

MIDTOWN NEWS – November 24, 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

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: ANNUAL ROTARY HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH CONTEST!

Wednesday January 24, 7 PM, Palo Alto City Council Chambers. Prizes total \$1550. 2017-18 Speech topic theme: "Rotary Making a Difference". Each speech must be between 4-5 minutes, original student work, and incorporate the theme and one of the Rotary mantras: Is it the TRUTH?, Is it FAIR to all concerned?, Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?, Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned? QUESTIONS AND REGISTRATION? Contact Annette_G@att.net

WINTERLODGE: Registration for the Winter Session of ice skating classes at Winter Lodge begins on Monday, November 13 at 10 AM. The Winter Session of 8 classes runs from November 27 - February 3 (no classes December 25-Jan 6). FEE: \$208.00 and includes 1/2 hour lesson @week, rental skates, free practice before/after class and 2 free practice passes. Classes are offered for all ages and levels. Register in person or by phone. For more, see www.winterlodge.com

2) CITY/COUNTY/SCHOOL EVENTS

Rail Corridor Meetings: Nov 28 from- 6 - 8 PM, Focus: Palo Alto Avenue and Churchill Avenue crossings. Meeting at City Hall first floor meeting room. Nov 30 **Trench and Tunnel discussion MOVED TO 2018**. Link to a recent presentation Nadia Naik, CARRD, did for the Southgate neighborhood: See <https://tinyurl.com/yaogefcc>

What are the **p riorities you would like to see the Palo Alto City Council adopt in 2018?** Each year, Palo Alto City Council reviews its priorities for the year at its Annual Council Retreat. A Council priority is defined as a topic that will receive particular, unusual and significant attention during the year. There is a goal of adopting no more than 4 to 5 priorities each year, and they generally have a three-year time limit. The priorities for 2017 included: Transportation, Infrastructure, Healthy City/Healthy Community, Budget and Finance, Housing. Share your thoughts at https://www.peakdemocracy.com/portals/5/forum_home?phase=open

CITY COUNCIL

Nov 27: Start 6 PM after closed session. Study session with Utilities Advisory Commission, Action: <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62203>. Rooftop Decks Within the Downtown Area, Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass & Adobe Creek Reach Trail.

Dec 4: Start 5 PM. Study session with Art Commission. Actions: Construction of the new JMZ, City-Prepared Comment Letter on Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Stanford General Use Permit. <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62312>

Dec 11: Topic: Basement Construction Dewatering Ordinance to City Council.

UPCOMING COMMISSION & BOARD MEETINGS & OTHER

NOVEMBER 28: Parks & Recreation Commission, 7 PM in Council Chambers. Topics: Park-improvement ordinance for a dog park at Peers Park; annual report from Palo Alto Swim & Sport; and city's youth and teen programs.

NOVEMBER 29: **Planning and Transportation** Commission at 6 PM Council Chambers. Topic: Zoning amendments to municipal code.

NOVEMBER 29: **Rail Committee** at 8 AM in first floor meeting room, city hall. Topics: Burlingame Broadway Railroad grade separation; Rail Corridor Circulation Study White Paper; draft community questionnaire and the draft Rail Financing White Paper. <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62314>

NOVEMBER 30: **Ground Water Pumping Workshop** at 3 PM in first floor meeting room, city hall. The City of Palo Alto is scheduled to bring changes to its Basement Construction Dewatering Ordinance to City Council on December 4. With experience in both traditional dewatering and “cut-off” wall construction this construction season, and Public Works is in a position to update the Ordinance adopted in early 2017. They will propose to leave the basic structure in place; namely to allow a choice between conventional dewatering supported by a Hydro-geological Study, or the installation of “cut-off” walls to greatly impede groundwater flow. Workshop is geared to contractors who must comply with the ordinance, but all are welcome.

NOVEMBER 30: CEQA (Environmental Review) of **Stanford GUP** 2018 Application at Art Center at 7 PM with Santa Clara County Planning Commission at Arts Center. Public comment on the Stanford 2018 General Use Permit Draft Environmental Impact Report

DECEMBER 5: **Finance Committee** at 7 PM at first floor meeting room city hall. Topics: Financial statements, long range forecast and pension liabilities. <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62321>

DECEMBER 7: Architectural Review Board at 8:30 AM in city council chambers. Topics: **Tier 3 wireless communication facility** permit for small cell wireless in utility poles. This application proposes 15 small cell node locations in **Midtown** and Palo Verde. See locations at <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62257>

3) LOCAL EVENTS

See all **Avenidas** Activities at <http://www.avenidas.org/>. Samples of classes follow. Programs on the 2nd floor of Building I at Cubberley. Also a new revised website. See www.avenidas.org. EVENT REGISTRATION call 289-5400.

