



COMMUNITY REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
melissa@gdnmedia.bh

A group of Bahrain-based individuals has completed their Braille training with Friendship Society for the Blind and will be honoured during a ceremony staged at the group's premises in Isa Town, marking World Braille Day on January 4.

The candidates included not just visually impaired learners but also able-sighted teachers, nodding to the platform's ongoing efforts towards building an inclusive community. They will receive their certificates on January 10.

Braille is a tactile representation of alphabetic and numerical symbols using six dots to represent each letter and number, and even musical, mathematical and scientific symbols. Named after its inventor, Louis Braille, it is used by blind and partially sighted people. World Braille Day is observed to raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication.

"We have at least one training session every year, which runs for two months, and more depending on the requests we receive," Friendship Society for the Blind general manager Ali Haji told *GulfWeekly*.

"Our Braille training this year was attended by around 17 candidates comprising not just visually impaired individuals but also teachers who wanted to equip themselves with the knowledge. The candidates were as young as 10 years going up to as high as 40 years. This is part of the many events that we conduct all year round," he added.



LEARNING: A child from the society's kindergarten using a braille typewriter

Pushing for inclusivity



HAPPY: The society's volunteers and children at a past event

Mr Haji, who has been volunteering with the society for the last 44 years, highlighted the diverse activities that the society organises, from sporting events to training sessions for corporates on how to have inclusive workspaces for the visually impaired.

"We have conducted inclusivity training workshops at various schools and hospitals, as well as with the Bahrain Police and Gulf Air," noted the teacher, who previously worked at the Education Ministry.

In 1980, he started teaching at Al Noor School for the blind, now Saudi Bahraini



HUMANITARIAN: Ali

Institute for the Blind, located in Isa Town. While there, he developed math textbooks in Braille. Engaging with the students inspired him to do more for the visually impaired community. He then joined the team comprising blind teachers and students that laid the foundations of the Friendship Society for the Blind a year later. Currently, the society has about 280 members.

Since then, he has worked at the society in various capacities. Another major initiative that the philanthropist led was to introduce sports specifically

designed for blind athletes to Bahrain, like goalball and showdown – he is the founder of blind sports at the Bahrain Sports Federation for Disabilities.

"We train players and organise different programmes for the society's members," he added.

A weeklong sport event is set to be staged at the society from January 17 and will feature indoor games like chess and dominoes, as well as goalball and showdown. The event is open to all visually impaired individuals.

Speaking about the upcoming programme, the

group's public relations and media head Abdul Aziz Al Amri encouraged maximum participation, commending the society's various initiatives and highlighting how they have benefited him personally.

Abdul Aziz, who was born blind, has been in charge of the society's media relations for the last two years. However, he has been part of the group since he was five years old.

"I studied at the society's kindergarten for blind children where we learned reading and writing, as well as how to move around and be self-dependent," said the Bachelor's degree holder specialising in history and sociology.

The 27-year-old revealed that the society is working on creating content focused on shedding light on Bahrain's most prominent personalities in the visually impaired community.

"I have beautiful memories from my time here and now hope to pay it forward as part of the society," he added.

For more information or to participate in the sports event, call Abdul Aziz on 33717920.



NEW YEAR SPECIAL
Fun and dining
SEE PAGES 2-3



FLASHBACK 2025
The year gone by...
SEE PAGES 4-5



POP TUNES
New album drop
SEE PAGE 6



THRILLER READ
New novel release
SEE PAGE 6

Leisure Scene

What's on guide by
Julia Cassano



FARMERS' MARKET RETURNS TO RITZ



FRESH:
Farmers'
Market



CLASSIC: Primavera Brunch

BEGIN the New Year at the Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain, with a thoughtfully curated collection of experiences where exceptional cuisine and crafted beverages set the stage for memorable moments.

Mark the Feast of the Three Kings with a handcrafted Galette des Rois (King Cake), a traditional French pastry and a timeless French tradition to commemorate the arrival of the Three Kings.

