Leaders praise DOJ lawsuit, CA’s moves for trans rights

“Assembly approves measures for single-user restrooms

Separate actions this week by the federal and California state governments rebuking North Carolina legislation that target the transgender community are being praised in Los Angeles and West Hollywood.

The U.S. Department of Justice this week filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the state of North Carolina for its recently passed HB2 legislation. Dubbed the “bathroom bill,” HB2 marked a sweeping reversal of ordinances that protect transgender citizens who use public restrooms based on their gender identity.

“The legislature and the governor placed North Carolina in direct opposition to federal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex and gender identity,” U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch, a North Carolinian, said in announcing the suit. “More to the point, they created state-sponsored discrimination against transgender individuals who simply seek to engage in the most private of functions in a place of safety and security, a right taken for granted by most of us.”

For the California legislature and its leaders, it is clear that the extended defense of North Carolina's HB2 law is a direct opposition to federal laws that the Trump administration is continuing to push. In the past week, the U.S. Department of Justice and Lynch, along with several top California state legislators, have praised the DOJ's lawsuit and actions to combat discrimination against transgender individuals.

Assemblyman Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) said the Department of Justice lawsuit filed this week “is about basic dignity and equality under the law.”

Assembly passed two measures addressing the issue locally and attempting to exert pressure on North Carolina and states with similar legislation. The first measure makes single-user restrooms in public and government buildings “all gender,” meaning anyone can use the restroom. The second measure prohibits taxpayer-funded travel to states that have policies viewed as discriminatory to the transgender community.

Separately, the California

Assembly passes two measures addressing the issue locally and attempting to exert pressure on North Carolina and states with similar legislation. The first measure makes single-user restrooms in public and government buildings “all gender,” meaning anyone can use the restroom. The second measure prohibits taxpayer-funded travel to states that have policies viewed as discriminatory to the transgender community.

Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) said that the DOJ’s action was long overdue and that the lawsuit sends a clear signal to North Carolina and other states that they cannot ignor

Councilmen question mansionization reforms

Two Los Angeles city councilmen in the heart of “McMansion” land joined opposition to the new draft Baseline Mansionization Ordinance (BMO). Councilmen David Ryu, 4th District, and Paul Koretz, 5th District, wrote a letter to the Department of City Planning saying that the new draft BMO – which is partly intended to help communities keep the influx of McMansions at bay – under mined the objectives and tasks of creating it in the first place.

The original BMO was established in 2008. However after the real estate market rebounded, a rush of developers took advantage of “loopholes” and built homes that are bigger and drastically different from those around them, distorting the neighborhoods they are invading, according to neighborhood councils around Los Angeles, including the Miracle Mile Residential Association.

“Vulnerabilities in the regulations became more apparent,” the city’s planning department said in a release. The BMO was “not as effective at curting large-scale homes and construction impacts,” it continued.

In 2015, the city council directed See BMO page 22

Clinic gives homeless youth a second chance

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer hosted the inaugural citation clinic for homeless youth Wednesday at Covenant House of California, a nonprofit in West Hollywood dedicated to getting young people off the streets.

The clinic is part of a City Attorney’s Office program in which representatives visit local communities to work with homeless individuals to expunge citations and warrants from their records. In exchange for having citations removed, individuals must perform community service and accept resources such as housing and mental health treatment. The first of the clinics targeting homeless youth also included a resource fair with local service providers.

Purple Heart Run showcases veteran mobility

While serving in Afghanistan in 2010, U.S. Marine Cpl. Tyler Huffman was getting ready to have lunch on December 3 when a sniper bullet struck him. He was 10 feet from the door of a compound where his unit planned to rest when the bullet hit his right side, traveling through his chest, his right lung and his liver, ultimately exiting through the nerve stem at the bottom of his spine.

The incident left the Jefferson City, Missouri, native paralyzed from the waist down. Among other effects, Huffman had to find a new way to cross-country includes an automatic truck seat and hoist for users. The incident left the Jefferson City, Missouri, native paralyzed from the waist down. Among other effects, Huffman had to find a new way to travel to states that have policies viewed as discriminatory to the transgender community.

The Ford F-150 pickup truck Tyler Huffman and Joe Tidwell are driving cross-country includes an automatic truck seat and hoist for users.

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12 L.A. Virtuosi Orchestra
Tchaikovsky Concerto Raymond Kubawicz welcomes the Los Angeles Virtuosi Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Carlo Pruni, to a performance on Thursday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m. International recording artist Alexia Vassilopoulos joins the orchestra for a tribute to some of Hollywood’s most memorable soundtracks, coupled with Georges Bizet’s “First Symphony.” Tickets are $30. 10361 W. Pico Blvd. (310)286-0553, inayill@cs.com.

13 Gilda Award Gala
Cancer Support Community’s Armenian Center (CSC) presents its annual Gilda Award Gala on Friday, May 13 at the InterContinental Los Angeles. The gala supports CSC’s free services and celebrates the spirit of one of the world’s most beloved comedians, Gilda Radner. The event will honor actress and activist Frances Fisher, advocate Joyce Green and Matthew J. Loscalzo, LCSW, of City of Hope. A cocktail reception begins at 6:30 p.m.; dinner, awards and entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at $300. 5150 Wilshire Blvd. (323)877-6000, www.lacancersupportcommunity.org.

15 Zachary Vocal Competition Concert
Emerging singers from around the world will perform the music of Verdi, Puccini, Mozart and others at the annual L.A. Zachary National Vocal Competition Showcase Concert on Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. at the Wallis Annenberg Center. The performers will be joined by the Los Angeles Philharmonic. For more information, visit ZacharyVocal.org.

17 Bridge Games
Bridge players are sought for the Los Angeles Bridge Club’s duplicate Bridge game held weekly at the Los Palmas Senior Center. Games are every Thursday and Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The cost is $2. Lunch is also available for an additional $2. 1820 W. Palmas Ave. (323)485-7787 and (818)781-1538.

18 LifeWorks
Open House
Los Angeles LGBT Center’s LifeWorks scholarship reception and open house begins at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Village at Ed Gould Plaza. Information will be offered on LifeWorks, the center’s youth development and mentoring program. 1125 N. McCadden Place. www.lifeworksla.org.

19 Bowie Photos
Join an artist reception for photography exhibit “Bowie Unseen” on Thursday, May 19 from 7 to 10 p.m. at Mr. Musichead Gallery. The event features rare images of David Bowie. The photographer captured Bowie in his Studio for the artist’s 2002 album cover for “Heathen,” and for the cover of O2’s “Men of the Year” issue. 7420 Sunset Blvd. www.mrmusichead.com.

20 Art Deco Comedy Hour

20 Zachary Vocal Competition Concert
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20 ‘The Silver, the Black, the Wicked Dance’
The Los Angeles County Museum of Art presents the premiere of Ashley Hartman’s “The Silver, the Black, the Wicked Dance” on Friday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 14 at 5 and 7:30 p.m. The play is about predation in American life. Hartman’s dialogue draws on historical and philosophical material, popular culture and extended dialogue about the origins of, and shame among, privileged populations in the early 20th century. Admission is free; tickets required. 5905 Wilshire Blvd. (323)877-6000, www.lacma.org.

20 Miss Coco Peru Miss Coco Peru is back in “A Gentle Reminder: Coco’s Guide to a Somewhat Happy Life” running Friday and Saturday, May 13-14 and 20-21 at 8 p.m. at the Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Renberg Theatre. The show is based on Miss Coco Peru’s step-by-step guide to creating a “somewhat happy life.” Tickets are $25. 1125 N. McCadden Place. (323)651-2583, www.laphil.com.

20 ‘The Hairy Ape’
Seven Berkoff directs Eugene O’Neill’s comedy “The Hairy Ape” running Friday, May 14 through July 17 at the Odyssey Theatre. The play explores the human need to belong. It stars Paul Starink, Hait A’Lan, Benjamin Davra, Karyn Dwyer, Joseph Gilbert, Jeremiah O’Brien, Andrew Borders, Kai Poulsen, Tatiana Ratuicov and Jennifer Taush. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, 2 p.m., Sunday. The show has a special showroom at 5 p.m. on May 15. Tickets start at $25. 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd. (310)477-2055 ext. 2, www.OdysseyTheatre.com.

20 Housing Forum
Hammer Museum artists-in-residence Antenna Los Angeles invite visitors to tackle the topic of housing in a bilingual session on Saturday, May 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. Conversations will focus on housing rights and neighborhood organizing. A Zumba-inspired dance in the courtyard will focus on local housing disparities. 10899 Wilshire Blvd. www.hammer.ucla.edu.

20 Design Studio Tour
A+D Museum invites the public to a tour and open houses at the downtown Los Angeles studios of designers Tim Dorfner, Ross Hanssen, Spencer Tadlock and Tadgh O’Neill on Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Maps with studio locations and parking details will be emailed to people who RSVP at a+d@apl.org.

22 ‘The Wicked Dance’
International recording artist Alexia Vassilopoulos joins the orchestra for a tribute to some of Hollywood’s most memorable soundtracks, coupled with Georges Bizet’s “First Symphony.” Tickets are $30. 10361 W. Pico Blvd. (310)286-0553, inayill@cs.com.

