

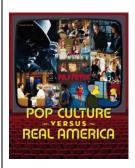
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June 2010 – Issue 2

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SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS

E-DISCOVERY: MITIGATING RISK THROUGH BETTER COMMUNICATION. Deloitte. June 2010.

As the volume of electronically stored information (ESI) rises rapidly, improving the understanding among the C-suite, legal and IT functions is key to controlling costs and better managing ediscovery risks. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/cVRDrH [PDF format, 14 pages].

HOW MUCH OF THE WORLD'S ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IS GENERATED FROM WIND AND WHO ARE THE LEADING GENERATORS? Energy Information Administration. June 16, 2010.

Worldwide wind power generation exceeded 200 billion kilowatt hours in 2008, which is equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of over 18 million average households in the United States. Wind generation increased by about 25% from 2007 to 2008, and has more than tripled since 2003. This growth is mostly due to capacity increases in the United States, China, India, and Western Europe. Despite this growth, the world still generated less than 1% of its total electricity from wind power in 2008. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/adbkkJ [HTML format, various paging].

OBAMA MORE POPULAR ABROAD THAN AT HOME, GLOBAL IMAGES OF U.S. CONTINUES TO BENEFIT. Pew Global Attitudes Project. June 17, 2010.

U.S. favorability ratings remain high in Western Europe and have increased markedly in China and Russia. But opinions remain negative in many Muslim nations. Mexican views of the U.S. tumbled following passage of Arizona's immigration law. Confidence in Obama is high across much of the world, but support for his handling of specific policies is less widespread. With the exception of China, India and Brazil, people nearly everywhere say their national economy is doing poorly. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/d3VbFU [PDF format, 176 pages].

THE RACE AGAINST DRUG RESISTANCE. Center for Global Development. Rachel Nugent et al. June 14, 2010.

In an increasingly interconnected world, drug resistance does not stop at a patient's bedside, it threatens global health. The conclusions of the report make it clear the need for urgent action to address this growing crisis. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/c3en2x [HTML format with links].

"WELCOME TO KENYA": POLICE ABUSE OF SOMALI REFUGEES. Human Rights Watch. June 17, 2010

The report documents widespread police extortion of asylum seekers trying to reach three camps near the Kenyan town of Dadaab, the world's largest refugee settlement. Police use violence, arbitrary arrest, unlawful detention in inhuman and degrading conditions, threats of deportation, and wrongful prosecution for "unlawful presence" to extort money from the new arrivals - men, women, and children alike. In early 2010 alone, hundreds, and possibly thousands, of Somalis unable to pay extortion demands were sent back to Somalia, in flagrant violation of Kenyan and international law. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/d0svTl [HTML format with links].

COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEFS: ALGERIA. Energy Information Administration. June 2010.

Algeria's hydrocarbons sector accounted for 60 percent of its budget revenues, nearly 30 percent of its GDP, and over 97 percent of its export earnings in 2008, according to the U.S. State Department. Algeria was the sixth largest natural gas producer in the world in 2008 after Russia, the United States, Canada, Iran, and Norway. Algeria produced 3.05 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in 2008, of which 69 percent was exported and 31 percent was consumed domestically. http://bit.ly/aihnNU [PDF format, 7 pages].

HIRED GUNS: VIEW ABOUT ARMED CONTRACTORS IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. RAND Corporation. Sarah K. Cotton et al. June 16, 2010.

The use of armed private security contractors (PSCs) in the Iraq war has been unprecedented. Not only government agencies but also journalists, reconstruction contractors, and nongovernmental organizations frequently view them as a logical choice to fill their security needs, yet there have been a number of reports of PSCs committing serious, and sometimes fatal, abuses of power in Iraq. The study uses a systematic, empirically based survey of opinions of U.S. military and State Department personnel on the ground in Iraq to shed light on the situation. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/cr7lyv [PDF format, 143 pages].

"THEY TOOK ME AND TOLD ME NOTHING:" FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION IN IRAQI KURDISTAN. Human Rights Watch. June 16, 2010.

While internationally recognized as a form of violence against women and girls, the tragedy is that female genital mutilation is perpetuated by mothers, aunts and other women who love and want the best for their children, who see the practice as ensuring that girls are marriageable, are conforming to the tenets of Islam, and are growing up to be respectable and respected members of Kurdish society. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/dlJnZG [HTML format with links].

