

MIDTOWN NEWS – February 9, 2018

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

NEW ARTWORK AT GOLF COURSE : Meet Birdie, a welcome addition to the Palo Alto collection of permanent public art! Installed at the Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course along Embarcadero Road, the playful origami inspired sculpture by Bay Area artist Joyce Hsu, Birdie looks out on the Baylands Natural Preserve, joyfully reminding visitors of this unique setting and important habitat for migratory birds. A humorous play on words, Birdie spreads its kinetic wings while balancing on a white tee. The Municipal Golf Course is scheduled to re-open in Spring 2018. The artwork is currently accessible to the general public.

Zero Waste Tip: Paper products that have touched food or liquids are compostable. Place them in your green compost cart. Paper towels/napkins. Tip: You can use your empty milk, juice and ice cream cartons as containers for your food scraps. For more information about What Goes Where, visit www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgertools, email zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org or call 496-5910.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING TIP FOR FEBRUARY submitted by Greg Bell: - LED LIGHTING. For less than \$100, buy energy-efficient LED light bulbs & replace your old incandescent bulbs. Quality LED bulbs are now about \$2.50 each in a multi-pack. At this low price, LED bulbs pay for themselves by reducing your energy bill - usually in months. US Dept of Energy says less than 20% of lighting in US homes is energy efficient. Efficient lighting means less energy is used so less coal & natural gas is burned to produce electricity. Go to Home Depot or OCH with your family & buy LED bulbs or order directly from Amazon. There are sooooo many light bulbs available, your eyes will glaze over. To simplify choosing, I have tested and recommend - ONLY 5 LED bulbs - for most fixtures on my Sustain Times site. <https://sustaintimes.net/buildings/>

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>

CITY COUNCIL

Feb 12: Start 6:30 PM after closed session. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63288>.
Main topics: North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan Housing Work Plan -
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63393>

Feb 19: cancellation

UPCOMING COMMISSION & BOARD MEETINGS & OTHER

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

FEBRUARY 13: **PAUSD** at 6 PM in district office, 25 Churchill. Topics: superintendent search process; 2018-2020 equity plan and term limits; bonds funds for a Magical Bridge playground at Addison Elementary & capital projects at Addison, PALY & Gunn; ballot measure for a school bond; full and fair funding of California's public schools; and an agreement with the Palo Alto Educators Association.

FEBRUARY 14: **Planning & Transportation** Commission at 6 PM in Council Chambers.
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63380>. Topics: ordinance to create "affordable housing combining district" for projects that provide 100-percent affordable housing.

FEBRUARY 15: **PAUSD Policy Review** Committee at 8:15 AM in district office.

FEBRUARY 15: **Architectural Review Board** at 8:30 AM in Council Chambers.
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63385>. Topics: 5 level garage at 375 Hamilton Ave, 3045 Park Boulevard build 2 story research-and-development building.

FEBRUARY 15: **Public Art** Commission at 7 PM in Mitchell Park Library. TOPICS: Approve Peter Wegner as the artist for the new public-safety building, proposed public art for 429 University and initial review of project at 3223 Hanover St.

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.

FEBRUARY 15: **City/School Liaison** Committee at 8 AM, First Floor meeting room City Hall. Key Topic: Cubberley Master Plan <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63297>.

FEBRUARY 20: **Finance Committee** at 6 PM in first floor mtg room City Hall. See <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/63391>. Topic: Hydroelectric rate adjustment mechanism

FEBRUARY 21: **Sp. Rail Committee**. Meeting Agenda and Packet coming next week.

FEBRUARY 22: **Historic Resources** Board at 8:30 Am in Council Chambers. TOPICS: 1151 Middlefield (Junior Museum & Zoo) & Eichler Guidelines. Agenda not yet published.

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.

CLOSURE FEBRUARY 19 - Presidents day

Discounted day passes to the Palo Alto Y are available for Avenidas/Avenidas Village members! The usual price for a day pass is \$20, but you can purchase them for \$10@. They can be used to access all activities at the Y on the day of purchase, including fitness classes, gym equipment, and the pool. In addition, the joining fee (\$90) will be waived for members who would like to join the Y. Questions? Contact Tracy 289-5436 or Patrick Kelly at the Y, 842-2765.