23 Art Deco Comedy Hour

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Open House
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28 ‘Comedy and Cocktails’
Comedian Bill Devlin’s “Comedy and Cocktails” show returns on Thursday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hollywood Improv. Devlin mixes standup music, music trivia games held weekly at the Las Vegas Improv, and the science of stand up comedians in the country and surprise celebrity guests. 8162 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90069. (310)746-4000, www.TheWallis.org.

28 ‘Separate Beds’
M. J. Cruise’s comedy “Separate Beds” runs Thursday, May 19 through Sunday, May 22 at the Reuben Cordova Theatre on the Beverly Hills High School campus. The play is about the nuances of marital relationships, focusing on two couples taking a cruise. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, 2 p.m., Sunday. Tickets are $30. 241 S. Moreno Drive. (310)664-0535, www.theatre40.org.
The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday honored heroes of the neighborhood who have made extraordinary contributions to the community at the 24th annual Heroes of Hollywood Awards ceremony.

The awards have recognized leaders in Hollywood who have transformed the lives of others since 1993 (though the ceremony began as the Women of Distinction Awards).

The Gilmore Family was among the heroes honored. The Gilmores are the pioneer developers of the Original Farmers Market at Third and Fairfax. Arthur Fremont Gilmore started Gilmore Oil Company, which at the time was the largest retailer of oil products in the West. The company’s land was subdivided and either sold or developed to create a sports stadium, baseball field, drive-in theater and more. In July 1934, the family opened the beloved Farmers Market.

Although it feels like a treasure hidden in the Fairfax community when you’re there, the Original Farmers Market has become an iconic destination for Angelenos and visitors from around the world. With A.F. Gilmore’s great grandson, Hank Hilty, as the company’s president, the family’s legacy is as strong as ever.

Hilty said the Gilmore Company has evolved while the flagship Farmers Market has seemingly remained the same cherished destination. He explained that when he started to work for the Gilmore Company, it was still involved with a variety of industries including oil, farming, mining, real estate, banking and more.

“Over time I’ve seen that change a lot,” he said.

The company is still involved with the oil business “fractionally,” but involvement in the other industries has curtailed except for real estate, and of course, the Farmers Market.

“It has been the one business component that has transcended all these changes during my tenure,” he said.

When it was first established, Farmers Market vendors were primarily farmers that had operations in the L.A. area who wanted to bring retail directly to the public. The original section of the market has not changed much at all, Hilty explained, but over the years it has expanded to incorporate more contemporary commercial retail businesses.

“The core of the market is still that small independent family merchant that gets up seven days a week and works their heart out,” he said.

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Sheriffs to enforce bike safety

The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s Traffic Services Division will conduct a Bike and Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operation on Friday, May 13 in West Hollywood. The focus will be on factors that can result in collisions involving motorcycles, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The department has mapped out locations that have had recent reported traffic collisions involving pedestrians and bicyclists. Extra officers will patrol areas where bike and pedestrian traffic and crashes have been shown to occur.

Special attention will be paid to speeding, illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, and failing to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Drivers will be ticketed for any traffic violations including speeding, unsafe turning, alcohol and drug impairment.

A special enforcement course for drivers interacting with bicyclists is being offered on May 14 and 15. To participate, riders are invited to bring street legal motorcycles, along with proof of registration and insurance, to CSPD training sites. Classes will run from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. For information and training locations, call (877)320-0341, or visit www.CA-mop.org.

Funding for the program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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Funding for the program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Sexual battery suspect sought in WeHo

Man followed victim after she exited bus

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

West Hollywood authorities are searching for a male suspect who sexually battered an autistic woman near Harper and Fountain Avenues on April 1 after he followed her from a bus stop.

The suspect, Greg Boaguni, from the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station, said the victim’s parents reported the incident shortly after it occurred, but the information was made public last week after police obtained surveillance footage of the suspect

The incident occurred at approximately 2 p.m. after the 26-year-old victim and suspect exited a bus on Santa Monica Boulevard. Boaguni said the suspect approached the victim earlier at a bus stop at Sunset Boulevard and Vine Street in Hollywood, before making contact on 54th Street. The suspect and victim continued to talk on the bus ride to West Hollywood, and Boaguni said they were forced to exit the bus because of a layover.

Boaguni said the victim walked to her residence near Harper and Fountain Avenues, followed by the suspect. When she tried to enter a subterranean parking garage, the suspect pushed her against a wall and grabbed her. The man fled when the garage door opened and a vehicle drove up. In addition to the sexual battery, Boaguni said the suspect exposed himself to the victim.

The suspect is described as an African American, 6 feet tall, 225 pounds with a stocky build.

Anyone with information is asked to call Det. Greg Boaguni, with the West Hollywood Sheriff’s Station, at (310) 855-8800.

LAPD launches crackdown on motorcycle safety violations

The Los Angeles Police Department will conduct a special Motorcycle Safety Enforcement Operation on May 14 to reduce the number of traffic-related fatalities.

Extra officers will patrol areas frequented by motorists and cyclists, where recent related traffic collisions occur. Officers will look for motorists and bicyclists who violate traffic laws.

Motorcycle fatalities have increased more than 28 percent in California from a decade low of 352 in 2010. In 2013, 455 motorcycles were involved in collisions in the state, which is a five-year high. In 2015, traffic collisions in Los Angeles claimed the lives of 27 motorcyclists and injured 859 motorcyclists.

California collision data reveals that the primary collision factors of motorcycle-involved crashes are driver speed, unsuitable road and alcohol and drug impairment. A special refresher course for drivers interacting with motorcyclists is being offered on May 14 and 15. To participate, riders are invited to bring street legal motorcycles, along with proof of registration and insurance, to CSPD training sites. Classes will run from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. For information and training locations, call (877)320-0341, or visit www.CA-mop.org.

Funding for the program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Police sketch may be key to solving cold case

Victim found in 2014 has not been identified

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

Los Angeles Police Department investigators are hoping a police sketch of a cold case where a deceased male victim’s body was found outside a vacant residence will lead to new leads.

Detectives recently released the sketch of the victim, identified only as John Doe 238. They are asking anyone who recognizes the man to call the department.

The body was found on Sept. 14, 2014 at approximately 9:45 a.m. at 1111 S. Harvard Blvd, in a neigh- borhood east of Western Avenue and South of Olympia Boulevard. The body had been lit on fire and was badly burned.

According to Det. Scott Masterson, with the LAPD’s West Bureau Homicide Unit, firefighters were called to the location by a witness who reported a small blaze. After extinguishing the flames, firefighters discovered the body.

Masterson said a hillside cover- ed in brush leads up to a parcel on the 1700 block of South Western Avenue. The building, abandoned single-family residence, and another residence that had partially collapsed was found. The victim’s body was found wedged in a small space next to a fence and a 4-foot wall that had partially collapsed at the bottom of the hillside.

“Somebody is responsible for this, but we don’t know who,” Masterson said. “Somebody did this just to make whatever happened.”

Masterson said it was about 10 a.m. the following day.

Masterson said a DNA sample from the victim was sent for test- ing, but it failed to identify the man. The detective said he plans to sub- mit the sketch to Interpol so it can be distributed to authorities in Mexico and Central and South America. He added that it is possi- ble the victim was an immigrant to the United States.

The location where the victim’s body had been found has since been developed and new apartments are being built. Masterson said he hopes the sketch is the key to solv- ing the mystery.

“Hopefully, somebody might recognize the guy,” he added. “It was a warm and rainy day and a lot of people were out and about. If we can figure out who he is, we can figure out what was going on in his life.”

Anyone with information is urged to contact investigators with the LAPD’s West Bureau Homicide Unit at (310) 847-4970. During weekends and off-hours, call the LAPD’s 24-hour hotline at (877) LAPD-247.

Defendant charged in crime spree pleads not guilty

A 32-year-old suspect pled not guilty on Tuesday to more than two-dozen felony charges stemming from a spree through Los Angeles that occurred last August through January.

Artyom Gasparyan is charged with one count of murder with the special circumstance of shooting a pedestrian, three counts of attempted murder, seven counts of second-degree robbery, two counts of fleeing police while driv- ing recklessly, one count of hit and run resulting in injury and one count of possession of a firearm by a felon.

Gasparyan was allegedly involved in a crime spree that occurred throughout Los Angeles County, from West Hollywood to Panorama City and Burbank to Long Beach.

On Jan. 4, police saw Gasparyan 30 miles away in Sunland, and a police pursuit ensued. The chase ended when the suspect crashed his car in the north- bound 5 Freeway near Sylmar. The suspect, who was armed with a handgun, got out of his vehi- cle and tried to run before being shot by officers. He was treated and released from a hospital.

Authorities released an image of the robbery suspect.}

The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Office is searching for the suspect involved in a shooting and wounding of two men on Dec. 9 in Burbank. On Dec. 30, he allegedly shot and killed an unidentified victim in Panorama City. In addition to charges of murder and attempted murder, police have a deadly weapon for an inci- dent that occurred in Van Nuys on Aug. 15.

Additionally, Gasparyan is believed to have been the driver of a vehicle involved in a carjacking in South Los Angeles in January.

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Police sketch of a decedent whose body was found in September 2014 was recently released by police.

Authorities released a surveil- lance photo of the suspect wanted for sexual battery.

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A surveillance camera captured an image of the robbery suspect.
Mid City West election challenge denied

BY GREGORY CORNFIELD

The Mid City West Community Council will not seat its new board until June because the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (EmpowerLA) did not finalize results until Tuesday after a board member challenged the election process.

