Community
Naya Shakti Party - Qatar Chapter holds first congress to elect new office bearers.

Community
Norway’s Harald shook up the royal norms by marrying then commoner Sonja Heraldsen.

Cover Story
A deer carcass, mountain lions and lawsuits: An ugly battle escalates over picturesque trail in celebrity enclave. P4-5

Bollywood
Never wanted to be an actor: Arjun.

Hollywood
Tonight’s Emmys at a glance.
Monday, September 17, 2018

**COMMUNITY ROUND & ABOUT**

**Community Editor**
Kamran Rehmat

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**USEFUL NUMBERS**

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**PRAYER TIME**

- Fajr: 4.04am
- Shoroq (sunrise): 5.20am
- Zuhr (noon): 11.20am
- Azr (afternoon): 2.56pm
- Maghreb (sunset): 5.38pm
- Isha (night): 7.08pm

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**Final Score**

**DIRECTION:** Scott Mann  
**CAST:** Pierce Brosnan, Dave Bautista, Ray Stevenson  
**SYNOPSIS:** Dave Bautista stars as an ex-soldier forced into action when armed terrorists take control of a packed football stadium. After deadly terrorists abduct his niece at a soccer match, an ex-soldier with lethal fighting skills wagers a one-man war to save her and prevent mass destruction.  
**THEATRES:** Royal Plaza, Landmark

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**Manmarziyaan**

**DIRECTION:** Anurag Kashyap  
**CAST:** Abhishek Bachchan, Taapsee Pannu, Vicky Kaushal  
**SYNOPSIS:** Rummi (Pannu) is a free-spirited young woman. She lives with her extended family in Punjab state, doing her best to be a good daughter. But youthful desires have led her to Vicky (Kaushal). With his impulsive nature and shock of dyed-blue hair, he’s the excitement she wants right now. How long can they keep their trysts secret from her family?  
**THEATRES:** Royal Plaza, Landmark

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**Quote Unquote**

"Because of your smile, you make life more beautiful." — Thich Nhat Hanh
**EVENTS**

**Making Faces with Clay**  
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art, Education Centre  
WHEN: Ongoing till September 19  
TIME: 4pm – 5pm  
Be there and learn clay sculpture using a Seljuk statue head as inspiration. By sketching through observation, kids will learn about the Seljuks and the features that make their figurative art so distinct.

**Acrobat Tech Show**  
WHEN: Ongoing  
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**  
WHEN: 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 ABRSM music theory; enjoy a large range of activities for both kids and adults. No need for registration.

**Story time for kids**  
WHERE: Virgin Megastore, Doha Festival City  
WHEN: September 22  
TIME: 3pm – 5pm  
Experience the magic of getting lost in the wonderful world of books with Virgin Megastore’s Story Time session happening at Doha Festival City.

**Doha Women Forum**  
WHERE: The Westin Doha Hotel & Spa  
WHEN: September 26  
TIME: 8am – 5pm  
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  
Aspire Zone’s five-a-side football outdoor pitches opposite Al Waab Street are available every day from 7pm – 11pm.

**Toastmasters SpeechCraft**  
WHERE: North Star Kindergarten, Al Khor  
WHEN: Ongoing till September 28  
TIME: 3:30pm – 5:30pm  
Crush your fear of public speaking and learn to speak with confidence in stage by joining the Toastmasters Speechcraft at Al Khor. Speechcraft is a 4 session learn-by-doing workshop, designed to increase your public speaking and leadership skills. For further details, 70003639.

**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.

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**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.

**TCA Qatar Music Competition 2018**  
WHERE: TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building  
WHEN: October 5 – October 13  
Enroll for music competition in categories, including Sub Juniors (Grade 3-5), Juniors (Grade 6 - 8 ), Intermediate (Grade 9 – 12) and Seniors (above 17 years ). Registration fee QR 100 for further details, contact 6523871/44373259

**TCA Qatar Dance Evolution Competition 2018**  
WHERE: TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building  
WHEN: September 28 – October 5  
Are you a dancer? Do you love to dance? If yes, then you can come and tap your foot steps on the your favorite dancing numbers and be a part of Qatar Dance Evolution Competition 2018.

**Gymnastics World Championships**  
WHERE: Aspire Dome  
WHEN: October 25 – November 3  
Over 700 male and female gymnasts from over 80 countries, including three Qatar gymnasts, will compete across 10 days of competition in Doha’s iconic Aspire Dome. Experience the drama, emotions and excitement of gymnastics’ pinnacle event as global superstars go head to head in a bid to be crowned the best in the world.

**After School Activities**  
WHERE: Aspire Zone  
WHEN: Ongoing  
Music & arts Activities for students taking place after they finish their day in school includes Group Music lessons, Hip-hop, Ballet, Drawing & Painting, Drama Theatre & Taekwondo. Ages between 5 and 10 years old after school hours.

**Hobby Classes**  
WHERE: Mystic Arts Centre behind Al Hilal Focus Medical Centre  
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday  
Mystic Art Centre, is a holistic performing arts Institution 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 4725680/33807609.

**Compiled by Nausheen Shaikh. E-mail: gtlisting@gmail.com, Events and timings subject to change**
Dead deer — oh, dear!

At the heart of the fight is a trail that cuts through the community of Lake Sherwood — a gated development that has been home to celebrities including Sylvester Stallone and hockey great Wayne Gretzky, writes Louis Sahagun

The trail for decades has been a shortcut used by hikers and equestrians travelling between the wealthy ranches of Hidden Valley and the miles of dirt paths that traverse the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

In recent years, however, it has become a battleground between neighbours in an escalating spat pitting public access against private property rights.

