Community
P Kumaran, Ambassador of India, attends the Noble International School Annual Day celebrations.

Community
Rythum Art Centre organises the semi-final round for Non-Resident Nepalese Idol 2019, singing and dancing reality show.

The math
What makes a film franchise live or die? P4-5

Bollywood
Aditi Rao Hydari: Didn’t want to be factory-manufactured prototype. Page 14

Hollywood
Slater excited to be the lead writer for Moon Knight series. Page 15

Doha today: 25º - 29º
Monday, November 11, 2019
Rabia I 14, 1441 AH

DOWW WITH A THUD: The latest Terminator movie, which cost at least $185 million to produce, landed with a thud, grossing $29 million domestically. It did little better internationally, collecting a modest $28 million in China.
Playing with fire
DIRECTION: Andy Fickman
CAST: Judy Greer, Keegan-Michael Key, John Cena
SYNOPSIS: When straight-laced fire superintendent Jake Carson and his elite team of firefighters come to the rescue of three siblings, they quickly realise that no amount of training could prepare them for their most challenging job yet – babysitting. As their lives, jobs and depot get turned upside down, the three men soon learn that children – much like fires – are wild and unpredictable.

THEATRES: Royal Plaza, Landmark, The Mall

Kaithi
DIRECTION: Lokesh Kanagaraj
CAST: Karthi, Narain, George Maryan
SYNOPSIS: What happens when an injured cop and a convicted criminal who wants to meet his daughter for first time in life cross each other’s path.

THEATRES: Royal Plaza, Landmark, The Mall

For movie timings and further details please scan the QR code above with your mobile phone camera or visit qatarcinemas.com

“Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it is something you design for the present.”
– Jim Rohn

Quote UnQuote
Gems and Jewels Exhibition
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing till January 18
TIME: 9am onwards
The exhibition comes in celebration of the 2019 Year of Culture Qatar-India and presents a look at magnificent gems and jewellery from India. Set in Stone: Gems and Jewels from Royal Indian Courts showcases more than 100 pieces from across Qatar Museums’ (QM) collections, including many masterpieces that have never been displayed before.

Gems and Jewels Exhibition
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing till January 18
TIME: 9am onwards
The exhibition comes in celebration of the 2019 Year of Culture Qatar-India and presents a look at magnificent gems and jewellery from India. Set in Stone: Gems and Jewels from Royal Indian Courts showcases more than 100 pieces from across Qatar Museums’ (QM) collections, including many masterpieces that have never been displayed before.

Photo Exhibition: ‘Experience Tanzania’
WHERE: Multaqa (Student Center) Art Gallery at Education City
WHEN: Ongoing until December 1
TIME: 4pm
‘Experience Tanzania’ is a yearly project supported by Student Affairs Division of Weill Cornell Medicine–Qatar that allows students and faculty to explore and immerse themselves in Tanzanian urban and rural cultures. During their trip, WCM–Q professor Dr Dietrich Büselsen and his team of students and faculty will document their experiences through photographs, videos, and interviews. The exhibition will feature a selection of these images, highlighting the diversity of Tanzanian culture.

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

Artistic Gymnastic Classes
WHERE: Qatar Academy Msheireb
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 3:15pm – 4:15pm
The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 16.

Ballet Lessons
WHERE: Music and Arts Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 4pm – 8pm
For more info e-mail at registration@atelierqatar.com or call on 33003839.

Shape your Leadership
WHERE: HEC Paris, Doha Campus
WHEN: Today
TIME: 9am onwards
HEC Paris In Qatar offers ‘Shape your Leadership’ Executive Short Programme with HEC Paris Associate Professor Valérie Gauthier.
This two-day programme is designed to help participants grow self-awareness and self-confidence and to learn to build trust as a team leader. It will also enable participants to have a positive influence over their surroundings and to develop strong leadership.

Compiled by Nausheen Shakh. E-mail: gtlisting@gmail.com, Events and timings subject to change
**Losing the plot**

*Terminator: Dark Fate* shows what can happen when a studio bets big on a piece of intellectual property that has lost its cachet with audiences, according to analysts, writes Ryan Faughnder.

In the case of *Terminator*, its heyday was 1991, and that was a long time ago. Unfortunately this is everything we have seen before, they’re not bringing anything new to the table.

— Jeff Bock, box office analyst

On the surface, *Terminator: Dark Fate* and *Joker* share basic similarities: both are R-rated movies based on well-known characters that appeal to predominantly male audiences. Further, the films got virtually identical Rotten Tomatoes scores.