EmpowerLA dismissed the challenge. The vote count indicated that Charles Lindenblatt lost his At-Large seat this election, but he challenged the results claiming that the language on the ballots caused voters, possibly including supporters, to damage his chances of being re-elected.

The ballot read, “vote for [X],” with X as the number of seats that are open in each category. Lindenblatt said the ballot should have read “vote for up to [X]” or “vote for no more than [X].”

Further, when members voted for fewer candidates than seats available, the program indicated that more votes were allowed. Lindenblatt said this “significantly encouraged those voters who had only intended to vote for one or two [candidates], in many cases, to vote for the maximum number of candidates, likely including candidates that they did not know. The net effect of this is that many voters wound up hurting the chances of the very people that they were there to support.”

Lindenblatt received 93 votes, 18 fewer than the At-Large candidate who had the least number of qualified to win the election. It is certainly feasible that at least 18 voters in the At-Large category had only intended to vote for one or two or a few candidates,” Lindenblatt said in his challenge report.

Lindenblatt called for either a re-election, or to vote the results of the At-Large category, and hold an EmpowerLA-administered selection to fill them.

All challenges are reviewed by EmpowerLA’s Independent Election Administration (IEA) to determine if they meet the challenge criteria and if the candidate proved that it made a difference in the results. The IEA announced Tuesday that the challenge did not meet the criteria and was dismissed.

Lindenblatt said he still believes incorrect ballots can be challenged.

“It’s unfortunate because I think it’s a valid challenge,” he said. Except for a six-month hiatus, Lindenblatt had been on MCWCC’s board since 2003. He said he does not know yet if he will run in the next election, or apply to be appointed to a seat if one opens.

L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District, will host an interactive telephone town hall meeting on May 18 to discuss the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s (Metro) potential transportation ballot measure.

Residents are encouraged to join Kuehl to discuss Metro’s draft expenditure plan as a possible November sales tax ballot measure. The plan includes a timeline and funding amounts for a number of countywide transit, highway, local, pedestrian and bicycle projects over the next 40 years.

Kuehl will talk specifically about transportation projects of interest to residents of the cities of Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, San Fernando, Santa Monica, West Hollywood and Westlake Village, as well as portions of the Westside and the San Fernando Valley.

Residents will be called at random by an automated telephone system and invited to participate in the public forums from the comfort of their homes. When residents answer their phones, they will be automatically connected to the meetings. Anyone who does not receive a call but wants to participate can dial (888)400-1932 for English and (888)400-9342 for Spanish, toll free.

Participants can also sign up for meetings in advance and receive an email reminder by visiting metro.net/townhallplan.

The Mid City West Community Council will host a town hall meeting with representatives from Council District 4 offices, LADOT and the Department of City Planning to discuss possibilities to improve safety on 6th Street from La Brea Avenue to Fairfax Avenue. All community members are welcome to join the conversation.

The meeting will start at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18 at the Korean Cultural Center, located at 5305 Wilshire Blvd. For information and to RSVP, visit eventbrite.com/e/6th-street-safety-townhall-tickets-22583530949.

Metro officials will discuss sound wall construction, give an update on the piling process and discuss the decking for the La Brea station and its corresponding detours. It will also discuss the jet grouting schedule and locations, the Fairfax station progress, the La Crescenta Station and the Eat Shop Play Wilshire initiatives.
Beverly Hills Bike Share is ready to roll

BY GREGORY CORNFIELD

With the sounds of cars honking and racing by on Santa Monica Boulevard in the background, Beverly Hills officials on Tuesday launched the first bike share program near one of its city hall docking stations.

The bike share system includes 50 “smart bikes” with onboard technology and GPS tracking, and 100 bike-docking racks around the city.

Mayor John Mirisch, a Swedish-American dual citizen, said it’s about time the United States caught up with the rest of the world in providing these kinds of transportation alternatives.

“Bike share has become a standard and a low cost public transportation option all over the world, including in my other home town of Stockholm, which began their program in 2006,” he said. “Unfortunately, America has been slow to catch up to the rest of the world when it comes to innovative transportation options, but I do believe that trend is coming to an end. We’re slowly realizing that exclusive reliance on private cars is bad for the environment and it’s also bad for the economy. The explosion of bike share programs in the United States is evidence that we are taking to heart the health and the many other benefits of biking as an actual form of transportation rather than just recreation.”

Riders can use the smart phone app or visit BeverlyHillsBikeShare.com to sign up for the city’s new program.

To rent a bike, riders will enter their account number or tap a membership plans are available, offered on a daily, monthly or annual basis. Riders can pay as they go or memberships plans are available, offered on a daily, monthly or annual basis. Last year, the Beverly Hill City Council approved the $327,000 purchase for the bike sharing program near one of its city hall docking stations.

Beverly Hills Bike Share is ready to roll

BY EDWIN FOLVEN

AIDS Walk Los Angeles, which for the past 14 years has brought thousands of people to West Hollywood each October, is moving to Grand Park in downtown Los Angeles. AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), which organizes the 10K walk, is in the process of mapping the route walkers will take through downtown. Craig Miller, founder and senior organizer of AIDS Walk Los Angeles, said Grand Park provides a larger space to hold opening and closing ceremonies for the walk, and will enable APLA to hold concerts and other related events. Miller added that a Metro subway station serves the park. Another concern was that West Hollywood Park, where the walk’s opening and closing ceremonies were held, will be under construction through 2018 as part of a revitalization project.

“We are very excited about the move to Grand Park,” Miller said. “All of downtown Los Angeles has been so revitalized, it’s so vibrant and exciting, and we are confident it will have a great and refreshing effect. There will be more space and more access to mass transit. There is also the ability to have a more wide range of entertainment, including musical bands. In West Hollywood, there tends to be concern about some celebrities and bands and how large a crowd they might attract.”

Miller added that the move from West Hollywood is bitter-sweet, as the city has hosted the event since 2001. Miller founded the walk in 1985 and the ceremonies were initially held at Paramount Pictures.

See AIDS walk page 7
Chinese Theatre goes back to roots for anniversary

BY JUSTIN SAYLES

For one night only, it’s the 1920s all over again at the TCL Chinese Theatre.
The historic Hollywood landmark is celebrating its 89th anniversary this Wednesday, May 18.

Levi Tinker, director of tours at TCL Chinese Theatre, said the theater is celebrating its history as the longest-running, continuously operating single-screen movie facility in U.S. Opening in 1927, the theater has a legacy worth celebrating, he said.

“There aren’t very many businesses that have been around that long and still have so much… retain every bit of their character,” Tinker said.

The theater’s history harkens back to the fabled era of Hollywood’s golden age.

After experiencing success with his Egyptian Theatre in the early 1920s, Sid Grauman broke ground on his Chinese-inspired theater in 1926. Grauman’s Chinese Theatre, said the theater is celebrating its 89th anniversary today.

The TCL Chinese Theatre has retained its original exterior design, which mimics a giant, red Chinese pagoda.

Grauman’s Chinese Theatre gets ready for the premiere of “Seven Year Itch” in 1955.

The TCL Chinese Theatre has maintained the same design and has continued to offer single-screen movies ever since.


After experiencing success with his Egyptian Theatre in the early 1920s, Sid Grauman broke ground on his Chinese-inspired theater in 1926. Grauman’s Chinese Theatre, said the theater is celebrating its 89th anniversary today.

The TCL Chinese Theatre has retained its original exterior design, which mimics a giant, red Chinese pagoda.

Tinker said the theater has played a role in film history, it also has its own history to celebrate in the coming year. To celebrate, the theater is offering a small popcorn to customers for 10 cents a bag — the price they sold for when it opened on that day in 1927.

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While Tinker couldn’t reveal much about the 89th anniversary celebration beyond Wednesday’s 10 p.m. premiere, he said that planning is already underway for the theater’s 90th birthday.

“I can’t comment or speculate, but there are a lot of great things in the works,” he said.

The TCL Chinese Theatre has retained its original exterior design, which mimics a giant, red Chinese pagoda.

Vibrant views on Western

Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, released conceptual images of murals that may be painted as part of a beautification project on Western Avenue from Third Street to Melrose Avenue. The artists selected are John Park, NoahNeighbor, Ezeis Rick, Hans Haverton and Gina. Pictured are works by Neighbor. The councilman also announced that the project will include street improvements such as new crosswalks, tree planting and art on public utility boxes. The beautification is part of the Great Streets Initiative. Funding will come from approximately $500,000 in community redevelopment money available in the 4th Council District, said Estevan Montemayor, communications director for Ryu. Montemayor added that the councilman plans to focus on improvements on Fairfax Avenue.

Bike share

Los Angeles is the city in the region to implement a bike share program following Santa Monica. Although Beverly Hills’ program is branded separately, it uses the same bicycle manufacturer and is compatible with Santa Monica’s program. Other nearby cities including Los Angeles and West Hollywood are developing bike share programs as well.

City staff are also exploring new locations for additional docking stations and are looking for community member feedback to determine where they should be located.

For information, email transportation@beverlyhills.org or call the city’s transportation department at (310)285-1161.

