

ZOLA'S HIGH-QUALITY CUISINE
A WELCOME ADDITION TO DOWNTOWN PALO ALTO



■ RESTAURANT
REVIEW

UNPRETENTIOUS *french*

review by SHEILA HIMMEL
photos by MICHELLE LE

Menlo Park's loss is Palo Alto's gain, twice over. After closing his haute French restaurant Marche in 2011, Howard Bulka gave us Howie's Artisan Pizza in Town & Country Village. And now, Guillame Bienamé, a former executive chef of Marche, gives us Zola, the best food news in downtown Palo Alto this year.

► Continued on next page

Above: Zola's chocolate mousse is topped with coffee gel, cocoa nibs and Chantilly cream. **Top right:** Tombo tuna is served with hearts of palm, avocado and grapefruit.

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Best of MOUNTAIN VIEW 2013



Server Nick Tejcka sets tables for dinner at Zola in downtown Palo Alto.

► Continued from previous page

Don't go getting all literary about the name. Bienamé chose it not because of any connection to the French author, Emile Zola, but simply because it's a name that's easy to pronounce,

write and remember.

Zola will be a comfort to local diners who still miss L'Amie Donia, a beloved French bistro formerly located just across Bryant Street. This new casual French restaurant similarly reflects one chef-owner's unpretentious version of high-quality cuisine.

Two caveats: While not overpriced for what you get, Zola is no bargain. And, depending on the crowd and the wine consumption, the 44-seat dining room can get unpleasantly loud. It is warm and lovely to look at, with lots of bare wood, but all hard surfaces. One solution is to come with a group of six to eight people and eat at the communal table up front.

Bienamé incorporates seasonal produce into every dish on the one-page menu. Meat also is sourced as locally as possible.

Start with soup (\$7), from the menu section called Pour Commencer. It could be a hearty but

not too rich blend of celery, brioche and porcini mushrooms or celery root puree drizzled with a brown butter coffee glaze.

Rillettes de salmon (\$9) feature moist, slightly smoky fish with a tasteful minimum of fresh dill. Mustard seeds on top act like caviar, breaking apart as you bite. Ample toast accompanies it. (Fresh bread is provided upon request.)

Ricotta gnocchi (\$13) are topped with a perfectly poached egg.

Bavette steak (\$28) was very pink for medium-rare. Choices of sauce are béarnaise and café de Paris, a red wine sauce the server recommended. It came with crispy fingerling potatoes, cauliflower and kale.

Roasted pork loin and belly (\$26) promises to be a signature dish. Currently it comes with a trio of roasted apples, turnips and Brussels sprouts.

All of these vegetables are prepared differently and are

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Schola Cantorum
 Gregory Wait, Music Director

Joyeux Noël!

Celebrate the holidays with a French flavor!

Marc-Antoine Charpentier's *Messe de Minuit pour Noël*, and holiday carols

Sunday, December 7, 2014 • 3:00 pm
 Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

Celebrate the holiday season with Charpentier's *Messe de Minuit pour Noël*, a delightful work based on French carols, accompanied by Sinfonia Schola Cantorum. Other familiar sounds of the season include *Pat-a-pan*, *Masters in this Hall*, and *Angels We Have Heard on High*. And, of course, this Schola Cantorum Christmas features a rousing audience-participation carol sing-along!



Leek soup is one of Zola's vegetarian options.

Admission: Adult \$30/ea.
 Senior 62 and over \$25/ea.
 Student 21 and under \$20/ea.

Order tickets online at mvcpa.com or charge your tickets by phone by calling 650-903-6000; ticket office hours are Wed.- Sat., 12 pm to 6 pm.

Or you can visit the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts ticket office, at 500 Castro Street in downtown Mountain View.

Tickets purchased by phone or online are subject to service charges.

available as side dishes, making it easy for vegetarians to compose a meal from the Legumes and Pour Commencer sections. Soup is always vegetarian, as are at least two of the salads.

Among the Legumes, charred brassicas (\$9) are cauliflower florets and kale, both with crispy edges, in a French-inspired Indian masala with golden raisins. Also not to be missed: crispy fingerling potatoes (\$5) finished in smoked paprika, orange zest and fine herbs; and the Brussels sprouts (\$6) with chorizo, almonds and parsley.

Try to save room for dessert. Yvette's crème caramel (\$6) for the lighter touch, chocolate mousse (\$8) for joyful sharing. Not just another fluffy pudding, this mousse is topped with coffee gel, cocoa nibs and Chantilly cream.

As with the restaurant's name, Zola's menu wastes no words. You don't have to wade through a lot of verbiage about techniques and farms. And conveniently located on the back of the menu is a welcome selection of craft beer, kir (a French cocktail made with liqueur and white wine) and wines by the glass.

A few specials augment the daily changing menu. You shouldn't have to ask for prices, but you might. One more nit to pick: Pacing can be erratic. But Zola had been open barely two months when we visited. I will happily go back. ▣



Zola's roasted pork loin and belly is served with apples, turnips and Brussels sprouts.

■ DINING NOTES

Zola

656 Bryant St., Palo Alto
650-521-0651
zolapa.com

Hours: Dinner 5-9 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday; 5-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Closed Sunday-Monday.

