

MIDTOWN NEWS – January 5, 2018

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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

JANUARY 13: Saturday **Block Preparedness Coordinator training** at 1 PM at Mitchell Park Community Center, Adobe Room. The BPC Program is relevant not only in a disaster but also for everyday activities, building social networks in your neighborhood, deterring crime, and preparing for emergencies. When neighbors know each other, they look out for each other and work better together. BPCs are the driving force to make this happen, making our neighborhoods safer places to live. Learn how you can be active in helping your block become more resilient. OR RECRUIT someone from your block to do so! RSVPs to epvolunteers@paneighborhoods.org

JANUARY 18: "**Calamities Happen: What You Need to Know**". Community Partnership Awards Ceremony. Three individuals and a Task Force will be formally recognized for helping ensure that the community is safer and better prepared for emergencies. Also an informative and timely panel discussion with featured speakers: Tom Brocher, Head of the USGS Earthquake Hazards Division; Brandon Bond, Administrative Director, Office of Emergency Management, Stanford HealthCare; and Jeffrey Norris, OES, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. On Thursday, January 18, 2018 in the City of Palo Alto Council Chambers. A reception at 6:30 PM will kickoff the event which will start at 7:00 PM and end at 9:00 PM. The public is invited to attend. Free gift to the first 100 attendees.

Do1Thing in January: Make a Plan. Understand what puts you at risk from disasters and take steps to lower your risk. Knowing what disasters could happen will help you know how to be prepared and what to do. Tasks:

- Plan what to do if you have to evacuate.
- Choose two places for your family to meet. One should be right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, such as a fire.
- Take steps now to prevent damage to your home in a disaster.
- Once you know what disasters could happen in Palo Alto, there are things you can do to lower your risk of injury or property damage.
- Learn what disasters can happen in your area and decide what you will do in a disaster. (COME TO ABOVE EVENT)

Nominations for **Tall Tree Award** until Feb 9th in the following categories: Outstanding Business, Outstanding Nonprofit, Outstanding Citizen Volunteer, Outstanding Professional or Business Person. Event will be May 19th, Application at Chamber web site www.paloaltochamber.com.

2) CITY/COUNTY/SCHOOL EVENTS

DEIR for 250/350 Sherman is available at <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/news/displaynews.asp?NewsID=3339&TargetID=145>. Relocation of Police Department, Fire Administration, 911 Center, Office of Emergency Services, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and associated parking and other support spaces from their current downtown location at the Palo Alto

Civic Center at 275 Forest Avenue and 250 Hamilton Avenue (Fire Administration) to a new, approximately 45,000 to 50,000 square-foot **Public Safety Building**.

Three rounds of Community Roundtables have wrapped up and one is in the process of being scheduled for early 2018. A summary of the roundtables has been posted in the "Here's Some Background" section of the **Connecting Palo Alto** webpage and can be accessed here: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62699>.

CITY COUNCIL

January 8: City Re-organization Event: Election of 2018 Mayor and Vice Mayor at 6 PM Council Chambers. See <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62705>

January 15: No council meeting due to holiday

UPCOMING COMMISSION & BOARD MEETINGS & OTHER

JANUARY 10: **Planning & Transportation** Commission at 6 PM in Council Chambers. Ordinance Amending Palo Alto Municipal Code. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62773>

JANUARY 11: **Historic Resources** Board at 8:30 AM, first floor meeting room. Topics: Local Government report, Year end assessment, demolition/deconstruction, CEQA, nominations for historic structures

JANUARY 11: **Human Relations** Commission at 7 PM in the First Floor Meeting Room, City Hall.

JANUARY 18: **Architectural Review** Board at 8:30 AM in council chambers. Project: 350 Sherman, parking structure.