AIDS Walk

Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District, released conceptual images of murals that may be painted as part of a beautification project on Western Avenue from Third Street to Melrose Avenue. The artists selected are John Park, Noah Neighbor, Ezeis Rick, Hans Haverton and Gina. Pictured are works by Neighbor. The councilman also announced that the project will include street improvements such as new crosswalks, tree planting and art on public utility boxes. The beautification is part of the Great Streets Initiative. Funding will come from approximately $500,000 in community redevelopment money available in the 4th Council District, said Estevan Montemayor, communications director for Ryu. Montemayor added that the councilman plans to focus on improvements on Fairfax Avenue.
WeHo invites residents to give feedback on user fees

The city of West Hollywood is studying the way it establishes fees that are directly related to staffing costs (user fees) from recreation programs, special-event permit fees and applications for planning services.

The city’s goal is to establish the total cost to support each activity, including staffing time. A report will be developed to show the current user fees for each service, the actual costs to perform such services and any difference between the two (higher or lower).

The city’s finance department will provide recommendations to the West Hollywood City Council for each user fee—to keep fees the same, increase fees, or lower fees. The finance department will incorporate responses from community members into these recommendations.

Los Angeles residents ages 14 to 24 can register for the 2016 Hire LA’s Youth Employment program, which provides what are often first-ever paychecks, along with skills training, on-the-job mentoring and financial literacy workshops.

Young Angelenos are encouraged to register at HireLAYouth.org. Summer jobs begin in early July after participants attend sessions to prepare them for the workplace. Participants learn how to write resumes, participate in job interviews and manage money. They are paid $10.50 an hour and work 120 hours weekly.

The city and county of Los Angeles are working on the program through their Workforce Development System. Hire LA’s Youth exposes teenagers and young adults to opportunities in high-growth industries such as transportation, healthcare, hospitality, entertainment and financial services. It also targets vulnerable populations including foster youth, homeless youth, young people on probation and families receiving CalWORKS public assistance.

Mayor Eric Garcetti has set a goal of connecting 15,000 youth to jobs this year, up significantly from the 12,000 young people who found employment last year. Departments throughout Los Angeles have pledged to sponsor thousands of wage-earners, including the Housing Authority, the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Los Angeles Public Library. Private-sector employers are also participating, providing thousands of additional jobs at hospitals, health care facilities, banks, movie studios and retail centers.

“Los Angeles is looking forward to signing up all employers, especially in the private sector, so that young people can gain real-life work experience,” said Jan Perry, general manager of the Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department. “In return, employers will help transform the life of a highly motivated young person.”
Criminal history can be barrier to attending college

The U.S. Department of Education is urging colleges and universities to remove barriers that can prevent the estimated 70 million citizens with criminal records from pursuing higher education. The department is requesting that colleges and universities discontinue the practice of inquiring early in the application process whether prospective students have ever been arrested.

The department made the recommendation in a new resource guide, “Beyond the Box: Increasing Access to Higher Education for Justice-Involved Individuals,” which encourages alternatives to inquiring about criminal histories during the college admissions process. The guidelines also recommend a holistic review of applicants.

“We believe in second chances and we believe in fairness,” U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr. said. “The college admissions process shouldn’t serve as a roadblock to opportunity, but should serve as a gateway to unlocking untapped potential of students. As a nation we must work to make that commonplace. We must ensure that more people, including those who were involved in the criminal justice system in their past but paid their debt to society, have the chance at higher education opportunities that lead to successful, productive lives and ultimately create stronger, safer communities.”

King made the announcement at UCLA, which does not inquire about criminal justice involvement on its applications.

“I wholeheartedly support Secretary King’s ‘Beyond the Box’ initiative, and I believe there are better ways to ensure campus safety than stigmatizing those who are trying to better their lives through higher education,” University of California president Janet Napolitano said. “The University of California represents opportunity, not punishment. UC campuses don’t ask applicants for admission to provide information about past criminal convictions, and our admissions directors see no need to do so.”

Evidence suggests that requesting criminal justice information may deter potentially well-qualified applicants from enrolling in post-secondary education and training. For example, a 2015 Center for Community Alternatives study showed that two-thirds of individuals with felony convictions who started applications for admission to State University of New York schools never finished the application process, in part due to requirements to detail their convictions. In contrast, the attrition rate on applications for all applicants was only 21 percent.

“Opportunity, hope and second chances are integral to the American character,” said Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti. “In Los Angeles, where I re-established an Office of Re-entry to assist men and women who were formerly incarcerated, we are making great strides toward ensuring those who have paid for their mistakes can fully rejoin our communities. I am pleased that the department of education is working to expand this mission to include access to higher education.”
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in the process of removing some of the temporary protective barriers that were placed along the most vulnerable stretches of the Los Angeles River. The barriers were placed there as an El Niño risk reduction measure due to the reduced capacity in some sections of the river from accumulated sediment and vegetation.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plans to restore access for cyclists, equestrians and pedestrians. On the west bank of the river, all temporary protective barriers will be removed from the bike path from just north of Los Feliz Boulevard to a location just north of Hyperion Avenue.

Access will be opened on the east bank of the river at the equestrian crossing near Verdant Street, the pedestrian bridge at Sunnynook Drive, and at a point south of Dover Street.

“As capacity is restored in the channel from our operations and maintenance activities, we will continue to remove additional temporary barriers,” said David Van Dorpe, Los Angeles District deputy for programs and project management. “We’re moving forward deliberately to ensure we can restore as much public access as possible.”

The corps will continue to evaluate alternatives to address flood risk during the summer in anticipation of next storm season. The removal work is anticipated to take several weeks. Once a barrier is removed from the bike path, LADOT will evaluate the pathway before reopening it to cyclists.
LAPD recognized for automotive maintenance internship program

The Los Angeles Police Department’s Motor Transport Division has received statewide honors for establishing an internship program that gives automotive technology students hands-on experience working on one of the nation’s largest law enforcement vehicle fleets.

The Motor Transport Division received the 2016 Employer Partner of the Year award from the California Internship and Work Experience Program of the Year honors from the California Internship and Work Experience Association. The internship program is the first of its kind to be established in the state.

Yeggyan approached the college to form the partnership last year. It was an immediate success, prompting Gina Boga, acting assistant dean of the college’s Internships, Job Development and Career Center, to nominate the Motor Transport Division for the award.

Additionally, the internships may help students acquire permanent positions with the LAPD Motor Transport Division.

The California Senate has approved a school safety alarm law in the state’s upper house. The bill is expected to be sent to the governor’s desk where it will be reviewed by the governor’s office. The bill has been sent to the California Governor’s Office for review. The bill will then be sent to the California Governor’s Office for review. Once the governor has signed the bill into law, the new law will be enforced in the state.

The State Assembly’s Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee has passed legislation by Assemblymember Mike Gatto (D-Los Angeles) and Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks) to protect children from identity theft.

AB 1580 will allow parents to freeze a child’s credit before the child is 18. The bill would protect children from identity theft by freezing their credit scores.

The bill was introduced by Assemblymember Mike Gatto (D-Los Angeles) and Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks) to protect children from identity theft. The bill is expected to be signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown. The bill will be sent to the governor's office for review. Once the governor has signed the bill into law, the new law will be enforced in the state.

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EXPERIENCE 4K AT PHOTOCON LA

PhotoCon LA attendees will have the opportunity to experience 4K Digital Projection. A state-of-the-art digital theater featuring a 4K Digital Projection System and Dolby Surround Sound audio will allow the audience to see and hear in a brand new way. Both days of PhotoCon LA will feature a chance to see and hear the latest from leading companies through a series of presentations and hands-on demonstrations.

In 11:45 am on both Saturday and Sunday, the artists and craft of still and motion photography will be honored through a screening of Michael Apted’s “Bending the Light,” documentary. Sponsored by Canon Apted’s (The Up Series, Master Of Foxes, The World is Not Enough) explores the relationship between artists who create camera lenses and the masters of light who use them to capture their art form.

Attendees will also have the chance to view the finalists and winners of the “Capturing LA” short film competition which was co-sponsored by Samy’s Camera and the Audience Awards.

FOOD TRUCKS & FOOD AT PHOTOCON LA

MEET & GREET AT SAMY’S PHOTO BOOTH

Come take a photo with special guests! Take home an autographed photo!

SPECIAL DEALS ONLY AT PHOTOCON LA!

PHOTOCON LA PROGRAM
Packed with show only deals & coupons!
The Southern California High Tech Task Force Identity Theft Detail, which is led by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, recently arrested a defendant identified as Maria Johnson, also known as Robert Reynolds, Gia Vettori, and Bronze. She is the subject of felony convictions for fraud and identity theft. According to authorities, Johnson moved into luxury homes, she stole personal information and opened lines of credit with her own name. She was then able to access and control money. Investigators believe Johnson is a defendant in several identity theft cases. She was arrested in 2011 for identity theft involving their relatives. She was later arrested in 2013 for identity theft involving their trust and was allowed in their home. She after she was charged with multiple felonies in connection with her identity-theft crimes. She was later arrested in 2018 for identity theft involving their relatives and friends. She was later arrested in 2019 for identity theft involving their relatives and friends. She was later arrested in 2020 for identity theft involving their relatives and friends.
Immaculate Heart celebrates ‘Mary’s Day’

Immaculate Heart High School held its annual Mary’s Day celebration on April 29. The celebration was a fitting occasion to honor the high school’s 110th anniversary. Amid the singing and dancing, the celebration asked students to focus on mercy as a way to renew the world.