KYRGYZ PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT MUST INTENSIFY STABILISATION EFFORTS IN SOUTH. International Crisis Group. June 16, 2010.

Suggestions by Kyrgyzstan's Provisional Government that the situations in Osh and Jalalabad are stabilizing, that foreign intervention is thus not needed, and that a referendum scheduled for 27 June can go ahead, are dangerously premature, according to the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://bit.ly/cloc9M [HTML format, various paging].

CHILE: CLIMBING ON GIANT'S SHOULDERS: BETTER SCHOOLS FOR ALL CHILEAN CHILDREN. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Nicola Brandt. June 17, 2010.

Chile has made impressive progress in educational attainment. Yet, despite recent improvements, outcomes, as measured by PISA results, still need to catch up with OECD standards and equity problems should be addressed. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://bit.ly/c9LSEo [PDF format, 44 pages].

INNOVATION, R&D AND PRODUCTIVITY IN THE COST RICAN ICT SECTOR: A CASE STUDY. Inter-American Development Bank. Ricardo Monge-Gonzalez and John Hewitt. June 2010.

The paper addresses the relationships between innovation, research and development (RD) and productivity in domestic ICT firms in Costa Rica. Factors considered were the types of innovation outputs produced by domestic ICT firms, the relative importance of innovation inputs, the impacts of innovation on firm productivity, the protection of innovations, and impediments to innovation. While most firms engaged in all types of output and input innovations, they appear to be driven by retaining or increasing market share rather than increasing productivity. There is also evidence of knowledge spillovers through worker mobility from multinationals operating in Costa Rica to domestic ICT firms. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bPlg0a [PDF format, 47 pages].

THE BUSINESS CASE FOR CLIMATE LEGISLATION. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. June 2010.

In recent years, leading businesses have emerged as some of the strongest advocates for passage of national climate and energy legislation that mandates reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The analysis explains why an unprecedented number of businesses are supporting passage of clean energy and climate legislation. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://bit.ly/aelp46 [PDF format, 16 pages].

THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF HIGH-SPEED RAIL ON CITIES AND THEIR METROPOLITAN AREAS. The United States Conference of Mayors. June 2010.

The report assesses High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail's economic impact on city and regional economies. It examines job creation, the effects of improved market access, greater connectivity, work-related travel time savings, as well as increased income and business sales. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://bit.ly/bH4zmL [PDF format, 28 pages].

HEARING ON "DRILLING DOWN ON AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE: SAFETY, SECURITY, AND CLEAN ENERGY." U.S. House of Representatives. June 15, 2010.

The Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing entitled "Drilling Down on America's Energy Future: Safety, Security, and Clean Energy" on Tuesday, June 15, 2010. http://go.usa.gov/3oa [HTML format with links].

HOW TO POWER THE ENERGY INNOVATION LIFECYCLE. Center for American Progress. Sean Pool. June 16, 2010.

Sean Pool analyzes the innovation lifecycle to provide insight into how we can get clean energy industries performing at their peak. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/a2KSLy [PDF format, 25 pages].

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS IN THE UNITED STATES. Migration Policy Institute. Aaron Terrazas and Cristina Batog. June 2010.

The United States is home to about 1.6 million Indian immigrants, making them the third-largest immigrant group in the United States after Mexican and Filipino immigrants. Between 2007 and 2008, the number of Indian immigrants surpassed the number of Chinese and Hong Kong-born immigrants for the first time since at least 1960. Indian immigration to the United States, a fairly recent phenomenon, grew rapidly during the 1990s and 2000s. In addition, people with Indian ancestry have also immigrated to the United States from the Caribbean, East Africa, Canada, and the United Kingdom. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/diu1le [HTML format, various paging].

MARRIED FATHERS: AMERICA'S GREATEST WEAPON AGAINST CHILD POVERTY. The Heritage Foundation. Robert Rector. June 16, 2010.