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

JANUARY 18: **Eichler Guidelines** at Mitchell Park Community Center, El Palo Alto East Room, from 5:30 to 8:00 PM. See the Public Review Draft Guidelines <http://cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62071>. Public comment period open until January 12, 2018. The guidelines will include compatibility criteria for remodels, additions, and new construction within the City's Eichler neighborhoods. The illustrated guidelines will also provide advice and direction for undertaking work in ways that retain the architectural character of the neighborhoods and will address common scopes of work such as new building additions, façade changes, moving/lifting buildings on lots, and new construction on developable sites.

JANUARY 25: Canopy Annual **Mayor Tree Planting** and awards ceremony 5:15 - 7:30 PM, City Hall.

JANUARY 25: USGS Monthly lecture. **ShakeAlert: The Path to West Coast Early Warning System**. How a few seconds can save lives and property Presented by Douglas Given, USGS Earthquake Early Warning Coordinator. The ShakeAlert earthquake early warning system will begin operations this year. Alerts could save lives and property but several challenges remain. With millions at risk, why isn't full public alerting happening yet? Rambo Auditorium/Bldg. 3, 345 Middlefield Rd., at 7 PM.

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. REGISTRATION 289-5400.

- Jan 8: UNA Film Festival "The Desert of Forbidden Art" 3-4:30 PM@ Channing House. FREE.
- Jan 9: Try it Free! Pilates 5-6 PM
- Jan 11: Try it Free! Qi Gong. 11:30 AM-1 PM
- Jan 12: Tuina: 10-11 AM every Friday. , FREE
- Jan 16: Lotus Dance Fitness 3:30-4:30 PM every Tuesday. FREE

- Jan 17: Intermediate Watercolor Class. RSVP required. FEE: \$100/\$110
- Jan 18: Workshop: Intro to iPad Art, 10-11AM. RSVP required.. FREE
- Jan 18: Workshop: iPad for the Beginner, 2-4 PM@ Channing House. RSVP required. FEE: \$10/\$20
- Jan 25: Book Club: "To Say Nothing of the Dog, 2:30-4 PM . FREE.
- Jan 26: Cyber Security - Do's and Don'ts of Online Security at 10:30 AM in Room 2. Registration Required. FREE for Avenidas members, \$10
- Jan 27: Journey Card Collage Workshop: Creation & Reading, 9 AM - 2 PM. FEE: \$25 + \$5 materials
- Jan 29: Presentation: Sleep Like a Baby, 1:30-2:30 PM. FREE
- Jan 31: Mindfulness Meditation, 2:30-3:30 PM. FREE.

BIG CHANGES - **DEBORAH'S PALM CLOSING FOR GOOD**: See www.deborahspalm.org. 473-0664. We will remain open all of January, with January 27 being our last day.

- Jan 27: Dreams! Goals! Keys to Success! Goal Setting Workshop. For more, barbara@dreamsngoals.com

Talking with Henrietta - "**Expanding and Enhancing Health Care for Everyone**" - On this new edition of Talking with Henrietta, three show guests, who work in the medical field, discuss what it will take to close current health disparities and provide health care for all. See this thought-provoking show over the internet and on Comcast 30 through January 13, 2018 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#expandinghealthcare>

Registration is now open for Grassroots Ecology's 3rd annual **California Naturalist Certificate training**! The course will be Tuesday evenings with some Saturdays from March 6 through May 8th, 2018. Evening classes will be mostly at the Palo Alto Baylands Interpretive Center. If interested in participating, please download the document, [GrE 2018 Cal Nat Description and Application](#), for more details and an application.

OLD

JANUARY 8: Movie "**The Desert of Forbidden Art**". During the era of Soviet rule, artists who stayed true to their vision are executed, sent to mental hospitals or to Gulags. Their plight inspires young Igor Savitsky who pretends to buy state-approved art. Instead he daringly rescues 40,000 forbidden works by fellow artists and creates a museum in the desert of Uzbekistan, far from the watchful eyes of the KGB. Though a penniless artist himself, he cajoles the cash to pay for the art from the same authorities who are banning it. Savitsky amasses an eclectic mix of Russian Avant-Garde art. But his greatest discovery is an unknown school of artists who settle in Uzbekistan after the Russian Revolution of 1917, and who encounter a unique Islamic culture. Channing House, 850 Webster, Auditorium from 3-4 PM. FREE.

