Community

Doha College teachers present results of action research projects during ‘Learning Festival’.

Community

Thai couple gives away modified trolleys to help people with disabilities who cannot afford wheelchairs.

Community

Chester Hollman III on life taken away and retrieved – 28 years apart. P4-6

HOLLYWOOD

A favreau-able verdict.

Page 14

BOLLYWOOD

Akshay vs John
Bharat Kumar vs Mr Bharat.

Page 15
**PRAYER TIME**

- **Fajr**: 3.26am
- **Shoroq (sunrise)**: 4.55am
- **Zuhr (noon)**: 11.40am
- **Aza (afternoon)**: 3.04pm
- **Maghreb (sunset)**: 6.25pm
- **Isha (night)**: 7.55pm

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

- **Emergency**: 999
- **Worldwide Emergency Number**: 112
- **Kahramaa – Electricity and Water**: 991
- **Local Directory**: 180
- **International Calls Enquiries**: 150
- **Hamad International Airport**: 40106666
- **Labor Department**: 44508111, 44406537
- **Mowasalat Taxi**: 44493363
- **Qatar Airways**: 44466405
- **Hamad Medical Corporation**: 44392222, 44393333
- **Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation**: 44845555, 44845464
- **Primary Health Care Corporation**: 44933333
- **Qatar Assistive Technology Centre**: 44593363
- **Qatar News Agency**: 44450205, 44450333
- **Q-Post – General Postal Corporation**: 44464444

**Humanitarian Services Office**

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

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**Quote Unquote**

**Wheresoever you go, go with all your heart.**

- Confucius

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**Community Editor**

Kamran Rehmat

e-mail: community@gulf-times.com

**Telephone**: 44466405

**Fax**: 44350474

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**The Kid**

**DIRECTION**: Vincent D’Onofrio
**CAST**: Chris Pratt, Leila George, Ethan Hawke, Dane DeHaan, Jake Schur

**SYNOPSIS**: A young boy, Rio (Jake Schur), is forced to go on the run across the American Southwest in a desperate attempt to save his sister (Leila George) from his villainous uncle (Chris Pratt). Along the way, he encounters Sheriff Pat Garrett (Ethan Hawke), on the hunt for the infamous outlaw Billy the Kid (Dane DeHaan).

Rio finds himself increasingly entwined in the lives of these two legendary figures as the cat and mouse game of Billy the Kid’s final year of life plays out.

Ultimately Rio is forced to choose which type of man he is going to become, the outlaw or the man of valour, and will use this self-realisation in a final act to save his family.

**THEATRE**: Royal Plaza

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**Kadaram Kondan**

**DIRECTION**: Rajesh M. Selva
**CAST**: Yogi Babu, Vikram, Akshara Haasan

**SYNOPSIS**: Vasu, a young medical practitioner has just moved to Malaysia with his pregnant wife. An unidentified man gets admitted in his hospital after an accident who later identified as KK, one of the most wanted by the Malaysian police on a murder case. Vasu’s wife is kidnapped by a gang with a demand to get KK out of the hospital. Whether Vasu and KK were able to evade the cops and the gang or not is the rest of the movie.

**THEATRES**: The Mall, Landmark

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

The Comedy of Tango
WHERE: Katara Cultural Village
WHEN: August 28
TIME: 8pm – 9pm
With the support of Katara Cultural Village and Embassy of Argentina in Doha Tango Pasión Doha presents Los Guardiola – “The Comedy of Tango” on August 28. A show consisting of seven scenes is inspired by famous tangos. Dancers, mimes and actors, Marcelo Guardiola and Giorgia Marchiori, known artistically as Los Guardiola, will project the audience into the fantastic world of their danced pantomime where comedy and tragedy merge into the rhythm of tango.

Yoga Class
WHERE: Lululemon, Mall Of Qatar
WHEN: Every Saturday
TIME: 8:30am – 9:30am
Join the complimentary in-store yoga classes. No registration or mat is required. The class runs on first come first served basis.

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.

Summer Camp for Special Needs
WHERE: Step by Step Centre for Special Needs
WHEN: Ongoing till 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.

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, 5544835.

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.

Hobby Classes
WHERE: Mamangam Performing Art Centre
WHEN: Saturday – Friday
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.

Arabic Calligraphy Workshop
WHERE: Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 6pm
Arabic Calligraphy workshop is back. Come and learn the artistic practice of Arabic handwriting and calligraphy at Music and Arts Atelier.

The lessons will take place every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday at 6pm. For more information, contact registrations@atelierqatar.com

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 66523871/31326749.
Chester Hollman III, now 49, spent 28 years in prison for a murder he did not commit.

Michaelle Bond and Emilie Lounsberry draw on the moving story of a man wronged by the criminal justice system where key witnesses lied and years later recanted.

that prosecutors and police had hidden evidence that pointed to more viable suspects.

These reviews come amid a national reckoning of flaws for the criminal justice system. It was unleashed by DNA testing advances that have helped prove guilt and innocence but also fuelled by a growing recognition that eyewitness identification is fallible; that suspects sometimes give false confessions; and that some cases are plagued by outright ignorance, incompetence, and even corruption by police and prosecutors.

“We’re seeing this all over the country” said Marissa Boyers Tauber, a longtime appeals lawyer, Alan Tauber, on the case.

Hollman’s case is the eighth murder conviction that the Conviction Integrity Unit has helped to reverse since Krasner took office last year. More are expected.

