

ARARAT

H Y E L I G H T S

A Publication of Ararat Home of Los Angeles, Inc.®

Summer 2018

GALA CELEBRATES OPENING OF NEW WING

*"Building on
Our Successes to Reach
New Possibilities"*



The new wing of Ararat Assisted Living Facility is complete and officially open! This milestone marks an achievement that has been built on the successes of the Home's nearly 70 year history. For seven decades, the generous support and dedicated work of countless individuals has carried the vision of the Home's founders to ever-increasing heights. And, with the opening of this 44-room, 56-person-capacity new wing, Ararat Home reaches higher in its service to meet the growing needs of our community. By providing quality care in a loving, peaceful, uniquely Armenian, home-like environment to a greater number of our elderly, Ararat Home offers a greater number of families peace of mind in knowing that their loved ones are safe and living with dignity and comfort.

To celebrate this achievement, the Ararat Home family came together on August 4th in Deukmejian Grand Ballroom for the Opening Gala – an elegant and jovial evening attended by sponsors, supporters, friends, residents and staff members.



▲ Residents escorted into the ballroom by staff members

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GALA CELEBRATES OPENING OF NEW WING



Master of Ceremonies
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Board Chair
Michael Surmeian



Building Committee
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Rita Noravian



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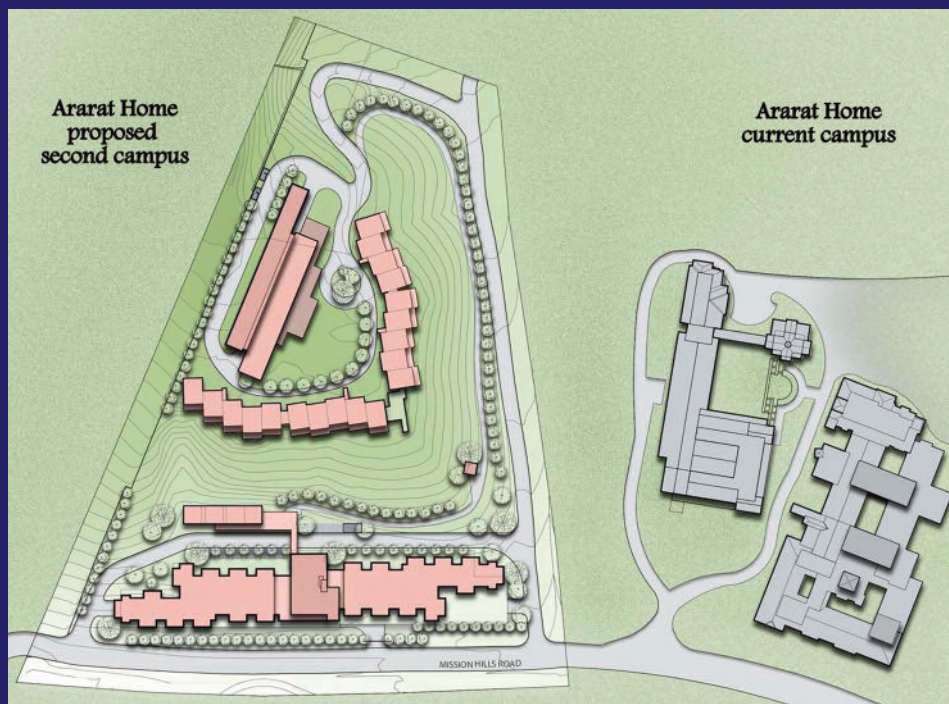


EVEN MORE POSSIBILITIES ARE ON THE HORIZON AS ARARAT HOME DOUBLES IN SIZE

We are delighted to announce that Ararat Home recently purchased 12 acres of land adjacent to its Mission Hills campus!

The master plan for this property is currently being developed with the goal of making Ararat Home a Continuing Care Retirement Community. Once complete, the Home will be able to expand its brand of unparalleled service to a greater number of seniors and meet their diverse needs by offering various levels of care and support.

We thank the Home's current and past supporters for making this acquisition possible. This project helps ensure the continuation of the strong legacy of service and care that Ararat Home has established since its founding in 1949. We ask you to "stay tuned," as we will periodically be sharing exciting updates with you in the coming months and years.



