

## MIDTOWN NEWS – February 2, 2018

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

Winter Lodge **Spring Ice Skating Class** registration will begin on Monday, January 29 at 10:00 am. You may register in person or by phone. The Spring Session of classes will run 9 weeks from February 12 through April 15 and includes a 1/2 hour group lesson once a week, free practice time, rental skates and 2 extra free practice passes for \$\$234.00. For more information please visit [www.winterlodge.com](http://www.winterlodge.com).

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](http://www.paloaltochamber.com).

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### 2) CITY/COUNTY/SCHOOL EVENTS

**BOARD & COMMISSION OPENINGS:** Currently recruiting for the following positions. Applications due March 20 at 4:30 PM. Historic Resources Board, Human Relations Commission, Public Art, Utilities Advisory Commission. <http://bit.ly/bcapplications>

**Trail and bridge closures** update: The San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection Project continues work east of Highway 101. The project work schedule is extended to accommodate mandatory protection requirements for the federally endangered Ridgway's Rail bird, which includes restricted work times and locations depending on the proximity of the bird to the project site. The goal is to complete project construction by the end of 2018 & to open the creekside trails & Friendship Bridge as soon as possible. After evaluating safety conditions, it was determined that Friendship Bridge and the creekside trails between East Bayshore Road and the Bay will remain closed through December 28, 2018. Starting on December 29, 2018, the bridge and all trails are expected to permanently reopen for public use.

- Palo Alto trail closures: East Bayshore Road to Friendship Bridge. Closed through December 28
- East Palo Alto trail closures: East Bayshore Road to O'Connor Street. Closed through December 28
- Friendship Bridge closure: Closed through December 28, 2018

### CITY COUNCIL

Feb 3: Council Retreat starting at 9 AM, Mitchell Park Community Center.  
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63222>. Proposed Council Priorities for 2018: Transportation, Housing, Finance, Grade Separation.

Feb 5: Start 7 PM after closed session. Topics: Housing Work Plan, Evergreen Residential Parking & Junior Museum & Zoo. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63050>

Feb 12: Start 7:30 PM after closed session. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63288>. Main topics: North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan.

### UPCOMING COMMISSION & BOARD MEETINGS & OTHER

FEBRUARY 6: **PAUSD retreat** from 8-5 PM at district office, 25 Churchill.

FEBRUARY 6: **Council Finance** Committee at 6 PM in first floor meeting room, City Hall.  
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63298>. Topics: transportation impact and Infrastructure Projects

FEBRUARY 7: **Utilities Advisory** Commission, 7 PM Council Chambers.  
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63221>. Topics: Strategic Plan, Financials, Role in Community Resilience, Outage Mgmt Issues, Fiber Utility.

FEBRUARY 8: **Historic Resource** Board: retreat at 8:30 AM in Council Chambers. Topics: Certified Local Government Annual Report, the year-end board assessment, CEQA reviews and other topics

FEBRUARY 8: **Human Relations** Commission at 7 Pm in first floor meeting room City Hall.

FEBRUARY 13: **Policy & Services** at 7 PM, first floor meeting room city hall.  
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63297>. Topics: Jet Noise, disability & works comp audit.

FEBRUARY 14: **Planning & Transportation** Commission at 6 PM in Council Chambers. Topics: Change Municipal Code re Affordable Housing.

FEBRUARY 15: **Human Relations Selection** Committee at 9 AM in first floor meeting room, City Hall. Topic: Review CDBG funding applications. Public hearing on March 8 on this topic.

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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). REGISTRATION 289-5400.

- Feb 5: Armchair Travel – Destination: Cambodia, Part 2 1:30-2:30pm, Avenidas @ CCC. Call 289-5400 to preregister. Free
- Feb 7: Reiki appts available Avenidas @ CCC. Call 289-5400 to schedule. \$30/\$35
- Feb 8: Avenidas Hikers 10 AM – every Thursday. Call 575-6291 for trailhead info,schedule. Free
- Feb 15: Movie: “The Last Face” 1:30-4 PM,. \$0/\$2 includes popcorn. Get ticket at front desk.
- Feb 16: Tuina 10-11AM, every Friday,Drop-in, FREE
- Feb 20: Lotus Dance Fitness 3:30-4:30 PM FREE
- Feb 21: Blood Pressure Screening 9:30-10:30 AM Senior Friendship Day @ CCC, Building M. Dropin, FREE
- Feb 22: Workshop: iPad for the Complete Beginner 2-4 PM @ Channing House. Space is limited. RSVP required. 289-5400. \$10/\$20.
- Feb 22: Book Club: “The Vinegar Girl” by Anne Tyler, 2:30-4 PM, Avenidas @ CCC. Drop-in, free.
- Feb 23: Presentation: “Why Social Media?” 11am-12:30 AM, Avenidas @CCC. Registration required. 289-5400, \$0/\$10.
- Feb 26: Senior Adult Legal Assistance appts available for Santa Clara County residents age 60+. 650-289-5400 for appt. FREE.
- Feb 27: Massage appts available. Call 289-5400. \$35/\$45 for 30 min.
- Feb 28: Mindfulness Meditation 2:30-3:30 PM every Wednesday, Avenidas @ CCC. Drop-in, FREE