Hollman was accused of being one of two men in the botched robbery-turned-murder of Tae-Jung Ho, a University of Pennsylvania student, a few blocks from Rittenhouse Square in the early morning hours of August 20, 1991.

Prosecutors contended Hollman struggled with Ho while an unknown accomplice fatally shot the 24-year-old exchange student from South Korea.

Hollman, who had a job and no criminal record, was arrested blocks from the scene driving a white SUV that matched the description of the killer’s getaway vehicle, down to the first three letters of the license plate, YZA. At the trial, two witnesses implicated him: A homeless man who said he saw Hollman at the scene, and a neighbour of Hollman’s who said she had been riding in the SUV with him and others when Hollman and another man got out and she heard a gunshot.

On the advice of his lawyer, Hollman didn’t testify at the 1993 trial. The jury found him guilty of second-degree murder, which in Pennsylvania carries a mandatory life term. The state prison in Luzerne County became his new home.


“She said, ‘Some day, you’re going to be free.’” Hollman’s 76-year-old father, Chester Hollman Jr., recalled. “And we all thought that.”

But in the beginning, “nobody would hear us,” said his sister Deanna, 45.

In 2004, a decade after Hollman’s conviction, Tauber agreed to join his appeal effort. The deeper he probed, the more convinced he grew that Hollman was innocent. But the odds looked bleak.

In 2001, one of the trial witnesses who implicated him — Andre Dawkins, the homeless man — had recanted, saying that he had been addicted to drugs at the time and that police had pressured him to identify Hollman as one of Ho’s assailants. But it wasn’t enough to overturn the verdict.

In prison, Hollman tried to keep busy. He learned to draw and sketched portraits of his family — including his sister’s son, who died of cancer at age 8 while Hollman was inside — and the family members of fellow inmates. He taught himself to play the keyboard. He mentored others; staffers called him a model inmate.

But Hollman also thought about the news accounts that portrayed him as a killer, and about the family of the 24-year-old Penn student who must’ve seen him that way. And he kept losing his appeals.

“You wake up every day thinking, ‘I’m gonna die in here,’” Hollman would later say. “It kills you slowly.”

In 2012, the other key trial witness, Deirdre Jones, also recanted. In tearful testimony in a Center City courtroom, she told Philadelphia Judge Gwendolyn N. Bright that she also had lied about Hollman in the hours after the shooting because of pressure from police to implicate him. Jones told the judge that he had haunted her for two decades.

But the detective on the case, David Baker, denied that Jones had been coerced into signing a statement and testifying. “I don’t think she really thought she was involved until she thought about it,” the now retired detective testified.

Bright didn’t take long to decide. Within hours of hearing the testimony, the judge sided with Baker’s version of events and rejected Hollman’s bid to reopen the case.

For Tauber, the appeals lawyer, the setbacks were “incredibly frustrating.”

Six years passed. Then, in January 2018 — nine months after Hollman’s case was the subject of an extensive Inquirer story on lying by witnesses and police in the court system — Krasner became district attorney. The former defence lawyer had pledged to bring an entirely different culture to an office that had been especially aggressive in prosecuting murder cases and recalcitrant in ceding any ground on appeals. That included new looks at past convictions.

Tauber formally asked for a review of Hollman’s case. Patricia Cummings, whom Krasner had recruited from Texas to head his Conviction Integrity Unit, began her investigation in April 2018. Among her first steps was to get the police file on Ho’s killing, which Tauber had never been able to access and which he thought might have a trove of information to help clear his client.

Within minutes, he found something tantalising: a handwritten note of an anonymous tip that had been called into police the day after the shooting in 1991. The caller said that two unnamed participants in the killing were at a home on North Natrona Street in Strawberry Mansion.

“It was like I was hit with a clap of lightning,” Tauber said.

At that address had lived a woman named Denise Combs, who on the night of Ho’s murder, records showed, also had a rented white SUV with a licence plate that — like the one Hollman was driving — began with the letters YZA.

Combs returned her rental around 4am the day after Ho was killed.

Hollman’s lawyer during the trial knew about the coincidental SUV rental by Combs but didn’t know police had been tipped off about her, a piece of potentially exculpatory evidence that prosecutors were required to share with the defence.

In court papers filed last month, Cummings also noted that Combs had rented a vehicle used by her brother in a fatal shooting the year before Ho’s killing.

Court documents also disclosed that Combs told Pennsylvania Innocence Project investigators in 2018 that she had once gotten rid of a 38-calibre gun — the same kind of weapon used to kill Ho — because it “might have had a body on it.”

Continued to Page 6
Continued from Page 5

The court filings stated that police seemed to have suspected Combs in the Ho murder at the time, because they included her photo in an array they showed witnesses after the killing. And Dawkins, the homeless man police called as an eyewitness, actually identified Combs as the possible getaway driver.

But she has never been charged in the case, and Krasner this week declined to say if his office would consider prosecuting anyone else for Ho's death.

In an interview with The Inquirer at her apartment last Thursday, Combs denied involvement in the killing. She also said she had always wondered how Combs' photo came to be part of the photo array shown to witnesses. The anonymous tip was "a big revelation," she said, proof that police had once considered her a suspect.

In the court filings, Cummings said police had quickly stopped their investigation of Combs "after discovering there was no link to Hollman and Jones." Had they pursued the alternate suspects, she said, Hollman may never have been brought to trial.