It has given rise to fences and “No Trespassing” signs, lawsuits and even a state investigation into claims that a deer carcass was dragged onto the Los Robles trail system to lure mountain lions — and in turn to scare off hikers and horseback riders.

Ugly fights over public use of trails that cross into private property are nothing new in the affluent communities on the far western edge of the San Fernando Valley.

“But the dead deer on the trail makes this case bizarre, to put it mildly,” said David Szymanski, superintendent of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

At the heart of this fight is a trail that cuts through the community of Lake Sherwood — a gated development that has been home to celebrities including Sylvester Stallone and hockey great Wayne Gretzky.

David Margulies, 52, a Hidden Valley resident, said he was on horseback in late 2016 when a man warned him that the path was the private property of Sherwood Development Co., a real estate company owned by the billionaire chief executive of Dole Food Co., 95-year-old David Murdock.

According to Margulies, the man said he had no right to be there. Soon after that encounter, Margulies was the subject of an illegal grading complaint filed with Ventura County related to trail work on paths on his property linking to those on Sherwood Development property.

In April, Margulies filed a lawsuit in Ventura County Superior Court against Sherwood Development, alleging the company has been discouraging public use of the trail as part of an effort to “expedite the development process” and increase the exclusivity and value of the properties it seeks along the hillsides.

The trail is visible in aerial photos taken in 1947 — nearly four decades before the community of Lake Sherwood was developed. Given its history, Margulies argues, hikers and horseback riders have what’s known as a prescriptive right to traverse it even though it is on private property.

Attorneys for Sherwood Development said in court documents that the applicable statute of limitations has expired to debate public use of the contested trail.

It seemed like a run-of-the-mill spat over property rights until the dead deer showed up.

While hiking with friends on the morning of August 4, Margulies said he came across a scene that didn’t look quite right.

A dead deer lay across the trail — but there were no signs of ants or flies on the carcass. On the ground nearby were discarded rubber gloves and fresh tire tracks. Attached to trees were three motion-activated cameras trained on the scene.

It looked as if someone had left the deer as bait, he thought, perhaps for a mountain lion.

Margulies should know: As the former chairman of the National Geographic Society’s Big Cats Initiative, he is familiar with the way dead prey can be used to lure large predators.

Without permission, Margulies examined the photos from the motion-activated cameras, which appeared perfectly angled to capture any scavengers that preyed on the carcass.

That episode convinced him to amend the lawsuit to allege that Sherwood Development had placed the deer on the trail for two possible reasons, both illegal, he said.

Sherwood Development
“intentionally and knowingly set the deer at that location to lure mountain lions to my ranch, in order to create danger to me and my family if we used the trails,” the amended lawsuit reads.

Attorneys representing Murdock and Sherwood Development were not returned.

As Margulies tells it, there is little doubt Sherwood Development put the deer on the trail.

Margulies points to an email he says he received from Jeff Sikich, a federal biologist with the recreation area and an expert on local mountain lion populations, whom he notified soon after discovering the carcass.

“I just spoke with Lake Sherwood and they said they placed the deer in front of their remote cameras on their property in order to photograph the scavengers it attracted,” Sikich said in the email, which was forwarded to The Times. Sikich declined to comment. As did Kate Kuykendall, acting deputy superintendent of the recreation area.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is conducting an investigation into the deer’s death. That includes an ongoing necropsy to determine how the animal died, whether it was hauled to the site and if it was poisoned — perhaps with the intent of harming local mountain lions.

That won’t be easy.

“By the time we took control of the deer carcass, it was pretty badly decomposed,” said Patrick Foy, a spokesman for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. “Our laboratory staff are not confident we will get good data from the necropsy, which will be completed soon.”

The lake was open to the public for picnicking and boating until the late 1960s. In 1985, Murdock bought the man-made reservoir that served as a man-made reservoir that served as the backdrop for medieval England’s Sherwood Forest in a Robin Hood film in the 1920s.

By 1985, he has controlled Dole — one of the world’s largest producers of fruits and vegetables. It’s a business that neatly fits the philosophy of a health and fitness devotee who has said he eagerly awaits a time when scientific breakthroughs allow people to live as long as 150 years.

Opening public trails through the old forests and chaparral highlands of the Santa Monica Mountains has been a goal of outdoors groups including the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy since the late 1960s.

However, “no precise easements for these public trails were contained in the maps,” Edelman said. In 2012, trail easements granted by Sherwood for construction of a public trail to the recreation area were rejected by the conservancy, Edelman said, because they cut across terrain so rugged it could not be connected to the popular Backbone and Los Robles trail systems.

Sherwood recently offered to move the easement into more favorable terrain, but “only to the extent that such changes would not adversely affect any of its lots, infrastructure or occupant privacy,” Edelman said.