- Reservations:
- Credit cards:
- Happy hour:
- Takeout:
- Children:
- Outdoor dining:
- Party and banquet facilities:
- Corkage: \$25
- Alcohol: beer and wine
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- Noise level: medium-high to high
- Bathroom cleanliness: excellent

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SMUIN

BALLET

Celia Fushille, Artistic Director

smuinballet.org

Photo: Patrick Fraser
Dancer: Erica Felsch

MOVIE TIMES

- Big Hero 6 (PG)** Century 16: 10:15 & 11:35 a.m., 12:55, 2:25, 3:40, 5:05, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m., 1:35, 4:15, 7:10 & 9:50 p.m. In 3-D at 12:05, 2:45, 5:25, 8:05 & 10:45 p.m.
- Birdman (R) ★★★** Century 16: 11:05 a.m., 1:55, 4:55, 7:45 & 10:40 p.m. Century 20: 2 p.m. Fri & Sun 7:25 p.m.
- Citizenfour (R) ★★★1/2**
Aquarius Theatre: 4:30, 7:20 & 10:10 p.m. Fri & Sat 1:45 p.m.
- Dumb and Dumber To (PG-13)**
Century 16: 11:30 a.m. & 2:20 p.m. Fri & Sun 7:40 & 10:20 p.m.
Century 20: 11:45 a.m., 2:35, 5:15; 7:55 & 10:40 p.m.
- Foxcatcher (R) ★★★1/2**
Aquarius Theatre: 12:45, 3:45, 7:05 & 9:55 p.m.
- Fury (R) ★★★** Century 20: 1:50 & 7:25 p.m.
- Gone Girl (R) ★★★1/2** Century 20: 12:20, 3:45, 7:05 & 10:20 p.m.
- Horrible Bosses 2 (R)** Century 16: 10:25 & 11:45 a.m., 1:05, 2:30, 3:45, 5:15, 6:40, 7:55, 9:30 & 10:40 p.m. Century 20: 11:50 a.m., 1:05, 2:30, 3:55, 5:10, 6:40, 7:55, 9:25 & 10:40 p.m.
- The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 (PG-13) ★★★1/2**
Century 16: 10:15, 11 & 11:40 a.m., 12:20, 1:10, 2:50, 3:30, 4:20, 5:10, 5:55, 6:35, 7:25, 9:05, 9:45 & 10:35 p.m. Sun 5:10 p.m.
Century 20: 11:30 a.m., 12:15, 12:55, 2:20, 3:20, 4, 5:20, 6:15, 6:55 & 8:15 p.m. In X-D at 1:30, 4:30, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m.
- Interstellar (PG-13) ★★★1/2** Century 16: noon, 4, 6:20, 8 & 10 p.m.
Century 20: 11:10 a.m., 2:50, 6:30 & 10:05 p.m.
- Little Women (1933)**
Stanford Theatre: 7:30 p.m. Sat & Sun 3:40 p.m.
- The Penguins of Madagascar (PG) ★★** Century 16: 11 a.m., 12:30, 1:25, 3, 3:50, 5:30, 6:20, 8, 8:50 & 10:30 p.m. In 3-D at 11:40 a.m., 2:10 4:40, 7:10 & 9:40 p.m. Century 20: 11:15 a.m., 12:35, 1:15, 2:30, 3:50, 5:05, 6:20, 7 & 8:55 p.m. Fri & Sat 8:20 p.m. Sun 10:10 p.m. In 3-D at noon, 1:45, 4:25, 5:45, 7:35, 9:35 & 10:45 p.m. In 3-D Fri & Sat 3:10 p.m.
- The Pyramid (R)** Century 20: 12:40, 3:15, 5:40, 8:10 & 10:40 p.m.
- The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1957) (R)**
Guild Theatre: Sat midnight
- Rosewater (R) ★★★**
Century 20: 11:25 a.m. Fri & Sun 4:50 & 10:10 p.m.
- The Secret Garden (1949) (Not Rated)**
Stanford Theatre: 5:45 & 9:35 p.m.
- St. Vincent (PG-13)** Century 16: 2 p.m. Fri 8:15 p.m. Sun 10:35 p.m.
Century 20: 11:20 a.m., 4:55 & 10:35 p.m.
- The Theory of Everything (PG-13) ★★**
Century 20: 11:05 a.m., 1:55, 4:45, 7:45 & 10:35 p.m.
Palo Alto Square: 1, 2:30, 4, 5:30, 7 & 8:30 p.m. Fri & Sat 10 p.m.
- Wild (R)** Guild Theatre: 1:30, 4:15, 7:05 & 9:40 p.m.

AQUARIUS: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (266-9260)

CENTURY CINEMA 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (800-326-3264)

CENTURY 20 DOWNTOWN: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (800-326-3264)

CINEARTS AT PALO ALTO SQUARE: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (493-3456)

STANFORD THEATRE: 221 University Ave., Palo Alto (324-3700)

For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquarius, visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

★ Skip it

★★ Some redeeming qualities

★★★ A good bet

★★★★ Outstanding

For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more movie info, visit www.mv-voice.com and click on movies.



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MOVIE OPENINGS



ANNE MARIE FOX/FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

Reese Witherspoon stars in "Wild," a film about Cheryl Strayed's 1,100-mile solo hike along the Pacific Crest Trail.

'Wild' woman blues

REESE WITHERSPOON SOUL-SEARCHES ALONG THE BEATEN PATH IN 'WILD'

★★★ (Guild)

Kübler-Ross' "Five Stages of Grief" aside, the conventional wisdom goes that everyone grieves differently, the devil being in the details. For Cheryl Strayed, author of the Oprah-approved memoir "Wild," those details included bingeing on sex and heroin before hitting rock bottom and committing to a soul-cleansing, 1,100-mile, 94-day solo hike.

Now "Wild" has gotten the Hollywood treatment, with Reese Witherspoon as Strayed, Laura Dern as her mother Bobbi, Nick Hornby ("About a Boy") penning the script, and Jean-Marc Vallée behind the camera. Given that Vallée guided his "Dallas Buyers Club" actors to Oscars last awards season, one might well look cynically upon "Wild," and its lead and supporting females, entirely apparent Oscar bait.