Cummings also told Bright in her motion that prosecutors at the time failed to alert the defense before the 2012 appeals hearing that Baker, the detective who took Jones' statement after the murder, was found to have denied a suspect his right to a lawyer. That information could have been used to challenge the detective's credibility on the witness stand.

In sum, she wrote, Hollman's lawyers had proven "numerous constitutional violations" during his prosecution and appeal. Bright made no reference to any of that last Monday, when, after a hearing that lasted just a few minutes, she accepted the prosecutor's motion and ruled that Hollman should immediately be freed.

"I wanted to bring a life out with me," he said. Hollman's release occurred so unexpectedly quickly that he had to leave the 7-month-old puppy behind in Luzerne County. The next day, his sister drove up from Delaware to get her. Now he's looking forward to taking the puppy to the park where he spent his childhood.

At the prison, they called the dog Buttons, but he's renaming her. He's thinking he'll call her Freedom. — The Philadelphia Inquirer / TNS
Doha College Hosts Learning Festival

Doha College, one of the most long-standing international schools in Qatar, is a pioneer in many educational fields. Their latest venture pushing the industry standards was hosting a ‘Learning Festival,’ in which teams of primary teachers presented the results of their action research projects carried out during the year.

Every staff member in Doha College Primary became a teacher-researcher this year, as a means of professional development. Working collaboratively in year groups or departments, they undertook an action research investigation into an area of practice which they felt had scope for growth, or was a ‘stone in a shoe.’

The topics of the teachers’ action research listed exposure to open-ended resources, impact of child-initiated learning, whole-class feedback strategies, use of concrete materials in mathematics, pupil conferencing, parent engagement with flashcards in languages, impact of physical activity on academic attainment, music lessons as planning platforms and many more.

The findings of their research were shared with an audience that comprised the teaching staff of Doha College – primary and secondary – as well as guests from the Ministry of Education, Doha English Speaking School, Swiss International School in Qatar, Newton British School, English Modern School and Doha Academy.

Doha College Principal Dr Steffen Sommer explained the significance of this professional event: “The first ever ‘Learning Festival,’ celebrating the successes of action research, could not have come at a better time – just ahead of the unveiling of the Doha College CPD academy ‘Education Innovation Forum’, which will be launched in September 2019. The ‘Learning Festival’ was an amazing indication of the practice-orientated research that had been undertaken by primary teachers to improve their practice.

The agency of teachers in the field of research, constantly trying to improve their teaching techniques to inspire the students, to improve their learning, to engage them proactively in their learning in order to enhance memorisation techniques and collaboration, as well as the effective use of research material, has been phenomenal. This will be taken another step forward when we announce the ‘Education Innovation Forum’ in September.

Going forward, action research will be an integral part of this forum, and we will invite teachers from other schools to contribute in order to enrich this growing area of teacher agency, not only at Doha College but across British schools and Qatar schools in Doha.”

The “Learning Festival” was the initiative of DC primary teacher Kirsten Burnett, who recently presented at the COBIS “Innovation in Education Conference” that had joined forces with the first ever ResearchED event in the Middle East.

BPS Offers Robotics at Summer Camp

The fun-filled summer camp activities in Birla Public School (BPS) began on June 30. The camp offers robotics which is a great learning experience for the tech-savvy students. Robotics introduces students to engineering and computing through Lego Wedo 2.0 and EV3 Kits. Students work together in teams to solve challenges that integrate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. They not only attain critical thinking and creative skills but also soft skills like teamwork and collaboration during the process.

The course follows a set of challenges from a beginner to intermediate level. Weeks 1 and 2 focus on components of the robot, programming blocks and their features. Week 3 and 4 consists of applying them to modify given models and program them to solve given challenges. The summer camp will end on August 8, 2019 with display of the talents that the students acquired during the camp.

Qatar Social Women Organises Mango Festival

Qatar Social Women (QSW) in association with One India Association (OIA) recently organised Mango Festival at Regency Hall of Doha. QSW is a voluntary group of women helping for the uplift of expatriate women in different fields.

Many vendors from different Asian countries exhibited items like clothing, jewellery, and food etc. The main attraction of the event, however, was mangoes sponsored by Integrated Enterprises. The mango varieties namely, langra, anwar ratol, chaunsa and badami were displayed at the festival.


Local singer Mohamed Maqsood entertained the audience with his melodious performance. RJ Farzana Safdar of Radio 107 FM was the compere of the event. Sheeba Zaneer, Samreen Zafar and Nazia Ziauddin, office-bearers of QSW, thanked all the sponsors and participants for making the event a success. According to organisers, around 8,000 people attended the festival.
Wall built to separate whites, blacks

By Kim Kozłowski

Detroit resident Wight Smith never thought much about the six-foot-high wall that snakes a half-mile through his northwest neighbourhood near Eight Mile. He became aware of it as a middle schooler in the 1950s, when classmates talked about which side they lived on. Later, he visited neighbours whose homes included a stretch of the wall in their backyards.

But it wasn’t until seven years ago – when Smith, 70, started exploring the history of his neighbourhood, known as Garden Homes – that he learned why the wall was built in 1941: To separate black families living in the community from white residents expected to move in.

“I never knew this,” said Smith, president of the 8 Mile Road Old Timers Club. “And you got people today who live more than a block away from the wall, and they don’t ever know why it’s there … I kept hearing so much about Black Bottom and Hastings, the areas in Detroit where they claimed all the blacks migrated to. But I never heard anything about the Garden Homes area. It’s like this place never existed.”