But the box office results could not be more different. The Warner Bros.-DC film *Joker*, made for $60 million, became a global phenomenon, grossing nearly $940 million worldwide. The latest *Terminator* movie, which cost at least $185 million to produce, landed with a thud, grossing $29 million domestically, well below studio expectations. It did little better internationally, collecting a modest $28 million in China.

Major movie studios have been under pressure to mine their film libraries for franchises that will help them compete at the box office. But *Terminator: Dark Fate*, produced by David Ellison’s Skydance Media and co-financed by Viacom Inc.’s Paramount Pictures and Walt Disney Co.-owned 20th Century Fox, shows what can happen when a studio bets big on a piece of intellectual property that has lost its cachet with audiences, analysts said.

James Cameron’s 1984 hit *The Terminator* and its early ’90s sequel *Terminator 2: Judgment Day* are landmarks of sci-fi action cinema. But like many other long-running studio properties, *Terminator* faced a key test this year: Is it a true franchise that audiences want to revisit, or did it run its course decades ago? Beyond that, could its producers make something old seem new and relevant for younger audiences? The answer to both, it appears, was a resounding no.

“In the case of *Terminator*, its heyday was 1991, and that was a long time ago,” said Jeff Bock, a box office analyst at Exhibitor Relations. “Unfortunately this is everything we have seen before, they’re not
THE VERTICAL: The Warner Bros.-DC film Joker, made for $60 million, became a global phenomenon, grossing nearly $940 million worldwide. None surprised the industry more than Joker. Ahead of Joker’s release, even Warner Bros. executives were unsure that the movie would succeed, given its pitch-black tone. “Joker managed to be sold in a way that made it feel original,” said one producer not connected to either film. “Terminator did not clear the audience threshold.”

The Terminator flop is the latest blow for Santa Monica-based Skydance Media, the studio Ellison launched in 2006. Ellison, the son of Oracle Corp. billionaire Larry Ellison and the brother of Annapurna Pictures founder Megan Ellison, specialises in big-budget science fiction action movies meant to attract global audiences. David Ellison, 36, is known for having more commercial tastes than his sister, whose prestige-focused studio has struggled. Skydance’s best-known hits include the recent Maleficent: Mistress of Evil and Sony Pictures’ Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse, both released this year when it hired ex-Pixar employees. Emma Thompson was questioned earlier this year when she paid $20 million for them in 2011, tried to start a trilogy with Terminator: Genisys in 2015, only to scrap sequel plans when that movie failed amid dismal reviews.

The studio tried to salvage the series. Cameron and Skydance made Dark Fate a direct sequel to 2015’s Terminator: Genisys, instead of a direct sequel to 2009’s Terminator: Salvation, which performed worse than expected. And the blood is still being scrubbed off the walls from those creative battles,” Cameron told the publication. “This is a film that was forged in fire.”

“I think the (Terminator) producers green-lit a movie with a budget that was way out of whack for what a movie like this was going to do. You’ve got a case of an ageing franchise with ageing actors that are far less relevant than they used to be”

– Eric Handler, entertainment industry analyst
NIS marks Annual Day celebrations

Noble International School (NIS) recently marked its Annual Day celebrations. Robin K. Jose, Vice Principal at NIS, welcomed the gathering. P Kumaran, Ambassador of India, was the chief guest on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, the ambassador reiterated the role of academics and the holistic development of the students. He also highlighted the importance of a healthy teacher-student relationship in bringing about steady growth in output and performance of the students. Ali Jassim Khalifa Jassim al-Malki, Patron of NIS, also addressed the gathering. Shibu Abdul Rasheed, Principal of NIS, presented the annual report on the occasion.

ASHRAE announces the formation of ASPE in Qatar

Qatar Oryx Chapter of American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) recently conducted a workshop on ‘Commercial Kitchen Exhaust’ for the Air Conditioning Engineers in Qatar at Intercontinental Hotel Doha – The City. The event was supported by M/s Jersey Group & M/s Maico. Around 110 engineers from various sectors in Qatar attended the event. The workshop was conducted by Saurabh Bhatia, Assistant Technical Manager in Maico.

Hani Hawamdeh, Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Qatar Oryx Chapter of ASHRAE, welcomed the gathering. The workshop was co-ordinate by Kinan Fahs, President of ASHRAE Qatar. Seenu Pillai, Chairman of Chapter’s Technology Transfer Committee, was the master of the ceremony.

