Turkey refuses to recognize Armenian genocide; Obama omits word in speech

BY LUIS RIVAS

Thousands will gather on the streets of Los Angeles on Friday to march in honor of the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, and to pressure the Turkish and United States governments into officially recognizing the genocide.

On April 21, the White House confirmed that President Obama will not use the word genocide in his annual Armenian massacre statement to be released on April 24. Although the U.S. does not officially recognize the Armenian genocide, 43 U.S. states have made official proclamations or passed resolutions acknowledging the genocide.

On Monday night, news surfaces that Ryu faced a charge of attempted rape in 2002 that was eventually dismissed. According to court documents, Ryu was involved in an incident on Aug. 14, 2002, that eventually led to his arrest. Then 27, Ryu was accused of attempted rape of an unconscious woman, only identified as a Jane Doe. The charges were filed on Sept. 10, 2002. The charges were dismissed after the prosecution said it was unable to proceed with the case, court records show.

“The alleged victim never claimed that anything happened,” said Mark Kim, Ryu’s attorney. “The police officers on the scene concluded nothing had happened. There was no physical evidence of either assault or unconsciousness. The one person who alleged a crime was a third party; and another witness cast doubt on her statement. There simply was no evidence of any crime. So my client, who consistently denied this charge, was fully exonerated.”

Ryu also responded to the information that was made public on Monday.

LACMA celebrates golden anniversary

“50 for 50” exhibit showcases art gifted by benefactors

BY EDWIN POLYVEN

“What do you give a museum for its birthday? Art of course,” said Michael Govan, CEO and Wallis Annenberg director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA).

LACMA kicked off its 50th anniversary last weekend with a star-studded gala and the opening of the new “50 for 50: Gifts on the Occasion of LACMA’s Anniversary” exhibit.

The gala raised $5 million for museum programming and acquisitions. The new “50 for 50” exhibit marks a milestone in the museum’s effort to continue collecting and showcasing pieces in one of the finest collections assembled in any museum in the world, Govan said.

“The 50-year-long history of the museum has been marked by the work of thousands of benefactors who have generously given to the museum with a common purpose,” Govan said.

Visitors entering the Resnick Pavilion’s “50 for 50” exhibit are greeted by a piece by artist Delaine Valentine titled “Red Concave Circle.”

CD4 candidates Carolyn Ramsay and David Ryu spoke directly with constituents after a debate in Beachwood Canyon last Thursday.

“CD4 candidates Carolyn Ramsay and David Ryu spoke directly with constituents after a debate in Beachwood Canyon last Thursday.”

Candidates spar at hillside debates

Campaign promises made and a dismissed rape allegation surfaces

BY JONATHAN VAN DYKE

Campaigning for the 4th District Council Office, a turn this week following two heated debates and the revelation of a dismissed rape allegation 13 years ago against candidate David Ryu.

The one person who alleged a crime was a third party; and another witness cast doubt on her statement. There simply was no evidence of any crime. So my client, who consistently denied this charge, was fully exonerated.”

Ryu also responded to the information that was made public on Monday.

Nurses protest schedule changes at Olympia Medical Center

BY LUIS RIVAS

Dozens of registered nurses (RNs) gathered in front of the Olympia Medical Center for a vigil and rally on Monday, April 20, to protest against the hospital’s new schedule that could affect 250 RNs.

The nurses at Olympia Medical Center want community involvement to keep the current schedule.

The nurses at Olympia Medical Center want community involvement to keep the current schedule.
23 Classic Film
C
come lovers are invited to a screening of “The Postman Always Rings Twice” (1946) on Thursday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Alex Theatre. The film stars Lana Turner and John Garfield. Alan K. Rode, director of the Film Noir Foundation, will discuss the film. General admission is $16.50. 216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale. www.alexfilmsociety.org.

“The Murder Ballad”
Dancers with the Los Angeles-based collective Post Drag Group will perform in “The Murder Ballad” running from Thursday, April 23 through Sunday, April 26 at the Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theatre. The performance brings to life Jilly Roll Morton’s legendary 1938 recording by the same name. Showtimes are at 8 p.m. on April 23 and 26. Tickets start at $16. 631 W. 2nd St. (213)237-2800, www.zeitak.com.

24 Jazz and Art
Jazz lovers are invited to the Los Angeles Jazz Festival and Dyssonia City Art Gallery’s “Wine, Jazz and Art” series running from Friday, April 24 through Sunday, April 26 at the gallery. The series kicks off with the Akyran performance by the Manje and Haakon Graf Jazz Band on April 24 from 7 to 10 p.m. A performance by Carmelita Pitanan and The Flying Cucumbers, and DeeDee Lavelle will be held on April 25 from 7 to 10 p.m. and on April 26 from 1 to 7 p.m., arts and jazz students will present a free reading and performances will be held. Receptions will be held during each event. Admission is $10 for concerts-only; $25 for receptions with food. 5373 Wilshire Blvd. (323)957-0030, www.dysonnacityartgallery.com.

25 Writing Workshop
Writing Workshop is inviting to a workshop titled “How to Write Query Letters and Proposals” on Saturday, April 25 at 2 p.m. at the Million Dollar Theatre, 631 W. 2nd St. The workshop focuses on a family that is obsessed to Ballona Creek. The cost is $30 for historical society members; $35 for non-members; and $50 for tour and membership. To RSVP, call (323)934-2556.

Photo courtesy of the Windsor-Square-Hancock Park Historical Society.

Participants can view six gardens along the Brookside Stream on Sunday, April 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. during a tour sponsored by the Windsor-Square-Hancock Park Historical Society. The tour begins at 8th Street and Longwood Avenue, and follows the natural stream to 949 Longwood Ave., where refreshments will be served. The stream, officially called Rio del Jardín de las Flores, surfaces in Brookside and continues underground to Ballona Creek. The cost is $30 for historical society members; $35 for non-members; and $50 for tour and membership. To RSVP, call (323)934-2556.

Noel Coward Reading
A free reading of “Pointe V alaine” by Noel Coward will be held on Saturday, April 25 at 2 p.m. in the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room as part of the city’s “Classical Theatre Lab Reading Series”. 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. RSVP requested to (323)960-5691, or email classicaltheatrelab@gmail.com.

Gym Crew Challenge
Dance fans are invited to the “Gym Crew Challenge” on Saturday, April 25 at 8 p.m. in the Barnsdall Gallery Theatre. Ten teams of non-professional dancers will compete for prizes in front of family, friends, co-workers and guest judges. The judging panel includes Dominic “D-trix” Sandovai, Jasmine Harper and hip-hop/R&B artist The Kid Ryan, who will also perform. Tickets are $25. 4800 Hollywood Blvd. www.barnsdallartcenter.org/GCC.

26 Miracle Mile Run
Runners are encouraged to join Councilman Tom LaBonge’s 3rd annual Miracle Mile Run on Sunday, April 26. The free “fun run” starts at Wilshire Boulevard and Orange Drive. Participants will run along Wilshire Boulevard in the Miracle Mile to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Check-in is at 8 a.m. To register, visit www.arunencircle.com.

“The Postman Always Rings Twice” (1946) on Thursday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Alex Theatre. The film stars Lana Turner and John Garfield. Alan K. Rode, director of the Film Noir Foundation, will discuss the film. General admission is $16.50. 216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale. www.alexfilmsociety.org.

“Torn Asunder”
Actor Ed Asner stars in a free reading of a new comedy-romance titled “Torn Asunder” on Sunday, April 26 at 2 p.m. at Theatre 40, on the campus of Beverly Hills High School. The production, written by Christine Rosenzweig, also stars Flores Flamethrower, Steve Keyes and Elizabeth Lander. It focuses on a family that is obsessed with football. 241 S. Moreno Drive. (310)364-5600, www.theatre40.org.

Advocacy Training
Learn how to become an advocate during a workshop on Sunday, April 26 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles’ Council House on Fairfax Avenue. The workshop is titled “How to Write an Op-Ed.” Additional workshops will be held on May 31, June 14, July 12 and Aug. 2. The cost is $15 per workshop. 543 N. Fairfax Ave. (323)852-8536, www.ncjwla.org/advocacy-training.

Youth Orchestra Concert at The Ebell
Pianist Jordan Daniels and soprano Gertrude Bradley and Dobney Jones will join the Ebell Chorale and the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles Chorus for a special performance on Sunday, April 26 at 8 p.m. at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre. World premiere performances of settings of the poetry of Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou, composed by Charles Dickerson, will be held. The concert benefits the Ebell’s Preservation and Restoration Fund and the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles. Tickets start at $35. 4401 W. 8th St. (323)939-1128, www.ebellorchestra.org.