The wall – known by many names, including the Birwood Wall and the Eight Mile Wall – has been getting a lot of attention recently, more than 75 years after it was built.

A Democratic presidential candidate, US Sen. Elizabeth Warren, recently unveiled a campaign proposal with the wall behind her. A Wayne County Community College District professor, Gerald Van Dusen, wrote a book, Detroit’s Birwood Wall: Hatred and Healing in the West Eight Mile Community, published last month.

The Michigan State Historic Preservation Office is working to get the wall on the National Register of Historic Places and put a state historical marker at the site. Meanwhile, the National Park Service last month awarded a $40,000 federal grant to the City of Detroit Historical Designation Advisory Board to document the Great Migration, when millions of African Americans migrated from the rural south to the urban north, and its impact on developing the neighbourhood at Eight Mile and Wyoming.

City officials will conduct an intensive survey of the neighbourhood to document the history of the area where the wall was built. Many African Americans settled there and built homes when other Detroit neighbourhoods became too crowded.

At the time, the neighbourhood was primarily black, but a developer wanted to build a community nearby exclusively for white residents, Van Dusen wrote in his book. But banks were not issuing loans in majority-black neighbourhoods, a practice known as redlining.

The Federal Housing Administration rejected the developer’s plans because the neighbourhood was defined as “hazardous,” according to the book.

“The FHA was reluctant to insure bank loans on such properties because racially mixed areas, the agency reasoned, were likely to stir confrontation, lead to violence and jeopardise the fiscal soundness of the investment,” Van Dusen wrote.

To get a federally backed loan, the developer approached the FHA a second time and proposed building a six-feet high, one-foot thick wall, perpendicular to Eight Mile, with blacks living on the east side and the new “white” neighbourhood to live on the west side. The FHA agreed to the compromise, Van Dusen wrote. It was built just south of Eight Mile to Pembroke Avenue, between Birwood and Mendota streets.

In an interview, Van Dusen said it surprised him and others that the community in the shadow of the wall included residents in what is known today as Royal Oak Township as well as Detroit. It was one square mile of individuals and families who were related by blood and by other relationships and traversed both sides of Eight Mile.

“The Birwood Wall really attempted to block the Detroit east side of the wall and, as a symbol, Royal Oak Township,” he said. “The community was bigger than just a few blocks east of the wall. But it was resilient in the face of the obstacles that were thrown up. The physical wall was just another insult. But it symbolised for them … barriers they had been dealing with all of their lives.”

Janese Chapman, deputy director of Detroit’s Historic Designation Advisory Board, said the Birwood Wall is an important story to tell.

“This wall still stands, and it tells a story,” said Chapman. “It is probably one of the stories that is not told enough in the city of Detroit or nationwide. … The neighbourhood really addresses the struggles and the commitments and the movements of African Americans in the city of Detroit.”

Fred White Jr. grew up in the neighbourhood on Roselawn Street and remembers his parents taking him, his brother and his sister to watch as trucks poured the cement to create the wall.

At the time, White was 9 years old, and he remembers when the area was wooded. His dad hunted there for pheasants, squirrels and rabbits.

His parents explained to him and his siblings why the wall was built, but he didn’t understand the magnitude.

“We didn’t know anything about segregation at that time,”
said White, now 88. “They told us the wall was built to separate the whites from the blacks. ... I didn’t really have any thoughts about it. There weren’t any demonstrations. They built the wall and that was it.”

White later came to have a deeper understanding of the significance of the wall and remembers there were other incidents when blacks were discriminated against in the community. He specifically remembered seeing the Klu Klux Klan burn a cross on Greenlawn Street, one street beyond where he lived.

“Some people don’t believe all of this happened on Eight Mile Road,” White said. “People don’t even know that Detroit was one of the racist cities.”

The Birwood Wall is a product of policies of the Federal Housing Administration that included redlined maps and discrimination against people of colour, said Jeff Horner, a senior lecturer in the Urban Studies and Planning department at Wayne State University.

“We don’t have too many physical manifestations of segregation or separation of races,” Horner said. “There is a lot of that down South. I’m sure civil rights museums have separate drinking fountains and all. But there is not a lot of that in the North. I’m sure that’s why the Birwood Wall captures a lot of people’s imaginations.”

For most of its existence, the wall was gray. Then, about a decade ago, Detroit artist Chazz Miller – along with some volunteers in the neighbourhood painted murals along a stretch of the wall facing the Alfonso Wells Memorial Park.

The wall includes images of civil rights icons, such as Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman. It also includes many colourful houses to symbolise the reason the wall was built: Because “they didn’t want coloured people in the neighbourhood,” Miller said.

“You want to tell the story,” said Miller, founder of the Artist Village Detroit in the Old Redford District. “You don’t want the story to die.”

Teresa Moon, who lives across the street from the wall, is another resident who didn’t understand the significance of the wall until she became a young adult. Growing up, she remembers when kids would walk atop the wall as part of their coming of age.

“The teachers never told us anything about the wall,” Moon said. “They never spoke about it ... I think they should have said something so we could have understood it better.”

