celebs

Jared Leto surprises terminally ill patient with video call

ANI | Washington

Hollywood star Jared Leto recently surprised a terminally ill Russian superfan on her 27th birthday with a sweet FaceTime call.

Anastasia Petrova, who reportedly lives in Moscow, told the '30 Seconds to Mars' singer in a video obtained by Page Six, "I'm happy to see you! You're talking to me! It's amazing!"

During the call, Petrova, who could barely contain her excitement, showed him a full-sized cardboard cutout of himself that she has had for a decade and the pair discussed pets and music during the call.

"I see you smiling and I'm happy you're smiling," Leto told her, adding, "I'm thinking about you over here and I'm happy to talk to you."

The 49-year-old 'Dallas Buyers Club' actor asked Petrova how she was feeling, to which she candidly replied that she's wasn't doing great, and taking morphine to help her because of her illness, which was not disclosed on the call.

Leto sweetly said he wished he was there to give her a "big hug" and say hello to her family. "You can give them a hug from me to them and I'll be thinking of you over here," he told her.

According to a local Russian outlet, Petrova's brother, Maxim, contacted Vera, a hospice care fund that works with terminally ill patients, with the request, telling them, "My dream is for Jared to find out that there is this girl in Russia who is smart, beautiful, ambitious, and loving."

Jared Leto

YOU KNOW WHAT

Jared Leto made headlines earlier this week after he got caught in an anti-vaccination protest in Rome

'Schitt's Creek' star Noah Reid replaces Armie Hammer in Broadway's 'The Minutes'

ANI | Washington

Canadian-American actor Noah Reid, best known for causing David Rose to fall madly in love on 'Schitt's Creek', has joined the cast of 'The Minutes', a new play by Tracy Letts that was in previews in March 2020 when Broadway closed down due to COVID.

According to Variety, he has replaced Armie Hammer, who was originally starring in the play but has now been accused by multiple women of sexual assault. Hammer has denied the claims and said that any sexual relationships were consensual, but the Los Angeles Police Department has opened an investigation and he has been fired from several films.

'The Minutes' is directed by Anna D. Shapiro. The original Broadway company members include Tony Award nominee Ian Barford, Tony Award winner Blair Brown, Cliff Chamberlain, Tony Award nominee K. Todd Freeman, Danny McCarthy, Tony Award winner Jessie Mueller, Sally Murphy, Tony Award nominee Austin Pendleton and Jeff Still. Letts will also appear in the play.

Britney Spears says she wishes she 'lived in another country'

Fox | Los Angeles

Britney Spears is giving fans an update amid changes in her 13-year-long conservatorship and says she's not happy living in America.

Since 2008, the 39-year-old singer's father Jamie had overseen her conservatorship until late September when judge Brenda Penny suspended him from his role after the star lobbed allegations of oppressive behavior against him.

Now, Spears has taken to Instagram to share her recent musings about her life alongside a photo of a Christmas tree, which seems to be set up in her home.

"I'll just be honest and say I've waited so long to be free from the situation I'm in ... and now that it's here I'm scared to do anything because I'm afraid I'll make a mistake !!!" she began in the lengthy caption. "For so many years I was always told if I succeeded at things, it could end ... and it never did !!!"

The star said she "worked so hard" and is "very happy" that her conservatorship situation is changing, but noted that "there's a lot of things that scare me!!!"

"The paps run through the trees and onto the road when I drive home and it's creepy !!!!" she explained. "And I have to drive by an elementary school ... the kids are a big deal ... but so am I !!!!! I don't like that they try to scare me and jump out like they do ... it's like they want me to do something crazy !!!"

She echoed that she's "fearful of doing something wrong" and said she "won't be posting as much in a world where it's our liberty to be free."

The star then said she "started to experience" liberty when she was given the keys to her car just four months ago after 13 years.

"I haven't done anything to be treated the way I have for the past 13 years !!!" Spears said before slamming the American justice system: "I'm disgusted with the system and wish I lived in another country !!!"

The "Toxic" singer revealed the significance of the Christmas tree pictured in her post too. She's celebrating the holiday "way early" this year.

"I believe any reason to find more joy in life is a good idea ... and it's no secret that I've been through it in the past ... so I might have to do things a little differently from now on !!!" she continued. "Lord have mercy on my family's souls if I ever do an interview !!!"

Britney Spears

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>
> BRITNEY SPEARS

Sharon Stone draws backlash for complimenting Jonah Hill on his looks

ANI | Washington

Hollywood star Sharon Stone has recently drawn backlash for complimenting actor Jonah Hill's looks following his request to 'not comment on my body'.

According to Fox News, after Hill had earlier politely asked his followers on Instagram not to comment on his body, good or bad, Stone had posted a comment, asking, "Can I say you look good cuz u do," with a fire emoji.

The comment from Stone's handle drew the ire of some Hill fans, who posted replies to the 'Casino' and 'Basic Instinct' star such as, "read the room" and "He literally just said no, Sharon Stone. Sheesh."