The mainstream media, liberal politicians, activists, and academia bewail child poverty in the U.S. But in these ritual lamentations, one key fact remains hidden: The principal cause of child poverty in the U.S. is the absence of married fathers in the home. According to the U.S Census, the poverty rate in 2008 for single parents with children was 35.6 percent. The rate for married couples with children was 6.4 percent. Being raised in a married family reduces a child's probability of living in poverty by about 80 percent. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/cUdqCD [HTML format, various paging].

MINORITIES AND THE RECESSION-ERA COLLEGE ENROLLMENT BOOM. Pew Research Center. Paul Taylor et al. June 16, 2010.

The recession-era boom in the size of freshman classes at four-year colleges, community colleges and trade schools has been driven largely by a sharp increase in minority student enrollment, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of new data from the U.S. Department of Education. Freshman enrollment at the nation's 6,100 post-secondary institutions surged by 144,000 students from the fall of 2007 to the fall of 2008. This 6% increase was the largest in 40 years, and almost three-quarters of it came from minority freshman enrollment growth. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://bit.ly/adKFEF [PDF format, 19 pages].

THE NEW DAD: EXPLORING FATHERHOOD WITHIN A CAREER CONTEXT. Boston College. Brad Harrington et al. June 2010.

The study focuses on the complex and changing role of fathers in the modern American family. It lends supporting data to some existing notions of fatherhood and reveals possible new future trends in the work-family conversation. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/axaaeH [PDF format, 40 pages].

THE OIL SPILL AND AMERICAN CONSUMERS, BP'S OTHER ACCOMPLICE. Brookings Institution. Charles K. Ebinger and Kevin Massy. June 17, 2010.

As Tony Hayward, BP's beleaguered chief executive, made the trek up to Capitol Hill today to appear before the House Energy Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, he faced

variations on a familiar line of questioning. What was BP, a foreign company, doing cavorting around in U.S. waters, blithely drilling holes miles beneath the surface without so much as a back-up plan if things went wrong? [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://bit.ly/cQZV4x [HTML format, various paging].

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY AND TEACHER MOBILITY. Urban Institute. Li Feng et al. June 16, 20101.

The study exploits policy variation within the same state to examine the effects of school accountability on teacher job changes. The authors measure the degree to which schools and teachers were "surprised" by the change in the school grading system, what they refer to as an "accountability shock," by observing the mobility decisions of teachers in the years before and after the school grading change. They find over half of all schools in the state experience an accountability "shock" due to this grading change. Also, teachers are more likely to leave schools facing increased accountability pressure. They are less likely to leave schools facing decreased accountability pressure. Moreover, schools facing increased pressure experience an increase in the quality of teachers who leave or stay and schools with no accountability shock experience no significant change to the quality of teachers that leave or stay. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://bit.ly/bDMY5G [PDF format, 46 pages].

THE TYPICAL MODERN MOTHER: THERE ISN'T ONE. Pew Research Center. D'Vera Cohn and Gretchen Livingston. June 11, 2010.

Today's mothers of newborns are more likely than their counterparts two decades earlier to be ages 35 and older, to have some college education, to be unmarried or to be nonwhite, but not all at once. The report shows changes in the demographic characteristics of mothers of newborns found that from 1990 to 2008 the proportion of new mothers ages 35 or older rose to 14% from 9%; that the nonwhite share rose to 47% from 35%; and that the unmarried share rose to 41% from 28%. Thanks in part to rising educational attainment, more than half of mothers of newborns (54% in 2006) have at least some college education, compared with 41% in 1990. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://bit.ly/b1LYvO [HTML format, various paging].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Grant, Andrew NEW MOON: EARTH'S NEAREST NEIGHBOR IS ATTRACTING LOTS OF ATTENTION (Discover, May 2010, pp. 59-61)

In April 1972, when the spaceship Apollo 16 landed safely, Larry Taylor, a planetary geochemist at Perdue University, looked forward to getting his hands on more moon rocks. When he was able to examine the newly delivered payload of rocks, he discovered they were quite different from the previous batch delivered by astronauts since landing on the moon three years earlier. On close examination, Taylor saw that these new rocks looked – RUSTY. That would suggest that there was water on the moon, a subject that has interested scientists and space explorers alike. The conventional wisdom was that the moon was quite dry; however, new discoveries and photographs, aided by NASA rockets as recently as October 2009, have changed what we know about water on the moon and how it could have possibly gotten there. The article explores

several intriguing theories and looks forward to new insights next year when NASA's Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) will orbit the moon and map its gravitational field in search of clues about its interior structure.