Cancer Benefit
An event inspired by Robin Babbini will host its 5th annual fundraiser titled “Happily Ever Daughter” on Sunday, April 26 at 7 p.m. at The Comedy Store. Guests will enjoy a buffet, comedy performances and a silent auction. The Ovarian Cancer Circle was founded in memory of Babbini, a West Hollywood resident who lost her battle with ovarian cancer at the age of 26. Tickets start at $80. 8433 Sunset Blvd. (323)842-8100, www.theovariancancercircle.org.

28 Hadag Nasha
Israel’s Hadag Nasha will perform in concert on Tuesday, April 28 at Avalon Hollywood. Hadag Nasha, one of the most successful bands in Israel. Concert open at 8:45 p.m.; show starts at 8:30 p.m. General admission is $45. 1735 Vine St. www.teevtix.com.

29 Cold War Lecture
TECLA professor and scholar Vladimir Paperny will present a free lecture titled “Soviet-American Confrontation at the 1958 Brussels World Fair and the 1959 American National Exhibition in Moscow” on Wednesday, April 29 at 7 p.m. in the West Hollywood City Council Chambers. The lecture explores cultural confrontation during the Cold War. 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. www.techts.org/art.

30 Cause for Paws Benefit
Beverly Hills is hosting the “Cause for Paws” fundraiser on Thursday, April 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the dealership. The event benefits the nonprofit Karma Rescue. Musical entertainment, “dogs & me” psychic readings and a silent auction will be held. Guests will also enjoy food and libations, and there will be raffles for a puppy and dog house. Doors of ewers will be provided for owners with their furry friends. Donations are welcome. 8825 Wilshire Blvd. (310)633-4455, or email tany@techts.org.
Inaugural half marathon in WeHo attracts 3,000 runners

More than 3,000 runners participated in the inaugural Sunset Strip Half Marathon and 5K on April 19 in West Hollywood. West Hollywood Mayor John D’Amico, local business leaders and running enthusiasts from throughout Southern California attended the event in support of the 13.1-mile run through West Hollywood and along the Sunset Strip.

The top male finisher was Ely Hernandez, 22, of Anaheim, with an official finish time of 1:17:33. The top female finisher was Christina Vergara-Alestit, 33, of Las Vegas, with an official finish time of 1:22:23. The event was organized by Los Angeles-based RaceForce, LLC. Participants received a medal and T-shirt, and a rock-themed finish line celebration was held. Charity partners included the House of Blues Music Forward Foundation, Team To End AIDS and the Institute for Myeloma & Bone Cancer Research.

SAG/AFTRA cements deal to remain in area for another decade

By Jonathan Van Dyke

The Miracle Mile will continue to be home to the Hollywood elite with the dedication of SAG- AFTRA Plaza at the 5757 Wilshire Blvd. building.

Union officials announced the plaza naming during a special ceremony last Thursday afternoon that included the unveiling of two 46-by-40-foot renderings of the SAG-AFTA logo facing east and west at the top of the building. New doorway signage and side pillows were unveiled.

“One time we have settled into this location and become an integral part of the neighborhood,” said David White, SAG-AFTA national executive director. “We like it here, and frankly, what’s not to like? The building itself is historic and truly fantastic. The neighborhood is centrally located and it’s in the midst of dynamic growth.”

SAG-AFTA, also known as the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, represents more than 160,000 entertainment and media professionals.

Los Angeles-based architects Walter Wurden and Welton Beckett designed the 5757 Wilshire Blvd. building, which was completed in 1948 for Prudential Insurance Company.

Union officials pointed out that SAG-AFTA’s history stretches back more than a half-century in the Miracle Mile. In 1953, KEAF, an AFTRA classical music station, began broadcasting from the property next to the 5757 building, which is now occupied by numerous businesses, an ordering firm and a “generous” tenant improvement allowance and the chance to put down roots in this building for the foreseeable future.

“It has been a wild ride, and I personally can’t wait to see what is next for our union and our members,” SAG-AFTA president Ken Howard said.

“What’s this moment is all about, looking to the future with a nod to the glorious past.” Union officials said the new lease was attained at a highly competitive per square foot price, with a “generous” tenant improvement allowance and the chance to put the SAG-AFTA name and logo at the property at no extra cost to the organization.

“This is a deal that made sense and it was far too good to pass up,” White said. “So we are going to put down roots in this building for the foreseeable future and we’re going to place our name on this building.

The SAG Foundation offices will also be located in the building, along with classrooms for casting and brand workshops. The lease runs through 2026.

“This building is where it begins for so many when they finally gain membership and become a professional in their trade,” White added. “Literally their first member orientation meeting occurs right inside.”

“The building is so special,” said City Councilman Tom LaBonge, 4th District. “This [area] is the place to be. This is a neighborhood and a walking neighborhood. You can walk around LACMA, walk around the special programs at the Natural History Museum, and the subway is coming. I salute SAG-AFTA and your team, everybody here, on this day for this new plaza at 5757 Wilshire Blvd.”

Residents of Sunset & Gordon project told to move out

Future of project remains uncertain

By Edwin Folven

The future of dozens of residents in the controversial Sunset and Gordon building in Hollywood remains in limbo after the Los Angeles Board of Building and Safety Commissioners on Tuesday upheld an order that the building must be vacated.

The commission voted 5-0 that the department of building and safety did not abuse its discretion last month in invalidating occupancy permits for the 22-story high-rise at Sunset Boulevard and Gordon Street. The occupancy permits were rescinded because of an ongoing legal challenge by the La Mirada Avenue Neighborhood Association over the project, which was built by CIM Group.

Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety spokesman Luke Zamperini said the commission also voted to give CIM Group 30 days to comply with the order to vacate the building. An attorney for the property owner said in reports that the commission’s decision will likely be appealed.

The La Mirada Avenue Neighborhood Association filed a lawsuit three years ago contending CIM Group failed to comply with a requirement to preserve portions of the façade of the Old Spaghetti Factory restaurant formerly on the site. A judge sided with the association last October, and invalidated the project’s construction permits. However, the 299-unit building was already built. The ruling was appealed, and legal proceedings continue.

Zamperini said approximately one month ago, the department was notified that portions of the building were being used as a hotel, and an order was issued to the property owner stating that unpermitted hotel operations must cease at the site.

“They’ve got 30 days to get the people out, and if not, we will turn it over the city attorney’s office,” Zamperini said.

Tenants had moved into the Sunset and Gordon building before a project told to move out

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Suspect charged with mayhem for biting officer during arrest

By Edwin Folven

A 31-year-old suspect has been charged with mayhem for allegedly biting a police officer in Koreatown on Monday after authorities approached him for harassing a pedestrian and being under the influence.

Lt. Marco Muñoz, of the Los Angeles Police Department’s Olympic Division, identified the suspect as Steven Whimie, a resident of Los Angeles. Muñoz said a pedestrian near the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue flagged down officers in a patrol car at approximately 9 p.m., and told them a man, later identified as Whimie, was following him.

When officers approached the suspect, a confrontation ensued, and one of the officers was bitten on the bicep. A second officer sustained a shoulder injury during the altercation. Both officers received medical treatment and were released.

Whimie was arrested and booked for mayhem, a felony under the California Penal Code. Muñoz said the investigation is ongoing, and he did not know whether the suspect was under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Whimie is being held on $150,000 bail pending formal criminal charges being filed.

Three suspects sought for robbery

By Edwin Folven

Detectives with the Los Angeles Police Department’s Wilshire Division Robbery Unit are searching for three suspects who robbed an T&T store in the 8400 block of Beverly Boulevard on April 13 and left the scene on a bicycle.

The robbery occurred at 8:30 p.m. Three African American men entered the store and two removed the phones from a display. A surveillance video shows two of the suspects running out of the store, and the third

pushing a security guard attempting to stop them at the doorway.

The suspects are described as 25 to 30 years old, approximately 6 feet tall, and 150 pounds. One suspect had long braided hair and was wearing a white shirt, gray sweatpants, white shoes and a New York Yankees cap. Anyone with information is urged to call (213)922-8217.

Hancock Park couple accused of human trafficking

By Edwin Folven

Victims were allegedly forced to work in homes

A Los Angeles County grand jury indictment was unsealed on April 17 against two defendants who are accused of human trafficking.

The defendants, Astati Halim, 56, and Hendra Anwar, 62, of Hancock Park, allegedly arranged for the victims to come to the United States from Indonesia for work, and then confiscated their passports. They allegedly forced three victims to work in two resi-

dences in Hancock Park and another property in Beverly Hills. The crimes occurred between May 2010 and September 2013, Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office spokeswoman Shiera Davila-Morales said.