There have been few changes on the trails on Sherwood Development property — aside from the new fences and “No trespassing” signs. — Los Angeles Times/TNS
NSP-Qatar Chapter elects new office bearers

Naya Shakti Party (NSP)-Qatar Chapter recently held its first congress to elect the new office bearers. Devendra Parajuli, Central committee member of the party, also attended the event. Speaking at the event, he highlighted the future objectives of the party. He said NSP is looking forward to adapt to inclusive and participatory democracy along with rapid industrialisation to avoid any structural crises. He added that NSP aims to move away from traditional functioning of the parties by incorporating experts and advisers on various fronts. The newly elected committee includes, Dev Pariyar, Committee Chair; Anil Pariyar, Manoj Dahal and Min Bahadur Chalune, Deputies.
– Text and photos by Usha Wagle Gautam

QCC returns to Doha after successful concert in Spain

Qatar Concert Choir (QCC) has recently returned to Doha after breaking exciting new grounds on its first overseas trip, singing Beethoven’s Choral Symphony in Malaga with the Youth Orchestra of Malaga conducted by George Pehlivanian. QCC spent a week in southern Spain, taking part in the Curso Internacional Eduardo Ocón, singing in a stand-alone concert conducted by Giovanni Pasini, Artistic Director, and ending up with two successful performances of Beethoven’s Symphony No 9 in D minor. "When I took over QCC 5 years ago, I never imagined travelling to Europe to sing one of the most famous choral works in the classical repertoire", said Pasini. I’m very proud of all the singers and of the musical journey we’ve been on and grateful to Pehlivanian for giving us this wonderful opportunity.” He added, “Ode to joy carries a message of hope, not just for Europe but also for the future of our country! I hope we’ll be able to perform it here one day soon. I would urge any singer in Qatar to come and join our ranks and enjoy the positive and enjoyable experience of choral singing.” Qatar Concert Choir is scheduled to perform on September 20 at 6pm ‘Philharmonic at the Library: Sounds of the Sea’ with CineMoon Ensemble at Qatar National Library. The admission is free.

MBC to discuss ‘Epic tales from Ancient India’

Majlis Book Club (MBC) is all set to discuss ‘Epic tales from Ancient India’ with Dr Manika Sardar Nickson, Curator of South Asia at MIA, at MIA Library on September 24. ‘Epic Tales from Ancient India Paintings from The San Diego Museum of Art’ is edited by Manika Sardar with contributions from Neeraja Poddar, Qamar Adamjee, and Alka Patel. Exploring the topic of narrativity in Indian art, the deeply researched book considers illustrations to the Bhagavata Purana, the Ramayana, the Ragamala, and a range of texts in the Persian language, notably the Shahnama. Featuring reproductions of paintings made between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries from the Edwin Binney 3rd Collection at The San Diego Museum of Art, the book also includes thorough explanations of the narrative of each text, including how that narrative is visually conveyed. The event is open for public. Dr Manika Sardar Nickson is the Curator of South Asia here at the Museum of Islamic Art. Previously she was an associate Curator of Southern Asian and Islamic art at The San Diego Museum of Art.
MES wins big at ‘SIS Inter School Polemic Challenge 2018’

MES Indian School recently bagged Best School Team Award at ‘SIS Inter School Polemic Challenge 2018’. Eight Indian schools participated in the event. Participants from DPS-MIS, MES Indian School, Birla Public School (BPS), Doha Modern Indian School (DMIS), Ideal Indian School (IIIS), Al Khor International School (AKIS), Noble International School (NIS) and Shantiniketan Indian School (SIS) debated on ‘Today’s Children are Deprived of the Love and Affection That They Deserve.’ Montaha Ahmed, a student of Grade XII, moderated the debate.

Ria Elsa George, student of MES, was adjudicated with Best Speaker and Sundus Abden of SIS won the award for the Best Rebuttal. Kayya Rose, student of AKIS, and Kevin Kimi Alex, student of DMIS, got second and third positions, respectively. The judges of the competition included Ram Mohan Rai, Bhavyata Bendre and Anupama. Dr Subhrash B. Nair, Principal of SIS, congratulated all the speakers and appreciated their exceptional communication skills.

Teatro at City Centre Rotana brings an experience of unique culinary delight

City Centre Rotana Doha has recently announced about its unique amalgamation of finest cuisine to satiate global taste buds. According to the press release, Teatro, an award-winning upscale restaurant at City Centre Rotana Doha, is offering a wide selection of cuisine spread to offer an unforgettable experience to its guests. Teatro offers a comprehensive a la carte menu creatively blending dishes from Chinese, Indian, Italian, Japanese and Thai cuisines.

As part of the fresh offerings, the restaurant brings Sax and Sushi night every Tuesday where guests can indulge in gastronomic cuisine while listening to the amazing saxophonist. The exquisite menu is priced at QR225 per person including beverages. The leading saxophonists include Victoria Krasko and Anna Antoshchuk. Victoria is graduate of Musical College and Kharkov Academy of Culture. She has taken improvisation lessons from the best saxophone players of her country and has participated in All-Ukrainian music festivals and competitions. Singer Anna began to practice vocals from the age of 6. She has participated in different vocal competitions in Ukraine and Europe and is a graduate of University of Culture and Art and specialises in pop and jazz vocals.

“City Centre Rotana Doha always aims to deliver an unbeatable experience to all its guests and dining enthusiasts. These unique propositions are planned to offer our guests and visitors a top notch experience. Our chefs have curated an exquisite line-up of global cuisine which will amp up your taste buds and make you ask for more. It is no wonder that with such a wide variety of dining options available, City Centre Rotana Doha has become a destination of choice for food connoisseurs,” said Martin Kendall, General Manager of City Centre Rotana.

