

MAGIC CARPET

BAHRAINI jewellery and gem consultant **Shahrazad Murad** has unveiled her new creation, inspired by her passion for Oriental rugs and the classical tradition of carpet-weaving.

'Tabriz' comprises a necklace, bracelet and ring crafted using 18-carat gold, corals, turquoise and pearls, and is being exhibited at Bahrain Jewellery Centre in Al Aali Mall.

The wearable art brings alive the colours, patterns and artistry of traditional Tabriz rugs, a city in Iran; the coral and turquoise fringes, for instance, resemble the rugs' tassels.

Having several professional certifications from DANAT (Bahrain Institute for Pearls and Gemstones), De Beers, and L'ecole Van Cleef & Arpels, among others, the creative entrepreneur has also studied Persian history and its traditional rug-weaving. She has plans to make more designs for other cities, including Isfahan, Nain and Qum.

"Every area boasts its unique aesthetic, and specific characteristics distinguishing its rugs from those crafted elsewhere. Because these rugs often depict stories and cultural motifs, I decided to incorporate these into my own work," the gemmologist, who is



JEWELLERY REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
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equally inspired by Qashqai and Gabbeh carpets, both crafted by different nomadic tribes, told *GulfWeekly*.

Shahrazad grew up rummaging through her mother's jewellery box. She was also inspired by her grandmother Peri Kazerooni, an artist, who painted ornaments on canvas for her goldsmith to create for her and her six daughters.

"I launched Shahrazad Designs at the end of 2019 as an online shop. I used traditional motifs and cultural symbols like Bahraini pearls and the Middle Eastern evil eye. I am obsessed with showcasing our illustrious heritage, while

adding a modern twist to my creations, which are popular these days," she said.

The designer believes that one of her most special pieces is from her Qalby ('my heart') collection and is a pendant adorned with Bahraini mother of pearl, showcasing a constellation pattern, with stars made up of broken diamonds.

"I don't want anything to go to waste, so I make it a point to reuse broken diamonds, many of which are of great quality. Creating jewellery made from recycled gold, as well as recut or repurposed gems is almost guaranteed to have a lower environmental impact than brand-new jewellery, and that's a win in



ARTISTIC: The Tabriz ring



HERITAGE: The special pendant adorned with Bahraini mother of pearl, showcasing a constellation pattern

my book," she added.

Shahrazad also works with broken pearls, mother of pearl and diamond powder to infuse different elements into her sustainable jewellery collections Qalby and Burji ('my zodiac'), as well as emeralds, rubies and sapphires, including those with 'inclusions'.

A gemstone inclusion is any material - such as minerals, gas, or liquid - that is naturally trapped within a gem as it forms, and serves as a gemstone's 'fingerprint', offering insight into its origin, authenticity, and

certification card that can be issued with the purchase of her eco-friendly designs. She is also working on creating dress-up pieces for Apple gold band watch straps that can be personalised, and precious accessories for women's bags that she feels will become all the rage.

Keen on taking her sustainable collections to the international market, Shahrazad is working closely with DANAT to launch, what she claims is, Bahrain's first sustainability

certification card that can be issued with the purchase of her eco-friendly designs. She is also working on creating dress-up pieces for Apple gold band watch straps that can be personalised, and precious accessories for women's bags that she feels will become all the rage. *Shahrazad Design is available at Bahrain Jewellery Centre, the Bahrain National Museum gift shop and online at shahrazaddesign.com.*

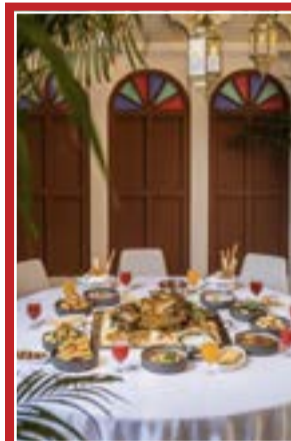
“Creating jewellery made from recycled gold, as well as recut or repurposed gems is almost guaranteed to have a lower environmental impact than brand-new jewellery”



THE ODD COUPLE
MTC back in action
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EID SPECIAL
Festive home décor
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PULSE OF POP
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ODD COUPLE: A scene from a 1975 staging of the play



Crew call

THEATRE REPORT
By NAMAN ARORA
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RHEARSALS have begun for a play centred on two mismatched roommates being staged by Bahrain's oldest English-language theatre group, with some of the crew roles still open to volunteers.

