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BAHRAIN.OURS.YOURS.

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TASTE OF BAHRA **GOURMET REPORT**

GDN*life*



AHRAINI chef Suman Ali Sayed is building cultural bridges between Canada and the Middle East by partaking in the **Canadian Artistic Food** Expo 2022 and hopes to inspire more women to get whisked into the field of gastronomy.

The 29-year-old, known as 'The 86 Kitchen' on Instagram and YouTube, joined culinary greats such as Food Network celebrity Chef Massimo Capra in the City of Belleville in Ontario to showcase their skills, share their wisdom and discuss the different ways to join the industry....which she says is still heavily male-dominated. "The goal is to

aspire more

I would love to encourage more female chefs to never give up. It is a competitive industry but we can do it!

women to enter the culinary industry," said Suman, who currently lives in Toronto and is the director of quality assurance at Reef Kitchens, which is one of the world's largest Cloud kitchen companies. "I come from a very

humble background. My parents migrated to Bahrain in the 70s and worked hard to



"We lived in Riffa. My father was in a labourintensive government job and my mother was a full-time teacher and earned extra income by conducting tuition classes, sewing clothes, preparing meals and even doing bridal henna. "As years passed, my older

siblings and I established ourselves a blessed life. However, it is important for us to respect and honour our roots and the hard work that our parents put in for us. Their

journey inspires me to continue putting my best foot forward.

"I have learned from them to not give up on your dreams, to hone your talent and when you are in a place of power, to give back to your community and your people. "It is crucial to aspire, to uplift and to influence others positively. I would love to encourage more female chefs to never give up. It is a competitive industry, but we can do it!"

She was invited by the organisers Saffron Hub - a DELICACY: Arctic char similar to a grilled zubaidi

national Canadian notfor-profit organisation established to celebrate and promote women food entrepreneurs throughout Canada - to participate in the food expo which focuses on cultural speciality food, food equipment and technology and food demos. The event, held on August

6, was inaugurated and attended by the Belleville



MOVERS AND SHAKERS Leadership programme **SEE PAGE 3**

INSPIRING:

Chef Suman

City Mayor Mitch

Pancuik and other

of Parliament.

will be held

virtually on

August 20.

as part of

who are game-

changers in the

industry," said Suman.

"Part of the organisation

is focused on collaboration

outreach with the Middle

East region and I was appointed the spokesperson

and ambassador for the Middle East-Canada

"It was also an amazing

opportunity to cultivate

ingredients and cultural

• See Page 2 for details

on dishes and her culinary

and educate expo visitors about our beautiful island

- Bahrain, and its special

Outreach Path.

cuisine."

journey.

the Impactful

Culinary Leaders

Canadian members

The second expo

"I was invited



Debut single SEE PAGE 4



DESIGNER TALK Seeking sustainability SEE PAGE 5



GOING ON TOP Formula E champs SEE PAGE 7



COLOURFUL: Smoked baharat

trout and summer veggies

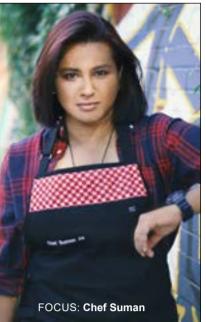
Artisan Vegan Chocolate



LocalNews

Savour Bahrain flavour





Maitake mushrooms

and dukkah

GOURMET REPORT By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE

AHRAIN'S flavours won hearts at the **Canadian Artistic Food** Expo 2022 as Bahraini **Chef Suman Ali Sayed** dished out an array of delicacies featuring ingredients that are an integral part of the island's cuisine.

The gastronomic event, which featured a variety of leaders in the industry, also included food demonstrations allowing the 29-year-old to shine a light on the kingdom, its traditional fare and how it can be incorporated in modern day cooking.

"The idea is to use regional and sustainable ingredients regardless of where you are," said Suman who has worked in luxury brand hotels and fine dining restaurants in Bahrain, the UAE, Jordan, Chile and Canada.

