

Extra links that we couldn't fit in this month's newsletter...



What's Emerging

Child mortality rates falling faster than expected

With only five years left to meet the Millennium Development Goals' 2015 deadline for reducing child mortality, progress toward that goal may be coming faster than was previously thought. [Read more...](#)

E-book sales jumped 252% in first quarter, AAP reports

E-book sales from the 13 publishers that report results to the Association of American Publishers' monthly sales program rose nearly 252% in the first quarter of 2010, to \$91 million. [Read more...](#)

Spend the inheritance: Reverse mortgages to surge

A new report shows the reverse mortgage industry grew 9 per cent last year, mainly to fund retirees' living costs. [Read more...](#)

Largest supercomputers to simulate life on earth

Scientists are planning to use the largest supercomputers to simulate life on Earth, including the financial system, economies and whole societies. The project is called "Living Earth Simulator" and part of a huge EU research initiative named FuturICT. [Read more...](#)

Darpa's beady-eyed camera spots the 'non-cooperative'

Soon, keeping your head down won't be enough to stump high-tech security cameras, thanks to Pentagon-funded researchers developing mini-cameras that can nab threats by hunting down — and scanning — their eyeballs. [Read more...](#)

AdMob: iPhone OS devices lead Android OS products in US with ratio of 2 to 1

Paul Higgins: *When you look at some of these numbers Apple leads significantly but given the head start they had this is not surprising. However the overall analysis has to be that Android is rapidly closing the gap.* [Read more...](#)

US grasslands carbon neutral

The USDA study, reported this week in the Journal of Environmental Quality, came to a mixed conclusion. It confirmed that in the North Dakota study area, all grazing treatments sequestered significant quantities of carbon and minor quantities of atmospheric methane. [Read more...](#)

Scientists design a more efficient democratic voting system

Researchers at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M) have developed a relatively simple democratic voting system which improves the efficiency of the usual common plurality voting system, and that protects minorities better and takes them more into consideration. [Read more...](#)

People with Asperger's less likely to see purpose

As our ancestors evolved, we developed the ability to understand one another's ideas and intentions. As a result of this "theory of mind," some experts figure, we also tend to see intention or purpose—a conscious mind—behind random or naturally occurring events. A new study presented in a poster at the 22nd annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science supports this idea, showing that people who may have an impaired theory of mind are less likely to think in a teleological way. [Read more...](#)

Japan plans for robot mission to moon in five years

The Japanese government announced it is in the planning stages to send a robot to the moon in five years and construct an unmanned base there in 10 years [Read more...](#)

Chrome-to-Android extension

Everyone is talking about the ability to push Android apps (and eventually music/media) to your devices — and rightly so. But also useful is this link push ability. For example, if you looking at a page on your computer than you want to take on the go (something I do all the time), you can now just use a Chrome extension and with one click, it automatically appears on your phone. [Read more...](#)

Navistar launches \$149,900 electric truck

Navistar Inc. launched its eStar all-electric truck in Portland, Ore., May 25, the first in a series of introductions for its zero-emissions vehicles. [Read more...](#)

GeoLocal: The rise of consumer location-based services

Interesting graphic visualisation around some of the data about geo-location based services. [Read more...](#)

New laptops beam your PC screen to the TV

Want to get Internet video to your TV? There are lots of options, but here's a pretty elegant one: new laptops that can send whatever is on their screens wirelessly to the TV. [Read more...](#)

Why athletes are geniuses

Neuroscientists have found several ways in which the brains of top-notch athletes seem to function better than those of regular folks. [Read more...](#)

Meerkats, chimps and pandas

A new study has found that researchers are biased towards cuter creatures. [Read more...](#)

Gene causes blue light to have a banana odour

German scientists have succeeded to genetically modify *Drosophila* (fruit fly) larvae allowing them to smell blue light. [Read more...](#)

Wolfram Alpha finds iPad Niche

The Elements app suggests a future direction for the "knowledge engine"--e-book interactivity. [Read more...](#)

MIIT: China added 8.497 million phone users in April 2010

China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology has published the performance statistics of China's communication industry for April 2010 on its official website. [Read more...](#)

Sam's club personalizes discounts for buyers

Sam's Club, Wal-Mart's warehouse chain, is offering a program called eValues that strives to offer bargains tailored to each member, based on that member's buying history. [Read more...](#)

Nuclear reactor aims for self-sustaining fusion

Italian-Russian reactor could be the first to reach a major milestone. [Read more...](#)