The Manama Theatre Club (MTC) is gearing up to put on a comical performance of *The Odd Couple*, a play by Neil Simon that centres on neat, uptight Felix Ungar and his roommate - the easygoing Oscar Madison.

"The play explores the intersection of friendship, relationships and cohabiting," the play's director Ghassan Chemali told *GulfWeekly*.

"And while the commentary on the strangeness of such intersection may be a little outdated today, the comedic and relatable situations which are brilliantly depicted in the play are ageless."

In the story, Felix, a neurotic, neat freak, is thrown out by his wife, and moves in with his friend Oscar.

Despite Oscar's careless spending, and poor life habits, he seems to enjoy life. Felix, however, seems utterly incapable of enjoying anything and only finds purpose in

pointing out his own and other people's mistakes and foibles.

After its premiere on Broadway in 1965, the characters were revived in a successful 1968 film and 1970's television series, as well as several other derivative works and spin-offs.

"We want to remain true to the original version as much as possible, bringing back the vibes of 1960's New York," Ghassan explained.

FLASHBACK: Last year's MTC performance of *Pride and Prejudice*



"However, the multi-ethnicity of the current cast compared to the original one will undoubtedly modernise the play's statement and touch on its universality.

"Multi-ethnicity not being strange to New York, we wouldn't be stepping away from the original setup."

The MTC team is currently looking for volunteers interested in marketing, social media, photography and front-of-house to complete the crew.

Joining Ghassan in putting on the play will be producer and MTC chairperson Hannah Turner.

"We were originally looking at different murder mysteries but nothing seemed to click at the table reads, so Ghassan

suggested *The Odd Couple* - coincidentally, *Fools* by the same playwright, Neil Simon, was the performance we had to cancel due to the Covid-19 pandemic, so it came full circle back to him, and as soon as we did the first reading, we realised how funny and relatable this was," Hannah explained.

Relative to the *HELP! I'm a Celebrity Pantomime Dame, Get Me Out of Here!* performance staged

last year, the cast is comparatively smaller, with two primary leads and five supporting characters.

"To anyone looking to learn and understand how a play is led and managed, I would say this is the perfect opportunity,

as there are many skilled and experienced people handling production and a lot can be learned from them," Ghassan added.

"For this play in particular, the attention to props, and backstage support for actors, usually handled by stage managers is very much important.

"Timing of sound cues and the quality of lighting are also important. People can also learn about how the space of stage is optimised in set design to suit the play's storyline, actions and practical requirements of the backstage."

For more details, follow @mtcbahrain on Instagram.



AS WE COME TO THE END OF RAMADAN, GULFWEEKLY'S COLUMNIST PREETY PRAVEEN EXPLORES THE IMPACT THAT ACTS OF KINDNESS AND SERVICE, WHICH ARE COMMONLY PRACTISED DURING THE HOLY MONTH, HAVE ON OUR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING.

DO GOOD, FEEL GOOD

WE learn many things in life but there are some qualities that are inbuilt in our heart, mind and soul. One among them is a desire to do something for people and society.

There is a Chinese proverb, "If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody."

Agreed that we all have many things to handle, ample responsibilities to cater to, abundant emotions to hold and enough work pressure. And I won't deny that all of this is enough to keep us engrossed and involved every single minute.

But taking time out for a stranger, making an effort to reach out to a needy person and thinking about serving someone without any selfish motive can bring happiness, to both, the person doing the service and the person receiving it. When we help others, we often feel a sense of fulfilment, knowing we've made a positive impact. It strengthens relationships, fosters gratitude and creates a sense of community.

When we help others, our brains release feel-good chemicals like oxytocin and endorphins, which boost our mood and reduce stress. Additionally, serving others often shifts our focus away from our own challenges, allowing us to gain perspective and feel more grateful for what we have.

The joy of seeing others happy because of our actions also reinforces a sense of purpose and self-worth, contributing to long-lasting happiness. Simply put, helping others not only brightens their day, but it enriches our own life too.

Some common feelings and experiences that one might enjoy when they jump into the ocean of kindness and service are -



happiness, satisfaction, gratitude, connection, emotional upliftment, a sense of purpose, humility and empathy and relief from ego.

In a nutshell, when one serves others with selflessness, the reward often isn't just external but internal - a profound sense of fulfilment, and personal growth. And that's the reason acts of service are a love language, meaning that giving or receiving them is a primary way the person (whose love language it is) experiences connection and care.

And to sail in this boat of satisfaction, we don't even have to go out of the house. People whom you find in your vicinity, who serve you from the heart, take care of you, help you and make your life easy, beautiful and livable, need your kindness and attention.