"I aim to continue advocating Bahraini flavours while also using local Canadian ingredients.

"It's my mission to put Bahraini cuisine on the world map and tell the tale that Middle Eastern food is more than just falafels and shawarma.

"We have an amazing food scene in Bahrain; the yearsold influence on our cuisine



TRIO: From left, TV personality Chef Luciano Shipano with Chef Suman and Food Network celebrity Chef Massimo Capra

spoke about black lime, (stews) and rice dishes.

"I talked about the aromatic profile of loomi and how it is a common kitchen ingredient in Bahraini households," she said. "I utilised the ground version of it to tenderise deer meat kebab that I cooked up at the expo.

"I also spoke about saffron and cardamom - how it was initially available on the island in the olden days through porting routes and how heavy migration and South Asian diaspora influence on Bahraini cuisine is remarkable on our palates.

simple version of harees (which is beaten and emulsified meat and wheat) but also the spicy version with tempering of spices." At the expo,

It's my mission to put Bahraini cuisine on the world map and

she showcased her deer meat seekh kebab on pear wood tree stick, saffron infused carrot puree, pumpkin and carrot succotash, green schug or fil - fil (which is a spicy Middle Eastern green sauce) and Ontario edible

Summer salad

flowers. "Nothing will stop me from sharing my passion and putting Bahraini food culture on the global culinary map," she added.



After four years of not being able to visit the kingdom, Chef Suman finally spent time with her family in Bahrain during the last days of Ramadan, which added to her culinary experience.

"The purpose of my visit was to spend quality time with my parents and my niece and nephews," she said.

"I went around eating and vlogging all my favourite dining spots too. I also went on my first drive across the border to Saudi Arabia for a day trip and felt super liberated! Saudi women have such a promising future ahead.

The visit also gave her a chance to work on her future project geared towards Bahrain.

"There is an exciting Canadian-Bahraini project that I am working on for Bahrain that goes hand in hand with a tourism frame of mind," she said.

"The work is in process and I am in the final steps of the logistics of it and inshallah there'll be announcements regarding this.

"I am also working on my first cook book with a whimsical approach and would like it to be published by someone in Bahrain as I would like to encourage and establish a more 'Made in Bahrain' approach."

Meanwhile in Canada, Chef Suman has been invited to participate in the first National Halal Ribfest from August 26 to 28 in Toronto. She will also be judging a halal rib competition.

"Ribfests are massive events," she said. "And for the first time, it is going to be halal with government support, halal vendors and so on. I'll be taking the podium for the opening ceremony as a speaker talking about halal food from a perspective of the culinary and hospitality industry in the West.

"This is a proud moment!" For details, follow @saffron_hubofficial and @the86kitchen on Instagram.





TASTY PLATE: A close up of Suman's deer meat seekh kebab dish

offering is a melting pot of different cultures. We must embrace this and that's what

known in Bahrain as loomi, which she says is significant in the kingdom's saloonas

"Growing up, one would have not only tasted the

tell the tale that **Middle Eastern** food is more than just falafels and shawarma.

LocalNews

By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE

group of social media influencers from Bahrain were taken on a cultural exchange programme to the US to gain insight on building up their businesses, forging friendships and learning about American hospitality.

The US Embassy Bahrain had selected Dana Zubari, Mahmood Janahi, Manal Talal, Areej Matooq and Ali Fareed to participate in the International Visitor Leadership Programme (IVLP).

IVLP was launched in 1940 to help strengthen US' engagement with countries around the world. It also aims to cultivate lasting relationships by connecting current and emerging foreign leaders with their American counterparts through shortterm visits to the US.

The programme began in Bahrain in 1973 and since then, 680 Bahrainis have visited the US to take part in it.

"The US Embassy in Manama, like US embassies around the world, invites current and emerging leaders to the United States through the International Visitor Leadership Programme," said Linda McMullen, the embassy's public affairs officer.

