Community

Staff members of MES Indian School welcome back students after summer vacation.

Community

European cities have started taking measures against too many tourists with ticketing and local restricted areas.

Gulf Times
COMMUNITY

A fair shot

For nations with strict gun laws, a little shooting range in Hawaii is a haven for tourists. P4-5

Films

Theatrical film release is going out of fashion.

Showbiz

I just want to stay relevant, says Kalki.

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COMMUNITY

PRAYER TIME

Fajr 4.01am
Shorooq (sunrise) 5.18am
Zuhr (noon) 11.31am
Aaz (afternoon) 2.50pm
Maghreb (sunset) 5.45pm
Isha (night) 7.15pm

USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergency 999
Worldwide Emergency Number 112
Kahramaa – Electricity and Water 991
Local Directory 180
International Calls Enquiries 150
Hamad International Airport 40106666
Labor Department 44508111, 44406537
Hamad Medical Corporation 44392222, 44393333
Mowasalat Taxi 44588888
Labor Department 44508111, 44406537
Hamad Medical Corporation 44392222, 44393333
Qatar Airways 44466405
Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation 44845555, 44845464
Primary Health Care Corporation 44593333
44593363
Qatar Assistive Technology Centre 44594050
Qatar News Agency 44450205
44450333
Q-Post – General Postal Corporation 44454444

Humanitarian Services Office
(Single window facility for the repatriation of bodies)
Ministry of Interior 40253371, 40253372, 40253369
Ministry of Health 40253370, 40253364
Hamad Medical Corporation 40253364, 40253365
Qatar Airways 40253374

Quote Unquote

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”
— Helen Keller

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Tuesday, September 11, 2018

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Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2
DIRECTION: Nadeem Beyg
CAST: Mawra Hocane, Kanwaljit Singh, Humayun Saeed
SYNOPSIS: The movie revolves around three childhood friends, who are married and settled in their lives but are afraid of their wives. Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 starts off three years after the prequel ends. Pepe’s (Ahmed Ali Butt) brother-in-law, Rahat (Fahad Mustafa), invites the formers and Sheikh’s (Vasay Chaudhry) family to attend his wedding earlier in his life, and strangely enough, what follows in the film involves a mixture of a big fat wedding, the Indo-Pak equation, some duplicity and a whole lot of situational comedy.
THEATRES: The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

Maradona
DIRECTION: Vishnu Narayan
CAST: Tovino Thomas, Leona Lishoy, Tito Wilson
SYNOPSIS: A young man of mystery named Maradona finds himself in the crossfire of gang rivalry in modern day Kerala. Who is he and how did he get embroiled in a world of crime? Maradona, a young man, due to some dangerous situations, moves out of his hometown and reaches Bengaluru to stay with his distant relatives. However, during his stay there, his situation worsens further. He meets new people there, observes their behaviour and events that follow changes his life forever. Who was Maradona, and what changed him, forms the crux.
THEATRES: The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

The Mall Cinema (1): Maradona (Malayalam) 2pm; Alpha (2D) 4:45pm; Alpha (2D) 6:45pm; Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 (Urdu) 8:30pm; Maradona (Malayalam) 11:30pm.
The Mall Cinema (2): Hotel Transylvania 3: A Monster Vacation (2D) 2:30pm; Enchanted Princess (2D) 4:15pm; Hotel Transylvania 3: A Monster Vacation (2D) 5:45pm; The Nun (2D) 7:30pm; The Nun (2D) 9:30pm; The Nun (2D) 11:30pm.
The Mall Cinema (3): Street (Hindi) 2pm; Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 (Urdu) 4:30pm; Miss Granny (Tagalog) 7:30pm; Peppermint (2D) 9:30pm; Paaltan (Hindi) 11:30pm.
Landmark Cinema (1): Alpha (2D) 3pm; Paaltan (Hindi) 4:45pm; Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 (Urdu) 7:30pm; Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 (Urdu) 10:30pm.
Landmark Cinema (2): Enchanted Princess (2D) 2:30pm; Hotel Transylvania 3: A Monster Vacation (2D) 4:15pm; Alpha (2D) 6pm; The Nun (2D) 7:45pm; Alpha (2D) 9:30pm; The Nun (2D) 11:15pm.
Landmark Cinema (3): Hotel Transylvania 3: A Monster Vacation (2D) 2:15pm; Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 (Urdu) 4pm; Peppermint (2D) 7pm; The Nun (2D) 9pm; Maradona (Malayalam) 10:45pm.
Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (1): Hotel Transylvania 3: A Monster Vacation (2D) 3:30pm; Alpha (2D) 5:30pm; Alpha (2D) 7:15pm; The Nun (2D) 9:15pm; The Nun (2D) 11:15pm.
Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (2): Paaltan (Hindi) 2:30pm; Street (Hindi) 5:15pm; Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 (Urdu) 7:45pm; Street (Hindi) 10:45pm.
Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (3): Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2 (Urdu) 2:30pm; Enchanted Princess (2D) 5:30pm; The Nun (2D) 7pm; The Mercy (2D) 8:45pm; Alpha (2D) 10:45pm.
Aspire Zone’s five-a-side football outdoor pitches opposite Al Waab Street are available every day from 7pm – 11pm.

**Inter-School Yoga Championship**
**WHERE:** Aspire Dome
**WHEN:** October 5
**TIME:** 1pm

Indian Sports Centre is all set to organise the second edition of ‘Inter-School Yoga Championship’, sponsored by ‘The Children’s Place’. The championship has been expanded to include students of all nationalities residing in Qatar. Free training sessions will also be organised to help schools prepare their students for the championship. Team and Individual Championship is classified into two categories of under-12 and under-18 for both boys and girls. Rolling trophy will be awarded to the champion school. Last date of entry is September 26. For further details 5546695 /55824194 or email at yoga.iscdoha@gmail.com

**Acrobat Tech Show**
**WHERE:** Mall Of Qatar

Enjoy the supreme aerial acrobatics skill show with an exceptional laser act and a haunting music soundtrack that promises to entertain the whole family.

