

NEWS bytes

Aerosmith to retire next year

After rocking along for 46 years, Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler told radio personality Howard Stern that the band will retire after year number 47. The band will go on a 2017 farewell tour before hanging up their guitars. "I love this band, I really do, and I want to squash every thought that anybody might have about this," 68-year-old Tyler said. "We're doing a farewell tour, but only because it's time. We've never done that."

Stern added that bands like KISS go on multiple 'farewell' tours, and Tyler jokingly entertained the idea that this might not be the end. When asked how long this tour will last, Tyler simply said, "Forever!"

Aerosmith have survived drug abuse, the rise of hip-hop, the boy-band era, and a Skittles commercial, so the fact that they've survived this long is an achievement on its own.

Source: Yahoo! Music



Sisters Alpona and Kalpona: Close at hand

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

Alpona Habib is a well known chef and host of Kazi Farms "Shohoj Iftar Alpona'r Shathey", aired on Dipto TV every day at 3 pm and 6 pm. Her sister Masuda Anam Kalpona is a prominent Nazrul singer. Recently, she has performed Nazrul's hamd o naat on various channels, as a tribute to the poet as well as the holy month. However, varied their careers, the two sisters are only a year and a half apart in age, and have remained inseparable. This year during Ramadan the sisters reflect upon the changes in their lives as they have families of their own.

"When we were children Ramadan was a special time for us," said Alpona, "we were raised within a tradition where everyone fasts and wakes up for sehri. Growing up in a government colony, we had lots of neighbours and during sehri we would look around to see who else was up." Kalpona fondly adds, "At school we would compete, and compare with our friends on who had fasted the most days. I believe it was a good practice for everyone to

compete for good deeds and practices." The sisters also note how traditions have changed since then: "Back then we used to distribute food to the destitute after iftar everyday, which was a lot of fun as well for my sister and me as we would run to the door to distribute whenever anyone came," said Alpona, "but now rarely see such things."

Times have drastically changed since each sister now has their own families including two grownup sons each. Both their elder sons are absent for this year's Ramadan; Kalpona's son is currently residing in London, and Alpona's son is away to complete a residential semester at BRAC University. Their younger sons are currently busy with O-level and A-level exams.

However one thing that has remained constant is the bond they share with one another. "My sister and I are in constant touch over the phone, but whenever we see each other we still have so much to catch up on," shared Alpona, "my mother and I live in the same building, so it is always the three of us whenever we make time."

MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO SYED ABDUL HADI

A CORRESPONDENT

Prominent singer Syed Abdul Hadi will turn 75 on July 1 this year, while his music career spans 56 years. As tribute to the singer, cultural journalist Ovi Moinuddin has initiated a special arrangement to celebrate the occasion through offering him a musical homage.

A song titled "Tumi Chh(n)juechho Nilimar Shob Neel", written and composed by Omar Faruk and Farid Ahmed, was recorded on June 22 at Farid Ahmed's studio. Singers -- Fahmida Nabi, Dhruva Guho, Champa Banik, Muhin and Sabrin recorded the song, illustrating Hadi's glorious musical journey. Syed Abdul Hadi was present at the time of recording.

"It's a great feeling. I am fascinated with Ovi's initiative. I am touched with everyone's sincere rendition and musical tribute for me. I don't have words to thank them. The lyrics and composition have charmed me a lot," said Syed Abdul Hadi.

"It's an honour to record a song on Hadi uncle. I wish him a Happy Birthday in advance. I am paying him a tribute for his illustrious music career," said Fahmida Nabi.

Syed Abdul Hadi will take part in two TV programmes -- one is "Tarakalap" to be aired on Rtv at 10:40am and another is "Citycell Taroka Kathan" to be aired on Channel i at 12:30pm on his birthday (July 1).



Syed Abdul Hadi flanked by the artistes.

"I will renew myself with each film"... Alia

Things have never looked better for Alia Bhatt, but the actress said that she wants to better herself with each film rather than being affected by success.

Her latest release, "Uda Punjab", has helped Alia cement her acting credentials further and the 23-year-old actress said that she wants to enjoy this phase in her life without bothering about the number game. "It's true that things are happening fast in my career but I am not scared of it right now. It's great. I feel very grateful and privileged to be able to work with so many great directors and actors. I want to do as many films and play as many parts as I can," Alia told PTI.