"The IVLP is the Department of State's premier professional exchange, giving leaders a chance to engage in professional meetings with their US counterparts, and to cultivate lasting relationships. The programme spans a wide variety of fields, including, but not limited to, journalism, education, law, health, economics, business, technology and the environment."

Dana, a Tru Active fitness attire co-founder, Ironman finisher and triathlete, who calls herself an 'accidental influencer', was thrilled to be a part of this experience where she and her fellow affiliates visited Washington DC. Manchester. New Hampshire and Atlanta, Georgia to meet and interact with digital agencies and





HISTORIC: Manal, Dana, Mahmood, Ali and Areej in front of the roll of honour in New Hampshire State House

government entities.

"The cultural exchange programme was an eyeopener in terms of what different digital marketing agencies do," said Dana from Saar.

"The US Department of State hired Roy Abdo, the chief executive officer of Digital Revamp, to provide us with extremely helpful information on how to market ourselves as social media influencers as well as outlined tools we need to better sell our products.

"We had meetings with other government agencies such as New Hampshire Tourism and we were informed about the methods they use to attract more tourists to their state. Atlanta Airport officials highlighted

ways to capitalise on being one of the busiest airports in the United States.

"Washington DC is such a colourful state seeped in history and you really feel it while walking around on Capitol Hill with all the monuments surrounding you! New Hampshire really showed the members of the IVLP true American hospitality and, needless to say, Atlanta had the best Southern comfort food one could ask for.

"I will be implementing what I've learned, but most of all, I am grateful for forging good friendships with my social media peers and meeting different people during my journey. I am interested in pursuing more of these programmes in the



ONE WITH NATURE: At the Spring Ledge Farm

future for entrepreneurial

exchange." Speciality baker and selftaught chef Mahmood Janahi also said he had a good time. "We got to experience American culture and how social media is being used in the companies and organisations we visited," said Mahmood, a human resource director in a leading logistics company who lives in Arad. "It was more like an exchange, sharing what we do and what they currently use in terms of social media.

I've implemented what I

we visited."

learned from the businesses

Food and lifestyle influencer Ali Fareed found the IVLP interesting when it came to meeting with peers in the industry.

"We got to learn about the best practices used in that region as well as the challenges they face when it comes to reaching a target audience," said the management information systems reporting assistant manager from Amwaj Islands.

"I'd have to say the best part of the programme was the people. It's always fascinating to meet, exchange ideas and get perspective into their culture. This programme was focused on social media and its best practices so I'll surely be taking those lessons into what I do in the future." Now that they are back, they will be slotted in with the alumni IVLP members group that can connect with other Bahraini and non-Bahraini international visitors who have completed similar programmes. For details, follow

@usembassybahrain, @Mahmoodjanahi_, @manaltalal91. @areejinkitchen, @ali_fareed and @danazubari on Instagram. **LocalNews**







THE CLUB: Debbi and Sean

ELODIC maestros Debbi Francisco and Sean Fernandes have come together to form an alternative-pop-style band called Juniper's Club.

The band recently debuted their first threeminute single called 'Juno Sunshine Hour', based on a made-up character named 'Juniper', who they also refer to as 'Juno'.

"This band is in the perspective of Juno," said Debbi, a 24-year-old Filipino who is a music instructor and a University of Bahrain architecture-

JUNIPER'S CLUB

JUNO SUNSHINE HOUR

MUSIC REPORT

graduating student from Mahooz.

"That's why we're called Juniper's Club; it's like a club in Juniper's mind that's rooting for her. We aim to take this project like a life journey for Juniper - writing songs about her life and different stages of it as she grows up and gets older. "In essence, this song is

about the early stages fresh, the other person the person, regardless of their feelings being According to Sean, instructor and has a

Bachelor's in business and administration, the music they create involves a lot of self-actualisation and in a nutshell, is 'alternativepop hinting a bright-eyed dreamier side of things'. "Our influences for this band are artists like Tame

Impala, The Marias, Japanese Breakfast, L'imperatrice and so on," said the 28-year-old Indian from Adliya. "It's easy to make music with Debbi because we enjoy similar styles. We really wanted to make music that combines our favourite elements."