**Free Activities**
**WHERE:** Ongoing
**WHERE:** Swiss International School

The Swiss International School is opening its new HUB offering Zumba, Salsa, Yoga, Hip Hop, Football, Spinning, Boxercise, Drama, Piano, Violin and ABRS music theory: enjoy a large range of activities for both kids and adults. No need for registration.

**Katara Art Studio: Workshops for children**
**WHERE:** Katara Art Studio
**WHEN:** Ongoing till September 15
**TIME:** 3pm – 8pm

As part of its rich educational programme, Katara Art Studio continues to offer a number of technical workshops ongoing till September 15, aimed at enhancing artistic talents and creative abilities. The workshops will include the art of paper cutting and design, the art of the design of felt and gouache by Jaya trainer Grace Castrodes, silk screen and art drawing on the glass.

**Weekly Knitting and Crochet Circle**
**WHERE:** Qatar National Library
**WHEN:** Ongoing till September 27
**TIME:** 9am – 11am

Join the casual gathering of knitters and crocheters to work on projects and share skills in a friendly atmosphere. Participants will be welcome to bring their own supplies and projects or to borrow QNL needles and yarn. All skill levels are welcome including beginners who are interested in learning.

**Choreography Lessons - Brazilian Zouk**
**WHERE:** Music and Arts Atelier near MOI
**WHEN:** Ongoing till September 15

Brasillian zouk is characterised by the dancers’ undulating bodies and the girls’ flowing hair. Dancer or not, depending on the style of Brasillian zouk, you’ll be able to choose connection and embrace with long graceful steps. The final performance is scheduled to be on 15 September as a flashmob.

**Doha Women Forum**
**WHERE:** The Westin Doha Hotel & Spa
**WHEN:** September 26
**TIME:** 3pm – 9pm

Doha Women Forum 2018: Press for Progress is a platform where women can learn from experts, get inspired by the experiences of other women, share ideas, and network. The forum will feature the stories of women who took steps to affect positive change in their workplace, their community and personal lives. The event will consist of empowering talks, group discussions and workshops.

**International Wedding Exhibition**
**WHERE:** DECC, Westbay
**WHEN:** September 26 – 30
**TIME:** 10am – 10pm

IWED 2018 is to stage a high-profile luxury wedding exhibition in order to position it in the calendar as a key appointment for the luxury market in the Middle East. This event also offers women, who are interested in fashion and luxury, the latest styles and trends in the market.

**Outdoor and five-a-side football pitches**
**WHERE:** Aspire Zone
**WHEN:** Daily
**TIME:** 7pm – 11pm

**Med Food**
**WHERE:** DECC
**WHEN:** October 1 – 4
**TIME:** 3pm – 9pm

For international entrepreneurs, traders, manufacturers, suppliers, food technology companies, and hospitality services on food and beverage, Medfood will be an excellent platform to open new vistas to foray into the emerging markets of Qatar while the Qatar economy is rapidly progressing, the demand and supply of food is inevitable increasing due to the growth of local population, foreign worker and its tourism.

**Hobby Classes**
**WHERE:** Mystic Arts Centre behind Al Hilal Focus Medical Centre
**WHEN:** Wednesday – Monday

Mystic Arts Centre, is a holistic performing artsinstitution and a one stop solution for adults as well as children looking to explore their talents in various art forms. We offer classes in Carnatic Music, Hindustani Music, Karate, Yoga, Zumba, Classical Dance, Salsa, Hip Hop, contemporary and Bollywood dance forms. For details, call 4723680/33897609.

**Breast Cancer Awareness**
**WHERE:** InterContinental Doha
**WHEN:** October

InterContinental Doha – The City is organising several activities (especially at its various dining venues) that focus on highlighting the importance of early detection. Try the pink afternoon tea, the extravagant pink Bar Squared Brunch at Strata Restaurant and Lounge.

**Dance and instrument classes**
**WHERE:** TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building
**WHEN:** Wednesday – Monday

Learn the movements of dance styles in Bollywood, Hip Hop and also the musical instruments such as Piano, Guitar, Keyboard for adults as well kids and move in the world of music. For details, contact 6652387/31326740.
A neon outline of a gun glows red, promising a tantalising, titillating moment of adrenaline fuelled by Hollywood action heroes. Right by the front desk, a squinting John Wayne is pictured, bracketed by his famous line, “A man’s got to do what a man’s got to do.”

For the Japanese visitor, it’s like doing something you’ve never done before at all. For the Australian, it’s like doing something you might be familiar with, but with different tools you haven’t used before.

— Dave Kopel, author on firearms laws

By David Montero

There is an old bazooka resting on the white ventilation system just above Lynn Pang’s head. “We don’t have ammunition for that,” she says cheerily.

But the Waikiki Gun Club seems to have most everything else. There are AR-15s, AK-47s and a Beowulf .50-caliber beast that comes equipped with a monopod beneath the barrel to support its heavy frame.

The place is tucked in a sliver of property on bustling Kalakaua Avenue in Waikiki. Sandwiched between Electric Paradise Tattoo and Baule’a (which sells flip-flops, handbags and suitcases), the club could be passed easily. Nearby is an up-scale ramen restaurant, a Prada store and plate-glass windows highlighting expensive jewelry.

Its low-profile is one reason manager Eric Yang has people handing out fliers to the herds of tourists wandering the sidewalks — their arms loaded with name-brand shopping bags and clutching smartphones to take pictures of paradise. Yang said most of his customers come from Australia, China and Japan — places with much stricter gun laws than the United States. He said his gun range is a chance for these visitors to shoot weapons they couldn’t even see, let alone touch, in their home countries.

For 13 hours a day, six days a week, and 12 hours on Sunday, the door is open. A sign reads, “Experience Live Firearms! Feel the Power!” Above, a neon outline of a gun glows red, promising a tantalising, titillating moment of adrenaline fuelled by Hollywood action heroes. Right by the front desk, a squinting John Wayne is pictured, bracketed by his famous line, “A man’s got to do what a man’s got to do.”