On a daily basis, you meet your house help, watchman, gardener, security guard and delivery man.

Just think for once, when was the last time you took a few minutes to ask them how they are, what's happening in their life, or if everything is fine at their home?

Acts of kindness and service strengthen the bonds within communities. These simple yet powerful gestures remind us of our shared humanity, fostering empathy and compassion that create a ripple effect, inspiring others to do the same. Even the smallest acts can make a significant difference in the world.

(Preeti Praveen is a psychologist and author.)

PAYING IT FORWARD FOR RAMADAN

GulfWeekly's readers share their views on the topic.

AS a Russian artist living in Bahrain, I find Ramadan to be a deeply inspiring time. The spirit of giving and reflection fills the air, influencing my art with themes of kindness and unity. Acts of service, like sharing iftar or supporting those in need, create a sense of harmony that resonates with everyone! This beautifully reflects how acts of service affect mental well-being owing to their positive nature—by fostering a sense of purpose, strengthening human connections, and bringing inner peace. The colours of generosity and the textures of compassion nourish both the soul and the canvas, proving that service is an art in itself.

- Alexandra Novik-Khamis

I BELIEVE that selfless acts of service can drastically make a person's day, if not week or month! Last week, I stopped at a coffee

shop for a brief time after iftar to have a latte in between a couple of errands I was running that night.

Ramadan tends to be an extremely busy month, so I was feeling tired of the chores and responsibilities I had that week, and on top of that I was also dealing with personal things that were weighing heavy on me.

As I was getting ready to leave the shop, I was approached by one of the employees with a receipt in her hand, and I thought she was about to tell me about a mistake that happened in my order or a payment issue that I needed to resolve, only for her to reveal that her co-worker drew a doodle of me on the back of the receipt!

I was pleasantly surprised and thanked the employee for the kind gesture, and went on with the rest of my day with a smile on my face. This small simple act reminded me that Ramadan is all about showing kindness to one another.

- Noor Awad

No place like home!

LIFESTYLE REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
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EID is a time when many decide to give their personal space a facelift for festive gatherings. In this feature, we take a look at the latest home décor trends, from floral arrangements to repurposing home staples and more. We also speak to Bahrain-based experts who tell us about popular styles to watch out for.

LIGHTS WILL GUIDE YOU HOME

Brighten up your soirées this Eid in a variety of ways. Go for traditional lanterns or fairy lights - people worldwide are embracing unique methods to illuminate their personal spaces.

Bahrain-based interior designer from Kerala Smitha Jensen recommends lamps with Arabesque motifs and patterns.

“Eid Party offers a variety of LED lanterns to elevate your Ramadan décor, like Blue Crosshatch Pattern Glass LED Lanterns and Matte Gold Square Metal Lanterns,” she said.

According to architects and managing partners at Duo Design Studio, Blossom Babu and Samantha Menezes, traditional lanterns crafted from natural materials like clay, wood, or glass, featuring intricate CNC



SUSTAINABLE: Repurposed glass jars used as vases

patterns are trending this season. You could pair these with LED moon and star lights or add calligraphy and religious motifs on the lanterns.

“Clean glass jars can be transformed into beautiful lanterns”

BLOOMS FOR DAYS

Unique ornamental floral arrangements are gaining popularity. Wreaths strung together using fresh or dried blooms that you can hang on doors or as wall adornments are trending this season.

Fresh flowers make for elegant dining table centrepieces too, or just petals strewn all over – plucked from Bahrain’s ubiquitous bougainvillea, perhaps, or even the humble mashmoom leaves!

While flora add a certain aesthetic value to the space, they also have the added bonus of fragrance, creating a welcoming energy as family and friends visit.

“During Eid, most of our customers prefer simple designs with white flowers like lilies and green leaves and sometimes orange, which they arrange in their dining and living rooms,” Um Al Hassam-based Rasha Flower social media and sales in-charge Joel Fernandes said.

OLD IS GOLD

While it’s tempting to buy new things, there are endless ways to repurpose items you already own.

You can easily breathe new life into household staples like jars and old decorations



COMMUNAL: A majlis seating on the rooftop illuminated with fairy lights for good cheer

OASIS OF TRANQUILLITY

SPRUCING up certain areas of the house or even the roof top in a majlis style seating or a prayer corner could instantly uplift your space, lending it a festive vibe.

Yasmeen recommends creating a relaxing spiritual corner for prayer, which can be made extra special by bringing out an exceptionally beautiful prayer mat that you save just for the Holy Month and Eid.