According to Debbi, it's a type of genre of music that they always thought had many listeners in Bahrain but only a handful of artists who make this type of music.

"That's why we're glad that new artists like Mission to the Moon and Buzzcut Babe

are emerging in Bahrain and making music of a similar genre," she added. The duo is delighted that

their song, which took around three weeks to finish writing, producing, mixing, and mastering, is already on different streaming platforms including Spotify, Anghami, Apple Music, and Youtube.

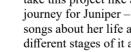
They are working on a few more songs and are thankful to their friends for the support.

"Even when this project was still a concept, my

We aim to take this project like a life journey for Juniper – writing songs about her life and different stages of it as she grows up and gets older.







of a relationship in which Juno is in love with someone who may or may not be feeling the same way yet. Because the relationship is so may still be unsure. Nevertheless, Juno is still happy to be with reciprocated or not." who also works with Debbi as a music

Weekly





friends supported us," said Debbi who is a drummer, bassist and guitarist. Sean, who is also a guitarist and bassist and plays the keyboard, is keen to do more.

"We want to connect with people through our music and because this project will be creating more songs that talk about Juniper's stages in life, I think a lot of people will relate to it," he added.

For details, follow @Junipersclub.music on Instagram.



REATIVES, makers and artists from across the kingdom are being invited to be part of a curated design showcase focused on sustainability.

The showcase, hosted by Al Riwaq Art Space, will focus on a variety of approaches to sustainable design and provide a platform for local designers to develop and highlight their work.

"The ideal candidate would be someone who is looking to expand their network, hold discussions about their design practice and factor in the importance of sustainability in design," Al Riwaq director Bayan Al Barrak told *GulfWeekly*.

"Our main focus is to promote conversations around sustainability both in maintenance of a design practice and the production of work. The design showcase is open to people of all design backgrounds, skillsets and stages of production."

Sustainable design seeks to reduce negative impacts on the environment, and the health and comfort of building occupants, thereby improving building performance.

The basic objectives of sustainability are to reduce consumption of non-renewable resources, minimise waste, and create healthy, productive environments.

The showcase will be led by local jewellery designer Nasim Javid and sessions leading up to the final event will include talks, workshops, and meetings for designers.

According to Bayan, the sessions will be an incubation space for local designers that will help build a community and support system.

The programme is free to participants, with one of the goals being the is to promote conversations around sustainability, both in maintenance of a design practice and the production of work.





formation of a directory of local makers and industries, while encouraging them to commercialise their work.

"The layout of the showcase will become more defined as the group of designers who are selected come together to share their ideas, their works will be in conversation with one another and with our space," Bayan added.

"The showcase will be an opportunity for the designers to commercialise their work and test products in the local market."

Al Riwaq is hoping to get approximately 10 designers in the programme and applications are open until



August 31 through the art space's Instagram account. The showcase is the latest in a series of programmes to develop local artists. The inhouse residency programme, Application 001, has restarted again, with a focus on Bahraini artists during this iteration.

"The resident artists will be provided with individual studio space, communal areas for discussion and opportunities to explore alternative forms of production," Bayan explained.

"The current resident artists are undertaking the fifth edition of the NEXUS course alongside a program of mentorship and production for the duration of three months."

Ali Hussain, Hisham Sharif, Ishaq Madan, Mariam Al Doseri, and Shaikha Al Salman have been selected for this round of the residency.

The NEXUS course targets creatives to provide a platform for developing their practice and will address the issue of 'Reading, Unpacking, and Rewriting Global Art Histories.'

