



March 2009 Newsletter

Information Resource Center (IRC)

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March is Women's History Month in the United States

Presidential Proclamation on Women's History Month

Obama pays tribute to women who helped preserve, protect the environment

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

With passion and courage, women have taught us that when we band together to advocate for our highest ideals, we can advance our common well-being and strengthen the fabric of our nation.

Each year during Women's History Month, we remember and celebrate women from all walks of life who have shaped this great Nation. This year, in accordance with the theme, "Women Taking the Lead to Save our Planet," we pay particular tribute to the efforts of women in preserving and protecting the environment for present and future generations. [Read more](#)

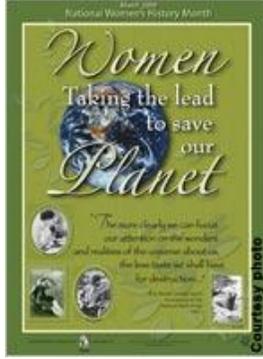
أوباما يكرم القيادات النسائية في أميركا

ويعلن شهر آذار/مارس شهر الاحتفال بتاريخ المرأة الأميركية

أصدر البيت الأبيض بيانا رئاسيا للإعلان عن أن شهر آذار/مارس شهر الاحتفال بتاريخ المرأة في الولايات المتحدة للعام 2009. وأشاد الإعلان بإنجازات ومساهمات النساء الأميركيات في مجال المحافظة على البيئة وحمايتها، ونضالهن في هذا المجال الذي اتسم بالشجاعة والحماس، تمشيا مع شعار الاحتفال في العام الحالي "النساء يتولين القيادة من أجل إنقاذ كوكبنا". [اقرأ المزيد](#)

U.S. Celebrates Women's Contributions to the World Every March

Women's role in the environmental or "green" movement is 2009 focus



Logo for the Women's History Month 2009 theme, *Women Taking the Lead to Save our Planet*

The world-renowned marine biologist, author and environmentalist Rachel Carson is the inspiration for the 2009 National Women's History Month theme, *Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet*.

Carson's 1962 book *Silent Spring* focused the world's attention on the harm to human health and the environment caused by the indiscriminate use of pesticides. Its message was that mankind's growing reliance on these chemicals carried real and not fully understood risks.

She did not urge a ban on all pesticides, but called for more research on their safety, more careful and moderate use, and tighter regulations. The federal government conducted a review of pesticide policies and, in 1972, banned the pesticide DDT in the United States. Carson and her book are credited with launching the modern environmental movement. (See [Rachel Carson: Pen Against Poison.](#)) [Read more](#)

الولايات المتحدة تحتفل في شهر آذار/مارس من كل عام بمساهمات المرأة في العالم

دور المرأة في حماية البيئة أو الحركة "الخضراء" محور الاحتفال في 2009

عالمة الأحياء البحرية الشهيرة على مستوى العالم، ريتشيل كارسون، وهي أيضا كاتبة وناشطة في الدعوة للمحافظة على البيئة، هي المصدر الذي استوحى منه شعار الاحتفال بشهر تاريخ المرأة في الولايات المتحدة خلال العام الحالي، 2009، والذي اختير له عنوان يقول: نساء تولين القيادة من أجل إنقاذ كوكبنا.

وكان كتاب كارسون الصادر في 1962 بعنوان "الربيع الصامت"، قد لفت أنظار العالم إلى الأضرار التي تصيب صحة الإنسان والبيئة بسبب الاستخدام العشوائي للمبيدات الحشرية بدون أي قيود. وكانت الرسالة التي وجهها الكتاب مفادها أن الاعتماد المتزايد للبشر على المبيدات الكيماوية يتضمن أخطارا حقيقية جسيمة لا يدركها الناس إدراكا كاملا.

[اقرأ المزيد](#)

United States Recognizes Women of Courage

Eight exceptional women from around the world honored by State Department



First lady Michelle Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton with the 2009 Women of Courage awardees

Eight exceptional women are being recognized by the U.S. secretary of state as "Women of Courage." The award "pays tribute to outstanding women leaders worldwide" and "recognizes the courage and leadership shown as they struggle for social justice and human rights," according to a March 5 State Department announcement.