In yet another initiative, Teatro proudly presents Mekong nights, which is inspired by the Mekong River - an iconic feature of Southeast Asia. Mekong is a travelling feast on a river cruise, sampling all the flavors on offer along the way. Parking a punch, Mekong’s electric menu is a favourite to diners across Sydney and this special evening offers up the ultimate dining experience. The special set menu prepared by specialty chefs, includes Asian Mekong Assorted Appetiser Platter having variants such as phat- phat salad, crispy vegetable-spring rolls, bbq minced shrimps on lemongrass, special combo satay skewer with home peanut sauce, vietnamese garden roll, seared scallops with spicy mango and caviar, som tom mi, kaffir lime leaves, hanoi beef and rice noodles with fresh mint, bean sprout. The chefs are also offering ‘Teatro-style’ signature roast duck. Family main course consists of gaengkiew waan gai- chicken green curry, sweet & sour prawn with dragon fruit, khao phad poo- pineapple fried rice with crab meat, etc. The icing on the cake is the dessert which has Teatro’s favourite platter. This special menu is priced at QR225 per person including beverages. Besides this, Teatro offers a 3-course extraordinary Business Lunch options on weekdays, which are priced at QR 95. It is a Set Menu with multiple choices for starters and main course. To give you a sneak peek, the soup kettle comes in the variants of tom yam soup, spicy hot-sour broth, lemongrass, basil, shrimp hot & sour soup. There is a dim sum selection too. Main course consists of Japanese cuisine, Asian Kitchen, Oriental as well as Italian spread.
Millions of people are spending money on mail-order DNA tests to discover their genetic makeup as a way of understanding more about their history.

By Christine Willmsen

**RESULTS:** According to the results, which were estimates, Christine was listed as 87 percent Caucasian and 13 percent sub-Saharan African.

**DRAWING COMPARISON:** DNA companies measure a minuscule percentage of the human genome and determine results by comparing someone’s DNA to a proprietary group of samples they have collected.

When, close to publication, Ancestry.com changed its estimates of my ancestry, concluding I was no longer Italian/Greek, Eastern European, Finnish, Iberian or Jewish.

I was a bit disappointed. I always wanted to be part Italian. “More data and new methods of DNA analysis have given us a better picture of which DNA sequences are or aren’t associated with specific world regions. New data indicates that a region does not belong in your results,” it stated.

Ancestry.com had no comment but the website stated it shrinks and enlarges some regions and claims the estimates could change again.

For example, now it estimates that 41 percent of me is from England, Wales and Northwestern Europe, 26 percent from Ireland and Scotland, 20 percent from Germanic Europe, 9 percent from France and 4 percent from Sweden.

My aunt and my mother both were surprised by the homedna.com results.

In the quest to know more about ourselves, some are fortunate enough to scour through black-and-white family photos and listen to stories about ancestors from generations ago. Others hit dead ends because slavery, war or adoption have made it impossible to trace their roots.

Now millions of people are spending money on mail-order DNA tests to discover their genetic makeup as a way of understanding more about their history.

In ads on television and in our Facebook feeds, DNA companies like Ancestry.com promise to ‘uncover your ethnic mix, discover distant relatives, and find new details about your unique family history’ with a DNA test.

But how accurate are these tests, and what are the pitfalls of using them to learn about our race, ethnicity and heritage?

I was skeptical of the accuracy of DNA ancestry tests, based on conversations I’d had with scientists, so I had my own DNA tested by two companies. Then I dug deep into my own background to determine their validity.

I chose the popular Utah-based Ancestry.com, which also connects subscribers to distant relatives, and Ohio–based DNA Diagnostic Center, which operates homedna.com. DNA companies measure a minuscule percentage of the human genome and determine results by comparing someone’s DNA to a proprietary group of samples they have collected. Depending on the makeup of those samples, DNA companies will miss some regions and populations of the world and over-represent others in their pool.

The Seattle Times paid $199 and I mailed a swab of skin cells from the inside of my mouth to DNA Diagnostic Centre.

It measured 144 markers that show genetic differences among four populations: Africans, Europeans, East Asians, and Native Americans.

According to the results, which are estimates, I am 87 percent Caucasian and 13 percent sub-Saharan African. This caught me off guard and it would be just one of many surprises I unearthed during this quest.

Based on what my parents told me, I always thought of myself as a ‘Heinz 57’ kind of woman with a mix of German, Irish, Scandinavian and Canadian French.

“Person with 85 percent European and 15 percent African generally exhibit few, if any, physical features characteristic of the African Group, such as dark skin,” states the DNA Diagnostic Center manual.

But if I were one-eighth black, then my father or mother would be an even greater percentage, and two or three generations ago a relative probably would have been visibly darker.

The 23-page manual offers a lot of caveats about results. In my case, the company said while the ‘maximum likelihood estimate’ is that I’m 13 percent sub-Saharan African, I could also be as low as 3 percent or as high as 23 percent.

I contracted Dr Michael Baird, Chief Scientific Officer at DNA Diagnostic Centre, for more answers.

“I can’t speculate where the 13 percent came from or how far back, but it does show a fair amount of sub-Saharan in your genome,” he said. “But it could mean it was fairly recent, even, or some underlying sub-Saharan on both sides for many generations.”

Born a skeptic, I waited for the Ancestry.com results after spitting in a plastic vial.

The $99 test analyses markers of people who best represent each distinct ethnic group in the world.

The results claimed I am 100 percent Caucasian, with 37 percent from Ireland/Scotland/Wales, 28 percent from Europe West (Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg), 11 percent Europe South (Italy and Greece), 10 percent Europe East, 5 percent Great Britain, 3 percent Finland/Northwest Russia, 3 percent Iberian Peninsula, 2 percent Scandinavia and 1 percent European Jewish.

But I was shocked yet again when, close to publication, Ancestry.com changed its estimates of my ancestry, concluding I was no longer Italian/Greek, Eastern European, Finnish, Iberian or Jewish.