Freshly baked and perfect for sharing, the galette is available in classic plain, almond or indulgent chocolate flavours. It costs BD20 and is available from today until January 6, daily from 7am to 10.30pm, at the Ritz Gourmet Lounge.

Continue the festive spirit at Le Coin Chalet, a charming winter-inspired retreat offering a warm and inviting ambience.

Guests can indulge in comforting delights such as Raclette, and the irresistible allure of bubbling fondues.

It is available until February 16, Monday to Saturday, 1pm to 11pm at La Terrace.

For bold flavours and vibrant energy, head to Cantina Kahlo for a festive brunch celebrating authentic Mexican cuisine. Savour freshly prepared, mouthwatering dishes, complemented by the lively rhythms of the resident mariachi band for a truly spirited dining experience.

The brunch is priced at BD35 per person including soft beverages, or BD45 with selected

beverages, and is available Friday and Saturday from 1pm to 4pm.

Capture the essence of the Italian coast at Primavera's Brunch, where classic favourites such as saffron arancini, fresh seafood and tableside tiramisu take centre stage.

The brunch is priced at BD35 per adult including soft beverages, or BD45 per adult with selected beverages. Children aged four to 12 dine for BD17.500. The experience takes place tomorrow,

January 2, from 12.30pm to 4pm.

Looking ahead, the hotel's much-loved Farmers' Market returns next week, celebrating Bahrain's rich heritage and community spirit. Guests can explore fresh seasonal produce, live cooking stations, artisanal creations and family-friendly activities. The market will be held every Friday from 8.30am to 2pm until February 13.

For details, call 17586499 or email rc.bahrz.restaurant.reservations@ritzcarlton.com.



RELAXING: Tea time

UNWIND WITH ATLÁNTICO'S HOUR

GET ready for flavour-packed moments at Sheraton Bahrain Hotel, where dining, leisure and wellness make for a wonderful weekend.

Gather with friends at The WILD Brunch, featuring premium shareable dishes, handcrafted beverages and live entertainment that keeps the energy high throughout the afternoon.

The brunch runs from 12.30pm to 5pm, priced at BD36net per person with soft beverages or BD46 per person with a selected beverage package. Ladies enjoy a special rate of BD23.

For a more refined indulgence, enjoy an elegant Afternoon Tea in the lobby, showcasing delicate pastries, freshly baked scones and a curated selection of finger sandwiches, perfectly paired with tea and coffee. Available daily from 2pm to 5pm, it is priced at BD15net per person.

Midweek diners can unwind with Brasero Atlántico's Business

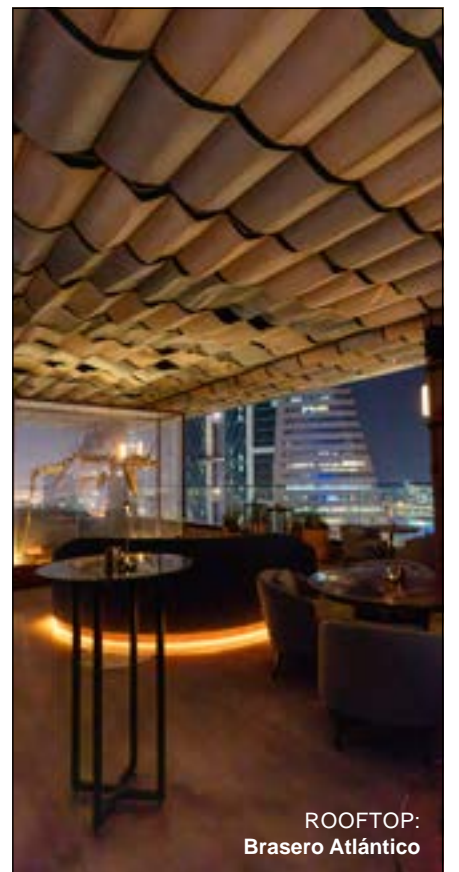
Lunch, offering a thoughtfully crafted menu in a relaxed setting. The lunch is available Sunday to Thursday, from noon to 4pm at BD20 per person.