Few details of the case were available because of pending court proceedings, Davila-Morales said. The indictment was drafted after a seven-month investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department and the FBI. The addresses of the proper-
ties were not divulged.

According to the indictment, the defendants worked with individu-
als in Indonesia to have the victims flown to the United States. With at least one of the victims, a contract was presented requiring the victim to work for five years, instead of the previously agreed upon two years.

Another victim was allegedly forced to sign a fictitious work contract with a co-conspirator of the defendants.

The indictment also alleges that fictitious documents were present-
ed to embassy officials, in further-
ance of the conspiracy, and that the victims were instructed not to speak to law enforcement officials.

Halim and Anwar pleaded not guilty on April 17 to three counts each of human trafficking and one count each of conspiracy to commit a crime. They are scheduled to return to court on May 8.

Alleged drunk driver arrested for fatal accident

By Edwin Folven

A 28-year-old alleged drunk driver is a resident of West Hollywood.

Det. L. Childs, of the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Traffic Division.

Investigators believe Fedorov, who was traveling northbound on Curson Avenue in a Kia Optima, ran a stop sign and collided with the driver of a Honda Civic who was traveling westbound on Fountain Avenue. Childs said she could not divulge Fedorov’s blood alcohol content at the time of the collision, but said he demonstrated visible signs of intoxication.

The unidentified victim, a 23-

year-old man from Panorama City, was pronounced dead at the scene. Two passengers in Fedorov’s vehi-
cle sustained minor injuries, and

were treated at a hospital and released, according to police.

Childs said she did not know where Fedorov was coming from or where he going when the colli-
sion occurred.

“You think you’re having a good time and then you miss a stop sign,” Childs said. “Speed and acceleration were also a factor.”

Childs said she was waiting for a police report to determine how fast Fedorov was driving when the col-

lision occurred.

The defendant is being held on $100,000 bail, pending the final filing of charges by the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office.

“As your City Council Member, I won’t accept money from developers.

Not now. Not ever.

No gifts. No campaign contributions. No fundraising events. Not one penny; for as long I serve on the Council.”
All-girls school hopes to lead by example

BY JONATHAN VAN DYKE

Liz Hicks said she and her colleagues have researched the number of women within the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) field, and they have found a path they hope will lead to more success in those areas. On April 14, girls Los Angeles Board of Education approved Hicks’ proposal for a public all-girls school that will be known as the Los Angeles High School.

“Most of the all-girls schools have shown that girls do better in an all-girls environment, particularly in those subjects,” said Hicks, who is a Los Angeles Unified School District counseling coordinator. “They tend to develop better self-esteem. It’s just one mode of moving forward in those areas with girls, but they tend to do better with it.

In Los Angeles, there are already some all-girls schools. Hicks said, but they are all private schools.

“This model at this time is only available to girls in a private school setting, which is cost prohibitive to most girls,” she added.

The Girls Academic Leadership Academy is slated to open on the campus of Los Angeles High School at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year.

“It is clear that within our district, our female student population is underserved in the areas of sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics,” LAUSD Superintendent Ramon Cortines said in a statement. “Not only will this new school help our students discover their potential, think critically and develop important intellectual skills, it will also prepare them for college and beyond.”

Hicks said the school’s design team has been working on the project for more than three years, and it was initially pitched as a pilot school proposal. At the time, there was concern from the district that the proposal needed to include plans for an all-boys school. Hicks said they then prepared plans for both, but when former superintendent John Deasy stepped down, the district decided against proceeding with pilot schools.

However, the design team found an ally in Cortines, who was working in the New York City Department of Education in the late 1990s when that district opened the first all-girls public school in the country — the East Harlem Young Women’s Leadership School — in the late 1990s.

He decided to move forward with it as an LAUSD school, not a pilot school,” Hicks said. “Around the corner, there are many young women leadership schools, and of this model, almost all of them have 100 percent of the students graduating, going to college and passing the state exams.”

The Girls Academic Leadership Academy will eventually serve grades six through 12. It will begin with grades six and nine (100 students each), adding a new grade each year thereafter. When all the grades are filled, there will be 700 students attending the school. The district is investing $333,800 to upgrade facilities.

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“All-girls school hopes to lead by example

L.A. High will welcome a new all-girls school to its campus in 2016.
Mayor Garcetti announces city deal with Waze app

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti announced on Tuesday the details of a data-sharing agreement between the city and a popular traffic mapping cellphone app.

The Waze app is used by more than 13 million drivers in L.A. to find routes and report issues to other drivers. Under the new agreement, the city will provide data to Waze across city departments — including information about road closures, construction and safety hazards — so drivers can avoid blocked streets and congestion.

“This is exactly what our open data initiative is all about…”

-Mayor Eric Garcetti

The mayor also announced Los Angeles will become the first city to provide hit-and-run incident notifications to Waze users driving near the incident in case they have useful information to share with law enforcement. The Los Angeles Police Department will also use the app to put out local AMBER alerts.

“This partnership with Waze matches city data with the latest smartphone technology to get people where they want to go faster,” Garcetti said. “This is exactly what our open data initiative is all about — going beyond information sharing to provide opportunities for our data to transform into tools to make people’s lives safer and easier in very tangible ways.”

Waze is providing the city with aggregated data from the app, including user-generated reports and driving and route data, in a form that ensures no personally identifiable information is shared. This new data stream can be analyzed and eventually used to evaluate the city’s traffic management for events and road closures, assess the deployment of traffic officers, and further refine traffic strategies for the most congested areas, city officials said.

The city is already working on how to integrate the collection of user-generated and verified requests into the 311 request system, so the city can respond to incidents in real time.

“We’re thrilled to expand our relationship with Los Angeles, our largest metro in the U.S.,” said Di-Anne Eison, head of growth at Waze. “We’re working with the city and the Mayor’s office to better understand what’s happening on the roads and where. We hope this leads to more efficient traffic monitoring and management, reduced congestion, and safer roads for Southern California’s citizens.”

A collision last Saturday afternoon at the intersection of Highland and Melrose avenues caused a pick-up to crash into the entrance of Osteria Mozza restaurant, which was closed at the time.

The collision occurred at approximately 12:40 p.m. One employee who was inside sustained “non-life threatening” injuries and was treated and released, according to Los Angeles Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey. Firefighters remained at the scene and used wooden beams to shore up the wall around the door.

Det. L. Childs, with the Los Angeles Police Department’s West Traffic Division, said the circumstances of the collision are under investigation. The pick-up collided with a four-door Honda with Texas license plates. The identities of the drivers were not available, and Childs said they were not injured. It is unclear whether any citations would be issued.

Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety spokesman Luke Zamperini said the pick-up significantly damaged the restaurant’s main door, and it would be forced to remain closed until the damage is repaired. Zamperini added the closure was necessary because the door is the only entrance providing access for disabled individuals.

Osteria Mozza was founded by Nancy Silverton, Mario Batali and Joe Bastianich. Calls to the restaurant’s general manager were not returned. A message from the restaurant posted on Twitter on Tuesday indicated it would be closed through April 25. The adjacent Pizzeria Mozza was not damaged and remained open.
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15 year record of holding City Hall accountable to our neighborhoods

- Protecting the character of neighborhoods
- Fixing our roads and sidewalks
- Creating good local jobs

Make your plan to vote for Carolyn Ramsay
on Tuesday, May 19th
Hollywood Chamber eyes millennials with HYPE

BY JONATHAN VAN DYKE

With an eye toward recruiting a younger generation of members, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has formed an offshoot group called the Hollywood Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs, or HYPE, for short.

“The HYPE program is the chamber’s effort to engage the millennial generation,” said Leron Gubler, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce president and CEO.

“They represent Hollywood’s future and we want them to be involved in the chamber and to take a leadership role in the coming years,” Gubler said.

Gubler said the chamber has, in the past, hosted special mixers and seminars specifically targeted at younger professionals, which is important for the lasting legacy of the organization.

“We’ve tried a couple of different ways to really engage younger professionals in Hollywood,” he said. “At some point, the Baby Boomers are going to be bailing out and [the chamber has] got to have a bench who will be the leaders of tomorrow.”

Gabrielsen said the group already has approximately 400 people following them “from all walks of life.”

“This generation was missing from the conversation a little,” he added. “It’s extremely organic and it’s really in its infancy right now. All our forums are open to anyone with an interest in this new generation. We have folks from the chamber of commerce [who attend]. While the real goal is to reach the young 35-and-under crowd, we are not an exclusively young event-based system. It’s a bit more open.”

Group leaders said “young professionals” is a loose term, and they have gone out of their way to recruit dancers, actors and people in creative businesses.

