

# Too hot to handle: animals flee north



Washington: Animals are fleeing global warming by heading north much faster than they were less than a decade ago, a new study says.

About 2,000 species examined are moving away from the equator at an average rate of about a mile per year, according to new research published in

show the last decade was the hottest on record, and 2010 tied with 2005 for the hottest year. As the temperatures soared in the 2000s, the species studied moved faster to cooler places, especially the city copper butterfly in Europe and the purple emperor butterfly in Sweden. The comma butterfly in Great Britain has moved more than 135 miles in 21 years, Thomas said. One of the faster moving species is the British spider silometopus, Thomas said. In 25 years, the small spider has moved its home range more than 200 miles north, averaging eight miles a year, he said. Thomas found that the further north the species live, the faster they moved their home base. That makes sense as the northern regions are warming more than those closer to the equator.

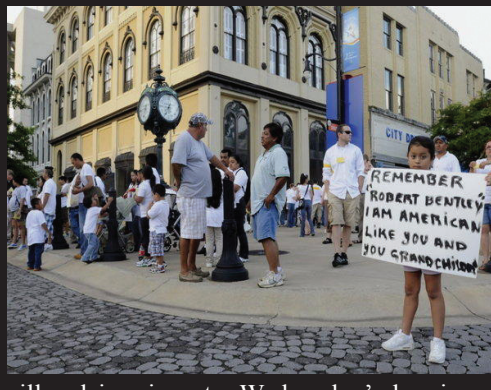
Science. The species - mostly from the Northern Hemisphere - moved in fits and starts, but over several decades, it averages about eight inches an hour from the equator. "The speed is an important issue," said study author Chris Thomas of the University of York. "It is faster than we thought." Federal weather data

# Alabama judge casts doubt on harsh new illegal immigration law

New York : A federal court hearing in Alabama Wednesday will determine whether or not a recent state law restricting illegal immigration has constitutional merit. Although the judge has until next week to strike down provisions of the law, critics say the legislation may drive undocumented workers to neighboring states.

Proponents of the law say that illegal immigrants to the state - whose numbers have increased dramatically over the last 10 years - are taking precious jobs away from legal residents.

In June, Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley (R) signed into law what is by some measures the harshest anti-immigration bill in the nation. For example, birth certificates or other papers showing legal resident status will now be required at government agencies and from parents seeking to enroll their children in public schools, produce proof of residency and employers or individuals face penalties if they knowingly transport, harbor, or hire



illegal immigrants. Wednesday's hearing, held in federal court in Birmingham, is the result of numerous lawsuits collectively launched by the Obama administration, national civil rights groups, and state church leaders seeking to block the new law, which goes into effect Sept. 1. US District Judge Sharon Blackburn said in court Wednesday that she believed "there are a lot of problems" with the statute, but that she would only hear arguments that framed the debate by its legality, opposed to its supposed moral or political merits.

# More cracks found in Washington Monument after quake

Washington— A closer inspection of the earthquake-damaged Washington Monument found about half a dozen more cracks, and the structure will be fenced off while engineers decide how to repair it, the National Park Service said Wednesday night.

The Lincoln and Jefferson memorials reopened one day after the East Coast's rare 5.8 temblor, but the Washington Monument will remain closed indefinitely.

Finished in 1884, the monument is one of the capital's most popular tourist attractions, with about 1,700 visitors going inside each day. It is the world's tallest obelisk, standing more than 555 feet high.

"The Washington Monument is one of America's most important landmarks, and we will do whatever it takes to ensure that it is restored completely and correctly," said Robert A. Vogel, superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks. "We will take whatever time is necessary to get it right," added park service spokesman Bill Line. "Public safety is paramount."

A day earlier, a U.S. Park Police helicopter crew spotted a crack 4 feet long and up to an inch wide in one of the stones near the top of the structure. The other cracks were discovered Wednesday during an inspection from the inside, a park service spokesman said. The National Cathedral in Washington has also been closed because of earthquake damage. Three of its four pinnacles cracked and fell onto the roof.

