

MIDTOWN NEWS – March 10, 2017

Editor: Annette Ashton for the Midtown Residents Association. See www.midtownresidents.org
LIST SERV at PaloAltoMidtown@yahoo.com. Great place to "chat"

1) MIDTOWN TIDBITS

Daylight saving time: Spring forward. One hour less sleep but one more hour of glorious sunlight. While you are doing this, backup your computers and change the batteries in your smoke alarms.

Wear the Green on Saturday for St Pat's day. May the luck of the Irish be bestowed on you!

MARCH 10: **LAST CALL Movie Night at Mitchell Park Community Center** at 7 PM, El Palo Alto Room. FREE. Special Showing of the PBS Documentary "The Unthinkable: How the brain works under extreme duress" by Amanda Ripley. The Unthinkable brings light into civilization's darkest moments. She reveals how human fear circuits and crowd dynamics work, why our instincts sometimes misfire in modern calamities, and how we can do much, much better. Popcorn, movie treats. FREE. Not suitable for small children.

Santa Clara County is accepting applications for the **2017-2018 Grand Jury**. For information, go to <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/scc/residents/Pages/civil-grand-jury.aspx>

2) CITY/COUNTY/SCHOOL EVENTS

From Utilities: The City's water supplier, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), has notified us that there will be a **water source blend change this weekend**. The SFPUC is completing infrastructure improvement work on the Mountain Tunnel pipeline facility that delivers water to wholesale customers from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. In order to accommodate this work over the past few months, SFPUC had shut down the water supply from Hetch Hetchy and delivered water from local surface reservoirs. SFPUC plans to bring the Hetch Hetchy water supply back online this weekend. As with any water source blend change, there is a possibility that turbidity could stir up material in the pipes. For more details see www.cityofpaloalto.org/Utilities and www.cityofpaloalto.org/WaterQuality

Public service message: **Storm Water Management Fee Ballot**: The fee proposed by this ballot measure would continue what we already pay on our utility bills to manage the City's storm drain infrastructure and programs to keep pollution out of our creeks and Bay. You can find more information here <http://www.paloaltostormwater.org/> and also in a recent article <http://paloaltoonline.com/news/2017/02/21/nature-offers-boost-to-palo-altos-storm-drain-campaign>.

The Palo Alto Police Department is now accepting applications for the **Citizens Police Academy**, which runs from April 19 to June 7 on Wednesdays nights from 6 -9 PM at various City of Palo Alto facilities with a kick-off event on Monday, April 17, 6 -9 OM. FREE, but class is limited to 25 students. Applications are due no later than Wednesday, March 22. See https://local.nixle.com/alert/5869696/?sub_id=1444824

VTA Final Transit Service Redesign Plan postponed to May due to over 3000 public comments. "Over the course of the upcoming weeks, staff expects to make dozens of tweaks and changes to the Transit Service Redesign Draft Plan. While the goals of increasing ridership, improving VTA's cost-effectiveness and connecting to and integrating with BART remain intact, staff is closely reviewing the public feedback to address areas and routes of concern". Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/gl55rbq>

SAM TRANS online survey on service, payment, communications, amenities at www.samtrans.com/haveyoursay by March 19.

CITY COUNCIL

- March 13: No Council

- March 20: Start approx 7PM after closed session. Items include Conduit financing for Channing House project and Comp Plan Update. Agenda at <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/56460>

MARCH 14: **Policy & Services**: No Meeting

MARCH 14: **PAUSD Workshop** at 6:30 PM District headquarters, 25 Churchill. Topics: PAUSD operations and meeting procedures, math textbook adoption for the middle schools, and a proposal to rename Jordan and Terman middle schools, among other items.

MARCH 16: **Architectural Review Board** at 8:30 AM in council chambers. Topics: 275 Cambridge Ave. and 475 Cambridge Ave. requests to allow steel-beam trellis structures to support solar developments on the top floor of two city-owned garages; 240 Pasteur Drive, to construct a new 215,000-sf Biomedical Innovations Building. <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/56467>

MARCH 16: **City /School Liaison Committee** at 8 am at the district office at 25 Churchill. Agenda at <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/56452>

MARCH 16: **Public Art Commission** Cancelled

MARCH 16: Director's hearing for Property **2747 Park Ave** to combine six existing underlying parcels into one parcel. Time 3PM in City Hall flexible meeting room, first floor.

MARCH 17: **PAUSD Policy Review Committee** at 8:30 AM at district headquarters, 25 Churchill. Room A.