“Our main strength is that con-
LAUSD explains MISIS program in special television show

The Los Angeles Unified School District’s local television station, KLCS-TV, has begun airing the show, “My Integrated Student Information System (MISIS): An Inside Look.” The special presentation explores the district’s effort to build a modern, fully integrated student information system, officials said.

The half-hour program uses a hosted, in-studio format with three segments of conversations with experts about the work the district has done to address the serious issues with the rollout of MISIS, and what the major next steps are to address needed services. “Having run five successful campaigns for West Hollywood City Council, I became pretty good at estimating my costs and my ability to raise campaign funds — and ensuring they matched,” Prang said in the letter. “However, running for assessor was a lot more difficult. I ran in a geographic area covering 4,780 square miles with more than 10 million residents. The office is obscure and little understood by voters. It was very hard to raise campaign funds and just as difficult to know how much to spend on which messages and delivery venues.”

The reason Prang sent the letter out with urgency, he said, is because Los Angeles County law mandates that all campaign fundraising cease six months after the election, which is May 1.

“Now, don’t get me wrong, I won the race and am happy to use personal funds to reduce my debt,” Prang said in the letter. “However, I already have invested tens of thousands of my own resources into my campaign. Unfortunately, campaigns can only be paid for through personal funds and donations. Candidates need to rely on the community to help them raise the needed resources, and I need your help to pay off this final $50,000.”

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connection between the creative and the corporate,” Gabrielsen said. “Hollywood has historically, and more so now, been a place — the shark tank we live in has crushed a lot of dreams. Our main goal is to create a place for good ideas and people.”

Gabrielsen, 27, said he comes from an investment and real estate background, but he also has interests in acting, writing and producing. “I see myself as someone who wants to be involved with a lot of things,” he said. “We are the generation that will have over 10 jobs before we find our profession.”

HYPE leadership members said they have structured the group around good habits — alternatives to gang activity and drugs. Hollywood PAL serves more than 450 at-risk youth annually from Hollywood and the surrounding areas of Los Angeles.

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BH Bar Assoc. hosts food & wine event at Greystone Manor

The Beverly Hills Bar Association is hosting the Vintage Bouquet food and wine event on Sunday, April 26 from noon to 4 p.m. at Greystone Mansion in Beverly Hills. Guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres and desserts prepared by some of Los Angeles’ top restaurants and chefs paired with tastings from California’s top wineries, spirit and beverage companies. The event offers a live and silent auction, musical entertainment, a VIP cocktail and martini lounge, and the opportunity to drive away in an Aston Martin Vantage Volante or Mercedes-Benz B-Class Electric Car. Proceeds benefit the Beverly Hills Bar Foundation’s pro bono legal services.

Participating wineries and beverage companies include Adelaida Wines, Boisset Winery, Navarro Vineyards, Vampire Winery and Vodka, Shipyard Brewing Company and more. Featured restaurants include Ruth’s Chris Steak House, Lawry’s The Prime Rib, The Grill on the Alley, OMG Chicken & Waffles, Hansen’s Cakes, Camille’s Culinary Creations, The Baltic Cupboard, Bier Bistro, Kye’s Montana and more.

Tickets are $200. Greystone Mansion is located at 905 Lorna Vista Drive, Beverly Hills. For tickets and information, call (310)601-2422, or visit www.bhba.org/vintagesipet.

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Brown part of Arbor Day Foundation awardees

The Arbor Day Foundation will honor 13 individuals and organizations with its 2015 Arbor Day Awards on April 25, including Gov. Jerry Brown, who will receive the Champion of Trees Public Service Award.

The awards are presented during a ceremony in Nebraska, and recognize contributions to tree planting, conservation and stewardship. Brown has played a key role in establishing community forestry in California. During his first term, the Urban Forestry Act of 1978 was enacted, creating an urban forestry program in California.

Since 2011, Brown has continued his legacy by advocating for historic funding levels for California’s Urban and Community Forestry Program. Brown’s state budget last June contained $17.8 million for urban and community forestry — the largest one-year, single-state allocation for urban forestry in the history of the United States.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation and education organization whose mission is to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. For information and a list of award recipients, visit www.arborday.org.

Mitchell shepherds eye exam senate bill

California Sen. Holly Mitchell (D-Los Angeles) announced last week that her bill calling for students entering elementary school to receive comprehensive eye exams by a physician, optometrist or ophthalmologist had moved forward out of committee.

The California Senate Education Committee sent the Senate Bill (SB) 402, which would require that schools and parents know if a child has vision challenges before reading instruction begins in first grade.

“In the online era, reading has become more critical to achievement and the child who doesn’t learn to read early or easily is likely to fail behind and stay behind,” Mitchell said. “Children living in poverty are more likely to be left in the dark educationally, but every child can be helped by identifying and addressing obstacles to learning when schooling begins.”

Current school vision testing only checks a child’s ability to see letters one eye at a time from 20 feet away. That test cannot assess how well the eyes are able to converge on a page in a book or device held close to the face, Mitchell said. About 20 percent of children have problems seeing at reading distance. Both reading speed and fluency are diminished by poor eye coordination, she added.

SB 402 would ensure that the exams evaluate a range of visual functions, not just whether a child can see the blackboard from the rear of the room. School nurses would be able to monitor students for vision-related issues and to communicate with parents about needed follow-up sooner — important for families raising children in poverty or ineligibility for some health benefits, Mitchell said.

The bill is sponsored by the California Board of Optometry and is supported by the California Federation of Teachers and the California Pan-ethnic Health Network.

West Hollywood Chamber hosts expo at the Palladium

The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce will hold its 27th Annual Hollywood Expo today at the historic Hollywood Palladium, which celebrates its 75th Anniversary. The will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. and officials said it attracts more than 250 concierges, meeting planners, location scouts, celebrities assistants, travel professionals and business owners.

This year’s event will include a martini toast at 9 p.m. in front of Proper Sighting’s double-decker, open-air tour buses. Event sponsors will be invited to stay for the “Expo After Dark” party hosted by Live Nation and DLS Events, as well as Auhensier-Burch, Timhorns Flats, and Premiere Events, from 9:30 p.m. through midnight in the Palladium’s VIP Balcony. Among the Hollywood Expo exhibitors are restaurants that offer menu samples and there will be complimentary Wi-Fi Internet access.

Admission is $10 for chamber members and $20 for non-members. A “proper sightseeing” RSVP is in advance. Raffle prizes such as restaurant gift cards, gift baskets and theater tickets will be awarded at the event to those who register for the drawing. The Hollywood Palladium is located at 6215 Sunset Boulevard. Self-parking is available for $6. Attending guests must register online to attend at www.hollywoodchamber.net/events.

West Hollywood Kids’ Fair focuses on learning, fun

The Hollywood City Council chambers/pubic meeting room at West Hollywood Library, located at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd. Admission is also free.

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West Hollywood Mayor Pro Tempore Lauren Meister and Councilman John D’Amico helped plant a Honey Mesquite tree during a ceremony in Nebraska, and recognize contributions to tree planting, conservation and stewardship. Brown has played a key role in establishing community forestry in California. During his first term, the Urban Forestry Act of 1978 was enacted, creating an urban forestry program in California.

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West Hollywood Mayor Pro Tempore Lauren Meister and Councilman John D’Amico helped plant a Honey Mesquite tree during a community tree-planting event at Havenhurst Park on Saturday in recognition of National Arbor Day.

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West Hollywood Kids’ Fair focuses on learning, fun

West Hollywood will host its 20th Annual West Hollywood Kids’ Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday at West Hollywood Park, 647 N. San Vicente Blvd. Admission is free.

The fair will be full of family-friendly activities and attractions including an entertainment stage, face painting, arts and crafts, and booths from local schools, organizations, and arts programs. There will also be a choo-choo train. Public safety activities will be on display and the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and Los Angeles County Fire Department will have equipment and demonstrations available for children to learn and explore.

Following the Kids’ Fair, there will be a WeHo Reads author series event with LeVar Burton who recently published his first children’s book, “The Rhino Who Swallowed a Storm.”
Happy National Picnic Day

The Deli at Little Don’s is offering to-go options for National Picnic Day on Thursday, April 23, that include grilled shrimp with romesco and chopped spinach salad, Sicilian tuna melt and cold-fried chicken sandwiches. The meals are perfect for a picnic in Griffith Park. 2128 Hillhurst Ave. (323)366-0055.

Have a Picnic Today

Guests at Sir Market can BYOB (Build Your Own Basket) for an al fresco feast on National Picnic Day on April 23. The marketplace is packed with specialty sandwich-es, salads and snacks. Guests can enjoy grilled talmon with root vegetables, charcuterie baguettes, purple potato salad with celerie leaves, and farro, corn and tomatillo salsa. The marketplace also offers specialty beverages, wine, snacks and candy from local artisans and purveyors. 7475 Beverly Blvd. (323)879-8283.