Miller, Greg MAKING MEMORIES (Smithsonian, vol. 41 no. 2, May 2010, pp. 38-45)

Wrenching, disastrous events in our history are seared into our memories. The collapse of the Twin Towers in New York City on September 11, 2001 is one of those moments for most Americans, but memory researcher Karim Nader found that his memories of that event helped him prove his own theory, which is upending conventional wisdom in neuroscience. Nader observed over time that he had misremembered what he saw at what time on that day, providing evidence for his theory that the act of remembering can work to change the memory itself. The process occurs in the brain's neurons spanning the synapses and actually forming the memory. A repeat visit to that place in the brain, recalling that memory, can provide an opportunity for further creation of neuro-proteins across the synapse, Nader argues. His theory is not entirely accepted in the field, but the work could have some very practical benefits. Reshaping the memories of people who have survived traumatic events may help to relieve them of long-term post-traumatic stress disorder. Currently available online at http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/How-Our-Brains-Make-Memories.html

Panek, Richard PROBING THE BIGGEST MYSTERY IN THE UNIVERSE (Smithsonian, vol. 41, no. 1, April 2010, pp. 30-37)

Panek takes the reader to a remote scientific outpost at the South Pole where astronomers piece together clues to reveal the solution to the greatest scientific puzzle of all: what is the universe made of? For decades, scientists have recognized that the things they can see in the heavens -- planets, stars, and other galaxies -- only account for a fraction of its mass. Something else remains hidden, which they call dark matter and dark energy. They know it exists because the structure of the universe as we see it would unravel without it, by all laws of physics. Astronomers go to one of the Earth's most hostile environments to pursue the answers to this mystery, drawn to the ideal conditions for observing the skies. They search for answers not just in what they see, but also in the background radiation that has pulsed through the universe since the Big Bang. They also push the boundaries of their knowledge of gravity, which serves as a force opposing dark energy. Currently available online at http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/Dark-Energy-The-Biggest-Mystery-in-the-Universe.html

Robbins, Noelle FLUSHING FORESTS (World Watch, May/June 2010, pp. 6-11)

The growing popularity of toilet paper use threatens forests worldwide. Old forests are being felled not only for paper and other products, but to clear land for plantations of quick-growth trees that provide virgin wood pulp fiber, harvested by companies striving to meet increased international demand. Such plantations sap water in semi-arid regions, adding to local environmental distress. Paper production also has significant environmental impact. Remedies may include more widespread use of recycled paper for toilet paper, or paper-free methods such as low- or high-tech bidets, the hand-held Tjibbi and the Japanese-designed high-end Washlet being two examples. Currently available online at http://www.noellerobbins.com/pdf/Flushing%20Forests%20World%20Watch%202010.pdf

Wiberg, Krister ENVISIONING THE ECOCITY: URBAN ENVIRONMENTS FOR THE POST-OIL AGE (Worldwatch, vol. 23, no. 2, March/April 2010, pp. 10-17)

Looking forward to an age when humans have abandoned oil and the individually driven auto, this professor of urban sustainability sketches four urban environments that she says would meet all needs for living, working, shopping, and transport. The first example is a small city of 30,000 in Sweden in which a new grid of railroads and stations supports the creation of living-working

nodes around closely spaced stations. In the second model, the author puts forth a plan for a medium-sized city in Denmark to contract, reversing decades of urban sprawl that have consumed more resources and land. The third type of urban environment envisioned by the author is based on a polycentric concept in which village units with differing responsibilities create a closed loop, each providing products or recycling wastes to support the entire urban structure. The fourth example re-designs the high-rise apartment development that sprang up in many urban areas in the mid-20th century. The Wiberg plan creates living spaces with flexibility and adaptability to the changing needs of families, including space devoted to common gardens and markets with inviting spaces on a more human scale.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Florida, Richard SMART WORK AND SMART CITIES PAY (Atlantic Magazine online, April 23, 2010)