The event was attended by the members of the management of NIS, including Dr Muhammed Easa, Vice Chairman of NIS; K P Basheer, General Secretary; and Shoukath Ali Taj, Treasurer. Lakshmi Krishna was felicitated by the chief guest on the occasion for securing Asia Books of Records and Indian Book of Records for the longest Bharatanatyam performance for a differently abled child. Lakshmi suffers from Down Syndrome. The outstanding students in the fields of academics, art, sports, co-curricular activities and the toppers of the last year CBSE Board Exam were felicitated on the occasion. The event also featured various cultural and musical performances. Jayamon joy, Vice-Principal Academics at NIS, proposed a vote of thanks.
Ideal Indian School (IIS) recently celebrated its 35th Annual Day. Dr Satbir Bedi IAS, Chairperson of National Council for Teacher Education at Government of India, was the chief guest on the occasion. The guests of honour included Rawda Zaidan, Director of Private School Affairs at Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Qatar; Mohamed Salim, Managing Editor of The Peninsula; and Manikantan A P, President of Indian Cultural Centre. Dr Hassan Kunhi M P, President of IIS, and Syed Shoukath Ali, Principal of IIS, along with the heads of the sections also attended the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Satbir Bedi IAS, said, “CBSE has a vision improving and globalising teacher training to impart education to prepare students global citizens,” she said. She also thanked the State of Qatar for extending the facilities and support to the school. Rawda Zaidan congratulated the management, staff and students of IIS for the remarkable achievements in various areas. Addressing the gathering, Mohamed Salim lauded the efforts put in by the students, staff and the management in maintaining a high standard of education. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Hassan Kunhi M P said that IIS is in the forefront to provide high standard of education for the students. Syed Shoukath Ali presented the annual report on the occasion. He said that the school has set standards and goals in the area of academics, sports, events, discipline, leadership, management systems and more. The outstanding students were felicitated on the occasion. Gold and silver medals were awarded to the school rank holders and individual subject toppers of Grade X-XII examinations held in March 2019. The school staff completing their 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of dedicated services to the school were also felicitated on the occasion. The celebrations also featured a musical performance ‘Santunes’ depicting the years of friendship between India and Qatar. Over 2,000 students for all the sections of the school participated in the performance. Other performances, included Indian classical, Qatari folk, international, western, fusion, contemporary dances, songs, musical and multi-lingual dramas. Emirine Peter, Head Boy of IIS, welcomed the gathering and Sandra Gireesh Kumar, Head Girl, proposed a vote of thanks. The event was co-ordinated by Shobhana Menon, Vice Principal of Junior Section, and Nazima b, Headmistress Girls’ Section.

Banana Island Resort Doha by Anantara celebrates international spa awards success

Anantara Spa at Banana Island Resort Doha recently bagged the award of Qatar’s Best Hotel Spa 2019 by World Spa Awards, and Best Spa Facilities in the Asia, Indian Ocean and Middle East region Award by Condé Nast Johansens 2020 Luxury Spa Awards for Excellence, stated a press release. The World Spa Awards serve to celebrate and reward excellence in spa tourism as voted for by the public, while Condé Nast Johansens Luxury Spa Awards for Excellence are a trusted mark of quality based on responses from online voting, guest feedback, and local expert reports drawn from the hotels featured on the Condé Nast Johansens website and spa guides. The two awards further strengthen Banana Island Resort Doha’s leading position as a key player on the global wellness tourism map in addition to being a top spa and wellness provider in Qatar with world class facilities, treatments and services. Renowned as a sanctuary where Arabian rituals meet Thai-western healing, Anantara Spa at Banana Island Resort Doha offers guests a comprehensive range of health treatments to rejuvenate and revitalise, such as relaxing bathing and steam experiences, exclusive massage rituals and traditional hammam.

Cindy Beyers, Spa and Wellness Manager at Banana Island Resort Doha, said, “We are delighted to be named as Qatar’s Best Hotel Spa 2019 by the World Spa Awards for the fourth consecutive year, in addition to receiving this recognition for Best Spa Facilities from Condé Nast Johansens 2020 Luxury Spa Awards for Excellence. Both affirm our commitment to offer the very best in terms of product quality, service and experience to our guests.” Cindy added, “We would not have achieved this without the exceptional dedication of our team members who go above and beyond to provide personalised attention and create memorable moments for our guests all year round. We thank our loyal and supportive guests for their continued support which inspires us.”
MG launches new MG RX8 and MG HS

A
uto Class Cars, the authorised distributor of MG in Qatar, recently invited a group of Qatari media representatives for a special MG driving experience in Lebanon for its recently launched vehicles MG RX8 and MG HS, stated a press release.