San Antonio Winery

San Antonio Winery, the oldest winery in Los Angeles, is hosting a wine barrel tasting for $60 per person on Saturday, April 25 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wine enthusiasts can sample wines straight from the barrel and purchase wines, artisan craft beer and spirits from around the world at the wine store. The trattia-style restaurant serves Italian and American dishes. The barrel tasting event is limited to 40 guests; early reservations recommended. 737 Lamar St. (323)223-1401.

GC Marketplace for Hollywood Bowl

Chef Gary Arabia of GC Marketplace provides to-go options for picnics and the Hollywood Bowl season. His Chinese chicken salad, curry chicken salad sandwiches, roast beef sandwiches, cheese and charcuterie platters, and rotisserie meats are ideal for picnics. The marketplace offers “Bowl Bento” for concert-goers with wine pairings from an in-house sommelier. 3315 Cahuenga Blvd. West. (323)645-5269.

Smoke.Oil.Salt Greatest Hits

Smoke.Oil.Salt is celebrating its first anniversary on Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25, with a 10-course menu of chef Perfecto Rocher’s greatest hits. Two seatings will be offered each night at 6:30 and 9 p.m. The special dinner is $90 per person with optional wine pairings for $25 or $50 per person. 7274 Melrose Ave. (323)930-7900.

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Bombo at Grand Central Market

Chef Mark Peel, of Michael’s, Chez Panisse, Spago, Ma Maison and Campanile, recently opened Bombo in the Grand Central Market. Peel offers curried shrimp, fish stews, steamed mussels and clams, and a fish of the day special, as well as braised beef ribs, salads, seared tofu and fried chicken. Bombo is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., daily. 317 S. Broadway, Stall D3. (213)624-2378.

Jeni’s Scoop Shop in Los Feliz

After a day in Griffith Park or at the L.A. Zoo, ice cream lovers are invited to stop by Jeni’s, where they blend, bake, mix, peel, chop, skin, pulverize, roast, toast and use a blow torch to create their ice cream treats. Diners can enjoy a treat at the shop or have it packed to go with dry ice for a post-picnic dessert. 1954 Hillhurst Ave. (323)928-2668.

The Larchmont Celebrates Two Years

Beginning on Saturday, May 2, The Larchmont’s executive chef Kevin Kathman will serve items from a brunch menu offering elevated California cuisine with vegetables from co-owner Spoon Singh’s Ojai farm. The menu will have French influences and straight-from-the-farm vegetables served on the restaurant’s alfresco porch and indoor dining room. Kathman will solely utilize organic eggs and hormone- and antibiotic-free meats. The brunch menu will include deviled eggs with smoked whitefish, caviar and Meyer lemon; sprossed farro with Vietnamese spices, homemade tofis with eggs and freshly harvested vegetables; and The Stoner, with peanut butter romesco and chopped spinach.

Antonio’s Tres Celebrations

April 30th - dia del Niño Celebration! Special Child’s Menu, toys, candies & goodies!
Spectacular Cinco de Mayo Menu
Mariscos, Antionio’s tequilas, special menu and goodies!
Sunday, May 10, Mexican Mother’s Day celebration
Mexican & American celebration - cards, Candies & goodies to all the moms.

Antonio’s
Mexican Restaurant
7470 Melrose Ave. • Los Angeles • 323-658-9060

RESTAURANT NEWS

By Jill Weinlein

Before a day in Griffith Park or at the L.A. Zoo, ice cream lovers are invited to stop by Jeni’s, where they blend, bake, mix, peel, chop, skin, pulverize, roast, toast and use a blow torch to create their ice cream treats. Diners can enjoy a treat at the shop or have it packed to go with dry ice for a post-picnic dessert. 1954 Hillhurst Ave. (323)928-2668.

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INTERACTIVE BRAZILIAN DINING

A parade of Brazilian gauchos holding large skewers of beef creates an exciting dining experience at Fogo de Chao. Pace yourself, or you will be left with food on your plate, which is what happened when I visited the new Fogo de Chao downtown — in the former Roy’s Hawaiian restaurant space.

Fogo de Chao opened its doors in January in the heart of the financial district, and is a short walk from LA Live and Staples Center. The upscale décor is reminiscent of Roy’s, with a large glass wine cellar near the entrance. It looks more like a fine dining restaurant than an all-you-can-eat buffet dining spot.

The Fogo de Chao chain started in 1979 and quickly became a huge success, opening restaurants throughout the United States, in Mexico City and Puerto Rico. Each restaurant offers a pure Brazilian experience and doesn’t “Americanize” the preparation, authenticity or flavors of South America. Many of the servers and chefs are from Brazil.

I went to Fogo de Chao with a friend for lunch and sat next to a window facing downtown’s high-rise buildings. After being greeted by our server, we started at the gourmet market salad and side bar. I particularly liked the butternut squash soup, slices of parmesan from a huge cheese wheel, prosciutto, Brazilian hearts of palm, artichoke bottoms, smoked salmon and sage green jumbo asparagus.

All-you-can-eat sides of caramelized bananas, crispy polenta sticks sprinkled with parmesan cheese and doughy piping hot popovers are served at every table. Also at each table is a round card that is green on one side and red on the other. When the card is turned to green, gauchos arrive with grilled beef, chicken, pork and lamb. The gauchos are also chefs, and are responsible for prepping and cooking the giant rotisseries before carving the meat at each table. If the slices of meat are overly rare for a guest’s preference, they carry the rotisserie back to the grill to further cook the meat.

We particularly enjoyed the filet mignon, flavorful and cooked to perfection. The signature picanha is a semi-circular cut of top sirloin seasoned with garlic and sea salt. Our favorites were beef dishes with a nice caramelized exterior created by the salt rub and rotisserie flame. The signature papaya cream dessert to share. It is the most requested dessert at Fogo de Chao and similar to a papaya smoothie. A ripe papaya is cut and blended with two to three scoops of Häagen-Dasz vanilla ice cream before it is poured into dessert cups and delivered with a bottle of creme de cassis. The ruby red syrup is poured on top to enhance the sweetness of the fresh fruit.

Vegetarians and light eaters can order the market salad bar and enjoy watching the lively parade of gauchos with meat on skewers. Diners are encouraged to park in a lot across the street during lunch, and valet parking is available for dinner. Lunch is served from 11:30 to 2 p.m.; dinner starts at 4:30 p.m. $$-$ $$ 800 S. Figueroa. (213) 228-4300.
The following crimes occurred in West Hollywood and the areas patrolled by the LAPD’s Wilshire and Hollywood divisions between April 13 and April 19, and were compiled from www.crimemapping.com. To report a crime, the telephone numbers of local law enforcement are: Los Angeles Police Department, Wilshire Division (213)473-0489 and Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department West Hollywood Station (310)855-8850.

**April 13**

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7400 block of Melrose.

At 3 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 500 block of Croy.

At 8 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 8500 block of S. La Brea.

At 11:02 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 8900 block of Sunset.

**April 14**

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 7800 block of Santa Monica.

At 10:40 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 5700 block of Melrose.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 600 block of S. Nymore at noon.

At 3:15 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 500 block of S. Sierra Bonita.

An unknown suspect submitted a petty theft in the 100 block of The Grove at 3:30 p.m.

**April 15**

At 1:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 600 block of Vine.

At 4:00 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7400 block of Beverly.

At 11:02 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 8400 block of Sunset.

**April 16**

At 12:01 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a residence in the 900 block of Orange Grove.

At 6:20 a.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle in the 500 block of N. Formosa.

At 10 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a grand theft in the 400 block of Burnett.

**April 17**

At 10:45 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1400 block of Vine.

An unknown suspect committed a burglary in the 7500 block of Norton at 2 a.m.

At 2 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6400 block of Beverly.

**April 18**

At 1 a.m., an unknown suspect stole a vehicle parked in the 800 block of S. Lucerne.

At 3 a.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 1700 block of Sunset.

An unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 7000 block of Hollywood.

At 6:40 p.m., an unknown suspect committed a petty theft in the 6400 block of Gower.

At 7:25 p.m., an unknown suspect burglarized a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of S. La Brea.

An unknown suspect submitted a petty theft in the 8400 block of Beverly at 3:55 p.m.

**April 19**

At 1:05 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim in the 600 block of Robertson.

At 7:15 a.m., an unknown suspect assaulted a victim near the corner of Highland and Willoughby.

A suspected assailant during a domestic violence incident in the 6700 block of Yucca at 8 p.m.