MARCH 21: **Finance Committee** at 6 PM in first floor meeting room city hall re rate increase for utilities

MARCH 22: Special **Rail Committee Meeting**

3) LOCAL EVENTS/NEWS

See all **Avenidas Activities** at <http://www.avenidas.org/>. Don't forget to PRE Register at www.avenidas.org or by calling 289-5400. Selected events and news below. See full schedule at <http://tinyurl.com/mfhqpuv>.

- Mar 13: UNA Film Festival "On a Tightrope" at 2PM
- Mar 16: Musical Jam Session at 2PM
- Mar 17: "Using Your Family Dog to Help You Maintain Independence" at 11 AM
- Mar 21: Presentation: "The Intelligent Internet" at 2:30PM
- Mar 27: Classical Chinese Mah Jong every Monday at 1PM
- Mar 29: Workshop: "Traveling Alone and Loving it!" at 9 AM
- Mar 30 Ukulele Workshops at 2PM

Deborah's Palm Events: See all events at www.deborahspalm.org. Call: 473-0664. Ongoing Classes & Activities.

- Mar 10: Poetry Lovers Group from 1-3 PM. Come and join with others, as you celebrate and bask in the beauty of the written word.
- Mar 15: Women 50+ in Transition: New Group from 1:30-3:30 PM. Ease the feeling of "overwhelm," confusion and frustration, by taking part in this wonderfully supportive group. Register today at donna@yourtimetoblossom.com or call: 683-0771.
- Mar 24/25: The Connection Practice - Part 1 (Fri: 6-9 PM; Sat: 9-6 PM). Discover a way to consistently connect to yourself and others at 2-day workshop To register or for more info, contact Ellen: 301/646-8281 or email: EMAbutterflies@gmail.com
- First & Third Fridays: "Life Lessons". Explore the topic of forgiveness. Upcoming dates: 3-Mar, 17-Mar, 7-Apr, 21-Apr, 5-May, 19-May, 2-Jun, and 16-Jun. The time is always noon-1:30 PM.

Stanford Live: 3/19 Black Grace

Stanford 4 You. See all Stanford Events in February at <http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=a8e6569da943904e9ac369cde&id=1bbc56a26b&e=1164130f95>

Talking with Henrietta - **“Responding to President Trump’s Immigration Policies”** - The City of East Palo Alto has a large Latino population and many of the city’s residents are concerned and even frightened by President Trump’s immigration policies. On this edition of Talking with Henrietta, East Palo Alto’s vice mayor and its city attorney discuss what East Palo Alto is doing to ease the fears of some of its residents. See this timely show over the Internet and on Comcast 30 on Sundays@5 pm, Tuesdays@8 pm, Wednesdays@6 p.m., Thursdays@8 pm and Fridays@3:00 am & 12 pm and Saturdays at 10 am. Get more information about this show at <http://www.epatoday.org/tv.html#immigrationpolicies>. See a video excerpt from the show at <https://youtu.be/PC-cl2JXUJ8>

31st **Palo Alto Weekly Short Story contest.** Stories must be 2500 words or less. Story deadline April 13, 2017.

Open space district launches **annual photo contest.** Contestants can submit up to three photos in four categories: wildlife, plant life, landscapes, and people in nature. Photos must be taken in a MidPeninsula Open Space Preserve that is open to the public. Photos due by May 31. <http://www.openspace.org/photo-contest>

Palo Adult School Enrollment now open for spring. See www.PAAdultschool.org or call 329-3752

“Edible Education.” to introduce children to the principles of sustainable farming methods while engaging them in science lessons. See lesson plans at <http://bit.ly/GB6thGradeCurriculum>.

MARCH 11: **Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra** (PACO) presents Violin Virtuosity at Cubberley Theatre, Middlefield at 7PM. FREE

MARCH 11: **Robotics workshop.** Enjoy this Saturday and learn to build and program robots using Mindstorm EV3 kits at Mitchell Park library from 3-5PM. Details at <http://tinyurl.com/jkphofn>

MARCH 12: Celebrate the **Holi Festival of Colors** at Mitchell Park with free henna tattoos and lots of colored powder, and a DJ at the Mitchell Park Bowl from 4-6PM. See <http://tinyurl.com/jp6e4kn>

MARCH 11/12: Celebrate the glorious sunshine & stock up on spring reading at **FOPAL’S huge book and media sale** at Cubberley Community Center. Over 70,000 books, CD’s, DVD’s, games, puzzles, framed art, and collectibles, all sorted and very reasonably priced; many foreign language materials. Saturday hours: Main Sale Room 11 am-4 pm, Bargain Room 9:30-4 pm and Children’s Room 10 am- 4 pm. Sunday hours: All rooms 11 AM – 4 PM. On Sunday in the Bargain Room all items are 50% off or \$5/bag. After the sale ends on Sunday, all books in the Bargain Room are FREE to teachers and nonprofit organizations. All net sale proceeds benefit Palo Alto public libraries. For more information and directions, please visit our website at: www.fopal.org.