"I prefer not to see myself at the top, middle or the bottom. I don't like to think that I am at the top because that will eventually come to you with your work or the way you deal with people. I will refresh and renew myself with each film," said Alia.

Alia played a Bihari migrant in "Uda Punjab", the Abhishek Chaubey-directed film about drug cartels and use, which also casts Shahid Kapoor, Kareena Kapoor Khan and Diljit Dosanjh. "I am very happy with the kind of response I have been getting. I am not a method actor. I believe in the moment and I am very spontaneous like that. I couldn't relate to my character but I could empathise with her and the situation she is in," said Alia.

To play the role, Alia had to get into a particular zone and that affected her adversely. "I keep saying that it was most exhaustive 21 days of my life because my character demanded a lot of physical strain. Emotional stress was high. There were nights when I used to wake up with bad dreams. It took a toll on my health. It took me a while to get over it," Alia said.

Source: PTI



RJ MOKHLES on Boishakhi Television

A CORRESPONDENT

This Eid brings us an exciting new drama series titled "RJ Mokhles", written by Polash Mahub and directed by Abu Hayat Mahmud. The cast comprises Shaju Khadem, Moushumi Hamid, Rashed Mamun Apu, Shujat Shimul and Zahid Hossain Shovon.

Sazu Khadem commented, "RJ Mokhles 'is a unique story and shoot-

ing it has been such an enjoyable experience for everyone. In the series I play the titular character and I am thankful for the opportunity."

Scriptwriter Polash Mahub said, "RJ Mokhles' typically falls under the range of scripts I tend to write, and over here I wanted to tell a story that the audience would enjoy."

"RJ Mokhles" will air on the second day of Eid, at 7:35pm on Boishakhi Television.

CHARM OF KOREA VIII in Dhaka
Western Classical Concert next month

As part of cultural exchange programmes between the Republic of Korea and the Bangladesh, "Charm of Korea VIII" will be held on July 29-30 at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, says a press release.

The seven-member ensemble will feature Lee Jeon-gil and Kim Sanghee on

violin, Song Goeun on viola, Kim Kido on cello, Kwak Soohyun on piano, Park Dayyoung on baritone vocals and Kim Eunsoo on soprano vocals.

This is the eighth event of the music series since 2013 to celebrate the long-standing friendship between Korea and Bangladesh.

This event is open for all.



Muse play bombastic Glastonbury set

British rock act Muse closed the first night of mega British music festival Glastonbury with a blazing, bombastic set. They wisely mixed classics like "Plug In Baby" and "Supermassive Black Hole" with new material, displaying the confident assurance of a band headlining the festival for the third time.

A crowd of almost 75,000 watched the show Friday, on a day that also saw ZZ Top and Jess Glynne play the Pyramid Stage. Muse opened their set with "Psycho", a hard driving anti-war song from their current album, "Drones" - a concept record about modern warfare, and soldiers 'who kill by remote control'.

Glastonbury, the five-day festival of contemporary performing arts, takes place near Pilton, Somerset in the UK since the late 70s, and is the largest greenfield festival in the world, attended by around 175,000 people annually. In addition to contemporary music, the festival hosts dance, comedy, theatre, circus, cabaret, and other arts. Leading pop and rock artists have headlined, alongside thousands of others appearing on smaller stages and performance areas.

With their opening night performance, Muse also became the first band to headline the Pyramid Stage on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday night. Coldplay will match the achievement today - their fourth time at the top of the bill - while Adele notched up her first headline slot on Saturday.

Earlier in the day, many of the acts addressed the Leave vote from Thursday's referendum, including Damon Albarn, James and Bastille expressing their dissatisfaction.



A section of the crowd on the opening day of the festival.

Pop star Jess Glynne brought a party disco vibe to the Pyramid Stage, and rock veterans ZZ Top played a set full of crowd pleasers, including "Legs", "Gimme All Your Lovin'" and Jimi Hendrix's "Foxy Lady".

Other bands who played on Saturday included

Madness, Wolf Alice, New Order and Art Garfunkel, while the night ended with an orchestral tribute to the late David Bowie.

Source: BBC