Inside ER

Rushed medical staff recall Virginia Beach mass shooting aftermath: ‘Your first reaction is a little disbelief’. P4-5
Kabir Singh
DIRECTION: Sandeep Reddy Vanga
CAST: Shahid Kapoor, Kiara Advani
SYNOPSIS: Kabir Singh is a remake of a Telugu movie
THEATRES: The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

Shadaa
DIRECTION: Jagdeep Sidhu
CAST: Diljit Dosanjh, Neeru Bajwa, Anila Devgan
SYNOPSIS: Amidst pressures from his parents to hurry up and wed, a young man seeks his perfect match. After many failed attempts with matchmakers, his parents are delighted when their son finally meets the woman of his dreams but things do not go as planned.
THEATRE: Royal Plaza

The Mall Cinema (1):
Kabir Singh (Hindi) 3pm; Aladdin (2D) 5pm; Annabelle Comes Home (2D) 8:30pm; Thamasha (Malayalam) 11pm.
The Mall Cinema (2):
Toy Story 4 (2D) 2:15pm; Toy Story 4 (2D) 4pm; Toy Story 4 (2D) 5:45pm; Men In Black International (2D) 7:30pm; Annabelle Comes Home (2D) 9:30pm; Annabelle Comes Home (2D) 11:30pm.
The Mall Cinema (3):
Unda (Malayalam) 2:30pm; Pokemon Detective Pikachu (2D) 4:45pm; Toy Story 4 (2D) 6:45pm; Kabir Singh (Hindi) 8:30pm; Anna (2D) 11:30pm.
Landmark Cinema (1):
Unda (Malayalam) 2:15pm; Aladdin (2D) 9:15pm.
Landmark Cinema (2):
Toy Story 4 (2D) 2:15pm; Toy Story 4 (2D) 4pm; Toy Story 4 (2D) 5:45pm; Men In Black International (2D) 7:30pm; Annabelle Comes Home (2D) 9:30pm; Annabelle Comes Home (2D) 11:30pm.
Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (1):
Toy Story 4 (2D) 2:30pm; Toy Story 4 (2D) 5pm; Men In Black International (2D) 7:30pm; Thamasha (Malayalam) 11pm.
Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (2):
Unda (Malayalam) 3pm; Kabir Singh (Hindi) 5:30pm; Annabelle Comes Home (2D) 8:30pm; Anna (2D) 11pm.
Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (3):
Shadaa (Punjabi) 2:30pm; Pokemon Detective Pikachu (2D) 5pm; Unda (Malayalam) 7pm; Men In Black International (2D) 9:15pm; Thamasha (Malayalam) 11:15pm.
EVENTS

MF Husain: The Horses Of The Sun Exhibition
WHERE: Mataf: Arab Museum of Modern Art
WHEN: Ongoing till July 31
TIME: 9am – 7pm
The exhibition presents Husain’s pluralist approach to the divine and cosmic aspects of being, articulated through the myths, symbols and narratives of the world’s religions and philosophies. M. F. Husain: Horses of the Sun bears witness to a recurrent motif in his art, a personal symbol of self-renewal and vitality.

Summer Entertainment City
WHERE: DECC
WHEN: Ongoing till July 13
TIME: 1pm – 11pm
The biggest indoor VR and Gaming zone, over 50+ new activities and 45 food options along with 114 retail shops, for the whole family under one roof. Entry fee QR35 per head.

India to Qatar – Symbiosis of Cultures
WHERE: FBQ Museum
WHEN: Ongoing till July 31
Under the context of cultural exchange, FBQ Museum brings together the treasures of the museum owned collection in order to promote mutual understanding, recognition and appreciation between Qatar and India. Composed of five main topics, including community, trade, arts, food and incense, the exhibition takes one on a journey to explore the rich and diverse Indian cultures, the long historic links between Qatar and India, and cultural similarities between Qatar and India.

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.

Career Guidance
WHERE: Right Track Consultants, Al Sadd
WHEN: Sunday – Thursday
TIME: 6pm – 8pm
Career guidance for course, country, college and entrance for students of Grade IX-XII, of all curriculum. Career assessments administered for stream preference, career test, branch preference, personality, multiple intelligence and learning styles and productivity. For more information, 55448835.

Hobby Classes
WHERE: Mamangam Performing Art Centre
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Mamangam Performing 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 contemporary, Bollywood, hip hop, Indian classical dance, music (Hindustani and Carnatic), arts and craft, karate, yoga, percussion (Chenda, Thimila, Elathalam and Madhalam), violin, harmonium, public speaking.

Additional services include dance education, choreograph music videos and dance cover albums, choreograph dance musical projects, corporate workshops and events, choreograph events for schools, colleges, alumni meets and corporate and choreography events. For details, call 33897609.

Arabic Calligraphy Workshop
WHEN: Saturday – Wednesday
TIME: 6pm
Arabic Calligraphy workshop is back. Come and learn the artistic practice of Arabic handwriting and calligraphy at Music and Art Atelier.
The lessons will take place every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday at 6pm. For more information, contact registration@atelierqatar.com

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.

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.

Dance and Instrument Classes
WHERE: TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Learn the movements of dance styles in Bollywood, Hip Hop and also the musical instruments such as Piano, Guitar, Keyboard for adults as well kids and move in the world of music. For details, contact 66523871/31326490.

Summer Camp for Special Needs
WHERE: Step by Step Centre for Special Needs
WHEN: June 30 – August 1
TIME: 8:00am – 12:30pm
During this time, all therapists and teachers will be working together, running individual, peer and group sessions within classes. The children will continue learning age-appropriate concepts, work on social skills, life skills training, arts and crafts, music, and fun activities such as water play.
Kristen Bunker was not at the hospital when she realised it was about to face its gravest hours.

During a doctor’s appointment on Independence Boulevard for her twin daughters, she got a phone call from their dad. He had been listening to the radio and learned a shooter was at the Municipal Center.

Bunker may have had trouble hearing him over what came next. Five or six sirens, one after the other, wailed from the road.