Selected from scores of nominees offered by U.S. embassies around the world, women representing Afghanistan, Guatemala, Iraq, Malaysia, Niger, Russia, Uzbekistan and Yemen will be honored at the State Department in Washington on March 11. [Read more](#)

وزارة الخارجية تكرم نساء يتحلين بالشجاعة

اختيار ثمانى نساء متميزات من أنحاء العالم لتكريمهن في وزارة الخارجية

تكرم وزيرة الخارجية الأمريكية ثمانى نساء تميزن بالشجاعة وحققن إنجازات استثنائية، وستمنح كل منهن جائزة تكريمية باعتبارهن "نساء شجاعات".

وجاء في بيان لوزارة الخارجية في 5 آذار/مارس أن الجوائز التي ستمنح للنساء الثمانى هي من قبيل تكريم البارزات المتميزات من بين القيادات النسائية والاعتراف بالشجاعة ومزايا القيادة التي أبدينها في كفاحهن من أجل العدالة والحقوق الإنسانية. [اقرأ المزيد](#)

Learn more about Women's History month:

[Milestones in U.S. Women's History](#)

[Women's Rights in the United States](#)

[Seneca Falls Convention Began Women's Rights Movement](#)

Arabesque Festival Dazzles U.S. Audiences

Arab artists offer poetry, theater, dance, music and more



Caracalla Dance Theatre members perform onstage, combining innovative choreography, an original musical score and vivid showmanship.

On the lower level of Washington's John F. Kennedy Memorial Center for the Performing Arts, where the complex's gift shop usually is situated, a souk is in place, filled with garments and jewelry and other attractive wares from the Middle East.

The change is temporary, linked to *Arabesque: Arts of the Arab World*, the festival of culture from nearly two dozen Arab countries that is filling the center's theaters and public spaces from late February through much of March. [Read more](#)

مهرجان أرابيسك للفنون العربية يبهر جماهير الأميركيين

الأدباء العرب يروون الشعر والفنانون يعرضون المسرحيات والرقص والموسيقى وأكثر. يحتضن الطابق السفلي في مركز جون كينيدي التذكاري للفنون الأدائية في واشنطن بمعرضات الشرق الأوسط التي تشمل الألبسة والأزياء المختلفة والمجوهرات والتحف وغيرها من منتجات الحرف اليدوية اللافتة للنظر والاهتمام في سوق تستقطب المتسوقين من زوار المركز احتلت مكان محل التحف والهدايا.

هذا التغيير في تسهيلات وعروض المركز الدائمة مؤقت، والسبب هو أرابيسك: فنون العالم العربي. وأرابيسك هو المهرجان الثقافي الذي يشارك فيه أكثر من 20 بلدا من البلدان العربية التي ملأت قاعات المركز ومسارحه وأماكنه العامة بالنشاطات والعروض الفني والفنون التي تمثل مختلف جوانب الثقافة العربية، وذلك منذ أواخر شباط/فبراير والجزء الأكبر من شهر آذار/مارس. [اقرأ المزيد](#)

Muslim Americans: A National Portrait

An in-depth analysis of America's most diverse religious community

Muslim Americans: A National Portrait represents the first-ever nationally representative study of a randomly selected sample of Muslim Americans. The results shed light on one of the most diverse religious groups in the United States, reflecting the economic, racial, and political diversity within America itself. This study allows the reader to better understand the perspectives of Muslim Americans on "kitchen table" issues, from the economy to emotional well-being, while comparing them with other religious and racial groups in American society. [Download AmericanMuslimReport.pdf](#) (5484875 bytes)

Web Chats



Web chats are online, text-based discussions that allow audiences outside the United States to interact with American citizens on a wide range of topics. U.S. government and private sector subject experts, academics, journalists, and everyday citizens are brought on as guests to do web chats on USINFO.