As the day winds down, head to the rooftop for Atlántico's Hour, where guests can enjoy a selection of bites and beverages in a laid-back atmosphere. Available Saturday to Thursday, from 4pm to 7pm. It is priced a la carte.

Wellness seekers can start the New Year refreshed with the Glow and Shine package, which includes a glow-up express facial and eye mask. Priced at BD55 for a 90-minute session, the package is available until February 17.

Make the most of the cooler weather at the hotel's paddle court, open daily from 7pm to 10pm. Court rental is priced at BD18 for one hour, BD28 for 90 minutes and BD38 for two hours, with rackets available for BD2 per person.

For more information, contact 38885408.



ROOFTOP:
Brasero Atlántico

Leisure Scene

Weekly Entertainment

DINING WITH A VIEW AT HILTON

HILTON Bahrain invites guests to indulge in a week of epic dining experiences, where great food, lively vibes and unforgettable moments come together.

Head to Claw BBQ Bahrain, a high-energy venue, where bold flavours meet games, entertainment and stunning views of Bahrain's skyline from the 44th floor.

The restaurant is open from Sunday to Thursday, 4pm to 3am, and Friday to Saturday noon to 3am.

Mondays are dedicated to the ladies with an exciting Ladies' Night from 8pm to 11pm. Female guests can enjoy four complimentary drinks, a sharing platter for BD15 and 30 per cent off food and beverages.

Guests can also make the most of Happy Hour at Claw BBQ, available Sunday to Thursday from 4pm to 8pm, and Saturday from noon to 8pm.

Taco lovers won't want to miss Claw BBQ's Taco Tuesday, offering unlimited tacos paired with a selected beverage for BD16, available from 6pm to 1am.

For a relaxed start to the day, Origin Kitchen and Culture serves a lavish breakfast buffet from Sunday to



FLAVOUR: Taco Tuesday

Friday, 6.30am to 10.30am, priced at BD13net per person.

On Saturdays, guests can enjoy a Lazy Breakfast, featuring live cooking stations and a wide selection of continental, Asian and Arabic favourites, also priced at BD13net per person. The Lazy Breakfast is also available today, January 1 from 6.30am to noon.

Ladies can also enjoy a special Breakfast Club every Sunday and

Monday, available from 6.30am to 10.30am for BD8.

As the sun sets, elevate your evenings at the Society Club, Hilton Bahrain's exclusive nightlife destination on the 44th floor. Open daily from 6pm to 2am, the venue offers a sophisticated setting where luxury and nightlife seamlessly blend.

For more information, call 33692013.



FEAST: Delicious roast

INDULGE IN TIMELESS CULINARY CLASSICS

INTERCONTINENTAL Bahrain welcomes guests to explore a diverse lineup of culinary offerings, thoughtfully crafted to delight every taste and occasion.

Experience the elegance of French cuisine at Legendz SteakHouse with a collection of ten exquisite a la carte creations, showcasing timeless classics prepared with refined artistry.

From indulgent foie gras and delicate sole meunière to slow-braised beef cheeks, each dish reflects the essence of authentic French gastronomy. Rustic favourites such as cassoulet and bouillabaisse complete the menu, blending tradition with contemporary finesse. This dining experience is available daily from 6pm to 10pm.

Every Saturday, guests are invited to enjoy a relaxed, chef-led lunch where the traditional British roast is reimagined with a modern touch. The experience at Legendz SteakHouse features a five-course tasting menu, including seasonal starters, expertly carved meats and comforting sides. Priced at BD19net with soft beverages or BD24net with two selected beverages, it is available from noon to 3.30pm.

Adding a touch of excitement, Elements Pool and Lounge hosts its Guess and Grab Match on select football match nights. Guests are invited to predict the winning team for a chance to win exclusive merchandise. These events take place tomorrow, and on January 8, 16 and 24, from 6pm to 9pm.