She didn’t waste a moment before firing off a text message to Mark Day, trauma co-ordinator at Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital.

“Do you need extra help?” she asked.

“Yes, come.”

Bunker hurried to the parking lot, put her two 6-year-olds in the car and drove.

“Mama’s gonna go take care of some sick people,” she said in an even tone.

They were there in 15 minutes. Bunker, 34, had been an emergency medicine and trauma nurse for several years. But the long hours, day in and day out, had worn on her. About six months ago, she moved into an office job as a quality improvement co-ordinator.

Still, she couldn’t turn her back on the emergency room and continued working a couple of shifts every six weeks. She’s the sort who braces for any alert that may sound over the speakers. A pair of flats she keeps in her office is a testament to that.

An overhead page — a couple of “alphas” — signalled two patients, the sickest of the sick, would arrive in 10 minutes.

“Mass casualty contained to the ER” broadcast across the hospital.

That was her cue. Before dashing, she said goodbye to her girls and left them with a co-worker. Their dad would soon come to get them.

About 11 miles away, a 40-year-old engineer for the city’s public utilities had entered the operations building, armed with two .45-caliber handguns and a silencer. The gunman opened fire, ultimately killing a dozen.

But following his rampage, a window — a precious few hours — left open the possibility of life for a handful of trauma victims. Five of the critically wounded, including the shooter, would go to the Virginia Beach General ER. Three victims would survive.

As Bunker arrived, Day handed her a protective gown. She threw it on over her clothes.

Virginia Beach General is considered the largest “level three” or community trauma centre in the state.

Unlike Norfolk General, which is classified as “level one,” it’s not connected to a teaching facility and its trauma surgeons aren’t on site around the clock.

Often in the emergency department, staff will receive an early warning that an incident is underway. The shooter at Naval Air Station Oceana in April was one such example, Thomas said. When more details emerge, the number of
injured usually shrinks. In this situation, the count only worsened. “Your first reaction is a little disbelief,” Thomas said. “Is this real?”

Because Virginia Beach General was the closest trauma centre to the Municipal Center, Emergency Medical Services designated it the lead hospital.

Thomas turned to her colleague, Dr Kathleen Anderson, another ER doctor, to help make decisions. Just how many injured could they take? As many as were hurt? She told EMS they would handle four and suggested sending a couple to Norfolk General. Instead, ambulances would bring the crush of patients.

Staff gave a heads up to the trauma surgeons and made sure no new operations were started. As surgeries were completed, more spaces opened.

Then Thomas sent an alert to her medical group, Emergency Physicians of Tidewater, which staffs all of the Sentara ERs in South Hampton Roads. It blasted a text message: “Mass shooter incident at the courthouse.”

Including physician assistants, 101 people responded to the message in some way, Thomas said. Some were on their way; others offered their assistance. Eventually, she realized she had enough manpower. Another message followed: “At present time, we have plenty of help.”

Bunker had a job to do. She needed to set up her trauma bay for a patient but didn’t know the extent of his or her injuries yet. She started to go through a mental checklist: If there’s an airway problem, what will I need? How about an open fracture? She wrangled a monitor for vital signs and medications to use with a breathing tube insertion. She fetched equipment for IVs.

Bunker’s role was small but needed. If rooms weren’t ready, the scramble could cost them.

Since childhood, she considered this her calling. Her stepfather had viral congestive heart failure in his 30s, causing him to stop working. Bunker spent a lot of her early years feeling powerless. She refused to feel that way again.

“If anybody ever needed me, I wanted to know how to respond,” she said.

Amid the flurry of activity that evening, EMS set up its command post outside. For added security, the ER was put on “lockdown,” meaning people who were not part of the incident response would have to find some other way to enter the hospital.

Nurses came down to the department to take admitted patients to their beds, making room for what was to come. In waves spanning 45 minutes, the wounded — strangers known only by their genders and estimated ages — arrived. Among them, the injured shooter.

As the patients rolled in on gurneys, a trail of countless police officers followed. Without names, the patients received serial numbers. And staff used an electronic identifier for the patients, Day said: During disaster responses, a colour-coding system helps medics know the priority of a person’s injuries. In this case, all of them came with the same severity — red — which is the most critical. They usually put ribbons somewhere visible on the patients, he said.

There wasn’t much deliberation among the emergency physicians when deciding who would take which patient. Thomas helped direct the traffic.

“I got the first one,” she said. “You take this one.”

Thomas took charge of one of the patients. Anderson had two.

In her own room, Thomas stood at the head of the bed and orchestrated the activity around her. Virginia Beach General hasn’t disclosed the details of the mass shooting victims’ injuries. But reports from the medical examiner’s office provide insight into the devastating types of wounds doctors likely saw that evening. Of the 12 who died, all but three suffered from bullets to the head. Others took shots to their torsos and other parts of their bodies.

By 6pm, the survivors were out of the ER. Some were headed to intensive care or the operating room. A peaceful hush fell over the department.

Thomas was roasting from her fluid-resistant trauma gear. She took off a layer of clothing and had a moment to collect her thoughts.

“Can’t talk right now,” she said in a text to a loved one, “but I’m fine.”

Unlike younger or less-experienced staff, Day can say he has put the phone back in his pocket. He didn’t have that conversation.

Families of the patients told Virginia Beach General to cease releasing medical condition reports to the public. It’s unknown how they’re doing or whether they’re still in the hospital. Melanie Coffey, the patient who was taken to Norfolk General, has since been discharged.

For Day, the hard part is over. But he worries about the staff, especially those who have never witnessed such trauma.

The tendency is to personalise the tragedy.

Did I do everything I could have? “There are going to be visions. They’re going to be able to see faces,” he said. “That doesn’t go away.”

This story is based on the recollections from that day.