I was sceptical of the accuracy...
saying I was approximately 13 percent black. When I called them with the first results from Ancestry.com, they thought most of it made sense, like the finding of German and Irish. Then it turned comical when recently I told them I have an updated estimate of my DNA and guess what I’m apparently from England, Wales and Northwestern Europe.

Jennifer Raff, University of Kansas assistant professor of anthropology, said DNA companies estimate who you are most closely related to, but migration may have affected where your ancestors actually lived.

Results should be carefully interpreted, she warned: “Don’t derive your identity from DNA.”

Faced with dramatic shifts within one company’s DNA results and the huge disparity between my results from two different DNA companies, I dug deeper.

Suddenly I was scouring census reports, researching baptisms and looking at gravestone photos online to validate or invalidate the results. Secretly I crossed my fingers, hoping to discover ties to royal lineage or famous people.

My mother had little information about her family, but census records supported my original Ancestry.com results, showing the Boyles immigrated from Ireland, to Burlington Township, Wisconsin, where they became farmers in the 1850s.

As I poked into the past, my mom told me about a family accident I’d never heard before, one in which my grandfather accidentally shot and killed his older brother while they were hunting as teenagers.

Had I not delved into the past, I’d have never discovered the secret tragedy that affected so many in my mom’s family, leading some of them to turn to alcohol to cope with the loss.

On my father’s side, I had been told, and Ancestry.com confirmed, that some of my relatives were French Canadian and part of a ‘genetic community’ of French settlers along the Saint Lawrence Valley in Quebec.

My fifth-great grandfather Charles Girard (1750-1829) was born in Quebec shortly before the Seven Years War, during which the British and French battled for the Canadian territory. By 1847 several Girards had moved to states like Michigan and Minnesota.

If I believe Ancestry.com’s updated DNA results, I’m mostly English or Welsh, something its own genealogy website and my family records, at this point, don’t support.

And while it’s unlikely I’m sub-Saharan, it’s not impossible. Frankly, I’m not sure what to believe.

While some of the DNA results confirmed what I already knew, I also discovered my roots and how my ancestors, mostly farmers and miners, struggled. For that, this proud Midwest girl is thankful.

But it also leaves me wanting to know more. – The Seattle Times/TNS
What floats?

Does a stone float? Does a piece of wood? The answer depends on what liquid you are trying to float the object in.

You’ll need

- Small glass jar
- Corn syrup (sweet kind used for cooking)
- Vegetable oil
- Water
- Cork
- Piece of plastic
- Grape

Try This

1. Pour 1 inch (3 cm) of syrup in jar
   Then pour the same amount of oil, then the same amount of water

2. Wait for a minute to let the liquids stop moving around
   Notice that the liquids separate into three layers

3. Drop the small objects into the jar

What happened?

The objects float on different layers
Which layer depends on how dense the object is

An object less dense than liquid: Floats
An object more dense than the liquid: Sinks
Try floating some other objects: a tiny pebble, pieces of styrofoam and wood

Source: Peter Macinnis’ Science Playwiths
Graphic: Helen Lee McCornas, Paul Trap/TNS

Tribune News Service
Emojis convey not just fun: Study

The winky-face emoji that you use at the end of a text isn’t just a fun picture added to your sentence. It can convey linguistic meaning that changes the interpretation of the sentence, finds a new study.

The findings showed that the brain processes ironic emojis in the same way as ironic language, indicating emojis convey meaning in a sentence. “Emojis are ubiquitous. They are seemingly everywhere, and people use them a lot in text messages and online along with language,” said Benjamin Weissman, doctoral student at the University of Illinois in the US.

Words combined with emojis can be considered another form of multimodal communication, similar to words plus gestures or words plus facial expressions, the researchers said. “Spoken and signed languages evolved long before humans developed written representations of language, and spoken and signed languages have ways of enhancing or changing meaning through mechanisms like intonation or gesture,” Weissman added. “Emojis can convey irony or sarcasm in a written format in the same way we might use intonation to convey the same thing when speaking,” he noted.

For the study, appearing in the journal PLOS ONE, the team examined the brain wave patterns associated with language processing, including a pattern called the P600 — a kind of “error signal” that occurs when a person encounters something linguistically unexpected.

The signal indicates the brain is reprocessing or reanalysing the content of the sentence.

Then they asked a total of 106 participants to read sentences followed by an emoji — either a smile, frown or wink — while their brain waves were recorded. They were also asked how they interpreted the meaning of the sentences.

Sometimes the emojis matched the literal meaning of the sentence, but in other cases they were construed as indicating irony.

According to researchers, the study helps broaden our view of communication. It can be words, or words plus pictures, or words plus gesture, and it can be words plus emojis.

“You can’t just use a string of emojis, but when you pair emojis with words, they can enhance each other. The combined effect of written words plus emojis is bigger than words or emojis alone,” the researchers stated. — IANS

LIFESTYLE/HOROSCOPE

Today should be busy with regard to communication, Capricorn. Calls and e-mails to people close to you may take up a lot of your time. You could be organising a meeting or social event of some kind. You’re probably feeling optimistic and enthusiastic, and you’ll likely spread these feelings to others. You’re also better able to intuit what’s going on with them.

A pleasant surprise comes your way when you receive either a present or small sum of money, perhaps in the mail, Libra. Someone will either pay you back a loan or you could receive a gift for some small service you performed for someone. You could be tempted to turn that around and buy a present for someone else. Expect some calls that result in long and meaningful conversations.

A message or phone call from someone dear who lives far away could arrive today. You’ve been thinking about this person for a while, Pisces, and it might be a good idea to write them down before they disappear. You’re also likely to feel more attuned than usual to the thoughts and feelings of others. Don’t be surprised if you intuitively give people what they want and need before they ask.

