chance to meet other Alumni. Besides, all activities were very nice and the presentations by different programs officers were truly helpful", said Kristina Fateyeva (FLEX'2007).

In order to receive certain feedback from participants it was decided to

spend some time on working in groups. Four professionals led groups of alumni in brainstorming of ideas for future projects. Alumni were also informed about upcoming Alumni Reunion – annual Turkmenistan alumni conference – to be held in May 2008. Participants obtained the opportunity to express their opinion and ideas on additional training or workshops that they could take a part in during the Reunion. After debates groups using flip charts represented their ideas on future projects, outlined possible ways of performing one or another project, and mentioned additional training that a project leaders would need to perform the work. Ms. Guncha Komekova, U.S. Embassy Alumni Coordinator, who had recently took up this post, said: "It was very helpful for me to lead and take a part in the discussion! I've got acquainted with many alumni, learnt about their aspirations and needs, and what's more important – I had a chance to ask alumni what and how they wanted the upcoming Alumni Reunion to be held. The information will contribute greatly to pin-point organization of the Reunion".

## Jazz: The Heritage of Black Culture

Jazz was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in the late 1800s. At that time New Orleans was the most cosmopolitan city and a melting pot of cultures and nations.

By the 1890s, there were two distinct styles of music played in New Orleans: ragtime and blues. Ragtime was popular for dancing. Blues rejected the call-and-response of gospel and spiritual music. The descendants of black slaves and white plantation owners played an important role in the history of jazz. These and many other musicians experimented with ragtime and blues, using new instruments and creating new improvisation. Buddy Bolden, a cornet player had a big impact on the early formation of jazz music. He and many others jazz musicians played their music in Storyville until it was closed in 1917. Morton was the first Jazzman to write his compositions in musical notation. In New York City in 1917, the Original Dixieland Jazz Band, made from five musicians from New Orleans, made the first jazz recording. Around this time another benchmark of jazz music, known as The Great Migration. It was a period when blacks from the south went to northern to seek work and create a better life for themselves. Among them were many musicians. The other factor in the spread of jazz was Prohibition.

In the 1920s, when alcoholic drinks were declared illegal in the United States and bars were closed down,

thousands of speakeasies (clandestine bars that served alcohol) opened in towns and cities. In many of them people wanted to hear the new style of dance music called jazz. Louis Armstrong, or "Satchmo", was an incomparable innovator in the early years of jazz. He invented scat singing, which is singing without clear words and using nonsense syllables. He became the undisputed King of Jazz. After World War II and into the 1960s, Armstrong served as Ambassador Satch, performing concert tours around the globe under the sponsorship of the Department of State. Another important figure in the development of jazz was Edward "Duke" Ellington. He was a band leader and composer. Ellington wrote songs for his orchestra that have become jazz standards. In the late 1930s, vocalists Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald gained nationwide fame. With their rich



**"All I am saying is, see what a wonderful word it would be if only we would give it {music} a chance"**

*Louis Armstrong*

voices, these women were two of the most famous jazz singers of their day. Billie Holiday sang with several great orchestra leaders, including Count Basie and Artie Shaw. Ella Fitzgerald, the first lady of song, sang a variety of styles and set high standards for the interpretation of many well-known ballads. Throughout the Great Depression 1929 to 1941 jazz continued to lift the spirits of Americans.

*Contributor: Sapargul Saryeva,  
JPDP 2007 Alumna*

*Continued from Page 6.*



*D. Hojagyeldiyev presenting alumni projects*

Alumni Networking continued with rewarding the leaders of successful projects – most active alumni of different programs, successful performers of social development ori-

ented projects, received gifts from the organizers of the event. As a way to treat participants, Dayanch Hojagyeldiyev made and disseminated small cards with different numbers on, and afterwards held a raffle. Winning number holders received small prizes from the organizers. Guests continued communication while enjoying food and music. "I believe that the event dedicated to Alumni Opportunities was really beneficial and productive. Alumni had a great chance to see the examples of the Best projects written by alumni of various programs. The presentations gave excellent ideas. Moreover, this event was a remarkable incitement to alumni to start working on projects and contributing to the Community",

Ekaterina Sultanova (FLEX' 2006) said.

