

# Current Events #5



# Look Out Below



**At least four people were killed and five injured when a small plane crashed into an airport building in Wichita, Kansas, officials have said.**

**Firefighters responded at about 09:50 local time (14:50 GMT) to a "horrific fire" after a plane crash-landed, Fire Chief Ron Blackwell said.**

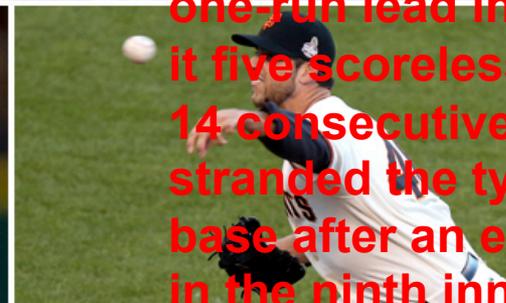
**Four people remain missing, but a search was put on hold after a portion of the building collapsed.**

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2013/09/11/man-seriously-injured-after-being-hit-by-boulder-in-middle-colorado-road/?intcmp=trending>

# Giants of the Game



The San Francisco Giants won their third World Series title in five years Wednesday night with a 3-2 victory over the Royals in Game 7. Three days after he fired a 117-pitch shutout in San Francisco in Game 5, Bumgarner took the ball with a one-run lead in the fifth. He held it five scoreless innings, retired 14 consecutive hitters and stranded the tying run on third base after an error behind him in the ninth inning.



“We played good baseball,” Giants slugger Michael Morse said. “And we had a guy named Madison Bumgarner.”

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/nationals/world-series-2014-madison-bumgarner-pitches-giants-past-royals-for-title/2014/10/29/f14e4e22-5faa-11e4-9f3a-7e28799e0549\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/nationals/world-series-2014-madison-bumgarner-pitches-giants-past-royals-for-title/2014/10/29/f14e4e22-5faa-11e4-9f3a-7e28799e0549_story.html)

# If It Moves...Shoot It



**Almost 1,000 people have been executed in Iraq over the last four months, most in areas controlled by the Islamic State, according to a tally based on numbers provided by Iraq Body Count, an independent monitoring group tracking civilian deaths in Iraq. That number is more than four times the number of Afghan civilians killed by the Taliban in all of 2009. The executions in Iraq took place in over 30 towns across the country; the number of people killed in any one instance ranged from one to 80 people, suggesting that the executions are both widespread and systematic, which could constitute a crime against humanity.**

**That number does not include the more than 820 people found in mass graves and in rivers in Iraq during the same period of time.**

<http://www.ibtimes.com/isis-executions-1000-iraqi-civilians-killed-isis-controlled-towns-june-hundreds-more-found-1718076>

# The Sky is Falling...For Reals People



**The cost of fighting climate change will only climb if industrialized nations don't take steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the United Nations' panel on the matter warned Sunday in its wrap-up report. In its "synthesis report," the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change said that the hundreds of authors involved in the study were even more certain than before that the planet is warming and humans are the cause.**

**"If left unchecked, climate change will increase the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems," the report said.**

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/11/02/world/ipcc-climate-change-report/index.html>