Held over three days, reporters from Qatar and the region were immersed in an exciting driving experience on the roads of Lebanon, starting from the city roads in Beirut up to the mountain roads, exploring the villages and beautiful regions.

Sheikh Faleh bin Nawaf al-Thani, Operations Director Auto at Nasser Bin Khaled Group, said, “Auto Class Cars had the pleasure to invite reporters from Qatar to join this amazing driving experience with MG, a brand that is positioning itself as one of the most favourite brands. The legendary MG RX8 and the sportiest MG HS are available in Qatar to meet the different demands of motorists. The two amazing new vehicles clearly indicate the new concept of MG that is built on making durable and beautiful cars at very affordable prices.”

MG for this great event that helped reporters from Qatar and the region experience the high capabilities of MG cars whether on City roads or off-road tracks. Together with MG, we are committed to introduce superior vehicles to take the driving experience into better levels. For us, we are astonished for the high demand on those two vehicles, the moment we launched them in our showroom. It is an open call to all drivers to come and test drive one of our amazing MG cars at any time”.

Tom Lee, SAIC Motor Regional Director – the parent company of MG Motor – said, “We were exited to host this group of reporters from over the region to experience the MG latest vehicles. The media is an essential part of our strategy to spread our message to our customers. It was a very successful trip for all and for the media in Qatar, thanks to our partner Auto Class Cars who put great effort to host this group and engage them in our unique journey”.

Auto Class Cars, the authorised distributor of MG in Qatar, has recently launched the two new vehicles MG RX8 and MG HS at its showroom in Qatar. Both cars are receiving high demand thanks to their distinctive design, amazing features and high-end technology.

MG RX8
The MG RX8 is the first-ever seven-seat SUV from the British-born automotive brand. A robust and spacious SUV – with the largest wheelbase in its segment – the new seven-seater introduces MG Motor to a segment it has previously never been present in. The MG RX8 is a fully equipped 4x4 with six different driving modes. Its strong truck chassis frame is capable of handling the toughest off-road terrains, and is powered by an efficient 220HP 2.0-litre turbo engine.

Its spacious modular interior features adjustable rear seats and the largest third-row space in its segment. An array of premium materials including wood grain and soft-touch trim gives the RX8 a high-class feel. And, modern features such as a 10-inch touch screen in-car entertainment system, ventilated seats and wireless mobile device charging capabilities make the RX8 the perfect partner for an active family.

MG HS
The new MG HS is the sportiest SUV ever made by the British-born brand. With its powerful turbo engine, dynamic styling and wide range of great features, the MG HS has been designed to put the ‘sport’ back into SUV. The arrival of the totally new MG HS SUV is yet another major step forward in MG Motor’s resurgence, as the brand continues to change perceptions among new car buyers across the region thanks to its highly advanced and well-equipped range of sedans and SUVs.

Featuring the brand’s latest design language, the MG HS takes its styling cues from the acclaimed X-Motion concept car that was unveiled in 2015. The centrepiece of the front-end design is an attractive star grille that incorporates the iconic MG badge. It is complemented by the smart use of chrome to frame the grille, fog-lamps and lower air intake, while two-tone headlamps embedded with nine crystal LEDs are available. The sporty look of the MG HS combines soft curves with the sleek lines that flow from the bonnet and down the side before rising at the rear to sweep over the rear lights, which consist of 21 individual LEDs that light up sequentially. The cabin of the all-new MG HS simply oozes class, reinforcing the brand’s reputation for delivering premium finishes at non-premium prices. Some 85% of the interior is covered with soft material, while customers can opt from three attractive interior colour schemes.

The sporty nature of the car is emphasised by the racing-style bucket seats that are fitted in top-of-the-range trims. In the front, there are not one but two high-quality display screens. A 12.3 Virtual Instrument display, the largest in its class, is located behind the steering wheel and provides a breakthrough in the way that key information is communicated to the driver. A new 10.1 high resolution touch screen with high-performance is compatible with both Apple Carplay and Android Auto.

MG’s current range of cars is recognised for the extremely high levels of equipment and technology it offers, and the HS is no different. The impressive list of equipment provided on all COM trims includes driver aids such as a rear-view camera, rear parking sensors, cruise control and an ECO cruising driving reminder.

GROUP: Qatari media representatives for a special MG driving experience in Lebanon for its recently launched vehicles.
Tips to get best travel photos

By Christopher Reynolds

The path to better photography is the same as a musician’s route to Carnegie Hall: practice, practice, practice. But these tips, hacks, ideas and tactics will get you there faster. I’ve collected them from photo staffers at the Los Angeles Times and several teachers over the years.

