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OLIVIA GREENWAY NOVEMBER 14, 2011 | UPDATED 16:05 IST

Washington exhibition on America's food history

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The government controls your diet--don't scoff at this claim. Reserve your comments till you have visited 'What's Cooking, Uncle Sam?' an exhibition at Washington DC's National Archives. It charts the involvement of the government in the food that the USA has produced and eaten since the turn of the last century. The exhibition--which guides you through rooms with original posters and artefacts where the story of food is tracked through farm, factory, kitchen and table--throws up many surprises.

In 1900, USA's agriculture was based mainly on what the early colonists on the eastern seaboard had imported from Europe. In 1903, President Roosevelt kick-started the orange industry when he planted the first orange seedling in California, imported from Brazil. Similarly, in the early 1900s, 'seed hunters' were sent out all over the world to collect seeds for the fast-growing country. One of the more famous of these was Frank N Meyer, who spent a lonely decade in Asia in search of foods. As early as the 1890s, nutritionist W.O. Atwater was decrying the American diet as unhealthy and claiming they eat too much fat.

Closing the exhibition with more modern tales of food is recipe information from the politicians of the 1950s and 1960s, who were the celebrities of the day. Whereas President Eisenhower liked a simple vegetable soup, Jackie Kennedy Onassis enjoyed French food. President Johnson initiated the barbecue craze as an antidote to the pomp of the Kennedys; Mrs. Johnson said her chilli recipe was "almost as popular as the government pamphlet on the care and feeding of children". The exhibition also has a charming letter exchange between Queen Elizabeth II and Eisenhower regarding her recipe for drop scones.

A short distance away, Chef Jose Andres, winner of this year's James Beard Award (deemed the Oscars of the food world), is running a new pop-up restaurant America Eats Tavern, a non-profit collaboration with the National Archives. The extensive menu has a fascinating little story about each dish.

Choices include Pickled Oysters from the pre-canning 18th century; Mac and Cheese from 1802, a recipe brought in by a refugee of the French Revolution; and Lobster Newberg from 1876, with a secret sauce, developed by a Chef Wenberg. When he was sacked they kept his recipe, just changing the letters of his name around.

The exhibition and the restaurant are open until January 3, 2012; www.archives.gov

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Must See

John flattered by girlfriend's compliment

John says it is good to have an appreciative partner like Priya Runchal.



First Look: Arjun, Chitrangada sizzle in Inkaar

The first look of director Sudhir Mishra's film Inkaar has been revealed.



Brad Pitt feels 'the time is nigh' for wedding

He and Jolie will try to fit in a wedding among their busy schedules soon.



Vidya Balan's wedding diary!

The voluptuous beauty Vidya Balan will marry UTV chief Siddharth Roy Kapur on December 14, 2012.



Adriana Lima shows off baby belly in Pirelli Calendar

She wears a black cropped top and low-slung skirt in the image.



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Ram Kapoor to leave Bade Acche Lagte Hain?

Ram is walking out of the show to concentrate on his film career.

Rihanna to take Chris Brown home for New Year

The singer is taking Chris to Barbados in a bid to change his image.

It's official! Rani to marry Aditya Chopra next year

If all goes well, Rani will be a part of the Chopra family by marrying Adi next year.

Demi Moore dating new toyboy?

If grapevine is to be believed she has found love in 26-year-old art dealer Vito Schnabel.

SRK relives DDLJ moment!

This scene seems similar to one of the scenes from Bollywood's iconic film-Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge.

Madonna thinks her thighs are fat

The singer reportedly worked rigorously with her personal trainer to get her upper legs in shape.

Lady Gaga named best-loved eccentric

The 26-year-old singer beat a host of famous names to top the poll of 2,000 people.

AnyBody Can Dance? If Prabhu Deva is the teacher, yes!

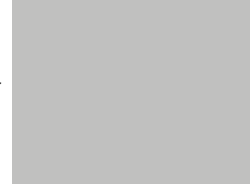
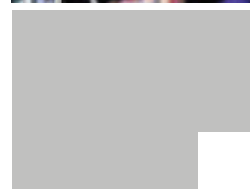
The dancer is all set to woo you again in the upcoming dance film ABCD.

Shakira posts bare baby bump on Twitter

"I could have another 9 months like this!," she tweeted a caption along with the picture.

Box office fire works on Eid next year

Salman's Sher Khan and SRK's Chennai Express will be releasing on Eid next year.



Lights, Camera, Action!

Priyanka will be stepping in the shoes of Jaya Bachchan for the remake of Bollywood blockbuster Zanjeer.

Jessica Simpson pregnant again?