JANUARY 11: **Avenidas Movies**: Thursday, 1:30 PM start, \$0/\$2. 1/11 - Table 19; 1/18 - The Glass Castle; 1/25 - Churchill. Includes popcorn and drinks. Please stop by the Front Desk for your ticket.

JANUARY 13: "**Albany Consort Baroque Micro-Orchestra Repaints the Past**" at Congregation Etz Chayim, 4161 Alma Street, 8 - 10 PM. FEE: \$35-\$80. Vivaldi arranged some of his own concertos for this exact group, but not Winter, one of my all time favorites. Bach's instrumental solo and ensemble music found its way into his cantatas, but never the other way round. Why not? Monteverdi took a chord pattern and used it as the basis of a beautiful extended madrigal - we want it back! Thus, this concert, featuring four of Jonathan's arrangements for this group of six musicians that will amaze you with its rich sound. Half strings and half wind - the whole baroque orchestra in miniature.

JANUARY 15: At the JCC: Honor Dr Martin Luther King from 8:30 - 4. 11th **community-wide day of "tikkun olam"** ("repair the world") honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The inter-generational event features a range of hands-on service projects; participants will work on projects addressing issues of hunger, homelessness, the environment and more. Come alone or with family and friends. Volunteers under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a parent. Pre-registration is required as space is limited in each service project.

JANUARY 16: At the JCC, "**The Art of the Piano Trio**" noon - 1:30 PM. FEE: \$20, or 2 punches on our Community Tuesdays Card. Violinist Lisa Lee, cellist Angela Lee and pianist Melinda Lee Masur will perform

two chamber works from the piano trio repertoire: Beethoven Trio No. 5 in D Major, Op. 70, No. 1 "Ghost" Trio and Dvorak Trio No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 90 "Dumky".

JANUARY 19: Friday Night at the Art Center: FREE from 7-10 PM. Celebrate the opening of their new exhibition, "**Through That Which Is Seen.**" This popular event will feature a cash bar (with our specialty cocktail, the "Dioruma"), an opportunity to make your own diorama, and the chance to meet many of the exhibiting artists. Palo Alto Art Center Foundation members may participate in a guided walkthrough of the exhibition from 6-7 PM. To RSVP & more, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friday-night-at-the-art-center-tickets-41463467347>

JANUARY 20: Gamble Garden "**PLANTING SMALL FRUIT TREES**" from 10 - 11:30 AM. How to plant and maintain smaller-sized, easy-harvest trees with tree selection, planting and maintenance (including pruning, irrigation, fertilization, and pest management). FEE: \$20 mem; \$35 public

JANUARY 30: At the JCC: **IRISH MUSIC AND TALES**...Irish stew of music, song and story from 1 to 2:30 PM. FEE: \$15. For more, contact Michelle Rosegaus mrosengaus@palaltojcc.org or 223-8616.

JANUARY 30: Volunteer for **Avenidas Early Literacy Program**. Winter Gathering for current and prospective reading tutors on Tuesday, from 2:00-4:00 PM. Tutors will have a chance to share their experiences thus far this school year; there will a special speaker; and refreshments will be served. RSVP to Michael Kass at mkass@avenidas.org or 289-5419.

FEBRUARY 7 to Feb 28: Avenidas Jumbo **Memory Training**, 2 - 4 PM. Kiss those senior moments good-bye! Improve your memory by taking this workshop! Jumbo Memory Training helps conquer the four most common memory challenges: remembering names and faces, lists, misplaced keys, cell phones, & other small items, & forgetting future appointments. Proven effective in up to 95% of participants for up to 5 years. FEE: \$99/\$115.