A highly anticipated tradition at Immaculate Heart, Mary’s Day honors Mary, the mother of Jesus and the school’s patroness. Festivities open with a theme-based liturgy and close with a potluck lunch on the campus lawn.

This year, organizers emphasized the Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis by selecting “Mary, Mother of Mercy” as the event theme. “So many people are suffering in this world, and our call is to lift them up with love and mercy,” said Father Frank Mendoza, pastor of St. Finbar Church in Burbank, who presided at the Mary’s Day Mass. “Mary, our mother of mercy, serves as our example. With faith, hope and love, we can break the cycle of hate and rain down mercy and love on others.”

Following the liturgy, students gathered for a procession to the quad where Associated Student Body president Aime Bonino-Brichip crowned a statue of Mary as students sung “Immaculate Mary.” The entire school community – made up of nearly 560 students – joined in the traditional “Great Lawn Dance,” which this year featured the song “Pon de Replay,” by Rihanna.

Founded in 1906, Immaculate Heart High School serves female students in the 6th through 12th grades. The school is located at 5515 Franklin Ave. For information, call (323) 461-3651, or visit www.immaculateheart.org.

Camp gives youth an affinity for the Bard

“Can do it’ event nets 20K pounds of food

The Canstruction LA 2016 competition netted 20,030 pounds of food for the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, enough to feed nearly 17,000 people.

The 10th anniversary competition featured sculptures made of nonperishable canned goods. The structures were recently on view at the Farmers & Merchants Bank Building in downtown Los Angeles and were a featured part of Downtown Los Angeles’ Art Walk.

“The foodbank is grateful for the design community’s support,” said Michael Flood, president and CEO of the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. “This creative architectural display offers something for the local community to enjoy while they help us tackle the hunger problem here in Los Angeles.”

Awards were given to several pieces at the event. “CANpitol Records,” by LARGExArchitecture and Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, recognized two music icons – Hollywood’s Capitol Records and the late David Bowie, whose Ziggy Stardust emerges from a plane of red and white cans. It was given the Juror’s Favorite award. “Unframed Sunrise,” by Wolcott and Allsteel, was given the Best Use of Labels award. The sculpture used subtile gradations of tones to create a painterly skyscape that exhibited careful calibration of color.

“Up, Up, & Away From Hunger,” by Steinberg and Trader Joe’s, was given the Best Meal award. It depicts the retailer’s “Fearless Flyer” in a clever mix of food that uses a variety of seafood to depict the boat and the ocean.

Hosted by Gilmore Associates, ConstructionLA is a program of the Society for Design Administration, and is organized by an all-volunteer steering committee made up of professionals in the Los Angeles design communities.

Celebrate Israel Festival showcasing ‘mosaic’

Immanuel Presbyterian Church

12300 Wilshire Blvd. • (213) 389-3191

Join Us Sunday, May 15

“Pentecost and the Gathering”

More than 15,000 people are expected to attend this year’s Celebrate Israel Festival, the largest annual Jewish gathering in North America, this Sunday, May 15.

The event will include musical acts, “unique cultural attractions” and interactive activities, organizers said. It will begin with a one-mile “Celebrate Israel Walk” with StandWithUS to show solidarity and support for the state of Israel.

Festivalgoers will have the opportunity to view the “75 Years to Bob Dylan” exhibit, which is scheduled to open in Israel on May 20. At 3:15p.m, a Tiger Squadron flyover will kick-off the official ceremony.

This year’s festival’s theme is “Israel: A Mosaic of Jewish Cultures.” Organizers hope to give attendees the opportunity to learn, experience and see the diverse tapestry of the Jewish ethnicities as they visit the various pavilions throughout the festival.

Navy Sadoff, the founder of the original Celebrate Israel Festival, said the festival is an opportunity for people to experience the land where he grew up. Currently a U.S. resident, he aims to provide festivalgoers an authentic experience. “Now that we live here, we want our fellow Americans who have embraced us so warmly to share in the experience of all the beauty that is the modern day miracle called Israel’,” Sadoff said. “This one-day festival is the closest you can come to truly being there.”

The event will also feature a “mega booth” run by National Council of Jewish Women Los Angeles and Los Angeles Council Thrift Shops. The proceeds from support programs and services for women, children and families throughout Los Angeles.

“(We) collect Judaic items for months before the festival to provide participants with a large selection of Passover items, challah covers, candlesticks, Judaic art and books, tallit, mezuzahs and so much more at great prices. Stop by our booth and buy yourself, a family member or a friend that special gift,” said Bob Klausner, director of retail operations for National Council of Jewish Women Los Angeles.

Tickets are $10 when purchased online, or $15 at the festival’s entrance.

For tickets or information, visit www.celebrateisraelfestival.com/LA.

‘Can it’ event nets 20K

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### Wallis board taps news members

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts’ chairman of the board of directors, David C. Bohnett, announced the election of Steve Cochran, Ron Simms and Regina Weingarten to the board’s.

“Steve, Ron and Regina share a strong dedication to arts advancement and being an impressive combined experience serving in both local and international leadership positions that will prove invaluable to The Wallis as we continue to further develop into a premier world-class performing arts institution,” said Bohnett.

Cochran is the founder and managing member of Classic Comforts, LLC, a personal buyer and Beverly Press is of the opening ceremony for AIDS Walk Los Angeles during the last year it was held at Paramount Studios. Pictured above are celebrity guest actress Gillian Anderson (left), of the “X-Files,” Craig Thompson, director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, and former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan. Pictured below are walk-ers who were given crowns for raising more than $1,000 in pledges.

### Hancock extended as chair for jazz

The Los Angeles Philharmonic Association announced a one-year extension of Herbie Hancock’s contract as the William Powers & Carolyn Powers Creative Chair for Jazz through the Hollywood Bowl 2017 summer season and the 2017/18 winter season at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Hancock, who was recently honored as the Grammy Awards 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, began his tenure as chair in 2010. The upcoming seasons will include artists such as Dr. John, Gladys Knight, Jeff Beck, Buddy Guy, Carlos Santana, Carlos Vives, Pattie Austin, Terri Lyne Carrington, Kamasi Washington, Terence Blanchard and Cécile McLorin Salvant.

“I am honored to extend my partnership with the Los Angeles Philharmonic,” Hancock said. “Together, we will continue our shared commitment and dedication to the jazz genre by presenting unique musical experiences featuring the best of today’s artists.”

### Crescent student wins Ocean Day poetry contest

“Here comes the trash that makes the food chain circular.”

It was a simple line in poem written by Crescent Heights Elementary School fifth-grader Amin Biya as his entry in contest promoting Kids Ocean Day. And for event founder Michael Klbock, the line seemed a way to communicate the complex ideas he’s been trying to get across for two decades.

“It just hit me,” Klbock said.

Now in year 23, Kids Ocean Day is an event designed to teach students about the benefits the ocean offers, how pollution affects it and what action students can’t take. It’s now a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, but Kids Ocean Day began as labor of love for Klbock, who approached schools about using slideshows to speak to kids about the ocean.

“I created this life around what I love,” Klbock said.

In addition to in-class lectures, Klbock’s organization also hosts an annual beach cleanup, which takes place next Thursday, May 19, at Dockweiler State Beach. In addition to the cleanup it’s a chance for some students to see the beach for the first time, Klbock said.

Students will also gather in groups on the beach, laying down in the sand to form shapes or words that will be photographed by a helicopter passing over the beach, Klbock said. Some schools are planning to form shapes such as jellyfish, he said.

Since its inception, the event has grown exponentially, Klbock said. The 2016 event will be among its largest, with more than 4,000 students representing 34 schools participating.

To promote this year’s event, Kids Ocean Day hosted a poetry competition open to students at schools participating in the event. Klbock said that of the poems received, Biya’s stood out because it plainly states a lot of the ideas that the event has worked to educate students about.

Eleven-year-old Biya said he’s been writing poems since he was 8. His Kids Ocean Day poem marks the first time he’s ever won anything for his work. Klbock said he was given $100 gift card and the opportunity to read his poem at the event this Saturday.

Biya said he was inspired to write his Ocean Day piece because he wanted to create “something new,” but also because the subject matter was important to him.

“If we don’t keep the ocean clean, I’m afraid of animals will die,” Biya said. “And we won’t get to have fun in the ocean.”
After eight years, 13 films, four TV series and a slew of short films, the Marvel Cinematic Universe should be on its last leg. After all, several installments feel like they do little more than set up the next film. Perhaps the latter is true of “Captain America: Civil War,” but it’s just so good at crafting a compelling story and many projects to come.

The events of “Civil War” are a long time coming. After “Avengers: Age of Ultron” where Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) created an artificial intelligence that decimated a city and nearly destroyed the world, the public fears the power held by those chosen few metahumans and mad-scientist inventors. So it only takes one final wrong move—a mission gone wrong in “Civil War,” resulting in collateral damage—for the United Nations to push for oversight of the Avengers. No longer superheroes or vigilantes, they become world soldiers.

Tony, stricken with guilt, is all for it. But Steve Rogers (Chris Evans), star spangled leader Captain America, isn’t OK with that. After all, he just took down S.H.I.E.L.D. in “Captain America: The Winter Soldier” because it had become infiltrated by Hydra, an evil organization that once pulled the strings in Nazi Germany. He’s reluctant to sign away any decision making to anybody else, in effect taking away individual accountability for the sake of global peace of mind.