MARCH 15: **"How to Navigate Information in a World of Fake News"** from 7-9 PM at Cubberley Auditorium, Middlefield. FREE, but RSVP needed at eventbrite by March 13.

MARCH 17: **Salisbury Theatre Choir** at Stanford Memorial Church at 7:30PM. FEE: Tickets at www.Salisbury.stanford.edu

MARCH 18: **PALY Flea Market** from 9-3PM at Palo Alto High

MARCH 18: Project WeHOPE presents the **annual spring Fashion Show and Luncheon** fundraiser to benefit programs and services that help the homeless throughout San Mateo County and Santa Clara County. Free: from 1-3PM. Elks Lodge 4249 El Camino

MARCH 19: At the Art Center: **Soft Sculpture workshop:** Make your own hand-sewn soft sculptures using supple materials such as cloth, foam, plastic, paper, fiber, and natural materials. A quick felting and stitching demonstration, followed by a look at some examples, and you’ll be on your way! For more see: <http://tinyurl.com/j2beevk>

MARCH 19: At the JCC: Israeli Movie Club Presents **"In Search Of Israeli Cuisine"** from 5:30-7:30 PM. FEE: \$11 Mem & Seniors, \$14. "In Search of Israeli Cuisine" is a portrait of the Israeli people told through food. It profiles chefs, home cooks, vintners and cheese-makers from over 100 cultures that make up Israel, including Jewish, Arab, Muslim, Christian and Druze. A story of the people emerges from their food. The chef/guide of "In Search of Israeli Cuisine" is Michael Solomonov, the James Beard award-winning owner of Zahav and other restaurants in Philadelphia and New York. Screenings will be held at 5:30 PM and 7:30 PM.

MARCH 19: **New Zealand Dance Company Black Grace** presents "Minoi, Pati Pati, and Crying Men" at Stanford Memorial Auditorium at 2:30PM. FEE: \$15-22

MARCH 22: Screening of the **"Palo Alto's 1967 Experiment in Fascism"** at 7PM at Cubberley Auditorium, Middlefield. www.PaloAltoHistoryMuseum.org

MARCH 24: **Albany Consort** collaborates with Cologne University Choir at 7:30 PM at the First Presbyterian, 1140 Cowper. FEE: \$30.

MARCH 25: Grace Lutheran Church .3149 Waverley Street, presents: **"Bach Cantata Vespers"** from 4-5 PM. FREE will offering. The three congregations in Palo Alto of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America--Grace Lutheran, First Lutheran and University Lutheran--join forces for a Bach Cantata Vespers. Since most of the vocal music by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) was written for liturgical use, the music will be presented in the context of a service of Evening Prayer.

MARCH 28: At the JCC: **"Liberalism vs. Conservatism: American/Israeli Connections"** from 7:30-9:30 PM. FEE: \$15 Mem/J-Pass, \$18, \$20 at the Door. Dr. Ruth Calderon, one of Israel's leading figures heading efforts to revive Hebrew culture and a pluralistic Israeli-Jewish identity will discuss the topic of Liberalism vs. Conservatism: Opposing Trends Within Israeli and American Societies from her point of view as an academic, community leader and public servant and through studying the Jewish texts of our tradition. The discussion is part of a five-day immersive educational experience on the topic of Jewish Creativity: Innovation, Culture and Meaning.

APRIL 1/2: **Final Treasure Market** to benefit Cantor Arts from 10 to 2PM.at the Arrillaga Center for Sports & Recreation, 341 Galvez St. FEE: \$5

APRIL 4: Acterra presents George Schultz **"A Conservative Case for a Carbon Tax"** at the Arts Center at 7:30 PM. FEE: \$10. Tickets at <https://app.etapestry.com/cart/Acterra/default/item.php?ref=931.0.233392167>

APRIL 28/29: **Gamble Garden Spring Tour** from 10 AM - 4PM. Tickets now on sale at www.gamblegarden.org. FEE: \$30 mem, \$35 public. Boxed lunches available for an additional \$15.