She had a faint understanding of segregation between whites and blacks because she never saw white people, except on television or when they were bused to her junior high school. Today, the neighbourhood is still home mostly to African Americans. Even though some of Moon’s neighbours don’t know about the wall and its significance, it is listed online as a travel destination, attracting tourists from around the world. Moon often greets tourists wandering around the wall so she can tell them about the neighbourhood. She has met people from France, Australia, Germany and Italy and also watched as kids from high schools in the metropolitan area show up to learn about the wall as part of their curriculum.

“It used to be kind of funny to me that people came to see the wall as a tourist attraction,” Moon said. “For a while, I didn’t understand it, but I understand now. People want this conversation started. “This conversation is probably long overdue about the unjust, unfair way people are treated because of the colour of their skin.”

– The Detroit News/TN

SEGREATION: Children standing in front of half mile concrete wall, left, in Detroit, Michigan in an old photo. This wall was built in August 1941 to separate black families living in the community from white residents expected to move in.

PAINTED: A view of the houses on Wells Park on Griggs Street in Northwest Detroit with the Birwood Wall is seen in the background.
Making ‘bread’

There are many different kinds of bread, and here is one of the things that makes them so different.

You’ll need:
- Flour
- Dry yeast
- Baking powder
- Three cups
- Flat baking pan
- Oven
- Spoon
- Measuring cup and spoons
- Gloves or pads for handling hot objects
- Adult helper

1. Heat oven to 350° F (175° C)

2. Put 1/2 cup of flour in each cup. Add 1/2 teaspoon of yeast to one cup, 1/2 teaspoon of baking powder to another and nothing to the third cup.

3. Put 2 tablespoons of warm water in each cup; stir each until it becomes sticky dough.

Put the three dough balls on baking pan. Put pan in oven for 30 minutes; remove with gloves and let cool.

Dough with nothing added became hard and dry.

Baking powder dough became a little softer, and yeast dough even more soft.

These are ways of leavening bread – making it more full of air and better to eat.

Source: The Joy of Cooking
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap

Graphic: TNS
Upgrade your gym wardrobe and flow with the trend

To make workout sessions interesting, experts suggest an upgrade of gym wardrobe with certain essentials.

Garima Behl Sapra, AGM-Lotto, and Samresh Das, Design Manager, Numero Uno, have a few suggestions for you.

- Colour-blocked sweatpants: Experiment with your gym leggings by playing with colours, and pair them with bold and solid shades to stand out and create a statement. Enhance your personal style and individuality with the never-ending variety of designs of gym leggings.
- Neon sneakers: True beauty of athleisure wear is that it’s practical and stylish. Neon season is here to stay. Step out of your neutral comfort zone and embrace the bright to stay. Step out of your neutral athleisure wear is that it’s practical gym leggings.
- Mesh panel tank tops & crop tops: Your basic black leggings can become edgy with a streak of mesh down the side. Layer your mesh tank top/crop top or jacket over a sports bra to rock your gym look.
- Camouflaged joggers: You can give a new look to yourself by pairing camo joggers with a plain basic T-shirt.
- Denim joggers: Designed as a loungewear option, jean joggers have now become a gym essential, owing to the comfort they offer. As they come in a stretchable jean fabric that gives an easy flow of movement they can be worn throughout the day, especially when you have plans with your friends right after hitting the gym.
- Head bands: Only a gym goer would know how irritating hair becomes when they keep falling on your forehead, while you are doing cardio. That’s why headbands are a must-have in the gym wardrobe. It not only keeps your hair in place, but also absorbs sweat. This functional gear comes in varied patterns and colours that look chic and trendy at the same time.

Upgrade your gym wardrobe with certain essentials.

TAURUS April 20 – May 20
You might experience a great deal of emotional confusion, Taurus. There’s a debate brewing inside you, and you’re having a hard time deciding whether to be practical or more fanciful. Looking to others for help may only add to the problem, so take other people’s advice with a grain of salt. If nothing seems clear, wait out the storm and reassess the wisdom of your direction.

GEMINI May 21 – June 20
It will be a challenge to keep your emotions on an even keel today, Gemini. Conflict may be brewing and you might find it could get out of hand. Everything will work out. Don’t add to the pressure. The best solution is to escape into reverie and come back to Earth when the storm has passed. Don’t try to untangle the knots if they won’t give.

SCORPIO October 23 – November 21
Your artistic side wants to take to the airwaves in some way. Scorpio. Perhaps you should consider building a website or becoming a commentator on a local radio show. Your dreams need a vehicle in order to reach their audience. Find the means. You have the ability to inspire a many people. Take this ability seriously and make use of your creative talents.

SAGITTARIUS November 22 – December 21
It may be apparent that what was so light and active yesterday is running into a few roadblocks today. Sagittarius. You’re suddenly heading into a brick wall with some of the projects you’ve been working on. Suddenly there’s a more reserved tone to things and you may lose precious momentum. Use this time to back off and reassess the wisdom of your direction.

CAPRICORN December 22 – January 19
The pace of things is likely to slow compared to what it was yesterday, Capricorn. This is probably best. Take this time to plan and stabilise. You’ve ploughed, sown, and reaped the fields. Now stop and assess what you’ve produced and decide what to do with it. Take things one step at a time and don’t get ahead of yourself. Be patient and things will naturally come your way.

AQUARIUS January 20 – February 18
There may be dreaminess about your emotions today, Aquarius. This conflict could create tension that will be difficult to resolve. Your emotions may deceive you, so try not to get pulled off course by a passing whim. Try to keep your feelings grounded.