That's certainly true, but "Wild" improves on "Dallas Buyers Club" with Hornby's literate, thoughtfully constructed narrative, one that hews more closely to the true story on which it is based. Add rather brilliant editing by Martin Pensa and Vallée (under the pseudonym John Mac McMurphy) and expert work by Witherspoon and Dern, and you get a satisfying excursion, a secular but spiritual journey of self-discovery.

Strayed's long walk up the scenic Pacific Crest Trail, which

runs from the Mexican border up to Canada, force her into dialogue with herself, though like Alvin Straight in the 1999 Oscar-nominated "The Straight Story," she gleans lessons from folks she meets along the way. Strayed needs to get her head straight after poorly navigating familial troubled waters, one a health crisis affecting her 45-year-old mother and the other the dissolution of her seven-year marriage to Paul (Thomas Sadoski), a sympathetic victim of Strayed's sexual straying and disappearances to drug dens.

That Strayed comes across as an anti-heroine, a character not easy to love but rather pathetic, puts the story on solid ground for its many miles to go before redemption. Hornby and Vallée employ voiceover in the form of internal monologue, musical earworms (most notably Simon & Garfunkel's "El Condor Pasa (If I Could)"), and frequent flashbacks that qualify "Wild" as a cinematic version of what Tennessee Williams called a "memory play."

Effectively, Vallée tells Strayed's story in a series of reveries, each surfacing to consciousness in a head cleared by lonesome travel.

The result is a reasonably rich character study deftly anchored by Witherspoon, who allows Strayed to be naive and fragile in matters practical

(her overstuffed pack, a symbolic, Atlas-like burden, earns the nickname "Monster") and emotional ("When I'm done ... I'll have to start living. And I'm nowhere near ready") but brave enough to, at long last, force her way into self-knowledge.

"Wild" isn't perfect: Though a more palatable version of "Eat Pray Love" (still uncomfortably privileged in its heroine's ability to take three months off to find herself), Strayed's story can still feel pat, its wisdom at times resembling that of a fortune cookie ("I'm gonna walk myself back to the woman my mother thought I was. I'm going to put myself in the way of beauty"). Two glaring examples of product placement rankle, and opinions will vary on whether Strayed's ultimate epiphany is moving or eye-rolling.

Still, "Wild," in its essence, proffers a useful message that it's wise to clear the clutter every once in a while — and especially at times of painful transition — to take stock.

The sub-theme that artful culture can play a role in self-understanding (Strayed and Hornby name-check everyone from Emily Dickinson to Stevie Ray Vaughn along the road) serves as a stealth endorsement of the film that contains it.

Rated R for sexual content, nudity, drug use and language. One hour, 55 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

Goings On

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

HIGHLIGHT

FOOTHILL COLLEGE JINGLE & MINGLE DANCE SHOWCASE

The Foothill College Repertory Dance Company will hold its Jingle & Mingle Dance Showcase, sharing a diverse program of original student choreography, experimental works and repertory classics. An accompanying reception will include light refreshments and a guest from the North Pole. Dec. 5, 7 p.m. Free; \$3 parking. Foothill College Dance Studio, Room 2504, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7354. www.foothill.edu/news/newsfmt.php?sr=2&rec_id=3161

ART GALLERIES

'Ebb & Flow' For this exhibit, plein air pastelist Teresa Ruzzo will contribute new work inspired by the Russian River, Big Sur, the Palo Alto Baylands and the Stanford hills. An artist reception will be held on Dec. 6 from 2 to 5 p.m. Dec. 2-Jan. 3, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (Sundays til 3 p.m.) Free. Viewpoints Gallery, 315 State St., Los Altos. www.viewpointsgallery.com

BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

Baby clothing drive at Children's Corner Children's Corner Inc. will hold a baby clothing drive for the Bay Area nonprofit Loved Twice, during which community members can drop off gently used garments for infants up to 12 months old. Monday-Friday, Nov. 18-Dec. 12. Free. Los Altos Mountain View Children's Corner, 97 Hillview Ave., Room 3, Los Altos. Call 650-948-8950. www.lamvchildrenscorner.org

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Felt ornament workshop with ITSPHUN ITSPHUN will return to the Mountain View Public Library for a workshop making felt ornaments. No registration is required. Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6337. www.mountainview.gov/library

Health care programs orientation In these workshops for those interested in health care careers, information will be provided on the Certified Nursing Assistant and Medical Assistant paths and what programs are offered through the Mountain View-Los Altos Adult School. Register on the website. Dec. 2, 4:30-6:30 p.m.; Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-noon; Dec. 9, 4:30-6:30 p.m.; Dec. 12, 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Mountain View-Los Altos Adult School, 333 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-940-1333. www.mvlaae.net

Library and eBook tours The Mountain View Public Library will hold two tours: a virtual tour about how to enjoy the library's free e-books at 6:30 p.m. and a tour of library facilities at 7 p.m. Dec. 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6337. www.mountainview.gov/library

Simple Sewing: DIY Gifts This workshop at the Mountain View Public Library will instruct participants in two easy sewing projects, which can serve as holiday gifts. The projects are ideal for beginners, and finished items can be kept or donated. Registration is required. Dec. 9, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. www.mountainview.gov/library

Teacher workshop at Computer History Museum This workshop will acquaint teachers with the educational resources for science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM) available at the Computer History Museum, as well as the benefits and logistics of scheduling a field trip. Dec. 6, noon-3 p.m. \$10. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. www.eventbrite.com/e/teacher-workshop-steam-tour-tickets-14402635671

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Tree Lighting Celebration This city of Mountain View event will include live holiday music, refreshments, lights, and visiting and picture-taking with Santa Claus. Dec. 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Civic Center Plaza, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6331. www.mountainview.gov/treelighting