Jessica Simpson is reportedly expecting her second child with fiance Eric Johnson.

Khiladi Bhaiyya on a promotional spree

Akshay and Asin rocked the stage at the music success celebration of Khiladi 786.

Fashion's biggest lawsuits

In a designer-eat-designer world, these were the most scandalous battles ever fought...Take a look!

The celebrity DIY challenge!

Some easy-to-make, fash-forward pieces for you.

Actors always crave adulation: Rani

Rani Mukherji is disheartened that not many went to see her latest release Aiyyaa.

TV actresses break fair skin beauty myth

It's talent over fair skin for TV show producers, who prefer dusky beauties.

Bipasha Basu to catwalk in Goa

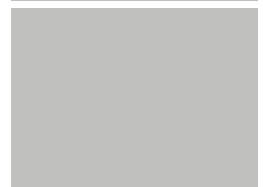
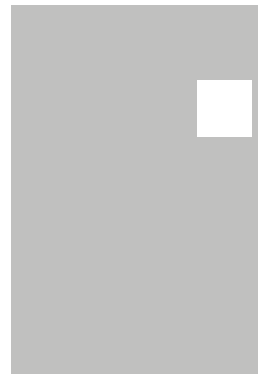
Bipasha will take to the runway at the India Resort Fashion Week, flaunting a creation by designer duo Anjalee and Arjun Kapoor.

Lady Gaga praises Lindsay Lohan

"You did a beautiful job on 'Liz & Dick', Let no one bring you down," Lady Gaga posted on Twitter.

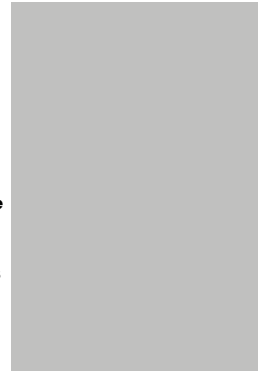
Bharti Singh aka Lalli to enter Bigg Boss house

Bharti will enter the Bigg Boss 6 house just as a guest and will be there for few hours.



Katy Perry, John Mayer in search of a love nest

Katy and John want to find a place in LA to share.



Roger Moore's love for tan led to skin cancer

Former Bond star says his habit of soaking up the sun to get a Hollywood tan has led to cancer.



Justin Bieber booed in Canada

The Toronto crowd booed during his halftime performance at Canada's football Grey Cup.



Low-key publicity for Talaash was deliberate

Director Reema Kagti says under-promotion of Talaash was deliberate.

First look: Mere Dad Ki Maruti

Produced by Yash Raj Films, the theatrical trailer of the film surely looks like a fun watch. Have a look!



Chris Brown quits Twitter

The singer deleted his Twitter account after indulging in a war of words with a comic writer.



Sonakshi Sinha's moustache connection!

Sonakshi reveals that her success lies with the look of the co-actor, having a moustache in the film.



Big B moved by acid attack victim Sonali Mukherjee's courage

She appeared on KBC along with actor Lara Dutta.



Hate Story star not in love with her hot tag

Paoli Dam is keen to shed the hot star tag that her debut Hate Story fetched her.



Priyanka's tribute to Yash Chopra

Priyanka performed on hit numbers from Yash Chopra's films at People's Choice Awards.



Vidya, Siddharth to host wedding reception in Chennai

Like the wedding, reception is also expected to be a quiet affair.

Marilyn Monroe school picture up for sale

A rare photo of the diva at her school graduation in 1941 is going under the hammer.

Jennifer Aniston was a great kisser even at 12, says her first boyfriend

Her first romance was with musician Adonis Tsilimparis.

Who is sexier between Ryan Gosling & Bradley Cooper?

The actors used lunch breaks to decide who is sexier while shooting.

Life Of Pi earns Rs.19.5 crore over weekend

The movie in 2D and 3D format opened in the country in four languages.

Sonakshi shares screen space with mother

The mother-daughter duo will be seen together in a TV commercial.

Big B's love for his 'extended family'

Wherever he goes- be it his blog or Twitter or Facebook- fans follow him everywhere in great numbers.

Abhay takes a jibe at SRK

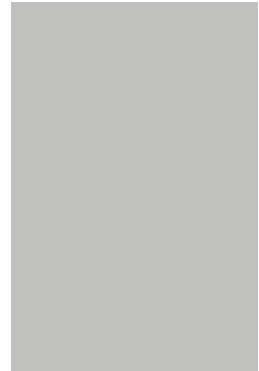
"Shah Rukh Khan should like himself. He is fair and handsome," quipped Abhay Deol.

JTHJ continues to mint money

The romantic saga has earned Rs.101.26 crore at the domestic box office in 11 days since its release.