Hard work and long hours do not translate into economic wealth, according to a study conducted across major U.S. metropolitan areas. But greater "human capital" -- creative people with better educations -- results in above-average wages. In the top rankings of this study was the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara area in California; at the bottom were Louisville, Oklahoma City, Memphis, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, and Nashville. Metro areas populated by people who are considered open to new experiences rank high on creativity and innovativeness. The knowledge economy is driving growth, and creative, imaginative people are crucial to that growth. Working smarter, it seems, and not working harder, is what brings wealth and well-being to metros. Currently available online at http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2010/04/smart-work-and-smart-cities-pay/39393/

French, Howard THE NEXT EMPIRE (Atlantic Monthly, May 2010)

Chinese companies have cashed in on lucrative oil markets in Angola, Nigeria, Algeria and Sudan and are striking mining deals in Zambia and the Congo. They are prospecting for land all across Africa for agribusiness; to get these resources to market, they are building ports and thousands of miles of highway. China is the biggest lender to Africa, the source of at least onethird of the world's commodities, and China-Africa trade has just pushed past \$100 billion annually. Dambisa Moyo, a London-based economist, believes that foreign aid has crippled Africa, and that China offers a way out of the mess the West has made. Moyo says the West's obsession with democracy is unrealistic, because in poor countries sustainable democracy is possible only after a strong middle class has emerged. China, on the other hand, has focused on trade and commercially justified investment, rather than aid grants and heavily subsidized loans; it has declined to tell African governments how they should run their countries, or to make its investments contingent on government reform. And it has moved quickly and decisively, especially in comparison to many Western aid establishments. Even taking the recent global economic downturn into account, per capita income for sub-Saharan Africa nearly doubled between 1997 and 2008, driven up by a long boom in commodities, by a decrease in the prevalence of war, and by steady improvements in governance. Although commodity prices are low for the time being, there is a growing sense that the world's poorest continent has become a likely stage for globalization's next act. To many, China -- cash-rich, resource-hungry, and unfickle in its ardor -- now seems the most likely agent for this change. Currently available online at http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/04/the-next-empire/8018/

Graham, Margaret SCHUMPETER'S CHILDREN (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 34, no. 2, Spring 2010, pp. 48-57)

For decades after the Industrial Revolution in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, entrepreneurs and innovators drove the American economy. Financial innovation helped small

businesses, despite the Great Depression, which ruined some firms and made startups difficult. In the 1970s forward, entrepreneurs such as Bill Gates and Steve Jobs became heroes. But today, rather than energizing small enterprises, creative finance "is more like a parasite, with entrepreneurs increasingly in service to finance." Unless that turns around, the role of entrepreneurs in fueling American economy may diminish.

Litan, Robert; Schramm, Carl AN ENTREPRENEURIAL RECOVERY (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 34, no. 2, Spring 2010, pp. 44-47)

Although big business is more often in the news, small companies run by entrepreneurs are crucial to America's economic success. This leads the author to the conclusion that job creation depends on the founding and development of new, entrepreneurial businesses. He notes that half of the current Fortune 500 corporations began in a recession or a bear market. The entrepreneurs should come from abroad, from universities, and young people should be encouraged to start their own businesses and given access to tools to do so.

Schramm, Carl EXPEDITIONARY ECONOMICS: SPURRING GROWTH AFTER CONFLICTS AND DISASTERS (Foreign Affairs, Vol. 89, no. 3, May/June 2010, pp. 89-100)

The recent experience with rebuilding national economies in the aftermath of conflicts and natural disasters shows serious shortcomings of the U.S. approach, says Schramm, head of the Kauffman Foundation. He argues that the prevailing doctrine of international development based on central planning or managing should be replaced by transformative entrepreneurship based on the U.S. entrepreneurial model. The new model should be dynamic and flexible to encompass differences between countries and their economic conditions and to allow for adjustments as the situation changes. Schramm cautions that the new system is likely to produce "messy capitalism," which may conflict sometimes with the U.S. military's goal of imposing order in post-conflict zones. But this shouldn't discourage a strategy that tries to strike a balance between control and laissez-faire; economic activity outside the government's control should be encouraged. This will require engaging successful U.S. entrepreneurs and investors and tapping the potential of local investors and entrepreneurs-in-waiting.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Arquilla, John THE NEW RULES OF WAR (Foreign Policy, no. 178, March-April 2010, pp. 60-67)