# Kermit's New Pal

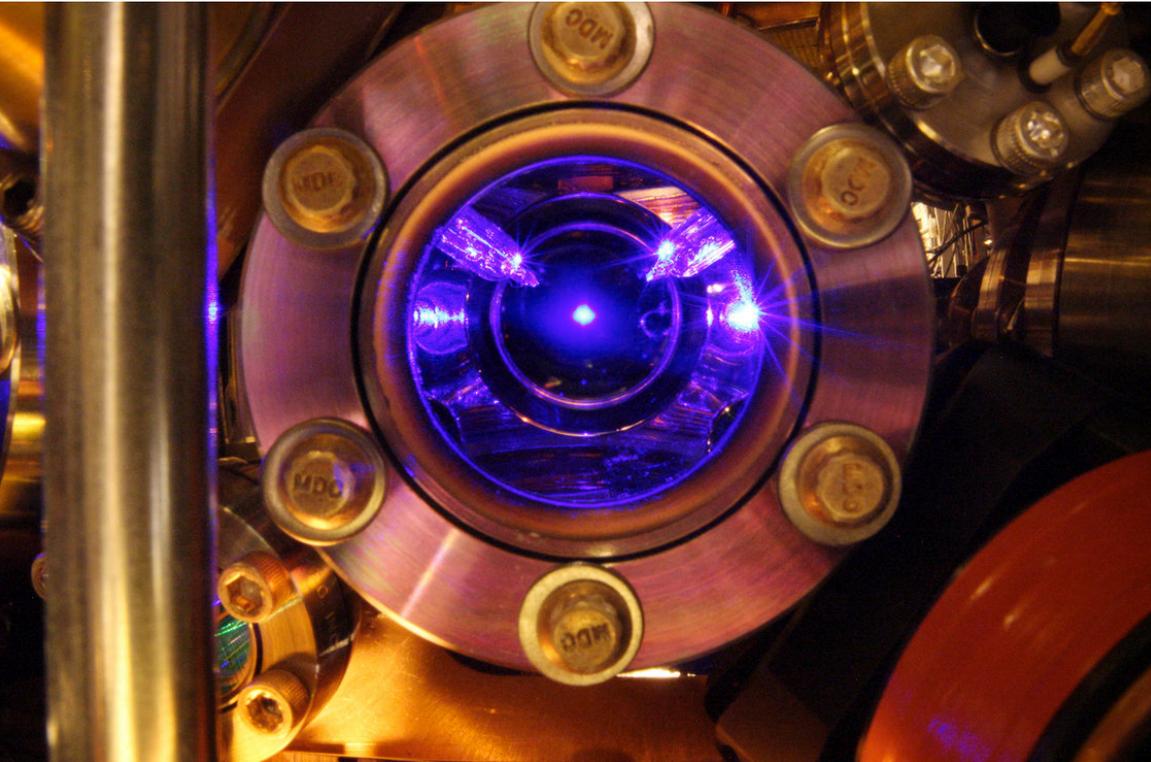


**A team of scientists has identified the unique critter, dubbed the Atlantic Coast leopard frog, in the marshes of Staten Island -- beside New York Harbor and not far from the Statue of Liberty.**

**The frog's habitat stretches from Connecticut to North Carolina, but it's the discovery of an exotic animal species in one of the world's most densely populated urban areas that has scientists buzzing.**

[http://www.cnn.com/2014/10/31/us/frog-species-new-york/index.html?hpt=us\\_t5](http://www.cnn.com/2014/10/31/us/frog-species-new-york/index.html?hpt=us_t5)

# It Is Relative



O'Brian oversees America's master clock. It's one of the most accurate clocks on the planet: an atomic clock that uses oscillations in the element cesium to count out 0.0000000000000001 second at a time. If the clock had been started 300 million years ago, before the age of dinosaurs began, it would still be keeping time — down to the second. But the crazy thing is, despite knowing the time better than almost anyone on Earth, O'Brian can't explain time.

"We can measure time much better than the weight of something or an electrical current," he says, "but what time really is, is a question that I can't answer for you."

<http://www.npr.org/2014/11/03/361069820/new-clock-may-end-time-as-we-know-it>

# Dignity for All?



**Brittany Maynard, 29, who suffered from glioblastoma multiforme, an aggressive form of brain cancer, captivated millions of Americans, but also stirred up controversy when she posted her plans on social media to “die with dignity.” Maynard moved from California to Oregon, where it is legal for a doctor to prescribe a life-ending drug to a terminally ill patient. So-called physician-assisted suicide is also legal in Vermont and Washington state. It has also been legalized in Montana via court ruling, not legislation.**

**Right to Die laws have been introduced in Connecticut, Hawaii, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kansas, and Massachusetts.**

<http://www.healthline.com/health-news/brittany-maynard-death-opens-doctor-dialogue-on-end-of-life-care-111114>