To participate, you only need a computer with Internet access and a browser. There is no special software to be downloaded.

Women on the Bench: Pioneers for Gender Equality

Date & Time:

March 18, 2009 at 5 p.m. Syria Time

Guest: Maryland First Lady and Judge Katie O'Malley

Enter chat: <http://statedept.connectsolutions.com/conx>

Open Forum and the International Women's Entrepreneurial Challenge: Supporting Women-Led Businesses

Date & Time:

March 19, 2009 at 3 p.m. Syria Time

Guest: Rachel Allgood, CEO of Isocurve

Enter chat: <http://statedept.connectsolutions.com/global>

Online Outreach and Political Campaigns

Date & Time:

March 26, 2009 at 12 a.m. Syria Time

Guest: Joe Rospars, Media Director for President Obama's 2008 Presidential Campaign

Enter chat: <http://statedept.connectsolutions.com/culture>

No registration is needed. Simply choose "Enter as a Guest," type in your preferred screen name and join the discussion.

Websites of Interest

Below are several articles on health issues prominent in the Middle East region:

Diabetes Threatens Lives Worldwide

<http://www.america.gov/st/health-english/2008/April/20080410113749liameruoy0.5424921.html>

New Grant Program Targets Chronic Diseases in Developing World

\$1.5 million annually will help fight cancer, heart disease, and diabetes

<http://www.america.gov/st/health-english/2008/September/20080910120542elebeg9.388369e-02.html>

Obesity Becoming Worldwide Health Threat

<http://www.america.gov/st/health-english/2008/July/20080718153255abretnuh0.5916712.html>

Heart Disease a Leading Cause of Death Worldwide

<http://www.america.gov/st/health-english/2008/July/20080724175631abretnuh0.9819757.html>

Blogs *at* America.gov

Blogs at America.gov offers readers a place to join in conversation on variety of topics with experts from the United States and around the world. We encourage you to share your thoughts with our bloggers and fellow readers in the comments section of each post. Click on the title in red to go to the website.



First 100 Days: Following Barack Obama

By Michelle Austein Brooks

First 100 Days will follow President Obama's initiatives and policy directions. We'll look at new presidential orders, policies on the economy, alternative energy and foreign affairs, and his use of new media. We'll review the new president's progress and governing style, take a look at the challenges of governing the United States, and keep you informed about the fun moments as well. We encourage you to share your thoughts on the president's job.

Day 52: More than half way through the First 100 Days

For the past 51 days, First 100 Days has been chronicling the Obama administration.

The first 100 days is a traditional period of political accountability in U.S. democratic process. Since Franklin D. Roosevelt took office in 1933, Americans have followed closely the progress a president makes in his first 100 days. Those 100 days are viewed as a time to measure a president's character and an opportunity to see if he makes good on his campaign promises.

Readers of this blog have closely been following President Obama. How well do you think he has performed so far? And what would you like to see him do in the next 58 days?

[Add you own comment](#)



E-Journal USA:

A monthly electronic journal available in multiple languages about U.S. foreign affairs and U.S. society and culture.

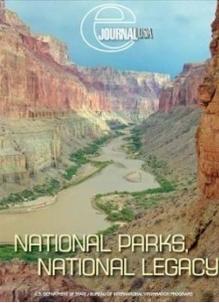
إي جورنال يو إس إيه:

مجلة إلكترونية شهرية تصدر بعدة لغات تتناول شؤون الولايات المتحدة الخارجية والمجتمع الأميركي وثقافته.