For a taste of local tradition, enjoy an authentic Bahraini breakfast served daily at Selections from 6.30am to 11.30am. The menu features much-loved classics such as balaleet, baid tamat ('Bahraini shakshouka'), fowl medames and honey labneh with saj, perfectly paired with a comforting cup of karak chai. Priced at BD8, it offers a delicious start to the day.

For more information, contact 17208308 or 36967701.



ELEGANT: French gastronomy

TASTE THE FLAVOURS OF PORTUGAL

CONTINUE the festive spirit at Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay, where winter-inspired dining, vibrant entertainment and wellness experiences come together.

Celebrate the season with family and friends at an exclusive Chalet-Themed Brunch, embracing the warmth of winter flavours.

Savour cheese fondue made with artisanal cheeses such as Gruyère, French Comté and Italian Fontina, alongside seafood served with melted butter, before indulging in a chocolate fondue finale.

The brunch is available every Friday this month, from 1pm to 4pm priced at BD35 with soft beverages or BD48 with selected beverages.

At Bay View Lounge, a refined French canapé experience unfolds among olive trees, complemented by stunning views of Bahrain Bay. Guests can enjoy classic French delicacies, from foie gras macarons to caviar-topped scallops. Available until February 18, daily from 11am to 11.30pm, this experience is priced at BD12.

Discover the flavours of Portugal at CUT by Wolfgang Puck on January 17, with a special one-day lunch hosted by restaurant director Fabio Marques. Drawing inspiration from his culinary heritage, Fabio presents a family-style menu featuring traditional Portuguese dishes such



LUXURIOUS: Bay View Lounge

as Ameijoas à Bulhão Pato – clams prepared with garlic and fresh herbs – and the beloved Pastéis de Bacalhau – crisp codfish fritters – paired with selected Portuguese beverages.

The lunch is available from 12.30pm to 3.30pm, priced at BD39net per person for food only, with an optional beverage package available for BD10.

Fire up your evening at Byblos with a special Barbecue Night on January 8, featuring a mouthwatering selection of lamb chops, seabass, shish tawook, lamb tikka and more. Available from 6pm to 11.30pm, the experience is priced at BD29 per person.

Music lovers can head to CUT Lounge for a stylish Jazz Night on January 22, featuring a five-piece live band. Enjoy signature sandwiches, elevated bites and crafted beverages in an intimate, music-filled setting. The event runs from 8pm to 11.30pm, with entry priced at BD20 per person.

For a refreshing start to the day, join the hotel for an outdoor spinning class at the infinity pool area on January 17, from 10.30am to 11.30am. The class is priced at BD6 per person for hotel guests and BD12 for outside guests.

For more information, contact 17115500.



JANUARY: ISSUE 3 - Bahraini-Canadian Chef Suman Ali highlighted the kingdom's culinary heritage and culture on a global stage with her photo exhibition celebrating a majlis she hosted on Lake Muskoka's deck. The exhibition was unveiled at Terminal 3 in the Pearson International Airport in Toronto, Canada.



FEBRUARY: ISSUE 7 - To mark International Childhood Cancer Day, Smile, a Bahrain Future Society for Youth initiative, launched its Smile Shop, a creative platform to support children with cancer selling bags, bottles, books and mugs featuring striking designs by Bahraini artists, with 80 per cent of the proceeds from sale set to help children suffering from cancer.



MARCH: ISSUE 12 - Mental health advocates from Bahrain came together to support F1 legend Sir Jackie Stewart's international charity tackling dementia, during a one-lap challenge around the Bahrain International Circuit. The One Lap Challenge in support of Race Against Dementia took aim at a disease that will, at some point, affect up to one in every three people worldwide.



DECEMBER: ISSUE 50 - After being diagnosed with a brain tumour last year, Bahrain-based English expatriate and gifted singer Annie Kennaugh embarked on a noble mission to use her musical talent to support those suffering from cancer, raising more than BD1,000 after a heartfelt performance at the Dilmun Club in Saar.