A group of eight Chinese visitors arrives on a Sunday afternoon. They speak no English, but Pang collects their payments, looks at their passports and has them sign the paperwork. Each of them is given a pen with a bright yellow plastic flower attached to the end. As they all sign, it looks like a row of flowers waving in a light breeze. Catchy pop music plays in the background.

Behind Pang are bright screens that display what resemble a menu from a fast-food restaurant. There’s the A Course, which is a basic package of three handguns and 36 shots for $79. The C Course is the most popular, Pang said. It’s like a combo meal for gun enthusiasts: three handguns, three rifles and 55 rounds for $149. The super-sized option features more exotic fare, including a 9-millimetre Uzi.

After shooting packages and targets are chosen, the customers walk past printed images featuring the US Marine Corps,
a September 11 memorial poster and another showing shooting champion Todd Jarrett.

A black door is buzzed and they walk through and wait in a small holding area before another door opens to the shooting range.

Only those who pay to shoot are allowed in the indoor range. But observers can watch the action on a black-and-white monitor in the narrow waiting area lined with two benches.

One of the older women holds a rifle uncomfortably while an instructor helps her. In the lane next to her, a man levels a handgun and squeezes off a few rounds. In the waiting area, the sounds of the shots can be heard—deep, low thuds that sound like a hammer hitting a wall.

Pang stands behind the counter doing paperwork and doesn’t look up while the guns fire from the other side of the wall. She’s worked here about a year and said she’d never fired a gun until taking the job at the front desk. Pang said that it’s a way to make some extra money and that she’s since learned to fire a pistol. Shotguns scare her, though. “Too big,” she says with a laugh.

When the Chinese tourists are done—less than 30 minutes—the older woman in flared pants and flip-flops holds her target in front of her and smiles while her picture is taken with a smartphone. The others compare their zombie-themed targets. Several of the zombies appeared to have survived the onslaught.

Gun restrictions in China are among the toughest in the world, and for most citizens, possession is a criminal offense that can lead to jail time. Pang said most of the Chinese and Japanese customers who come to the Waikiki Gun Club have never fired a gun. She said visitors from Japan and China account for more than 70 percent of their customers.

Australians tend to account for the rest of the visitors.

Marcus Axisa, 28, showed up to shoot guns that are impossible to fire in Sydney. According to Philip Alpers, adjunct associate professor at the University of Sydney’s School of Public Health, many of the guns at the Waikiki Gun Club—such as the AR-15—are rarely used in Australia.

“Under the country’s most restrictive ‘Category D’ firearm licence, a very small number of professional shooters of vertebrate pests are permitted to possess semi-auto rifles such as the AR-15,” Alpers said in an email to the Los Angeles Times. “These are the real Croc Dundees.”

The AR-15 is the one Axisa, a gun owner, liked best and one he couldn’t get his hands on in Sydney. He shot six guns at the Waikiki range and proved to be most accurate with the gun he had fired the least, the AR-15.

“It felt good;” he said. “Easy to handle.”

Yang said the range has been around since 1988 and has a second location a few miles away. They work with touring companies in Japan and China to bring in visitors, offering discounts through prepaid vouchers that are redeemed at the counter.

Exotic guns are a draw, but Dave Kopel, a prolific author on firearms laws and a Cato Institute associate policy analyst, said almost all the guns at the range would be considered exotic to most of the customers—even a 9mm Glock handgun.

“For the Japanese visitor, it’s like doing something you’ve never done before at all,” Kopel said.

“For the Australian, it’s like doing something you might be familiar with, but with different tools you haven’t used before.”

—Los Angeles Times/TNS

There’s the A Course, which is a basic package of three handguns and 36 shots for $79. The C Course is the most popular. It’s like a combo meal for gun enthusiasts: three handguns, three rifles and 55 rounds for $149. The super-sized option features more exotic fare, including a 9-millimetre Uzi

TEASER: While waiting to pay for a shooting session, Oliver Girard, left, and Marcus Axisa centre, look at firearms on display in the lobby of the Waikiki Gun Club.

MOCK TRY: Marcus Axisa, of Australia, second from right, makes a gesture of holding a firearm while talking with Oliver Girard, of Canada, right, while waiting for their turn.
MES reopens after summer vacation

MES Indian School has reopened after summer vacation. On this occasion, the school management along with the Principal and staff members joined hands with parents in welcoming back the students for the academic session and happy learning. An orientation programme was also conducted as a preparatory activity for teachers in equipping them with updated teaching methods for effective learning.

It’s back to school at the Bhavan’s

Bhavan’s Public School has reopened after two month long summer vacation. The students were warmly welcomed in all three campuses with candies, balloons and richly decorated school premises. M P Philip, Principal of BPS, welcomed the students and extended his wishes for the upcoming academic term. Asha Shiju, Headmistress of New Salata Campus, and Shailaja Krishnakumar, Headmistress of Matar Qadeem campus, also welcomed the students. At New Salata campus a special assembly was held in the presence of Asha Shiju along with academic and activity co-ordinators.

DPS-MIS conducts a five-day orientation programme

DPS – Modern Indian School (DPS-MIS) recently conducted a second round of a five-day orientation programme for its faculty members of junior and senior wing. Asna Nafees, Principal of DPS-MIS, while addressing the faculty, stressed on imbibing a strong value system in the students to enable them to be empathetic global citizens. She provided a brief insight to the QNSA (Qatar National School Accreditation) inspection and appreciated the teachers for their excellent team-work.


A team of Doha bank officials also visited the campus to provide valuable guidelines with regard to the saving scheme, loan facility and other customer friendly schemes to the faculty.
PNCCQ and GWS elect new office bearers

Province No 5 Co-ordination Council Qatar (PNCCQ) and Gulmi Welfare Society (GWS) recently conducted their general conventions to elect the new office bearers. The general assembly of PNCCQ took place at Salimar Palace Hotel. The newly elected committee of PNCCQ includes Buddha Pande, President of PNCCQ; Thakur Kumar Pariyar, First Vice President; Aktar Hussain, Second Vice President; Dilh Ram Bhattarai, General Secretary; Baldev Rana and Basanta Raj Puri, Secretary; and Prakash Koirala and Dev Raj Pun, Treasurer. The other members of PNCCQ includes, Kesav Khanal, Dharma Singh B K, Kedar Nath Bhusal, Jabindra Acharya, Shyam Kumar D C, Hari Bahadur Sahi, Ram Lal Khati, Iswor Khaffe, Durga Hamal, Amrit Baral, Shiva Bahadur Budathikori and Lila Dar Acharya.

