



Vol. 1 No. 9  
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Information Resource Center - Monrovia

# NEWS & ARTICLES ALERT



Public Affairs Section  
Embassy of the United States of America  
Monrovia, Liberia



## IRC-MONROVIA

The Information Resource Center (IRC) offers information resources, organizes regular weekly events, and is the hub for coordinating outreach programs, especially the American Corner program. The IRC is open to the public Monday to Thursday from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm; photo ID is required for entry.

### IRC NEWS

#### Liberia Bids Farewell to PAO Ghebream

On August 17, U.S. Embassy Monrovia Public Affairs Officer Dehab Ghebream departed the shores of Liberia after three years of a dedicated tour of duty. She began her assignment in Monrovia on September 6, 2009. Prior to her departure, different groups organized farewell receptions in her honor and she attended some final programs, as shown in the pictures below.



August 10: Charge d'Affaires Michael Arietti hosted a reception in honor of the PAO for U.S. Embassy contacts at the Ambassador's Residence.



August 9: The PAO attended her last meeting with members of the State Exchange Alumni Association of Liberia (SEAL) at the IRC, New Office Building.



August 16: The PAO bid farewell to Mamba Point children at the IRC Children's Hour held in the Multi-Purpose Room, New Office Building.



August 14: The PAO said goodbye to Muslim youth during a Ramadan Roundmat discussion held in the Multi-Purpose Room, New Office Building.

### EDUCATIONAL ADVISING

Educational advising sessions at the IRC:  
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.  
[www.educationusa.state.gov](http://www.educationusa.state.gov)

### STAY CONNECTED

[www.monrovia.usembassy.gov](http://www.monrovia.usembassy.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/monrovia.usembassy](http://www.facebook.com/monrovia.usembassy)  
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### COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER 2012

#### U.S. Embassy Monrovia Gets New PAO

##### Welcome Reception for Incoming PAO



Sally K. Hodgson  
Public Affairs Officer  
U.S. Embassy-Monrovia

Thursday, September 6:  
(5:00 - 7:00 pm, Multi Purpose Room - 1105)  
The Public Affairs Section will host a welcome reception for the new United States Embassy Monrovia Public Affairs Officer Sally Hodgson. Key Public Affairs Section contacts and U.S. Embassy officers will be in attendance. Sally arrives at Post on Saturday, September 1, and resumes duty on Tuesday, September 4. She replaces Dehab Ghebream who departed post August 17 after three years. Attendance to the reception is by invitation.

tation.

##### Alumni Meeting: Thursday, September 13:

(5:00 - 7:00 pm, Information Resource Center - 1112)  
The new U.S. Embassy Monrovia Public Affairs Officer Sally Hodgson will be introduced to members of State Exchange Alumni Association of Liberia (SEAL) during their monthly meeting and she will share her introductions and expectations with the members. Only SEAL members will be admitted.

##### Children's Hour: Thursday, September 20:

(4:30 - 6:00 pm, Multi Purpose Room - 1105)  
The new U.S. Embassy Monrovia Public Affairs Officer Sally Hodgson will be introduced to the children and she will share her experiences and expectations with them. Parents/guardians are requested to register their children who wish to attend the program. Registration forms for the event will be available at both Embassy entrances on Benson and Gibson streets.

##### Speaker Series: Thursday, September 27:

(6:00 - 8:00 pm, Multi Purpose Room — 1105)  
A visiting American foreign service officer will discuss the upcoming **U.S. Election** following Republican and Democratic National Conventions ahead of the U.S. elections in November. No invitation, present photo ID for admittance.

#### Search IRC Books Online

Search IRC-Monrovia books online at: [www.librarything.com/catalog/ircmonrovia](http://www.librarything.com/catalog/ircmonrovia). Click Your Books on the Home Page, then search using Style C. Over 1,000 books are already uploaded.

## ARTICLES ALERT

*Articles Alert* is produced monthly by the Information Resource Center, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy Monrovia. It offers abstracts of current articles, mostly from U.S. publications and by U.S. authors, highlighting significant issues in major areas of international or U.S. domestic affairs. Views expressed in the articles are those of authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government policies.

### U.S. ELECTIONS

#### Youth Votes! Millennials Rock the Vote

This issue of *eJournal USA* looks at how the Millennials — Americans born from the early 1980s to the mid-1990s — are changing the face of the U.S. electorate and politics. How are they different from previous generations? What is at stake for the Millennial Generation in the November 2012 election? Are they joining the two major U.S. political parties? And why do they support various candidates and causes? You will find answers to many of these questions in a Facebook debate between young Democratic and Republican activists, in blogs by campaign volunteers and in the Millennial Generation portrait grounded in recent data. What is clear is that young Americans remain optimistic and committed to democracy, even as they face the most challenging economy and job market since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

### ECONOMY

#### U.S. Economy Grew \$6.5 Billion

Source: [iipdigital.state.gov](http://iipdigital.state.gov)



The U.S. economy grew more than an initial estimate from April to June as the gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 1.7 percent, according to a new Commerce Department report. The August 29 report by the Bureau of Economic Analysis shows a 0.2 percent, or \$6.5 billion, increase in U.S. economic growth during the period — higher than originally reported in the department's advance quarterly estimate, released July 27. The new figure uses more complete source data to calculate the GDP, or total output of goods and services produced by the country. The report confirms that the U.S. economy posted its 12th straight quarter of positive growth...

### PEACE CORPS

#### Disabled Peruvian Students Get New Classroom



Peace Corps volunteer Ana De la Rosa of Orlando, Florida, is working with her local community to build a new classroom for students with learning disabilities and provide additional training at a local primary school in northern Peru. The new classroom will include computers outfitted with educational software and updated classroom equipment that will create a more vibrant learning environment for the students. The classroom will include new floor mats, step ladders, toys and a trampoline. "The classroom will be a stimulating environment of lights, sounds and tactile experiences, specially designed to tap into the unique abilities of each student," said De la Rosa.

### WHITE HOUSE

#### 125,000 Veterans & Military Spouses Hired



Source: [whitehouse.gov](http://whitehouse.gov)

"Earlier today, I joined with First Lady Michelle Obama at Naval Station Mayport near Jacksonville, Florida as she announced that 2,000 companies had hired or

trained an amazing 125,000 veterans and military spouses in the past year through Joining. This effort, combined with policies and legislation put in place by the President, have resulted in a 20 percent decrease in veteran unemployment compared to this time last year. It was an extraordinary event, set among several Navy Seahawk helicopters, that kicked off with a new Joining Forces video telling the story of how we got to today's announcement. Hundreds of sailors from the U.S. Navy's premier warships and helicopter squadrons were in attendance along with their families. The Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Admiral Scott Van Buskirk, was there and delivered inspiring remarks...."

### ECONOMY

#### AGOA Helps Build Economic Growth



The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), a U.S. trade law enacted in 2000, has helped increase both the volume and diversity of U.S. trade with sub-Saharan Africa. U.S. trade with the region, combining exports and imports, totaled \$95.2 billion in 2011, up 18 percent from the year before. U.S. imports reached \$74.2 billion, up nearly 14 percent from

2010. in the photo, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton looks at products made by members of the African Women's Entrepreneurship Program in Lusaka, Zambia, site of the 2011 AGOA Forum. In her remarks at the forum, Secretary Clinton stressed the need to create business-friendly environments. AGOA is helping to grow economies in sub-Saharan Africa.

Source: [iipdigital.state.gov](http://iipdigital.state.gov)



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