Nonviolent Paths to Social Change

The past 30 years have seen a surge of nonviolent, "people power" movements around the world advancing human rights and toppling repressive rulers. This edition of *eJournal USA* demonstrates that nonviolent actions can be more powerful than armed insurrections in bringing about social change. [Inside this publication](#)



المتنزهات القومية: الإرث القومي

يملك المواطنون الأميركيون نظاماً من المتنزهات القومية المنتشرة في أنحاء البلاد يشمل الشواطئ والجبال والنصب التذكارية وساحات المعارك ويحافظون عليها. جميع المواطنين الأميركيين، إلى حد ما، مسؤولون عن إدارة المواقع التي تشكلت فيها صفحات التاريخ، حيث ترتفع الجبال الشامخة وتنساب الأنهر. وهم يحافظون على هذه المتنزهات للمستقبل، ويتعاملون معها اليوم ككنز ثمين. وكما قال الرئيس الأسبق فرانكلن روزفلت: "ليس هناك ما هو أميركي أكثر من متنزهاتنا القومية. فالمنظر الطبيعية والحياة البرية بلدية أصيلة". والفكرة الأساسية خلف إنشاء هذه المتنزهات فكرة أصيلة. وهي باختصار ان البلد ملك للشعب". ويقدم هذا العدد من إي جورنال يو إس إيه مناظر رائعة من المتنزهات القومية، ولمحة تاريخية عن هذا النظام الشاسع، ورسائله المتمثلة بالمحافظة على الطبيعة وبأبوابه المفتوحة أمام جميع الناس. [في هذه المطبوعة](#)

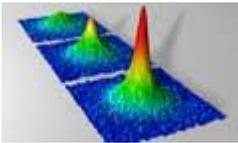
Photo Gallery and Videos

Offering an audio-visual tour of the stories and issues shaping our world, the photo gallery and videos are two of many invaluable services "America.gov" site offers for its audience. Both, the gallery and videos can be browsed by the following subjects: Foreign Policy, U.S. Politics, American Life, Democracy, Science and Health.

Photo Gallery: Please visit the below galleries or go to the photo gallery direct link to see more photo collections.

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#7a78bf28-e356-4d21-a311-0c218ec8f6f8>

Science & Health:



[Nanotechnology: Among the Atoms](#)

American Life:



[نساء شهيرات في القرن العشرين](#)

American Life:



[Arabesque – Arts of the Arab World](#)

Videos: Please point the mouse on any picture then use "Ctrl" key and click on the link to take you to the video you want to watch or go to the link below to see all the video collection.

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/video.html?playerId=1475282956>



[Jury Duty: A Cinematic Experience](#)

1:32



[Paralympics Hopeful Melissa Stockwell](#)

2:17



[مصممة الأزياء الشابة](#)

2:03

Education

Small U.S. College Ranks Number 1 in Entrepreneurial Education



Tiffany Lien, a Babson College student from New Jersey, teaches entrepreneurship at a high school in Sekondi, Ghana.

Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, is a hatchery from which business students emerge ready to start their own businesses.

U.S. News and World Report magazine has ranked Babson's undergraduate school as the Number 1 educational institution for entrepreneurs in the United States for 12 years. In its rankings of graduate schools, the magazine has given the tops-in-entrepreneurship award to Babson's master of business administration (MBA) program for 15 years. [Read more](#)

Timeline

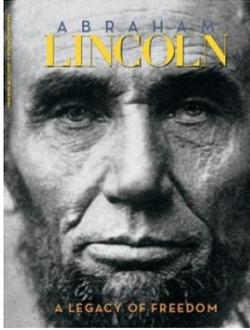


Education Adopts Latest Technology

From the typewriter to the Internet, technology has revolutionized what people around the world consider a classroom.

Did you know?	On the Record
 <p>The students of Queens College in New York represent a mosaic of cultural backgrounds, and the college grounds are filled with the sounds of Hindi, Korean, Spanish, and many other languages in addition to English.</p>	 <p>Science and technology are increasingly recognized as the drivers of economic growth today, and they will have an increasing role in the future. Nations will prosper in proportion to their scientific, technological and engineering capacity, in turn a function of their strength in both education and research. ”</p> <p>Nina Fedoroff, Science and Technology Adviser to the U.S. Secretary of State, May 26, 2008</p>

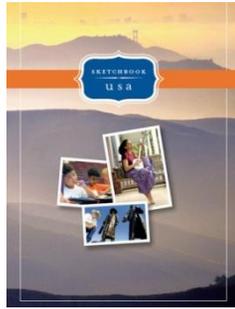
Publications



Abraham Lincoln: A Legacy of Freedom

The year 2009 marks the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, the nation's 16th president, and the man often considered its greatest leader. As the United States endured its greatest crisis, this self-educated common man supplied the leadership and the moral force that bound Americans together and carried them to victory. His vision spanned diplomacy and military strategy, political thought and elemental justice for all Americans --- including the African-American slaves he emancipated. The essays gathered here introduce readers to this "best and most widely acclaimed of all Americans."

