

Making their mark

For Avenidas 'Lifetimes of Achievement' honorees, their time and energy are not just their own

They have been the community's guardians. The six people chosen by the nonprofit Avenidas to receive a "Lifetimes of Achievement" award this year have served community members who are poor, disabled, disenfranchised or simply needing an ounce of encouragement.

Each has made his or her mark in other ways, from physics to politics. But it is their desire to turn their abundance into someone else's gain that has earned them recognition.

This year's honorees are community volunteer/philanthropist Elizabeth Wolf, venture capitalist Gordon Russell, former Mayor Marge Bruno, physicist Emery Rogers and philanthropists Fred and Marcia Rehmus.

Avenidas, a Palo-Alto based organization serving local seniors and their families, presents the annual awards, which recognize outstanding contributions made by people 65 and older.

There were 39 nominees this year, according to Kari Martell, Avenidas' director of marketing and communications.

The honorees "exemplify the successful traits of remaining active, involved and committed to the causes they care about, helping to make a difference in our community," Avenidas CEO Lisa Hendrickson said.

A celebration of the honorees will be held Sunday, May 16, from 3 to 5 p.m. at 669 Mirada Ave., Stanford. It is hosted by Avenidas and co-sponsored by the Palo Alto Weekly and Palo Alto Online. The party is the sole fundraiser for Avenidas.

Tickets, which are tax-deductible, are \$75 and can be purchased by calling 650-289-5445 or visiting www.avenidas.org.