



Midtown Men, Pasadena POPS bring hits from the ‘60s to the Arboretum

The Pasadena POPS return to the Arboretum on July 15 for “Music from Jersey Boys and Beyond” with the Midtown Men, four stars from the original Broadway cast of “Jersey Boys.” The Midtown Men bring their Broadway talent, top-shelf choreography and unique onstage chemistry to the stage for a blast from the past, celebrating the music that defined the ‘60s, all backed by Pasadena’s premier orchestra. With hits from not only the Four Seasons, but the Beatles, Motown and more, you won’t want to miss this electrifying and soulful, one-of-a-kind concert experience.

This sensational production reunites four stars from the original cast of Broadway’s “Jersey Boys.” Tony Award-winner Christian Hoff, Michael Longoria, Daniel Reichard and Tony Award-nominee J. Robert Spencer shared the Broadway stage for more than 1,000 performances of the mega-hit production. Now as The Midtown Men, they have thrilled crowds on concert stages and symphony halls across the continent, and have delighted television audiences with performances on “Good Morning America,” “The Late Show with David Letterman,” “Access Hollywood,” and more. The Men collaborated with rock and roll icon Stevie Van Zandt on their first radio single, “All Alone On Christmas,” featuring Van Zandt and members of Bruce Springsteen’s E Street Band. Their self-titled debut album “The Midtown Men: Sixties Hits” was met with critical acclaim.

Don’t miss the best outdoor dinner party in town



with spacious circular table seating with fine linens, or lawn seating for those who want to bring a blanket. Each option carries on the tradition of picnic dining with your family and friends.

Among many venue amenities, concert goers can enjoy pre-ordered gourmet dining packages for on-site pickup just steps from their table from Julienne, Marston’s and Claud & Co. The food court hosts mouth-watering fare from gourmet food trucks plus specialty ice creams by Choctál, and the venue now offers two full beverage centers serving fine wines, beer, coffee and soft drinks.

Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. with gates opening for picnic dining at 5:30 p.m. Tickets start at only \$25.

If you haven’t picked up your tickets yet for LeAnn

Rimes Live at the Arboretum on July 8, there are still table seats remaining, but act now, because with tickets starting at just \$10, they are selling fast. LeAnn will take the stage with her unique brand of Country Pop for the inaugural debut of Live at the Arboretum, a family-friendly event presented by Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Concert begins at 6:30 p.m. with gates opening for picnic dining and family fun at 5 p.m. Kids under 12 admitted free with an adult.

The Arboretum is located at 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. You can purchase tickets to both of these exciting concerts at PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org, by calling the box office at 626-793-7172 or at the Arboretum on the day of the concerts.

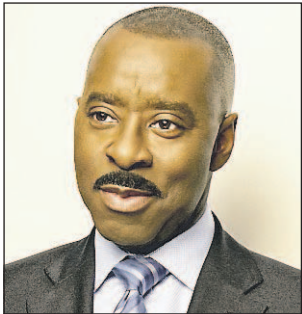


Midtown Men, top photo, four stars from the original Broadway cast of “Jersey Boys,” will perform with the Pasadena POPS at the Arboretum July 15.

La Cañada church presents free Americana 2017 concert Saturday

Seventy-five years ago was a dark summer for Americans. Still reeling from the surprise Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor, the country watched in dismay as losses piled up in Asia and Adolf Hitler continued to relentlessly gobble up countries in Europe. Even the United States’ first major victory, the Battle of Midway, was still was not full recognized for its importance due, in part, to military secrecy.

Early in 1942, American conductor André Kostelanetz, seeking “to mirror the magnificent spirit of our country” in music, asked Aaron Copland to write an inspirational piece of music. The result was Copland’s “Lincoln Portrait,” which will be the centerpiece of La Cañada Presbyterian Church’s “Americana 2017” concert on Saturday in the church’s



Courtney B. Vance

sanctuary, 626 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada.

Admission the patriotic-themed concert and parking are free and the church is accessible to mobility-impaired people.

Emmy Award-winning actor Courtney B. Vance will narrate “Lincoln Portrait,” reciting texts from the 16th U.S. president, including the concluding lines from Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address.

The concert will be a multi-media, family-oriented affair with a wide variety of familiar music accompanied by inspirational videos and photos showing images from American history and famous places around the country. Tyler Wright, CEO of the local YMCA, will provide inspirational commentary, patriotic poems and a little bit of humor.

The concert will recognize those who have died for our freedom and liberty, as well as the current and past veterans of our armed forces. As part of this recognition, the choir and orchestra will combine to present “Because of the Brave” and “You’ll Never Walk Alone” and everyone will join in singing the ever-popular “Armed Forces Medley.”

For more information, call 818-790-6708 or go to www.lacanadapc.org.

Fourth of July pancakes

The West Covina Elks of the Year is holding its annual pancake breakfast 8 to 11 a.m. July 4 at the Hurst Ranch on Orange Avenue just south of Merced Avenue in West Covina.

Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage,

eggs, coffee, juice, etc., all for a \$5 donation. The fixin’s were donated by the Covina IHOP and Touhy Dairy. Proceeds will be used for various youth and Elks charities. Enjoy breakfast and the historic ranch.

Mt. SAC launches new Paramedic Academy; graduate in 9.5 months

Applications open for second class in 2018

Mt. San Antonio College is launching a new Paramedic Academy this fall semester with pre-courses beginning in the summer.

Because class sizes are kept small to ensure a dynamic learning experience, the first Paramedic Academy is already full.

Prospective students are welcome to apply now for the second Academy, which will begin with pre-courses in winter intersession 2018.

“These changes are a testament to our commitment to students. Our faculty and staff are

constantly assessing our academic programs to ensure our students are the best prepared professionals in the field,” said Jemma Blake-Judd, dean of the division of Technology and Health and Mt. San Antonio College. Before the Paramedic Academy, Mt. SAC had a traditional paramedic program, which will be graduating its last students this spring.

The program was completely re-imagined using feedback from local fire and health care agencies. The program

is now more intensive and streamlined, while still providing students classroom and hands-on experiences they need to make an immediate impact on the job. The Paramedic Academy courses are also scheduled so students can graduate in as little as 9.5 months.

“This Paramedic Academy is years in the making,” said Chief Jamie Hirsch, program director. “This is exactly what local public safety professionals have said they wanted from our graduates and we’re delivering.”

These changes are part of a broader effort to re-

imagine the fully accredited Public Safety academic programs at Mt. SAC. This winter, the college brought together the administration of justice, fire technology, emergency medical technician and paramedic programs into one building and under one department for the first time, creating a community of public safety professionals. Faculty and staff anticipate heightened collaboration and partnership similar to what professionals experience in the field. New labs and equipment also will be in place for the academy launch.

Seniors, memories and the sound of music

When you visit a Regency Park senior community, you’ll notice that the halls are alive — with the sound of music. Whether it’s “Hello Dolly,” “Moon River” or “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy,” the music is playing for everyone to enjoy.

For people with Alzheimer’s or other forms of dementia, the benefits of bringing music to their living environment can be dramatic. Irene Kessel, a music therapist, has witnessed the power of music for the elderly. She recalls one senior who was frail and socially isolated. Irene handed her a xylophone to play, while Irene played her guitar. It turned out that the resident had been a pianist.

“She started playing beautifully. And her peers and the staff looked at her differently. It raised her self-esteem — and her esteem in other peoples’ eyes.”

Gladys Broxton, executive director of Regency Park Oak Knoll, notes that even residents with advanced dementia may respond to music. “When the music plays, even many of those with late-stage Alzheimer’s who haven’t said a word

in months, suddenly start singing along. That’s so important to family members.”

“I had an amazing experience with an elderly man who suffered from dementia and whose primary language was Yiddish,” Kessel recalled. “I led a group and sang one of the Yiddish songs in my repertoire. His son, who happened to be visiting him, was literally brought to tears. He had not seen his father so engaged in years. The son’s excitement reinforced his father’s good feelings.”

And that’s not all. The Alzheimer’s Foundation of America (AFA) notes that music can “shift mood, manage stress-induced agitation, stimulate positive interactions, facilitate cognitive function and coordinate motor movements.”

Neurologists believe that this occurs because music appreciation doesn’t require cognitive processing. “Music has the ability to activate more parts of the brain than any other stimulus,” explained the late renowned neurologist and writer Oliver Sacks.

In one fascinating piece of research conducted by researchers at the University of Alabama, dementia patients were presented with both familiar songs, new songs and spoken material. The patients recalled the words to familiar and new songs better than they recalled spoken words. Even when they didn’t know the song, 75 percent of the time they tried to sing along, hum or keep time. And with consistent practice, the patients actually learned new songs, even when they didn’t seem able to recall new spoken material.

At Regency Park Oak Knoll, there is music playing throughout the building virtually 24 hours a day. Broxton said, “We always have music in our outdoor courtyard; there’s jazz in our Bourbon Street-themed coffee room; our morning exercise class is accompanied by music; we play music in the hallways; and we bring in live musicians seven days a week, after dinner.”

“Music makes our residents happy,” says Broxton. “It puts them in a good mood. It is so amazing to see!”

Grappling with the Great War

Searching for Sergeant Kauffman

Sunday, July 9, 2017, 2 to 4 p.m.

Commemorate the 100th anniversary of America's involvement in World War I with the story of Sgt. Joseph Kauffman, a young Los Angeles soldier who lost his life in France. Presented by journalist Edmon J. Rodman, & Museum Director Paul R. Spitzzeri.

Admission is free, but space is limited. For reservations call 626.968.8492 or visit homesteadmuseum.org.

Homestead Museum
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