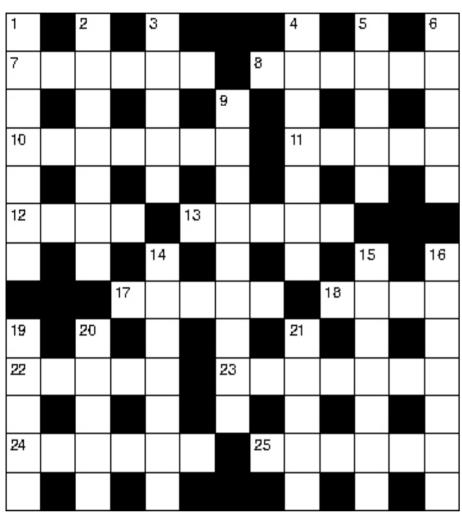
It will include a broad survey of global currents in the arts throughout the 20th century and into the present day.

"Application 001 follows the concept of residencies worldwide but is unique within the context of Bahrain in that the mentorship program allows for greater discussion and interaction amongst the artists, sharing and critiquing ideas," Bayan added.

For more details, follow @alriwaq on Instagram.

Time O

crossword break



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WHERE ... in Europe are the provinces of Etelä-Suomen Lääni, Itä-Suomen Lääni and Länsi-Suomen Lääni?

WHEN ... did James Callaghan become Great Britain's Prime Minister?

144 11 SEN5ES

Solutions in next week's issue.

darn tough sudoku

So you think you're good enough at Sudoku to crack this baby? Remember, we were the first in the Gulf to bring you this bit of Japanese mayhem...so we don't kid around

Darn Tough Sudoku

Last week's sudoku

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darn tough sudoku

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Last Week's **Leisure Solutions**

CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 Inapt; 4 Stumble; 8 Dreamer; 9 Sight; 10 Fate; 11 Aversion; 13 Cant; 14 Care; 16 Generate; 17 Edge; 20 Brain; 21 Overdue; 22 Extreme; 23 Press.

Down: 1 Indefatigable;

2 Adept; 3 Tame; 4 Strive;

5 Upstream; 6 Beguile;

7 Extensiveness; 12 Entrance; 13 Contact; 15 Stroke; 18 Dodge;

19 Weep. JUST SO: More or less, Ninety degrees, Not half, Not in my backyard.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN: Barry Geraghty; Nunavut; Letchworth; 1837; Fernando Alonso; 32,270; Norway; 1868.

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Your work pad space

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MotoringWeekly

The top motoring and motorsport news

Twin joy for Vandvoorne

RACE REPORT By NAMAN ARORA naman@gdnmedia.bh

NE of the world's top motorsport teams left Formula E at the top of the game, with a double title at the World Championship, which concluded in Korea recently.

The Mercedes-EQ Formula E team and their star driver Stoffel Vandvoorne defended their title as the top team and driver world champions after a breath-taking race weekend in Seoul.

"Wow, I'm speechless," added Vandvoorne as he took home the second-place finish during the final race of the weekend.

"It's an incredible feeling when you think about what we've achieved together this year. The car was superb again today, and everyone in the team deserves this success.

"We have accomplished something very special together. As a team, we have achieved a level of consistency that has never been seen before in Formula E. I am incredibly proud of my team and our performance this season.

"It's the perfect way to end the GLC season, to be on the podium in the last race of the season, the 100th E-Prix in the history of the series, and to win both World Championship titles."

Vandvoorne set the secondfastest time in qualifying group A to reach the Duels stage. He then advanced to the semi-finals, where he narrowly lost out to Edoardo Mortara.

He went on to start the final race of the season in Seoul from fourth place, holding his position at the start and then moved up into the podium group in the second half of the race. He crossed the finish line in second



place, behind Mortara. With 213 points, Vandvoorne rounded off his fourth season in the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship with a 33point lead over Mitch Evans' 180 points, becoming World Champion for the first time in his career.