# US election: Rick Perry increases lead over Mitt Romney

New York : Rick Perry has taken a double-digit lead over Mitt Romney in the Republican presidential nomination race in two polls released on Wednesday.

Although he only formally entered the race on August 13, 29 per cent of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents said the Texas governor would most likely be their choice to oppose Democratic President Barack Obama in 2012, according to a Gallup poll.

Mr Perry's support among Republicans was not dented by strong comments just after getting into the race, when he raised eyebrows among some of the party's opinion leaders by seeming to threaten U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and questioning Mr Obama's patriotism.

The first nominating contests will not begin until



early next year, but most of the other Republican White House hopefuls have been campaigning for months. Mr Romney had been first in most nationwide opinion polls. Gallup said 17 per cent favoured Mr Romney, when asked to rate the field of candidates vying for the nomination.

Texas Congressman Ron Paul was third, at 13 per cent, and Minnesota Congresswoman Michele Bachmann came fourth, with 10 per cent.

The telephone poll of 1,040 Republicans and Republican-leaning independents on Aug. 17-21 was the first conducted after the second Republican candidates'

debate in Iowa, the Iowa Straw Poll and Perry's entry into the race. Mr Perry also had a big lead over Romney. Mrs Bachmann Romney in a survey of Republican primary voters conducted by the Democratic pollster Public Policy Polling.

# Joey Vento, Founder of Cheese-Steak Institution, Dies at 71

New York : Joey Vento, the founder of Geno's Steaks, a stand-in-line takeout establishment that is one of the pillars of the cheese-steak mecca of South Philadelphia, died Tuesday at his home in Shamong, N.J. He was 71. The cause was a heart attack, said his son, Geno (who was named after the food stand). The bulging, dripping cheese-steak sandwich, while hardly a rival to the hamburger, the hot dog or the pizza slice, has etched a niche for itself nationally in the last

# Report: Cheney says he advised Bush to bomb Syria

WASHINGTON— 2001, about two months after taking office. Only Former Vice President Dick Cheney writes in his new memoir that President George W. Bush rejected his advice in 2007 to bomb a suspected nuclear reactor site in Syria.

The New York Times reported Wednesday that Cheney says he was "a lone voice" for military action against Syria. Other advisers were reluctant, Cheney says, because of "the bad intelligence we had received about Iraq's stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction" before the 2003 invasion of that country.

The Israelis bombed the Syrian site later in 2007. Cheney's autobiography, "In My Time: A Personal and Political Memoir," also discusses his history of health problems, including multiple heart attacks. In an interview Wednesday with NBC News, Cheney said he had a secret resignation letter signed and stored in a safe in case he became incapacitated. Cheney said he signed the resignation letter in March

after taking office. Only Bush and one of the vice president's staff members knew the letter existed. In his book, Cheney writes that he was unconscious for weeks after heart surgery in 2010, The Times reported.

The newspaper said Cheney's book includes criticism of other members of Bush's administration. He accuses former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice of naivete and says he believed former Secretary of State Colin Powell tried to undermine Bush "by criticizing administration policy to people outside the government."

Powell's resignation after the 2004 election "was for the best," Cheney writes. And he says former CIA Director George Tenet's decision to resign in 2004 — "when the going got tough" — was "unfair to the president." "In My Time" will be published next week by Simon & Schuster.