“Since Eid celebrations often focus on communal gatherings, the floor becomes a central element. A colourful patterned rug can create a festive mood, while a single-colour, self-print rug can provide a sophisticated backdrop,” Blossom said.

WELCOME TO MY TABLE

Breaking bread together brings alive the community spirit of Eid. You can elevate

to create a whole new look this season.

“Use old LED string lights and ornaments by integrating them into lanterns, banners, curtain pelmet boxes, entrance archways, or staircases,” Blossom and Samantha, who have been in the business for 16 years, added.

“Clean glass jars can be transformed into beautiful lanterns. Decorate them with paint, glitter or lace and then place tea lights or LED candles inside.”

the experience by beautifying the dining space with simple ideas. “I would recommend investing in timeless, high quality tableware to make meal time feel festive,” Bahraini interior designer and owner of Yasmeen’s Studio Yasmeen Alabdulla said, adding that fresh flowers for the iftar table are always a beautiful addition.

Samantha recommended using contrasting tableware that stands out against a colourful floor rug.

“Patterns and vibrant colours can add excitement to a space with a more monotone interior, creating a delightful contrast,” she said.

Along with other elements, adding memorabilia could enhance your table décor with a personalised touch, Smitha, who is also the president of Indian Ladies Association, added.



FEAST: A dining table adorned with a floral centrepiece and traditional lanterns

DETAIL: Festive food tags to elevate the Eid spirit



Ramadan Ka

GO-TO SPOT FOR A PERFECT EID BRUNCH



SERENE: La Plage's Al Fresco Eid Brunch

HEAD down to the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain for a spectacular culinary adventure for Eid Al Fitr.

La Plage has lined up the Al Fresco Eid Brunch, where you can savour a wonderful meal while taking in the refreshing ocean breeze and stunning beachfront views.

Available on the first day of Eid, from 1pm to 4pm, it costs BD33 inclusive of soft beverages, BD44 inclusive of selected beverages, and BD60 per person for a bubbly brunch.

Children aged four to 12 will have to pay BD16.500.

Celebrate with your loved ones at La Med's Big Ben Eid Brunch, which features a charming setting inspired by London's iconic landmarks, on April 4, 1pm to 4pm.

Delight in British classics alongside global flavours, making this Eid a truly unforgettable celebration of family, togetherness and exceptional dining.



PERFECTLY COOKED: Meat at La Plage's Eid Arabian Barbecue Nights

The brunch is priced at BD33 inclusive of soft beverages, BD44 with selected beverages and BD60 with a bubbly. Children aged four to 12 dine for BD16.500.

Discover a symphony of flavours at La Plage's Eid Arabian Barbecue Nights. It costs BD29 inclusive of soft beverages and BD34 with selected beverages, on April 4, from 7pm to 11pm.

Meanwhile, guests can kick

off their Eid festivities with an electrifying night of music and fun at La Plage and Thai Lounge's White Party. The entry fee is BD20, inclusive of one selected beverage, on April 3, from 8pm to 1am.

Hotel visitors can also enjoy Plum's Tomahawk Tuesdays on April 1, from 7pm to 11pm, for BD69.

Nirvana invites guests to embark on a culinary journey through the vibrant tastes



FEAST: Eid Royal Thali

of India with its Eid Royal Thali over the three days of Eid, from noon to 4pm and 7pm to 11pm. It costs BD24 per person, inclusive of one glass of lassi.

Guests still have the chance to enjoy the hotel's Ramadan offers at its Masaya Pavillion this weekend. Iftar costs BD40 from sunset to 8pm and ghabga is priced at BD45, from 9pm to 2am. Children aged six to 12 years dine with 50 per cent off and those under five eat for free.

For details, call 17586499 or email rc.bahrz.restaurant.reservations@ritzcarlton.com to reserve.

EXCITING Eid Al Fitr events have been lined up at the InterContinental Bahrain.

For a complete festive experience, opt for the Regency Tent, which offers guests a lavish spread featuring traditional and contemporary dishes.

The exclusive brunch, on the second and third day of Eid, includes Middle Eastern specialties such as a mezze platter, lamb kebabs, lamb ouzi and grilled meats, alongside signature hotel dishes, gourmet pastries, fresh seafood and fusion items.

Traditional sweets such as baklava, kunafeh, qatayef as well as chocolate fondue and fruit tarts will be available alongside fresh juices, mocktails and a selection of teas. Live music by Emna and Raafat will add to the ambience. The event costs BD20 with soft beverages and BD26 for a selected beverage package. Children under 12 eat for BD10.

