

## MIDTOWN NEWS – December 8, 2017

Editor: Annette Ashton for the Midtown Residents Association. See [www.midtownresidents.org](http://www.midtownresidents.org)  
LIST SERV at [PaloAltoMidtown@yahoo.com](mailto:PaloAltoMidtown@yahoo.com). Great place to "chat"

### 1) MIDTOWN TIDBITS

**Community: Traffic Advisory: 200 block of Forest Avenue Closed for Next Three Weeks**, while the city upgrades its communications center. For full details, [view this message on the web](#) .

WOO HOO: **Midtown Teaspoons** Palo Alto will have its grand opening event next Saturday 12/16 from 12-10 PM. The first 100 customers will receive one free drink with our limited glass bamboo bottle. Also there will be BOGO buy 1 get 1 free drink for entire week from 12/16 - 12/24. See Facebook event post for more information - <https://www.facebook.com/events/152765435451144??ti=ia>. Please stop by and say Midtown Residents Association sent you!

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](mailto:Annette_G@att.net)

Palo Alto Weekly's **Middle Class Survey**: The Weekly is working on a project to understand what it means to be middle class in Palo Alto across different zip codes. We have the data and graphics — but we need your voice! All Palo Alto residents are encouraged to answer this short and totally anonymous survey, regardless of income, but those who consider themselves middle class are especially desired! If you'd prefer to chat with us in person about your experiences with class, money and wealth in Silicon Valley, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Fiona Kelliher [fkelliher@paweekly.com](mailto:fkelliher@paweekly.com). Survey at <https://tinyurl.com/y8jwoyb8>

Tidbit: Have you discovered **Artwork Forge** yet? It creates on-demand artwork in just a couple of minutes that you get to keep. Located on King Plaza in downtown Palo Alto, the Artwork Forge will remain on display through April, 2018. Don't forget to bring four quarters to activate the sculpture.

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### 2) CITY/COUNTY/SCHOOL EVENTS

What are the **priorities 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](https://www.peakdemocracy.com/portals/5/forum_home?phase=open)

**City Council Winter Closure** is scheduled from December 18, 2018 - January 7, 2018. Regular City Council & Standing Committee meetings are not scheduled during the Winter Closure.

Santa Clara Water District (SCWVD) - **Vacancy on Public Facilities Financing Corp.** If interested, notify the Clerk of the Board of Directors of the SCVW District in writing by 4:00 PM, Friday, Dec 15 with letter of interest which includes your name, contact numbers, address, email, occupation, summary of interest in the position, and qualifications and experience to 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

**Position Available for a Funding Administrator for Minor Home Repair Program** for Community Development Block Grant Program. To request an application or for more information, contact [erum.maqbool@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:erum.maqbool@CityofPaloAlto.org). Apply by noon on Tues, January 9, 2018. [www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln/cdgb.asp](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/pln/cdgb.asp)

## CITY COUNCIL

Dec 11: REVISED start 6 PM after closed session. Consent: Basement Construction Dewatering Ordinance. Actions: Sustainability Plan, History Museum Update, <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62401>

Jan 8, 2018 (tentative) - City Council Reorganization

## UPCOMING COMMISSION & BOARD MEETINGS & OTHER

DECEMBER 12: **Policy & Services** at 6 PM, 1st floor meeting room, City Hall. Action: Taxi services, Council Priority setting, Anti-Idling Policy. <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62402>

DECEMBER 13: **Planning & Transportation** Commission at 6 PM Council chambers.

DECEMBER 13: **Library Advisory** Commission at 7 PM First floor meeting room, city hall. Action: Fiscal Year 2017 California State Public Library Report & Statistics Output.

DECEMBER 14: **Historic Resources** Board at 8:30 AM in council chambers. Topics: 755 Hamilton and Eichler Guidelines.