HERE'S TO NEW

The year 2025 was one defined by creativity, compassion and the quiet strength of communities across Bahrain, as some of the kingdom's citizens and residents continued to excel both locally and internationally.

Throughout the year, the kingdom continued to grow and evolve.

From cultural festivals and sporting achievements to creative projects and community initiatives, our readers found ways to connect, celebrate and move forward.

These stories of progress, ambition and everyday success formed the backbone of our coverage.

Regionally and globally, the year was not without its challenges.

Yet even amid uncertainty, there were powerful examples of unity, generosity and resilience, as people continued to raise their voices, support humanitarian causes and stand together in moments that called for compassion and shared humanity.

Closer to home, some of the most meaningful stories were found in the small but significant moments.

Neighbours helping neighbours, entrepreneurs taking risks, artists creating space for dialogue, and



NOVEMBER: ISSUE 44 - Bahraini polyglot Wael Almahdi released *A Breeze From The East*, a collection of poems, penned in a style of his own called Mashriqi English (Mashriqi meaning 'Eastern' in Arabic), where he blended Arabic and Persian words into English poems, weaving an intricate tapestry of mysticism and the literary traditions of Eastern poetry with the universal lingua franca.



OCTOBER: ISSUE 40 - A new initiative was launched to support the mental health of breast cancer patients, coinciding with both Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Mental Health Awareness Month, featuring t-shirts with the empowering message: "Miss C Got Nothing On Me." Proceeds went to mental health initiatives of the Think Pink: Bahrain Breast Cancer Society.



SEPTEMBER: ISSUE 38 - Bahraini artist Nermin Habin's exploration of the kingdom's clay heritage - a series titled *The Becoming* - was showcased at Isola x Design London Shoreditch, as part of the London Design Week. The piece invited audiences to engage with transformation - not as an end point but as an ongoing state.



APRIL: ISSUE 14 - A number of organisations came together to raise awareness about autism and celebrate the abilities and achievements of individuals on the spectrum, as part of their activities commemorating World Autism Awareness month. 'Growing together in autism acceptance' was the theme of the campaign, which included the annual Run for Autism on April 19.



MAY: ISSUE 22 - Bahrain-based shutterbug George Raphael unveiled his first 3D photography exhibition, featuring 20 stunning pieces that gave visitors a new way to experience the kingdom's heart, soul and history. The Anaglyph Photography Exhibition: A Stereoscopic Journey into Bahrain's Soul also brought alive landmarks like Bahrain Fort and Khamis Mosque.

BEGINNINGS!

Volunteers giving their time reminded us that change often begins at a local level.

As we turn the page on the year and enter our 25th year of publication, the year ahead is set to bring new opportunities to strengthen communities, support innovation and tell stories that reflect the diverse voices of the kingdom.

We extend our sincere thanks to our readers, advertisers, contributors and partners for being part of the **GulfWeekly** journey.

Our continued trust and engagement allow us to keep doing what we do best - tell stories that matter.

As part of the **GDN Media** family, **GulfWeekly** remains the most widely circulated English language weekly newspaper in Bahrain, reaching homes, clubs and businesses every Thursday.

As we look forward to celebrating our silver jubilee this year, we are committed to offering a dynamic, multi-channel platform that connects local businesses and organisations with engaged readers, while delivering thoughtful, relevant journalism.

From all of us at **GulfWeekly**, we wish you a bright, successful and rewarding year ahead.

- Naman Arora, on behalf of the **GulfWeekly** team.



AUGUST: ISSUE 34 - Bahrain-born Pakistani creative Khurram Salman explored his cultural identity in his latest installation titled *Min Wain?* (Arabic for 'Where are you from?') during *Al Riwaq's Application 004 Art Residency*, sparking conversations around diaspora, memory and identity and unravelling the paradox of hyphenated identities.



JULY: ISSUE 27 - Bahraini-Scottish thespian Ghazi Al Ruffai delighted audiences around the world with his latest appearance in the international thriller film *28 Years Later*, shining a bright spotlight on the kingdom's cinematic talent. The 25-year-old, who attended St Christopher's School, is also set to star in the sequel *28 Years Later: The Bone Temple*, which will be released this month.