- Mondays: Caregiver Support Group from 11:30 AM - 1 PM. FREE. New Location: Sunrise Palo Alto, 2701 El Camino, Palo Alto.
- Mondays from 1-4 PM. FREE: Chinese Classical Mahjong
- Mondays: Acupuncture: 9:15 to 11:30 AM. FEE: \$30.
- Tuesdays: Lotus Dance Fitness at 3:30 PM. FREE.
- Tuesdays: Avenidas Walkers. Call 387-5256 for trail location. FREE
- Wednesdays: Mindful Meditation at 2 PM. FREE
- Fridays from 1-4 PM. Non-Scary Duplicate Bridge. FEE: \$2/3
- Friday 1:30 - 4PM. Drop in Bridge. FREE
- MOVIES at 1:30. FEE: \$0, \$2. Nov 16: The Shack; Nov 23: Beauty and the Beast; Nov 30: Wonder Woman

HELP AVENIDAS build for the Future by creating a lasting memory for yourself, a loved one, a special occasion, etc. by purchasing a brick for \$250. This brick will be engraved with your personalized message and installed in the new courtyard at our 450 Bryant Street Downtown Palo Alto center. For more information, please visit our website or call 289-5458 or email jroche@avenidas.org.

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

- Fridays at Deborah's Palm: 10 AM - Knitting Group; 10 AM - Walking Group; 12 Noon; Poetry Lovers Group - September 8 (Second Friday of each month).
- Jan 27: Dreams! Goals! Keys to Success! Goal Setting Workshop. For more, barbara@dreamsngoals.com

Talking with Henrietta - “**University Women Making a Difference in Politics**” -- Current statistics show that Millennials just don't vote as much as their elders. On this new edition of Talking with Henrietta, three young women from a local university discuss what they are doing to make a difference in the political arena. See this inspiring show over the Internet and on Comcast 30 through December 16, 2017 on Sundays@5 pm, Mondays@2 p.m. Tuesdays@8 pm, Wednesdays@2 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., Thursdays@8 pm and Fridays@3:00 am & 12 pm. Get more information about this show at <http://www.epatoday.org/tv.html#universitywomen>

Stanford Continuing Ed Winter courses, Registration Underway. Go to www.continuingstudies.stanford.edu

Registration for **winter classes and workshops at the Palo Alto Art Center** begins November 30 - residents & December 7 - non-residents. All classes begin on or after January 8.
<https://apm.activecommunities.com/paloalto>

Live holiday music at the Stanford Shopping Center - a variety of free musical performances during the holiday season. Afternoons, Saturdays and Sundays through Christmas Eve.

NOVEMBER 29: The Matter of **Medieval Manuscripts** at 7:30 PM Bishop Auditorium, Lathrop Library, Stanford. FREE.

DECEMBER 1: City of Palo Alto **Tree-lighting Ceremony** of a 60-foot tree with bands, choirs and art activities. Hot drinks and treats available. Lytton Plaza (University Avenue at Emerson); 5:30 - 7 PM.

DECEMBER 1/2: **Stanford Symphony Orchestra** at the Bing at 7:30 PM. FEE: Advance:\$20, \$18 senior, \$10 students. At door \$25, \$20 Senior, \$15 Student

DECEMBER 2: **CHRISTMAS MARKET** at the Artisan Shop at Allied Arts Guild 75 Arbor Rd, Menlo Park),10-4. FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING. Pick up a map, get a treat or gift at most shops. Artisan and retail merchandise galore, Mini-Christmas Tree Auction, drawings for gift items or gift certificates, Merlot Notes sing 11:30-12:30, Simply Jazz plays 12:30-1:30, Santa Claus 12:00-1:30. To Benefit Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.

DECEMBER 2: California Bach Society presents a program of **Christmas music** from Poland and the Baltic countries.at 8 PM at the All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St.

DECEMBER 2: **Ragazzi Boys Chorus** holiday program celebrates the concept of universal love with musical selections drawn from diverse traditions and faiths First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave, 5 PM.

DECEMBER 2: **Hayden Project** at Stanford See continuingstudies.stanford.edu for location. Time 7:30 PM. Take four musicians, ninety-three string quartets, and the genius of Franz Josef Haydn: Stir vigorously and applaud wildly. San Francisco Chamber Orchestra

DECEMBER 2: Join Art Center, Avenidas, and Youth Community Service for a free **Intergenerational Play Date**, 1-3 PM. The event features a tour of current exhibition, Play!, and board games, card games, and pinball. All ages are welcome.

DECEMBER 3: Grace Lutheran, 3149 Waverley, **Soli Deo Gloria** at 3:30 PM. FEE: \$26, \$21 Senior/student. Dvance \$23, \$18 senior/Students. K-8 Free.

DECEMBER 3: **HOLIDAY STORY TIME** at Books Inc.,Town & Country for children ages 5 & younger. Featuring readings from books about Chanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa at 11 AM. The event also will include themed activities and snacks.