**INDO AMERICAN ARTS COUNCIL presents**

**IAAC ERASING BORDERS 2011 EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ART OF THE DIASPORA**

**Opening Reception: Thursday August 18th, 6:30-8:30 pm.**

**Aicon Gallery, 35 Great Jones Street, New York City**

**Exhibition dates: August 16-September 3, 2011**

**Curated by Vijay Kumar**

IAAC Director of Exhibitions: **Tanu Jindal**

**Erasing Borders** is a richly provocative exhibition by artists of the Indian diaspora who confront issues of sexuality, terror, disease, the environment, racial and sectarian politics in painting, prints, installations, video, and sculpture. With great technical mastery and diversity of theme and style, these works combine traditional Indian aesthetics with Western elements, and speak to the powerful experience of personal and cultural dislocation in the global village. In its eighth year, Erasing Borders is curated by Vijay Kumar and produced by the Indo-American Arts Council. Free and open to the public.

Participating Artists: (Click on the artists name for details): **Fasih Ahsan, Mohammed Bari, Samanta Batra Mehta, Faren Butt, Amita Chatterjee, Sonia Chaudhary, Nandini Chirimar, Neil Chowdhury, Uday K Dhar, Reet Das, Delna Dastur, Anjali Deshmukh, Anujan Ezhikode, Aaliyah Gupta, Mansoor Hassan, Mumtaz Hussain, Tehniyet Hussain, Samina Iqbal, Nidhi Jalan, Sunita Jariwala-Gajjar, Reeta Gidwani - Karmarkar, Kulvinder Kaur Dhew, Aamir Khan Tarin, Srinivas Krishna, Shaurya Kumar, Shobha Menon, Rahul Mitra, Indrani Nayar-Gall, Kuzana Ogg, Avani Patel, Minna Phillips, Antonio Puri, Talha Rathore, Rasika Reddy, Sangeeta Reddy, Pinku Roy-Bari, Tara Sabharwal, Satyakam Saha, Pallavi Sharma, Sara Suleman, Roshani Thakore, MD Tokon, Prince Varughese Thomas**

**Exhibition dates: August 16-September 3, 2011**  
**Venue: Aicon Gallery, 35 Great Jones St, NYC**

PLEASE RSVP: [tanu.iaac@gmail.com](mailto:tanu.iaac@gmail.com)

MARCH 21 - 31, NEW YORK  
**ASIAN CONTEMPORARY ART WEEK 2011**

**INDO-AMERICAN ARTS COUNCIL & DESIPINA Present**

Rehana Lew Mirza's play  
**BARRIERS**

Directed by Colette Robert  
In commemoration of the tragedy of 9/11  
**September 11, 2011 at 7 pm at HERE theatre, 145 Sixth Ave, NYC.**  
**There will be a PRE-performance reception and discussion (with the Playwright, Director & cast) at 4:30 pm.**

Tickets: \$30 general admission;  
\$25 IAAC members/students w/ID

**About Barriers:** *Barriers* takes place four months after 9/11 and deals with the Chinese/Pakistani Abbas family, and the loss of their oldest son Nabhil at the World Trade Center. The Abbas's only daughter, Sunima, comes home to announce her pending engagement to a white man. However, Sunima's news becomes lost in a mire of household problems and she gets trapped in the family loss they never dealt with. As this multi-cultural family begins to fragment, we begin to piece together the past each one hides, and the future they all share. Originally mounted in 2002 at HERE and then subsequently co-produced with the Asian American Theater Company in San Francisco and Los Angeles in 2003, *Barriers* is returning to the stage slightly reworked to look back on the ten-year anniversary of the World Trade Center tragedy. This production is a part of HEREstay, HERE's curated rental program, which provides artists with subsidized space and equipment, as well as technical support.

**Cast:**

- Colette Robert (Director)
- Rehana Lew Mirza (Playwright)
- Pooja Kumar
- Sunkrish Bala
- Joe Petrilla \*
- Eileen Rivera \*
- Jon Norman Schneider \*
- Rajeev Varma

\* Actors appearing courtesy of Actors Equity Union.

**Barriers Benefit Schedule:**  
4:30-6:00 pm:  
**Pre-performance Reception with Playwright, Director, Cast 5-5:30 pm:**  
**Discussion and Q&A with Playwright, Director & Cast during the reception.**  
7 pm: Performance of *Barriers*

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