Holiday Stories for Grown-Ups This event at the Mountain View Public Library will include a reading of Christmas-themed stories for adults, including "A Christmas Memory" by Truman Capote. Hot cider will also be on hand. Registration is appreciated but not required. Dec. 10, 6-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. www.mountainview.gov/library

Neighbors Helping Neighbors community outreach For the last in a series of outreach events, Neighbors Helping

Neighbors will have trained peer counselors available to speak with residents about personal issues, including housing, transportation and other financial problems. There are no income restrictions, all are accepted. Those interested are encouraged to RSVP for a 30-minute consultation, but drop-ins are also welcome. Dec. 6, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Trinity Church, Hope's Corner, 748 Mercy St., Mountain View. Call 650-283-0270. www.facebook.com/NeighborsHelpingNeighborsPaloAlto

Waldorf Holiday Faire The Waldorf School of the Peninsula will hold its annual holiday event with activities for all ages, including a gnome adventure, wreath making, games and prizes, a children's workshop, a cafe and a puppet show. A Holiday Boutique will also offer thousands of unique toys and handcrafts for sale. See website for boutique hours. Dec. 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Waldorf School of the Peninsula, Los Altos Campus, 11311 Mora Drive, Los Altos. waldorfpenninsula.org/event/holiday-faire/

CONCERTS

'20 Harps for the Holidays' Harpeggio Music will put on a performance of its annual holiday concert, featuring harp solos, the studio ensemble of more than 20 harps, and guest artist Meko. Proceeds will support the organization's activities. Dec. 6, 4-6 p.m. \$15 general; \$12 senior (ages 60 plus), child (ages 4-12). Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalen Ave., Los Altos. Call 408-366-8810. harpeggio.com/concert.html

'Joyeux Noël' Schola Cantorum, a 90-voice adult classical choir in the Bay Area, will give a holiday concert called "Joyeux Noël" with a program including Marc-Antoine Charpentier's "Midnight Mass for Christmas" and familiar seasonal songs. Dec. 7, 3 p.m. \$30 adult; \$25 senior; \$20 student (ages 21 and under). Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6000. www.mountainview.gov/mvcpa/dec14.html

Guitarists Dale Ann Bradley and Steve Gully For this Redwood Bluegrass Associates event, guitarists Dale Ann Bradley and Steve Gully will perform a set of bluegrass music, joined by players on banjo, mandolin and bass. The duo have sung "mountain music" together for many years. Community members are invited to join a jam session preceding the show at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 6, 7-10 p.m. \$25 advance; \$20 at the door; half price for teens; free under age 13. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1715 Grant Road, Los Altos. Call 510-530-0839. www.rba.org

Peninsula Symphony Woodwind Quintet A quintet from the Peninsula Symphony Winds — Dane Carlson, David Latulippe, Sue Macy, Brian Holmes and Juliet Hamak — will perform an eclectic program of classics and popular music from different countries. Dec. 5, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm

DANCE

'The Nutcracker' by Western Ballet Western Ballet will put on its traditional holiday production of "The Nutcracker," a story featuring Fritz, Clara, the magic of Drosselmeyer, the Mouse King and a trip to the Kingdom of Sweets. Dec. 5, 7 p.m.; Dec. 6, 1 and 7 p.m. \$30 adult; \$25 child age 12 and under; \$27 senior, student. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-968-4455. www.westernballet.org

'Uncorked: The Christmas Ballet' Smuin Ballet will bring back its holiday show, "Uncorked: The Christmas Ballet," a ballet performance set to music by Elvis, Mozart, the Chieftains, Ray Charles and others. See website for specific times, dates and prices. Dec. 10-14. \$49-\$68. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6000. smuinballet.org

FAMILY AND KIDS

'Nutcracker' story time and fundraiser For the second year, Linden Tree Books will hold a fundraiser for Ballet San Jose, featuring a "Nutcracker" story time with Elizabeth Hutter and costumed dancers children can take pictures with. With a mention of Ballet San Jose, 10 percent of any purchase will go to the organization. Refreshments will be on hand. Those interested should RSVP by phone. Dec. 5, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Free admission. Linden Tree Books, 265 State St., Los Altos. Call 650-949-3390. www.lindentreebooks.com

Author Caryn Yackowitz on 'I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel' Caryn Yackowitz will stop by Linden Tree Books to read her new picture book "I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel," about a Chanukkah dinner that goes wrong. Dec. 7, 2 p.m. Free. Linden Tree Books, 265 State St., Los Altos. Call 650-949-3390. lindentreebooks.com

Author Frans Vischer with 'A Very Fuddles Christmas' Frans Vischer, a Disney animator and creator of the Fuddles pictures books, will share a Christmas-themed story about the fat and spoiled cat. Dec. 7, 11 a.m. Free. Linden Tree Books, 265 State St., Los Altos. Call 650-949-3390. www.lindentreebooks.com

Author Tiffany Papageorge on 'My Yellow Balloon' Tiffany Papageorge will read from and discuss her picture book, "My Yellow Balloon," a story about love, loss and letting go. The story is most appropriate for children ages 7 and older. Dec. 6, 11 a.m. Free. Linden Tree Books, 265 State St., Los Altos. Call 650-949-3390. www.lindentreebooks.com

Author Tim J. Meyers on 'The Christmas Stick' Tim J. Meyers will share his new picture book, "The Christmas Story," about a bored prince who learns the joy of giving. Dec. 6, 2 p.m. Free. Linden Tree Books, 265 State St., Los Altos. Call 650-949-3390. www.lindentreebooks.com/events/2014-12-06/

Hey, Mom! folk concert Hey, Mom!, a family-friendly all-female folk band, will perform a concert of traditional and contemporary songs at Linden Tree Books. Dec. 13, 11 a.m. Free. Linden Tree Books, 265 State St., Los Altos. Call 650-949-3390. www.lindentreebooks.com