Yet there are always exceptions. The better you understand the rules, the better you’ll know when to break them.

— Get closer, physically. The more you fill your frame with your main subject, the better your chances of making a powerful image. Robert Capa, the great World War II photographer, was famous for this advice.

— Get closer, optically. A telephoto or zoom lens can shrink distances and compress compositions, so you can give viewers a tighter arrangement. (But on your smartphone, the quality/resolution of the image will suffer the more you zoom.)

— Get closer for Instagram’s sake. If you’re shooting with a smartphone and sharing on social media, most people will see your pictures on tiny screens. That means you need bold, simple compositions. Colourful details work better than broad, subtle landscapes.

— Don’t be shy. Or rude. When you can, ask permission before you take a stranger’s picture. You might say: “Excuse me. This setting is gorgeous, and a picture will look even better with a person in it. Would you mind if I include you and your husband/wife/child/pet in part of the frame? I think it’ll look great and I can show you the result. Or share it.”

— Look for diagonal compositions. With any camera, beginning photographers are often tempted to compose images whose dominant lines run straight up and down or are as flat as the horizon. But diagonal lines can give pictures depth and lure viewers.

— Read the manual. Or at least the good parts. You can’t get the best out of your gear until you understand what it can do.

— Match your depth of field to your subject. With a digital single-lens reflex camera (DSLR), if you’re shooting a portrait, there’s a good chance you’ll want a shallow depth of field that leaves your subject’s face sharp but blurs distractions in the background. If you’re shooting a landscape, you’ll probably want maximum depth of field so that everything is sharp. For that result, use a higher aperture (F-stop), which means you’ll be using a slower shutter speed, a higher ISO or both. (You can’t control all these variables on a smartphone but you can use an after-the-snap digital filter to give the effect of selective focus.)

— Be patient. An unpopulated great photo location is like a stage set. If you wait a bit, someone will walk or stand or sit in just the right place, and you’ll have a livelier image.

— Auto mode will take you only so far. Automatic settings are getting smarter, and all cameras are getting better in low light. But if you’re shooting a small, bright subject against a dark background (or something dark against a bright background), you may get a better result by shooting in manual mode, checking results and rejiggering accordingly. On most smartphones, you can tweak exposure by touching the screen and moving your finger up (lighter) or down (darker).

— Follow the Rule of Thirds. Instead of placing your subject dead center, imagine your frame lined into thirds, horizontally and vertically, so that your image area is sectioned into nine rectangles. Now look at the points where four rectangles come together. Those are sweet spots for placing your subject—not too near the middle, not too far off-center.

— Simplify your composition. Do your best to exclude everything that might distract from your subject. In particular, watch the corners of your frame where stray details can sneak in.

— Digital filters such as those on Instagram can dress up a humdrum photo. And the Snapseed app offers even more options. But great pictures begin with what you capture in the first place.

— Shoot from above. Just about everybody looks better if you shoot their face from slightly above, not from below.

— Instagram might like squares, but some images want to be vertical or horizontal. Don’t fight that. Turn your camera or smartphone sideways.

— Vary your angle. The vast majority of photos are taken by people standing up straight, holding a camera at eye level and shooting a horizontal image. By varying the height of your camera —whether by crouching, lying down, climbing a ladder or holding the camera high— you give viewers a new way to see an otherwise familiar scene.

— The first and last hours of sunlight are the best time to take photos. Get up a little earlier. If you have a tripod, the half-hour right after sunset can bring dramatic possibilities.

— If you’re near water — whether it’s a puddle or the Pacific — keep an eye out for reflection opportunities. The closer you get to the surface, the better the results.

— Don’t get lazy with the sunset. A successful sunset shot needs other elements, whether it’s dramatic clouds, crashing surf, calm water or a silhouette or two.

— Be patient. A successful sunset shot needs other elements, whether it’s dramatic clouds, crashing surf, calm water or a silhouette or two.

— Use a tripod. If a full-size tripod is too much hassle, consider a tabletop tripod or a mini-tripod with bendable legs. They’re affordable and fit in a pocket or backpack. — Los Angeles Times/TNS
Fun Facts About Dried Fruit

On average, Americans consume

2 lbs of raisins every year

Fruits become dry when their moisture content drops below 20%

Most dried fruits like dates, figs, plums and raisins are a source of dietary fiber. Fiber helps maintain steady blood sugar levels.

It takes 6-7 lbs of fresh fruit to produce just 1 lb of dried fruit.