GET together with your family and friends to enjoy some of the English language films being screened at Cineco Seef this weekend.

ANACONDA (PG-15)

Doug and Griff have been best friends since they were children and have always dreamed of remaking their all-time favourite move - *Anaconda*. When a midlife crisis pushes them to finally go for it, they head deep into the Amazon to start filming.

Actors: Jack Black, Paul Rudd, Steve Zahn

Timings: 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.15pm, 11.30pm, 12.15am

THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE (2025)

Spongebob and his Bikini Bottom friends set sail in their biggest, all-new, can't

miss cinematic event ever.
Actors: Tom Kenny, Clancy Brown, Rodger Bumpass
Timings: 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm, 11.30pm

NUREMBERG (15+)

A WWII psychiatrist evaluates Nazi leaders before the Nuremberg trials, growing increasingly obsessed with understanding evil as he forms a disturbing bond with Hermann Göring.
Actors: Russell Crowe, Rami Malek, Michael Shannon
Timings: 11.30am, 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm, 11.30pm

AVATAR: FIRE AND ASH (PG-15)

Jake and Neytiri's family grapples with grief after Neteyam's death, encountering a new, aggressive Na'vi tribe, the Ash People, who are led by the fiery Varang, as the conflict on Pandora escalates and a new moral focus emerges.

Actors: Zoe Saldana, Sam Worthington, Stephen Lang
Timings: 2.45pm, 8.30pm

BRAIN-BUSTERS

QUIZMASTER and Radio Bahrain host

Shannon Crockett, who has been entertaining people across the island with his brain-teasing quiz night sessions, has offered to put **GulfWeekly** readers' general knowledge to the test. Join in the fun every Thursday with Shannon's seven brain-busters.

- 1) Which Bahraini artist has gone viral on the world music charts after his song was featured in a Bollywood film?
- 2) Derek on *Stranger Things* famously hid his new acting role from his friends by telling them he was working on a 'what' documentary?
- 3) The product Marmite is derived from the French word meaning what?
- 4) Who is the only person to have been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize,



Oscar, Grammy and Golden Globe?

- 5) Which country left the Commonwealth in 1972?
- 6) What word is used to describe someone with a 'glass half empty' attitude?
- 7) Who composed, wrote, and performed songs for *Tarzan* and *Brother Bear*?

1. Flipperachi
2. Mayonnaise
3. Cooking pot
4. Bono
5. Pakistan
6. Pessimist
7. Phil Collins

ANSWERS

Pulse of Pop

AROUND THE WORLD IN MUSIC, TV, BOOKS AND MORE - BY RIMA ALHADDAD



CLOUDY: The album artwork

FINDING HER BEAT

B RITISH artist Jenny Hollingworth, aka Jenny on Holiday, drops her solo debut album *Quicksand Heart* on January 9.

The project is described to be a 'record of joy, power, and abundance' with bold pop production that is punk influenced.

In it, the singer, delivers a variety of moods through honest and relatable lyrics.

"I wanted to let go of any mad song structures and ideas that weren't succinct," Jenny said.

"I wanted to push at the edge of the universe of pop and make these big, bold songs about my fear of dying and things going wrong in my life and finding my feet again on the ground. That's my pop," added the member of experimental pop duo Let's Eat Grandma Jenny Hollingworth.

"I kept getting worried that the ideas were too simple, but I found that as a songwriter, those small, straightforward stories can be articulated into something so emotionally profound and complex."

The first single released off the album titled *Every Ounce of Me* was followed by the artist

throwing a karaoke party in London, with fans receiving invites for through email.

"This song was inspired by singing dramatic, fun 80's love songs at karaoke with my friends, and I wanted to make something I could imagine in that setting," she said.

The record also features themes of melancholy and heartbreak, as the second single titled *Good Intentions* was written during a challenging time in the artist's life.