The convention programme of GWS was chaired by Buddha Pandey, outgoing chairperson. Jabindra Acharya, outgoing first vice president, welcomed the gathering. The programme kicked off with candle lighting and national anthem of Nepal. At the event Kamal Aryal elaborated on the work and activities carried out by the organisation. The newly elected committee of GWS, includes Jabindra Acharya, President of GWS, Lila Mani Pant, First Vice President Mitra Bas, Second Vice President, Kamal Aryal, General Secretary, Suraj B C Secretary, and Suraj Chandar Bohara and Lok Sunar, Treasurer. The other members of GWS includes, Dev Lamsal, Hari Aryal, Sishir Kadel, Kamal Gayawli, Ganesh Dakal, Tikaram Gautam, Yarn Lal Pokheral, Arjun Kuwnar, Darsan Sunar, Gyan Bahadur Garti and Rikha Bahadur Darji. Text and photos by Usha Wagle Gautam

APOO - World celebrates Pakistan Defence Day

All Pakistanis Overseas Organisation International Qatar Chapter (APOO - World) recently organised an event ‘We love Pakistan’ as part of the Defence Day celebrations of Pakistan at the auditorium of Pakistan embassy. The event was a tribute to the martyrs of Pakistan’s armed forces who rendered supreme sacrifices in the defence of their motherland. The event began with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Hafiz Daniyal Ahmad. MIrfan Taj, Defence Attaché at the Embassy of Pakistan, was the chief guest at the event and the Guest of Honours were Dr Shaukat Chandana and Zahid Shekhi, Chairman APOO - World. The event also featured a live performance by Jamshed Shahzad Bajwa and Tanvir Khan Group along with Amin Motiwala, President of APOO - World. They sang national songs, including the foot-tapping Jeeway Jeeway Pakistan. Several students from Mesaieed Pakistani community also performed at the event. Amin Motiwala along with Itikharuddin Chaudhary, Vice President APOO - World, presented felicitations to the students for participation in the event. Other guests who attended the event included Abdul Quhar, President of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Qatar, principals of local Pakistani schools, teachers, Pakistan army and navy officials, Qatar and Pakistan business community leaders and APOO - World executive board members. APOO - World Qatar Chapter also presented a shield to Irfan Taj on the occasion. The event was concluded with a cake cutting ceremony and a dinner by Swiss Bell Hotel Doha.
PICPA organises a seminar on ‘Continuing Professional Development’

PICPA (Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants) Doha recently organised a ‘Continuing Professional Development (CPD)’ seminar at Holiday Inn/Crown Plaza Hotel. The event was attended by 128 participants including certified public accountants and PICPA members. The seminar kicked off with Qatar and Philippine national anthem. Sharon De La Cruz, President of PICPA, welcomed the participants. She informed the attendees that PICPA will continue with its core social responsibility to all members in conducting seminars and trainings for professional development and advancement purposes. She also mentioned that enrolment for CMA (Certified Management Accountant) class will start early this November. According to Sharon, PICPA Doha will also launch a new study course programme to help accounting graduates who needs to refresh their basic accounting knowledge. The first seminar ‘Budgeting & Forecasting in a Dynamic Business Landscape’ was conducted by Jazpher Mangubat. The topics discussed during the seminar includes budgets and budgeting processes, goal setting, evaluating and choosing options, identifying budget impacts and coordinating departmental budgets. Mangubat emphasised on the role of accountants assigned in the budget preparation of a building under construction, providing the blue print to the company to meet its target profit objectives. Forecasting techniques was also in the seminar. The seminar was concluded with a case study presented and used as an example in order to demonstrate how budgeting and forecasting skills can be applied or utilised depending on different given scenarios. PICPA presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mangubat and a certificate of attendance to the participants, earning them plus 4-hour (CPD) credits. The CPD credit units are necessary for a Philippine licensed professional to enable them to renew their Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) CPA licence.

IIS reopens after summer vacation

Ideal Indian School (IIS) has reopened after summer vacation. On this occasion, the school management along with the Principal and staff members welcomed the students back for the academic session.
The hitmaker producing uncanny monster hits

By Geoffrey Rowlands

A merican singer Halsey has only good things to say about hot-shot songwriter and producer Benny Blanco. "If he is hands-down the most tremendous human I know. Everything about him personally and professionally is unique. He has a way of really connecting with his artists and pulling out the special elements that make the songs one of a kind. His ear is unbeatable and he can always surprise a lot."

Halsey speaks from experience. She enjoyed the benefit of Benny's songwriting and production talents on her sophomore album, Hopeless Fountain Kingdom, which took pole position on the Billboard 200 in June 2017. She is also one of the featured vocalists on Benny's UK chart-topping debut single, Eastside.

"It was so nice of Halsey to say those things about me," smiled 30-year-old Benny, real name Benjamin Levin. "I’ve been very lucky to work with so many artists who have become my friends. I don’t know that I deserve all of Halsey’s kind words but I will say about myself that I seem to have an ability to know when a song is really good."

This particular talent has brought massive success to artists such as Ed Sheeran, Justin Bieber, Katy Perry, The Weeknd, Maroon 5 and many more. It has also earned Benny the Hal David Starlight Award from the Songwriters Hall of Fame, multiple BMI (Broadcast Music Inc.) Songwriter of the Year Awards and the iHeartRadio Producer of the Year Award. It was 25 years ago when Benny first began taking an interest in music.

"Rap was all I listened to in those days. I wanted to be a white rapper. This was before Eminem came on the scene. All my friends said I couldn’t be a rapper but when Eminem came out, I said to them: ‘See, he’s white and he’s a rapper. I can be the same.’ The problem though was I wasn’t good enough.”