Meanwhile, the hotel has organised a list of offerings beginning next month.

Relax with loved ones at Noor Lounge every



DELIGHT: Lavish spread at InterContinental Bahrain

ARABIAN DELICACIES ON INTERCONTINENTAL MENU

Thursday and Friday, from 2pm to 7pm, with fine tea. Enjoy a selection of treats, sandwiches and beverages. It is priced at BD6.500 per guest.

Eat your heart out at Pizza 6 Wednesday's pizza special. Indulge in a pizza for BD6 from noon to 3pm and 6.30pm to 10.30pm.

Indulge in the Regency Tent's seafood-themed night, featuring interactive live stations, signature dishes and refreshing ocean-inspired cocktails, on April 10, from 6.30pm to 10.30pm. It costs

BD24net with soft beverages and BD32 for a house package.

Legendz SteakHouse has introduced the 'ultimate dining experience' with its new steak and lobster three-course menu. Enjoy a delicious starter selection, followed by a 300gm lobster tail and 200gm grilled tenderloin, as well as a dessert. It is available everyday, from 6.30pm to 10.30pm, starting from BD28net.

For details contact 36967701.

TRADITIONS ON A PLATTER

CELEBRATE Eid Al Fitr in style at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay.

Relish the Eid Brunch at the five-star hotel's Iconic Tent on the first day of Eid, from 12.30pm to 4pm.

Live cooking stations and music will make for an unforgettable culinary experience.

From a selection of mezzes, refreshing salads and Asian, Italian, Lebanese and Indian cuisines, the spread promises a diverse feast and flavours for all.

The Bahraini corner includes traditional dishes such as harees, thareed and madrouba, offering a sumptuous evening, while the grill station will serve up succulent kebabs.



VARIETY: Delicious dishes for a premium experience

A variety of desserts are also available, including kunafeh, loukmades, baklava, um ali and Turkish delights.

Entertainment will be set up to keep the children occupied.

The brunch costs BD35, inclusive of soft beverages and BD48 with selected beverages. A 50 per cent discount is applied for children aged between six and 12 and those under six eat with the hotel's compliments.

Guests still have time to enjoy the hotel's irresistible offers at its Ramadan Tent. Iftar, from sunset to 8pm, costs BD37 per person, inclusive of water, juices and Arabic coffee and tea.

Ghabga, from 9pm to 2am, costs BD40 per person, from Saturday to Wednesday, and BD44 per person from Thursday to Friday.

Children aged six to 12 pay BD20, and it is free for those below six.

Guests can elevate the night with a Premium Experience, which features an exclusive service and a full table of the finest dishes, from 9pm to 2am.

The cost is BD55 per person for a minimum of four people. A minimum charge of BD220 will be applicable for three people or less.

For details and reservations, contact 17115500 or 17115070.





What's on
guide by
Julia Cassano



SPOILT FOR CHOICE: Tasty picks from the breakfast buffet



FUN TIME: Pyjama Brunch

FEAST AND FUN WITH FRIENDS AT HILTON

HILTON Bahrain has lined up a pyjama-themed brunch to celebrate the upcoming Eid Al Fitr festivities.

Come dressed in your best pair of pyjamas for a day of fun and comfort! A variety of games and live entertainment will be staged, making for a fantastic time.

The experience costs BD28 inclusive of soft beverages and BD39 with selected beverages, on the first day

of Eid, from 12.30pm to 4pm, at Origin Kitchen and Culture.

Special rates are available for groups.

Guests still have time to enjoy the hotel's exclusive Ramadan offers.

Experience a captivating culinary journey at The Dome, where a stunning interior and delicious food will make for an

unforgettable evening.

Iftar costs BD20+++ from sunset to 8pm, and ghabga is priced at BD20+++ on weekdays from 9.30pm to 1am and weekends from 9.30pm to 2am. Children under five can enjoy for free, and those aged six to 12 dine for BD12.705net.

The hotel is also staging its Breakfast Buffet, from Sunday to Friday, 6.30am to

10.30am, at Origin Kitchen and Culture for BD13net per person. Late risers can enjoy the breakfast until 11.30am on Saturdays, at the same price.

On Sundays and Mondays, ladies can enjoy the buffet for BD5 with a minimum of six girls. It is available from 6.30am to 10.30am.

For more information, call 33692013.

FESTIVE VIBES, DELICIOUS BITES

CELEBRATE Eid Al Fitr in style at Sheraton Bahrain's Al Taj Tent.

