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# Blaze hits Egypt film festival site day before opening

A fire erupted yesterday at the site of a film festival on Egypt's Red Sea coast, briefly threatening its cancellation before being brought under control, officials said. The blaze "damaged a small part of the main pavilion" of El Gouna Film Festival just a day before its scheduled opening. Fifteen people who

suffered smoke inhalation were rushed to hospital for treatment, a civil defense force official said.

The brainchild of property mogul Samih Sawiris, one of Africa's richest men, the festival has attracted Hollywood stars including Forest Whitaker and Owen Wilson in previous

editions. "By tomorrow night everything will be ready to go," Sawiris said in a statement, adding that he suspected the fire had been caused by an electrical short circuit.

"We're all still in shock but thankfully we're fine," Ola El-Shafei, one of the festival's organizers, told AFP. The

organizers said in a statement that an investigation would be launched into the cause of the fire. The fifth edition of the festival is set to run until October 22, boasting a roster of 80 Arab and international films. — AFP

## Sting jokes 'vanity' keeps him looking youthful

Sting has joked that "vanity" is the key to his youthful appearance. The 70-year-old singer was complimented on his appearance by TV host Lorraine Kelly during an interview on her ITV show, and Sting subsequently opened up about how he's managed to retain his good looks. Lorraine asked: "You look great - what is it down to?" Sting replied: "Vanity. And a bit of discipline." The chart-topping star - whose real name is Gordon Sumner - is a long-time yoga enthusiast, and he also thinks that regular exercise has helped him to stay in good shape. He said: "I studied yoga for 30 years. But everything becomes yoga after a while." Sting celebrated his 70th birthday on October 2, but he still exercises and sings regularly. He shared: "I swim every day, I like to walk, and I sing." Sting previously admitted that despite being in good shape for so many years, he actually loves to indulge his taste buds from time to time. Asked if he's strict about what



he eats, he said: "Officially yes. Unofficially: it's ice cream, chocolate, wine." The singer also suggested that he likes to hear what people think of him - regardless of whether it's positive or negative. The 'Every Breath You Take' hitmaker - who shot to fame as part of the Police - explained: "In some ways I consider it an advantage to know how other people view you. You're under no illusions about how you're thought of. "You have to strike a balance: there's people who can't stand the sight of you, there's people who really love you and obviously the truth is somewhere in the middle. That's the passage I'm navigating ... I don't get unduly hurt. I might get a bit crazy..."

## Sir Patrick Stewart laughed off acting idea

Sir Patrick Stewart laughed off the idea of becoming an actor during his teens. The 81-year-old star was encouraged to consider acting as a career option by a teacher called Cecil Dormand - but Patrick originally thought that the suggestion was a "ridiculous idea". He explained: "A few days before I left school, at the age of 15, Cec asked me if I had ever thought of taking up acting as a career. It made me laugh, because it was a ridiculous idea, but two years later I was offered a place at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, paid for by a scholarship. "Usually the recipients were exclusively Oxbridge students, but they believed I had something that, perhaps, fitted in with other young people they encountered - although from a very different background. "It took me years to find a way to thank Cecil Dormand, but, when I did, I was in my first of 12 years as chancellor of the University of Huddersfield, where I presented him with an honorary



degree. "A few years later, I made him a second thank-you when I invited him to the luncheon celebrating my knighthood, presented by the Queen that same morning. The host invited everyone to say a few words. Cec said: 'What the heck am I going to call him now? For decades he called me Sir!'" Patrick admits his teacher "saved" his life and he'll always remain grateful for what he did for him. The actor told the Guardian newspaper: "Cec passed away a few weeks ago, at the age of 96. He saved me when I was a boy and my education was failing - and has without doubt been the most significant person in my life. If I had not met Cec, what would have happened to me? I am so grateful for his belief in me."

## Zendaya finds her business dealings fascinating

Zendaya is fascinated by the business side of her career. The 25-year-old actress became a star during her childhood, and over time, she's developed a passion for business, too. Asked how she manages her life on and off screen, Zendaya replied: "It's interesting because with our profession, there's no real blueprint for how it works. "When you have more of a corporate structure, there are promotions and you move up in the ranks. In this avenue, it's kind of like, 'I don't know what I'm doing now'. "What I urge a lot



of people to understand about this business is that it also is a business. It's the entertainment industry, and it's important to remember that money and contracts are involved. I try to be prepared

and understand as much as I can about that too." Zendaya admitted to adopting a more hands-on approach to her business dealings over recent years. She told InStyle magazine: "I find the business fascinating and important. When I was younger, I wasn't hugely into it. My parents would have to make me read contracts. "But as an adult, having been through ups and downs with different things not working out, I started wanting to read contracts on my own." The Hollywood star has retained an optimistic outlook, despite becoming more aware of how her industry works. And Zendaya still likes to believe that "anything is possible". She said: "I don't know if I've put myself in many situations to be told no. I think with a lot of things you need to get resistance. Maybe it is foolish to believe that anything is possible, but I do kind of believe that. "Just because you haven't done something before doesn't mean it can't be done."