The «Alumni Opportunities» networking event strengthened relationships among alumni of different programs; enlightened alumni on various projects and encouraged them to start up on their own ones. The event inspired and helped brand-new members of the TM Alumni Community in their project planning activities; joint discussion heartened alumni and promoted for new initiatives in coming year. The networking event also gave the opportunity for organizers of the upcoming Alumni Reunion to communicate with alumni, find out about their vision of the conference, and plan future alumni activities.

# Orphanage visit in Balkanabat



*Alumni with children in orphanage in Balkanabat*

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of December Toyjanova Gulnara (UGRAD 2005) and Soltanmammedova Zohregul (UGRAD 2007) together organized an event called "New Year Preparation" in the a orphanage of Balkanabat city. This project was organized for orphan children aged from 5 to 16 years old. The goal of the project was to bring to the orphanage a festive mood, to bring them this feeling that a New Year holiday is coming. For that reason we bought different kinds of stationeries that

helped us in making New Year decorations to decorate New Year tree and room where children celebrated New Year. The reason why we bought stationeries was to make decorations together with the children and teach them how they can decorate their room for their own.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of December Toyjanova Gulnara and Soltanmammedova Zohregul with a help of 3 volunteers: AUCA students Toyjanova Ayna and Soyunov Eziz and Turk-

men-Turkish school student Meredov Guvanch went to the Balkanabat orphanage. First of all, we brought New Year tree, swelled balloons and hung them in the room, made snowflakes from colored paper and hung them on the windows, children drew pictures of the Santa Claus, Snow Maiden and New Year tree that were hung on the wall and finally we decorated New Year with the decorations that we made with children together. After all decoration process was finished we played different games and then children presented for us performance that they prepared for the New Year. They sang songs; danced national dance called "gusht depdi" and told poems that they learnt about this wonderful holiday that children love most of all. At the end we presented small gifts that we prepared for them and took pictures together. For us it was a wonderful time that we spent with the children. The outcome of the project: is that we helped orphan children to decorate their New Year tree and the room where they had New Year celebration and the important one is that we brought children joy, happiness and fun. The highest payment for all that we've done was to see smiles and happiness on their faces.

Contributor:  
Nilyufar Gylyjova

## Alumni club meetings

During last three months on the regular base continue the meetings of the alumni club. The purpose of the alumni meetings is to discuss opportunities for the jointly work in association. Alumni are telling about their programs, issues that they studied in USA and what they are planning to contribute in the development process in Turkmenistan. Those meetings resulted that there are a lot of fields to contribute knowledge and skills of alumni in the development process. Alumni have potential in education, healthcare, social sciences and humanities, law and other fields where the demand of the qualified specialists and experts are. All participants made decisions that jointly work will increase potential of the alumni and their efforts to the country's growth will be more efficiency. In order to prepare draft of the constituent documents the participants of the Alumni club are learning of the law of the registration

process, sharing experience of those of them who has just completed registration of the Public Association or Private enterprise. The experience of the registration such Association as mountain-climbers which was represented by chairman Valeri Kotvin was very useful for studying rules of the registrations. Through the alumni meetings have been offered and discussed the rules which can be basic principles of the future cooperation and involving a large number of alumni including young alumni from FLEX and same program into activities. All participants agreed that among basic principles of the cooperation the main of them should be openness, accessible and democracy.

Contributor: Dovlet Jumakuliyev  
RSEP Alumnus



*2007 year was very successful for FLEX Alumni as they organized many great activities, projects, professional trainings which were dedicated to the improvement of the Community. Now, we are pleased to present you the best FLEX Alumni acts for 2007.*



**Ashgabat**

One of the most successful events of alumni was Christmas Miracle project. FLEX Alumni in collaboration with UGRAD Alumni have successfully completed the "Christmas Miracle" project on December 8. The leader of the project was Diana Chariyeva (FLEX'06) and Dayanch Hojageldiyev (UGRAD'05). This event was organized for orphans. The goals of the projects were to increasing children's self confidence, build friendship bonds, attract attention to the issues of orphans in Turkmenistan and strengthen network of Ahal Alumni. Besides projects, Ashgabat FLEX Alumni organized community service events, and visits to the Orphanage. On March 31, Leyla Ischanova 2002 and Jennet Hojiyeva 2006 organized Region Debate Tournament. Five teams from different welayats participated in this event.