# Equality for All?

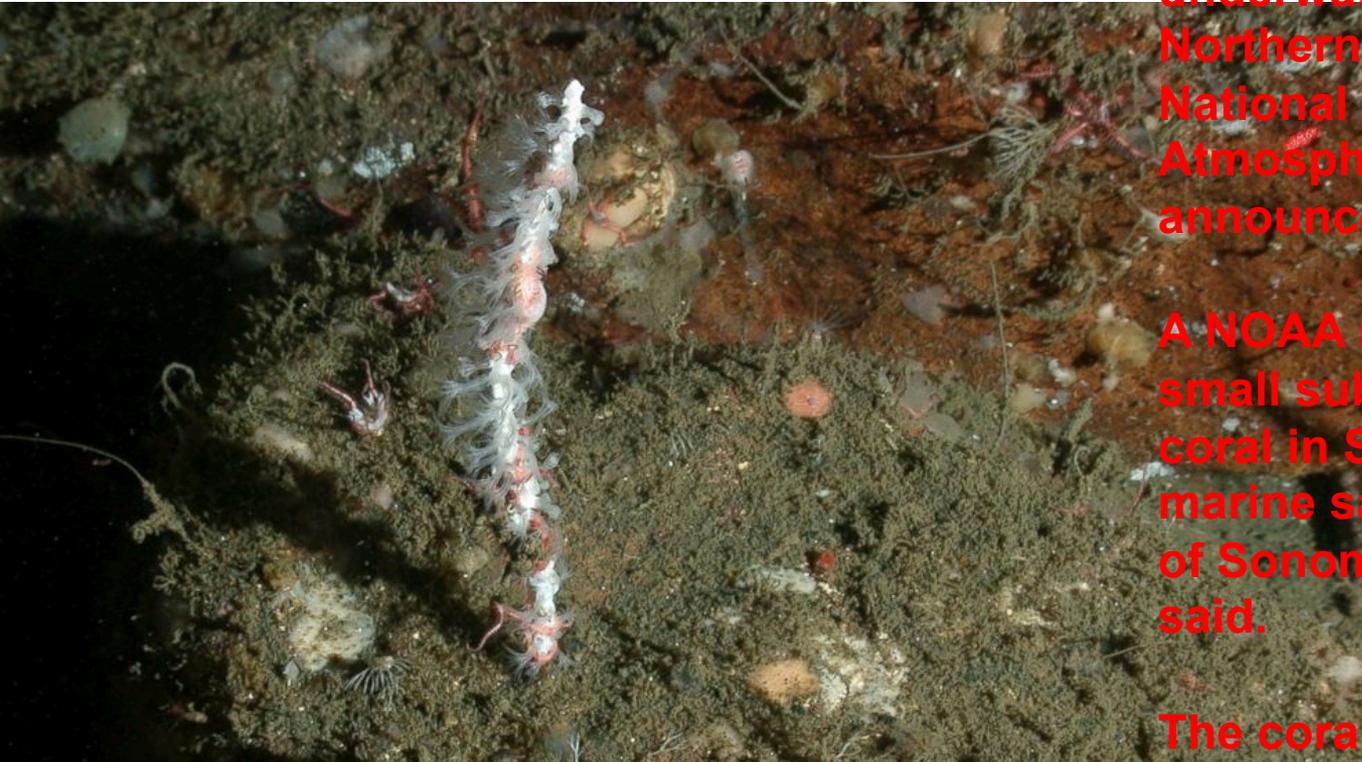


**With all but two of Oregon's 36 counties reporting, the measure had gathered 63 percent of the vote to 37 against. The measure did especially well in Multnomah County, where it received more than 77 percent of the vote.**

**The measure's passage will amend Article I, Section 20 of the state constitution to guarantee that "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the state of Oregon or by any political subdivision in this state on account of sex."**

[http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/11/oregons\\_equal\\_rights\\_amendment.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/11/oregons_equal_rights_amendment.html)

# Look Out Below



**Scientists have discovered a new species of deep-sea coral in underwater canyons off the Northern California coast, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced Wednesday.**

**A NOAA research team using small submersibles found the coral in September near national marine sanctuaries off the coast of Sonoma County, the agency said.**

**The coral from the genus Leptogorgia was discovered about 600 feet deep in the first intensive exploration of underwater canyons near the Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Bank national marine sanctuaries.**

[http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/scientists-find-coral-species-off-california\\_26719503](http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/scientists-find-coral-species-off-california_26719503)