- 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. Drop-in, FREE
- Feb 22: Movie "Wilson" 1:30-4 PM, \$0/\$2 includes popcorn. Get ticket at front desk
- 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

Project Enybody is hosting the **Earth Needs You ART Contest!** Enter art, photos, or writing that shows how being environmentally conscious is important. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second, and third places winners. The deadline to submit your entries is February 28 at 11:59PM. <http://www.enybody.org/earth-needs-you-art-contest.html>

CALL FOR COACHES: The Recreation Division needs MSA coaches for tennis and track & field at the 3 middle schools in Palo Alto! The season begins March 19th through the 2nd week of May. Practices will be from, 3-4:30 PM M-Th, & Wed. practices can start as early as 2 PM. Matches for tennis will mainly be played on Wed. starting as early as 3:30 PM & go until 6 PM. T&F meets can be any day throughout the week (M-F, no weekend commitments). If you are interested or know some who is interested, please contact Chase Hartmann at Chase.Hartmann@cityofpaloalto.org.

CALL for SHORT STORIES: PA Weekly: Deadline April 6: Prizes for First, Second and Third place winners in each category: Adult, Young Adult (15-17) & Teen (12-14). Full details at https://www.paloaltoonline.com/short_story/entry.php

FEBRUARY 8-10: **FABMO Selection** Event at 970 Terra Bella Avenue, Suite 8, Mtn View. Appt at <https://tinyurl.com/ycakaku>. Times: Thu 12p-6p, (Drop-in after 4:30); Fri 8:30a-6p, (Drop-in after 4:30), Sat 9a-11 (No appointments necessary).

FEBRUARY 10: **PALY Flea Market**

FEBRUARY 10/11: HUGE USED **BOOK & MEDIA SALE:** Treat Yourself to some fresh reading material at Friends of the Library's Book & Media sale! Our next book sale is this Saturday and Sunday, February 10 & 11, at Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road. FOPAL's sale offers 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 11AM- 4 PM. On Sunday in the Bargain Room all items are 50% off or \$5/bag. On Sunday at 4 pm ALL items in the Bargain Room are free to educators and nonprofit organizations. On Monday night at 6PM ALL items in the Bargain Room are free to anyone. All net sale proceeds benefit Palo Alto's public libraries. For more information and directions, please visit website at: www.fopal.org.

FEBRUARY 12: Movie Screening **Sing Your Song** is an up-close look at a great American, Harry Belafonte at Channing House, 850 Webster, Auditorium from 3 to 4:45 PM. FREE.

FEBRUARY 13: Transition Palo Alto kicks off its regular **Game Night** on Tuesday, Feb 13. All are welcome. Bring your favorite game with you - perhaps teach others how to play. Join a game that someone else has brought - learn a new game. Make friends and build community. Have fun! Game Night will be hosted in a private house in Palo Alto. RSVP to transitionpaloalto@gmail.com to get the address.

FEBRUARY 13: "The **Slow but Triumphant Path of the African American Opera Singer**". FREE. Cubberley Auditorium School of Education, Stanford Campus at 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY 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 healthimprovement@stanford.eduweb. Registration required; space limited. <http://events.stanford.edu/events/701/70147/>

FEBRUARY 15: Cafe Scientifique: "**Quantum Computing for the Curious**" by Dr. Nicholas Harrigan from 5:15-6:45 PM at HanaHaus (456 University Ave). FREE. RSVP to <https://tinyurl.com/y827d5so>

FEBRUARY 17: At the JCC: **MatheMagic! Show** with Bradley Fields from 11 - noon. FEE: \$18 Kids, \$25 Adults. From Broadway to London's West End, Bradley Fields has achieved international recognition as one of the world's greatest magicians. His educational show, MatheMagic!, has been touring for almost 30 years. The show features world-class magic, comedy and theatre as we meet magicians throughout the ages whose secret was really...MATH. Large multimedia projections, stage illusions and audience participation make MatheMagic! a never-to-be-forgotten experience for young and old alike.