— The Virginian-Pilot (Norfolk, Virginia)/TNS
Embassy of Japan donates books to Tariq Bin Ziyad School for Boys

The Embassy of Japan, in collaboration with Japan Foundation, recently presented a variety of 37 Japan-related books to Tariq Bin Ziyad Independent Secondary School for Boys, with the aim of further promoting the understanding of Japan and its culture in Qatar. Tariq Bin Ziyad Independent Secondary School for Boys has been offering Japanese language classes since 2012, and currently, 32 students are studying the language and culture in the school. Donated books, include Japanese language textbooks, children's books, manga, Japanese modern literature in Arabic and art related books. Seiichi Otsuka, Ambassador of Japan, awarded Hamad al-Mannai, Principal of TBZ School, a certificate of commendation in recognition of his contributions to the deepening of mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and Qatar through Japanese language education.

Speaking on the occasion, the ambassador expressed his appreciation to the school and its administration for their commitment to teaching the Japanese language, which underscores the Qatar Japanese efforts to boost co-operation ties in the educational field.

BPS organises two-day professional development programme

Birla Public School (BPS) recently organised a two-day professional development programme on 'Experiential Teaching and Learning' and 'Application based learning' for the faculty members of science department at BPS. Dr Ashok Pandey, Principal of Ahlcon International School Delhi, was the resource person. He extensively dealt with various vital traits of teachers to be followed in personal, professional development and pedagogical application besides providing hands-on classroom strategies for students' involvements and participation.

The session kicked off with a brainstorming activity, imaginary trekking to teach about the journey of a child through obstacles. Teachers had to help the child to overcome the difficulties and obstacles. The session continued with the different traits of teachers, including personal, professional, pedagogical and student's involvements. He also highlighted the major differences between traditional and modern, technology-aided teaching methods, and accentuated the importance of experiential and student-centred teaching. Group discussions were initiated over a few cases of students' portfolios for the purpose of analysing the positive and negative outcome in certain cases. The session focused on competency-based learning in which the motivation for learning was discussed.

Few tactful strategies such as the ways to connect the material, relevance of skill to the future and passion for discipline and area of knowledge were taken up for discussion. Teachers were divided into various groups and actively participated in the teaching-learning session that included lesson plan discussion and demo classes on a select topic were taken by each group.
Mondrian Doha bags five awards at Time Out Doha’s 2019 Restaurant Awards

Mondrian Doha recently bagged five prestigious awards for its dining experience, at Time Out Doha’s 2019 Restaurant Awards ceremony at Grand Hyatt Doha, stated a press release.

The luxury lifestyle hotel which has only been operational for two years, made its mark at the ceremony, scooping awards in the different categories that recognise the hotel’s excellence in the food and beverage industry and its unforgettable dining experience. Mondrian’s urban escape, Hudson Tavern was awarded the ‘Best Pub Food’ and New York’s iconic Magnolia Bakery featured at the hotel, received an award for the ‘Best Afternoon Tea’. Morimoto Doha, the first branch to open in the Middle East also walked away with an award for the ‘Highly Commended Japanese’ category with Walima recognised for its spellbinding terrace, offering modern Qatari hospitality and beautiful sunset views, and awarded the ‘Highly Commended Outdoor Dining’ category. The hotel finished the night winning an award for its ‘East Meets West’ in the ‘Highly Commended Brunch’ category.

Axel Gasser, General Manager at Mondrian Doha Hotel, said, “This is a great achievement for the Mondrian Doha and specifically our restaurant outlets. A massive congratulations to our team who are always working tirelessly to offer our guests top quality service and, a unique, lavish and entertaining culinary journey. Thank you to Time Out Doha for recognising our hard work and continuous strive to raise the bar when it comes to providing our guests the best culinary experience in Doha.”

The Mondrian brand is part of the luxury hospitality group sbe, devoted to creating extraordinary experiences with a commitment to authenticity, sophistication, mastery and innovation. Apart from Doha, the world-class lifestyle hotel has locations in Los Angeles, New York, and South Miami Beach. She is continuing to expand its portfolio with the opening of SLS Hotels and Residence in Dubai by 2020. Now in its ninth year and known as the most respected food awards in Qatar, Time Out Doha Restaurant Awards recognises and gives credit to the best culinary flair in Doha. The restaurants are reviewed by a team of gastronomes, tasting and experiencing the best of what the city has to offer.

Doha Toastmasters Club appoints new officer bearers

Rajeswar Sundaresan, District Director of Toastmasters, recently elevated new management committee of Doha Toastmasters Club. The new office bearers, include Jayakumar Menon, President; Akash Bhutada, Vice President; Sithmini Athluge, Vice President; Faisal Hudawi, Vice President PR; Kadhija Meftah, Secretary; Nidhin P S, Treasurer; and Atul Hardas, Sergeant at Arms.

Niloufer Samel, outgoing president, presented a detailed report on the achievements and accolades earned during her tenure.

The meeting featured various speeches by Adam Abdi, Sandip Khairnar and Faisal Hudawi, evaluated by Pravin Chandra, Sithmini and Tabish Khan.

Akash Bhutada conducted table topics session and Tabish Khan was the General Evaluator.

Dinesh Kumar steered the meeting with the theme of ‘New Beginnings’.

DPS-MIS organises food donation drive

The students of Nursery-Grade XII at DPS-Modern Indian School (DPS-MIS) recently collected essential food items and other utility products to distribute them among the support staff members. Around 5 tonnes of pulses and rice were collected for the less privileged section of the society. This humanitarian act was an appreciation and acknowledgement of the unfailing and uniring efforts of the support team in the smooth functioning of the school.

FIELD TRIP: The students of Grade III-VI at Greenwood International School recently visited National Museum of Qatar. Students explored the facts about Qatar and its history.
Why this is the best time to visit Disneyland

The opening of the much-anticipated 14-acre Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge drew so many visitors since it opened May 31 that it substantially reduced wait times at all the other attractions in the Anaheim theme park, writes Hugo Martin and Ben Poston.

Now may be the perfect time to visit Disneyland, as long as you have no interest in checking out the park’s Star Wars expansion.

