

Royal order in full swing

More Bahrainis receive allocation certificates for housing units in East Sitra City

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The Housing Ministry has distributed more allocation certificates to Bahraini citizens for their respective housing units in the East Sitra City.

The eligible beneficiaries' applications were received and processed at the ministry's building by its personnel.

The ministry had notified the citizens to come to the locations of their units in advance, and they were handed over the ownership documents, engineering maps and all documents electronically.

Legal and technical instructions included in the housing contract were also explained to the beneficiaries before the keys to the units were handed over to them.

Beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the simplified and quick procedures as the allocation certificates were issued to within a few minutes.

The distribution of allocation certificates was in implementation of the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to



Beneficiaries of the housing units



Housing Ministry personnel are currently receiving and processing the applications of citizens for housing units in East Sitra City, Khalifa City, Salman City and East Hidd City.

distribute 2,000 housing units to citizens this month as part of the royal order's framework to build 40,000 housing units

for Bahraini families across the Kingdom.

Ministry personnel are currently receiving and processing

the applications of citizens for housing units in East Sitra City, Khalifa City, Salman City and East Hidd City.

Housing Minister Eng. Basem bin Yaqoub Al Hamer is supervising the distribution procedures.

The distribution schedule will extend until the end of this month, including the handover of keys to the units in East Hidd City, and the delivery of allocation certificates in East Sitra City and Khalifa City.

Al Hamer said that the dis-



2,000

Target number of housing units to be distributed this month

40,000

Total number of housing units for distribution under the royal order's framework

tribution of certificates of entitlement in East Sitra City is among the biggest achievements

in housing sector in the Kingdom providing houses to a large number of Bahraini families.

Stage is set for Indian Club Christmas competitions today

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Time is running out to register for the latest festive instalment of the highly successful Indian Club Christmas Celebrations 2021 – the Christmas Tree Decorating and Cake Baking competitions – which will be held at The Indian today.

With only a few days to go to Christmas, this would seem to be an ideal way of getting into the holiday mood – so get the creative decorating juices flowing, dust off the old recipe books and get registered for one or both of these fun competitions.

Entry is free and is open to everyone, whether a member of The Indian Club-Bahrain or not – two real community activities.

The Christmas Tree Decorating competition will run from 6pm to 9pm, with the top decorators earning a first

prize of \$300; the Cake Baking Competition is scheduled for 8.30pm with the winning baker taking home a first prize of \$125.

“It is great to see so much festive spirit around the Club; the Anand Bazaar was a huge success and hopefully these competitions will carry on that exciting feeling of fun and enjoyment as we get closer and closer to Christmas,” commented K.M. Cherian, the President of The Indian Club-Bahrain.

To register, please contact The Indian Club-Bahrain on 1725 3157; one of the competition organisers – Binoj Mathew, Convenor – on 3344 7494 and Binu Papachan, Co-ordinator on 3919 8193; The Indian Club-Bahrain's Entertainment Secretary, Senthil Kumar on 3334 0494; or The Indian Club-Bahrain's Assistant Entertainment Secretary, Bijoy Kambrath on 3902 5573.

Filipino golfer Macawile claims title

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Filipino Jonathan Macawile emerged victorious in the First Filipino Community Golf Tournament held on 17 December at the Royal Golf Club.

Macawile, from Giporlos, Eastern Samar, in the Philippines, and a Logistics Specialist of the US Navy, beat a field of 20 golfers representing Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, with two guest players from the UK and Myanmar.

Marv Chao of Myanmar grabbed the second place, while Newlito Limuel Diaz of Koronadal City, South Cotabato, finished third.

The diversity of the roster of golfers in the event was high-

lighted by the participation of three ladies, a mother-and-son duo, a father-and-son tandem, and a 15-year-old student who was the youngest participant in the tournament.

Consul Bryan Jess Baguio and Labour Attache Vicente Cabe led the participation of eight golfers representing the Philippine Embassy.

Organised by the Good Cause Group Bahrain (GCGB), a Filipino Community organisation, and in cooperation with the embassy, the charity tournament dubbed as “Palo sa Pasko Para sa Pilipino” promoted health and wellness through golf, and fostered camaraderie among Filipino golfers.

New Cathedral to hold first Arabic mass on Christmas Day

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The first Arabic mass at the Kingdom's newly-inaugurated Cathedral will be held on Christmas Day.

This was confirmed by Father Fayad Charbel of the Sacred Heart Church in Manama.

The state-of-the-art Cathedral of Our Lady of Arabia was inaugurated under the patronage of His Majesty the King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa in Awali on December 9.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by the Personal Representative of His Majesty the King, His Highness Shaikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al Khalifa. The new cathedral stretches within 9,000 square metres of land donated by His Majesty the King.

Attending the event were members of the Royal family, senior government officials, ambassadors, Dr Shaikh Khalid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence, reverend fathers and guests.

The modernist church with an octagonal dome, several tiers of seating, two chapels and



Father Charbel

800-capacity auditorium has become a focal point for Bahrain's 80,000 Catholics and an architectural landmark.

The new church is the second cathedral built in the Apostolic Vicariate (which includes Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia) after the Holy Family in the Desert Cathedral in Madinat Al Kuwait.

COVID-19 protocols

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Father Charbel said the mass will be held strictly adhering to COVID-19 protocols being implemented by the Health Ministry.

“There are nearly 1,000 Bahraini Christians living in the Kingdom. Arab Christians



The Cathedral of Our Lady of Arabia in Awali

mainly came to the Kingdom from Iraq, Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria and they were given citizenship by the late Amir HH Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa,” Father Charbel said.

“This is a great nation – a land of tolerance. In this beautiful country, we have learned that there is no difference between religions and our celebration of Christmas always witnesses the participation of all denominations in the Kingdom. Here you see in the heart of the Church various groups of Bahrainis, Christians and different communities; indeed, this is a beautiful and wonderful country.

“We always pray to God to

protect this beloved country and that peace prevails across the world.”

Arab Christians are facing difficult situations in many Middle Eastern countries, said Father Charbel, pointing out the attacks against them in countries such as Iraq and Syria.

“The fundamental reason for this is the economic crisis and lack of good governance. Economic crisis in these countries are the root cause for growing terror elements, which is further worsening the situation.

“In Iraq, Lebanon and Syria, there is no stability of governance and corrupt politicians rule the roost, in turn promoting the growth of fanatic groups.”

Friends of Tubli Walkway celebrates 50th National Day



Friends of Tubli Walkway celebrated Bahrain's 50th National Day at Tubli Walkway on 16 December. The celebration started at 8am with elder members of the group delivered welcome speech. A colourful march was held with children and adults taking part, followed by cultural songs and sports events. They conducted mini-health checkup among members and families. The programmes ended at 9.30am.