



## Article Alert

### AMERICAN LIFE

- **The Failure of American Schools**  
Who better to lead an [educational](#) revolution than Joel Klein, the prosecutor who took on the software giant Microsoft? But in his eight years as chancellor of New York City's school system, the nation's largest, Klein learned a few painful lessons of his own—about feckless politicians, recalcitrant unions, mediocre teachers, and other enduring obstacles to school reform. (Atlantic Monthly)
- **Skyway Robbery! Airlines Cash In on Extras**  
The slopes of the Rockies beckoned for spring skiing. The [airfare](#) seemed reasonable enough on short notice: New York City to Denver for \$386 round-trip. But United wasn't finished trying to pry money out of me. (Times)
- **White House Rebel**  
[Michelle Obama](#) refuses to be a political show pony or schmooze with Washington's elite. She has her own sense of where her energies should be deployed and has constructed a fruitful life inside the bubble. All that will have to change in the heat of Election 2012. (Newsweek)
- **How to Turn a Parking Lot Into an Ideal Green Community**
- With outstanding [green infrastructure](#) and transit access, this Seattle development could be a model for towns everywhere. (Atlantic Monthly)

### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- **We Are What We Measure**  
The [current economic](#) mess has many alleged causes, from greedy bankers and over-generous Chinese lenders, to financially illiterate home buyers and regulators asleep at the wheel. Yet the crisis also revealed, and was in part due to, the limitations of the economic data we have relied on since the Great Depression. (World Policy Institute)
- **The U.S.-Russia Missile Defense Impasse**  
Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and U.S. [President Obama](#) met privately before the G8 meeting in Deauville, France, and discussed the longstanding dispute between the two countries over missile defense, says CFR Russia expert Stephen Sestanovich. (Foreign Affairs)
- **Radiation Understated After Quake, Japan Says**  
Japan said Monday that radioactive emissions from the stricken [Fukushima Daiichi](#) nuclear power plant in the early days of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami disaster might have been more than twice as large as a previous estimate, suggesting the accident was more grave than the government had publicly acknowledged. (NY Times Magazine)
- **Beijing's Blue-Water Navy**  
From Somalia to the Persian Gulf to the Strait of Malacca, Beijing is increasingly seeking to project naval power, a sharp break from its traditional, narrower strategy of patrolling the Chinese coast. Military leaders in [China](#) maintain that the Chinese navy is purely a self-defense force, but this definition has now expanded to encompass broad maritime and economic interests. (Foreign Policy)

### GLOBAL CHALLENGES

- **New York Meeting Focuses on Children and HIV/AIDS**  
Close to 17 million [children worldwide](#) have lost a parent to the AIDS epidemic. About

### ECONOMY

- **New Capitols of Capital**  
Since the beginning of the [global trade](#) in securities, bonds and currencies, three cities have emerged as the world's preeminent money

100 representatives of governments and international organizations are meeting in New York City June 3–4 to find ways to help these youngsters cope with the many economic, social and health problems that can worsen the trauma of a parent's illness or death. (IPP Digital)

- **Could Women's Rights Finally Improve in Saudi Arabia?**

Improving Saudi [gender rights](#), some of the worst in the world, could be one of the Arab Spring's small but important accomplishments (Atlantic Monthly)

- **Fracking and Cell Phones: Evaluating the Real Risks**

- When I first began writing seriously about [environmental issues](#) several years ago, one thing annoyed me above all else: the refusal of many climate scientists to talk about the policy implications of their research. (Time)

- **Rise of the Superbacteria**

When Philip Tarr heard the first reports of a massive outbreak of [E. coli](#) in Europe recently, they had a sickeningly familiar ring. Tarr, a microbiologist at Washington University, is an expert on the strains of E. coli that have periodically wreaked havoc in the United States. (Newsweek)

centers: New York (Wall Street), London (The City) and Tokyo. (World Policy Institute)

- **What Can You Do To Help Greece? Go There**

It now appears that Greece will once again be bailed out of its financial morass. A year ago at this time, the world was roiled by the prospect of [Greece defaulting](#) on its considerable debts, and only the reluctant decision of the leading members of the European Union – Germany most prominently among them – led to more than \$100 billion in loans extended to the Greek government. (Times)

- **U.S. Innovation and Economic Recovery**

News of rising unemployment and the threat of a Moody's downgrade puts the lagging economic recovery into sharp focus and puts pressure on the [United States](#) to spur innovations that boost global competitiveness. (Council on Foreign Relations)

- **Can Twitter predict the future?**

ONE day in 2008 an anonymous [Twitter](#) user posted a message: "I am certainly not bored. way busy! feel great!" That is all well and good, one might think, but utterly uninteresting to anyone besides the author and, perhaps, a few friends. (The Economist)

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