**Hacker sentenced for Los Angeles attacks**

A member of the SwaggSec hacking group was sentenced last Thursday to three years in federal prison after participating in a series of computer attacks that compromised systems and computer security at companies like DirecTV, Farmers Insurance and Los Angeles Department of Public Works.

Patrick Chuisano, 32, of Staten Island, New York, who used the online moniker “Eyez” and was sentenced in Los Angeles by United States District Judge James Otero. In addition to the prison term, Otero ordered Chuisano to pay $2.6 million in restitution to the three victims.

Chuisano pleaded guilty in June 2014 to conspiracy to intentionally cause damage to a protected computer, as well as to possession of an unregistered firearm, name- ly a sawed-off shotgun. In addition, the court found that Chuisano accessed Chuisano’s residence during the execution of a search warrant, agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation recovered 1,523 stolen and lost passwords, as well as thousands of sent and received e-mails and passwords from Farmers Insurance.

“The theft and release of passwords is particularly disturbing because many of the users who had the same passwords for activities of daily Internet life, such as banking and travel, were also using the same password for accessing their Facebook and Twitter accounts. Furthermore, one of the users specifically identified was a convicted criminal who used the passwords of his victims to identify and commit fraud against them.”

**Two clothing executives arraigned on fraud charges**

Kim, an accountant, are accused of defrauding clothing companies that make high-end brand jeans such as True Religion.

Deputy district attorney Theresa Mitchell of the Healthcare Fraud Division is prosecuting the case.

“The theft and release of passwords is particularly disturbing because many of the users who had the same passwords for activities of daily Internet life, such as banking and travel, were also using the same password for accessing their Facebook and Twitter accounts. Furthermore, one of the users specifically identified was a convicted criminal who used the passwords of his victims to identify and commit fraud against them.”

Chairman Hyun Kim and Choi are executives at M-J Kim, Inc., and its successor, SF Apparel, both garment manufacturing companies that make high-end brand jeans such as True Religion.

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Chairman Hyun Kim and Choi are executives at M-J Kim, Inc., and its successor, SF Apparel, both garment manufacturing companies that make high-end brand jeans such as True Religion.

**Clothing exec arrested for public intoxication**

Sung Hyun Kim and Choi are executives at M-J Kim, Inc., and its successor, SF Apparel, both garment manufacturing companies that make high-end brand jeans such as True Religion.

Deputy district attorney Theresa Mitchell of the Healthcare Fraud Division is prosecuting the case.

**TV’s Kim Richards arrested for public intoxication**

On April 16 at approximately 1:30 a.m., a woman clothed in a green bathrobe was arrested for booking. Richards kicked one of the officers in the leg. The officer was not injured.

Richards was released at approximately 3:30 a.m. and was issued a citation for obstructing public intimation, resisting, impairing an officer and battery on a police officer. Richards is due to appear at Los Angeles County Superior Court on May 10.
New rehabilitation center opens on CHLA campus

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) announced Thursday the grand opening and dedication of the Margie and Robert E. Petersen Foundation Rehabilitation Center honoring the couple’s two late sons, Bobby and Richie Petersen, who died in a 1975 plane crash. Late last month, patients and staff moved in to the new 22,000-square-foot, safari-themed facility.

“Rehabilitation unit serves approximately 200 patients each year. This tremendous state-of-the-art facility will not only allow us to serve more patients, but we can now care for our patients with the healing environment they deserve and provide our staff the resources and amenities to match the excellent level of care they provide,” CHLA president and CEO Richard Cordova said.

The Margie and Robert E. Petersen Foundation donated $5 million to support the hospital’s mission of delivering innovative patient care. To advance the hospital’s efforts to secure community funds to complete construction of the new rehabilitation center, the foundation also pledged a dollar-for-dollar match — up to $3.5 million — on all donations made to support the center’s completion through Dec. 31, 2016.

“The opening of the Margie and Robert E. Petersen Foundation Rehabilitation Center is the realization of Margie and Robert’s desire to help children overcome devastating illnesses and accidents so they can get back to their families and do the things they love to do,” said Gigi Carleton, president of the Margie and Robert E. Petersen Foundation.


Currently CHLA patient Josie Hult and former patients Johnny Hoffman and Andrea Edoria enjoy a moment with CHLA president and CEO Richard Cordova during the dedication of the Margie and Robert E. Petersen Foundation Rehabilitation Center.

West Hollywood will receive the first Shake Shack in California, slated to open in 2016. The restaurant will be located at the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and West Knoll Drive, one block west of La Cienega Boulevard.

Shake Shack is a popular burger restaurant that first opened in New York City at Madison Square Park. The company says it is most known for its 100 percent all-natural, antibiotic-free Angus beef burgers (no hormones added), griddled crisp flat-top dogs, fresh-made frozen custard and crinkle cut fries.

“We’ve heard from our West Coast fans for years that they’d love a Shake Shack in California, and at long last, we’re delighted to say Shake Shack L.A. is on its way,” Shake Shack CEO Randy Garutti said in a statement. “Los Angeles is one of the greatest cities in the world with a culture like no other, and we look forward to being a part of the community.”

The West Hollywood Shake Shack, located at 8520 Santa Monica Blvd., will have dedicated parking and a large outdoor patio. The freestanding building will be designed by Michael Hsu Office of Architecture. In keeping with Shake Shack’s commitment to green architecture and eco-friendly construction, representatives said, the new location will incorporate a variety of recycled and sustainable materials and features energy-efficient kitchen equipment and lighting.

Festival celebrates rail culture this weekend

Vintage train lovers are invited to the Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society’s annual Rail Festival on Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The festival is co-sponsored by the Fillmore & Western Railway, and the theme is “Looking Toward the Future.” Approximately 10,000 visitors are expected at the festival, which is held in the city of Fillmore’s Central Park.

Railroad-related activities such as miniature steam train rides, “speeder” rides, turntable demonstrations and displays from railroad-related organizations will be held. Additional attractions include the famous Frontier Gunfighters, antique farm equipment demonstrations, vintage tractors, live music, and arts and crafts booths.

One-hour train rides will depart at 10 and 11:30 a.m., and 1 and 2:30 p.m. A caboose will be added to provide a unique and rare opportunity for the public to ride.

Additionally, the Fillmore & Western Railway’s western-themed “Family Comedy Murder Mystery Dinner Train” will run on Saturday, April 25. Reservations are required. The historical society will also open its 1956 Union Pacific Pullman Sleeping Car to the public.

The car, designated by Union Pacific as “#1205 the National Embassy”, is one of only 12 flat-sided aluminum “Embassy” cars built for the Union Pacific Railroad. The interior is untouched and virtually original in every detail. The society’s Railroad Visitor Center will also be open.

Visitors can enjoy food booths, including the society’s Locomotive Tri-Tip Bar-B-Que. Admission to the festival and parking is free. Fillmore is located on Highway 126 between Interstate 5 near Magic Mountain and the 101 Freeway in Ventura. For information, visit www.scrvhs.com or www.fwry.com.
Stars support art advocacy

Stars of television, film, music, theater and fine art will come together to support arts advocacy and education at the Hollywood Arts Council’s 29th annual Charlie Awards on May 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel.

Scheduled to appear at the event are Marcus Scribner ("Black-ish"), Candice Patton ("The Flash"), Raphael Shore (“Once Upon a Time”), founding director of Emerson College L.A. Kevin Bright, Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, and many others.

“The Charlie Awards is a celebration of the arts in our community, and I am looking forward to see what the future holds for Hollywood.”

The honorees are Technicolor, Sound Stage One, Cinerama Dome, Sacred Foods Theatre, Emerson College Los Angeles, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Roschen Van Cleve Architects and Michael Kohn Gallery. KABC-TV entertainment reporter George Pennacchio will serve as master of ceremonies. In addition to arts advocacy projects and initiatives, the Hollywood Arts Council offers community based programs including Project SOAR (Students Overcoming All Risks), free professionally led performing and visual arts workshops at schools, and the annual Children’s Festival of the Arts, a free celebration of art for kids.

Tickets are $100 and include a catered dinner. The Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel is located at 7000 Hollywood Blvd.

For information, call (323) 462-2355, or visit www.hollywoodarts council.org.
‘Ex Machina’ redeems the A.I. subgenre

Flashy science fiction shows off the latest visual achievements in CGI. Good science fiction challenges contemporary notions about technological advancement, human potential or the changing role of humanity.

Great science fiction does it all. “Ex Machina” doesn’t change the game, but it’s a refreshing reminder that great stories can still happen amid a sea of stagnation.

Remember “Under the Skin”, that wacky, indie flick in which Scarlett Johansson plays a dude-seducing killer alien? I loathed that film — it was almost as pretentious and self-serving as Terrance Malick’s “Tree of Life” (I know, shots fired, but I stand by my truth bombs).