The opening of the much-anticipated 14-acre Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge drew so many visitors since it opened May 31 that it substantially reduced wait times at all the other attractions in the Anaheim theme park.

In the first week after the Star Wars land opened, the wait at all the other park attractions declined to an average of about 14 minutes, down 28% compared with an average of just under 20 minutes in the week before it opened.

When compared with the first full week of June a year earlier, the drop in wait times was even more dramatic, declining 46% from an average of more than 26 minutes, according to the data.

Depending on the ride, Disneyland fans could have saved more than half an hour of wait time by visiting the park when most of the crowds were taking in the new Star Wars land.

For example, the average wait time for Splash Mountain was 53 minutes during the first week of June 2018, according to the Times analysis. After Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge opened, the average wait time for the flume ride dropped to just under 21 minutes.

At Buzz Lightyear, an interactive ride based on the 1995 animated film Toy Story, the average wait time was slightly more than 29 minutes during the first week of June 2018 but dropped to just under 10 minutes after the opening of the Star Wars land.

At Space Mountain, the average wait time in the first week of June 2018 was about 64 minutes but dropped to slightly under 45 minutes in the week after the Star Wars land opened.

Park visitors noticed the decline in wait times and began touting it on social media in the days after the new expansion opened.

The Times analysis was based on nearly 85,000 wait times posted on the Disneyland website for each ride and collected by Touring Plans. Disney representatives noted that such data do not take into account the wait times for visitors who use the virtual queuing system called FastPass, as well as the wait times for guests who board the rides through the “single rider” lines.

The drop in wait times was a happy side effect to the overwhelming fan excitement over the opening of the $1 billion Star Wars expansion.

Disneyland anticipated so much demand that the park required all visitors to Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge to have reservations during the first three weeks after the opening that limited them to a four-hour window.

The park also adopted a plan, dubbed Project Stardust, that sought to reduce gridlock and choke points by shrinking or eliminating tree and flower planters, moving lines, banning extra-wide strollers and eliminating designated smoking areas, among other changes.

Despite the reservation system at the Star Wars land, Disneyland executives had to adopt a few crowd-control fixes after the opening to handle lines that grew up to two hours long to enter the land’s cantina and a shop where visitors can build a custom lightsaber.

The drop in wait times at Disneyland was expected, said Martin Lewison, a theme park expert and business management professor at Farmingdale State College in New York.

When theme parks add new attractions or overhaul ageing rides, he said, fans flock to the latest ride, thus reducing the lines at older existing attractions.

“Any major new attraction is going to draw people away from old favourites,” he said. “That is the nature of things.”

Although the Star Wars-themed attraction probably increased overall attendance to the park, the opening of the 14-acre land also expanded the total size of Disneyland by about 20%, giving the normally crowded theme park extra room to absorb more visitors.

“Given that increased capacity, continued investment in Disneyland Adventure, and a wide range of new products and offerings, guests are enjoying a great experience throughout the Disneyland Resort,” Disneyland spokeswoman Liz Jaeger said.

The new land, the largest single expansion since the opening of Disneyland in 1955, is designed to resemble a remote settlement named Black Spire Outpost on the planet Batuu, occupied by space outlaws, smugglers and rebels battling, or hiding from, the evil Empire.

The land features two rides, four eateries, one space-themed cantina and five retail shops. Only one ride, the interactive Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run, is in operation. The second attraction, the multi-vehicle Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance, is promised for later in the year.

The average wait time for the Millennium Falcon ride for the week after the land opened was just over 12 minutes. When California Adventure Park opened its Guardians of the Galaxy Mission: Breakout in May 2017, the average wait time in the first week was 118 minutes.

Lewison predicted that the new Star Wars land will continue to draw park fans away from other attractions for six months to a year before lines throughout Disneyland edge back up to pre-Star Wars levels.

“In the near term that is going to remain a hot thing,” he said of Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge. – Los Angeles Times/TNS
What happens when machines break law?

In the near future, machines controlled by artificial intelligence will be as common as electricity and telephones are today. But what happens when these autonomous cars, robotic surgeons and thinking industrial machines make deadly mistakes, asks Carsten Hoefer.

It’s an age-old legal precept that holds – at least in principle – in all human societies: If you kill or injure someone, you’re liable. But the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) poses new quandaries for judicial authorities in this matter. What if a robot causes a serious or fatal accident? A judge can’t order it to pay compensation or put it in prison.

There’s growing discussion of the legal ramifications of AI in judicial and political circles, as well as industrial concerns and insurance implications. Experts agree that within a few decades, the use of self-driving cars, intelligent industrial robots and other autonomously acting machines will be as common as electricity and phones are today. Practical questions of civil law still dominate, mainly with respect to fully or semi-autonomous cars.

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"In order for highly and fully automated driving to be widely accepted by society, the ultimate bearer of liability must always be clarifiable," says Joachim Mueller, director of property and casualty insurance services provider Allianz Deutschland AG.

"Since 2017, Germany’s road traffic act has stipulated what kind of data a car must – and may – store. What still isn’t regulated, though, is how the lawfully authorised parties can technically and organisationally get access to this data," Mueller says. "This is a matter of equal interest to law enforcement authorities and insurers.

"Many questions arise here. Does there have to be a time-consuming read-out of data at the car dealership for all parties concerned? How will it be ensured that incriminating data isn’t destroyed? What happens to the data if a vehicle is scrapped, and who deletes the data if the vehicle is sold?"

"Allianz is pushing to keep car manufacturers from having sole control over the data. "In my view, the data should be in the hands of a neutral, independent third party – a data trustee – to enable all authorised parties to get access to them under the same legal conditions," Mueller says. The rise of robots has consequences for criminal law too. Legal scholars are already considering far-reaching questions since criminal law is based on the principle of individual guilt. Even the most intelligent machine has neither consciousness nor a conscience, however.

"Directed at individual persons, criminal law has difficulty keeping up with the development of autonomous machines and artificial intelligence," notes Susanne Beck, a professor of criminal law and philosophy of law at the University of Hanover in Germany.