The author, professor of defense analysis at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California, believes that America's armed forces have failed to adapt sufficiently to changed conditions, finding out the hard way that their enemies often remain a step ahead. The U.S. military floundered for years in Iraq, then proved itself unable to grasp the point that old-school surges of ground troops do not offer enduring solutions to new-style conflicts with networked adversaries. In the U.S. case, senior officials remain convinced that their strategy of "shock and awe" and the Powell doctrine of "overwhelming force" have only been enhanced by the addition of greater numbers of smart weapons, remotely controlled aircraft, and near-instant global communications. The author disagrees; a decade and a half after Arquilla and his colleague David Ronfeldt coined the term "netwar" to describe the world's emerging form of network-based conflict, the U.S. is still playing catch-up. The evidence of the last ten years shows clearly that massive applications of force have done little more than kill the innocent and enrage their survivors. Networked organizations like al-Qaeda have proven how easy it is to dodge such heavy punches and persist to land sharp counterblows. Currently available online at http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/02/22/the new rules of war

Sebti, Bassam WE ARE CONSIDERED INFIDELS: COVERING WAR IN IRAQ (Global Journalist, vol. 15, no. 4, Winter 2009, pp. 3-4)

The author, a former reporter for the Washington Post, reflects on the role of Iraqi translators, fixers and reporters in war coverage. Western news organizations have come to rely a lot on their Iraqi staff, particularly in dangerous areas, simply because they speak the language and know the culture. Iraqi journalists, translators and fixers face grave dangers every day as insurgents and militias who once controlled vast areas of Iraq consider Iraqi journalists to be spies for the U.S. occupation forces or the government. However, working for a U.S. media outlet puts an Iraqi in double jeopardy as collaborators with the "infidels." Currently available online at http://www.globaljournalist.org/stories/2010/04/06/we-are-considered-infidels-covering-war-in-iraq/

Zhang, Hui CHINA'S PERSPECTIVE ON A NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD (Washington Quarterly, vol. 33, no. 2, April 2010, pp. 139-155)

The author, a physicist and specialist in nuclear arms control and Chinese nuclear policy issues, points out that China has long supported complete nuclear disarmament, calling for a summit to discuss the prohibition and destruction of nuclear weapons on the day of its first nuclear test in 1964. China claims that it developed nuclear weapons "to guard itself against nuclear coercion and blackmail" and it has always maintained a no-first-use policy. China's nuclear modernization has been designed to improve quality rather than quantity, to maintain a reliable second-strike retaliatory capability. Chinese leaders have expressed their support for a nuclear-weapons-free world, but some Chinese experts question the U.S. and Russian commitments. "For Beijing, the first and most important bold step toward nuclear disarmament would be a global agreement on no-first-use of nuclear weapons." This would strengthen the nonproliferation regime and promote further reductions of nuclear weapons. On the road to disarmament, China supports four interim steps -- deep reductions in the U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals, the devaluation of the role of nuclear weapons through universal no-first-use policies, ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and the negotiation of a fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT). Currently available online at http://www.twq.com/10april/docs/10apr_Zhang.pdf

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Howard, Gerald THIRTIES SOMETHINGS (Bookforum, April/May 2010)

When American writer Nathanael West and his new wife Eileen McKenney died in a 1940 car crash, he was a writer known mostly to admiring critics, and she the famous subject of her sister's book My Sister Eileen. In this review of Marion Meade's dual biography of the couple, Lonelyhearts, West is given his rightful place as one of America's greatest modern writers, who correctly diagnosed the American mass psyche. "You can learn more about our country and our culture from West's two great works than you can from Fitzgerald's fetishized Great Gatsby," Howard writes. Meade's biography is lively and informative about the "screwball" lives of the pair, but misses the core sadness, "literary failure and having one's identity captured and defined" by someone else. Meade ends her story before recounting West's stunning, posthumously acknowledged, legacy. Currently available online at http://www.bookforum.com/inprint/017_01/5373

Kidd, Quentin CIVIC ENGAGEMENT: A TOPIC AS OLD AS JEFFERSON AND AS NEW AS TODAY (Choice, vol. 47, no. 9, May 2010, pp. 1603//1615)

In this bibliographic essay, the author, a professor at Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia, notes that scholars and the public have been interested in civic engagement for hundreds of years and that it is a growth area for academic research. Citizens engage in a

positive way without basic knowledge of the political system and how it operates, or without some understanding of public policy. Does this mean that civic engagement is in decline? Questions related to the health of civil society and its connection to democratic policies and practices are not going away anytime soon. The author discusses the literature of civic engagement under areas such as making sense of the subject, everyday engagement and renewal, roles that youth can play, education, practice, civic engagement in the information age, religion, immigration, environmentalism, and new directions and approaches.