Dates grow in thick clusters on the giant date palm tree and have a history dating back to 5000 years.

One pound of dried apples equals 4 2/3 cups, 8 cups cooked.

The coconut palm tree yields thousands of coconuts during its 70 year lifespan.

Ginger is often credited with having calming properties and has been used as a digestive aid for ages.
Skin exposure to UVB light alters gut bacteria for good

Skin exposure to ultraviolet B (UVB) radiation from the Sun can alter the gut microbiome in humans – possibly via vitamin D which can help explain the protective role of UVB in inflammatory diseases like Multiple Sclerosis and Inflammatory Bowel Disease.

Sun exposure, vitamin D levels and the mix of bacteria in our gut are each associated with risk of inflammatory conditions like MS and IBD, said scientists from the University of British Columbia.

Exposure to UVB in sunlight is well-known to drive vitamin D production in the skin, and recent studies suggest that vitamin D alters the human gut microbiome.

However, that UVB, therefore, causes gut microbiome changes, via vitamin D production, has so far been shown only in rodents.

In a new clinical pilot study, researchers tested the effect of skin UVB exposure on the human gut microbiome.

Healthy female volunteers were given three, one-minute sessions of full-body UVB exposure in a single week.

Before and after treatment, stool samples were taken for analysis of gut bacteria - as well blood samples for vitamin D levels.

Skin UVB exposure significantly increased gut microbial diversity, but only in subjects who were not taking vitamin D supplements.

"Prior to UVB exposure, these women had a less diverse and balanced gut microbiome than those taking regular vitamin D supplements," reported Professor Bruce Vallance, who led the University of British Columbia study.

"UVB exposure boosted the richness and evenness of their microbiome to levels indistinguishable from the supplemented group, whose microbiome was not significantly changed."

Published in Frontiers in Microbiology, the analysis suggests that vitamin D mediates the change – which could help explain the protective effect of UVB light in inflammatory diseases like MS and IBD.

The largest effect was an increase in the relative abundance of "Lachnospiraceae" bacteria after the UVB light exposures.

This indicates that vitamin D at least partly mediates UVB-induced gut microbiome changes.

The study is not designed to show the exact mechanism by which the microbiome changes occur, but both UVB and vitamin D are known to influence the immune system.

"It is likely that exposure to UVB light somehow alters the immune system in the skin initially, then more systemically, which in turn affects how favourable the intestinal environment is for the different bacteria," suggests Vallance. The results have implications for people who are undergoing UVB phototherapy, said scientists. – IANS
Wordsearch

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.

Codeword

Sudoku

Bound And Gagged
Super Cryptic Clues

Across
1 Left-wing eloquence in scientist’s workplace? (10)
7 Discs that may be broken? (7)
8 Tulip may be illuminated (3,2)
10 An eyesore - seen in nasty environment (4)
11 Accommodation in certain parts (8)
13 Metal policeman (6)
15 Still converging attics (6)
17 End of new tramline? (8)
18 Help with a Verdi opera (4)
21 Mouth forming Greek letter (5)
22 Part of a Chinese meal, perhaps, one sold out (7)
23 Yes, tourism may be puzzling (10)

Down
1 Fortunate girl sheltering king (5)
2 Pubs that stop people escaping? (4)
3 Free - and terribly secure! (6)
4 Bear gets broken toe later (8)
5 Withdraw from a place of privacy (7)
6 Writing censored by editor taken to court (10)
9 Mail is in each new carriage (4,6)
12 Unsure about The Saint (8)
14 Talk about small herb (7)
16 Bet about northern composer (6)
19 Does nothing but slide about (5)
20 Commanding officer has little time to view Italian lake (4)

Solution

Wordsearch

Codeword
Aditi Rao Hydari: Didn’t want to be factory-manufactured prototype

By Simran Sethi

Actress Aditi Rao Hydari says she has reached a stage in her career where she no longer wants to be what everyone else expects her to be.

“It was one of the biggest challenges to get to a point where I understood that I didn’t have to be a factory-manufactured prototype of what I’m expected to be. I could be uniquely myself and that would be my strength. I think the day I understood this, everything became happy and effortless for me,” Aditi told IANS.

Born in Hyderabad and brought up in Delhi, Aditi made her debut with Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra’s Delhi-6 and went on to work in Hindi and Southern film industry.

While talking about the film industry, she pointed out how people give a lot of priority to images and perception.

“I’ve always felt the priority of investment is in images and perception. I wish we would invest more in talent and content. It’s changing now but as a fan I’d love to watch fewer ‘curated projects’ and more ‘cinema’,” she said on the side-lines of the shoot of Cheers To That with Jamice, a content series presented by Grey Goose.