Sharon Stone

Drake wanted 'Degrassi' character out of wheelchair, got lawyer

Fox | Los Angeles

Drake allegedly threatened legal action to get his "Degrassi: The Next Generation" character out of a wheelchair, according to a former writer for the show.

The rapper, born Aubrey Graham, famously portrayed Jimmy Brooks, a student who was shot and thus had to use a wheelchair, on the teen drama from 2001 to 2008.

But writer James Hurst now claims the then-child actor lawyered up to get his character back on his feet.

"There was a letter from a law firm in Toronto, and it was from Aubrey. It was an odd letter that said, 'Aubrey Graham will not return to 'Degrassi' Season 6 as Jimmy Brooks unless his injury is healed, and he's out of the wheelchair,'" Hurst alleged to The AV Club in an interview published Thursday. "I said, 'Get him down here.'"

Hurst recalled confronting Drake, now 34, over the letter, saying, "He came in and was like, 'What letter? I don't know about that.' And I said, 'All right, I understand. But how do you feel about the wheelchair?'"

Drake allegedly claimed that his rapper pals had made fun of him for being in a wheelchair, to which Hurst explained why the role was so important.

"He's like, 'All my friends in the rap game say I'm soft because I'm in a wheelchair,'" Hurst remembered. "And I said, 'Well, tell your friends in the rap game that you got shot. How much harder can you get? You got shot, and you're in a wheelchair.' He was like, 'Yeah, yeah.'"

Hurst said that Drizzy was "so nice" and "apologetic" in the end and didn't proceed further with any legal action.

Drake famously portrayed Jimmy Brooks, a student who was shot and thus had to use a wheelchair, on the teen drama from 2001 to 2008

Drake

SUDOKU

	5		2	6				7
		2		1	7	3		
8								9
	8	7			2			
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7				9	1		2	

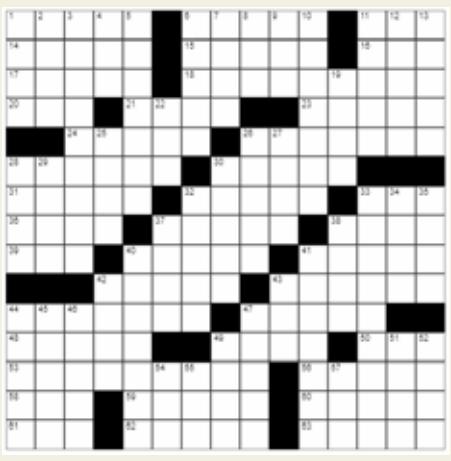
Yesterday's solution

1	5	9	4	6	7	2	8	3
8	3	4	5	1	2	6	7	9
6	7	2	8	3	9	1	4	5
7	6	1	9	4	5	3	2	8
2	4	8	3	7	1	9	5	6
5	9	3	2	8	6	7	1	4
9	2	7	6	5	4	8	3	1
4	8	6	1	2	3	5	9	7
3	1	5	7	9	8	4	6	2

How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Grammarian's concern; 6- Impressionist Edgar; 11- Maui memento; 14- Leash; 15- Actress Verdugo; 16- SASE, e.g.; 17- Deadens; 18- Distribute; 20- Singer DiFranco; 21- Wall St. debuts; 23- __ firma; 24- Spread apart; 26- Brand of facial tissue; 28- Shoot from the root of a plant; 30- Ancient tongue; 31- Pungent bulb; 32- Light-colored hair; 33- Narrow inlet; 36- Restless desire; 37- Graceful birds; 38- Inner layer of a quilt; 39- Fail to tell the truth; 40- Club alternative; 41- Hinge; 42- Lobster state; 43- Country; 44- Purplish red; 47- Nostrils; 48- As __ resort; 49- Latvian capital; 50- Boiling; 53- Drowsy; 56- Influential offering; 58- Hot time in Paris; 59- Newly made; 60- Russian revolutionary leader; 61- Stockholm flier; 62- Rival of Helena; 63- Barely beat;

Down

1- Annapolis inst.; 2- Phaser setting; 3- Truce; 4- Chew the fat; 5- Fifth letter of the Greek alphabet; 6- Lure; 7- Some Ivy Leaguers; 8- Lux. neighbor; 9- Mandela's org.; 10- Pan-fried; 11- Pick up; 12- __ nous; 13- Mountaineer's tool; 19- Vichyssoise ingredient; 22- Give one star, say; 25- Milne creation; 26- Basic monetary unit of Denmark; 27- Optical device; 28- Churn; 29- Against; 30- Open space in a forest; 32- African sir; 33- Extremely beautiful; 34- Langston Hughes poem; 35- Env. notation; 37- Roasting rod; 38- Sever with the teeth; 40- Capital of New Mexico; 41- Short allegorical story; 42- Engage, as gears; 43- Faultfinder; 44- Men; 45- Prince Valiant's wife; 46- Entrances; 47- Recess in a wall; 49- Stand; 51- Theatrical award; 52- Watch over; 54- Monopoly quartet: Abbr.; 55- Pick up; 57- Blushing;

Yesterday's solution