DECEMBER 14: **City/PAUSD liaison** meeting, 8 AM at District HDQ, 25 Churchill, Room A: <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62542>. Topics: Year in review, Hi speed rail, city/PAUSD property taxes.

DECEMBER 14: **PAUSD Policy Review** Committee at 8:30 AM in district office, 25 Churchill. Action: bullying, admissions, independent study and board action.

DECEMBER 15: **Council Appointed Officers** Committee at 10:30 AM 1st floor meeting room, city hall. <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62403>. Action: Review the performance goals for the four council-appointed officers.

DECEMBER 21: **Architectural Review** Board at 8:30 AM council chambers. Topic: 380 Cambridge (3 story commercial, 8 feet over height limit), 2370 Watson Court sign, 4356 El Camino (hotel).

JANUARY 18: **Public Art** Commission, 7 PM in First Floor Meeting Room, City Hall.

JANUARY 25: Canopy annual **Mayor tree planting** and awards ceremony 5:15 - 7:30 PM, City Hall.

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## **3) LOCAL EVENTS**

**Avenidas** Activities at <http://www.avenidas.org/>. Samples of classes follow. Programs on the 2nd floor of Building I at Cubberley. New revised website at [www.avenidas.org](http://www.avenidas.org). EVENT REGISTRATION 289-5400.

MOVIES at 1:30. FEE: \$0, \$2: Dec 28 "Loving"

**Deborah's Palm Events:** See all events at [www.deborahspalm.org](http://www.deborahspalm.org). Call: 473-0664.

- Fridays at Deborah's Palm: 10 AM - Knitting Group; 10 AM - Walking Group; 12 Noon; Poetry Lovers Group
- Jan 27: Dreams! Goals! Keys to Success! Goal Setting Workshop. For more, [barbara@dreamsngoals.com](mailto:barbara@dreamsngoals.com)

**Stanford Continuing Ed** Winter courses. , Registration starts Dec 4. See [www.continuingstudies.stanford.edu](http://www.continuingstudies.stanford.edu). 10% discount available at [PAAAdultSchool.org/coupon](http://PAAAdultSchool.org/coupon).

Register for **Palo Alto Adult Education** Classes at [www.PAAdultSchool.org](http://www.PAAdultSchool.org), 329-3752.

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.

**Food Drop off for Second Harvest:** Dec 9 from 1:30 - 3:30 PM at Alan Pinel, 167 S San Antonio, Los Altos

**One Warm Coat:** Drop off at Coldwell Banker, 630 Ramona or call Nancy for a pickup at 400-5800. End Date Dec 11.

**HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE:** What better way to get into the holiday spirit than by donating toys for local children in need? Toys need to be new and unwrapped. Gift cards and wrapping paper donations are also appreciated. You can stop by any of the Palo Alto community centers to drop off donations. Through December 15

DECEMBER 9: **Holiday Greens** Sale, Gamble Gardens: Plant Sale, Floral Arrangements and Over The Garden Fence Holiday Sale. 9 AM - 2 PM

DECEMBER 9: **PALY Flea Market** Parking Lot sale.

DECEMBER 9-10: **FOPAL'S HUGE USED BOOK SALE** IS THIS WEEKEND (IT'S A SPECIAL MEMBERS' EARLY SALE), Saturday and Sunday, December 9 & 10 at Cubberley. Over 70,000 books, CD's, DVD's, games, puzzles, framed art, and collectibles are available, all sorted by subject and very reasonably priced; many foreign language materials. Many like-new gift quality items to choose from! On Saturday only: Members Early Sale – Life Members and Sponsors may enter at 9 am (can purchase up to 100 items) and other Members at 10 a.m. (can purchase up to 25 items). You can join FOPAL at the sale! Regular Saturday hours: Main Sale Room 11 am-4pm, Bargain and Children's Rooms 10am-4 pm. Sunday hours: All rooms 11am – 4 pm. In the Bargain Room on Sunday all items 50% off or \$5/bag. All net sale proceeds benefit Palo Alto public libraries. After the sale concludes on Sunday, all items in the Bargain Room are FREE to teachers and nonprofit organizations. For more information and directions, please visit us at: [www.fopal.org](http://www.fopal.org).