"In criminal law, the operator of a machine normally bears responsibility," she says. "If Google gives you false information and you base a decision on it, you’re responsible."

"The situation is simpler in civil law. ‘A car owner today is already also liable for accidents in which he or she may not have been involved,’ points out Nicolas Wollmann, an assistant at the Research Centre for Robot Law at the University of Wuerzburg in Germany.

"A company, too, can be liable in civil law – in contrast to criminal law – he says. “Only people can commit crimes, not corporate bodies or machines.”

But would it be appropriate to penalise a person when AI is at the wheel and in control? ‘The whole point of these machines is not having to act and decide yourself,’ Beck says. "If you still bear full criminal liability as the driver, then you don’t need an autonomous vehicle, because you’ve got to concentrate just as you would if you were driving yourself. I see that as a problem."

To address the problem, ethical and legal experts have introduced the concept of “meaningful human control.”

"Before a person is held criminally accountable, a close look must be taken at whether he or she exercised any control over the machine,” Beck says.

"To a considerable extent we’ll probably have to forgo judicial decisions on accidents caused by machines in the future," she predicts, conceding that “it can definitely be unsettling for a society if no sentences are possible.”

Her proposal: “Other solutions will have to be sought, for example victim-offender mediation or solutions in other legal systems – civil law, for instance.

Most experts aren’t in favour of fundamental changes to criminal law.

“Legal scholars have tentatively begun to discuss whether we have to abandon the principle that only people can behave culpably,” Wollmann says. “Our prevailing opinion is that at the present stage of technological development, there’s no need to discard the established legal norm.”

But there’s indeed “a grey area where we can’t forecast how jurisprudence will develop in the future,” he adds. “For society at large, a grey area may be acceptable if the number of [traffic] accidents falls as self-driving cars become more prevalent owing to their overall benefits for society.”

This would be no consolation to accident victims and their families, though.

“One an individual level, it’s certainly unsatisfying if criminal liability can’t be established after a serious accident,” Wollmann says.

“That’s a dilemma.” – DPA
All you can explore at Souq Waqif

With the many streets that appear as mazes and the rough plastered buildings with shops facing the streets, Souq Waqif is truly a place of many wonders. For a first time visitor, it can be easy to lose your way but don’t let that scare you from exploring one of Qatar’s top tourist destinations. From traditional garments, spices, handicrafts, and souvenirs, to the top restaurants and shisha lounges, there is just about everything for everyone at Souq Waqif.

The handicrafts market particularly stands out for its pieces for the variety of lights and vases that are available in exquisite designs with the kind of artistry that keeps the local traditions and heritage alive.

The other thing that’s hard to miss while at the Souq is the variety of food and restaurants. It’s not just the food that tastes amazing at the Souq, but the ambiance and atmosphere of every restaurant at every street is truly what sets the mood.

The staff and people you meet at Souq are generally welcoming, which as a true mark of local culture and hospitality.

—Photos by Allan Villafuerte
Text by Azmat Haroon
@azmatharoon
Poor sleep linked to reduced memory in older adults: Study

Senior citizens, please take note. Lower sleep quality and variability in night sleep time may adversely affect your ability to recall past events, says a study.

The study, published in *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience* journal, underscores the importance of sleep in maintaining good cognitive functioning. The study divided participants in two categories: younger adults (18-37 years) and older adults (56-76 years). The participants were given wearable accelerometers to measure sleep duration and quality over seven nights.

“The night-to-night variability in older adults had a major impact on their performance in tests aimed at evaluating episodic memory,” said Audrey Duarte, Associate Professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology, US.

Stating that the association between sleep and memory has been known, Duarte said this study underlined the connection particularly among older adults and black participants.

“We wanted to know how sleep affected memory, how well they remembered things and how well their brains functioned depending on how well they slept,” said Emily Hokett, a Ph.D student at the institute.

The researchers said regular sleep was important for best cognitive performance at any age. —IANS

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**Aries**
March 21 – April 19

Things aren’t necessarily going to go well today, Aries. There is the potential for conflict. You may feel a bit lost in the fog. Strap on your compass and you will be fine. Realise that you will make it through this day much better if you approach every situation from the other person’s perspective. Think more of others than of yourself. Be sensitive and receptive.

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**Cancer**
June 21 – July 22

Think about old times and people with whom you’ve had strong connections. Cancer. Remember the good times you shared with people of common interests and similar hobbies. Be sentimental and mushy. Mend bridges and bring resolution to sticky issues. Be harmonious with the people and situations around you. World peace begins with you. Incorporate more of this ideal into your life.

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**Libra**
September 23 – October 22

Many people spend their whole adult lives trying to discover their true self. Libra. A great deal of social conditioning by parents and our environment plays a role in shaping our minds. Realise that many of these influences don’t necessarily ring true with your inner self. Take this day to uncover some of those early influences and discard the ones that don’t belong to you.

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**Capricorn**
December 22 – January 19

Your intuitive side is aligning with your rational side today, Capricorn. Listen to your emotions. Take a sensitive approach to all people and situations. Your head may be up in the clouds. Take elements of this lofty perspective and incorporate them into your conscious mind. Run away with your fantasies. Nurture your loved ones.

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**Taurus**
April 20 – May 20

Today is a day of reckoning in some ways, Taurus. Attention to detail is important, but make sure it doesn’t become your only focus. Situations are likely to crop up in which you’ve analysed and considered every single detail but failed to see the big picture. This is a wonderful day to remedy such situations. Take care of anything that needs a broader perspective.

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**Gemini**
May 21 – June 21

Be more sensitive to other people’s space today, Gemini. Respect their feelings and give them room to breathe. This is a great day to pursue creative projects. Do things involving art or music. Sing, play an instrument, or give your music collection a boost. There are opportunities open now that involve other people who share the same interests as you.

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**Leo**
July 23 – August 22

You may have to make some serious adjustments to your approach today in order to chime in with the energy of the group, Leo. Adopt a more inwardly directed attitude and see what you can learn by tuning into others’ subtle messages. The masculine and feminine sides of your nature are working harmoniously. You might find that they’re both asking for a quiet night in.

