



American Resource Center Newsletter U.S. Embassy Helsinki March 2014, Issue 3

Deputy Chief of Mission Susan M. Elbow Gives a Presentation on American Women in Politics, Business, and Education

The position of Finnish and American women in politics, business, and education generated lively conversation at the American Resource Center with Deputy Chief of Mission Susan M. Elbow on March 19th.

The discussion kicked off a series of lectures about Iconic America, organized with the help of Helsinki University's North American Studies department. Ms. Elbow discussed Sheryl Sandberg's controversial advice about "leaning in," and spoke about Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's work to empower women worldwide.

The audience, of both women and men, shared their own experiences -- a fitting way to mark Women's History Month and Finland's Day of Social Equality.

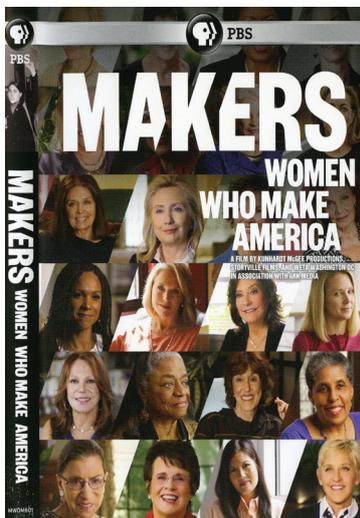
For more information about the Iconic America lecture series please see page 4 of this newsletter.



Librarian Recommends

MAKERS: Women Who Make America DVD

MAKERS: Women Who Make America tells the remarkable story of the most sweeping social revolution in American history, as women have asserted their rights to a full and fair share of political power, economic opportunity, and personal autonomy. It's a revolution that has unfolded in public and private, in courts and Congress, in the boardroom and the bedroom, changing not only what the world expects from women, but what women expect from themselves. MAKERS brings this story to life with priceless archival treasures and poignant, often funny interviews with those who led the fight, those who opposed it, and those first generations to benefit from its success. Trailblazing women like Hillary Rodham Clinton, Ellen DeGeneres and Oprah Winfrey share their memories, as do countless women who challenged the status quo in industries from coal-mining to medicine. MAKERS captures with music, humor, and the voices of the women who lived through these turbulent times the dizzying joy, aching frustration and ultimate triumph of a movement that turned America upside-down.



Celebrating Women

March Is Women's History Month

Every March in the United States, National Women's History Month celebrates the contributions of women to the nation's history and culture.

Each year, the president issues a proclamation calling on all citizens to observe March as National Women's History Month, as well as a separate proclamation on International Women's Day, March 8. The worldwide celebration, begun in 1975 by the United Nations, recognizes women's achievements, highlights issues of common concern and focuses on ending discrimination and increasing support for women's full and equal participation in society.

The Women's History Month honorees include scientists, engineers, politicians, writers and filmmakers, conservationists, teachers, community organizers, religious or workplace leaders, businesswomen and all others who took action.



ARC books

WebPicks

collected by the ARC staff

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American Life

Ancient Migration Patterns to North America Are Hidden in Languages Spoken Today by Joseph Stromberg, smithsonianmag.com, March 12, 2014. Languages spoken in North America and Siberia are distantly related. What does that tell us about the first Americans?
http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/ancient-migration-patterns-north-america-are-hidden-languages-spoken-today-180950053/?utm_source=smithsoniantopic&no-ist

Billionaires With Big Ideas Are Privatizing American Science by William J. Broad. The New York Times, March 15, 2014.
http://www.nytimes.com/2014/03/16/science/billionaires-with-big-ideas-are-privatizing-american-science.html?emc=edit_th_2014.0316&nl=todaysheadlines&lid=52830342&_r=0

Cheap Words by George Packer. The New Yorker, February 17/24, 2014. Amazon is good for customers. But is it good for books?
http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2014/02/17/140217fa_fact_packer

Cultivating the Next Generation of Academic Leaders: Implications for Administrators and Faculty by Deborah DeZure, Allyn Shaw, and Julie Rojewski. Change, January/February 2014. With many baby boomers preparing to retire, higher education is facing an anticipated shortage of academic administrators.
http://www.changemag.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2014/January-February%202014/cultivating_full.html

How to Be a Good Bad American Girl by Anna Holmes. The New Yorker, March 6, 2014. Both "Harriet the Spy" and "To Kill a Mockingbird" present rough-and-tumble girls who butt up against expectations of their gender.
<http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/books/2014/03/harriet-m-welsch-scout-finch-and-how-to-be-a-good-bad-american-girl.html>