# Look Out Below II



North Korea has launched a domestically built submarine that is designed to fire ballistic missiles, raising new concerns about the growing threat posed by Pyongyang's missile and nuclear programmes. Military sources in South Korea say the vessel is based on a Golf II-class Soviet submarine that the North acquired in 1993, ostensibly for scrapping. The 3,500-ton Golf II was equipped with submarine-launched ballistic missiles that could carry a 2,600 lb warhead more than 880 miles. And although the Soviet-era vessel is obsolete and the Russian Navy insisted it could never return to service, North Korea is believed to have spent the last 20 years examining and replicating its missile launch system, which included the launch tubes and stabilisation equipment, according to analysts at the US-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins University.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/northkorea/11204667/North-Korea-launches-Soviet-era-style-ballistic-missile-submarine.html>

# Hey...Buddy...Want to Play?



A remote-controlled rover designed to sneak undetected into penguin colonies in [Antarctica](#) works better than other research methods, a new study says. The penguin-camouflaged technology is so realistic, it even fools live emperor penguins into trying to communicate with the electronic interloper. Such a discovery may be invaluable as scientists work to observe rapid changes in these birds as [climate change](#) impacts their habitat on the southernmost continent, experts say.

Scientists have traditionally studied penguins in Antarctica's harsh, remote climate by tagging them with radio-frequency tags, but capturing and tagging the birds stresses them out and can lead to fights within the colony when birds cross into each other's territories after being released.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/11/141104-penguins-rovers-animals-science-technology/>

# Deploy Harpoons!

**“We are on the comet.”**

**With those words, the landing manager for the European Space Agency's Philae comet lander, Stephan Ulamec, officially confirmed a historic space-exploration first: the soft-landing of an experiment-laden package from Earth on the nucleus of a comet.**

**Telemetry from the Philae confirming the landing arrived at 11:03 A.M. Eastern Standard Time Tuesday, after traveling 317 million miles – 28 minutes away as the radio signal hurtles.**



<http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2014/1112/Rosetta-s-Philae-completes-historic-landing-but-fails-to-anchor-to-comet>

# The Elephant Wins



**The U.S. Congress returns to work Wednesday after last week's midterm elections that saw Republicans win control of the Senate and expand their majority in the House of Representatives. Many of President Barack Obama's fiercest opponents are preparing to assume powerful positions in the chamber, which has been under Democratic control since 2007.**

**Change is afoot inside the Capital building, as Republicans prepare to assume control of the Senate in January.**

<http://www.voanews.com/content/republicans-prepare-to-assume-control-of-us-senate/2516210.html>

# 1.252 Billion and Counting



**Authorities in India have arrested the doctor they say performed botched tubal ligations that sickened dozens and killed at least 13 women at an unsanitary “sterilization camp” in rural India over the weekend.**

**The arrests happened as concerns grew over government sterilization incentive programs that target poor rural women.**

**Police in Bilaspur, a town in central the central state of Chhattisgarh, said the doctor, R.K. Gupta, was arrested late Wednesday and charged with negligently causing death. The doctor, who performed 83 surgeries at breakneck speed, told reporters he had been pressured to meet quotas for sterilization given to him by local authorities.**

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/doctor-arrested-after-botched-sterilization-at-india-camp-kills-13/2014/11/13/a50991d6-6b06-11e4-a31c-77759fc1eacc\\_story.html?hpid=z1](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/doctor-arrested-after-botched-sterilization-at-india-camp-kills-13/2014/11/13/a50991d6-6b06-11e4-a31c-77759fc1eacc_story.html?hpid=z1)

# Look Out Above



**Russia plans to send long-range bombers to patrol the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean, the nation's defense minister said, in what may be Moscow's latest provocative maneuver.**

**The patrols would bring the flights close to the United States' territorial waters.**

**Russia has been on a roll with a series of international provocations, ranging from brazen kidnappings to increased aerial operations.**

**Last month, the Swedish military searched for a mystery underwater vessel after intercepting an emergency radio call in Russian and getting reports about a foreign vessel being spotted in the waters near Stockholm.**

**In September, the United States intercepted six Russian planes, including fighter jets and tankers, in airspace near Alaska, officials said.**

[http://www.cnn.com/2014/11/13/world/europe/russia-bombers-plan/index.html?hpt=hp\\_t1](http://www.cnn.com/2014/11/13/world/europe/russia-bombers-plan/index.html?hpt=hp_t1)