Indulge in the Eid Brunch, featuring delicious dishes, live entertainment and fun activities to keep the little ones entertained, on the first and second days of Eid. Prices start from BD30net per person.

Those who want to enjoy poolside access can pay an additional BD12 per adult and BD6net for youngsters.

A 20 per cent early bird offer is available until Saturday, March 29.

The hotel's Iranian restaurant Golestan invites guests to celebrate the festive season with its two delicious menu options.

The first menu includes two cold and hot mezzes, soup, meal, kebab selection and a dessert, for BD25, while the second features three cold and hot mezzes, soup, two meals, and a selection of kebabs and desserts at BD30.

Both are available on the first, second and third days of Eid, from noon to 4pm and 7pm to midnight.

A take-away option is also available. Guests can



FLAVOURS: Eid brunch

order an Ouzi Family Feast, inclusive of meat, rice and side dishes for BD238. The second meat-and-rice-only option is priced at BD182. They serve 10 to 12 people.

Get ready for a flavour-packed adventure at the hotel's Wild Brunch, on April 4, from 12.30pm to

5pm. Guests can also enjoy refreshing beverages and bites by the poolside and relax in the outdoor area.

Prices start from BD36 per person. A DJ will play all of the hits from 5pm to 9pm.

For more information or bookings contact 17533533 or WhatsApp 38885409.

BRAIN-BUSTERS

Quizmaster and Radio Bahrain host Shannon Crockett, who has been entertaining people across the island with his brain-teasing quiz night sessions, has offered to put GulfWeekly readers' general knowledge to the test. Join in the fun every Thursday with Shannon's seven brain-busters.

1. According to the book *The Intelligence of Dogs*, what's the most intelligent breed of dogs?
2. What was the first commercially successful hybrid car?
3. 'Green Street' is a road in London associated with which European Premier League team?
4. What was the first commercially packaged and sold foodstuff by Heinz?
5. Which board game was the first to incorporate a VHS videotape component?
6. Which Asian country



is known as 'The Land of the Thunder Dragon'?
7. Which country's capital city is an anagram of its seventh largest and former capital city?

- ANSWERS**
1. Border Collie
 2. Prius
 3. West Ham United
 4. Horseradish
 5. Clue/Cluedo
 6. Bhutan
 7. Japan (Tokyo/Kyoto)

ROCK AND ROLL NIGHT AT BRFC

THE Bahrain Rugby Football Club (BRFC) will host a Rock and Roll night on April 11, at 8.30pm.

Local band The Holy Rub, featuring Alex Craine on bass and vocals, Craig Convey on guitar and vocals, and Ciaran O'Brien on drums, will enthral guests with alternative rock'n'roll performances of songs by well-known artists such as The Clash, Jonny Cash, AC/DC, Ramones, Blur, T Rex and The Prodigy.

For more information, call 17695809.



MUSICAL: A poster of the gig

POOL PARTY FOR CHILDREN

THE Dilmun Club in Saar has lined up an array of promotions for children in anticipation of Eid Al Fitr.

On Monday, March 31, children will receive a complimentary meal when an adult meal is purchased.

On Tuesday, there will be

a children's pool party, and non-members can enter for free. Bouncy castles, games, pony rides and a buffet lunch (BD2.500), will be available on April 2. On April 3, adults can enjoy a four-course dinner and selected beverages at 7pm for BD18.

For details, contact 17690926.

RACES TO BE SCREENED LIVE

THE British Club Bahrain will host a live-screening event to watch the Grand National races, a series of world-class races held at Aintree Racecourse, in Aintree, Merseyside,

England.

The event is open to all on April 5, and non-member rules apply.

For more information, contact reception @ britishclubbahrain.com or call 17728245.



SWEET: Treats at the Eid Brunch

Pulse of Pop

AROUND THE WORLD IN MUSIC, TV, BOOKS AND MORE - BY RIMA ALHADDAD

FOR THE LOVE OF MOVIES

THE first two episodes of comedy series *The Studio* are out now on Apple TV+, set to be followed by a weekly release until May 21.

Starring Seth Rogen, who also serves as producer, director and co-writer, the show follows newly-appointed head of the fictional Continental Studios, Matt Remick, who is trying to save the declining movie business.

"The industry is changing. We came up making primarily mid-budget comedic films, which essentially don't exist anymore. So, we are feeling a lot of frustration," Seth said in an interview, talking about the inspiration for the series.