Social Media Go to College by Ana M. Martínez-Alemán. Change, January-February 2014, pp. 13-20. Although faculty and students are positioned on either side of the digital divide, social media are slowly but surely being integrated into the college classroom.
http://www.changemag.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2014/January-February%202014/socialmedia_full.html

The Web at 25 in the U.S. by Susannah Fox and Lee Rainie. Pew Research Center, February 27, 2014. The overall verdict: The Internet has been a plus for society and an especially good thing for individual users.
<http://www.pewinternet.org/2014/02/27/the-web-at-25-in-the-u-s/>

The Women at the Top by Marcia Angell. The New York Review of Books, March 20, 2014. The XX Factor: How the Rise of Working Women Has Created a Far Less Equal World by Alison Wolf is discussed.
<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2014/mar/20/women-at-the-top/>

Economy & Politics

The 50 Smartest Companies 2014. MIT Technology Review, March/April 2014. It might sound difficult to define what makes a smart company, but you know one when you see it. When such a company commercializes a truly innovative technology, things happen: leadership in a market is bolstered or thrown up for grabs. Competitors have to refine or rethink their strategies.
<http://www.technologyreview.com/featuredstory/524671/50-smartest-companies-2014/>

Don't Tell Ruth Ginsburg to Retire by Garrett Epps. The Atlantic, March 18, 2014. If Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had followed advice from male law professors like me, she would probably not be where she is today.
<http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2014/03/dont-tell-ruth-ginsburg-to-retire/284479/>

Dosvedanie to All That by Julia Ioffe. New Republic, February 13, 2014. An exit interview, our ambassador to Russia on freedom, security, and how badly Putin wanted Obama to visit Sochi.
<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/116610/michael-mcfaul-exit-interview-us-ambassador-russia-speaks>

Facebook's Sheryl Sandberg and the Rise of Women Billionaires by Connie Guglielmo. Forbes, March 3, 2014
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/connieguglielmo/2014/03/03/the-class-of-2014-leans-in/>

The Tea Party's Over: Outside Conservative Groups Are Experiencing the Limits of Their Influence by Josh Kraushaar. National Journal, March 18, 2014. FreedomWorks issued an unusual round of endorsements this week. The conservative group, which won publicity for backing intraparty challenges to Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell and Rep. Mike Simpson, decided to play it safe this time. It endorsed three senators

and nine congressmen, none of whom face any serious competition—Republican or Democratic.
<http://www.nationaljournal.com/against-the-grain/the-tea-party-s-over-20140318>

Global Challenges

Do You Have a Clue How Much Water You Really Use? by John Metcalfe. The Atlantic, March 6, 2014.

What common household fixture sucks up the most water – the shower, the toilet, or the washing machine?

<http://www.theatlanticcities.com/jobs-and-economy/2014/03/do-you-have-clue-how-much-water-you-really-use/8550/>

The First Cold War: the Environmental Lessons of the Little Ice Age by Deborah R. Coen. Foreign Affairs, March/April 2014.

Book Review of Geoffrey Parker's book "Global Crisis: War, Climate Change, and Catastrophe in the Seventeenth Century": "Parker uncovers the environmental factors behind the seventeenth century's earthshaking events, from the English Civil Wars, to the collapse of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, to the Manchu conquest of China."

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/140759/deborah-r-coen/the-first-cold-war>

Fracking Won't Bring Energy Independence by Leonardo Maugeri. The National Interest, February 25, 2014.

"The single-minded focus on the future of shale oil, however, risks obscuring another evolving dimension of the global oil picture that defies the past pessimism spread by peak-oil theorists who claimed that shortages loomed: beyond the United States, the world's oil-production capacity is also growing much faster than demand."

<http://nationalinterest.org/article/fracking-wont-bring-energy-independence-9934>

Robotic Technology to Preserve Wildlife: A Scenario by Princess Aliyah Pandolfi. The Futurist, March/April 2014.

A new flying robotics challenge takes aim at the armed groups that are hunting the black rhino and other animals out of existence.

<http://www.wfs.org/futurist/2014-issues-futurist/march-april-2014-vol-48-no-2/robotic-technology-preserve-wildlife-scen>

The State of Organic Farming, From Yesterday to Tomorrow by Jennifer Kongs. Mother Earth News, March 3, 2014.

Here's what to look out for in the next 25 years of organic farming.

<http://www.motherearthnews.com/homesteading-and-livestock/state-of-organic-farming-zboz1403zkon.aspx>

We're Running Out of Antibiotics by Nicole Allan. The Atlantic, February 19, 2014.

