

Man in the dock for car arson attack



The car destroyed in the attack

TDT | Manama

Police arrested a 27-year-old man on a charge that he set his friend's car on fire after promising to buy the vehicle from him under a deferred payment condition.

Police arrested the suspect following an investigation into a parked car catching fire in the A'ali area.

The officials were acting on information received that a car parked in A'ali area is on fire and that it has spread to a nearby parked car.

Security officers who

reached the scene extinguished the fire immediately and determined that the fire was an arson attack.

The ensuing investigation resulted in the police suspecting the 27-year-old man's involvement in the incident.

Investigators found that the man set the car on fire over a financial dispute he had with the car's owner.

The Director-General of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science said all legal measures have been taken to refer the case to Public Prosecution.



Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa with outgoing US Ambassador to Bahrain Justin Siberell. The minister emphasised the need to further boost bilateral relations and praised the efforts of the US ambassador during his tenure to enhance bilateral ties. Shaikh Salman wished him every success in his future duties. The US ambassador wished Bahrain and its people further growth and prosperity.

Bahrain records five more COVID-19 fatalities

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Bahrain yesterday reported five more COVID-19 deaths, after a two-day pause.

Three Bahraini men aged 43, 62 and 80 and two expatriate men aged 54 and 56 are the latest casualties.

The deaths were reported separately by the Ministry of Health on its twitter handle yesterday.

The ministry expressed condolences to the families of the

victims.

With this, the number of deaths in Bahrain has increased to 103, as it also cured 26,073 people of the infection.

There are currently 4,756 active cases in the Kingdom, of which 4,704 are stable. Eighty-two of the active cases are currently under treatment at various treatment facilities in the Kingdom.

Yesterday, the Health ministry conducted 9,466 COVID-19 tests to detect 597 new cases.

Expatriate workers account for 313 of the total cases while 281 cases were contacts of active cases.

Three of the new cases were travel related.

The ministry also announced 447 new recoveries yesterday increasing the total recoveries to 26,520.

Bahrain which confirmed its first COVID-19 cases on 21 February 2020 has performed 640,219 tests until yesterday to detect 31,528 cases in total.

Illegal massage service: Capital police arrest four

TDT | Manama

Four people were arrested for selling intoxicating substance and providing massage services illegally in the Capital Governorate.

The Director-General of the General Department of Investigation and Criminal Evidence said the suspects, Asians by nationality, were running a massage centre flouting all Health ministry norms at an apartment in the Governorate.

Investigators found that the services were provided in blatant violation of all coronavirus precautionary measures the ministry has taken to prevent the deadly spread.

The arrests were made based on a tip-off about illegal activities in the governorate.

Upon receiving the information, police formed a team to investigate the claims and identify the suspects.

The raid resulted in seizing equipment used as well as cash collected from customers.

Legal measures are taken to refer the case to Public Prosecution.

Sizzling 'NEOWISE' is giving us another celestial treat

TDT, agencies | Manama

Putting on a spectacular display on our night skies these days are a comet visiting from the most distant part of our solar system.

Named C/2020 F3 NEOWISE, the comet's cruise is visible in the morning sky today, and then just after sunset until mid-August.

What makes the comet's transit a fireworks display to us is its passage just inside Mercury's orbit on July 3.

The nearness, according to NASA, turned the outermost icy layers of the comet into gas and dust, creating a large tail of debris.

Now, observers all over the world are racing to see the comet's fireworks before it speeds away into the depths of space.

Mohammad Shawkat Odeh, Director of the Abu Dhabi based-International Astronomical Center, told *AlAyam*, "As the comet approaches the eastern horizon, its height from horizon becomes less at dawn also making it extremely difficult to see as the sunlight dims out the light of the comet."

NEOWISE, according to *Earth-Sky*, will be low on the horizon in the northwest sky from July 12 through July 15.

"However, the comet will be visible in the northwest after



A map showing the location of the comet in the eastern sky 50 minutes before sunrise from July 09 to July 14. (Courtesy of Al Ayam)



NASA's Near-Earth Object Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (NEOWISE) mission discovered the icy visitor on March 27, 2020, using its two infrared channels, which are sensitive to the heat signatures given off by the object as the Sun started to turn up the heat.

The comet made its once-in-our-lifetimes close approach to the Sun on July 3, 2020, and will cross outside Earth's orbit on its way back to the outer parts of the solar system by mid-August

sunset." Which means, if you want to see the magic, look in the West-North-West direction at an altitude of 58° above the horizon.

"Given its current magnitude, C/2020 F3 (NEOWISE) is visi-

ble to the naked eye under dark skies, might require a small binocular from light-polluted areas," Odeh said.

"Visibility from Manama depends

on the condition prevalent at the time," as Odeh points out that the brightness of the comet may increase suddenly or diminish drastically.

"It revolves around and completes a cycle around the sun

Now, observers all over the world are racing to see the comet's fireworks before it speeds away into the depths of space.



once in every 6,800 years," Shawkat Odeh said adding that the comet was closest to the Sun on July 3 and at that time it was at a distance of 43 million kilometres away from the Sun.

The comet, Odeh said, will reach the closest point to the Earth on July 23, at a harmless distance of 64 million miles or 103 million kilometres from the Earth. "This allows astronomers to learn more about its composition and structure."

NEOWISE was visible to people here yesterday morning from about an hour and a

half before the sunrise, which means the window was narrow to watch it.

"Key to finding it was looking for Venus, a bright object over the eastern horizon and then moving 30 degrees left until you reach a bright orange star called Al-Ayooq and looking down towards the horizon until you notice a glowing, fuzzy dot moving across the sky," Odeh said.

He points out that it will be easier to see the comet from the deserts than from the cities. However, it will be possible to see even from cities, if we know the exact location and the sky is clear. "A binocular will make the task much easier," he added.

According to Joseph Masiero, NEOWISE deputy principal investigator at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California, the comet's length is about 5 kilometres [3 miles] across.

"By combining the infrared data with visible-light images, we can tell that the comet's nucleus is covered with sooty, dark particles leftover from its formation near the birth of our solar system 4.6 billion years ago," he added.

As it speeds away from the Sun, Comet NEOWISE will begin to make its appearance in the evening sky.