**Dashoguz**

Dashoguz FLEX Alumni conducted many useful activities such as Community Service, visits to the Elderly House, Orphanage, Public Speaking, Celebration of the American holidays. One of the brightest projects was Spring English Camp. On April 24-28, Ekaterina Sultanova (FLEX'06) organized a 5-day Spring English Camp for the children of disabled People. The camp took place at the Resource Center for the Society of Blind and Deaf People. The main goal of the organizer was to help participants to raise confidence, gain leadership, Public Speaking skills, and enlarge knowledge of English, and other subjects. Furthermore, Ogulsoltan Ashirova (FLEX'05) opened an American British Center at Gorogly etrap in Dashoguz. Ekaterina Sultanova (FLEX'06) received a grant from U.S Embassy to open a library at the Resource Center for the Society of Blind and Deaf People.

**Turkmenabat**

The Best event of Turkmenabat Alumni was Debate Tournament. The leader of the event was Sabina Hojakuliyeva (FLEX'05). The main goals of the project were to introduce Debate to Turkmen teenagers, improving student's critical thinking and public speaking skills, strong collaboration between Turkmen citizens, Alumni and American Peace Corps Volunteers and improvement of students leadership and team working skills.

**Turkmenbashy**

Kristina Safarova (FLEX'06) organized "Struggle against smoking" project for students. Ahmed Hojayev (FLEX'03) from Dashoguz and Kristina Rozahova (FLEX'04) from Turkmenbashy received grants to participate in the International Leadership Conference in Prague, Czech Republic. As a result, alumni learnt new leadership techniques concerning the foreign affairs, and expanded outlook in international relations.

**Mary**

Mary FLEX Alumni organized great projects such as Public Speaking, Debate, Open MC, including the Camp on Wheels project. From September 7 to October 12, seven FLEX alumni Lyubov Lakomova'06, Narmina Gasanova'06, Bahar Nokerova'07, Serdar Mommadov'06, Tahmina Ovezova'07 and Shahnaz Rafeyeva'07 started the Camp on Wheels for 25 students. The goal of the camp was to educate participants from local schools about civics, American and Turkmen education systems, and world cultures. Another great "Professional Development Training" project was conducted by FLEX and TASP Alumni Kristina Razahova '04 and Ahmed Tagiyev'04. The purpose of the project was to support the development of our community through developing and expanding the Alumni network in Turkmenistan.

# Fun Page *believe it or not*

## *Believe It Or Not!*

*A cockroach will live nine days without its head, before it starves to death.*

*A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.*

*A snail can sleep for three years.*

*All Polar bears are left-handed.*

*American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one olive from each salad served in first-class.*

*Americans on average eat 18 acres of pizza every day.*

*An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.*

*Babies are born without knee caps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.*

*Banging your head against a wall uses 150 calories an hour.*

*Butterflies taste with their feet.*

*Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds, dogs only have about ten.*

*China has more English speakers than the United States.*

*Donald Duck comics were banned in Finland because he doesn't wear pants.*

*Dueling is legal in Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.*

*Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.*

*Every time you lick a stamp, you're consuming 1/10 of a calorie.*

*February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.*

*In ancient Egypt, priests plucked EVERY hair from their bodies, including their eyebrows and eyelashes.*

*In the last 4000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.*

*It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.*

*Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.*

*Marilyn Monroe had six toes on one foot.*

*Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike annually than all of the Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined. More people are killed by donkeys annually than are killed in plane crashes.*

*No word in the English language rhymes with month.*

*Nutmeg is extremely poisonous if injected intravenously.*

*On average, people fear spiders more than they do death.*

*One of the reasons marijuana is illegal today is because cotton growers in the '30s lobbied against hemp farmers, they saw it as competition.*

*Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.*

*Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.*

*Right-handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people do.*

*Shakespeare invented the word "assassination" and "bump."*

*Starfish hasn't got brains.*

*Stewardesses is the longest word typed with only the left hand.*

*The ant always falls over on its right side when intoxicated.*

*The average human eats eight spiders in their lifetime at night.*

## 3 D Viewing

Hold the center of the printed image right up to your nose. It should be blurry. Focus as though you are looking through the image into the distance.