FEBRUARY 17: **Law of Harmony & Christian Science Healing** lecture at Lucie Stern at 3 PM. FREE

FEBRUARY 22: AT Gamble Garden. The Palo Alto master gardener program will hold a FREE workshop on **"Growing Vegetables in Containers."** 7 to 8:30 PM at Rinconada Library, 1213 Newell Road. Learn how to select the right containers and potting soil and how to feed and water your veggies.

FEBRUARY 24: At the JCC: **International Guitar Night** from 7:30 - 9 PM. FEE: \$40 Premium, \$30, \$28 Mem & J-Pass. International Guitar Night brings together acoustic guitarists to perform original compositions and exchange musical ideas in a public concert setting. For each tour, founder Brian Gore invites a new cast of guitar luminaries to join him for special evenings highlighting the virtuosity and diversity within the world of acoustic guitar.

FEBRUARY 27: At the JCC: **Phantoms at the Opera** - Festive Purim Lunch and Concert from 11:30 AM -1:30 PM. FEE: \$20 or 2 punches on Community Tuesdays Punch Card. Celebrate Purim with characters in disguise and great party scenes in opera, with music by Mozart, Handel, Strauss, Bernstein and more.

FEBRUARY 28: Henry Lowood, Stanford University's curator for History of Science and Technology and for Film and Media collections delves into one of **Silicon Valley's most intriguing figures – Russell Varian** Sempervirens Fund-REI Lecture Series at 7PM, REI Community Room at 400 El Paseo de Saratoga in San Jose. Other lectures in series: March 28: The Wild Life and Times of Santa Cruz Mountains Environmentalist and Writer Josephine Clifford McCracken: April 25: The Language of Birds with Jon Young; May 30: The History of Castle Rock with Miles Standish

FEBRUARY 28: At the JCC: **Anima Allegra** from 7 - 9 PM. FEE: \$35-\$55, Licedei (pronounced "Lee-tsee-dei") are legendary, unique clowns from St. Petersburg, Russia. Winner of many awards, the troupe has appeared at theaters and festivals around the world. Several have shone in the unforgettable Cirque De Soleil shows in Las Vegas. The clowns of Licedei touch our hearts and blow our minds; their performances are enjoyed by audiences of all backgrounds, ages and nationalities. The show has been described as "style, verve, daring and compassion combined with genuine artistry." The Licedei roster is powered by the best talent in the clown field. The humorous, entertaining action of Anima Allegra includes visual tricks, superb clowning and dazzling focus.

MARCH 14, 21, and 28, 11am-noon at Gamble Garden **Little Garden Explorers**: A Series of Three Classes for Kids and their Grownups. FEE. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/y8epw332>

MARCH 25 at Gamble Garden **Easter Egg Hunt** at 9:30 AM, 11AM, and 12:30 PM. FEE: <https://tinyurl.com/ya76yudk>

APRIL 14: **GREAT RACE FOR SAVING WATER** from 9 AM - 1 PM at the Baylands. Join the City of Palo Alto & community partners for the Race - a 5K run/walk and kids 1K fun run to raise awareness about water resources, conservation and environmental health. Don't miss your chance to chase the "running toilet!" The fun continues with an Earth Day festival offering team awards, raffle prizes, live music, food trucks, electric vehicle (EV) ride & drive, guided bird walk, group bike ride, nature walks, zoo animals, arts & crafts, library book mobile, Smokey the Bear, community booths, environmental and public safety resources. FEE. Register at <https://www.sweattracker.com/Registration/SavingWate>

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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

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.
2/13 - Gina McCarthy; 3/20 - Winona LaDuke

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.
<https://tinyurl.com/y7plmokw>

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

FEBRUARY 22: USGS Monthly Lecture: The USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory at 7 PM, USGS HDQ, Rambo Auditorium/Bldg. 3, 345 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park

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

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

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>.