And with someone like Secretary of State Thaddeus Ross (William Hunt), the man who tried to capture and weaponize Bruce Banner in “The Incredible Hulk,” Cap might have good cause to fear oversight. The decision almost immediately becomes more complicated when Bucky (Sebastian Stan) contract an actor like Rudd as Ant-Man to pop in, say hi, peace out. This is a new type of storytelling on the big screen that takes its narrative cues from comics chronology. Anything can happen.

Sure, longtime fans of the three-act structure might not appreciate a film that can’t function in an isolated environment, but for the initiated viewer, “Captain America: Civil War” is not only a solid film on its own but one of the best in the entire genre because of how aware it is of the entire franchise’s history. Anthony and Joe Russo’s directing is the new face of the genre because of how aware it is upon 40 years of stories at the comic books.

“Captain America: Civil War” story was a turning point for the superhero community. Lines were drawn, friendships tested. Ultimately, Cap’s futile resistance to government oversight failed, but he and his merry band of rebels were always the sympathetic party. This arc was the moment many readers began to hate Iron Man. The film takes many liberties with the source material (the comics could draw upon 40 years of stories at the time), but both Cap and Iron Man receive equal say. It’s Cap’s film, but the role of superheroism is a challenging one.

“Captain America: Civil War” is an energizing piece of cinema. The only flaw is that it ends. And unlike a recent counterpart from another franchise, this one makes sense and strives to add some art to its own entertainment. (“Batman v. Superman,” I was dogging Batman v. Superman.”)

‘Captain America’ takes over El Capitan

The El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood presents a special engagement of Marvel’s “Captain America: Civil War” running through Sunday, May 22. The El Capitan will also offer limited edition VIP comic book tickets, which include a preferred seat, popcorn in a souvenir tub, a 20-ounce drink and a cover exclusive to the El Capitan Theatre. Audience members over 21 may also purchase VIP nightcap tickets, which are only available for the 7 p.m. and 10:50 p.m. shows on Fridays and Saturdays. The tickets must be purchased in advance.

The El Capitan Theatre is located at 6363 Hollywood Blvd. For information, call (800)DISNEY6, or visit www.elcapitantickets.com.
Hollywood Farmers Market

On Sunday, May 15, celebrity baker and confectioner Valerie Gordon from Valerie Confections will lead a demonstration on the Hollywood Farmers Market cooking stage. She will also sign her book “Sweet.” Chef Minh Phan, formerly of Field Trip and Beachwood Café, will offer a cooking demo. Chef Brendan Collins, of Birch will sign his book “Cooking, Blokes & Artichokes” and will lead a cooking demonstration. The market is open Sundays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Corner of Selma and Ivar Avenues. www.hfm.la.

‘Wacky’ wine dinner

The Line Hotel is offering a wine dinner on Sunday, May 15 with uncommon California varietals. The wines include Tessa Marie 2014 Sparkling Vermentino, Santa Barbara County; Lieu Dit 2015 Melon Municipal 2014 Counoise, Santa Barbara County; Toccata 2012 Freisa, Santa Barbara County; Palmina 2015 Aliso; and Toccata 2012 “Rosso Dolce” Freisa. The dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $95, plus tax and gratuity. 3515 Wilshire Blvd. To RSVP, email mary@eatatpot.com.

Santa Barbara Rhone Rangers

An indoor/outdoor sunset wine tasting event will be held in Santa Monica on Wednesday, May 18 from 6 to 9 p.m. The tasting is a unique opportunity to sample some of the Santa Barbara region’s top wines and chat with winemakers in an intimate setting. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Rhone Rangers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting American Rhone varietal wines. Taste more than a dozen wines, with a focus on grenache, syrah, mourvèdre, roussanne, marsanne and viognier. Local chefs will also prepare dishes featuring local, farm-to-table ingredients. 1170 Seventh St., Third Floor Patio, Santa Monica. Tickets start at $64. www.eventbrite.com/e/santa-barbara-vintners-road-trip-los-angeles-tickets-24661303623.

Rose Festival at Descanso Gardens

Celebrate America’s favorite flower at a two-day festival on Sunday, May 25 from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Descanso Gardens. Patina will present a special menu at two garden locations. The menu includes beef dip sandwiches, veggie wraps, veggie burgers, macaroni salad and German potato salad. Free activities with paid admission include a floral art demonstration and a “Human Vase” living art exhibit showcases floral artist Alison Franchi and make-up artist Jennifer Aspinall. 1418 Descanso Drive, (818)949-4290.

See restaurant news page 19
New spring menu at The District by Hannah An

The District by Hannah An is launching a new spring menu inspired by An’s mother – seasonal traditional Vietnamese cooking with a modern twist. The new spring menu, which includes items added to the lunch, dinner and brunch menus, features fresh, light dishes incorporating traditional Vietnamese herbs with An’s secret sauce recipes. The menu includes An’s signature modern umami flavors. They include Vietnamese herb bone marrow with charred onion, comte cheese and herbs; oven roasted oysters with Vietnamese herbs with back bacon, waterfront potato; and fresh herbs, veggies and mushrooms in a traditional Vietnamese herb sauce; and foie gras French toast with almond butter, maple syrup and spicy guava puree.

Hailing from the Crustacean Beverly Hills hospitality family, the restaurant is An’s first solo endeavor and an expression of her native Vietnam. An uses fresh, local produce and seafood, and the menu showcases recipes discovered during her travels throughout the country. 8722 W. Third St., (310)278-6450, thedistrictbyhaha.com.

Knuckle & Claw opens in Santa Monica

Silver Lake’s popular seafood mecca Knuckle & Claw has opened a second West location in Santa Monica. Customers will find their favorite dishes as well as new ones including a larger selection of oysters and house-made whoopie pies. Try the new seafood topped salad and blue crab bites. The restaurant has an oyster bar in the front and picnic tables in the back. Hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday. 2715 Main St., (310)399-9339.

Comming Saturday, May 28
Weekend Scenic Tour aboard our Special Steam Train!
Limited Seating! Book Now!

Saturday, May 21
Board 6:15 pm • Depart 6:30 pm • Return 9:30 pm
“A Night Train to Murder”
Enjoy a first class, 3 course dinner while solving a murder mystery!
Full Bar Service on Board

Sunday, May 29
The Zombie Hunter Paint Ball Train
Visit www.fwry.com for tickets & information

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EVELEIGH
A visit to the farms of Australia

By Jill Weinlein

Australian Huntley Farms Wines

F or years I have driven along Sunset Boulevard and noticed Eveleigh restaurant, making a mental note to dine there. When I received an invitation to a multi-course wine dinner prepared by the Executive Chef Jared Levy, and paired with five different Australian wines from Huntley Farm Wines, I eagerly accepted and looked forward to the informative evening.

In Australia, Eveleigh is an area in Sydney known for farmers and artisans’ markets. The ambiance in the Eveleigh in Los Angeles is rustic, country clapboard farm. Owner Nick Mathers acquired many of the items displayed in the restaurant from various antique stores.

The restaurant is known for its interesting wine list from wineries producing fewer than 1,000 cases from geographical origins in Australia, New Zealand, France and California. Perched on a hillside, Eveleigh offers lovely views of the city and shimmering lights, especially from their back room where our dinner was hosted. A charcuterie plate of meats, cheeses, olives and bread was served with a Huntley Farm rosé. Its vibrant pomegranate color had the aroma of raspberry, strawberry and orange blossoms. This is an ideal summer wine with a fresh finish.

The dinner theater series curated by District Live,” a weekly musical dinner theater series produced by Joey Sapone with artis-ters with Vietnamese herbs with fresh herbs, veggies and mush-

The restaurant is known for Chef Levy’s American and European farm-to-table plates, like the salad of wild foraged leaves from Oregon glazed with anchovy vinaigrette, shredded grana padano cheese and topped with bread crumbs. Bowls of warm and crunchy whish the atmosphere is textured with cashews, toasted sunflower seeds, beluga lentil, bright green, Greek yogurt, and sugar snap peas. These two salads were paired with Huntley Farm Syrah Mongrel, a grenache blend with a berry nose and essences of nutmeg, cinnamon and lavender.

Another salad was a braised Tuscan kale and rainbow chard served with a warm egg yolk on top and shredded cheese. Winemaker Andrew Quin paired this with a dark cherry-colored Huntley Farm shiraz. Notes of black currant and licorice added complexity to balance the fruit intensity of this wine.

Quin explained that Huntley Farms is in the bucolic Barossa Valley, a renowned wine-producing region in South Australia known for its shiraz grapes. During the 19th-century, there was a wave of immigration to the valley and the previous owner, Otto Kasper, used a cutting from a secret shiraz clone and nurtured it by hand using organic practices. The red wines from this region are known for their distinctive full body and spice notes.

The entrée was a surf-and-turf paired with two wines known as Beauty and Beast. A hanger steak was plated with roasted corn, vibrant tusciosha breakfast radish, Provençal green garlic pistou and spicy arugula. The Huntley Farm Beauty evoked raspberry and blackberry on the nose, and flavors of baking spice and white pepper. The fine tannins and acidity went well with the steak.