[Inside this publication](#) [النسخة العربية](#)



Sketchbook USA

Sketchbook USA lavishly illustrates many aspects of American life. These excerpts depict Americans at work, at play, and engaging in civic activities. View the entire *Sketchbook USA* and all its many photographs [here](#).

[Inside this publication](#)



الرئيس باراك أوباما، مختارات من أبرز خطبه

هذه الصفحات تتشاطر كلمات أوباما مع قرائنا في العالم. يتضمن هذا الكتاب النص الكامل لخطاب تنصيبه الرئيس الأميركي الرابع والأربعين. وكذلك يتضمن مقتطفات مطولة من ثمانية خطب مهمة ألقاها خلال حملته الانتخابية وفي فترة ما قبل أن يصبح رئيسا. رغم أن هذا الكتاب صغير بحد ذاته، إلا أن أملنا في أن تكون الرؤيا التي تتضمنها صفحاته رؤيا كبيرة. [في هذه المطبوعة](#)

Finance and Economy

United States Economic Crisis:

[2010 Budget Proposal Outlines Obama Priorities](#) - ...The president requests more funds for diplomacy and foreign assistance. More nonmilitary aid to Afghanistan and Pakistan sought to help those countries boost economic development and confront the resurgence of the Taliban.

Government Actions Seen Affecting Economic Recovery - ... The effectiveness of actions taken by the Federal Reserve, the U.S. Treasury and other federal agencies in restoring financial stability will determine much of the timing and strength of the economic recovery, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke says.

Some Small U.S. Companies Thrive Despite Recession - Thomas Johnson, a native of Ghana, owns a thriving manufacturing company in Virginia that has not been touched by the recession.

World Bank: Developing Countries Facing Major Shortfalls - In advance of the G20 economic conference of advanced and large developing economies, the World Bank has issued a global forecast indicating that developing countries without adequate credit sources are facing financing shortfalls of \$270 billion to \$700 billion this year. [Read more](#)

البنك الدولي: البلدان النامية تواجه عجزات تجارية ومالية هائلة

أصدر البنك الدولي تقريراً يتضمن توقعاته العالمية التي تشير إلى أن البلدان النامية التي تفتقد إلى مصادر إقراض كافية ستواجه عجزات مالية تتراوح ما بين 270 بليون و700 بليون دولار في العام الحالي. وقد صدر التقرير قبل الإنعقاد المرتقب لمؤتمر مجموعة الدول العشرين الاقتصادية التي تضم دولاً ذات إقتصادات متطورة ونامية كبرى.



Investment in Clean Technology Rising in U.S.

U.S.-based venture capital investments in energy technologies rose six fold between 2003 and 2007, and strong growth is predicted in the future

in an otherwise moribund U.S. economy. [Read more](#)

Some Small U.S. Companies Thrive Despite Recession

Despite all the economic gloom and doom, some nimble and entrepreneurial small firms continue to do brisk business. Find out what their secret is.



رغم الركود الإقتصادي، شركات أميركية صغيرة تشهد إزدهارا

يمتلك طوماس جونسون المولود في غانا بإفريقيا شركة تصنيع مزدهرة بولاية فيرجينيا الأميركية، لم يمسهما الركود الذي يبتلّي الإقتصاد الأميركي حالياً.

Did you know?



The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, working with the National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation and an advertising group, is sponsoring a contest to ignite the spirit of invention in students.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/inspiringinvention/>