Waldorf high school December tour The Waldorf School of the Peninsula will offer a tour of its high school, where interested families can visit and observe classes, meet faculty and students, view student work, see the facilities and ask questions about the school. Dec. 10, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Free. Waldorf School of the Peninsula, 180 N. Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-209-9400. waldorfpenninsula.org/event/high-school-tour-10/

HEALTH

Postpartum Wellness Class This free one-hour class at El Camino Hospital will help women recover from childbirth, covering how to manage postpartum back and pelvic pain and improve bowel and bladder dysfunction. Dec. 9, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. El Camino Hospital, Mountain View Campus, Park Pavilion, 2500 Grand Road, Mountain View. www.elcaminohospital.org/Womens_Health/Womens_Health_Events

LIVE MUSIC

Singer-songwriter Art Elliot Oakland-based singer-songwriter Art Elliot will perform a live set at Red Rock Coffee in Mountain View, singing about apocalyptic futures, lost love, Depression-era folk art and other topics. Dec. 6, 8-10 p.m. Free (donations accepted). Red Rock Coffee, 201 Castro St., Mountain View. www.artelliot.com

ON STAGE

'Peter and the Starcatcher' TheatreWorks will stage a holiday production of "Peter and the Starcatcher," a Tony Award-winning, adventure-filled sequel to "Peter Pan." See website for specific dates, timing and pricing. Dec. 3-Jan. 3. \$19-\$74. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-463-1950. www.theatreworks.org

'Super Villain!' This irreverent drama, written and directed by the Pear's James Kopp, will center on the super villain The Remote — after he has defeated his nemesis — while he explores issues of love and identity. Attendees must be age 13 or older. See the website for exact times and dates. Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 4-21, 2, 7 or 8 p.m. \$10. The Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Ave., Unit K, Mountain View. www.thepear.org/season.htm

'The Fox on the Fairway' For its latest production, the Los Altos Stage Company will perform "The Fox on the Fairway," a fast-paced comedy by Ken Ludwig that makes light of the pretentious members of a private country club. See website for specific dates, times and prices. Wednesday-Sunday, Nov. 20-Dec. 14, 3 or 8 p.m. \$18-\$34. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-941-0551. www.losaltosstage.org

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Reiki 1 class The Los Altos Reiki Center will hold a class on the healing art of Reiki, which aims to reduce stress and increase health and happiness using a gentle touch. Dec. 6, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$200 (includes manual and certificate). Los Altos Reiki Center, 745 Distel Drive, Los Altos. Call 650-862-2425. www.losaltosreiki.com

SENIORS

Holiday Gala 2014 The Mountain View Senior Center will hold a holiday party, where there will be dancing, music and refreshments. Dec. 9, 4-6 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. www.mountainview.gov/seniors

Mystery shopping talk Fellow Senior Center regular Elayne will give an introduction to mystery shopping, through which individuals can

make some extra money while evaluating retail experiences. Computer skills are recommended for mystery shoppers but are not necessary to attend the talk. Dec. 11, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. www.mountainview.gov/seniors

LECTURES & TALKS

Brian Schmidt on Water District 7 At December's Technology and Society Luncheon Forum, Brian Schmidt — director of the Santa Clara Valley Water District 7 and an environmental lawyer — will discuss the district's history, areas of focus, and programs and facilities, as well as comment on the region's water future. Dec. 9, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. \$12 lunch. Hangen Szechuan Restaurant, 134 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-969-7215. tian.greens.org/TASC.shtml

Jerry Yang and Hans Tung on 'Mobile Innovation in China' Jerry Yang and Hans Tung will participate in a forum on "Mobile Innovation in China," discussing recent trends and their implications for the economy and further innovation. Dec. 11, 5:30-7:45 p.m. \$39 Churchill Club member; \$69 nonmember. Microsoft Corporation, 1065 La Avenida St., Building 1, Mountain View. Call 408-265-0130. transition.churchillclub.org/eventDetail.jsp?EVT_ID=1028

Theranos Founder and CEO Elizabeth Holmes Michael Krasny of KQED will moderate an in-depth conversation with Elizabeth Holmes of Theranos, who will discuss her efforts to revolutionize the health care system using technology and creativity. Online registration is requested. Dec. 9, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. www.computerhistory.org/events

City of Mountain View presents the annual
Community Tree Lighting Celebration
Monday, December 8, 2014
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Mountain View Civic Center Plaza
500 Castro Street
Live Music
Refreshments
Snow Zone and Crafts
and more!
Take a picture with Santa!
Santa arrives at 5:45 p.m.
Bring your own camera
Thank you to our Event Sponsors!
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In the spirit of the season,
bring a can of food to benefit the
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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

Pregnant? Thinking of adoption? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families Nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. Void in Illinois/New Mexico/Indiana (AAN CAN)

Pregnant? Considering adoption? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 1-877-879-4709 (CalSCAN)

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Stanford music tutoring

substitute pianist available

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Details at: AwardMakeupSchool.com 818-980-2119 (AAN CAN)

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German Language Classes

Instruction for Hebrew
Bar and Bat Mitzvah.
For Affiliated and Unaffiliated. George Rubin, M.A. in Hebrew/Jewish Education 650/424-1940

133 Music Lessons

Christina Conti Private Piano Instruction
(650) 493-6950

Hope Street Music Studios
In downtown Mtn.View. Most Instruments voice. All ages & levels 650-961-2192 www.HopeStreetMusicStudios.com

Piano lessons in Menlo Park

135 Group Activities

Learn to Square Dance

Scottish Country Dance Palo Alto

Thanks St. Jude

140 Lost & Found

Lost bracelet
Lost downtown in palo alto Diamond/ crystal gold and black bracelet- family gift- 650/867/4488

145 Non-Profits Needs

DONATE BOOKS/HELP PA LIBRARIES

WISH LIST FRIENDS PA LIBRARY

150 Volunteers

Become a Nature Volunteer!

