

## MIDTOWN NEWS – January 12, 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

#### LAST CALL

- 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)
- 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](mailto: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.

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).

**TIDBIT from Zero Waste:** It's good to recycle your junk mail. See item category 4 below

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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>

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

January 15: No council meeting due to holiday.

January 22: Start 6 PM after closed session. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62863>. Topics: Weed abatement, Stanford GUP, Upgrade Downtown, Infrastructure Plan and Projects.

#### **UPCOMING COMMISSION & BOARD MEETINGS & OTHER**

JANUARY 16: **PAUSD** at 6:30 PM at the district office, 25 Churchill Ave. Topics: an independent audit report, enrollment projection report, data on students meeting A-G college requirements, board member term limits and administrative regulations on equipment and inventories.

JANUARY 17, 18: **PAUSD Forums**: 3 forums to gather input on the search for a new superintendent. 1/17 - 6 - 7 PM at Lewis and Joan Platt East Palo Alto Family YMCA, 550 Bell St., East Palo Alto. 1/18 -6 to 7 PM at PALY Media Arts Center. 1/18: 6 to 7 PM at Gunn High School's library.

JANUARY 18: **PAUSD study session** to discuss the budget from 8 to 10 AM at the district office, 25 Churchill Ave.

JANUARY 18: **Architectural Review** Board at 8:30 AM in council chambers. Project: 350 Sherman, parking structure. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62880>

JANUARY 18: **Public Art** Commission, 7 PM in First Floor Meeting Room, City Hall. Topics: elect a new chair & vice chair, de-accession of the artwork "California Avenue, California Native," and allocation of \$10,000 for an artist-in-residence at the Palo Alto Baylands. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62885>

JANUARY 18: **Utilities Advisory** Commission at 7 PM in Downtown Library. Topic: update on the Crossbore Safety Program. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62833>

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 at <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 and 27: **Zero Waste Plan** 10-11:30 AM 1/15 City Hall First Floor Meeting Room; 1/27 Art Center meeting room.

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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.

- 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.

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>

**Craft drive**: Stop by the Mitchell Park Library to donate your gently used craft supplies to the library! They are looking for fabrics, felts, paints, vases, mason jars, sewing supplies, beads, yarn, cork, glitter, chalk, washi tape,

staplers, craft machines, etc. Please drop off your materials at the box in the lobby! Donations can be dropped off starting Monday, January 8.

JANUARY 12: **PALY Flea Market** from 9 AM to 3 PM. Corner of El Camino and Embarcadero.

JANUARY 13: At Gamble Garden: Children's Nature Hunt Every Second Saturday at 11 AM. FREE! Bring binoculars and a magnifier if you have them! RSVP <https://www.gamblegarden.org/event/naturehunt/2018-01-13/>

JANUARY 13/14: **Friends of the Library Book Sale**. See <http://www.fopal.org/>

JANUARY 15: Canopy: **3rd Annual MLK Day of Service** and East Palo Alto Mayor's Tree Planting from 9:00 - 12:30 at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 1425 Bay Rd, East Palo Alto. Volunteers gather at 8:45 AM. The Mayor's tree planting ceremony begins at 10:00 AM. RSVP at <http://canopy.org/event-calendar/>

JANUARY 18: Cafe Scientifique event from 5:15-7 PM at HanaHaus (456 University) **"Planet for Goldilocks"** by Dr. Natalie Batalha. "Not too hot, not too cold" begins the prescription for a world that's just right for life as we know it. Finding evidence of life beyond Earth is one of the primary goals of science agencies around the world thanks in large part to NASA's Kepler Mission which launched in 2009 with the objective of finding Goldilocks planets orbiting other stars like our Sun. Indeed, the space telescope opened our eyes to the terrestrial-sized planets that populate the galaxy as well as exotic worlds unlike anything that exists in the solar system. The mission ignited the search for chemical fingerprints of life beyond Earth. Most recently, our collective imagination was awakened by the discovery of Goldilocks worlds orbiting some of the nearest neighbors to the Sun, turning abstractions into destinations. Dr. Batalha will describe these recent discoveries and give a preview of what we can look forward to in the coming decades.

JANUARY 20: At JCC: **"Battle of the Bands"** from 6:30 -9:30 PM. FEE: In Advance: \$10 Mem, \$12, At Door: \$15. Battle it out with other local teen bands of all music genres. Solo acts and small groups welcome too. You'll get instant feedback from professionals, the opportunity to play in front of an audience and a chance to win great prizes. Audience members will have the chance to vote for their favorite band. Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase. For middle and high school students.