Chef Levy started cooking in Los Angeles at Providence and is a bit of an expert in preparing fish. He filleted a locally caught halibut, grilled it, and served it with summer squash, thyme, capers, tomatoes and sorrel. It was drizzled with a classic, lightly acidic, ravigote sauce that complemented the fish beautifully and a glass of Huntley Farm ‘Beast’. Quin told us that this wine spends 20 months in old and new oak. Like the fabled character, the Beast is a big and bold wine, yet has a beautiful soft side with “grizzly tannins,” he said. Both of these wines are known for their mystique, history, romance of the label and quality of the fruit.

A plate of Spanish style patatas bravas made with fried russet potato, a pinch of sea salt, and sprinkles of chili pepper aioli was a hearty side dish.

Quin presented the last wine with the dessert course consisting of a plate of cheese with a puddle of honey near walnuts and a slice of toasted bread. This dessert let the sweetness of the Clos Otto elegant dessert wine shine. The Clos Otto vineyard yields low quantities and have an ultra rich perfume of black currant, blueberry, clove and dark caramel enticing the nose.

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Dancers society recognizes contributions to the craft

The Professional Dancers Society (PDS) recently held its Gypsy Awards Luncheon at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Choreographers Carl Fallah and David Alan Metcalf received PDS Choreography Awards. Actor and entertainer Dick Van Dyke (pictured) received the Dance Legacy Award. Singer, dancer and choreographer Paula Abdul was also present to dance. For information, visit www.professionaldancerssociety.org.

Historic Anza Expedition re-enacted in Griffith Park

Friends of Griffith Park, the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and the National Park Service will celebrate the 240th anniversary of the historic 1,200-mile Anza Expedition with an inaugural re-enactment of horseback ride in Griffith Park on Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dozens of volunteer re-enactors in period costume, including many on horseback, will participate.

In fall 1775, a company of soldiers, their wives and children left present-day Arizona under the command of Capt. Juan Bautista de Anza. With more than 240 members, the expedition’s goal was to establish the Spanish empire’s northernmost settlement at San Francisco Bay.

In February 1776, the expedition reached El Rio de los Angeles, camping near the site of present-day Griffith Park. Continuing north, Anza’s party established San Jose and San Francisco, and created the foundation of modern California.

In 1990, Congress created the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail to honor the expedition’s legacy. The National Park Service oversees the trail, which runs 1,200 miles from Nogales, Arizona to the San Francisco Bay area. Since 2011, the Friends of Griffith Park organization has been involved in an initiative to enhance Griffith Park’s four-mile portion of the trail.

The reenactment will be held in Griffith Park’s Crystal Springs Picnic Area, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive. The free event also includes a heritage festival, historical cooking and cultural demonstrations, music and dance. Participants are encouraged to bring picnics, and refreshments will be available for purchase. For information, visit www.friendsofgriffinthpark.org.

Community mourns death of actor William Schallert

SAG-AFTRA members are mourning the death on May 8 of actor William Schallert, who served as president of Screen Actors Guild from 1979–1981. Schallert was 93.

His most memorable role was as the TV father of another future SAG president – Patty Duke – on “The Patty Duke Show.” From 1957–1958, he served with his former “TV daughter” as the ninth vice president of the guild. His character, Martin Lane, was named by TV Guide as one of the Top 5 Greatest TV Dads of All Time.

Bill Schallert’s remarkable career began in the rare position of being able to understand actors at all levels of the business,” said SAG-AFTRA president Gabrielle Carteris. “He worked virtually every SAG contract, he enjoyed working with movie stars and background performers, he was a series regular and an uncredited bit player. He turned this knowledge and experience into service for his fellow actors. Despite leading the union during a very difficult time, Bill maintained his integrity and commitment, a commitment that extended into many more years of board service. I am especially pleased that Bill lived long enough to see the SAG-AFTRA merger become a reality, as he was one of the pioneers of that effort.”

Schallert appeared in hundreds of film, television and theater productions for over 65 years. He was recruited to run for the Screen Actors Guild board in 1974 by guild co-founder and former president Leon Ames.

Elected to the guild presidency in 1979, Schallert led the organization through the TV ratings strike of July–October 1980, taking issues of home video and pay TV. After the strike, Schallert lost his 1981 bid for a second term to actor Ed Asner.

Still, there was renewed interest for merger with the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, and Schallert became chair of the first SAG-AFTRA Merger Committee. More than 30 years later, an event Schallert was present at the guild’s national headquarters on March 30, 2012, when the merger with AFTRA occurred.

In addition to his Guild presidency, he also served as trustee of the Screen Actors Guild Foundation’s John L. Dales Scholarship Fund, Producer-Actor Screen Actors Guild Pension and Health Plan, Motion Picture and Television Fund. From 2004 to 2013, he was a governor of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and served on the Academy’s Abstract Branch, Executive Committee until June 2013.

Schallert is survived by his four sons and seven grandchildren.

LACO presents commissioned work by Aucoin

The Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra (LACO) presents the world premiere of “Evidence” by composer, conductor and poet Matthew Aucoin, who will conduct his work on Saturday, May 14 at 8 p.m. at the Alex Theatre in Glendale, and Sunday, May 15 at 7 p.m. at UCLA’s Royce Hall.

LACO music director Jeffrey Kahane conducts the remainder of the program, which showcases pianist Marc-André Hamelin, who will perform Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 17 in G major. The program ends with Schumann’s Symphony No. 3 in C major. As the concluding program of LACO’s 2015-16 Orchestral Series, the concert marks the final appearances of LACO’s principal oboe Allan Vogel and principal flute David Shostac, who are retiring after 85 years of combined service to the orchestra.

Additionally, USC Thornton School of Music students Joanna Lee and Philip Morton join the violin sections for the concerts as part of the LACO-Thornton Strings Mentorship Program, now in its sixth year. It provides the opportunity in a mock orchestral audition for strings last year as part of the mentorship program, a unique collaboration between USC’s Thornton School of Music and LACO.

LACO commissioned Aucoin to create this work as part of its “Sound Investment” program, initiated during Kahane’s tenure 15 years ago to engage audiences with developing new works. It gives audience a rare opportunity to create a legacy in music and observe first-hand the development of a new work from the composer’s earliest ideas to the finished composition.

Tickets start at $27. The Alex Theatre is located at 216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale. Royce Hall is located at 340 Royce Drive, on the UCLA campus. For information, call (213)932-7001, or visit www.laco.org.

Community mourns death of actor William Schallert

The Beverly Hills Bar Association’s (BHBA) Entertainment Law Section will honor Darrell D. Miller as the 2016 Entertainment Lawyer of the Year at the organization’s annual awards dinner on Tuesday, May 17 at 5:30 p.m. at The Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Miller is chair of the national entertainment department at Fox Rothschild LLP, managing partner of the firm’s Los Angeles offices and author of “The 16th Minute of Fame: An Insider’s Guide for Maintaining Success Beyond 15 Minutes of Fame.” He is nationally recognized for innovative strategies to build effective brands for clients.

The evening includes musical tributes to Miller featuring three of his Grammy Award-winning clients, including rapper, actor and entrepreneur Ludacris, singer, songwriter and producer Donald Lawrence; and actress and recording artist Brandy Norwood. Proceeds from the event support the BHBA’s education and community outreach programs.

Darrell Miller is an outstanding attorney whose innovative and far-reaching strategies have had a tremendous impact on the field of entertainment law,” said BHBA Entertainment Law Section chair Leigh Leshner. “Darrelle’s background as a singer and performer, along with more than two decades of experience in entertainment law, give him a unique perspective and the ability to see the big picture while focusing on creating highly successful brands for his clients.”

Tickets are $325. The Beverly Hilton is located at 9876 Wilshire Blvd. For tickets and information, call (310)601-2422, or visit www.bhba.org.

‘Pacific Bridge’ concert celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Los Angeles City Councilman David Ryu, 4th District and the city of Los Angeles present “Pacific Bridge,” a family-friendly concert on Saturday, May 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. on the steps of Los Angeles City Hall.

The concert is the finale of the Los Angeles Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The concert includes performances by Queens-born rapper, comedienne and actress Awkwafina, L.A. hip-hop artist Dumbfoundead, San Diego’s urban reggae group Tribal Theory and the folk-driven band Run River North.

The event is free and open to the public. Los Angeles City Hall is located at 200 N. Spring St. For information, visit www.apahm.lacity.org. 
against the transgender community.”

West Hollywood Mayor Lauren Meister said the federal and state moves are a step in the right direction. The city of West Hollywood has been at the forefront of the issue, Meister said. In April, the city passed an ordinance that suspends “official travel” to North Carolina, and directs the city to review any contracts with businesses in North Carolina.

That ordinance marked a continuation of West Hollywood’s efforts to protect its transgender citizens, Meister said. The city enacted a gender-neutral bathroom law in 2015 that now applies to one of the first transgender advisory boards in the country.

“We are totally in support of our transgender community,” Meister said. “We feel it is our role as a local government to protect the rights of our constituents. We oppose discriminatory laws.”

Dave Garcia, director of policy at the Los Angeles LGBT Center, said the California state legislation is a “historic moment for the LGBT community in our state.”

“I believe in the way the business community has influenced the hearts and minds, if not the activism,” Garcia said. “The business community — the brave business community — I think that has impacted us a lot.”

Garcia highlighted the impact of Indiana’s Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which gave businesses the greenlight to discriminate against their LGBT customers.