Happiness reigns as you and your household embark on one or more projects that could make your home more cheerful, Leo. Warm and compassionate conversations involve sharing interesting information and bring you closer. Visitors could come by and other people could call with interesting news. This is a good day to throw an impromptu party. Enjoy your day!

A gathering in your neighbourhood could prove unexpectedly pleasant and enjoyable. You might meet new people and get closer to the ones you already know. A lot of interesting and useful information could be exchanged. There might be more than one get-together that you’ll want to attend, Virgo, so you might spend a lot of time in the car. You might also lend or borrow some books.

A get-together of some kind is likely to happen during the course of the working day, Aquarius. This should lead to pleasant and interesting conversations, possibly involving philosophy, spiritual matters, or the arts. Communication with those around you should be clear and open. Correspondence could take up almost as much time as conversations right now.

You should be in glowing good health today, Gemini. You’re feeling especially fit, and your appearance likely reflects that. You’re looking for healthy activities that also bring you pleasure, such as exercise and proper diet. Find a cookbook full of tasty recipes and use it. Your relations with others should be warm, loving, and companionable.

A pleasant surprise comes your way when you receive either a present or small sum of money, perhaps in the mail, Libra. Someone will either pay you back a loan or you could receive a gift for some small service you performed for someone. You could be tempted to turn that around and buy a present for someone else. Expect some calls that result in long and meaningful conversations.

Communication is likely to be warm, informative, and companionable today, Scorpio, and you’ll probably grow closer to those around you because of it. Your inspiration and imagination flow freely, and you’re likely to want to channel much of your energy into creative projects. You may also want to phone a friend who shares your artistic interests.

A message or phone call from someone dear who lives far away could arrive today. You’ve been thinking about this person for a while, Pisces, so don’t be surprised if you hear from him or her. You’re especially attuned to the thoughts and feelings of others right now. In fact, you may feel especially inspired to work on projects of your own, as ideas are likely to fill your head. Have fun!
Wordsearch

ONFDTAELSPRBNYGOSNWCWMLLEEPICYWBTENNOSYARBAEGDEMCIYLDHNIRWEYVSAseyDEGARTTALLNWTOIYREGMAMIAEVCVACRIESREVULTSVLNSOPCBAMDYQEILDZWNOSILETVLFCNAYWSUEDPGCFPVOTOFTIRVDWFAAUAWWMETAPHORDPOTROIFESPONDEELCHMLNOITARETILLAOECNWOMYTAMLACFS

Literary terms

ALLITERATION  IAMB  RHYME
BATHOS       IMAGERY  SATIRE
COUPLETS     IRONY       SIMILE
DACTYL        LYRIC      SONNET
ELEGY         MEASURE    SOPONDEE
ELISION       METAPHOR   STANZA
EPIC          PROSE      TRAGEDY
FOOT          QUATRAIN   VERSE

Codeword

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

Sudoku

```
1 7   8
2 7  1 8
5  9
9  3  6 4
3 5  6 4
8  9  1
5  8
9  8  4 6
6  7  1
```

Sudoku is a puzzle based on a grid. The grid is divided into nine 3x3 boxes. You are given a selection of numbers and to complete the puzzle, you must fill the grid so that every column, every row, and every 3x3 box contains each number exactly once.

Adam

CLAYTON, I HAVE TO ADMIT IT.
THE WAY YOU TAKE CARE OF YOUR MATCHBOX CARS IS IMPRESSIVE.
I MEAN, SOME MIGHT SAY POLISHING AND WAXING THEM IS EXCESSIVE, BUT...
WILL YOU HAND ME THE UPHOLSTERY CLEANER AND THE MAGNIFYING GLASS?
AND I'M OUT!

Pooch Cafe

EW, WET LEAVES ARE GROSS.
PONCHO, YOU'RE SO MUCH THE OPPOSITE OF A REAL DOG, LIKE LASSIE, THAT IT'S PATHETIC. IF I EVER GET IN A JAM YOU'D BE COMPLETELY USELESS.

Garfield

YOU SHOULD PATTERN YOUR LIFE AFTER MINE!
SEE? IT'S NOT THAT HARD

Bound And Gagged

MARRIAGE COUNSELOR
PERHAPS WE SHOULD START OVER...
CROSSWORD
ACROSS
1. Put out, mind about the arrest (7)
5. Uninteresting in taste, I had found (7)
9. Knock one down, have to leave fast (5)
10. What the vandals in the art gallery do? (3,3,3)
11. When put back, will go round in space (6)
12. Cupid deceives the pretty girls (8)
14. She wrote the one about the heartless niece (5)
15. Given a drink, he becomes inflexible (9)
18. Rather stupid? That’s going too far, isn’t it? (1,3,5)
20. The ice isn’t firm (5)
22. Pop, somehow, into a position that’s suitable (8)
24. Put the floor covers back again in the water (6)
26. He won’t drink tea in bars! That would be ridiculous! (9)
27. Change the rope for the Cockney (5)
29. The lever from ‘27’ Ed tampered with (7)

DOWN
1. The char isn’t working when I go in for her (9)
2. The two worried pets I carried in the tube (7)
3. ‘Suffered’ didn’t go far enough (9)
4. Every penny goes on fruit (4)
5. How quickly it can be seen they’re both right? (2,3,5)
6. Because there’s something wrong, came, taking the morning off (5)
7. The bit left I get on with (7)
8. The man is followed home (5)
13. Idiot! I can set off to get help! (10)
16. The very good wood, treats differently (5-4)
17. About some air composed in it; a well-known song (4,5)
19. The little scamp, anyhow, does put it on (7)
21. Made a fuss when about a quarter were put in boxes (7)
22. Hand out tea and it does diminish (5)
23. Step back when I take the animals out (5)
25. Shot right through at a fast pace (4)