He did in fact acquire his professional name from this period. "I went through all kinds of rap names. I was Benny Bounce at one time. I was studying Spanish and I suddenly thought I’m white so I could just call myself Blanco, that’s Spanish for white. But a friend said I should be Benny Blanco and that sounded right!"

Having given up any thoughts of becoming a rapper, Benny tried his hand at producing. "I had a friend who made beats and thought I could do the same. The problem was I didn’t really have any equipment. I just had a Casio that I could mess around on and started making beats.

They were so bad. I was 15 years old and had no concept of song structure."

The next two years saw Benny attempt to improve his beat making and connect every successful producer on MySpace in a bid to find work. "I actually had one of my beats used in a softcore video called Hip Hop Honey. It was produced by Jonathan Shecter, who started The Source magazine. I got a copy of the video and showed it to my friends every day. My mom would come home and turn it off but I was just excited that music I’d made was used in a video.”

His big break came when one of the people he contacted through MySpace, Disco D, real name David Shayman, invited Benny to his New York apartment.

"It was a six-hour journey from my home in Virginia but this was my chance to impress an important person in the music business and ask if I could work for him. D said he was leaving for Brazil the following week but I was hired if I could book someone to work at his studio every day he was away. "Did get it booked the whole time and D was true to his word. I’d go to New York every weekend during high school and then I enrolled at the Institute of Audio Research in New York which meant I was able to work with D every day.”

Disco D proved to be a hard taskmaster.

"I played him all my beats and he erased everything. He said he wanted me to get better and I would only do that if I started over. He would stop work for one hour each day and teach me how to layer drums, create pre-chorus, chorus, verse, everything. I didn’t know any of these things. It was really intense but this was my musical education.”

Benny then had to recover from the shock of his mentor committing suicide.

"He was only 26. No-one could believe it. (Rapper) Spank Rock was friends with D and my manager, James Johnson. We all wanted to carry on D’s legacy. We freestyled over one of D’s beats. That led to Spank and I working on beats sampled from I Live Crew songs. We ended up co-writing a five-track EP called Bangers & Cash. That was in 2007.”

His work on the EP got Benny noticed in the wider music market. He was asked to create remixes, a publishing deal and was introduced to Lukasz Gottwald, better known as Dr Luke.

"Working with Luke was like the continuation of my song-writing and production education. I learned so much from him. The time eventually came when I felt like I had to put everything I’d learned into practice and branch out on my own.”

Benny’s first big hit came about almost by accident.

"I was with JHundi. I was only supposed to help them add layers to one of their songs. But we got working on a new idea which turned into Don’t Trust Me. I produced the song and co-wrote it with Nathaniel (Motte) and Sean (Foreman). It reached number seven on Billboard’s Hot 100. I’d previously co-produced some really big hits but this was the first for me as the sole producer.”

His subsequent career has been filled with a succession of smash hit songs. But Benny is also involved in artist development. He has created two labels to which he signs up and coming performers. Perhaps the best known of these is Tory Lanez whose two albums have peaked at numbers four and three respectively on the Billboard 200.

After so much success writing and producing for other artists, what made Benny decide to release a song under his own name? "I was with Ed Sheeran. We’d been watching that four-part documentary, The Defiant Ones. Ed said we should be doing more stuff and I just thought maybe I could try to make my own songs. I asked friends what they thought really expecting them to say I should stick to what I’d been doing. But every single person said I should go for it.”

Recruiting Halsey and Khalid as guest vocalists, Benny co-created Eastside with both artists plus other friends such as Ed Sheeran and Cashmere Cat.

"It was so much fun to make and very rewarding to hear Halsey say Eastside is the favourite song that she’s ever made. We recorded it at my home studio with my dogs running around. The whole process was fun. We all made our contributions to the song. That’s how I love to work. Making music should always be fun.”

South Korean boyband sensations BTS have become the first K-pop group to register a top 40 hit on the UK singles chart. Benefiting from 2.5 million streams and 4,000 digital downloads, their latest single, Idol, has so far peaked at number 21. Their compilation LP, Love Yourself Answer, also fared well debuting at number 14 on the UK Albums chart. Only two Korean acts have ever charted in Britain. In addition to BTS, Pay hit number one in 2012 with Gangnam Style and had another top ten entry in 2013 with Gentleman. Ali-gi or quartet B1A4 peaked at number 78 this past June with Ddu-Du-Ddu-Du.

In America, Love Yourself: Answer has given BTS their second number one album following Love Yourself: Tear which topped the Billboard 200 last June. A version of Idol featuring rapper Nicki Minaj, a digital bonus track on the album, has entered the Hot 100 at number 11.

Eminem Eminem isn’t exactly spreading peace and good will on his latest album. The real Slim Shady has taken on all comers across the 13 tracks of Kamikaze. Political figures such as US President Donald Trump and Vice-President Mike Pence, the Grammy Awards committee, the press and a host of his fellow rappers such as Machine Gun Kelly, Joe Budden, Lil Yachty, the Creator and numerous others. In short, anyone who criticized Eminem’s 2017 album, Revival.

Machine Gun Kelly is one artist who has not taken Eminem’s attack lying down. He has now released Rap Devil as a diss track responding to the criticism of him on the Kamikaze song, Not Alike. Kelly has previously expressed his admiration for Eminem. Unfortunately, he has also mentioned his admiration for the physical attributes of Eminem’s daughter Hailie. It was this which brought forth the protective father instinct in Eminem and provoked what is now a rap war between the two men.
Polar bears are good swimmers, but they’re not fast enough to catch seals underwater. Instead, they perch on platforms of sea ice and ambush seals from above. As sea ice dwindles, though, this strategy becomes less effective.

**Polar Bear Stats**

**Adult sizes**
- **Male**: Length: 7.9–9.8 ft (2.4–3 m) | Weight: 880–1,320 lbs (400–600 kg)
- **Female**: Length: 5.9–7.9 ft (1.8–2.4 m) | Weight: 330–550 lbs (150–249 kg)

**Average litter size every three years**
- 70% | Cub age: 2.5 years
- 26% | Cub age: 1.5 years
- 3% | Cub age: 1 year
- >1% | Cub age: 0.5 years

**Typical diet**
- Ringed seals
- Bearded seals
- Walruses
- Beluga whales

On average, polar bears must eat 4.4 pounds (2 kg) of fat per day to survive.

