



Information Resource Center - Monrovia

NEWS & ARTICLES ALERT

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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; a photo ID is required for entry.

IRC NEWS

Liberia Receives New U.S. Ambassador



President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf offers a toast to Ambassador Deborah Malac after the Ambassador presented Letters of Credence at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Monrovia.

The new U.S. Ambassador to Liberia, Deborah Malac, arrived in the country on September 18 to begin a three-year tour of duty. She presented her credentials to the President of Liberia on September 20 and the Embassy hosted a reception in her honor on September 26. President Barack Obama nominated Ms. Malac as U.S. Ambassador to Liberia on May 9, 2012, and her nomination was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 26. She is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service who has served the Department of State since 1981.

DCM Visits American Corner Buchanan



DCM Karl Albrecht (middle) in AC Buchanan consulting with AC Coordinator Clarence Reeves (blue cap) and GBCC President's Special Assistant.

On September 21, U.S. Embassy Monrovia Deputy Chief of Mission Karl Albrecht visited the American Corner in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County. The DCM was in Buchanan for official function where he served as a keynote speaker at Grand Bassa Community College (GBCC) TVET graduation program. GBCC is the host of our American Corner in Buchanan.

EDUCATIONAL ADVISING

Educational advising sessions at the IRC:
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.
www.educationusa.state.gov

STAY CONNECTED

<http://monrovia.usembassy.gov>
<http://facebook.com/monrovia.usembassy>
<http://twitter.com/embassymonrovia>
<http://flickr.com/usembassymonrovia>

TIME FOR IRC REGULAR EVENTS CHANGE

Effective October 2012, IRC Movie Series, Alumni Meeting and Speaker Series will be held from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm while Children's Hour remains at 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Please take note!

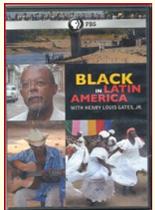
COMING UP IN OCTOBER 2012

Regional IRO Steve Perry Visits Liberia

U.S. State Department's regional Information Resource Officer, Mr. Steve Perry, visits Liberia on a working tour on October 19-27. He will conduct training for PAS staff and make presentations in Monrovia and at American Corners in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County and Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County.

IRC Observes Hispanic Heritage Month and Democracy

Movie Series: Thursday, October 4:
(5:00 - 7:00 pm, Multi Purpose Room - 1105)
"Black in Latin America" examines how Africa and Europe came together to create the rich cultures of Latin-America and the Caribbean. It is open to the general public. Please present a photo ID for admittance.



Alumni Meeting: Thursday, October 11:
(5:00 - 6:30 pm, Information Resource Center - 1112)
Members of the State Exchange Alumni Association of Liberia (SEAL) will review the draft Articles of Incorporation and discuss project proposal. Only SEAL members will be admitted.

Children's Hour: Thursday, October 18: (4:30 - 6:00 pm, MPR)
An American will organize a mock U.S. elections for the kids. 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, October 25: (5:00 - 6:30 pm, MPR)
A career U.S. State Department Foreign Service Officer will discuss the upcoming **U.S. Election** following Republican and Democratic National Conventions as well as Presidential Debates ahead of the U.S. elections on November 6. No invitation, present photo ID for admittance.

Search IRC Books Online

Search IRC-Monrovia books online at: www.librarything.com/catalog/ircmonrovia. Click Your Books on the Home Page, then search using Style C. Over 1,300 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

Election Day: Democracy in Action

Source: iipdigital.state.gov



Bright balloons bob above a sea of rainbow-colored signs as loudspeakers blare music and announcements, and people in hats and shirts emblazoned with slogans hand out fliers, stickers and buttons. Election Day in the United States often arrives dressed as a carnival, ready to attract attention and excite voter interest. The day begins early on the

Tuesday after the first Monday in November in villages, towns and cities across the United States, as thousands of volunteers rise before dawn to lend a hand during the elections. Some will line up outside campaign headquarters, eager to pick up the flyers, pamphlets and signs they will distribute at polling places in the hope of still influencing voters' decisions. Others will go directly to the school cafeterias, gymnasiums and community centers that serve as polling places.

GOVERNMENT

Promote Democracy Worldwide

Source: iipdigital.state.gov



As a desire for democratic governance spreads to countries in every region of the world, a gathering of global leaders committed to advancing democracy worldwide heralds "a moment of great importance" for the growth of free societies, says a U.S. official. Speaking in New York at the fifth meeting of the Community of Democracies (CD) Governing Council on September 25, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Roberta S. Jacobson, hailed the rise of pro-democracy movements while also acknowledging the difficulties that often accompany transitions to democratic rule.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

In March 2012, President Obama directed his Cabinet to redouble the Administration's efforts to eliminate human trafficking, which afflicts more than 20 million people around the world, including in communities in the United States. Building on the strong record of the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and its member agencies, the President has announced several initiatives: Executive Order Strengthening Protections in Federal Contracts: To strengthen the U.S. Government's existing zero-tolerance policy on human trafficking in government contracting, the President has issued an Executive Order that outlines prohibitions on trafficking-related activities that will apply to all federal contractors and subcontractors, requires compliance measures for large overseas contracts and subcontracts, and provides federal agencies with additional tools to foster compliance.

WHITE HOUSE

Source: whitehouse.gov

Obama Vows to Fight Against Human Trafficking



President Obama has promised that the U.S. government will intensify its fight against human trafficking, inside the United States and around the world. Speaking at the annual meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative in New York September 25, the president said that more than 20 million people have been ensnared in what he called "modern slavery," which distorts markets, endangers public health and fuels violence and organized crime. "There's no denying the awful reality. When a man desperate for work finds himself in a factory or on a fishing boat or in a field working, toiling for little or no pay and beaten if he tries to escape, that is slavery. When a woman is locked in a sweatshop or trapped in a home as a domestic servant, alone and abused and incapable of leaving, that's slavery. When a little girl is sold by her impoverished family — girls my daughters' age — [or] runs away from home, or is lured by the false promise of a better life and then imprisoned in a brothel and tortured if she resists, that's slavery. It is barbaric and it is evil, and it has no place in a civilized world," he said.

LABOR REPORT

Dept. of Labor Report on Child, Forced Labor



Two revised reports on global child labor and forced labor were released by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) on September 26. "These reports remind us of what happens to the most vulnerable members of society when poverty and labor exploitation unite," said Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis. "The information in these reports is a vital tool in the effort to stop this abuse and can have an enormous impact in the hands of those who want to join efforts to end these labor practices." "Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor" is a report mandated by the Trade and Development Act of 2000 that analyzes the worst forms of child labor in 144 foreign countries and territories. The 11th annual edition introduces a tool to assess countries' efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, tracking from year to year whether a country has made significant, moderate, minimal or no advancement.

Source: iipdigital.state.gov



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