“One economic impact study found the state missed out on nearly $600 million in revenue because of the discriminatory law,” Garcia said. “In the same way the business community has influenced the hearts and minds of people, I think that has impacted us a lot.”

Becerra announced $17.1 million for homeless programs in Los Angeles

Congressman Xavier Becerra (CA-30), Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and representative for downtown Los Angeles, announced that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded $17.1 million in federal grants to local homeless programs.

“Every dollar we can secure to help homeless Angelinos is a win,” Becerra said. “Recent homelessness plans by the city of Los Angeles and the county of Los Angeles show, tackling this issue will require significant long-term investments. The latest homeless count figures show that we’ve made important gains in reducing veteran and family homelessness — but we have much work to do and we can’t let up. At the federal level, I will keep working so that we remain committed to helping all our Angelinos get the housing and services they need to get off the streets.”

West Hollywood invites feedback in budget process

The city of West Hollywood is preparing its upcoming two-year Operating Budget process. The city launched a short online budget survey to engage residents, businesses and community members within West Hollywood to gather feedback about budget priorities.

The city’s finance department will incorporate responses from community members into budget planning and work-plan development.

The survey, which takes less than 5 minutes to complete, is available at weho.org/budgetsurvey through May 25.

“The West Hollywood’s Operating Budget will cover two fiscal years. It will begin July 1 and apply through June 30, 2018. Sixty percent of the city’s revenues come from three main sources, including hotel tax, sales tax and property tax. The most recent fiscal year (2015-16) budget includes $117 million in expenditures. This amount includes $83 million in General Fund expendi-

tures.”

The budget focuses on five key initiatives for delivering enhanced services to constituents in the city of West Hollywood — technology, arts and culture, human services and homelessness, community engagement, and enhanced east-west services.

In an effort to increase transparency and provide data, the city of West Hollywood in January launched a new open data portal at data.weho.org. To view detailed information about current revenues and expenditures, the city of West Hollywood’s Open Data portal includes a page dedicated to the budget document.

For more information about the preparation of the city’s two-year Operating Budget or about the online budget survey, contact Christine Safriet, the city of West Hollywood’s finance senior management analyst, at (323) 848-6467 or csafriet@weho.org.

Rights

From page 1

he was “proud” to support the mea-

From page 1

From page 1

From page 3

From page 3

nure provides the greenlight to discrimi-

nely debunking groundwater basins. The executive order calls for long-term improvements to local drought preparation laws, focusing on key areas and installing more efficient toilets and washing machines. Between June 2015 and March 2016, Californians reduced water use by 23.9 per-

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Although drought is less severe in some parts of California after winter rains and snow, the current drought is not over. For the fifth con-

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Planning Commission approves BMO this year

From BMO page 1

ed the planning staff to reform the failed BMO. "After the first drafted updates were released, city staff collected public comment and released a second draft in April. The second draft varies from the first draft and allows more leeway for developers concerning activities and now Ryu and Koretz, who urged the planning department to keep BMO to achieve its original goal.

"The planning department should continue to pursue the goal of protecting neighborhoods," the letter read.

The guidelines asked that the department restate certain aspects that were established in prior revisions in regards to bonuses for increased building size, "by-right" grading allowances and certain floor area and basement exemptions.

After considerable public comment and participation, it is clear that there is overwhelming support for more restrictive changes, and community members are requesting that this ordinance address the most pressing concerns and impacts of mansionization and hillside development," the letter continued.

Ryu said he heard back from the planning department and said they are well aware of the concerns and will try to incorporate them as the process moves forward. He added that the department will direct additional staff to "to push this as fast as we can" to update the BMO and to establish Interim Control Ordinances (ICO) for additional neighborhoods. The first of the motions he introduced after taking office was to establish ICOs.

"Mansionization was one of the major issues that I promised to work on," he said. "Our neighborhoods are under siege. Every day we wait, homes are torn down and homes are being built."

Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, also stressed that the department will direct additional ICOs.

"That’s something we’re going to be taking another look at," he said.

City Attorney Mike Feuer and Councilman Mitch O’Farrell talk about how valuable homeless citation clinics are for Angelenos.

Service helps 100 homeless each clinic

From Clinic page 1

“...ациональный” влажность в выпадении, которое мы все замечаем," Feuer said. “This citation clinic, focused on homeless youth, is a valuable asset to empower them to break the cycle of homelessness and get them on a path to a brighter future.”

The City Attorney’s Office, in partnership with Los Angeles County, has been holding citation clinics for homeless individuals for the past year, including one in January in Hollywood. Feuer added that future clinics for homeless youth are planned in Venice, Sylmar and Beachwood.

Approximately 100 people are served at each clinic, Feuer said. In addition to the clinics, the citations, the clinic offers help with citations for misdemeanor crimes such as loitering, drinking in public and sleeping on sidewalks.

Barnwell, a Baltimore native who moved to Los Angeles in 2013 and ended up homeless, said the clinic is a "tremendous resource for young people seeking to get their lives back on track."

Barnwell said he made arrangements for a job and a place to stay before coming to California, but the plans fell through and he found himself homeless for approximately one month.

"The homeless youth citation clinic is extremely important because it removes one of the major barriers for youth. Citations can be confusing and it’s hard for them to better themselves," Barnwell added. "I know of a lot of people who could benefit from this."

Barnwell stayed with friends and found Covenant House of California online. The organization helped him get back on his feet. He now has a place to stay and works for the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership, an organization based at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles that links homeless individuals to services.

Ami Rowland, associate executive director of Covenant House of California, said the nonprofit worked with other service providers to inform people about the citation clinic. Although it targeted homeless youth, homeless individuals of any age were welcome. She added that outreach is an important part of Covenant House of California's mission. The organization provides emergency shelter, housing, case management and numerous other services.

"It’s the first time we have had it here, and this is a good spot," Rowland said. "We are right in the middle of Hollywood. Every year, we serve thousands of homeless people and help them off the streets of L.A.

Additional service providers at the clinic included the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, which offered information on job training; Los Angeles CountyMeasure X, the Housing Services Authority and DMH Housing Services, which provided resources on housing; and the LGBT Center's Youth Center, which provides information for LGBT homeless youth.

Jess Nuzet and Martha Gonzalez, of the Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Youth Center on Highland, said homelessness among LGBT youth is alarming. Many LGBT youth are afraid to appear before a judge because they fear discrimination, Gonzalez added. The clinic gave them an opportunity to move out of that fear.

"A lot of people in the LGBT community don’t feel comfortable going to court so they don’t take care of tickets," she added. "I think [the citation clinic] is important because not a lot of [programs] focus on LGBT youth."

Los Angeles City Councilman Mitch O’Farrell, 13th District, also praised the clinic and Covenant House of California’s work. He said the city is committed to addressing youth homelessness and working with the City Attorney’s Office on the citation clinics.

"They don’t need some minor infraction hanging over their heads when they are trying to get their lives together. It’s a great way to help homeless youth," O’Farrell said. "I am pleased to partner with our city attorney, Covenant House and other supportive services in Hollywood to provide this incredible resource to the most vulnerable in our community. Far too often we see young people, particularly LGBT youth, kicked out of their homes. There is nothing more important than doing whatever we can to ensure these Angelinos have the foundation for stability and a successful future."

O’Farrell added that he is also working on a program to secure jobs for youth from Covenant House of California in the nearby Target store at Sunset Boulevard and Western Avenue now that the city has cleared the way for construction of a new Target store.

For information on future citation clinics or getting involved, call (213)978-1937, email at.heart@lacity.org, or visit www.lacity.org.

Ford F-150 Super Cab pickup truck. This year’s campaign, which is run by the Military Order of the Purple Heart, has the theme of “Freedom is Mobility,” takes Huffman and fellow veteran Joe Tidwell on a cross-country trip covering over 30,000 miles in 20 states. The trip began in Mount Vernon, Virginia, on May 2, and will include local events in Los Angeles County this weekend.

Huffman and Tidwell are showing a pickup truck outfitted for disabled veterans. The vehicle contains equipment valued at more than $20,000, including an automatic seat that drops down to level a wheelchair and a crane to lift the wheelchair into a camper shell on the back.

"It doesn’t matter what your injury is, there are things that we can do about these things," Huffman said, who drives an outfitted Ford F-150. The Purple Heart Run will conclude in Washington, D.C., on May 29, Tidwell said. At that point, he and Huffman plan to hand the keys over to Marine Lance Cpl. Nicholas Thoma, a bi-lateral amputee who served in the Afghanistan War.

"We’re hoping he will get to drive his new truck in the Washington, D.C., Memorial Day parade," said Tidwell, who completed two tours in Vietnam and currently serves as national homeless veterans coordinator for the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Huffman recommends disabled veterans contact the Veterans Administration to inquire about these vehicle grants. The VA will help them through the process and Military Order of the Purple Hearts is there to serve as a resource.

Huffman and veterans also have to believe in themselves and push themselves past their limits.

Huffman recalls a time when he didn’t think he could complete the normal, everyday activities he could before his injury. Now he’s able to take his son to the movies, ride four-wheelers and, most importantly, be independent.

“You’re telling yourself that you can’t do it,” Huffman said. “But you have to push past it. You have to try it to see if you can actually do that.”

Photo by Edwin Folven

Service helps 100 homeless each clinic

City Attorney Mike Feuer and Councilman Mitch O’Farrell talk about how valuable homeless citation clinics are for Angelenos.
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