**Influx of Grizzly Bears to Warming Arctic Regions**

**Polar Bears in Pop Culture**

- *Lost*: Klondike Bar's long-running mascot
- *Golden Compass*: Mystical creatures on television
- *Arctic Tale*: Coca-Cola holiday promotions
- Various feature films: Characters in

**Ecological Threats to Polar Bears**

- Rising temperatures/melting sea ice
- Oil drilling
- Arctic shipping lanes
- Human contact
Opting for jewellery that matches the personality

Jewellery is a crucial part of a woman’s wardrobe, and is also a reflection of her personality. It can be used as a tool to communicate your disposition to those who don’t know you so make sure you are opting for the right one. Venkatesh S., lead designer at BlueStone lists down few tips on how to explore jewellery options that are in tandem with your personality.

Statement pieces: Stand out pieces in jewellery including big hoop earrings, chunky and elaborate necklaces and large sized rings depict a fun loving personality. A person who has a preference for wearing such pieces is likely to have a bubbly and vibrant personality and is not averse to experimentation. Also, people who choose one of a kind pieces of jewellery involving animal figurines or heart shaped pendants etc. are those who boast of a unique sense of style and are not afraid to embrace it.

Co-ordinated jewellery: People who opt for matched sets of jewellery tend to exude the persona of an organised and responsible person. A simple gold bracelet and necklace to go with a matched pair of earrings or all pearls spell out professional like nothing else. People tend to value or seek advice from a person like this simply because they come across as individuals who follow a structured thought process.

Minimalist jewellery: Sleek, contemporary pieces that are minimalist yet eye catching. People who are likely to wear mixed metals or gemstones with minimal sparkle but not opt for something that is over the top bling. Minimalists prefer interesting and new silhouettes. Such people usually give off the vibe of a balanced person. Someone with fine taste but who also doesn’t like going overboard with their attire.

Renowned jewellery designer, Pallavi Foley also gives inputs on how to best style jewellery keeping your personality in mind.

Colourful jewellery: Chosen by those who is not afraid to experiment with colors, patterns and shapes. These people usually opt for pieces with multi coloured gemstones or chokers and necklaces using multiple shapes and patterns. Such people have a cool and eccentric personality with a sense of edge and boldness in their everyday attire.

Classic pieces: People who have a love for the classic and elegant stuff. They follow the philosophy of old is gold and tend to opt for evergreen pieces like diamonds studs or solitaire rings and earrings, tennis bracelets etc. These people adopt their style from what has been worn in the family for years and is considered timeless. The personality type of person like this is someone who is fashion forward and modern, yet believes in opting for the tried and tested formula rather than taking an unusual approach.

ARIES

You’re focused and attentive to detail. Some longstanding projects benefit from this sudden spurt of energy and get completed on record time. Children figure prominently in your life right now, Aries. Is there one child in particular who needs some extra attention from you? Your love and support mean a lot more than you realise.

TAURUS

Don’t let others’ bad moods get you down, Taurus. And don’t feel it’s your responsibility to cheer them up. Their moodiness is their business, not yours. You could be a little bit anxious today, and allowing yourself to be negatively influenced by others will do you no good at all. The general atmosphere will improve in a few days.

GEMINI

It’s time to let go of the past and focus only on the future, Gemini. A new person may come into your life who can help you do just that. Communication with close friends and relatives is highlighted, and you may find yourself spending more time on the phone than usual. Enjoy this day as you anticipate your brilliant future!

CANCER

There’s definitely a downside to home ownership! Much as you cherish moments spent with your loved ones will see a dramatic improvement. Perhaps new people and machines run smoothly and efficiently.

LEO

The glass may look half empty, but only at first glance. Keep looking at it, or perhaps change the way you look at it, and you’ll see that it indeed is half full. You may be experiencing some frustration. Computers could be down or communication hindered in some way. Don’t get stressed. See this as an ideal time to relax since you can’t get any work done anyway.

VIRGO

There are lots of personal and financial issues to resolve today, Virgo. You may hear from your bank or see some alarming numbers on an ATM receipt. Don’t get upset. Ultimately, these matters will be resolved to your benefit. As for personal matters, you may learn some new information about someone you thought you knew well.

LIBRA

A rising tide lifts all boats. When someone close experiences a windfall or especially good luck, Libra, the ripple effect reaches you. Change is in the air. While everything happening is positive, sometimes it feels like it’s going too quickly. You feel a bit off balance, with little or no time to adjust. Even windfalls take some getting used to. Give yourself time to settle into the new circumstances.

SCORPIO

It looks as though change is on the horizon at work, Scorpio. You’ve just recently completed some long-term projects and are being recognised for your efforts. Perhaps a bonus or promotion is in store. Your affinity for technology and ability to quickly absorb new information makes you a prime candidate for a new position that’s just opened up. Grab the chance!

SAGITTARIUS

Crazy as it seems, why not take that impromptu trip you’ve been eager to go on, Sagittarius? Adventure calls, and there’s nothing to stop you from answering. You’ll meet some fascinating new people, and one may wind up having a strong influence on your life. There is a great big world out there, so make the time to go and see some of it.

CAPRICORN

Prosperity is just around the corner, Capricorn. With it comes change. Change in your job, career, or environment figures prominently today. However this change manifests, it’s bound to be positive. You’re lucky, and you’re about to hit the road to even greater success! Savour this moment, for you’ll be busy soon!

AQUARIUS

Your world is changing, Aquarius. Both internally and externally. You feel a need to broaden your horizons. You may be contemplating a move to a new neighbourhood or trip to a faraway land. The people in your life will change as a result of this. You’re about to embark on a new phase of life, and these new friends will act as able guides.