NURSING FACILITY EARNS PRESTIGIOUS SILVER NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

We are very proud to report that Ararat Nursing Facility has been recognized as a 2018 recipient of the *Silver – Achievement in Quality Award* for its commitment to improving quality care for residents.

This national award is presented annually by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living, the leading association for long-term and post-acute care that represents more than 13,500 care facilities. The National Quality Award Program has three progressive levels: Bronze,

Silver and Gold. The awards recognize those member facilities that exhibit ever-improving performance excellence.

As a Silver Award recipient, the Nursing Facility has clearly demonstrated its dedication to developing effective approaches that drive continual improvement of organizational performance and health care outcomes. "We are committed to implementing processes that better the lives of those we serve – residents and families alike," said Nursing Facility Executive Director

Margarita Kechichian. "We are proud to receive the Silver Award, as it is a validation of our hard work and dedication to quality improvement day in and day out."

Ararat Home Board of Trustees Chair Michael Surmeian congratulated the entire Nursing Facility staff for this outstanding accomplishment. He said, "The Board is truly grateful to all staff, volunteers and supporters for such unparalleled devotion to Ararat Home's mission of care." He noted that this was another great achievement for the Home following the *Bronze – Commitment to Quality Award* recognition of Ararat Convalescent Hospital in 2015 and of Ararat Nursing Facility in 2017.

NEW ACQUISITION ENRICHES AEM'S RESEARCH LIBRARY

Ararat-Eskijian Museum (AEM) recently acquired the rich library of Dr. Robert Hewsen. Born in New York to Armenian-American parents, Dr. Hewsen received his Ph.D. from Georgetown University in 1967, and taught Byzantine and Russian history at Rowan University for over 30 years. An expert in the history of the South Caucasus, Dr. Hewsen has written multiple books and articles on this topic. His publication in 2001, *Armenia: A Historical Atlas*, received wide acclaim and is considered a monumental achievement in Armenian studies.

Besides the valuable items Dr. Hewsen amassed over his distinguished academic career, his library is compiled from significant portions of the libraries of two other eminent scholars who worked before him: Dr. Cyril Toumanoff (1913-1997) and Dr. Nicholas Adontz (1871-1942).

Dr. Adontz, a philologist and historian specializing in Byzantine and Armenian studies, was born near the city of Sisian in modern-day Armenia. He received his Ph.D.

from the University of St. Petersburg in 1916, and after several teaching positions, in 1930, he headed the Department of Armenian Studies at the University of Brussels. His extensive studies and writings on ancient and medieval Armenian history made him a prominent figure in the field.

Dr. Toumanoff, the son of Georgian and Russian noble families, was an historian and genealogist specializing in medieval Georgia, Armenia, Iran and the Byzantine Empire. His works are considered to have significantly influenced western scholarship of the medieval Caucasus. Born in the Russian Empire, he escaped to the U.S. after the Bolshevik Revolution. During his studies at Harvard University, he traveled to Brussels to study Armenology under Dr. Adontz. He later obtained his Ph.D. from Georgetown University in 1943, where he taught for almost 30 years and counted Dr. Hewsen among his students.

"While Dr. Hewsen inherited the library of his mentor Dr. Toumanoff, who himself had



inherited the library of his mentor Dr. Adontz, Ararat-Eskijian Museum has now acquired their remarkable collection of scholarly treasures," said AEM Director Maggie Mangassarian-Goschin. Once catalogued, AEM will make Dr. Hewsen's library available to scholars and researchers worldwide, thus furthering the study of Armenian history and heritage.

Save the Dates

MONTHLY TUESDAY LUNCHEONS

at Ararat Home ~ organized by
the Ladies Auxiliary ~
September 11, October 9,
November 6, December 4

September 8 ~ **PARTY IN
PARADISE** (Hawaiian theme) at
Armenian Center (Montebello)
~ organized by the Massis Guild

September 30 ~ **66TH ANNUAL
PICNIC** at Ararat Home

October 13 ~ **ANNUAL
LUNCHEON** at Ruth's Chris
Steakhouse (Irvine) ~
organized by the Orange
County Guild

November 17 ~ **CASINO
NIGHT XV** at Ararat Home

December 8 ~ **CHRISTMAS
LUNCHEON** at Beverly Hills
Hotel ~ organized by the
Westside Guild

Please visit www.ararathome.org for more information on these events.

ARARAT HIGHLIGHTS

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