PISCES February 19 – March 20
Little voices whisper in your ear and ask you to take flight and join them in the clouds. Pisces. There’s tension between what your heart and mind tell you. They’re pulling you in very different directions. Don’t be surprised if today’s energy leaves you confused by sunset. Don’t stress about making hard decisions or commitments.
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.

Accord  Splice  Dovetail  Coalesce  Bind  Unite  Harmonize  Concur  Cleave  Adhere  Stick  Fuse  Cohere  Blend  Wed  Join  Conform  Marry  Agree  Twine  Coincide  Cement

Codeword

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 each of the digits 1 through 9 exactly once.

Bound And Gagged

Garfield

It’s too bad that cute isn’t contagious

Why would you say that...

Hi!

What’s in the box? I don’t know!

I think I ordered some stuff last week after many cups of Doc’s nuclear coffee.

It could literally be anything.

You blacked out on coffee?

It was more like a power surge, but I don’t think there’s any permanent damage.

A Doc’s nose is a thousand times more powerful than a human’s.

Oh, really? Well I remain doubtful of your ability to track Carmen’s missing cat by smell. I think you’re playing her to get free treats!

Is that so?

Sniff.

Anti-fungal cream, and not your regular brand, either.

You might have exposed that out from snooping in my medicine cabinet.

Dovetail

Unite

Cleave

Fuse

Wed

Marry

Splice

Bind

Concur

Stick

Blend

Twine

Conform

Concile

Cement

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Pooch Cafe

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Codeword

Sudoku

Bound And Gagged

Garfield

Pooch Cafe

Wordsearch

Sudoku
Super Cryptic Clues

Across
1 Veg giving little brother dreadful colic (8)
6 Commanding officer’s lettuce (3)
9 Say it’s complete (5)
10 Storm caused by trial involving English politician (7)
11 Gourmet putting dog in eastern dish (7)
12 Trade turnover assessed (5)
13 Make youngster’s first drink (6)
15 Faulty service by prince can be deadly (6)
19 Material needed by witness at inquest (5)
21 Without weapons, like Venus de Milo? (7)
22 A lassie turned out to have other names (7)
24 Remote control easily starts funny show (5)
25 Christopher’s equipment (3)
26 Nigel and Ray trained a young racehorse (8)

Down
2 Greek wine - some clarets in Athens? (7)
3 Popular holiday destination caught four out (5)
4 Not in place for commencement (5)
5 Some slimmers eat duck (7)
6 A hundred take it easy on the ridge (5)
7 Saturday edition fully filled (5)
8 Splendid, splendid bishop (6)
14 Powerful family, extremely dirty and disgusting (7)
16 Old poet, French one, hit in baseball stadium (4,3)
17 Book shelf’s right underneath (6)
18 One with no time to spare, we may hear, in the country (6)
19 Loose bit of lettuce put in bag (5)
20 Unforeseen development for Oliver? (5)
22 Allowed to ignore starter? That’s terrible! (5)

Today’s Solutions

Wordsearch

Codeword
Heading into this week’s opening of his photorealistic CGI remake of The Lion King, you might assume that director Jon Favreau would be coasting on a wave of pure “hakuna matata.” After all, if you’re following in the footsteps of one of the most successful and beloved films of the past quarter century, animated or otherwise, what could there really be to worry about?

The morning after the film’s world premiere in Los Angeles this month, Favreau admitted that, to some degree, he felt like he was stepping into the pop culture lion’s den. “Everybody has an opinion about The Lion King,” he said. “They grew up with it. They could like The Lion King and not like our Lion King. There’s a lot of potential outcomes here.”

With projections of a domestic opening weekend haul of upward of $170 million, it’s a safe bet that, despite mixed reviews, The Lion King will easily dominate the box office competition much as the original film did 25 years ago. Still, when you’re working with one of the most valuable crown jewels of the Disney empire, the stakes are dizzyingly high.

No one knows that better than the 52-year-old Favreau, who, over the past decade, has become an integral player in nearly every arm of Disney’s film empire, an empire whose dominance over the studio landscape The Lion King is expected to extend.

As the director of 2008’s smash Iron Man (released by Paramount), Favreau helped set the table for the Marvel Cinematic Universe, going on to direct 2010’s Iron Man 2, executive produce The Avengers films and act in seven Marvel superhero films as Harold “Happy” Hogan, including the Sony/Marvel collaboration Spider-Man: Far From Home. Having directed 2016’s critical and commercial hit The Jungle Book, he is bringing that film’s Oscar-winning visual effects to The Lion King. And he has created an original Star Wars TV series, The Mandalorian, that will debut in November with the launch of Disney’s streaming service, Disney+.

“I don’t think it’s a surprise to find Jon at the helm of many of the most important stories being told inside Disney,” Lucasfilm President Kathleen Kennedy, who has known Favreau since he broke out as the writer and star of the 1996 indie hit Swingers, told The Times via e-mail.

“Walt Disney was quoted as saying, ‘It’s kind of fun to do the impossible,’ and I think that perfectly describes Jon. ... When I took over Lucasfilm, he was one of the first people I approached, because Jon likes to have fun attempting the impossible.”

The Lion King star Donald Glover, who voices Simba — the young lion who must challenge his villainous uncle, Scar (Chiwetel Ejiofor), for the throne after the death of his father, Mufasa (a returning James Earl Jones) — says that is precisely what Favreau has done in marrying cutting-edge digital tools to the film’s timeless mythic story. “Jon did something kind of incredible that I feel is good for our cultural environment,” Glover said.