"We knew a lot of people who worked in studios who actually kind of love movies, and they themselves weren't happy with the direction things were going, even though they could change it," he added.

The show is set to include many elements directly lifted from Seth's career, and will feature bizarre stories from the entertainment industry.

The episodes also star a number of special guests, including Charlize Theron, Paul Dano, Zac Efron, Adam Scott and director Martin Scorsese.

"I remember my mother called me that morning and was like, 'Oh my God, you have to direct Martin Scorsese. How scary is that? And I'm like, 'Thanks, mum. Yes, it's terrifying. That's not helping,'" Seth recalled.



ENTERTAINMENT:
The series' poster

ROMANTIC RHAPSODY

American singer-songwriter Lucy Dacus' fourth album entitled *Forever is a Feeling* drops tomorrow.

The musical creation will showcase the singer's approach to romance and the brave willingness to express and experience desire.

"This is the first time I felt like I needed to write about my current emotions, for my own well-being,

to express to myself what's going on," Lucy said in an interview, about the writing process.

"I got kicked in the head with emotions. Falling in love, falling out of love... You have to destroy things in order to create things. And I did destroy a really beautiful life," she added.

The musician is known for



TALENT: Lucy

being a part of indie rock band Boygenius alongside Phoebe Bridgers and Julien Baker, who are also set to appear on the album.

The trio earned three Grammy Awards last year for their debut studio album entitled *The Record*.

Forever is a Feeling will also feature Irish singer-songwriter Hozier on the track *Bullseye*.

MOVIE TIME

HEAD down to CINECO Seef to watch an array of English-language films being shown this weekend.

CAPTAIN AMERICA: BRAVE NEW WORLD (PG-13)

Sam Wilson, the new Captain America, finds himself in the middle of an international incident and must discover the motive behind a nefarious global plan.

Actors: Anthony Mackie, Harrison Ford, Danny Ramirez

Timings: 2.30pm, 10.30pm

CLEANER (2025) (15+)
Hoping to expose corruption, radical activists take 300 hostages at an energy company's annual gala in a high-rise building. Their cause soon gets hijacked by an extremist within their ranks who is ready to kill someone. It is now up to a former soldier who works

as a window cleaner to save the hostages trapped inside, including her younger brother.

Actors: Daisy Ridley, Clive Owen, Taz Skylar

Timings: 3pm, 11pm
MUSAFU: THE LION KING (PG)

Simba, having become the king of the Pride Lands, is determined for his cub to follow in his paw prints while the origins of his late father Mufasa are explored.

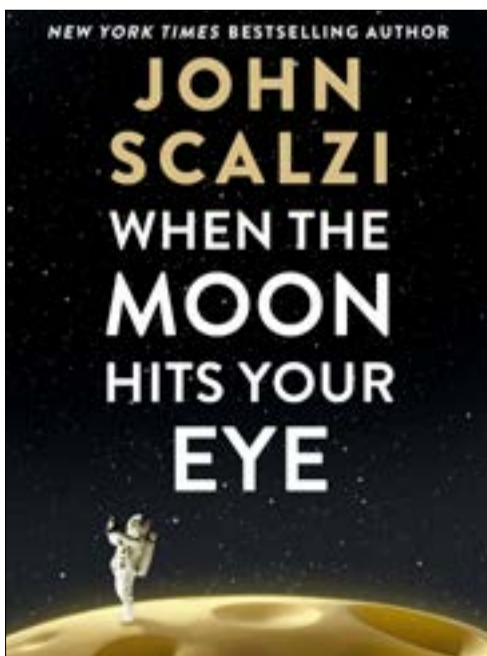
Actors: Aaron Pierre, Seth Rogen, Billy Eichner

Timings: 12pm, 8pm
FLIGHT RISK (PG-15)

A pilot transports an air marshal accompanying a fugitive to trial. As they cross the Alaskan wilderness, tensions soar and trust is tested as not everyone on board is who they seem.

Actors: Mark Wahlberg, Michelle Dockery, Tophér Grace

Timings: 3pm, 11pm



MADE OF GREEN CHEESE?

SCIENCE fiction novel *When the Moon Hits Your Eye* by American author John Scalzi has hit the shelves.

The book follows diverse human reactions to a possibly apocalyptic event in which the moon transforms into cheese, with each day presented from the viewpoint of a different character.

"Obviously it's a

ridiculous concept, and obviously it's something that can be played farcically. But for me, it was much more interesting to look at the whole perspective of how people would deal with it," John said in an interview.