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**Scorpio**
October 23 – November 21

Today is an extremely creative day for you, Scorpio. You should allot time and space to pursuing an artistic goal. You’re like a magician who has the power to bring fantasies to life. Spread the magic to others and don’t second-guess your incredible healing ability. You have a strong presence that radiates powerfully. Be charitable and generous to others.

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**Virgo**
August 23 – September 22

You should feel a renewed sense of confidence today that will help anchor your emotions and give strength to your thoughts and ideas, Virgo. Don’t take a pessimistic attitude toward everything around you. Look at the good instead of the bad. By maintaining a negative viewpoint about things, you’re only adding to the problem. You have every right to be happy.

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**Sagittarius**
November 22 – December 21

There’s nothing worse than last-minute details, Sagittarius. Concentrate on an important upcoming event. Make sure you have everything in line now so you don’t get caught dealing with that one thing that ends up putting a monkey wrench in your plans later. Anticipate the problems that you’re likely to encounter and take actions now that will nip these situations in the bud.

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**Pisces**
February 19 – March 20

Your nurturing instincts are strong today, Pisces. This is an excellent day to reveal your opinions. You’ve probably been sitting in the background, quietly observing and collecting data for quite some time. Now is the time to come out of the shadows and let your conclusions be heard. Don’t let others push you around. Take a stand for what you know is right.
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.

Sudoku

Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is also divided into nine 3x3 boxes. You are given a selection of values and to complete the puzzle, you must fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains every number from 1 to 9, with no number repeated.

Pooch Cafe

Having a hydrant on your front lawn is tough work. You always have to protect it.

But with a hat this big, they'll just have to respect my authority!

On mail day, do I ever have to go out.

Me too!

Garfield

I wish people would quit reminding me about my birthday.

I said...

Bound And Gagged

That's stumpy Smith. He feeds the alligators.
Super Cryptic Clues

Across
1 Island that I confused with another island (6)
4 Making a cat sit still (6)
8 Claim a gentleman is hiding a picture (5)
9 Churchill gains weight (7)
10 He swears he’s in the cavalry (7)
11 Tree in river not cold at first (5)
12 Come after break for stuffing (9)
17 Possible means of identification? (5)
19 Dash back with German article for part-exchange (5-2)
21 Sibling rivalry’s beginning? Worry about it! (7)
22 An animal arrived then left (5)
23 Phrase translated for mountain guide (6)
24 Composer from Harlem (6)

Down
1 Oliver’s unforeseen developments (6)
2 Set out to forestall principal on vacation (4,3)
3 Belgian city getting rid of an idiot (5)
4 Metal goods ruined in water (7)
5 Toddler, extremely exhausted, has to be carried (5)
6 Bird seen by wharf in London (6)
7 Wodehouse character heard in city (9)
8 Churchill gains weight (7)
9 American elk or Scottish rodent? (5)
10 He swears he’s in the cavalry (7)
11 Tree in river not cold at first (5)
12 Come after break for stuffing (9)
13 Fruit became more trendy (7)
14 Current sort of underwear? (7)
15 Egyptian god transported in a bus (6)
16 Sportsman showing displeasure when lake is filled in (6)
18 American elk or Scottish rodent? (5)
20 Capital cricket club in the middle of Nicaragua (5)
21 Sibling rivalry’s beginning? Worry about it! (7)
22 An animal arrived then left (5)
23 Phrase translated for mountain guide (6)
24 Composer from Harlem (6)

Yesterday’s Solution

Wordsearch

Answers

Codeword
Romantic drama glazed with glamour

“IT’S JUST A TRAILER. WE WANTED TO INTRODUCE OUR CHARACTERS RATHER THAN GIVING OUT THE WHOLE STORY OF THE FILM. FOR THE FULL STORY THE AUDIENCES HAVE TO GET TO THEIR NEAREST CINEMA THIS EID AL-ADHA. IT’S NOT A VERY CONVENTIONAL LOVE STORY. BUT FOR THAT YOU HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE WHOLE THING TO COME OUT”

– Sheheryar Munawar Siddiqui

From the moment Sheheryar Munawar Siddiqui and Asim Raza announced that they were making a rom-com feature film starring Sheheryar along with Maya Ali, it was a safe bet that it would be one of the most glitz-glam film of the year. Now, the first trailer for the drama, Paray Hut Love is here to confirm it. We see a stellar cast of characters in the film, featuring Maya Ali, Sheheryar Munawar, Zara Noor Abbas, Hina Dilpazir, Asad Siddiqui, Nadeem Baig, Ahmed Ali Butt, Sonya Jehan, Priebh Altaf, Faheem Azam and Shahzar Shigri among others. The trailer opens with various visuals of grandeur, beautiful landscapes and wedding decorations. Sheheryar Munawar wakes up from a nightmare and then we see him introducing himself as a struggling actor, in search of a role to Nadeem Baig’s character. He is later seen rehearsing a scene with Zara Noor Abbas Siddiqui who is paired opposite Ahmed Ali Butt in the love story. We also see the famous Momo aka Hina Dilpazir in this bit of the trailer.

Sheheryar is a drama actor searching for a role of a lifetime and isn’t too keen to fall in love or get hitched. Munawar’s character is no different from men his age who fear the idea of marriage until they meet the ‘perfect one’. For Munawar it is Saniya played by Maya Ali who will change his perception as she plays his love interest in the film. But, the story takes a steep turn when Saniya reveals that she is engaged to Hassan (played by Shahbaaz Shigri). Sheheryar is seen questioning Maya about their relationship, which is followed by the scenes of a funeral. A lot is happening in this trailer, leaving one with conflicting feelings about the story-line: boy meets girl, girl warns him to not fall in love with her and the rest is a typical desi love story with too much in to their relationship.