GLORY: Vandvoorne celebrates on the podium

Vandvoorne's team mate Nick de Vries was forced to retire after a collision and ended the season in ninth place with 106 points. "I'm obviously

disappointed that I didn't finish, but fortunately that didn't change anything. I am very happy for the whole team. Congratulations to Stoffel, who's had a fantastic season. He's been very consistent and deserves the title. The team has done a great job over the years, and we couldn't have asked for a better end to our journey together than this final result. "I'm not happy with the way my season went, of course, but it wasn't always apparent from the outside what the problem was. It was a kind of snowball effect of small things that meant we weren't able to score points on a consistent basis." For the Mercedes EQ team, the 100th Formula E race in

Seoul will also go down as their last, as the team is retiring from the series, after three seasons, seven victories, 23 podium finishes and a pair of consecutive double World Championships. "I'm incredibly proud of all the team to have scored a consecutive double World Championship in Formula E again this year," Mercedes-

this year," Mercedes-AMG F1 team principal Toto Wolff added.

"An incredible achievement for an incredible team; and on top of that a 1-2 in the Teams' Championship for Mercedes powered cars. "Congratulations also to both our drivers, both having won a Drivers' Championships on merit, in a season that was the picture of championship winning consistency.

"Mercedes-EQ are leaving the series on a high, and with great memories. It has definitely been a fun ride. Formula E - it was great to have met you!"



CENTENARY: Race action during the 100th Formula E race









sport management professor will be visiting the kingdom to share her expertise and the endless possibilities awaiting people in the sporting field at the Youth City 2030.

Lisa Delpy Neirotti is the director and associate professor of the sport management programme at George Washington University School of Business in the US. She is being brought here by the US Embassy Bahrain to host three workshops at the Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Centre in Sanabis from August 22 to 24 on sport and social entrepreneurship.

The workshops are two hours each, from 2pm to 4pm, and geared towards adults aged 20 to 35 who want to learn about the different business opportunities in sport, the characteristics of an entrepreneur and

what is involved in the entrepreneurial process. "Sport is not often the first priority for many parents, but there is much to gain from participation in it beyond the health benefits," said Neirotti who has been a professor of sport, event and tourism management for more than 30 years.

"This includes sportsmanship, resilience, teamwork, discipline, respect, compassion, problem solving, and self-esteem. "The goal of these

workshops is to encourage participants to develop sport

programmes that will ensure they gain more than physical skills. For example, why not offer sport programmes in English as a way to enhance language fluency or include tutoring/homework time, or incorporate leadership lessons."

Her workshop fits in perfectly with the scope of Youth City 2030, which is a national project organised by the Youth and Sport Affairs Ministry to empower the kingdom's new generation. It features an array of vocational training programmes to develop skills and boost confidence and creativity.

The city, held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad's representative for humanitarian work and youth affairs and Supreme Council for Youth and Sport chairman Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, runs until August 25 with sessions in the morning for youngsters aged nine to 14 and in the evening for those aged 15 to 35.

It is also divided into five centres, each offering a different set of vocational training programmes such as the Sports Academy. During the workshop, Neirotti will discuss the concept of sport social entrepreneurship.

"Participants will learn how to conduct market research and develop a business plan to launch a community sport club," explained Neirotti who taught a few Bahraini students at her university and through the International **Olympic Committee** executive Master's programme. "Tactics on how to

incorporate education in sport to provide a unique



selling proposition will also be shared as well as best practices in the management and marketing of sport clubs. "There are careers in

managing and marketing sport organisations, events, teams and leagues from the youth to professional level. There are also positions with sport media, marketing agencies, corporate sponsors, venues, and sport manufacturing companies.

"Sport management is a popular degree now as sport is not only a passion for many, but also a big business. The number of people who are playing and watching sport is growing resulting in a need for professionals to manage and market these opportunities."

Neirotti has helped develop a sport philanthropy certificate designed to support non-profit organisations. She also co-authored The Ultimate Guide to Sport Event Management and *Marketing* and is an advisory board member for the Women's Sport Foundation, Up2Us sports-based youth development and the Council for Responsible Sports. For further details, follow @mysbhr and @usembassybahrain on Instagram.





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