Fosterers Needed for Moffet Cats

FRIENDS OF THE PALO ALTO LIBRARY

JOIN OUR ONLINE STOREFRONT TEAM

To place a Classified ad in The Almanac, The Palo Alto Weekly or The Mountain View Voice call 326-8216 or visit us at fogster.com

152 Research Study Volunteers

Paid study for teens with bipolar disorder

155 Pets



LOST DOG AT TOWN AND COUNTRY
11/3, 1215pm, my dog fled from my car and was said to run towards the Stanford stadium. I have not heard ANYTHING about where he is and am afraid someone has picked him up without turning him in. He is a ridgeback mix and is 65 lbs, (see picture) He's non aggressive and can be timid. Microchipped (4B7D5C4276)/ no collar. \$500.00 reward. PLEASE help get my dog back

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201 Autos/Trucks/ Parts

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202 Vehicles Wanted

Cash for Cars
Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 www.cash4car.com (AAN CAN)

Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat
or boat to HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. 800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

203 Bicycles

colnago bicycle - \$1500 best

210 Garage/Estate Sales

MP: 174 Spruce, 12/6, 9-2
x-El Camino. DOWNSIZING SALE. Women's clothes; shoes, toys, household, decorative, tools, luggage, yardage. Much more!
RAIN CANCELS

RWC: 1228 Douglas Ave. Fri. 12/5, 11am-2pm; Sat. 12/6, 9am-1pm
END-OF-YEAR RUMMAGE SALE
Holiday items half price. Benefits Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Stanford. (Just south of Woodside Rd., bet. Broadway and Bayshore Fwy.) **CASH ONLY** (650)497-8332 or during sale (650)568-9840

215 Collectibles & Antiques

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Sq.Green Glass Dish Set - \$100.

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Fire Proof Safe - \$45.00

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Tiffany, MKors, Hermes, Dior, etc. watches, necklaces, bracelets, earrings, rings. Diamonds, sapphires, emeralds, pearls of all kinds, including South Sea. Sable, mink, fox furs at reduced prices. Serious buyers only. Must sell by end of the year.

Screen Door - \$60

245 Miscellaneous

DirectTV!
Act Now- \$19.99/mo. Free 3-Months of HBO, Starz, SHOWTIME & CINEMAX FREE GENIE HD/DVR Upgrade! 2014 NFL Sunday Ticket included with Select Packages. New Customers Only. IV Support Holdings LLC- An authorized DirecTV Dealer. Call 1-800-259-5140. (Cal-SCAN)

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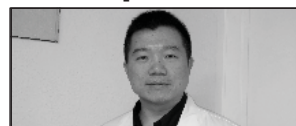
Bright Start Child Care!!!

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Mind & Body

403 Acupuncture



Treatments for Alzheimers
Acupuncturist Jay Wang PhD, specialized in chronic illness for seniors. Call 650-485-3293 for a free consultation. 747 Altos Oaks Dr., Los Altos

415 Classes

Mixed-Level Belly Dance Classes

425 Health Services

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Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Than 4 Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Call 800-799-4811 for \$750 Off. (Cal-SCAN)

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550 Business Opportunities

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624 Financial

Big Trouble with IRS?
Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage & bank levies, liens and audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, and resolve tax debt FAST. Seen on CNN. A BBB. Call 1-800-761-5395. (Cal-SCAN)

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Asphalt, concrete, pavers, tiles, sealing, artificial turf. 36 yrs exp. No job too small. Lic #663703. 650/814-5572

779 Organizing Services

End the Clutter & Get Organized
Residential Organizing
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Patch and crack repair, texture match, windows, doors. 30 years exp. Refs. avail. Small jobs only. 650/248-4205

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Palo Alto Home, 4 BR/2 BA - \$4600.mont

809 Shared Housing/Rooms

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820 Home Exchanges

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chiconativ@aol.com (Cal-SCAN)

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845 Out of Area

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Rstrnt/Store/Gas sta/3 homes
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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

PENINSULA PARTY RENTALS, LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 598076
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Peninsula Party Rentals, LLC, located at 740 Sierra Vista Ave., Ste. H, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County. This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
PENINSULA PARTY RENTAL LLC
740 Sierra Vista Ave., Ste. H
Mountain View, CA 94043
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01-01-2005.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on November 4, 2014.
(MNV Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 2014)

KEILA'S CLEANING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 598576
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Keila's Cleaning, located at 251 Higdon Av.#2, Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
KEILA E. GARCIA AYALA
251 Higdon Av. #2
Mt. View, CA 94041
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11-17-14.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on November 18, 2014.
(MNV Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2014)

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Do You Know?

- The Mountain View Voice is adjudicated to publish in the County of Santa Clara.
- Our adjudication includes the Mid-Peninsula communities of Palo Alto, Stanford, Los Altos and Mountain View.
- The Mountain View Voice publishes every Friday.

