5 Worth the Drive

BY LORNA CORPUS SULLIVAN

"Overdrive: L.A. Constructs the Future, 1940–1990"

Through July 21—The 1940s advent of freeways sent Los Angeles sprawling toward enormous growth and complicated civic, socioeconomic, and environmental challenges. With photographs, films, oral histories, and more, this exhibit sheds light on L.A.'s past 50 years as the ultimate design laboratory. J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Center, Los Angeles. (310) 440-7300; getty.edu or pacificstandardtimepresents.org.

Rancho Mission Viejo Rodeo

August 24–25—Top competitors in saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, bull riding, and team roping will seek a total of more than $200,000 in prize money. Visitors can also "git after" some shopping and vittles in the vendor area or try their skills on a mechanical bull. A concert and dance will be held August 24. Rancho Mission Viejo Riding Park, San Juan Capistrano. rmvrdeo.com.

Motte Historical Museum Car Shows

Through September 1—Car clubs and individual enthusiasts like to convene here on first and third Sundays during the warmer months. Visitors can enjoy these gatherings and take in local history and the museum's vintage-car collection. The site hosts special events, so call ahead for museum hours and availability. Motte Historical Museum, Menifee. (951) 928-3210 or (951) 821-6210; mottemuseum.com.

Alfred Hitchcock Nights

July 3–August 23—Director and master of suspense Alfred Hitchcock had a fondness for cockney rhyming slang, once telling an actress on set, "Don't come a pig's tail." (Translation: "Don't come twirly.") Translated again: "Don't come too early.") With all-time favorites Vertigo, Rear Window, North by Northwest (pictured), and Psycho among the offerings in this free eight-film series, movie buffs will want to arrive early enough to snag a prime viewing spot. UC Santa Barbara, Campbell Hall (Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.); Santa Barbara County Courthouse Sunken Garden (Fridays, 8:30 p.m., except August 2), Santa Barbara. (805) 893-3535 or (805) 568-3990; artsandlectures.ucsb.edu.

"Patriot, President, Peacemaker:" Richard Nixon Centennial

Through December 31—Richard Nixon's fall from grace is a matter of historical record. Now his rise from humble beginnings is, too. This exhibit commemorates Nixon's 100th birthday and tracks his early political career, along with his presidency, resignation, rehabilitation, and time as an elder statesman. Personal correspondence with fellow presidents and never-before-displayed family photographs from his later years are also included. Nixon Presidential Library & Museum, Yorba Linda. (714) 983-9120; nixonfoundation.org.

PLEASE NOTE: Events and times are subject to change. Call the numbers listed for information. Be sure to designate a driver if you plan to drink at an event where alcohol is served.