On the acting front, Aditi will be seen in the Tamil film Psycho. It is a psychological thriller directed by Mysskin.

Sharing her shooting experience, she said: “It was tough shooting the film, one of the most challenging and exhausting films I have done, physically and mentally. Mysskin sir has made pathbreaking cinema and he is on the wishlist of many actors, I was thrilled to have worked with him.”

She also shared how she manages working in Hollywood and down south simultaneously.

“It’s hectic but I love it being hectic. I’m a fully charged Duracell battery cell and I love being on set in front of the camera, being directed by someone who pushes me. It’s my happy place. I find it cathartic. The time between action and cut is magic. I have to work doubly hard on languages I don’t know. I travel like crazy, juggling all the work. But if I love something and want to do something, I do it. Also, I never want any boundary to come in my way – in terms of language, religion, or gender. A good director is a good director, a good film is a good film, and an engaging story is engaging in any language because it makes you feel, and feelings have no boundaries,” Aditi said. – IANS

Kirti Kulhari opens up about her love story

Actress Kirti Kulhari says she first met her husband Saahil Sehgal during the shoot of an advertisement.

The actress opened up about her love story in an episode of Netflix’s chat show The Brand New Show. She became part of the show along with her Bard Of Blood co-star Shobhita Dhulipala.

“I met this man at an ad shoot where we exchanged numbers, but nothing happened and five years passed by. Suddenly we met again at another shoot and Woah! He looked so good!” Kirti said.

“It was a different vibe at that time and that’s when he asked me for my number again to which I told him: do use it this time. The next thing you know was that we were engaged,” she added.

On the work front, the actress will soon be seen in The Girl On The Train. The film, which stars Parineeti Chopra, will see Kirti essaying a cop. It is directed by Ribhu Das Gupta, and also features Avinash Tiwary, Aditi Rao Hydari, Vatsal Sheth and Ishita Dutta.

The Girl On The Train is based on Paula Hawkins’ 2015 bestseller of the same name, which has already been made into a Hollywood blockbuster starring Emily Blunt, Rebecca Ferguson and Haley Bennett.

It is a psychological thriller about a divorcee woman, who gets entangled in the investigation of a missing person, which in turn throws her life out of gear.– IANS

Rajkummar Rao enjoys his fanboy moment with SRK

Actor Rajkummar Rao had a fanboy moment when superstar Shah Rukh Khan recited his dialogue from the hit film Stree and kissed him.

Rajkummar took to Instagram to share a small video from their meeting, wherein Rajkummar is seen blushing as SRK plants a kiss on his cheek.

The actor, who considers Shah Rukh as his inspiration, is on cloud nine and elated in the clip, wherein SRK is seen mimicking a dialogue of Rajkummar’s horror comedy Stree.

In the funny video, Shah Rukh is seen saying Vicky, please along with Rajkummar.

“Since childhood I’ve been saying his dialogues. What a wonderful feeling when he decides to say my dialogue this time. There’s no one like you SRK sir. You’ve inspired me to become an actor. Biggest fan ever,” Rajkummar posted on Instagram with the video.

Stree director Amar Kaushik was quick to respond with a comment Wuhhh. Love this. To which, Rajkummar replied: “I wish you were there bhalu.” His Stree co-star Abhishek Banerjee also commented: “Bhahiiii...pleajjjjj” and posted a few heart emojis and smileys.

Rajkummar was last seen in “Made In China”, which is a hilarious take on a struggling Gujarati businessman and the bizarre journey he undertakes to become a successful entrepreneur. It is directed by Mikhil Musale, and also stars Mouni Roy and Roman Irani.– IANS
Slater excited to be the lead writer for Moon Knight series

Jeremy Slater, who adapted The Umbrella Academy comics for Netflix, will be developing and leading the writing team for the Moon Knight series set in the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

He says Moon Knight series will be “one hell of a ride”. Marvel Studios is creating an action adventure series on Moon Knight, a popular Marvel character for many years for streaming service Disney+. The move is the first creative development on the series since it was announced by Marvel head Kevin Feige at Disney’s D23 Fan Expo in August year. The move comes as She-Hulk, a fellow show announced at the expo along with Ms. Marvel, also finds its authorial voice, reports hollywoodreporter.com.

Slater expressed his excitement through a series of Twitter posts.

“I was seven when I bought my first Marvel comic, and my life was changed on the spot. It’s no exaggeration to say that joining the MCU is the single greatest honour of my career. I’m thrilled and terrified and deliriously happy,” he began.