## Nanjani admits to becoming 'obsessed' with his weight

Kumail Nanjani became "obsessed" with his weight after getting in shape to shoot 'Eternals'. The 43-year-old actor worked out relentlessly as he prepared for his role in the Marvel movie, and Kumail admits that the focus on his weight ultimately became unhealthy for him. He told Vulture: "I'll tell you, man, it's very easy to get obsessed with that number on the scale. "It's a tough thing. It's deceiving. You become obsessed with it. I certainly have, and for me, it's not great to weigh myself every day. I could tell you what I weigh today." A photo of Kumail's ripped physique went viral in 2019, and he's confessed that his appearance became "too important" to him at one stage. He said: "The way I look has been way too important to me, and so to hear a bunch of people reaffirming my own darkest thoughts about myself was very difficult." Kumail recently admitted that he feels "less and less comfortable" talking about his body. The actor revealed he hasn't enjoyed the scrutiny that's come his way over recent years. He said: "I've found out over the last year and a half, since I did that picture, that I am very uncomfortable talking about my body, and it's become less and less and less comfortable." The 'Silicon Valley' actor thought that gaining muscle would improve his career prospects and create new "opportunities" within the acting industry. He explained: "I wanted different types of opportunities. I wanted the industry to see me differently. "With brown people, there are very specific roles that we used to get. Either we're terrified or we're causing terror. Those are the only two options we had. Either I'm fixing your computer, or I'm, like, planning something at the stock exchange."



## Stanley Tucci hasn't seen his family due to COVID

Stanley Tucci hasn't seen his family "for almost a year" because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 60-year-old actor has recently been living in London and because of the pandemic, he hasn't been able to spend time with his family in the US. Asked about living in London, Stanley replied: "I miss my family. I miss my parents. I haven't seen them for almost a year because of the pandemic. "My parents were still living in the house I grew up in and I moved from Westchester, New York, and I was living 10 minutes away. I used to see them all the time." Asked whether his family dynamic was the result of his Italian roots, Stanley told 'Table Manners with Jessie & Lennie Ware': "My parents never lived too far away from them (grandparents) and I ended up not living too far away from my parents." 'Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy' - the actor's travel and food show - has been renewed for a second season by CNN. And the Hollywood star has



explained how the series was created. He said: "CNN came to me about two and a half years ago and said, 'Do you have any ideas for a show?' I said yes, I had three ideas. "One was about cancer and I saw their eyes glaze over. One was about refugees and food, and then there was this one. This was an idea I had for a really long time, which was breaking down Italy region by region, and the food and why that food is the way it is. "In a way, it's a hope of clarifying what Italian food is ... which is it can't really be clarified. The only thing that can be clarified is that it's from really simple ingredients. It's all poor food but the influences over centuries and millennia are profound because of where we're situated geographically."

## BRADY RECALLS PARTYING WITH SNOOP DOGG AFTER SUPER BOWL SUCCESS

Tom Brady and his son had the "time of [their lives]" with Snoop Dogg at a Super Bowl afterparty. The 44-year-old NFL star has recalled taking his 14-year-old son Jack to a party after the New England Patriots beat the Los Angeles Rams at the Super Bowl in 2019. Speaking on 'Let's Go!' with Tom Brady, Larry Fitzgerald and Jim Gray, he shared: "It was midnight. It was in our hotel. So, we had this special spot on the stage. Snoop had a pole up and there was some girls, they were clothed. "But, at the same time, there was a pole and my son ... he had his eyes open and he was listening to music. And I said, 'Jack, cover your eyes.'" However, Jack - who was just 11 at the time - reassured his dad that he didn't need to worry. Tom - who has Jack with Bridget Moynahan, as well as Benjamin, 11, and Vivian, eight, with his wife Gisele Bundchen - recalled: "He goes, 'Dad, I'm good. I'm good.'" So, it's two in the morning. And we are having the time of our life [sic], and I'm like, 'Holy cow. If he tells his mother, I ain't going to see this kid for a long time.'" Tom was joined on the podcast by Snoop, and the rapper explained that their friendship goes back years. He said: "Every Super Bowl that you was a part of in New England, I was at the party. I partied with you. Every one - despite being a Steelers fan - I showed up for my Patriots. "I showed up [for] TB and Mr Kraft [the team owner] and them, and I was performing. I was hanging out. I was doing everything [I] needed to be a part of the Patriot family."



## BTS' Louis Vuitton Grammys suits to be sold at MusiCares Charity Relief Auction

BTS' Louis Vuitton suits from the 2021 Grammys are expected to fetch between \$30,000 and \$50,000 at auction. The 'My Universe' group - comprising Jin, Suga, J-Hope, RM, Jimin, V and Jungkook - dressed head-to-toe in the luxury French fashion house's designer gear at the prestigious awards show in March. And the suits, along with three rings worn by J-Hope, will go under the hammer at the upcoming MusiCares Charity Relief Auction hosted by Julien's Auctions early next year. The accessories could rake in between \$2,000 and \$4,000. Established in 1989 by the Recording Academy, the goal of MusiCares is to offer services to members of the music community, including financial assistance for basic living expenses, medical expenses, and treatment for critical illnesses like HIV/AIDS and Parkinson's disease. The major charity sale is also set to include a rhinestone-embellished gown donated by country music legend Dolly Parton, who was named the 2019

MusiCares Person of the Year. The likes of Katy Perry, Lady Gaga, Demi Lovato, Harry Styles, and Lionel Richie have also donated items to help raise funds. Fans can bid on the memorabilia when the auction takes place on January 30, 2022. BTS is affiliated with Louis Vuitton, having showcased its fall 2021 menswear collection in a fashion film in July. The K-Pop boy band chose from 34 new pieces to wear in the film by Korean director Jeon Go-woon. A statement read: "The film stages a conversation between space, movement and global connectivity central to our moment in time, and explores the city of Seoul through the lens of diversity." Artistic director, Virgil Abloh added: "Seoul has such a unique energy and BTS embody this vibe completely. They add their spin to the collection, make it their own and take it to new heights." The 'Butter' hitmakers were named brand ambassadors of Louis Vuitton in April. — Bang Showbiz