



Welcome to *Our Palo Alto* eNewsletter, July 2016

Getting Around Town



Transportation, parking and the solutions to ease traffic congestion are a focus of the City and the Council's agenda. The Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) program is set to expand into the Evergreen Park and Southgate neighborhoods. It follows in the footsteps of the RPP program launched in downtown Palo Alto last fall, where residents and visitors of these two adjacent neighborhoods are seeking solutions to parking challenges in their neighborhoods.

Several community engagement meetings are planned to kick off the efforts. The first Community Workshop for Evergreen Park will be held on **Thursday, July 14** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the PAUSD Administration Building, 25 Churchill Avenue. Then on **Thursday, July 28**, the first community workshop for the Southgate neighborhood will be held at the same location and time.

These meetings will be followed by several focus groups – one for neighborhood residents and a second for California Avenue merchants (for Evergreen) to get more in depth feedback. For the

Calendar of Events



Young Tree Care Survey

Elizabeth F. Gamble Garden
Sat, July 16
9 a.m.-12 p.m.



Busytown the Musical
Palo Alto Children's Theatre
July 13-31, 6:30 p.m.



U-Jam for Kids
Children's Library
Saturdays through July
11-11:30 a.m.

Southgate neighborhood, City staff will look to identify a variety of options as an initial step including signage, striping changes and parking time restrictions. The City plans to also work closely with Palo Alto Unified School District and Paly on employee and student parking, and meet again with community neighbors to discuss all of the alternatives.

In the meantime, at their last meeting on June 27 before summer break, the Council agreed that local funding is needed to support transportation measures to ease traffic congestion and parking availability, and voted to consider working toward some form of local tax for the 2017 or 2018 ballot. They also agreed to form a stakeholder committee process similar to the Blue Ribbon Task Force that was created to help develop and guide the successful 2014 Transient Occupancy Tax.



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Community Connections: Know Your Neighbors Grant Program



Three years ago, the City launched a new program called “Know Your Neighbors” that aimed to help residents connect with each other. The goal was to build a sense of community, encourage multigenerational and cultural exchanges, and to develop collaborative partnerships between

Palo Alto neighborhoods and the City. The Council approved \$25,000 for that first year’s effort with the idea that maximum grants of \$1,000 would be awarded for events and activities to bring neighbors together. The program is on a “first come, first serve” basis and the first year was so successful that the Council has renewed the program each year since. Among the various grant-funded activities have been a block party to build emergency preparation kits; Food Truck Friday social at Johnson Park; a crime prevention and safety fair in the Leland Manor neighborhood; Palo Alto Yoga Day, Barron Park’s Movie in the Park and much more.

Applications are currently open for this year’s round of funding, and will be awarded until the allocated funding is depleted. For more information, click [here](#).

Down by the Baylands



There is a lot happening down at the Baylands these days. As of July 1, the Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course is temporarily closed for the [Golf Course Reconfiguration Project](#) that will transform it into a links-style course incorporating the native look and feel of the Palo

Alto Baylands. While the golf course may be closed, the Brad Lozares Golf Shop, driving range, practice area, and Bay Café will remain open for business.

The new course will contain 55 acres of native Baylands vegetation and wetlands areas with 10.5 acres added to the Baylands Athletic Center for future recreational use. There will also be substantial reductions in potable water use and managed turf areas, and 7.4 acres will be converted into in-stream marshland habitat within the expanded San Francisquito Creek for increased flood protection. Starting in the middle of July, the City will remove about 150 small and 500 larger non-native trees, which will be eventually replaced with 300 new trees on the reconfigured golf course. There will also be two acres of native bay ecosystem habitat in Byxbee Park, and the protection of 500 naturally-occurring oak saplings in the Pearson Arastradero Preserve. The new course, which is expected to be completed in October 2017, will have elevated scenic views of the Baylands and San Francisco Bay. For more information on the project, click [here](#).

And recently, the boardwalk at the [Baylands Nature Interpretive Center and Preserve](#) was partially reopened after being closed for safety concerns in 2014. The Center is in need of structural and maintenance improvements due to its age and exposure to the elements. Three separate but related Capital Improvement Program projects have been approved by Council to address these needs.



Summer Music in the City



Summer music in the City continues with Palo Alto's popular summer [Twilight Concert Series](#) that happens every Saturday night at various locations until August 20.

[Music on the Plaza](#) will put City Hall's King Plaza into the groove on Thursday nights until mid-August with the blues, country, swing, R& B and rock n' roll bands.

Summertime fun music doesn't end there – the [Music is Magic Summer Concert Series](#) takes place every Friday through September 9 at the Magical Bridge Playground. Award-winning children's musician Tim Cain, Magic Mike, John Henry's Farm, the Yellow Dress, Cellista and Andy Z are just some of the many artists participating in this summer's series.

Art Happenings

July 21: Chime Performance

Grab your lunch and feed your spirit with some music as we celebrate Chime with a **live music performance** by artist Dan Gottswald and electronic musician Will Gluck **July 21, 12 -1 pm**. The artists will perform a musical piece specifically composed for Chime. The event is free and open to the public.



Intentionally designed and built for physical interaction, Chime is a temporary public artwork installed among the trees on King Plaza. It will remain on display until August.

September 18: Olive Ranch Private Tour



Join the Palo Alto Public Art Program on a private tour of **Olive Ranch** on **Sunday, September 18**. Originally a thriving family farm located in the heart of Sonoma County, the picturesque 100-acre property features a remarkable collection of 18 site-specific art installations commissioned by the Oliver Family over the past 25 years. The collection includes works by such artists as Richard Serra, Ann Hamilton, Martin Puryear, Bruce Nauman and more.

The **Oliver Ranch** tour is a 2.5 hour hike on unpaved paths, covering over 2 miles with 600 feet of up and down elevation change. A \$65 ticket includes shuttle transportation from the Palo Alto Art Center, a guided tour and boxed lunch. **Purchase your ticket today** - availability is limited!

Tweets of the Month

Are you following us on Twitter yet? **Connect with us** and tell us what's on your mind.



Magical Bridge @magicalbridge, June 24

Magical Bridge wins "BEST PLAYGROUND"!! Thrilled and so honored to receive this award at the The Best of San... <http://fb.me/4HvrPWfgF>



GiganticIdeas @GiganticIdeas, June 16

Meet Zak Zero, [#zerowaste](#) guy - new [#video](#) for [@cityofpaloalto](#) <http://bit.ly/24QU235> [#recycling](#) [#composting](#)



Matt Keller @MattKellerABC7, July 7

Beautiful start to the day in Palo Alto. pic.twitter.com/I97NpV0Jzq



The Daily News @baydailynews, July 7

Palo Alto: Zero net energy house being assembled in Stanford hills bayareane.ws/29BIUUF pic.twitter.com/Lwe6aixOPB



City of Palo @cityofpaloalto, July 6

Baylands is working to enhance the swallows' habitat & incorporate it into the Center: <http://bit.ly/28SClsx>

To find out how you can get involved, or more information about Our Palo Alto, go to: www.ourpaloalto.org