“And while I won’t be able to tell you anything in regards to story or casting, I ‘can’ tell you we’ve assembled a room full of brilliant writers who truly love this character, and we’re all hard at work crafting something special for you. So stick around and stay tuned. Moon Knight is on the way, and it’s going to be one hell of a ride,” Slater added.

Moon Knight is the story of Spector, a former CIA agent, who was almost killed by a terrorist named Bushman. His life is saved by the character Khonshu. He goes on to kill Bushman and becomes Moon Knight.

EXCITED: Jeremy Slater expressed his excitement on joining the team of Moon Knight through a series of Twitter posts.

Four reboot that was directed by Josh Trank and starred Michael B. Jordan, Miles Teller, Kate Mara and Jamie Bell.

Among his other credits is Netflix horror movie Death Note and creating the TV version of The Exorcist. – IANS
RAC organises semi-final round for Non-Resident Nepalese Idol 2019

Rythum Art Centre (RAC) recently organised the semi-final round for Non-Resident Nepalese Idol 2019, singing reality show, at Gulf Horizon Hotel. Five out of seventeen contestants in singing category and 5 out of 12 in dancing have been selected in the semi-final round to perform at the grand finale. Milan Bayalkoti, President of RAC, and Muktada Musalman President of Non Resident Nepali National Co-ordination Council Qatar (NRNA NCC), were the chief guests on the occasion. The winner of the show will be presented with a cash prize of Nepali Rupees 55,555 and an album record deal. Likewise, the first second runner up will win a cash prize of Nepali Rupees 33,333. The judges of the dancing category include Bhabindra Tamang, You Maya Gurung and Binod Lama. Indira Shah, Mangal Bk and Yubaraj Chhatyal are judging the singing category of the show. Sakti Cheetri, President of National Folk and Duet Academy Qatar (NFDA), also attended the semi-final.

The finalists of the competition, include Anjali BK, Raj Magar, Kiran BC, Raju Ghale and Shiva Sargam, singing category; and Nanda Kisor Tharu, Aadam Ghising, Shristi Shymtang, Sapana Belbas and Puspa Gurung, dancing. Speaking on the occasion, Raj Magar, said, “I am so happy to be in the top 5. I always wanted to pursue singing as my career and this might be a stepping stone.” The show was hosted by Bal Dev Rana.

— Text and photo by Usha Wagle Gautam

Qatar KMCC organises brochure launch ceremony

Qatar KMCC recently organised a brochure launch ceremony for its 1st Cricket Tournament. The inaugural brochure was presented to Hassan Nasier, General Manager of Delta Driving Academy, by S A M Basheer, President of Qatar KMCC State Committee, in the presence of T T Ismail, Asees Nankiuni, Secretary at Qatar KMCC State Committee, Muhammad Ali, Treasurer Qatar KMCC State Committee, Siddik Vazhakkad and Mueeib Koyissen. S A M Basheer welcomed the gathering.

The event was chaired by Siddique Vazhakkad. Mohammad Essa, Sales Manager at Delta Driving School, along with Safeer Zaitoon, Faisal Poomala and Sayeed released the tournament jersey on the occasion. Mohammed Bayar also spoke on the occasion. Ajmal Thengalakkandy proposed a vote of thanks.

MES students take part in Georgetown Fall MUN Conference

Eighteen students of MES Indian School recently took part in a three-day-long Georgetown Fall MUN Conference held at Qatar Foundation under the theme of ‘Redefining the Role of the Individual in the Information Revolution.’

The participating delegates from MES represented countries, including Algeria, France, Sweden, Turkey, Germany, Lesotho, Russia, Cuba, Columbia, Qatar, Hungary, UAE, Mexico, Italy, Romania and Israel in different committees, including Security Council, UNHRC, ECOSOC, SPECPOL, UNEP, HSC, MSF and DIEC.

The MES delegates, included Raneem Abdulr, Ann Sara George, Thaiha, Thaha, Fahad Sajid, Filhas Zubair, Meera Soni, Aditya, Taniska, Imtisar, Siddig, Patavi, Aiman, Zohra, Vishnu, Anjathul, Amna and Ameera. Raneem Abdulr and Ann Sara George were awarded with ‘Honourable Mention’ in their respective committees. “This type of important activities would go a long way to transform the personality of our students”, said Hameeda Kadar, Principal of MES. Students were supervised by Soumya Mariyil and the event was co-ordinated by Mammmadhan Mambally, MUN adviser and Chief Co-ordinator for external activities of MES.