It's difficult to imagine a world without antibiotics. They cure diseases that killed our forebears in droves, and enable any number of medical procedures and treatments that we now take for granted. Yet in 1945, while accepting a Nobel Prize for discovering penicillin, Alexander Fleming warned of a future in which antibiotics had been used with abandon and bacteria had grown resistant to them. Today, this future is imminent.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/03/were-running-out-of-antibiotics/357573/>

International Relations

The European Union's Eastern Partnership by Jeanne Park. Council on Foreign Relations, March 14, 2014.

The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is the European Union's leading policy initiative to forge closer ties with six countries in Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus. Established in 2009, the partnership seeks to promote regional stability through trade agreements and democratic institution-building. Since its inception, partner countries like Moldova and Georgia have taken modest steps toward reform, but the EaP's ability to liberalize political and economic institutions in the region has fallen short of expectations.

<http://www.cfr.org/europe/european-unions-eastern-partnership/p32577>

National Security Perspectives on Terrorism Risk Insurance in the United States by Henry H. Willis and Omar Al-Shahery. Rand, March 6, 2014.

Congress enacted the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (TRIA) in 2002, in response to terrorism insurance becoming unavailable or, when offered, extremely costly in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. The law provides a government reinsurance backstop in the case of a terrorist attack by providing mechanisms for avoiding an immediate drawdown of capital for insured losses or possibly covering the most extreme losses. Extended first in 2005 and again in 2007, TRIA is set to expire at the end of 2014, and Congress is again reconsidering the appropriate government role in terrorism insurance markets.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR573.html

NATO Secretary-General: Russia's Annexation of Crimea Is Illegal and Illegitimate by Fred Dews. Brookings, March 19, 2014.

The Center on the United States and Europe (CUSE) hosted NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen for a Statesman's Forum address on the importance of the transatlantic alliance and how the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is evolving to address new common security challenges. In his remarks, Secretary-General Rasmussen clearly stated that "Russia's military aggression in Ukraine is in blatant breach of its international commitments and it is a violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

<http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/brookings-now/posts/2014/03/nato-secretary-general-russia-annexation-crimea-illegal-illegitimate>

Promoting Restraint: Updated Rules for U.S. Arms Transfer Policy by Rachel Stohl. Arms Control Today, March 2014.

On January 15, 2014, the United States released a document describing its new policy governing transfers of conventional weapons. The policy revision was long overdue, as the new publicly released document, Presidential Policy Directive 27 (PPD-27), replaced a classified directive that came out in 1995.

https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2013_03/Promoting-Restraint-Updated-Rules-for-US-Arms-Transfer-Policy

The Ugly, Pointless Domestic Fight over Ukraine by Daniel R. DePetris and Erik French. The National Interest, March 19, 2014.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's military incursion into Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula has generated a storm of commentary and analysis on virtually every question under the sun. What is driving Putin to act in such an aggressive manner? What does Russia's speedy intervention in Ukraine tell us about the strength of the new government in Kiev? And what can NATO and the European Union possibly do in response?

<http://nationalinterest.org/commentary/the-ugly-pointless-domestic-fight-over-ukraine-10078>

KULTTUURISIA KUVIA YHDYSVALLOISTA - WINDOWS TO ICONIC AMERICA -

LUENTOSARJA KESKIVIKKOISIN KLO 17.00
HELSINGIN YLIOPISTON PÄÄKIRJASTO, KAISA-TALO
FABIANINKATU 30, 7. KERROS

26.03.2014

Route 66: Maailman kuuluisin maantie

Professori Markku Henriksson, Helsingin yliopisto

02.04.2014

Villin Lännän myytit

Akatemiatutkija Rani-Henrik Andersson, Helsingin yliopisto

09.04.2014

Seikkailua rajamailla: katsaus Yhdysvaltain rajaseutukirjallisuuteen

FM Anna-Leena Lähde, Helsingin yliopisto

16.04.2014

Yhdysvaltain alkuperäiskansojen uskontoperinteet

Dosentti Riku Hämäläinen, Helsingin yliopisto



American Resource Center



UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

Pop Up Booth on Studying in the U.S.
Wednesday, March 26, at 11:30-14:00 at the Kaisa Library

Are you interested in studying in the U.S.? Do you have questions about possibilities for researchers in the U.S.?

The Fulbright Center and the American Resource Center are arranging a pop up booth at the main entrance to the Helsinki University's Kaisa Library (Fabianinkatu 30, 3rd floor) on **Wednesday, March 26, at 11:30 to 14:00**. A representative from the Fulbright Center will be there to answer your questions along with staff members from the ARC. You'll get advice for applying to schools in the U.S. as well as information about Fulbright scholarships for students and researchers.

Pop in or drop by - see you there!



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