PISCES

Romance is in the air today, Pisces. It’s likely that your relationship with your loved ones will see a dramatic improvement. Perhaps some flowers will arrive unexpectedly or you’ll be paid a sincere compliment. Harmony reigns in the work environment as well. Both people and machines run smoothly and efficiently.
**Wordsearch**

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C R V N W U U C A A A G A O E U
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**Terrain**

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**Codeword**

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter in. Work out which number represents which letter.

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**Pooch Cafe**

SERIOUSLY, CHAZZ, WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU SEE IN THAT WOMAN? SHE’S A LOUSY CAT PERSON!

COME ON, PONCHO, SHE MAY BE A CAT PERSON, BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT SHE’S STILL ATTRACTIVE.

**Carfield**

I LIKE TO WATCH THE SEASONS CHANGE
FROM SUMMER TO AUTUMN
OR AS I PREFER TO CALL IT, FROM ICE CREAM TO FRESH BAKED COOKIES

**Bound And Gagged**

YOU’LL HAVE TO WAIT, I’M WATCHING NETFLIX.
**Super Cryptic Clues**

**Across**
1. Treating people as dirt, if crooked (5,3)
5. Food King (6)
10. Goes non-stop (7,8)
11. Plot with the fellow to turn a local in (7)
12. Learns to play, for a start, with a well-known team (7)
13. One of those fish that always go in groups? That’s awkward! (8)
15. The flying dean (5)
18. The Cockney’s more keen, as a swimmer (5)
20. Does his writing create a stir at first? (8)
23. Keep going, as it moves into the light (7)
25. He has the money and he is turning in the car (7)
26. Exactly what you said to the liftman when about to leave the store? (4,2,3,6)
27. They get carried away, saying more than had been intended (6)
28. As always, tear around to see the minister (8)

**Down**
1. Soak the wool (6)
2. Silly dunderhead; the worker is no longer needed (9)
3. Get up, about to let a dishevelled me in. It’s pouring (7)
4. Come out, child (5)
6. Gives you the treatment that suits you? (7)
7. Are its leaves feather-like? (5)
8. Standing to lose the appointment about it, is most unhappy (8)
9. Not turning a hand (8)
14. At home, say incarcerating the fool would be madness (8)
16. Start with the home (9)
17. Think, as you do, red is out (8)
19. In the list, put “a chicken” (7)
21. Give one another helping, but it’s extra (7)
22. Or could be, indeed, minced and eaten (6)
23. Cut back when married (5)
25. Tip of a tomahawk found in an Indian island (5)

**Yesterday’s Solutions**

**Across:**
3 Wellington; 8 Rowena; 9 Lira; 10 Dawn chorus; 11 Nut; 13 List; 14 Steamer; 15 Stop; 17 Taper; 20 Title; 22 Pits; 24 Release; 25 Airs; 27 Was; 28 Spare wheel; 29 Otto; 30 Caress; 31 Get through.

**Down:**
1 Mona Lisa; 2 Peanut; 3 Washers; 4 Learn; 5 Ills; 6 Transmit; 7 Nocturne; 12 Left; 14 Spat; 16 Tope; 17 Throwing; 18 Pulls out; 19 Real; 21 Largesse; 23 Stretch; 25 Adhere; 26 Bantu; 28 Soar.

**Codeword**

**Wordsearch**
Theatrical film release is going out of fashion

Who wants to go to the theatre facing the bad road, traffic snarls and spend on such expensive tickets, Sanjai Mishra tells Arundhuti Banerjee

Critically acclaimed actor Sanjai Mishra, whose upcoming film Kaamyaab will have its world premiere at the Busan International Film Festival in October, says with the digital boom the theatrical release of a film is becoming irrelevant for independent movies.

Explaining the thought behind his words, Sanjai said: “Since the release of a film is very expensive... for a small budget film, it is difficult to survive in the theatre if it does not get good show time and number of screens. The same film earns much better visibility once released on Amazon/Netfl ix or TV. So, I think the theatrical release of films is going out of fashion.”

“Earlier watching a film was an event in itself. These days, the practice is going away unless it’s a big canvas event film. Who wants to go to the theatre facing the bad road, traffic snarls and spend on such expensive tickets? Unless the government intervenes to limit the ticket price, the majority of the audience will opt for the digital platform.”

Kaamyaab, featuring Sanjai and Deepak Dobriyal, is an ode to all the character actors of the Hindi film industry who play an important part in many successful movies and remain unnoticed.

The term “character actor” annoys Sanjai to the core.

“Every actor is a character that he plays on-screen. That is the job of an actor... to narrate a character that the person is not in real life.”

“I think calling an actor hero is to boost his ego and to give him self-satisfaction.”

Indian audiences does not have the temperament to watch such films. “The same film Kadvi Hawa that was celebrated by the audience abroad, got a negative reaction from the Indian audience. People said ‘Such a slow film’, ‘boring’, ‘not paisa wasool’, ‘time pass film’ etc. I think the attitude towards film watching needs to be changed,” said the 54-year-old actor. Hardik Mehta has made his directorial debut with Kaamyaab. So, from where did Sanjai gather the confidence to be a part of a debutant director’s film?

“I am very happy to be a part of this film not only because the director is brilliant but also for the first time someone is making a story on ‘character actors’. When Hardik came to me with the script, I was almost watching the film during the narration.”

“Fortunately, the film panned out in the same way, so we made the film the way we conceived it. Also, Hardik and my wavelength are the same. So when the director and the actor are on the same page, a good film happens,” said the actor, who is constantly trying to strike a balance between indie and commercial films.

“I never get a chance to earn money from these indie films. I satisfied the actor in me through these films. Big budget commercial films give me money to pay all my bills. Do I have a choice not to balance it?” — IANS
I just want to stay relevant, says Kalki

By Nivedita

Kalki Koëchlin doesn’t follow any set rules or plans to reach where she wants to in the years to come as she believes in improvising and trying something new with different mediums. For her, staying relevant is more important as she feels a journey is more about the process than the final product.

“in the beginning, I was very stubborn and always wanted to be just an actor. I was told by a lot of people to try to avoid writing or directing, but I always thought I am an actor and this is what I want to do. But today, I feel all these roles are so interlinked.