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MARCH 10: Avenidas Presents "Doing Good and Doing it Right: Making Tax Smart Gifts during your Lifetime" from 11-12:30PM FREE. RSVP to 289-5400

MARCH 10-19: At the JCC: Food-Conscious Series. See <https://paloaltojcc.org/food-conscious-series>

MARCH 11: Summerwinds Nursery class Vegetable Garden Preparation & Planning, at 11 AM. FREE

MARCH 11: CANOPY tree walk: Mitchell Park at 10AM

MARCH 11: Arbor Day Festival at Mitchell Park Multi-Use Bowl from 10 AM-2PM. FREE. See details at <http://canopy.org/our-work/events-and-workshops/special-events/arbor-day-festival/>

MARCH 14 "Exotic and Lesser-Known Piping Traditions of the World" at 1PM at the JCC Community. Tuesdays. FEE \$15. For more info, Michelle Rosengaus at 223-8616 or mrosengaus@paloaltojcc.org.

MARCH 15: At the JCC - Israeli Hors d'Oeuvres: Workshop & Wine Tasting from 7:30 - 9:30 PM. FEE: \$12 Mem & J-Pass; \$15 in advance; \$18 at the door. Room F401 (4th floor above the theater).

MARCH 17: At the JCC -- New Century Chamber Orchestra presents: Americans in Paris from 8 - 10 PM. FEE: \$29-61. 25th Anniversary Season celebrates the return of Chanticleer, "the world's reigning men's chorus" (The New Yorker).

MARCH 19: iPhone Garden Photography at Gamble Garden from 1:30 - 3:30 PM. FEE \$40 mem; \$50 non-mem. See www.gamblegarden.org

MARCH 21: At the JCC: Celtic Sands & lunch at noon. FEE: \$20 or two punches of the Community Tuesdays Punch Card

MARCH 22: At Mitchell Park Community Center: Dumpling Making: School Age Gr K-5 start at 3:30 PM

MARCH 23: Summerwinds Nursery class Greywater Laundry to Landscape at 6:30PM. Free with SCVW District presentation

MARCH 25: Canopy Tree Planting at Cubberley Community Day from 9 AM to noon.

MARCH 25: At Common Ground (687 Arastradero Road.) "Permaculture: Guilds for a healthy garden" from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Register online at <http://bit.ly/2iltHOb>

MARCH 25: Cubberley Day 2017. Community members are invited to attend a variety of performances, art exhibits, music, food, and tree planting activities from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. Details at <http://tinyurl.com/zboqylz>

MARCH 26: 4th Annual Racing Hearts 5k walk/run and 10k run to raise funds for community AEDs 9 AM, Koret Plaza, Stanford. Register at <https://raceroster.com/events/2017/10369/racing-hearts-5k10k-2017>

MARCH 26: Spring Family Day at the Art Center from 1-4:30PM. Enjoy an afternoon of art activities and performances to welcome spring!

MARCH 30: Monthly USGS Lecture at 7PM at USGS Hdq Bldg 3, Rambo Auditorium at 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. "Brown Bears, Sea Otters, and Seals, Oh My! Unexpected interactions on the Katmai Coast"

APRIL 12: **Art Center's 45 Anniversary** celebration with David Kelly, Founder and CEO of IDEO, and Previous Mayor Sid Espinosa. For ticket information, visit www.paacf.org

APRIL 15: Homesteading 101: "Cultivate Edible Mushrooms in your own Garden" 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Register at <http://bit.ly/2jpzaAm>. Common Ground, 687 Arastradero Road. See www.commongroundgarden.org

APRIL 20: Acterra "Party for the Planet" honoring Walt and Kay Hays at 6 PM at the JCC. Fee: \$150 AND UP on sale in March. www.ACTERRA.org/Party

MAY 9-10: Seniors and the homebound free assistance with household tasks. Silicon Valley Association of Realtors' Realtor Service Volunteer Program (RSVP). Apply by March 22 at 408-200-0100 or see www.silvar.org to download an application.

Palo Alto Speech and Debate Camp! Session 1: June 13-17; Session 2: July 31-Aug 4. The camp focuses on providing students with an introduction to speech and debate. See <http://pasdc.weebly.com/>. Questions: palyspeechanddebate@gmail.com.

CANOPY tree walks: Apr 8 - Midtown Neighborhood; May 13- Southgate Neighborhood; Jun 10 - Rinconada Library and Art Center; Jul 8 - Junior Museum and Zoo.