Anyway, “Under the Skin” had such potential to be a fascinating exploration. It wanted to ponder what it’s like to live under the skin of something foreign, literally otherworldly.

But the lengthy conversations that over-explain things. I normally abhor long, preachy dialogues that over-explain things. It’s not a coincidence.

“Ex Machina” is everything “Under the Skin” failed to be: visually compelling, subtle and per-plexing to the last minute.

You might even know where it’s going, but his screenwriting credits demand your attention: "The Beach", "28 Days Later" and even "Dredd" (I initially feigned indifference for this movie, but it actually holds up quite well).

As a film, I’m sure “Ex Machina” hardly goes far more fascinating. They’re expository without succumbing to condescending.

Ever heard of big data? It’s the reason an ad for your old college might randomly pop up on a web-site. It’s not a coincidence.

Search engines create customized algorithms based on your unique browser history.

But as a lecture on philosophy and new media, it might be more effective than your average, elbow pad-donning lecturer.

As technological achievements continue to grow, A.I. films will continue to remain relevant.

Sure, the occasional “Chappie” might appear to insult the good ones, but an “Ex Machina” will always be close behind, watching, waiting, ready to warn us that the future isn’t always bright, but rid-ded with enigma around every new brave world.

Meet Ava (Alicia Vikander). Only her face, hands and feet have human synthetic. Caleb is immediately enamored with her.

But let’s not forget the bad blood between Ava and her creator. Caleb and creation always seem to share mutual disdain. It worked well for the titans and the gods, and “Ex Machina” doesn’t mess with the classic formula.

Expect tension between maker and made.

Garland presents his take on A.I. but his screenwriting credits aren’t just fodder for online marketing companies; they’re the key to consciousness.

As technological achievements continue to grow, A.I. films will continue to remain relevant. But as a lecture on philosophy and new media, it might be more effective than your average, elbow pad-donning lecturer.

I normally abhor long, preachy dialogues that over-explain things. Film, after all, is a visual medium more suited to showing not telling. But the lengthy conversations between Nathan and Caleb prove

As a film, I’m sure "Ex Machina" will bore most filmgoers. But as a lecture on philosophy and new media, it might be more effective than your average, elbow pad-donning lecturer.

That’s a new take on A.I. — one worthy of canonization.

As technological achievements continue to grow, A.I. films will continue to remain relevant.

Sure, the occasional “Chappie” might appear to insult the good ones, but an “Ex Machina” will always be close behind, watching, waiting, ready to warn us that the future isn’t always bright, but rid-ded with enigma around every new brave world.

Jewish film festival returns to L.A.

The 10th annual Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival will open on April 30 with the documentary screening of “The Outrageous Sophie Tucker”. The opening night gala takes place at the Saban Theatre located at 8440 Wilshire Blvd. in Beverly Hills.

Tickets are on sale for $40 general admission at lajfilmfest.org. The film festival will run through May 7.

Since 2006, the Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival has been screening films that highlight the diversity and universality of Jewish values. Films range from investigating political issues, such as Palestinian and Israeli conflict, to the cultural mixing of the Jewish people in Mexico and throughout the world.

For 2015, some of the films include, “Frank vs. God”, “The Divorce”, “The Art Dealer”, “Wandering Rabbi/Life & Hummus” and “Belle and Sebastian”. The closing night will feature “Prisioners of War” at the ArcLight Cinemas in Sherman Oaks.

For Nathan, those screenings aren’t just fodder for online marketing companies; they’re the key to consciousness.

As technological achievements continue to grow, A.I. films will continue to remain relevant.

Sure, the occasional “Chappie” might appear to insult the good ones, but an “Ex Machina” will always be close behind, watching, waiting, ready to warn us that the future isn’t always bright, but rid-ded with enigma around every new brave world.

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Guests can adopt pets at the La Brea Tar Pits

Best Friends Animal Society is holding its NKLA Adoption Weekend on Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3 at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits. Hosted in collaboration with PetSmart Charities, it is one of two adoption events Best Friends Animal Society holds yearly.

“The sad truth is that 9,000 dogs and cats are killed in U.S. shelters every day.” – Best Friends Animal Society believes that number should be zero and adoption is a key component to making that happen.

- Marc Peralta executive director Best Friends Animal Society – Los Angeles

Best Friends Animal Society is the only national animal welfare organization dedicated exclusively to ending the killing of shelter pets.

In Los Angeles, Best Friends is leading the NKLA Project (National Knockout LA initiative), which aims to transform L.A., into the nation’s largest “No-Kill City.”

More than 1,000 pets will be available at the NKLA Adoption Weekend, with adoption fees starting at $5.

All pets are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped, and adopters will receive a bag filled with treats, toys, coupons and more.

Best Friends Animal Society believes that number should be zero and adoption is a key component to making that happen.

- World of Children Award, a global recognition and funding organization serving the needs of children is holding its inaugural 2015 Alumni Honors event on Thursday, April 30 at Il Cielo in Beverly Hills.

“Ravi Shankar was a beloved humanitarian whose extraordinary efforts. The honorees include Jessica Markowitz (2009 World Children’s Day Honoree of Richard’s Rwanda IMPULSE, which educates girls in Rwanda; Triniti Acharya (2013 World Children’s Day Honoree), of Asociación PIEL, which provides surgery for children with cleft deformities in Argentina. A cocktail reception begins at 6 p.m. (local time), followed by dinner at 7 p.m. For information on the World of Children's Honors Philanthropy Program, visit www.worldofchildren.org.
‘Pac-Can’ wins at Canstruction LA

photo courtesy of Tara Brusier photography

Early 1980s nostalgia won the day at Canstruction LA 2015. Presented by Goya Foods, “Pac-Can” — a three-dimensional rendition of Ms. Pac-Man chasing ghosts made by architecture firm Steinberg out of 5,740 cans of food — won both Juror’s Favorite and People’s Choice awards. It joined nine other structures created by Los Angeles architects, designers, contractors and engineers, which together totaled 44,032 cans of nutritious food that was donated to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank.

The structures were recently on view at the Farmers & Merchants Bank Building in downtown L.A., and were a featured part of downtown L.A. Art Walk. A jury of architecture, media and culinary experts judged the structures, naming the Juror’s Favorite, Best Use of Labels, Best Meal and Structural Ingenuity, as well as an Honorable Mention. Jurors were: Mary Melton, editor-in-chief of Los Angeles Magazine; David Trask of the American Institute of Architects, principal of Montalba Architects, Inc.; and Chef Ray Garcia, of Broken Spanish and BS Taqueria fame.

The annual Canstruction LA structures will compete against other regional winners for the National Canstruction Awards.

“The Foodbank is grateful for the design community’s support,” said Michael Flood, president and CEO of the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank.

“Tis creative architectural display offers something for the local community to enjoy while they help us end hunger here in Los Angeles.”

For more information or to get involved, visit www.latofbank.org.

Glamour Gowns gives clothing to foster youth

Free prom dresses, suits, shoes and accessories were provided on April 18 to approximately 600 girls and boys in foster care during “Glamour Gowns 2015” at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The clothing was donated by apparel companies, and representatives of local entertainment unions assisted recipients with hair, make-up and fitting.

Glamour Gowns collects donated apparel and produces the event in conjunction with nonprofit Court Appointed Special Services (CASA) of Los Angeles.

Pictured at the event are CASA volunteer Kathy Barrett Johnson helping foster youth Rachel Ortiz with dress selection.

More than 30,000 children are under the jurisdiction of the dependency court in Los Angeles County and more than 18,000 live in foster care.

Financial circumstances often do not allow for “non-essential” yet important items such as prom dresses, suits and attire for formal dances, which are provided through Glamour Gowns.

For information, visit www.casa-la.org.glamour-gowns.

Musical recaptures the magic of Motown


“Motown: The Musical” tells the true story of how the musical genre and historic movement was founded.


Like the historical musical scene, “Motown The Musical” will also feature performances from some of the hits such as “My Girl”, “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough” and “What’s Going On”.

The musical is directed by Charles Randolph-Wright, director of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play “Roughed”, and author of the plays “Blue”, “Cuttin’ Up” and his newest production, “Love in Afghanistan”. Tickets are $25.

“Motown: The Musical” will run Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday at 1 and 6:30 p.m. For information, visit www.hollywoodpantages.com/motown.

Exhibition retraces causes of the Civil War

Beginning April 25 through Jan. 3, 2016, the first major museum exhibition to illuminate the causes and legacies of the American Civil War from the vantage point of Empire and Liberty will open at The Autry National Center of the American West.