"Some people would treat it farcically, but for some people, it would just completely upend their entire world in a very serious way," he added.

The author is best known for his ongoing *Old Man's War* series. The namesake book, released in 2005, was nominated for the Hugo Award in 2006. Subsequently five more titles were published as part of the series and a new one is expected in September this year.

John also served as a creative consultant for the military science fiction TV series *Stargate Universe*.



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crossword break

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|---|----|---|--|----|----|--|----|----|---|----|
| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 9 | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 11 | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | 13 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 14 | | 15 |
| | 16 | | 17 | | | 18 | | | 19 | | | |
| 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 21 | | | | | |
| 22 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 23 | | | | | |
| 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

- 4. Pardon (7)
- 8. Lie in wait (6)
- 9. Pertinent (7)
- 10. Clandestine (6)
- 11. Eatable (6)
- 12. Desperado (8)
- 18. Vegetation (8)
- 20. Join (6)
- 21. Stop (6)
- 22. Discernment (7)
- 23. Snub (6)
- 24. First (7)

DOWN

- 1. Knead (7)
- 2. Vulgar (7)
- 3. Evaluate (6)
- 5. Maintain (8)
- 6. Clear (6)
- 7. Mild (6)
- 13. In harmony (8)
- 14. Winding (7)
- 15. Nonplus (7)
- 16. Angle (6)
- 17. Average (6)
- 19. Team (6)

who, what, where, when

WHO...was the first Hanoverian king of Great Britain?

WHAT...would you do with a bombardon - eat it, play it or travel in it?

WHERE...in Europe would you spend a kuna?

WHEN...was the Battle of the Boyne?

WHO...was the UK's Conservative Home Secretary from 1970-72?

WHAT...is former England cricketer Ian Botham's middle name?

WHERE...is Pietermaritzburg?

WHEN...did John Gielgud receive his Best Supporting Actor Oscar for the film *Arthur*?

just so

THE ROTTWEILER

JAP MISS AN



MISS

darn tough sudoku

So you think you're good enough at Sudoku to crack this baby? Remember, we were the first in the Gulf to bring you this bit of Japanese mayhem...so we don't kid around

Last week's sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 5 |
| 5 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 6 |
| 6 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 2 |
| 9 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 8 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 9 |
| 7 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 |
| 1 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| 2 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 3 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| 8 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 3 |
| 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 6 |
| 9 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| 5 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

darn tough sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 7 |
| 9 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| 8 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 2 |
| 7 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 6 |

Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | 8 | | 5 | | | |
| | | 2 | 7 | | | 1 | 8 | |
| 7 | | | | 1 | 2 | | | 4 |
| | 8 | | | 9 | | 2 | 7 | |
| 9 | | 5 | | | 7 | 8 | | 6 |
| | 3 | 7 | | 5 | | | 9 | |
| | 7 | | | 6 | | | | 2 |
| 6 | | 3 | 2 | | 4 | 5 | | |
| | | | 1 | 9 | 7 | | 3 | |

Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | | 8 | 2 | | | | | 3 |
| | 6 | | | 3 | | | 5 | 4 |
| | | | 8 | | | 2 | 9 | |
| | 5 | 9 | 7 | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | 9 | 3 | 5 | | 8 |
| | | 4 | | | 8 | 7 | 1 | |
| | | 1 | | 7 | | | | |
| 4 | 8 | | | 5 | | | 3 | |
| 7 | | | | | 4 | | | 6 |

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

- Across:** 6 Javelin; 7 Board; 9 Cloak; 10 Connive; 12 Indifferent; 14 Sentimental; 18 Ecstasy; 19 Stand; 21 Sever; 22 Laconic.
- Down:** 1 Cable; 2 Detain; 3 Rip; 4 Corner; 5 Prevent; 8 Confine; 11 Dismiss; 13 Teacher; 15 Titter; 16 Action; 17 Antic; 20 Vat.

JUST SO: For old times sake, Have it both ways, High summer, High tea.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN: John Case; Kingston; Canada; 1945; John Higgins; 4 million; Norfolk; 1972.

Darn Tough Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 7 | | | | 9 | 5 |
| | 5 | | 6 | | 3 | 2 | | |
| | | | | | | 6 | | 1 |
| | 2 | | | | | | | 7 |
| | 3 | | | 1 | | | 8 | |
| 7 | | | 9 | | | | 2 | |
| 8 | | 9 | | | | | | |
| | | 2 | 4 | | 9 | | 3 | |
| 3 | 6 | | | | 5 | | | |

Your work pad space ...