FEBRUARY 7, 14 21, Wednesdays. **"Climate Change: What You Can Do"**. 6:30-8:30 PM. Stanford Medical Campus (specifics provided upon registration). FEE: \$200.00. Non-Stanford community welcome. Note: partial scholarships for Non-Stanford participants available if fee is a barrier; please contact us at (650) 723-9649 or [www.healthimprovement@stanford.edu](mailto:www.healthimprovement@stanford.edu) web. Registration required; space limited.  
<http://events.stanford.edu/events/701/70147/>

FEBRUARY 7: **4 Chamber Expo**, Palo Alto Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. FEE: Mem Free, \$10 for Non-Member. This is a collaboration with Palo Alto, Los Altos, Mountain View and Sunnyvale Chambers.

FEBRUARY 8: Stanford Continuing Studies: **Stanford Writers in Conversation**: An Evening with Carol Edgarian at 7:30 PM at Building 370, Room 370, Main Quad, Stanford University. FREE

FEBRUARY 9: Engineer, design researcher and novelist Manjula Waldron on the topic of **"Living with Smart Robots: Fact or Fiction?"** with futurist Richard Adler, 11 AM, Avenidas at Cubberley, Room I-2. The two will explore questions such as: Can new technologies really help with the problems of aging? What would it be like to live with a smart robot? Can robots provide companionship? Pre-registration is required. Go to [www.Avenidas.org](http://www.Avenidas.org). FREE

FEBRUARY 10: At the Bing: **Bill Charlap Trio** at 7:30 PM. Take a journey through New York's geography in song, from Berlin and Bernstein's Broadway to the singular songbook of Duke Ellington—plus a few stops along the way. Tickets at [www.live.stanford.edu](http://www.live.stanford.edu) or 724.2464.

FEBRUARY 10: LECTURE **"Beethoven's Revolution** :The Musical Odyssey from His First String Quartet to His Last", 7:30 PM at the Science Teaching & Learning Center Auditorium Stanford University. FREE

FEBRUARY 11: **CANCELLED** At the JCC; An Evening with Author Ayelet Waldman, Author of 'A Really Good Day' from 5:30 -7 PM.

FEBRUARY 11: Mark Lukach, author of **"My Lovely Wife in the Psych Ward"** at 3 PM, Rinconada Library. Cosponsored by Friends of the Palo Alto Library, the talk is part of Silicon Valley Reads, which is focusing on "caring, coping and compassion" as the reading and discussion themes for 2018. Go to [www.siliconvalleyreads.org](http://www.siliconvalleyreads.org).

FEBRUARY 12: UNAFF Film Festival: **"SING YOUR SONG."** The life of singer, songwriter, actor and social activist Harry Belafonte is featured in a 2011 documentary, 3PM, Channing House, 850 Webster St. FREE.

FEBRUARY 13: The Commonwealth Club Presents: **"Carl Pope: Climate of Hope"** at 7 PM, Cubberley Theatre. FEE: \$15-50. \*Acterra members can enter code "ACTERRA" (case sensitive) for preferred pricing. Carl Pope is a veteran leader in the environmental movement & spent nearly 20 years as the executive director, Sierra Club. He offers an optimistic look at the challenges of climate change, the solutions that hold the greatest promise & the practical steps that are necessary to achieve them. With highlights of the contributions & bold actions that cities, businesses and citizens are making to reshape and jump-start a new type of conversation about climate change. <https://www.commonwealthclub.org/events/2018-02-13/carl-pope-climate-hope>

FEBRUARY 17: **Bioblitz in the Palo Alto Baylands**. Join us for some citizen science! A bioblitz is an intensive one-day study of biodiversity in a specific location, bringing scientists and volunteer citizen-scientists together. People of all ages and skill levels are welcome. We'll teach you how to enter observations in iNaturalist, and we'll have lots of people to help answer your questions. At the end we'll join together to find out how many observations we made and how many species we found. Meet at the Lucy Evans Baylands Nature Interpretive Center, 2775 Embarcadero Road in Palo Alto. 9 AM - 1PM. Tips: - Download the iNaturalist app and create an iNaturalist account ahead of time. Bring snacks and water, Camera, binoculars, magnifying glass, notebook.