DECEMBER 8: Police Department Coffee Meet up "**Breaking with the Law**" at Starbucks at 3885 El Camino Real, any time between 5- 7 PM. Meet some of the members of the Department. This is a chance for you to get to know our cops, ask questions, and for both of us to learn more about what's happening in our neighborhoods. No formal agenda or presentation, just conversations and discussions. And some fantastic coffee. Or maybe a Peppermint Mocha, in honor of the season?

DECEMBER 9: **Ragazzi Continuo**, the adult a cappella choir for graduates of the Ragazzi Boys Chorus, holiday concert "Winter's Warmth." First Congregational Church, 1985 Louis Road. at 7:30 PM.

DECEMBER 10: At the Art Center: **Tropical Holiday Family Day**: Tropical art-making and performances for participants ages 5 to adult. FREE. 2 - 4:30 PM.

DECEMBER 14: **Hanukkah celebration**: Stanford Shopping Center Plaza (near Neiman Marcus). Free musical performances, arts and crafts for children, face painting, dreidel games, candle lighting and a special Hanukkah puppet show and sing-along. From 5:30 - 8 PM

DECEMBER 16: **Choral Project** annual holiday concert, "Winter's Gifts: Family," with the San José Chamber Orchestra. First Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper St., at 8 PM. FEE: \$35; senior \$25; student/alumni: \$10.

DECEMBER 16: **Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra** annual holiday show at Smithwick Theater, Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, at 3 PM.

OLD

NOVEMBER 29: Taste of science - Vaccines and Artificial Brain. The history and future of vaccines and about how your brain controls. Family friendly. FEE: \$5. Full details at <http://tinyurl.com/ybl83uzc>. Freewheel Brewing Company, Florence Street, Redwood City 7 - 10 PM.

NOVEMBER 30: Mindfulness Workshop for Women at 10 AM or 7 PM, 2251 High Street. FREE. Registration is Required - Space is Limited! Register or for more, email sarah@themindfulkids.com

DECEMBER 1/2: PALY Glass sale. Friday afternoon from 3 to 6 PM and Saturday, December 2nd from 11 to 4 PM. <https://www.sites.google.com/site/palyglass/home>.

DECEMBER 2: Ceramics and Jewelry Sale at the Art Center from 10- 5PM. See <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/csd/artcenter/news/displaynews.asp?NewsID=4061>

DECEMBER 2-3 & 9-10: Rochelle Ford Holiday Art Show. 10 - 5, 1155 Waverley St. Earlier this year, a mini-documentary was done on her art life, and you can watch it here: <https://vimeo.com/241338487>

DECEMBER 2 & 9: At the Art Center: Secret Saturdays on December 2 and 9, 10 AM-noon, at the Art Center. Ages 7-9 make the gifts, decorations and cards for the holidays. <https://tinyurl.com/ybb8hc57>

DECEMBER 3: The Palo Alto Historical Association:"Palo Alto as an Influence on Lives of Public Service". Council Member Holman moderating with Congresswoman Lofgren a& Supervisor Simitian. FREE. 2 PM at Lucie Stern.

DECEMBER 5: Gamble Garden Holiday Lunch from noon - 2 PM. FEE: \$30 mem, \$40 non-mem. Call 329-1356.to reserve.

DECEMBER 8-January 14: Exhibit at MOAH (Museum of American Heritage), 351 Homer. Discover the Magic of the Annual BayLUG Holiday LEGO® Show Popup Exhibit. FEE: \$3.

DECEMBER 9: Transition Palo Alto Squash Party at 4PM. RSVP Required. Send a message to barbaraweinstein2@gmail.com for details and to RSVP.

DECEMBER 9: Gamble Garden Holiday Greens Sale, 9 AM - noon at the Carriage House & "Over the Garden Fence Sale" from 9-2.

DECEMBER 9: CANOPY Walk Trees of Stanford, 10 AM - noon. Meet at Frost Amphitheater, 365 Lasuen St, Stanford.

DECEMBER 9: Bay Area Choral Messyah at 7 PM, First United Methodist Church - 625 Hamilton Ave. FEE. Tickets at <http://baychoralguild.org/tickets/>

DECEMBER 10: Transition Palo Alto Holiday Faire Share at Cubberley, Room A6, A7 from 1-3 PM. <http://www.transitionpaloalto.org>

DECEMBER 15/16: A Dramatic Reading of a Timely Fable - George Orwell's Animal Farm (ages 12+) at Avenidas, Cubberley, Suite #1-2. FEE: \$10/\$12. At 7 PM on 12/15; 2 PM on 12/16.

DECEMBER 16: Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra Extravaganza at Smithwick Theatre at Foothill College at 3 PM.
FEE: VIP \$150, preferred seats \$30, \$20.

DECEMBER 17: At Gamble Garden: Puppet Show The "Fratello Marionettes" at 10:30 AM. FEE: before show
\$30 Child, \$25 adult.