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.

JANUARY 26: Films of Vision and Hope. **"Inhabit"** at 7:30PM at Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 E Charleston. If you're already familiar with permaculture, you'll get a glimpse into what's possible – what kind of projects and solutions are already underway and what actions you might want to take. If you're not familiar with permaculture, you'll learn about this revolutionary way relating to the Earth. For everyone, it will be a reminder that humans are capable of helping to heal our planet. FREE, Donations appreciated.

JANUARY 31: Cafe Scientifique: **"Why Did the Robot Cross the Road?"** A Discussion of Social Interaction with Autonomous Technologies of the Future with David Sirkin, PhD, Research Scientist at the Center for Design Research, and a lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Stanford University. Stanford Blood Bank, 3373 Hillview Breezeway at 6 PM. FREE: Complimentary Beverages and Cookies.

FEBRUARY 3: At Gamble Garden: **"Lush Landscapes With Little Water"** from 9:30 - 11:30 AM. RSVP <https://app.etapestry.com/cart/ElizabethFGambleGarden/cart5/item.php?ref=5698.0.266204321>. FEE: \$20 Member (use promo code IRIS) / \$35 Non-member

FEBRUARY 10: Canopy **Tree Walk: Palo Verde** from 10:00 to noon. Meet at Palo Verde Elementary School, Louis Road. Walk along with Canopy and an expert arborist as we explore the Palo Verde neighborhood. You'll learn about a variety of trees from the small and delicate Flowering Dogwood to the uncommon Scotch Pine to the aromatic Deodar Cedar -- and many more!

FEBRUARY 10: At Gamble Garden: **Lunar New Year**. 9 – noon. Enjoy activities for the family including: Tours of our famous Camellia beds, Learning and speaking Chinese characters, Chinese paper folding and cutting, Red packet craft, Chinese New Year Story Telling. Free but registration is requested. [www.gamblegarden.org/event/lunar-new-year-second-saturday-february-2018/](http://www.gamblegarden.org/event/lunar-new-year-second-saturday-february-2018/)

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

## OLD

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 ziest jazz.

JANUARY 13: "Albany Consort Baroque Micro-Orchestra Repaints the Past" at Congregation Etz Chayim, 4161 Alma Street, 8 - 10 PM. FEE: \$35-\$80.

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. Pre-registration is required a

JANUARY 16: At the JCC, "The Art of the Piano Trio" noon - 1:30 PM. FEE: \$20, or 2 punches on Community Tuesdays Card.

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."

JANUARY 20: Gamble Garden "PLANTING SMALL FRUIT TREES" from 10 - 11:30 AM. 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@paloaltojcc.org](mailto:mrosengaus@paloaltojcc.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. RSVP to Michael Kass at [mkass@avenidas.org](mailto:mkass@avenidas.org) or 289-5419.

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

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## 4) TIDBIT from Zero Waste

It's good to **recycle your junk mail**. It's even better to stop getting it. Recycle any junk mail you do receive in your blue cart. Stopping junk mail is a form of waste reduction (better than recycling). By stopping the mail you don't want, you can conserve natural resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. How to stop junk mail: Resources include: <http://www.catalogchoice.org/> and <http://www.paperkarma.com/>

- Use a junk mail reduction service. They'll take you and your family members' names off major direct mail lists, reduce unsolicited credit & insurance offers & unsubscribe you from unwanted catalogs.
- Do it yourself! Remove your name from mailing lists of companies who send you catalogs, sweepstakes entries, and coupons by calling, writing or going online and requesting that your name be taken off their list.

@ Direct Marketing Association - <https://thedma.org/accountability/dma-choice/>

@ Valassis - <https://www.redplum.com/tools/redplum-postal-adremove.html>

@ PennySaver - <https://www.pennysaverusa.com/maillinglist/>

@ Val-Pak Savings Coupons - <https://www.valpak.com/coupons/show/maillinglistsuppression>

@ Credit Card Offers – <http://www.optoutprescreen.com/>

@ Sweepstakes Publishers Clearinghouse [http://pch.custhelp.com/app/ask\\_mailing](http://pch.custhelp.com/app/ask_mailing)

@ Telephone books - <http://www.yellowpagesoptout.com>

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