Just for textbooks: An insanely large dual-screen tablet

A company called Kno, Inc. has announced its flagship product, simply dubbed the Kno. The device is two large 14-inch touchscreens joined by a hinge that specifically targets the education sector. [Read more...](#)

Six stories above queens, a fine spot for a little farming

Rooftop farms have been appearing recently across New York and the nation, but few have the scope of Brooklyn Grange. [Read more...](#)

Ford eco-route: The most fuel-efficient path from A to B

Ford's new map-based navigation system has three options: the fastest route, the shortest route and also the "Eco-Route. [Read more...](#)

The people's supermarket

The People's Supermarket is designed to offer an alternative use for the thousands of empty retail units on our high streets and counter the belief that you can only have either cheap or good food - and never both. [Read more...](#)

Generating power from a heart

Nanowire generators could one day lead to medical devices powered by the patient's own heart. [Read more...](#)

Darpa's self-learning software knows who you are

Yann LeCun and Rob Fergus, both computer science professors at New York University, are the brains behind "Deep Learning," a program sponsored by Darpa, the Pentagon's blue-sky research agency. The idea, ultimately, is to develop code that can teach itself to spot objects in a picture, actions in a video, or voices in a crowd. [Read more...](#)

Microrobotics competition shows impressive feats

The world's elite microrobots break the world record in the two-millimeter dash and self-assemble like Voltron. [Read more...](#)

Downtown Detroit looks to 'factory' farming

IT is an unlikely place for a farm, particularly a large-scale, commercial, for-profit farm operation, but downtown Detroit, Mich., may soon be home to just that. [Read more...](#)

iPad publishing sees promising early returns - will it last?

One area many thought would benefit by the iPad was publishing, and some early stats could be a sign that the industry is indeed gaining traction. Wired Magazine and The Financial Times have both seen significant returns on their iPad-based applications. [Read more...](#)

Say it loud

A paper by Colin MacLeod, Nigel Gopie, Kathleen Hourihan, Karen Neary, and Jason Ozubko in the May, 2010 issue of the Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition, suggests that every once in a while, it might not be a bad idea if you talked a bit while studying. [Read more...](#)

New flu vaccines could protect against all strains

The next-generation vaccine causes antibodies to go after a piece of the hemagglutinin that changes less often and that is present in many influenza strains. Researchers are calling them "headless HA" vaccines, and they could be the key to a universal flu shot. [Read more...](#)

SAIC SheLL concept car: It's an automobile ... and a bedroom, office and gym

The SheLL is set 20 years into the future in an environment where urban space is at a far higher premium than now, be it on public roads, for parking, or simply as a cost-efficient investment in a car-sized footprint in a city. [Read more...](#)

Organic agriculture: A solution to global warming?

Paul Higgins: An interesting Freakonomics NYT piece which looks at the issue from all sides. [Read more...](#)

New research into safer drugs puts pills through the printer

A collaboration between the University of Leeds, Durham University and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) is looking at

'printing' pills to order, to create safer and faster-acting medicines. [Read more...](#)

DuPont: Looking for ethanol's successor

DuPont's Tom Connelly, chief innovation officer, outlined the biofuel conundrum facing the U.S., adding that "there is a widespread recognition that we cannot continue to use more of our grain supply for production and fuel." [Read more...](#)

Waiting in line while sitting at home

A Quebec man, tired of wasting hours at medical clinics waiting for appointments, has developed a novel idea of making the wait tolerable. [Read more...](#)

Smart clothes offer emotional aid

Smart clothes could soon be helping their wearers cope with the stresses of modern life. The prototype garments monitor physiological states including temperature and heart rate. [Read more...](#)

Scientists can shut down a superbug's CPU

Canadian researchers think of bacteria like a computer. McMaster University researchers have figured out how to render *Staphylococcus aureus* and its drug-resistant forms harmless. [Read more...](#)

The Goldilocks principle of obesity

For healthy body weight, the brain's reward system may need to be 'just right'. [Read more...](#)

IBM launches Mote Runner for sensors (images)

IBM will roll out a software development kit for an application dubbed Mote Runner with the aim of spurring the adoption of sensors in various devices, products and systems. [Read more...](#)

After Suicides, Scrutiny of China's Grim Factories

The factories here, with about 400,000 employees, make products for global companies like Apple, Dell and Hewlett-Packard. [Read more...](#)