Apart from Ali and Munawar’s on-screen chemistry, there are cameos that will definitely pull audiences to cinema houses this Eid ul Adha. We see Meera in a shaadi number and it sure looks engaging. Mahira’s performance is something that cannot be missed; she is playing an actress here. A sneak peek of Mahira Khan’s look in the trailer leaves you awe-struck and wanting more.

She is seen in a heavily embellished red number that made everyone swoon. Mahira donned the scarlet ensemble which was decked out in glistening jewellery for her dancing debut in the trailer. But, apparently the get-up was very ‘heavy’ for the diva, which she admitted to her Twitter fans recently. “This dress was so heavy that it gave me vertigo,” Mahira tweeted.

Last but not the least, Fawad Khan speaks one dialogue sharing some wisdom on being successful and leaves one in awe-struck. We see Meera in a shaadi number and it sure looks engaging. Mahira’s performance is something that cannot be missed; she is playing an actress here. A sneak peek of Mahira Khan’s look in the trailer leaves you awe-struck and wanting more.

The film has been written by Imran Aslam and is based on the popular 1994 British film, Four Weddings and a Funeral.

Talking about the trailer of the film, Sheheryar said, “It’s just a trailer. We wanted to introduce our characters rather than giving out the whole story of the film. For the full story the audiences have to get to their nearest cinema this Eid al-Adha.” He added, “It’s not a very conventional love story. But for that you have to wait for the whole thing to come out. It has some wonderful sound tracks and performances by actors whose work speak volumes.”

This has all the ingredients of an Asim Raza vehicle – beautiful people, costumes, whistle-worthy cameos, picturesque locales, great music and choreography – and we sure hope a memorable story line as well. Because if the storyline is meh, even the appearances of Fawad or Mahira won’t be able to save the sinking ship. Bisou Bisou!
Showbiz

Dependability an important reputation to have: Jacqueline

Actress Jacqueline Fernandez says she feels flattered when people say she is a dependable artiste.

Jacqueline is an important part of multiple successful films. Asked how it feels to be counted among dependable actresses, she told the media: “If that’s what people say, then I am obviously very flattered and it’s a very important reputation to have. I have been a part of big commercial films and I do identify myself as a commercial actress. I have been doing this for the past 10 years but still there is a long way to go.”

Since Sajid Nadiadwala has announced a sequel to his hit 2014 action-comedy ‘Kick’, Jacqueline is excited about it but says the filmmaker is a perfectionist and is working on the script as of now.

On the sidelines of a Sri Lanka Tourism event here, she said: “I think Sajid Nadiadwala is working on the script of the film. It is something that he has been working on consistently for some time and knowing Nadiadwala, he is a perfectionist.”

“So he will not come to any of us without a perfect blockbuster script and we are giving all the time and space to him which he needs for that.”

Jacqueline is also making her debut in the digital entertainment space with Netflix’s upcoming original film titled Mrs. Serial Killer.

“It is a new territory for me, and not something that I am used to. I am used to theatricals, cinema halls and Fridays, but this is a completely new and interesting space for me.”

“What is interesting about it is that it seems to be the future and it seems to be a new emerging platform for films. But it doesn’t change anything about what we do,” she added. – IANS

Bachchan a frugal eater, prefers vegetarian food

The hotel staffs desire to serve the best of Awadhi food to megastar Amitabh Bachchan during his stay in Lucknow has remained unfulfilled so far.

Bachchan is presently in Lucknow for the shooting of Shoojit Sircar’s Gulabo Sitabo and is staying at a local five-star hotel.

“We had planned that we would serve an array of kebabs and mutton delicacies like ‘nihari’ to the actor but he seems to be favouring only vegetarian food,” said an assistant chef of the hotel.

According to the chef, the actor is a frugal eater and prefers a glass of milk and egg bhurji (scrambled eggs) for breakfast with no chillies. For lunch, Bachchan takes two or three rotis with dal (without garnishing) and green vegetables. The actor avoids eating rice.

“One day he asked for paneer bhurji but he has never made any other demands. When he returns late from shooting, he prefers only soap for dinner. In fact, on some days he has only soap and avoid food,” the hotel staff said.

A member of the film’s crew, meanwhile, said that Bachchan was the most undemanding actor on the sets.

“He never makes any request for a particular food and eats puffed rice and Grams that are a staple food on the sets,” the member said.

Bachchan is here for a month long schedule of the film that is being shot in parts of the old city, mostly indoors. – IANS

Hunt makes a musical debut with Working

By Joseph V Amodio

Hel en Hunt has held a wide array of onscreen jobs in the various films and TV series that have earned her an Oscar and four Emmy Awards – including waitress (As Good as It Gets), PR exec (Mid About You) and storm chaser (Twister).

So she’s perhaps more prepared than most to take on some of the employment options featured in Working, an updated version of the Nina Faso and Stephen Schwartz musical that was a hit on Broadway back in 1978 yet remains a perennial favourite at regional and community theatres across the country. Part of New York City Center’s Encore! Off–Center series, it runs June 26–29, and marks Hunter’s musical theatre debut.

Based on Studs Terkel’s best-selling book, which includes interviews with real people across the United States talking about their jobs, the show features music from an eclectic mix of songwriters (including Schwartz, Craig Carnelia, Micki Grant, Mary Rodgers and James Taylor), plus new songs by Hamilton’s Lin-Manuel Miranda.

Hunt’s own resume includes acting, screenwriting and directing of films and TV series. And, yes, she’ll be both in front and behind the camera for the eagerly anticipated reboot of “Mad About You,” the 1990s hit sitcom that made her a star, which she and co-star Paul Reiser announced will air on Spectrum later this year. Hunt, 55, recently spoke with Newsday contributor Joseph V Amodio.

You have an interesting and unexpected connection to this show.

