

## Crimes

Kuwait oil rises by  
\$1.95 to \$89.82 pb

KUWAIT: Kuwait oil price rose by \$1.95 in Wednesday's trading session to reach \$89.82 pb compared with \$87.87 pb Tuesday, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said yesterday. Benchmark Brent gained \$1.76 to reach \$89.96 pb and West Texas Intermediate also increased by \$1.75 to settle at \$87.35 pb. The OPEC daily basket price went up by two US dollars to \$89.35 a barrel Wednesday, compared with \$87.35 the previous day, the cartel said yesterday. The annual average of the OPEC's basket price amounted to \$69.89 pb last year, the organization said in its bulletin. The OPEC+ alliance decided early January to proceed with a production hike of 400,000 barrels per day (bpd), keeping their current policy of slight monthly increases in output.

Symposium stresses  
need to care for orphans

KUWAIT: Participants in a recent symposium held in Kuwait stressed the necessity to provide orphans with a dignified life that keeps them from going astray and help qualify them to integrate in society away from racism and rejection. The symposium was organized by the specialized Arab woman Union - Kuwait branch Saturday January 22, 2022, on the occasion of the International Orphan Day. Participants said caring for orphans can help make them effective members in building the society, and goes in line with the principles of Islam. Participants stressed, in the symposium which was held under the slogan 'towards a secure life' on having government and private efforts come together to care for the orphans psychologically, socially, educationally and in the health field.

# Italian chef hails Kuwait as country of opportunities

## Small-town kid opens two restaurants in Kuwait after starting as a waiter

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: According to Italian chef Marco Fiorot, Kuwait is a country of opportunities, and he plans to stay here for the rest of his life. Fiorot is a great example of the success expats can achieve in Kuwait. Fiorot came from a small town in northeast Italy called Vigonovo. "I came to Kuwait in 2014 by chance. I was only 24 years old and started working as a waiter at a tiny coffeeshop in Abul Hasania. Now I own two restaurants, which proves that Kuwait is the country of opportunities," he said in an interview with Kuwait Times. Some excerpts:

**Kuwait Times:** What did you think of Kuwait before coming here?

**Marco Fiorot:** I expected to find the desert and camels. I didn't know there were fancy skyscrapers here. Actually, they're fancier than in Italy.

**KT:** Why did you choose Kuwait?

**Fiorot:** By chance I met a Kuwaiti at a restaurant in Italy, where I was working as a waiter. This man invited me to visit Kuwait, as he was opening a coffeeshop and wanted to have an Italian collaborator, so I came. I worked with him as a waiter for about a year. Then he decided to close the business.

**KT:** Why did you stay in Kuwait after the coffeeshop closed?

**Fiorot:** I had begun to love Kuwait very much. I met many people in a very short time and made a lot of friends, as the community here is fabulous. So I decided to stay.

**KT:** How did you survive after you

lost your job?

**Fiorot:** I called my parents back in Italy and asked them to help me finance my business. They know this was my dream since I was a child, and they helped me make it come true. Now I believe I'm the only Italian in Kuwait who owns a restaurant.

**KT:** When did you open your restaurant?

**Fiorot:** I opened my first restaurant six years ago in Salmiya. It was a small restaurant, and I made zero profits in the first month. But I didn't give up, and decided to fight for my dream. After a month, a social media blogger came to dine at the restaurant. He liked it, as he found it unique. Then a lot of people started coming.

**KT:** Why did you leave this restaurant?

**Fiorot:** As it was small, and after it became successful, I wanted a larger one. So I moved to Kuwait City after three years. I love the location, as it's the first restaurant people see when entering Sharq. There were no real



KUWAIT: Italian chef Marco Fiorot speaks to Kuwait Times. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

my second restaurant in Shuwaikh with a different concept.

**KT:** What difficulties did you face in the beginning?

**Fiorot:** Life and work here is different from Italy. It was very complicated in the beginning. But people here helped me a lot. They are very friendly and helpful. You always need someone local to help you out - without locals you won't be able to finish your business. I was really lucky that I met these people, like my sponsor and my partners.

**KT:** How did the pandemic affect you?

**Fiorot:** We were struggling, but survived. It's mostly because we are solid in the market. It was hard but we didn't close. We paid all salaries and rent.

**KT:** Where did you learn cooking?

**Fiorot:** I used to cook pasta for my friends when we gathered, and they were always praising it. I learnt most recipes from my mother in the beginning, then I took cooking classes in Italy. My dishes are traditionally Italian with my personal touch.

**KT:** Any closing remarks?

**Fiorot:** Kuwait realized my dream. I started with five tables and now I have 80 employees. Before, the United States was the country of opportunity, but for me Kuwait is this country. If I was in Italy, I wouldn't have been able to realize this dream. Here even a young guy with a good idea can be successful. I recommend Kuwait as a business place. If you don't have friends, you may end up bored, as it's difficult to adapt. But I have a lot of friends!

“ The community here is fabulous ”

Italian restaurants in Kuwait, and this was one of the reasons for my success. We were the pioneers with only a few competitors. In 2021, I opened

## Fire engineers undergo training program

KUWAIT: The prevention sector of Kuwait Fire Force presented a field training program to 23 engineers from the experts' department to inspect fire equipment and test them with the knowledge of engineering services. Kuwait Fire Force Deputy Director General for Prevention Maj Gen Khalid Abdallah Fahad visited the field training program which was held at high rise buildings. Trainee engineers were introduced to the mechanism of fire hydrants' work. KFF explained.



# CONDOLENCES

**Kuwait Times**  
Management and staff  
convey their deepest  
condolences to

**Fathi Alhakeem**  
Circulation Department Manager

on the sad demise of his

**Aunt**

*May Allah Almighty bestow His mercy on her*



## Kuwait army blood donation drive concludes

KUWAIT: Kuwait Army concluded yesterday a blood donation campaign organized in cooperation with the Kuwait Blood Bank. The campaign, entitled 'My Blood for Kuwait', was arranged by the army's guidance and public relations department and has been ongoing since January 23, 2022. Kuwait Army General staff members were keen to participate in the campaign, which reflects their belief in the importance of blood donation, and out of the army's national and human duty, the guidance and



Colonel Mohammad Al-Awadhi

public relations department said in a statement. Their participation is also in line with efforts to meet national needs by extending all forms of support to the health ministry and help the central bank by backing up its reserves of various blood groups, the department added. Meanwhile, director of moral guidance and public relations

Colonel Mohammad Al-Awadhi said the campaign witnessed large turn out from various land, air and sea units.