Deadline: 5 p.m. the previous Friday
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MountainView VOICE



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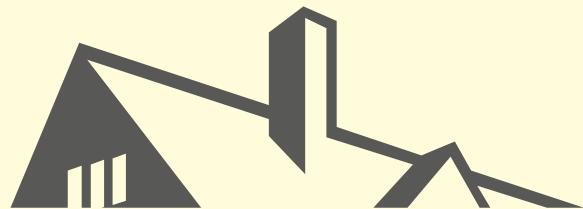
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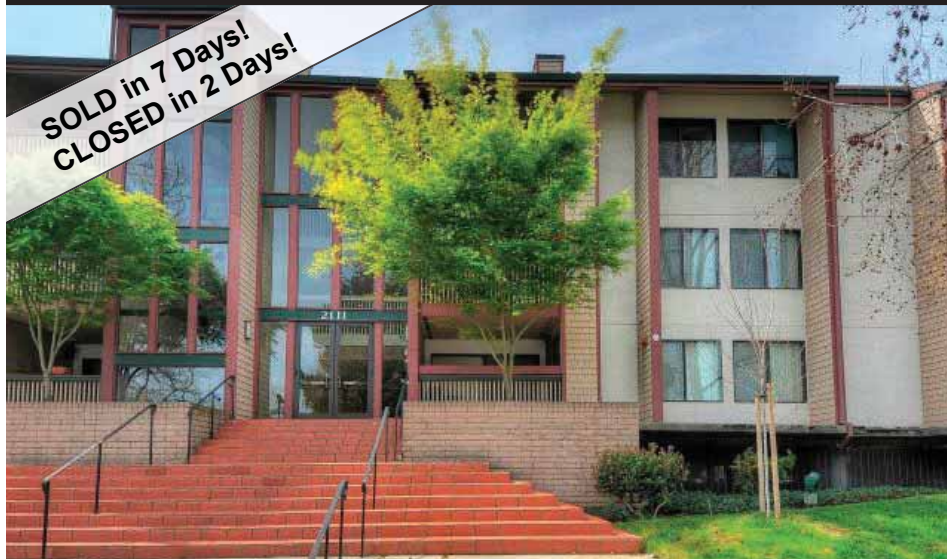
Royce...and the art of Real Estate



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211 Granada Drive, Mountain View Offered at \$1,275,000

4 bedrooms | 2.5 bathrooms | 1,904 sq ft | 7 years old
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RealEstate

■ REAL ESTATE MATTERS

A Fresh Look: Alternative Christmas trees

By Kit Davey

Is your home too small for a bushy Christmas tree? Do you object to cutting down a perfectly healthy tree? Well, "Ho, ho, ho!" If you want an inexpensive, environmentally friendly Yule tree, try one of these alternatives.

One year, while I was an impoverished student, I dragged in a downed tree branch that had fallen across the road during a storm. I placed it in a bucket with a bit of water and propped up the base of the branch with large stones. A string of lights and a few homemade ornaments made my Charlie Brown Christmas tree glow with cheer.

For several years I transformed a healthy ficus into a holiday focal point. I moved my houseplant to a position of honor, draped a red tablecloth around its base, tied red ribbons on its branches and hung it with lightweight paper and straw ornaments.

Several years ago I purchased a 3-foot-tall ivy pine tree-shaped topiary at a local nursery and placed it in a clay pot, which I spray-painted in gold. I brought it indoors during Thanksgiving weekend and returned it to my garden before New Year's Day. It pleased me to know I'm sparing the life of a pine tree and that my \$25 investment saved me many hours and dollars over the years. Check out your local nursery for a rosemary or ivy "tree."

My parents don't enjoy chopping down trees, and so they substituted a large potted evergreen in hopes it could be planted in the yard at the end of the holidays. After watching the slow demise of several of these transplanted trees over the years, my folks gave up on this idea. But if you have a green thumb and understand how to care for these trees, I highly recommend going this route.

My ever-inventive dad came up with a great solution that allows him to display his varied ornament collection as well as save trees' lives. He designed and built a tree-like shape out of wood dowels. He cut dowels of various lengths and drilled holes



into a central pole, and inserted the "branches." These arms are parallel to the ground so that the ornaments don't slide towards the "trunk." The tree is easy to assemble and when stored, takes up little space.

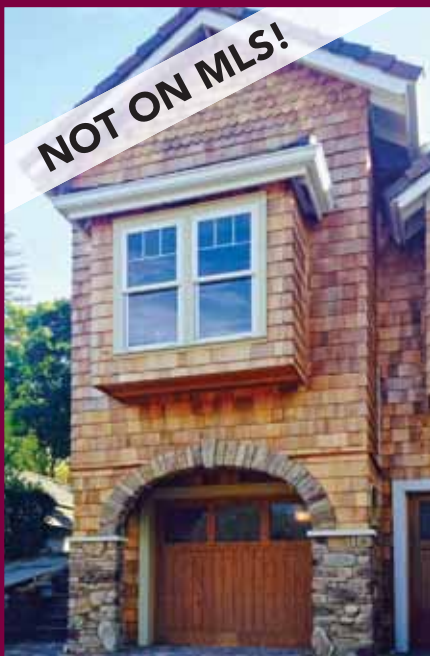
Several catalog companies make variations of my dad's invention. The tree could be placed on top of a piano or on a skirted table. One of the nice things about this sort of tree is that it has flexible limbs that can be folded up against the trunk for compact storage.

A naked topiary form can also stand in as a prop for lights and ornaments. This year I am using a tomato cage, which I have turned over. I gathered the three prongs into a point with a rubber band and made a little cone with a star on top to hide the cage's prongs. I spray-painted mine chartreuse, but you could spray-paint it gold, red or green if you want to get fancy. The form can later be moved out into the yard.

A friend of mine who moved from Palo Alto to a small condo in Honolulu uses a surfboard as her "tree." She leans it up against the wall, wraps it with strings of lights and hangs ornaments from the wire.

Kit Davey is a Redwood City interior designer who redecorates using what you already own. Email her at KitDavey@aol.com, call her at 650-367-7370 or visit her website at AFreshLook.net.