First look: The attacks of 26/11

First seven minutes of RGV's The Attacks of 26/11 have been released.



Why SRK feels awkward?

Shah Rukh Khan says meeting new people still makes him feel awkward.

Up, close and personal with Rani Mukerji

The actor talks about her forthcoming film with Aamir Khan-Talaash.

Miley Cyrus gets pig as birthday gift

The singer was presented with a rescued pig Nora by PETA.

Two special birthday gifts for Rajinikanth

Superstar Rajinikanth turns 62 next month on December 12.

Bollywood influence on fashion trends waning?

Realistic films are waning the influence of Bollywood in fashion.

Workload as stressful as joblessness?

As per a study, workload can be as distressed as someone who is jobless.

Miranda Kerr is the new face of Mango

Supermodel Miranda Kerr has replaced Kate Moss as the face of Spain's fashion label Mango.

Anushka Sharma in vintage look

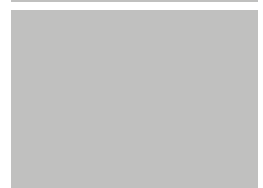
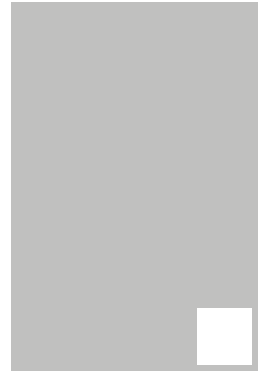
Bollywood babe Anushka Sharma shows off her sultry side in vintage ensembles.

India a hot spot for pink travellers

The LGBT community across the world is vying for India as the ultimate 'pink' tourist destination.

Priyanka's new song with The Chainsmokers

PC has now sung in a track composed by a band named The Chainsmokers.



'It's human' says Bon Jovi on daughter's heroin overdose

The singer says he will get through the tragic heroin overdose of his daughter.

Stars at Life Of Pi premiere

Bollywood was in full attendance at the screening of Life Of Pi.

Suri Cruise celebrates Thanksgiving with Daddy dear

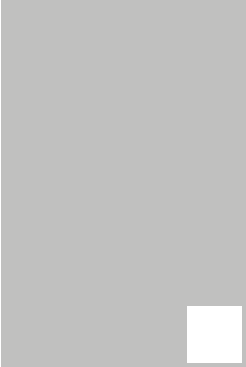
Tom Cruise met his daughter Suri after a long time to celebrate Thanksgiving together.

Pran is absolutely fine: Doctors

Pran was rushed to Lilavati hospital after he complained of weakness.

Royal honour for Gary Barlow and Kate Winslet

The two have been awarded with Britain's highest honour.



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Warrior Prince
The party is in the worst of times and allies are already in poll position as Rahul Gandhi takes the final leap to lead the Congress challenge.

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Sports Buzz

Ricky Ponting timed it right, Sachin, what about you?

Ponting's calling curtains on his career is the final signal for Tendulkar to think



Ponting bids an emotional farewell: 'Glad to have got the opportunity to finish on my terms'

Eden curator, who refused a turning track, replaced by BCCI

Prabir Mujherjee had asked for written instructions from the Board for the same.

Bindra lashes out at IOA ahead of elections

Shooter accuses officials of ignoring athletes' interest.

In Dravid, Tendulkar gets a friend to fall back on

Former team mate backs Sachin to come good in this series.

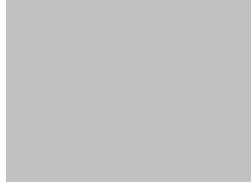
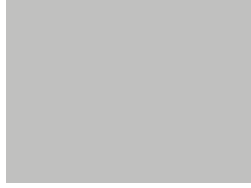
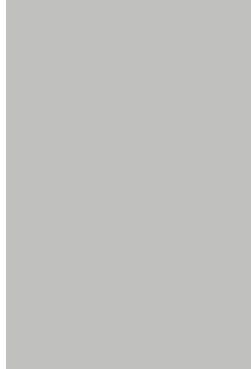
Sachin Tendulkar in talks with selectors over his future, BCCI says it's not aware of any such thing

Why blame Sachin Tendulkar alone?

The Indian batsman is not the only one struggling to take a call on his retirement.

Selectors choose Mumbai losers to attempt win at Eden

Unfit fast bowler Umesh Yadav lone member to be dropped for third Test.



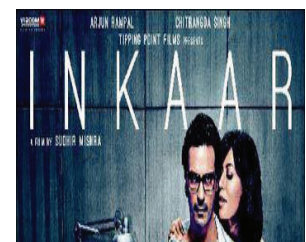
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