



Information Resource Center - Monrovia

NEWS & ARTICLES ALERT

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June 2012



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

President Sirleaf Visits IRC



L-R: Acting DCM Patricia Rader, PAO Dehab Ghebream, President Sirleaf, Cllr. Yvette Chesson-Wureh, Chargé d'Affaires Karl Albrecht at the circulation desk in the IRC.

Officer Dehab Ghebream. The PAO introduced IRC services and resources to the President as they toured the various sections of the IRC. The President was at the US Embassy Compound for an official function and visited the IRC.

IRC Hosts Media Practitioners Roundtable



Group of Liberian media practitioners at the roundtable discussions in the IRC.

On Thursday, May 31, IRC-Monrovia hosted a roundtable discussion titled, "Freedom of Press in Liberia Today," in observance of the World Press Freedom Day/ Month. Sixteen senior Liberian media practitioners brainstormed on the challenges and good practices in the media landscape. The discussion was

moderated by IREX Senior Media Specialist Bill Burke and U.S. Embassy Monrovia Public Affairs Officer Dehab Ghebream contributed to the discussions.

EDUCATION ADVISING

Education advising sessions at the IRC:
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

www.educationusa.state.gov

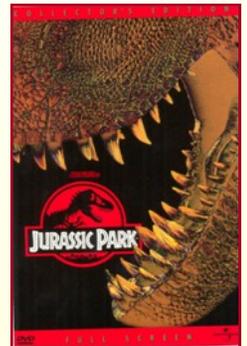
COMING UP IN JUNE 2012

IRC Environment Month

In observance of Environment Month, the IRC will host the following events:

Movie Series: Thursday, June 7:
(5:00 - 7:00 pm, Multi Purpose Room - 1105)

The film "*Jurassic Park*" a remote island park with dinosaurs is about to turn deadly, as five people must battle to survive among the prehistoric predators. It is open to the general public. Present photo ID for admittance.



Children's Hour: Thursday, June 21:
(4:30 - 6:00 pm, Multi Purpose Room - 1105)

Robert Carter, US Embassy Monrovia Community Liaison Office Coordinator will be the presenter. 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, June 28:
(6:00 - 8:00 pm, New Embassy Compound). This month's theme "Environment" will be addressed and a guest speaker will be announced soon. Open to the public. Present photo ID for admittance.

Search IRC Books Online

IRC-Monrovia continues to upload its books on the online cataloging software called LibraryThing. Search at: www.librarything.com/catalog/ircmonrovia. Click Your Books on the Home Page, then search using Style C. Yes, we have uploaded over 300 books already. Please contact the IRC Librarian for any assistance while uploading continues.

STAY CONNECTED

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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.

PEACE CORPS

Peace Corps Volunteer Starts High School Girls Club in Liberia

Source: iipdigital.state.gov



A club started by a Peace Corps volunteer for secondary school girls in Liberia is giving the girls new ways to think about themselves and their futures. Peace Corps volunteer Charlene Espinoza of San Diego, California, recently started the club in her Liberian community to help foster gender equality and empowerment among young women. Since Espinoza formed the club in January, 25 students aged 14 to 25 have met twice a week to work on craft projects and attend lectures and workshops designed to teach healthy life skills and self-confidence. Espinoza is also teaching club members to sew and sell merchandise out of recycled African textile pieces. "After spending time at the school, I realized that I needed to introduce the female students to something creative and different that would allow them to think outside the box and give them a fun opportunity to do something other than their daily chores," Espinoza said.

FOOD & SECURITY

Food Security Program Yielding Tangible Results in Africa

Source: iipdigital.state.gov



At this weekend's G-8 Summit at Camp David, President Obama and his counterparts will discuss an important global initiative to promote food security in Africa. Helping poor countries improve agricultural productivity and boost the incomes of smallholder farmers is a priority

for the United States and many of our partners in the international community. The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) is one of the most effective ways the United States is supporting the effort to end hunger and poverty. Last week, during a visit to a rice cooperative in the small, West African nation of Togo, I had the opportunity to see first-hand the tremendous impact this U.S.-led, multilateral initiative is having on the lives of some of the world's poorest farmers.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



World Environment Day (WED) is an annual event that is aimed at being the biggest and most widely celebrated global day for positive environmental action. WED activities take place all year

round but climax on 5 June every year, involving everyone from everywhere. WED celebration began in 1972 and has grown to become one of the main vehicles through which the UN stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and encourages political attention and action.

FOOD & SECURITY

Corruption Is Job Killer — Clinton Says

Source: iipdigital.usembassy.gov



"Corruption is a cancer that eats away at economic opportunity," said Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton at her Global Town Hall with Civil Society Representatives on May 16. "How discouraging is that to people who want to get started and want to get going with their own energy to create something?" Clinton said. "Sometimes you have to pay many bribes. Sometimes you get all kinds of licenses that have nothing to do with actually starting your business, but it's just to keep somebody in the government employed." While pledging America's support to groups that combat corruption, Clinton also suggested the role social media can play in shedding light on corrupt practices. "[Post] anonymous pictures of people taking bribes, [post] anonymous stories of officials who stand in the way of the creation of your small business. Take that stand against corruption. We will work with you."

USAID

USAID Welcomes Guidelines on Land Governance, Property Rights

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) May 11 welcomed a U.N. panel's endorsement of voluntary guidelines and practices that can help countries establish laws and policies that better govern land, fisheries and forests tenure rights. The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security were endorsed by the United Nations Committee on World Food Security in Rome, and aim to support food security and sustainable development. "The U.S. supports policies that create more transparent, accountable, accessible, predictable and stable access to land, which will enable private sector investment."



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United States Embassy

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077-677-7073, 077-677-7185, 077-677-7257

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