“The whole thing kind of comes together for me. I’ve loved the show forever. But the only reason I’m an actor at all – the moment I decided THAT’S what I want to do – goes back years earlier. When I was 8, I saw the musical Godspell. I’d seen a lot of theatre even by age 8, but I hadn’t seen that kind of theatre … where they’re not pretending it’s real. The actors were painting their faces in front of you, getting dressed in front of you. Somehow the story seemed even more potent and convincing when they weren’t preparing and it was really hard earning. I don’t know, there’s probably a better way to describe that, but that’s what Godspell was like for that – and seeing it made something happen. It made me think, “I want to make theatre.” I don’t care if I’m on the stage or off the stage, but I want to be in the room where that kind of thing is made. So … now … getting to do another show with music by Stephen Schwartz is a giant win.

Nice. But that’s not what I was thinking of. It is the cast. I’m a super-fan of these singers I’m singing with. I knew how great Christopher Jackson and Javier Muñoz are because I came back so many times to see them in Hamilton. Yeah, they were both great in that. But that’s not what I’m thinking of, either.

And then my connection to Mary Rodgers – bingo. That’s it. What a crazy coincidence that you once knew the late Mary Rodgers, one of Working’s songwriters and a daughter of the legendary Broadway composer Richard Rodgers.

Mary’s husband, Henry Guettel, and my father were drafted at the same time. They met on the first day of basic training. The story goes that my dad said, “This looks like a very sad production of On the Town”, and one guy laughed – it was Henry. Our families became friends. I grew up with. So to sing her song is incredibly meaningful.

It’s a song about a frustrated teacher. Did you request to sing Mary Rodgers’ song or is it just serendipity?

No. In fact, I was afraid of it. She was a pretty spunky woman, the teacher who was interviewed. And that’s reflected in the lyrics.

This marks your musical theatre debut. Why this show?

I love the show. I’ve loved it forever. My daughter was in a beautiful production of it in her high school – and they toured in Northern California, performing in juvenile detention centres and county hospitals.

Wow – tough crowds. Who did your daughter play?

She played Utkarsh, the caretaker of the older man. It’s the part Javier Muñoz is playing.

Ahhh, so she got to sing a new song written for the show by Lin-Manuel Miranda. Did she give you any pointers?

As I’m learning the harmonies, I keep texting her saying, “You should be here, you’d pick these up in five seconds.” We’ve got a very short rehearsal period. But when I see other musical performers I love going, “Wait – do that three more times.” I feel much better. – Newsday/TNS

COMMUNITY

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

GULF TIMES | 15

Newsday/TNS
Most people in this region pride themselves in holding on to their traditions in the ever-changing modern world. The well-off ones in particular, tend to collect and carry traditional and cultural items of daily use popular.

Hunting is an age-old tradition in the Arab world. Historically, people used to go out in the wilderness and hunt different birds and animals. Hunting knives were part and parcel of the gadgetry they used to carry while hunting. Knives are still carried by many men either for hunting purposes or ceremonially as proud item of their cultural heritage.

Exquisitely elegant, unbreakable and sharp hunting knives have come to Qatar from Pakistan this summer. A stall set up at the ongoing Summer Entertainment City (SEC) is selling some brilliant hunting knives that are fast becoming popular both among the residents and expatriates of Qatar.

The beautiful knives and daggers have come from Wazirabad, a city in Punjab, Pakistan. The city is famous for its cutlery products. The origin of Wazirabad cutlery industry can be traced back to the invasion of India by Alexander the Great. Even prior to the partition, Wazirabad was famous throughout India for its good quality cutlery products and knives.

The city was also popular during the 1880s as the local inhabitants were producing arms and ammunition of indigenous nature for the use of British Army.

“Today, there are many factories engaged in manufacturing various qualities of cutlery items, kitchenware, hunting knives, swords etc. Majority of the cutlery supplied in all major cities of Pakistan comes from the city of Wazirabad. It is also known for its quality exports in major international markets,” said Zeeshan Razik, who has set up the stall at the SEC in Doha Exhibition and Convention Center.

The trader speaks very highly about the quality and beauty of the hunting knives made in Wazirabad. “I have two set ups – one in Wazirabad and one in Islamabad. I have been exporting to different countries. I have taken the classic knives to seven countries so far.”

Zeeshan, who started exporting knives in 2009, has set up a showroom for his products in Qatar as well. “I have established partnership with a local man and set up our showroom with the name of Barakat Falcon Selling and Accessories. The products have been very popular since I first set up my stall at SEC in 2018. It was very successful and received good clientele in Qatar. It encouraged me to set up the stall again besides starting my own business here.”

Both professional hunters and common people tend to take interest in the craft of making knives with hands. “I cannot tell who are my number one buyers because I do not know who is hunting and who is not. I have witnessed both the residents and expatriates taking interest in the products both due to the quality and the beauty of the knives. I have brought the knives to Qatar because I knew Arabs like classical and traditional items. The knives are so beautiful and these can also be used as decoration pieces in drawing rooms. I have brought the knives in different sizes starting from 23cm to 1.5 foot long.”

The unique features of these hunting knives are that they are hard and sharp. “The knives and daggers are made up of carbon steel. There are many layers on the blades of the knives. We call these knives damascus. They require a lot of hard work and great skill is needed to prepare layered knives.” — Zeeshan Razik

“The knives and daggers are made up of carbon steel. There are many layers on the blades of the knives. We call these knives damascus. They require a lot of hard work and great skill is needed to prepare layered knives. A majority of our knives have their handles made up of animal horns or bones. The artisans give different shapes to the horns of buffalos and bones of camels. These knives are usually heavier than the knives used in the kitchen. They become heavier due to layered steel, horns/bone handles, and other decorative material.”

Zeeshan likes visiting Qatar and sees a bright future for his business here. “I visited Qatar last year for the first time to attend SEC. I also attend the dhow show and now I am at SEC again. I have set up my own business here. People here are generally very friendly. I have visited Corniche, Souq Waqif and the Pearl. I have been enjoying my stay here and Qatar feels like home to me now.”

ONE OF A KIND: The exquisite knives and daggers are made in Wazirabad, a city in Punjab, Pakistan, famous for its cutlery items, kitchenware, hunting knives, and swords, among other items.