



■ More than 500 people attended the first anniversary celebrations of the Babu Antony School of Martial Arts in Bahrain. Grandmaster and Malayalam film star Babu Antony presented certificates to 40 martial arts students, aged five and above, who passed a colour grading test. The event, which featured performances by the students, was held at the Bahrain Carlton Hotel, Adliya. Above, Mr Antony with students who were awarded their certificates. Right, students perform at the event.



Bible school begins

A SPECIAL programme aimed at the spiritual well-being of children and teenagers starts today at the National Evangelical Church, Manama.

The Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) – Vacation Bible School 2016 runs until Thursday.

It will feature four evening classes from 6.30pm with special programmes including puppet shows at the church for

children, aged three to 12.

For teenagers, an interactive programme designed towards fulfilling their socio-psychological needs will be held at the Majlis (near Al Raja School).

Meanwhile, a special family conference has also been arranged for couples and parents from Thursday to Sunday, between 7.30pm to 9pm.

For more information visit facebook.com/BahrainCEF.



■ A study on the social and economic benefits of triathlons in Bahrain is being conducted by Bahrain Polytechnic students. The graduation project focuses on the Ironman triathlon in December, as well as international examples of how such events have supported youth development, health, wellness and citizen engagement. Above, from left, Bahrain Polytechnic business school head Patrick Rennell, athlete Suzy Al Zeerah, students Abeer Mohamed, Hanan Naser and Noor Alsaffar, Bahrain Polytechnic tutor Anna-Marie Lawrence and Bahrain Triathlon Association president Shaikh Saqer bin Salman Al Khalifa at the meeting.

40th MidEast Watch & Jewellery Show



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Ladies timings

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■ German mask company Familie Flöz performed its sold-out Edinburgh Fringe show Hotel Paradiso last night. The show, which took place at the Cultural Hall, will be performed for the final time tonight at 8pm. The black comedy tells the story of a mountain resort which is kept going by an old lady and her family, in which the son dreams of a great love while his sister fights to gain control of the hotel. However, a dramatic turn of events results in a corpse being found and the hotel's downfall seems inevitable. The show is part of this year's Spring of Culture line-up, which will run until April 25. For more information, visit www.springofculture.org. Above, a scene from the show.

Innovation focus of forum

INNOVATION and creativity will be the focus of a conference in May.

The GCC Creativity Conference 2016 will be held under the patronage of Supreme Council for Youth and Sports first deputy president Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa from May 8 to 9.

It is being organised at the InterContinental Regency Bahrain by the Ebtikar (Innovation) Society and Expressions Marketing Communications, in partnership with the Arab Science and

Technology Foundation and supporting institutions from the GCC.

"The GCC Creativity Conference is considered one of the ambitious initiatives that will focus and promote the concept of creativity and innovation," said Ebtikar Society founder and president Osama Alkhaja.

"We also aim to develop a creative generation that is able to deal with changes and challenges of the world economy and to employ talents in the best position.

"Leaders and decision makers in all sectors must understand the need for developing human capital that will contribute to the organisation's welfare, raise performance and cut costs - and to produce innovative goods and services."

The conference aims to develop a platform for creative talents in different sectors to meet and exchange experiences. More than 300 participants from the GCC's public and private sectors are expected to attend.

Expats line up for test dates

By LAALA KASHEF ALGHATA

RUMOURS of driving tests being brought forward has resulted in dozens of expats lining up for earlier dates.

Sources told the GDN that the General Directorate of Traffic had announced test dates being brought forward for expatriates on Thursday.

Dozens of people spent yesterday morning queuing outside the building in A'ali.

"They've been coming for a few days now," the sources told the GDN.

"They'll be here again tomorrow because they were told to leave at around 2pm today."

However, no details were available when the GDN contacted the directorate.