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“Art for a Cause” raises money for children in Macedonia

Fort Wayne — “Art for a Cause” is a program specially designed by Christina Baloski, art teacher at Perry Hill Elementary School, to help children in Macedonia. Throughout the year, she taught her students about art and about Macedonia.

The culmination of the project was Fine Arts Night held March 28, which raised more than $1600 for the Institute for Respiratory Diseases in Children, Skopje. Additional funds continue to filter in as the school year draws to a close.

Christina partnered the Perry Hill project with the Vladimir and Stefanche Atseff Humanitarian Assistance Project for Macedonia, which in turn partners with the MPO’s Gotse Delcheff Foundation. The Charity & Benevolence Committee of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church joined the partnership to increase the ability to buy surgical equipment for the children’s hospital.

Christina also was supported by one of her bosses Dr. Gloria Shamanoff, Assistant Superintendent, who received school board permission.

Parents of young Macedonian dancers were so impressed with the concept, that they encouraged the Charity & Benevolence Committee at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, to augment the Art for a Cause project. Deacon Michael Myers presented a $1000 check to Atseff during the April 14 dance commemorating the 80th anniversary of the MACEDONIAN TRIBUNE.

A Perry Hill mother and her children look over all the artwork that adorned the halls of the school. Lilica Kitanovska of the Voice of America, Washington, was on hand to document the event. Her program aired the following weekend in Macedonia.

Goeglein, Bush assistant, to speak at MPO Convention

“Everything good in my life begins with my family and my growing-up years in Fort Wayne’s Macedonian community,” says Tim Goeglein, Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of the White House Office of Public Liaison.

He will speak at this year’s Grand Banquet of the 86th Annual MPO Convention. The banquet will be held Sept. 2. All events are held over Labor Day Weekend in the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dearborn. He was scheduled to speak at the 2000 MPO Convention, but was unable to attend due to the death of Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

Goeglein has worked in the public arena for 18 years. For a decade, he was first the Deputy Press Secretary and then Communications Director for US Senator Dan Coats, Indiana. During the Bush-Cheney campaign, Goeglein served as the Coalition’s Media Director. He began his career at producing newscasts at Fort Wayne’s NBC affiliate.

“Working for President Bush is a professional honor. I am in regular touch with America’s faith-based community; with all the veterans groups; with the think tanks and public policy organizations; with several of the ethnic communities, including our own, and spend time with some of the leading cultural institutions. It is a wonderful life.”

He was graduated with honors from Indiana University’s Ernie Pyle School of Journalism. He is married to “the love of my life” Jenny and is the father of two young sons Timmy, 11, and Paul, 9. His hobbies include tennis, reading and the fine arts. His parents are Stanley and Shirley (Spasoff) Goeglein, Fort Wayne.

“My most important roles are husband, father and son. Because of the models of my Macedonian grandparents and parents, I place a premium on these roles and give thanks to Christ for his amazing grace, not the least of which is living in this remarkable country, in what Abraham Lincoln called “the last best hope of earth.”