“Many times I write, rewrite scenes with my director or with my co-actor, and we collaborate on a piece and I realise the roles are so interchangeable,” Kalki said in an email when asked that her journey as an actor.

Does the young girl to take this as an inspiration from her?

“It is enough if I can be relevant. It is more about me keeping up with youngsters than influencing youngsters. So I just want to stay relevant, really,” she said.

The National Award-winning actress made her Bollywood debut with Anurag Kashyap’s Dev.D and went on to do some unconventional roles in films like That Girl in Yellow Boots, Margarita with a Straw and Waiting.

She is now a part of one of the stories of Chandon’s The Party Starter 2.0 campaign, that will launch in October.

The brand has taken a digital leap with the launch of the next edition of The Party Starter(tm) 2.0 campaign – The Party Starter Stories. The series salutes people across various genres who have made a difference in their respective fields by delving deep into each dreamer’s personal and professional journey.

Does Kalki consider herself as a game-changer?

“It’s a lot of pressure to keep changing the game. I also think we have to take these things with a pinch of salt because the minute you try to make a change or try to make something viral, it doesn’t work. It’s because of its authenticity that it stands out. You are therefore not here to change the game but to create,” said the actress.

She feels that it’s a label that other people put on you.

“I consider myself as a human being with lots of ups and downs and learning from a lot of failures before I can succeed. Rehearsing is a process which is very important to get a final product.

For me, it is about the process more than the final product,” said Kalki.

Since the campaign celebrates those who have made a difference in their respective fields, how does Kalki see her journey in Bollywood as different from that of other actresses in the industry?

“It is for other people to judge. I don’t think I have had any set way or plan that I want to reach here or there in the next two to three years. I improvise a lot and try something new every couple of years. I have worked on a documentary, Aamish, on a podcast – My Indian Life. I do theatre and am also working on poetry.

“I feel like there is no limit on how you create and always finding a different medium to put the point across.” — IANS

I’ve grown as an actor, says Huma

Huma Qureshi, who has played powerful roles in films like Gangs of Wasseypur and D-Day, believes that she has grown as an actor.

“I believe I’ve grown as an actor because that happens with the practice and the experience. As a person, I’m a lot calmer and take every release Friday as it comes,” Huma said.

She said that as an actor, it’s important to dabble in a variety of genres.

“That helps you get better with your craft. It has never been a conscious decision to gravitate towards these roles. For me, it’s the script and the filmmaker that are deciding factors,” said the actress, who has collaborated with online fashion destination KOOVS.com for the brand’s Autumn Winter 18 collection.

The actress looks boho chic as she is styled in brand’s latest HUMA X KOOVS line.

She is seen sporting everything from printed dresses to dhoti pants to high low dresses highlighting the best in fusion wear and her love for Bohemian wear.

Asked if she is online shopper, the actress said: “Most definitely, especially since my work leaves me very little time to actually visit stores and shop. The online platform makes it much more convenient.” — IANS
European cities take measures against too many tourists

Some popular leisure spots and attractions in Europe have become hopelessly overcrowded. Local authorities are taking measures to calm things down, either by restricting entry to local residents or by using new ticketing systems.

The Puteaux outdoor swimming pool, on an island in the middle of the Seine in Paris, beckons like an oasis, offering cool water to splash around in against the backdrop of the French capital. But it might as well be a mirage for Aurore and her son Tristan, who aren’t allowed in: The municipal swimming pool is reserved only for community residents and membership holders. Outsiders aren’t even allowed to enter the car park, waved off regardless of whether they’re from Paris, Lille or Marseille. “We are a victim of our success,” says an admissions office employee. ‘No entry’ is a phrase that’s become increasingly common at popular spots across Europe.

Puteaux, the district of Paris where the swimming pool is located, says the restrictions were put in place for security reasons. Admission was limited to 800 people after visitors had to reckon with long lines, skirmishes and damage to the swimming pool. The ‘resident rule’ was first put in place for the 2017 season but didn’t cause any problems until the unusually hot 2018 summer season. The pool is not the only place in Paris that has been struggling to curb visitor numbers. The Eiffel Tower, with more than 6 million visitors annually, started selling more of its tickets online in 2018 in order to reduce long waiting times. However, employees at the popular attraction were dissatisfied with the new system and held strikes, shutting down the tower as thousands of tourists looked on with disappointment.

Spain has similar problems. The number of visitors allowed to one especially spectacular beach in the north of the country has been limited for the last four years. In order to see the famous Playa de Las Catedrales in Galicia between July and September, visitors must first acquire a personal and non-transferable special permit. The beach, featuring impressive rock formations, was declared a Biosphere Reserve in 2007, and only limited numbers of people are allowed access to it.

In Italy, discussions about restrictions on certain attractions are ongoing, for example in Venice. But even though there is talk of turnstiles, barriers and the like, attractions in the lagoon city, such as the Piazza San Marco, have until now never been closed off due to too many people. Yet people aren’t allowed to go everywhere they want in Bella Italia. Vehicles and motorcycles are allowed only in limited numbers in the area around the Sella Pass, an Alpine pass in the Dolomites, in order to better protect the environment.

And tourists need to have a ticket in order to walk the path between the picturesque villages of Cinque Terre in Liguria. Things aren’t necessarily better as one goes north, either: The Dutch tourist hotspot Amsterdam has taken drastic measures against too many people.

On especially full evenings in the red-light district near the train station, there are plans in the works to briefly shut down and clear entire streets of people in order to clean them up. Longer closures of streets are also possible. The reason for the intervention? As Amsterdam’s ombudsman says, the city turns into a ‘jungle’ at night.

And while no one would speak of a ‘jungle’ during Munich’s famous Oktoberfest, the tents are often so full to bursting with thousands of tourists that organisers block entrances and hang up signs warning that tents are closed due to overcrowding. Such blockages are common even after the popular opening day of a festival that takes place in October annually. Trying to leave the tent for a breath of fresh air and then return without a reservation is nearly impossible: Phrases like ‘My friends are waiting’ or ‘My jacket is inside’ have no effect on the bouncers, who are long used to such tactics.

– DPA