Everyone who participates must sign a waiver. For minors (under 18), a parent or guardian must sign the waiver. Waivers will be available. FREE. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/ybyknl92>

FEBRUARY 22; USGS Monthly Lecture: The **USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory** - Research, monitoring, and the science of preparing society for low-probability, high-consequence events by Seth Moran, Scientist-in-Charge, USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory. Topics: Volcanoes in the Cascade Range erupt twice per century on average, with eruptions often lasting for years. Although eruptions are generally not as high-consequence as large earthquakes, they are still high-consequence events. When a volcano wakes up there can be intense public interest - which requires crisis management, even if the eruption is small. at 7 PM, USGS HDQ, Rambo Auditorium/Bldg. 3, 345 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park.

MARCH 10/11: At the Bing: **Stanford Symphony Orchestra**, Stanford Symphonic Chorus, & Stanford University Singers. Tickets at [www.live.stanford.edu](http://www.live.stanford.edu) or 724.2464.

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FEBRUARY 3: WINTER GARDENING. Expert gardeners will be on hand at the Palo Alto Demonstration Garden, 851 Center Drive from 10-11 AM.

FEBRUARY 3: At the JCC: "Opera for Families: All You Need Is Love...and Opera" from 10:30 - 11:30 AM. FEE: \$18, \$15 Mem/J-Pass/Children (all ages).

FEBRUARY 3: Gamble Garden: "Lush Landscapes With Little Water" from 9:30 - 11:30 AM. RSVP. FEE: \$20 Member (use promo code IRIS) / \$35 Non-member

FEBRUARY 5, MARCH 26, MAY 22 at 7:30 PM all 3 days: At the JCC. Jewish Women's Theatre. FEE: Series of 3 plays pricing: \$75, \$65 Mem/J Pass, per play \$30, \$25 Mem/ J-Pass.

FEBRUARY 7: St Olaf Choir at Stanford Memorial Church at 7:30 PM. FEE: \$28-33, \$20 Students

FEBRUARY 7 to Feb 28: Avenidas Jumbo Memory Training, 2 - 4 PM. Proven effective in up to 95% of participants for up to 5 years. FEE: \$99/\$115

FEBRUARY 8: Acterra lecture: How We Know It Was Climate Change: Connecting Extreme Weather Events with Global Warming, 7:30 PM at Lucie Stern Community Room. See recent op-ed in the New York Times. <https://tinyurl.com/ya8lm6v5>

FEBRUARY 8: At the JCC: An Evening with Author Dr. Irvin D. Yalom, 7:30 - 9:00 PM. FEE: \$34 Ticket w/book bundle, \$20, \$18 Mem/J-Pass holders, \$12 Students. Psychiatrist Irvin D. Yalom has made a career of investigating the lives of others.

FEBRUARY 8: Palo Alto Adult school class in Healthy Cooking at PALY, Room 103. FEE \$60. Register at [www.bit.ly/healthyweeknightmeals](http://www.bit.ly/healthyweeknightmeals)

FEBRUARY 9: At Avenidas Come join us for a fireside chat with Dr. Manjula and Richard Adler to examine the impact of Technology on Intergenerational Values and Morals at 11 AM. FREE

FEBRUARY 9: Drowning World with Gideon Mendel at 7:30 PM at Mitchell Park Community Center. FEE: [www.paloaltophotoforum.org](http://www.paloaltophotoforum.org)

FEBRUARY 10: At the JCC: 2 Annual Benefit Featuring Mentalist Lior Suchard from 6- 11 PM. FEE: \$300. Lior Suchard is the world's greatest mentalist.

FEBRUARY 10: Gamble Garden: Lunar New Year. 9 – noon. Enjoy activities for the family. Free but registration is requested: <https://www.gamblegarden.org/event/lunar-new-year-second-saturday-february-2018/>

FEBRUARY 11: "Catch '67': The Ideas Behind the Arguments That Tear Israel Apart" from 7:30 - 9 PM. FEE: \$15 Mem/J-Pass, \$18 General Public, \$20 at the door, space permitting.

FEBRUARY 13 & MARCH 20: Wally Stegner Lectures. For tickets & more: [www.OpenSpaceTrust.org/Lectures](http://www.OpenSpaceTrust.org/Lectures). 2/13 - Gina McCarthy; 3/20 - Winona LaDuke

FEBRUARY 17: Environmental Volunteers: Baylands Bioblitz from 9 AM - 1 PM at Lucy Evans Baylands Nature Interpretive Center, 2775 Embarcadero Rd.

MARCH 4: Chinese New Year Faire at Mitchell Park Community Center from 2-5 PM.

APRIL 27-28: Adolescent Mental Wellness Conference "**Overcoming Cultural Barriers to Access**" at the Santa Clara Convention Center. Conversations will be to address the stigma of mental wellness and for policymakers, clinicians, youth and families to come together to better understand how we can best overcome cultural barriers to access in supporting mental health needs. To register for the conference: <http://adolescentconference.stanfordchildrens.org>. Early bird pricing through Jan 31