"This was the second song I wrote for *Quicksand Heart*, and it was written during a period when I had been struggling to find meaning in life after dealing with a long period of heartbreak and setbacks. I realised that despite life's uncertainties, I wanted to strive to live and love fully and also continue to do what I love to do most, which is writing songs and making music."

The project's 'playful' name indicates the creative talent being 'on a holiday from the band', and the cover features a hyper saturated image of Jenny wearing her mother's wedding dress.

"It's not to reflect typical kinds of romances, but a love of life," she explained.

MURDER SHE WROTE

MYSTERY thriller novel

The Storm by Rachel Hawkins is hitting the shelves on January 6.

The story takes place in the Rosalie Inn, a century-old hotel in St Medard's Bay, Alabama, which has survived all of its deadly hurricanes that regularly sweep into town. It tackles a crime that put the town on the map, in which a local girl named Lo Bailey was accused of murdering her lover, political scion Landon Fitzroy, during Hurricane Marie in 1984.

When the inn's current owner, Geneva Corliss, hears a writer

is coming to town to research the crime, she's less interested in solving a whodunnit than in how a successful true crime book might help the struggling inn's bottom line. But to her surprise, August Fletcher doesn't come to St Medard's Bay alone. With him is none other than Lo Bailey herself, who says she's returned to her hometown to clear her name once and for all.

"This is maybe the most personal thriller I've written yet, and I can't

wait to take y'all to St Medard's Bay and the Rosalie Inn," the author said on social media.

Rachel graduated from Houston Academy in 1998, and received a degree in English literature from Auburn University in 2002. The 46-year-old began writing her first novel, *Hex Hall*, while working as an English teacher at Sparkman High School, which later turned into a best-selling trilogy released through 2010 to 2013.



WHODUNIT: A promotional image of the series

DETECTIVE IN SLEEPY TOWN

MYSTERY thriller series *His & Hers* streams on Netflix on January 8.

Set in Atlanta, Anna (Tessa Thompson) lives in haunting reclusivity, fading away from her friends and career as a news anchor. But when she overhears about a murder in Dahlonaga, the sleepy town where she grew up, Anna is snapped back to life, pouncing on the case and searching for answers.

The series also stars Jon Bernthal as detective Jack Harper, who is strangely suspicious of her involvement, chasing her into the crosshairs of his own investigation.

"There's a lot of pain. I think these characters are chemically and undeniably drawn to each other," Jon said, describing the characters.

"And also, I feel there's no one who drives my character more crazy in all of the ways than Anna," he added.

"I think at the beginning, there's this kind of adversarial thing that gets played out just with what their particular roles are in this investigation and the sort of tension between law enforcement and journalists on a crime scene," Tessa noted.

"I feel like really, what Jon says, it's actually seated in real pain and pathos and any relationship that has gone awry, all the things that you didn't figure out and you didn't say, I think all those things come back immediately when you see the person again like no time has passed, so I feel like that's sort of what's happening for Anna."



