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Issue 5

The U.S. Information Resource Center (IRC) of the American Embassy in Athens is happy to provide you with *Latest on Humanities*, a bulletin focused on American society and culture. This publication is a bi-monthly compilation of recent articles from a wide range of authoritative journals and periodicals. Internet sites related to cultural themes and current issues of interest are also included. By organizing and disseminating one more thematic publication about the United States, IRC seeks to promote better understanding of the principles and institutions that shape American values.

1. TR's Wild Side

By Douglas Brinkley
(*The American Heritage*, Fall 2009, pg. 26)

As a Rough Rider in the Spanish-American War, Theodore Roosevelt's attention to nature and love of animals were much in evidence, characteristics that would later help form his strong conservationist platform as a president.

2. The Evolution of an Eco-Prophet

By Sharon Begley
(*Newsweek*, November 9, 2009, pg. 34)
Al Gore's views on climate change are advancing as rapidly as the phenomenon itself. Begley met Al Gore to talk about his latest literary project that revolves around his new book *Our Choice: A Plan to Solve the Climate Crisis*.

3. New Look at an Edgy Realist

By Hilarie M. Sheets
(*ARTnews*, October 2009, pg. 112)
Charles Burchfield (1893 – 1967) has never fit comfortably into the narrative of American art. His watercolor views of his hometown of Buffalo and its surrounding countryside, rendered with near hallucinatory intensity, are underappreciated by younger artists

today, although his edgy realism and visionary landscapes have strong affinities with contemporary painting.

4. The Romantic Side of Gillian Murphy

By Astrida Woods
(*Dance Magazine*, November 2009, pg. 26)

American Ballet's Theatre Gillian Murphy finds a new dramatic dimension in her roles. There has been an awakening, a deepening in her artistry that has caught up with her astonishing technique.

5. Revolution in a Box

By Charles Kenny
(*Foreign Policy*, November/December 2009, pg. 68)

"It's not Twitter or Facebook that's reinventing the planet. Eighty years after the first commercial broadcast crackled to life, television still rules our world. And let's hear it for the growing legions of couch potatoes: All those soap operas might be the ticket to a better future after all."

6. Beyond Identity

(*American Theatre*, October 2009, pg. 34)
Courage is Raelle Myrick-Hodges's watchword as she succeeds Brava's

founder and makes this San Francisco company her own.

7. Final Edition

By Richard Rodriguez
(Harper's Magazine, November 2009, p. 30)

"Most newspapers that are dying today were born in the nineteenth century. It was the pride and the function of the American newspaper in the nineteenth century to declare the forming congregation of buildings and services a city— a place busy enough or populated enough to have news."

8. Lombardi Rules

By Phil Barber
(*American Heritage*, Fall 2009, pg. 36)
Within a year of arriving at Green Bay in 1959, Vince Lombardi had transformed the Packers into a championship team and revolutionized the game of football.

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❖ **The Pew Research Center for the People and the Press**

<http://www.people-press.org/>

This site presents both survey results on public attention to major news stories and opinion on political and social values. Five links lead users to polling information, sections that include full text of both survey results and the survey instrument.

❖ **Internet Public Library**

<http://www.ipl.org/ref/litcrit>

The latest addition to the respected Internet Public Library provides links to more than 1,300 critical and biographical web sites about US and British literary works from pre-1500 to the present.

❖ **The Text Doctor**

<http://www.textdoctor.com>

The English and Language Resources page of the Text Doctor provides an exceptional collection of writing-related reference sources in sections titled Dictionaries/Thesauri/Vocabulary, Research and Reference Site/Grammar/Mechanics for Fun and for Profit.

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