Leibovich, Mark THE INSIDERS' INSIDER (New York Times Magazine, April 25, 2010, pp. 32//48)

The web site and newspaper Politico has been in existence only three years, the brain-child of former Washington Post editors John F. Harris and Jim VandeHei, with the goal of becoming as central to political addicts as ESPN is to sports junkies. Situated in a building that overlooks the U.S. Capitol, it has now become one of the first sources Washington power brokers read in the morning. The publication, in return, wants to 'win' every news cycle by being the first with a morsel of information, whether or not the information nugget is relevant, or even correct, in the long run. Its most prominent, and influential, reporter is the obsessively private Mike Allen whose e-mail tipsheet, Playbook, has now become the principal early-morning document for an elite set of political and news-media 'thrivers and strivers.' Currently available online at http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/25/magazine/25allen-t.html

Rosenberg, Brian WHAT I LEARNED FROM YOUTUBE (Chronicle of Higher Education, April 23, 2010, p. A40)

A middle-aged college president makes a video and is surprised by its popularity. Puzzled by the results, Brian Rosenberg, president of Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, is nevertheless delighted by the 39,000 hits his video has had on YouTube in about a month. There have been several hundred email messages from alumni, parents, current and prospective students, as well as other college presidents. Messages have been received from as far away as Pakistan, Japan, Spain, Singapore, and China in response to Rosenberg's humorous and self-parodying video. Rosenberg says, "We never imagined the video primarily as a fund-raising tool; rather, our goal was to entertain and engage people and capture something of the spirit of the college." Responses to the college's annual-fund solicitations have been positive. Brian Rosenberg points to three lessons learned that are of more importance than what he learned about his own limited gift of deadpan comedy, he concedes. First, things that happen on campuses assume a life and meaning of their own very rapidly - more so than a decade ago. Second, the new social media is not exclusively the province of the technically savvy or the young. Third, says Rosenberg, never underestimate the power of humor and positive messaging, particularly during times of economic and social stress. Currently available online, with embedded Youtube video, at http://chronicle.com/article/What-I-Learned-From-YouTube/65141/

Shea, Christopher FIGHTING BACK (Preservation, May/June 2010)

Civil War preservationists want to stop megaretailer Wal-Mart from building a supercenter near the historic Wilderness Battlefield in central Virginia. The Wal-Mart would be near the entrance to the site where Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant first fought in 1864 and 30,000 men died or were wounded. The Friends of the Wilderness Battlefield and the National Trust for Historic Preservation are fighting a 4-1 decision in 2009 by the Orange County Board of Supervisors to approve Wal-Mart's plans despite the pleas of numerous public officials, including then-Governor Tim Kaine, and more than 250 historians and scholars who want Wal-Mart to choose another location. Wal-Mart and the Board of Supervisors contend that the proposed supercenter has widespread popular support. The supervisor who voted "no" believes her constituents were mistakenly led to believe that vetoing the battlefield location meant vetoing a Wal-Mart altogether (she lost her re-election bid in fall of 2009). The court battle "spotlights a fundamental concern: How should land adjacent to crucial historic sites be treated?" says writer and blogger

Christopher Shea. "How can the nation honor its history if sprawl consumes all but a few circumscribed acres of public land?" [Note: The Civil War Preservation Trust reports that the Orange County Circuit Court on April 30 issued a decision declaring that litigation to block the Wal-Mart will move forward to trial. The ruling rejected a motion by the county to dismiss all charges as without merit and to deny that the plaintiffs had appropriate standing to file suit over the Board of Supervisors' decision.] Currently available online at http://www.preservationnation.org/magazine/2010/may-june/fighting-back.html

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