Summertime is in the air, especially in Palo Alto where we have a full lineup of free, entertaining events taking place all over town. More about that in a minute, but first let's look at some of the items the City Council decided on before taking their summer break.

**Council Corner**

**Budget, Hotel Tax Approved**

Council approved the FY 2019 budget totaling $709.9 million on June 18 and asked staff to identify $4 million in additional cuts to address the unfunded pension liability. The budget eliminates 17.6 positions and includes a $210 million general fund

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**Calendar of Events**

**Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon**
Palo Alto Children's Theatre
1305 Middlefield Road
Through July 29

**Repair Cafe**
Museum of American Heritage
351 Homer Avenue
Sun., Aug.19, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Collage Family Day**
(which pays for most basic City services excluding utilities), and $133.2 million in capital spending—$88.9 million of that is earmarked for the Infrastructure Plan.

Among those infrastructure projects are a new public safety building, garages downtown and at California Avenue, a bike bridge over Highway 101, and the completion of the Charleston-Arastradero streetscape project. For more information on the FY 2019 budget, click here. You can also find a detailed review of the budget through the Open Budget Web App.

On the same night, Council compromised on 15.5% as the rate of the proposed Transient Occupancy Tax that voters will decide on at the ballot in November. The revenue generated from the increase is aimed at bridging the funding gap in the Council’s Infrastructure Plan, which has occurred as a result of increased construction costs.

Meet the Next City Manager

On June 25, Council announced the selection of Ed Shikada to be Palo Alto’s next City Manager, beginning in 2019. They didn’t have to look far to find Shikada as he is currently our Assistant City Manager and Utilities General Manager. For the past three years, Shikada has worked with City Manager Jim Keene who will be retiring at the end of the year. “We anticipate a smooth transition as Ed moves into his new role,” said Mayor Liz Kniss. Read more about Shikada’s longstanding career and commitment to public service here.
The City's free summertime lineup of fun is back again this year. Catch the popular Twilight Concert Series on Saturdays at various venues through August 24.

It includes several family-friendly outdoor movie nights as well.

There's also the Music is Magic summer concert series on Fridays through August at the Magical Bridge Playground in Mitchell Park from 6-7:30 p.m.
Downtown Palo Alto also gets in on the act with the Music on the Plaza series with performances at Lytton Plaza on Thursdays through August 16.

If you attend any or all of these fun summertime events in Palo Alto, you are encouraged to post your pictures and video under the #PaloAltoSummer hashtag. We just may Like, Share or Retweet them on one of our social media pages. Connect with us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Rinconada Library’s 60th Celebration

The rich architectural history of Rinconada Library is currently on display as the library gets ready to celebrate its 60th anniversary this month. The library on Newell Road was designed by world-renowned architect Edward Durell Stone, whose mid-century modernism designs also include Radio City Music Hall and the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., as well as Palo Alto City Hall.
A presentation on Stone’s work will be part of the community celebration at the library on Sunday, July 29 from 2-4 p.m. Group 4 Architecture firm will also be on hand to discuss the renovation and expansion work they did to upgrade the library in 2014 while also maintaining its historical elements. You can read more about the makeover here.

National Night Out

Palo Alto residents will be asked to turn on their front lights and spend the evening of Tuesday, August 7 outside mingling with neighbors, our police officers and emergency personnel for National Night Out. Some neighborhoods may want to host a block party, park cookouts, or other gatherings centered around getting to know their neighbors and crime prevention. The Police Department will have an area set up outside of headquarters on Forest Avenue to meet and greet the community. If you are interested in hosting an event and would like our police officers to attend between the hours of 5-8 p.m., please fill out the form found here by July 30 and send it to janine.delavega@cityofpaloalto.org. For more information on National Night Out, click here.
Community Meets the Chiefs

The Meet the Chiefs event held on July 12 at Mitchell Park Community Center was a great opportunity for the public to meet Palo Alto’s top brass in law enforcement and emergency services who serve to keep the community safe. Police Chief Robert Jonsen, Office of Emergency Services Director Ken Dueker and Deputy Fire Chief Kevin McNally were on hand to discuss fire and crime prevention, personal and public safety, as well as emergency and disaster preparedness. The event also included information tables covering everything from electric safety, turning off a gas meter during an emergency, to fall prevention and bike safety.

Junior Museum & Zoo Re-opens in Temp Site

Finally, Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo fans will want to mark their calendar for Tuesday, July 31 when the popular family attraction re-opens in its temporary digs at the Cubberley Community Center auditorium. Mayor Liz Kniss and several Council members were on hand for the June groundbreaking for the new facility that will go up at its original Rinconada Park site.
The nearly 200,000 guests who visit JMZ each year will still be able to view some of their favorite attractions at the temporary Cubberley location such as the giant climbing web seen here, the kid-powered machine, and many of the animal exhibits. The new facility is scheduled to open in the summer of 2020.

Until next month, get out and enjoy all there is to see and do during your #PaloAltoSummer!

Socials of the Month

Are you following us on social media?
Connect with us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

John Danner@jwdanner June 17
@cityofpaloalto awesome job on peers
dog park, totally outstanding!
SOPHIA 💙 @sophia_slpd  July 4
Sophia is here at Chilli cook off come get some lemonade police officers get lemonade for free @cityofpaloalto @PaloAltoPolice

Minnie & Max Pugs @MinnieMaxPugs  May 29
We’re more than happy to consult on this new @shakeshack project @stanfordshop. (Taste testing for example.) @cityofpaloalto #pug

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