“He was able to bring some of the best parts of the past forward, which is what The Lion King is about at the very end. It’s about learning from your elders and, when they leave, taking the good parts and refining them and making them even better and sharper so that your family can do the same. ... I think in the future people will look back and be like, ‘Oh, that was really important!’”

Writing Swingers

For Favreau, becoming a creative force within Disney has been one unexpected twist among many in an unlikely career that has taken him from shambling indie-comedy stalwart to blockbuster director.

For Favreau, becoming a creative force within Disney has been one unexpected twist among many in an unlikely career that has taken him from shambling indie-comedy stalwart to blockbuster director.

“Jon’s idea to do The Mandalorian was fully formed the minute we sat down to begin our conversation,” Kennedy said.

“What I loved about that first meeting was that we didn’t spend any time discussing possibilities. We dove right into talking about how we were going to make it, what new technology we could develop around his ideas and what new talent we could bring with us to try and achieve something fresh, new and unique. I loved his enthusiasm and his fearlessness.”

— Los Angeles Times/TNS
'Asthmatic' Priyanka enjoys a smoke on yacht

Actress Priyanka Chopra, who had earlier opened up about suffering from asthma, was seen enjoying a smoke on a yacht with her family.

In a photograph doing the rounds on social media, Priyanka is seen smoking a cigarette, while her mother Madhu Chopra and her pop-singer husband Nick Jonas are seen enjoying a cigar on a yacht ride.

Social media users took no time to troll Priyanka, who last year had shared an ad campaign where she was seen talking about how asthma did not stop her from achieving the highs in her career. The actress, who had supported an anti-pollution campaign during Diwali, was also called out for enjoying fireworks during her wedding in December last year.

One user tweeted: "So sweet - Priyanka Chopra trying to cure the asthma she developed on Diwali!"

"Dear Indians please don’t burst crackers for Diwali since Priyanka Chopra has Asthma," another wrote.

One person questioned on Twitter: "Why is Priyanka Chopra encouraging smoking? Present generation needs role models like you?" — IANS

SRK thanks co-stars for making him, son Aryan sound good

Superstar Shah Rukh Khan, overwhelmed by the response he received for the Hindi version of Disney’s The Lion King, has thanked his co-actors for making him and son Aryan sound good in the live action film.

"Happy to hear that so many are enjoying The Lion King. A special thanks to my co-actors and friends for bringing this film to life in Hindi. Sanjai Mishra, Shreyas Talpade and the amazing Ashish Vidyarthi and Asrani sahab. Thanks for making me and Aryan sound good," Shah Rukh tweeted on Sunday. The Lion King made Rs13.17 crore business on its opening day in India. It opened across 2,140 screens on July 19 in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

The film is directed by Jon Favreau’s retelling of the 1994 Disney classic of the same name, with photo-realistic, computer-generated animation, and it brings back the amazing Ashish Vidyarthi and Asrani sahab. Thanks for making me and Aryan sound good," Shah Rukh tweeted on Sunday. The Lion King made Rs13.17 crore business on its opening day in India. It opened across 2,140 screens on July 19 in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

"SRK has lent his voice to Mufasa in the film to life in Hindi. Sanjai Mishra, Shreyas Talpade and the amazing Ashish Vidyarthi and Asrani sahab. Thanks for making me and Aryan sound good," Shah Rukh tweeted on Sunday. The Lion King made Rs13.17 crore business on its opening day in India. It opened across 2,140 screens on July 19 in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

The face-off between the two actors is not just about Independence Day box-office supremacy. The last man standing also gets to keep the sobriquet of Bollywood’s new age — ‘Mr Bharat’ — which Manoj Kumar enjoyed back in the day for his steady stream of films that crafted melodrama out of heavy doses of patriotism and nationalism.

Akshay was the smart first mover, in this context. When Rustom raked in over Rs120 crores domestically upon release in the Independence Day weekend of 2016, and went on to win him a National Award as Best Actor, the superstar realised that the box-office value of a film celebrating ‘deskhhbakti’ (patriotism) invariably multiplies if it is released on a date that celebrates India itself.

Most of Akshay’s recent films, soared in the Tricolour hue, have therefore settled for either January 26 or August 15 as release dates. Having scored with hits such as Kesari, Gold, Pad Man, Toilet: Ek Prem Katha, Rustom, Airlift and Baby, Akshay was well on his way to wresting the tag of Bollywood’s resident master of pop patriotism.

Except, John Abraham had other plans.

For John, it all started perhaps by chance, when his cerebral political thriller Madras Cafe, directed by Shoojit Sircar, became a multiplex sensation upon releasing a week after the Independence Day of 2013. The actor who, at that point, was looking to shed the image of Bollywood beeboke, found relief in the patriotism genre.

The socio-cultural milieu of the nation was also changing around this time, with a newfound love for one’s country pervading across society. Backing projects that celebrated the Tricolour spirit could only spell a win-win situation for John. All four John’s releases over 2018 and 2019 have belonged to the patriotism genre. Parmanu: The Story Of Pokhran, Satyamev Jayate, Romeo Akbar Walter and the upcoming Batla House are all films that garnered lucrative returns casting John as the ultimate patriot.

There is, however, a difference in the flavour of on-screen ‘deskhhbakti’ that these two actors project. Akshay’s superlative, since his Khiladi days, has mostly banked on projecting a good-natured go-goer. He has successfully rolled that quality into his patriotic roles as well.