Visitors are invited to explore the conflicts and connections of a growing nation through an astonishing array of more than 200 significant artifacts, including Texas slave sale documents, André Pico’s war drum, the battle flag carried by soldiers of the California Hundred, a Buffalo Soldier’s revolver and Cherokee General Stand Waite’s Bowie knife. This exhibition shows how the Civil War was more than a clash between the North and South; it was part of a history of debate over how America would expand, and who, within that expanding nation, might claim freedom.

The Autry is located at 4700 Western Heritage Way.

Parking is free. The museum and store hours are from Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. through 4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.

Glamour Gowns provides apparel and accessories to approximately 600 girls and boys in foster care.

For more information, visit www.thearuty.org.

For information, visit www.casa-la.org.glamour-gowns.
Candidates debate issues as election nears

Anastasia Mann, president of the Hollywood Hills Neighborhood Association, kicked off a back-and-forth exchange of ideas from both candidates regarding the city’s Interim Motion Ordinance. It was put in place to stop speculating until the Hollywood Hills Specific Plan is written. The ordinance is to be reduced in scale.

Both candidates said they supported the hillside communities inclusion in the city’s Interim Motion Ordinance, which was put in place to stop speculation until the Hollywood Hills Specific Plan is written. The ordinance is to be reduced in scale.

Ramsay said her experience was an asset. “I have deep relationships with folks at all levels of city govern- ment,” she said, answering a question about how she would stand alone against a city council residents don’t trust. “Believe me, people are willing to listen.”

Ramsay countered that her experience was an asset. “I have deep relationships with folks at all levels of city govern- ment,” she said, answering a question about how she would stand alone against a city council residents don’t trust. “Believe me, people are willing to listen.”

Ramsay said it was time to force the traffic study. “I’m glad to see my opponent preferential parking along some streets, but the overall problem would have to be examined fur- ther. Ryu warned that preferential parking might shift the prob- lem rather than solve it, but he said it might be time to force incoming businesses to add more parking to help the area as a whole.”

During a question related to the controversial Millennium Project, Ryu’s pledge to refuse campaign contributions from developers also came up. Ryu said he would work to open dialogue with the Hollywood Sign viewing area and the Hollywood Hills. Ryu said he would work to open dialogue with the Hollywood Sign viewing area and the Hollywood Hills.

Councillor celebrates achievements of MLB legend

Councilman celebrates achievements of MLB legend

Zipline plan causes concern in community

Parks. They said there could be a revenue-sharing component with the department, possibly starting at 20 percent (they estimated $2 to $3 million annually), and they said they would like to give a $750,000 donation to Runyon Canyon as a show of support.

Under preliminary plans, it would cost visitors $30 to use the zip line. “I want them to create a free shuttle system that would be available for visitors. I want to work with the community.”

Both candidates said they support a minimum wage increase, and would examine further pen- sion reforms. “The one number one we need to do is hold the line,” Ryu said, noting he would go through the budget and eliminate line-by-line. “It’s not about cuts, it’s about not letting our deficit grow. That’s what I’m trying to do.”

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Community members will help transform areas near Ballona Creek

Though the Lodge at the Hollywood Hills and the Hollywood Hills Neighborhood Association are working together to transform areas near Ballona Creek, they are working with the community.

A community event is scheduled for Saturday, May 23 at 9 a.m. to begin the transformation. The community is invited to participate in the event and help transform the area.

Volunteers sought for creek clean-up day of service

World Changers Church-Los Angeles (WCC-LA Angeles) and Ballona Creek Renaissance are holding a clean-up event on Saturday, May 23 at 9 a.m. to noon, in celebration of Earth Day.

Community members will help transform areas near Ballona Creek into a vital habitat for native plants and animals, and make the area safe and attractive for joggers, cyclists, and walkers. Members of the pub- lic are encouraged to participate in the day of service.

Participants will meet at 9 a.m. at the corner of Centinela Avenue and Milton Street. For information, visit www.ballonacreek.org.
LACMA hosts anniversary exhibit

From page 1

Numerous pieces of contemporary art are also included, such as Andy Warhol’s “Two Marilyns”, an iconic work from 1962 donated by trustees Marc and Jane Nathanson. Visitors to the exhibit in the Resnick Pavilion will be greeted by artist DeWain Valentine’s “Red Concave Circle”, a large translucent colored disc, and David Hockney’s “The Juggler”, a presentation of 18 videos shown on 18, 55-inch screens that comprise a single artwork.

Additionally, artist Roy Lichtenstein’s “Interior with Hanging Tree Lamps” (1991) is displayed, as are Hockney’s “Studio Hollywood Hills House” and Robert Rauschenberg’s “Monday Duck (Urban Bourbon).” Sculpture is represented by Bernini’s “Portrait of a Gentleman” (c. 1670-75). Numerous photographs of contemporary artists and their work is also included.

The “50 for 50” exhibit runs from Sunday, April 26 through Sunday, Sept. 13. It is one of many events LACMA has planned in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

Govan will participate in a free discussion tonight at 7:30 p.m. with Neil MacGregor, director of the British Museum, in LACMA’s Bing Theatre. MacGregor will discuss the future of his museum in London and the expansion of its collections.

Music lovers will find something to celebrate during the launch of the museum’s “Jazz at LACMA” series on Friday, April 24 at 6 p.m. at the BP Grand Entrance. The first concert of the season will be a tribute to legendary musician Julian “Cannonball” Adderley. Many of Adderley’s original band members will perform in honor of the museum’s 50th anniversary.

On Sunday, April 26, LACMA will host its “50th Anniversary Free Community Day” as a way of giving thanks to those who have visited and supported the museum over the past five decades. Additionally, the museum’s Sundays Live series kicks off April 26 at 6 p.m. with a free performance by the Los Angeles Symphony Winds in the Bing Theatre.

On Wednesday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m., the museum presents “Celebrating Los Angeles”, a performance featuring composers and ensembles based in Los Angeles. General admission tickets are $30; $25 for LACMA members.

Nurses hope to keep current schedule

From page 1

shifts for five days a week begin- ning May 10. The current schedule is 12-hour shifts, three days a week. Nurses have expressed concerns about the new schedule with the workers beforehand, according to the nurses.

Several nurses and CNA representa- tives are worried that the new schedule could jeopardize patients’ lives and wellbeing due to a potential exodus of RNs leaving or newer, less experienced RNs coming in.

“This move that the hospital has made, we feel, causes an issue with patient safety,” Medina said.

According to Medina, the previ- ous schedule was more efficient and safer for the nurses working with the patients and doctors directly responsible for the patients.

However, when the shifts are reduced to eight hours, it will create more errors and communication that can jeopardize the patients’ wellbeing, Medina said.

“Just like when you used to play telephone as kids, the message changes in three times,” she said.

“Instead of a 12-hour shift, with two shift changes in a day, you turn it into an eight-hour shift, and you increase the amount of changes that occur in the day.”

Alecto Healthcare, an Irvine- based healthcare company, acquired Olympia Medical Center early last year. Representatives of Alecto Healthcare declined to com- ment on the issue.

“Olympia Medical Center has been an RN for Olympia Medical Center for more than 30 years. She believes in the hospital. She understands that management is changing RN schedules is to pre- serve nurses to quit and acquire newer RNs, which would be paid less.”

“When Alecto took over the hospi- tal a year ago, they started cutting back RNs because the nurses working with the patients there are not comfortable,” Causing said.

According to Hartono, the hospi- tal a year ago, they started cutting back RNs because the nurses working with the patients there are not comfortable,” Causing said.

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Demonstrators to march to Turkish consulate

Thousands of demonstrators gather outside the Turkish Consulate to protest the government's refusal to acknowledge the Armenian genocide.

Assessor calls for new rules with 'mobile' homes

Los Angeles County Assessor Jeffrey Prang testified before the California State Senate Transportation and Housing Committee on Senate Bill (SB) 434, which would close a loophole in property tax assessment that currently allows a multi-million dollar manufactured home to be classified as a vehicle in order to avoid property taxes.

Actor Gary Sinise was honored with the “True Grit” Humanitarian Award, at the 30th annual Odyssey Ball on April 11 at the Four Seasons Beverly Wilshire Hotel. The yearly fundraiser benefits the John Wayne Cancer Institute (JWCI) at Providence Saint John’s Health Center.

Dance Camera West presents exhibit on architectural space

Dance Camera West presents the 14th annual “Dance Media Festival” running from Thursday, April 30 through Tuesday, May 5 at multiple venues throughout the Los Angeles area. The multi-disciplinary festival will showcase many forms of dance. More than 30 films will also be shown connecting diverse cultures and environments through the exploration of dance.
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