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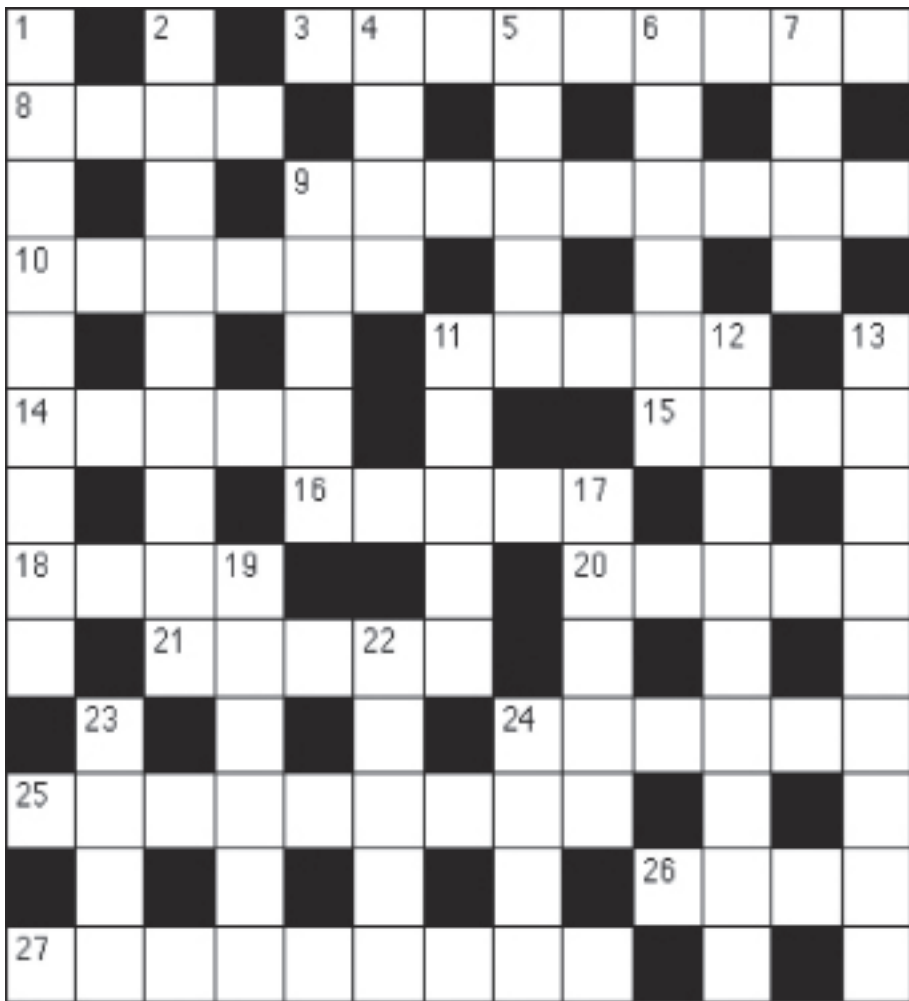
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Time Out



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crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

3. Miser (9)
8. Be depressed (4)
9. Changeable (9)
10. Odd (6)
11. Surrendered (5)
14. Upright (5)
15. Back (4)
16. Harvest (5)
18. Applaud (4)
20. Wrench (5)
21. Fruit (5)
24. Glimpse (6)
25. Incessant (9)
26. Ringlet (4)
27. Humiliating (9)

DOWN

1. Cheek (9)
2. Transient (9)
4. Eager (4)
5. Recess (5)
6. Pantry (6)
7. Tidy (4)
9. Pithy (5)
11. Unsoiled (5)
12. Conduct (9)
13. Fraternal (9)
17. Reside (5)
19. Vex (6)
22. Possessed (5)
23. Wander (4)
24. Profit (4)

who, what, where, when

- WHO ... was The Hulk's alter ego?
WHAT ... is the lowest weight in boxing?
WHERE ... would you spend leva?
WHEN ... did the Pet Shop Boys win a Brit Award for Best Group?
WHO ... won BBC Sports Personality of The Year in 2000?
WHAT ... was the job of an aurifaber?
WHERE ... is Nicosia the capital of?
WHEN ... did James II ascend to the British throne?

just so

FIGURE

station
oneoneoneone



sherfate

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

Last week's sudoku

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

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

tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

- Across:** 1 Pity; 3 Emaciate; 8 Elan; 9 Standing; 11 Exasperating; 13 Vulgar; 14 Stress; 17 Indisputable; 20 Compiled; 21 Pact; 22 Endanger; 23 Send.
Down: 1 Preserve; 2 Travail; 4 Mature; 5 Constitute; 6 Alien; 7 Edge; 10 Apparition; 12 Assented; 15 Embrace; 16 Sphere; 18 Nomad; 19 Ache.

Who, What, Where,

When: Michael Foot; Three; Zagreb; Greece; A; Royston Vasey; 1974.

Just So:

The second coming; We shall overcome; Wheelchair; A bookmark.

Tough Sudoku

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