So, if Akshay’s protagonist Bhaichand Patel in Kesari is not afraid to lay down his life in the battle of Saragarhi, the affable Tapan Das of Gold is ready to spend even the last paisa from his pocket for the betterment of the Indian hockey team, which would go on to win the gold medal at the Olympics in 1948. He was the billionaire who selflessly rescued countless Indians from war-torn Kuwait of 1990 in Airlift, and he was the Navy Commander who would put at stake even personal happiness to protect the nation’s official secrets.

In Pad Man and Toilet: Ek Prem Katha, he shifted focus to rural development, through issues of hygiene and cleanliness, and in Baby, the actor was seen heading a near-impossible mission to bring a top terrorist to book.

All these roles comprise a seamless build-up to Mission Mangal, where Akshay plays the mission director who fights against all odds to make ISRO’s Mars Orbital Mission happen. Each of the actor’s roles has seen him address subjects that redefine what the archetypal Bollywood messiah’s responsibility towards society must be. Interestingly, however, each of these roles have had a larger-than-life hangover, Akshay’s brand of patriotism is tailor-made to let him retain his appeal as a mass superstar first and foremost.

John Abraham, on the other hand, has looked at shades of grey, perhaps aware that he could never match Akshay’s way among the larger audience.

John’s films boasting pop patriotism cater primarily to the urban market. His heroes dwell in domains that are more sleek than Akshay’s. It is the hush-hush world of spies (Romeo Akbar Walter), and the classified realm of nuclear testing (Parmanu: The Story Of Pokhran). It is a world where Bollywood’s eternal favourite theme of cop corruption gets a new-age twist in violence and character development (Satyamev Jayate and the upcoming Batla House).

It is a fascinating battle for Bollywood’s crown of patriotism, between Akshay’s earthy Bharat Kumar and John’s dapper Mr Bharat. The desi box-office, of course, looks big enough for both to survive and thrive. — IANS
Healing wheels: Thai couple turns to trolleys to help the less able

For many disabled people in Thailand, even a basic necessity such as a wheelchair is out of their price range. Now, one couple has an idea to get them moving, and it’s catching on, writes Hathai Techakitteranun.

Little children are often happy to be carted around in shopping trolleys together with their parents’ groceries. Some adults, looking to lighten up a trip to the supermarket, might even enjoy coasting along the aisles on them when no one is watching. But few would see shopping trolleys as a serious way of getting around.

Thai designer Apichai Inthutsingh and his girlfriend Atisanun Uengwiriyasakun are different: They saw much more potential in the everyday items, turning them into basic wheelchairs. Their non-profit charity gives modified trolleys away for free to disabled people and others in need who cannot afford to buy a proper wheelchair.

“A few years ago, my company was working with a supermarket. When I saw the shopping carts, I got an idea about turning them into wheelchairs,” said 44-year-old Apichai.

“At that time, I didn’t know yet what my idea could do. But half a year later, I went on a meditation retreat. Then, it occurred to me that many disabled people are poor and in need of wheelchairs,” he added.

There are about 2 million people with disabilities in Thailand, according to the Thai Health Promotion Foundation. Over 40 percent of them have no job to support themselves.

A basic wheelchair, like the ones provided in Thai hospitals, costs at least 2,000 baht (65 dollars), but better models range from 12,000-55,000 baht.

Apichai started with his idea by buying two second-hand trolleys for 1,200 baht (39 dollars) each and modifying them, which mainly involved cutting and welding. The sides are bent and shaped into arm rests with cushions and a brake attached.

“I didn’t know what to do at first. It was trial and error. But in two weeks, we finished them and posted the photo on our company’s Facebook page,” said Apichai, who co-founded an advertising agency with his girlfriend, which promoted the couple’s separate wheelchair project in a post on Facebook.

The online reaction to the prototype was unexpectedly positive, with 3 million views recorded in just a few days.

“Then requests from people in need started to pour in, and I decided to join the project,” said 35-year-old Atisanun.

For the past two years, the couple has received up to 30 requests per month from the relatives of bedridden patients, sick elderly people and children with special needs.

They have made almost 200 wheelchairs from used shopping carts. At first, they bought them. Then, when the project became better known, they got the trolleys for free from businesses and other people wishing to contribute.

The help does not only come in the form of material donations. Many have also expressed an interest in helping the couple to make the wheelchairs. About once every two months, a date is set with a group of volunteers to make a few dozen wheelchairs in Bangkok. “Whenever I go out delivering the wheelchairs, I am more motivated to keep doing it. The look on their faces is everything,” said Atisanun.

“They look like children who got new toys. For me, it is just a wheelchair. For them, it’s like gold. I remember one time a man cried after getting our wheelchair because he no longer had to carry his father on foot for two kilometres to a hospital,” she added.

But the charity project is not without criticism. Some social media users have pointed out that the couple lack the sufficient medical knowledge to design something more suitable to patients’ needs and the fact that the wheelchair cannot be self-propelled.

“Our wheelchairs are aimed at those with caretakers who can push them from behind. But of course, we welcome constructive criticism and are looking into ways to improve the wheelchairs,” said Atisanun, adding that a collaboration has been set up with an engineering professor to come up with better designs.

“As long as there are people in need, and materials to make the wheelchairs, we’ll keep making them,” said Apichai. – DPA