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- Elementary School API 961; Middle School API 966 (buyer to confirm)

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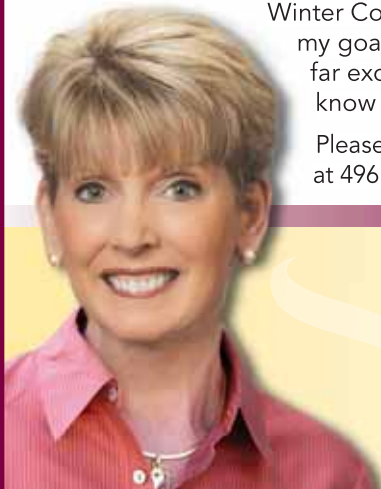
OPEN SUNDAY 1:00 – 4:00 pm

11650 PAR AVENUE, LOS ALTOS

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- 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths
- 2-room accessory building with half-bath
- Approx. 3,070 sq. ft.
- Elementary School API 961; Middle School API 966 (buyer to confirm)

Offered at \$2,598,000

www.11650Par.com



CAN YOU HELP? I am proud to support Intero Foundation's Winter Coat Drive in conjunction with **One Warm Coat**. Last year my goal of collecting 100 coats, sweaters, hats, and mittens was far exceeded because of people like you in our community. I just know with your help, I can double last year's goal!

Please drop your donations of any new or slightly used items at my office at 496 First Street in Los Altos. Together, we can make a difference.

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Los Altos**

Offered at \$2,698,000;
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BEFORE LISTING YOUR HOME, CONTACT

MICHAEL REPKA
OF DELEON REALTY

With Michael heading the listing division, the DeLeon team has sold more real estate than any other Realtor® or team in the Bay area this year.

Simply put, DeLeon Realty's experience, expertise, and marketing program are the best in the business. Also, unlike the vast majority of real estate offices, we do not let independent contractors use the DeLeon Realty name; from agents to interior designers to graphic artists, everyone with a DeLeon Realty business card is actually an employee of the company.

Before selecting a Realtor® to list your home, call Michael to hear about DeLeon Realty's unique approach to selling homes. You will also appreciate his background in tax and real estate law, which enables him to answer your tax and legal questions related to the sale.



650.488.7325 | www.deleonrealty.com | Michael Repka CalBRE #01854880
DeLeon Realty CalBRE #01903224

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MOUNTAIN VIEW

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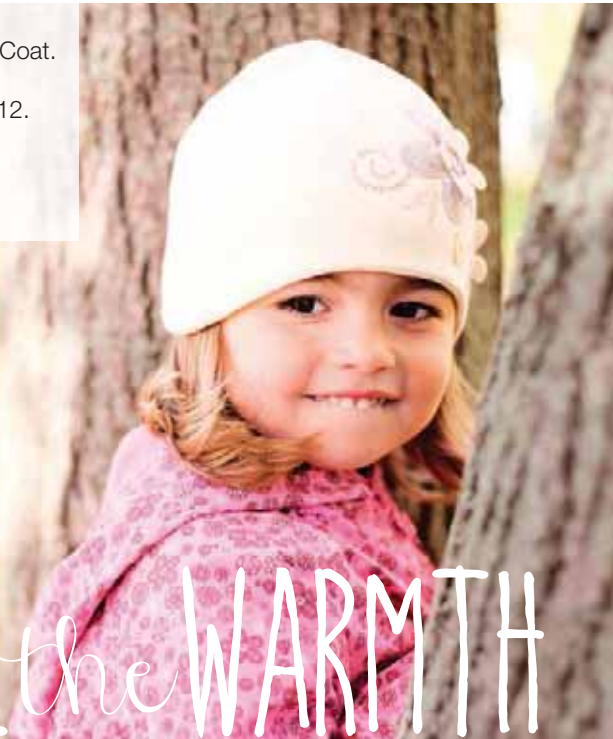


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SARATOGA By Appointment **\$29,000,000**
3 BR 2 BA 12.98 acres of rolling hills, bordered by 60 acres of open space, close to downtown Saratoga
Debbie Nichols CalBRE #00955497 650.325.6161



PALO ALTO By Appointment **\$11,888,000**
www.4103OldTraceRoad.com Palo Alto rare Zoned R-E Density Residential. New Price.
Jan Strohecker CalBRE #00620365 650.325.6161



PALO ALTO **\$4,398,000**
5 BR 3.5 BA Stunning, Brand New, Custom Built Home to fill every need. 5 bedrooms with 2 suites.
Judy Shen CalBRE #01272874 650.325.6161



SAN MATEO COUNTY By Appointment **\$3,888,000**
Listed 2013 for \$8,000,000 Now \$3,888,000!
www.222PortolaStateParkRoad.com Hurry! 38 Acres
Jan Strohecker CalBRE #00620365 650.325.6161



LOS ALTOS HILLS Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$3,450,000**
13800 Barton Ct 4 BR 2.5 BA On 1 acre among estate homes, beautiful home is ready to move in, remod/replace w/your dream hm.
Ellen Barton CalBRE #00640629 650.941.7040



PALO ALTO Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4 **\$1,898,000**
790 Gailen Ave 4 BR 2 BA Approx 6825 sq.ft lot. High ceilings Rear garden w/fruit trees is ideal for entertaining.
Dora Thordarson CalBRE #00803498 650.941.7040



SAN JOSE Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$850,000**
4030 Altadena Lane 4 BR 2.5 BA Sprawling estate, soaring ceilings, gorgeous kitchen, spacious master; park like grounds.
Gordon Ferguson CalBRE #01038260 650.325.6161



SUNNYVALE Sat/Sun 1 - 4 **\$798,000**
1134 Blackberry Ter 3 BR 2 BA Many upgrades-Nice private end unit. Huge LR w/vaulted ceiling/fireplace. Sep dining room
Cindy Mattison CalBRE #01052018 650.941.7040



TRES PINOS Sat 1 - 4 **\$669,000**
445 Quien Sabe Rd 4 BR 2.5 BA Beautiful Private Home in Stonegate, gated Community. Over 3 acres w/Beautiful Barn
Linda Kingsbury CalBRE #00981402 650.941.7040

Los Altos | Palo Alto

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