YESTERDAY’S SOLUTIONS
Across: 1 At full stretch; 8 Earnest; 9 Driller; 11 Privet; 13 Fire trap; 15 Reeds; 16 Account; 18 Rostrum; 19 Susie; 21 Cat’s-tail; 23 Strait; 25 Daubing; 26 Pickled; 28 Chestnut brown.
Down: 2 Termite; 3 Use; 4 Loth; 5 Tidy income; 6 Exile; 7 Culprit; 8 Experienced; 10 Represented; 12 Eases; 14 Carrying-on; 17 Upset; 18 Retouch; 20 Swallow; 22 Tails; 24 Spot; 27 Cur.

C O D E W O R D
Never wanted to be an actor: Arjun

Arjun Kapoor, who is currently busy shooting for "India’s Most Wanted," says that he never wanted to be an actor and instead wanted to become a director.

"I never wanted to be a director. That is where it is different for Rajkummar and me. He grew up with an insatiable thought of heading towards a direction. I looked like a basketball so I did not really think about acting," adds Arjun.

He also said that Dil Chahta Hai, which features superstar Aamir Khan, led to him believing that "you can be ambitious, you don’t have to be stuck in clichés, you can think beyond, you can move beyond in terms of writing. It was a big leap.

"I don’t think without Dil Chahta Hai you would have actors like me and Rajkummar sitting here because you would have to do quintessential Bollywood as clichéd stuff. You wouldn’t be able to have films that have conversations or hunts," he added.

Arjun, 32, added that Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels in English and the Hindi film Dil Chahta Hai made him believe that "you can be ambitious, you don’t have to be stuck in clichés, you can think beyond, you can move beyond in terms of writing. It was a big leap.

"I don’t think without Dil Chahta Hai you would have actors like me and Rajkummar sitting here because you would have to do quintessential Bollywood as clichéd stuff. You wouldn’t be able to have films that have conversations or hunts," he added.

When Ranveer Intimidated Bhumi

Actress Bhumi Pednekar finds actor Ranveer Singh’s energy intoxicating.

Bhumi spoke about Ranveer while talking about her days as a casting director when she appeared on talk show Feet Up With the Stars presented by Voot Originals and hosted by celebrity stylist Anita Shroff Adajania, read a statement.

"The most exciting audition was of Ranveer Singh for Band Baaja Baaraat. I was intimidated by him, just his energy was intoxicating and he was owning it even back then," Bhumi said.

The actress also shared her views on dating and love.

When asked which celebrity would benefit from being on a dating app, she nominated herself.

"I think I should be on Tinder! I have to travel and have a busy schedule, it’s really tough," she said.

And as for single women, Bhumi recommends taking a chance. "Just be out there. Go on dates, try them out, go have good conversation, you’ll know," — IANS

CHILLED: Shahid Kapoor.

More to life than Instagram and selfies, says Shahid

Actor Shahid Kapoor, who is quite active on social media, urged people not to make virtual reality their “everything” as he feels there is more to life than that.

In an interactive session of the India Today Youth Summit 2018, the Padmanav actor said: “Now a lot of kids are focusing on how they look and spending a lot of time on it. “We all are human beings, everybody wants to get dressed down. It is okay to wake up looking groggy. One should understand what matters the most. There is more to life than Instagram and selfies. People should take out time for the things which are far more important than just looks.”

Shahid also shared how he is taking time off from his work so that he can be with his family and his new born son Zain.

“There was a lot of pressure on me, as I was constantly thinking should I spend my nights at the hospital or should I go out for work. But, It was important for me to recognise what is important for me at this point of time.

“So, for me spending time with my family matters the most right now, my job being an actor and looking good and being presentable can wait for a few days,” Shahid will be seen in the forthcoming film Batti Gul Meter Chalu alongside actress Shraddha Kapoor. — IANS
Tonight’s Emmys at a glance

By Nardine Saad

The Television Academy is hosting the 70th Primetime Emmy Awards today, and we have all the pertinent details to prime you for television’s biggest night. Let’s start with the basics.

What time does the show start and on what channel?
The ceremony will broadcast live on NBC from the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles today from 8 to 11pm. Eastern. You can thank — or blame — the peacock network’s Sunday Night Football franchise for the Sunday time slot.

Red-carpet coverage on the network begins at 7:30pm. Eastern. Digitally, NBC will provide insider access to Emmy viewers with pre- and post-show streaming programmes and “Backstage Live!, the academy’s companion me that will stream on Emmys.com and on the TV Academy’s Facebook page. Digital programming begins at 5pm. Eastern, when PeopleTV streams the live red carpet pre-show.

Who is hosting?
Saturday Night Live stars Michael Che and Colin Jost will cohost the ceremony, taking over duties from Stephen Colbert, who handled last year’s duties.

The duo co-host SNL’s venerable Weekend Update segment and serve as head writers on the long-running NBC series, which is up for 21 awards this year. The telecast will be executive produced by Lorne Michaels and most of the SNL crew will serve on Che and Jost’s writing staff.

“I probably won’t have a clue about what I’m going to say until about 30 minutes before we go to air,” Che told The Times last month. “I haven’t heard any guidelines yet, but I don’t know that it matters anyway.”