DECEMBER 24: At the JCC: **Chopshticks**, Featuring Daniel Storrow and the Lantern Girls, 6:30-9 PM. FEE: \$70 Premium with pix with the Lantern Girls, \$50, \$400 Table of 8, \$200 Table of 4. Enjoy Chinese food and gut-busting comedy at our annual holiday laughfest, featuring comedian Daniel Storrow and the Lantern Girls. Daniel started doing stand-up comedy in 2007 and has performed all over the US. He has appeared on TV and often performs with Louie Anderson in Las Vegas. A trained actor and San Diego native, Daniel is known for his quick wit and intelligent musings on everyday life. Visit his website at [www.danielstorrow.com](http://www.danielstorrow.com).

## OLD

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 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.

DECEMBER 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 & cards. <https://tinyurl.com/ybb8hc57>

DECEMBER 9: At the JCC: "Opera for Families -The Magic Flute" at 10:30 AM. FEE: \$18, \$15 Mem, Children, J-Pass. The Magic Flute", composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, is a fairy tale set to music.

DECEMBER 9-10: Rochelle Ford Holiday Art Show 10 - 5, 1155 Waverley St. A mini-documentary was done on her art life. Watch it at: <https://vimeo.com/241338487>

DECEMBER 9/10: PALY Choir "A Madrigal Feaste" at 1:30 PM. Tickets available at <http://bit.ly/2AWmERs>.

DECEMBER 9: Transition Palo Alto Squash Party at 4PM. RSVP Required. Send a message to [barbaraweinstein2@gmail.com](mailto: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://baychoralquild.org/tickets/>

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

DECEMBER 10: Tales for the Holidays at the Bing, Stanford at 2:30 PM with TV stars: Kirsten Vangsness (Criminal Minds), Tate Donovan (The Man in the High Castle), and Christina Pickles (Friends, Break a Hip).

DECEMBER 11: "Early Childhood Education: Why is it Essential to Our Collective Future?" 11:30 AM -1 PM, Mitchell Park Community Center, El Palo Alto Room. FEE: \$35 Speaker, Stanford Professor Deborah Stipek.

DECEMBER 12: At the JCC: Community Tuesdays: Nily Shiryon will present "Miracles: In Days of Yore and in Our Times," exploring the Jewish concept of miracles. FEE: \$15, 1 -2:30 p.m. in Room E-104

DECEMBER 14: Hanukkah celebration: Stanford Shopping Center Plaza. 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 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 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.

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

DECEMBER 17: The Gryphon Carolers "Winters Gift" at Canada College Theatre. Doors open at 6PM, Concert at 6:30 PM. See [www.gryphoncarolers.com](http://www.gryphoncarolers.com)

DECEMBER 19: At the JCC: Community Tuesday: Hanukkah Celebration with traditional food & entertainment from 11:30 Am to 1:30 PM. FEE: \$20. RSVP to Michelle Rosengaus, 223-8616, [mrosengaus@paloaltojcc.org](mailto:mrosengaus@paloaltojcc.org).

DECEMBER 21: Avenidas Holiday Party & Sing Along. Seniors are encouraged to bring their voices, ukuleles, harmonicas or other acoustic instruments. From 2:30 PM, Cubberley Building I-2. FREE

DECEMBER 29: Avenidas sponsors "Breakfast at Mitchell's," featuring the 10th Avenue Band, Mitchell Park Community Ctr at 10AM. FEE: \$10.

JANUARY 13: **Saint Michael Trio**, Menlo-Atherton Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 PM. FEE: \$15.  
Dress up like it's the Oscars! Join in the fun at Saint Mike's annual gala – deepest classical to the zestiest jazz.