The two plan to keep things moving — and keep them light — because they’re convinced that most award ceremonies are “way too self-serious and focused on things that 99 percent of the country doesn’t care about.”

Who are the nominees?
HBO’s sprawling epic Game of Thrones returned this year with a stunning 22 nominations, including for drama, after missing the eligibility window for the ceremony last year. Another HBO drama, Westworld, followed closely behind with 21 nominations, and last year’s big winner, Huhu’s harrowing dystopian drama The Handmaid’s Tale, drew 20 nominations this year. All three series are up for the drama prize, along with Netflix’s royal drama The Crown, FX’s spy thriller The Americans, Netflix’s sci-fi homage Stranger Things and NBC’s tear-jerking family drama This Is Us.

On the comedy side, Saturday Night Live, Atlanta and The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel were tops with 21, 16 and 14 nominations, respectively.

FX’s Atlanta, Amazon Prime’s The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel, ABC’s black-ish, Netflix’s GLOW and the HBO comedies Curb Your Enthusiasm, Barry, Silicon Valley and Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt were nominated for comedy.

Cultural diversity appears to be at the forefront of this year’s show with performers of color and series produced and written by minorities scoring numerous nominations. Atlanta, black-ish, This Is Us and Westworld are among the series receiving big nods that spotlight people of color in major creative and acting roles.

Meanwhile, Sandra Oh made history in July as the first woman of Asian descent to earn an Emmy nomination for lead actress in a drama series for her work on Killing Eve. Her nomination comes after Donald Glover’s historic win last year as the first African American to win an Emmy for comedy direction.

SERIES NOMINEES

Drama
The Americans
The Crown
Game of Thrones
The Handmaid’s Tale
Stranger Things
This Is Us
Westworld

Comedy
Atlanta
black-ish
Curb Your Enthusiasm
GLOW
The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel
Silicon Valley
Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt

limited series
The Alienist
The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story
Godless
Patrick Melrose
Variety talk series
The Daily Show With Trevor Noah
Full Frontal With Samantha Bee
Jimmy Kimmel Live

Who’s presenting?
A selection of past winners, current nominees and Hollywood glitterati will take the stage to announce each category’s winner.

Here’s who you can expect to see: Patricia Arquette, Alec Baldwin, Eric Bana, Angela Bassett, Samantha Bee, Connie Britton, Rachel Brosnahan, Michelle Bobby Brown, RuPaul Charles, Benicio Del Toro, Michael Douglas, Tina Fey, Claire Foy, Hannah Gadsby, Hamasaki Aya, Kit Harington, Taraji P. Henson, Abbi Jacobson, Jimmy Kimmel, Kate McKinnon, Tracy Morgan, Elisabeth Moss, Bob Odenkirk, Sandra Oh, Sarah Paulson, Queer Eye cast, Isha Rae, Andy Samberg, Matt Smith, Ben Stiller, Constance Wu — Los Angeles Times/TNS

GULF TIMES | 15
How Norway’s Harald and Sonja shook up royal norms

While still remote, the chances of a commoner marrying up into a royal household have increased considerably in recent generations. By Sophia Weimer

Before he was king of Norway, Harald V fought for nine long years to marry the woman he loved. Sonja Haraldsen was a commoner and the couple’s relationship was a scandal at the time. But Harald wanted no one else, and in the end he married her.

The royal pair celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 2018 – and 50 years after they tied the knot, Europe’s aristocracy looks quite different from back then. Kate and Meghan in Britain, Prince Daniel and Meghan in Sweden, Queen Maxima of the Netherlands – marriages between royals and commoners have become the norm.

There are exceptions: King Philippe of Belgium and his wife Mathilde, for example. Philippe is one of the few of his generation to have married within the aristocracy. But even he broke with tradition to some extent.

“as a countess, Mathilde was not a traditional match either,” says Leontine Graefin von Schmettow, who is a royal expert and descendant of German nobility. “truly befitting would have been a partner from another royal or princely house.”

Even in regular families, marriage has not always been closely linked with love and in blue-blooded families, even less so. When royals wedded, other things were at stake, such as maintaining power, fostering diplomatic alliances and expanding territory. But today, with monarchies no longer possessing the political influence they once did, new factors have arisen. A good education, for example, and the ability to fulfill the modern royal’s role, as well as social engagements, are all important, von Schmettow says.

Of course, there is love. But the bride or groom also needs to be discreet, diplomatic and au fait with royal protocol.

“In 1976, German commoner Silvia Sommerlath became queen of Sweden upon her marriage to King Carl XVI Gustaf. Carl Gustaf’s strategy for marrying her was to wait until he himself ascended the throne and approve the match himself, historian Leonhard Horowski says. Since then, Swedish royals have almost exclusively married outside the country’s nobility.

The trend of marrying for love has also changed the structure of upper-class families. While earlier match-making spanned international borders and formed marriages bound by rules and protocols, many royals are now marrying people from their home countries. “They are less international and more cut off from each other,” says Horowski, author of The Kings’ Europe.

And not everyone is happy about that. “Interestingly, it’s especially the German nobility, which has no power at all and whose status has been abolished, that has a problem with that,” von Schmettow says.

The former crown prince and the learned daughter of a businessman met in 1959. A marriage was initially out of the question. “Harald really came up against headwinds. In the end he threatened not to take the throne,” von Schmettow explains.

But his father, King Olaf V, relented and informed the government of his approval. The wedding took place in 1968, but with less pomp than a full royal wedding, and with fewer guests, as many boycotted the occasion. However, the winds of change were blowing through royal households.

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