The Mountain Winery in Saratoga, California has been offering the finest music, wine, scenery, and food to patrons since 1958, the property for wine making only being open since 1901. The Mountain Winery provides the most intimate of concert venues with a quaint 2,500 seat amphitheater. Mountain Winery tickets have included such marquee performers as Tony Bennett, Ringo Starr, Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder, The Beach Boys, Carlos Santana, Ella Fitzgerald, and many more. The winery is a California Historical Landmark and is included on the National Register of Historic Places. The Mountain Winery box office generally puts the whole concert series on sale on a Sunday during the spring.

Downtown App
Now at Byington

It all started one day last December in downtown Palo Alto when the founders of the DOWNTOWN app experienced how time consuming local commerce could be. They began building a universal solution that reinvents how we discover and purchase goods at restaurants and bars.

As the first winery in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Byington Vineyard and Winery now offers this convenient way of ordering wine and food from your seat. Simply download the app on your mobile device and stay seated while we deliver your order to your table.

At the same time have now extended our complimentary WIFI to our picnic areas and gardens.
Dining with Bella!

I was extremely lucky to be recently invited to join a great couple on a Saturday trip to Napa. Had private parties at two wineries where we sampled some of the best wine the area has to offer. Let me tell you about it.

Far Niente Winery

So, before going I had to find out what the name translated to, and found that “without a care” is what it means. The name comes from one of the buildings on the property that had the words carved into the stone. It stuck and that’s how the winery got its name.

Far Niente was first established in 1885 and did well up until prohibition in 1919. At that time it was abandoned and left to ruin. Sixty years later it was purchased by Gil Nickel along with adjacent vineyards. It took three years to restore the buildings and property and now it sits on the National Registry of Historic Places. Ok, enough history let me tell you about our experience.

We arrived at 10:00 in the morning because that’s when our appointment was for the day. Wine at 10:00 a.m.? Why yes, thank you. We started with a 2014 Chardonnay. It was crisp, fruity, with a green apple taste. The grounds are large and sweeping and much landscaped. There was small tables’ set-up in the courtyard containing fruit, cheese, meats, and nuts. There is a pizza oven in the area where we were. I have never had breakfast pizza before, but I’m a huge fan now. What’s in a breakfast pizza? Eggs, bacon, cheese all melted on a thin, perfectly done crust. We had more than our share.

Next we tried a 2006 Chardonnay. It was buttery as opposed to fruity. Half of us liked it best. Half of us were 2014 fans. We made our way to a huge covered area sitting over a beautiful pool where a band was playing and there was yet more food. Here we tried a 2016 Chardonnay that was a lot like the 2014 we had tried earlier. The band played softly and as the day wore on, more and more people were joining the party.

One of my favorites of all time is Dolce. Did I mention you could go back for seconds, thirds? Dolce was born when a purity of vision met with a tenacious desire for the unattainable. With a classic blend of late harvest Semillon and Sauvignon Blanc this is truly nectar worth its weight in gold.

Hours and information below, we highly suggest taking a tour of the caves! Info: farniente.com

Nickel and Nickel Winery

After our time at Far Niente, we went to Nickel & Nickel winery. It is dedicated exclusively to producing 100 percent varietal, single-vineyard wines that best express the distinct personality of each vineyard. By now it is afternoon and we were looking forward to sampling Cabernets. We started in a 30,000 square-foot subterranean barrel cellar which is a beautifully dramatic and unexpected room. Located beneath the fermentation barns, wine is moved gently from tank to barrel through the cellar’s custom-formed hollow columns. Each row of French oak barrels represents an entire vintage of each of our single-vineyard wines.

There were so many tables to sample the wine, along with many tables full of meats, cheeses, fruits, and nuts, that we just started at the front and made our way through a very large crowd. Hot food such as sliders and duck were passed through the party and we had a wonderful time.

I would list all the wines we tasted, but believe me, there were more than I can remember, it was late in the afternoon and lord have mercy, my memory is fuzzy.

For info: nickelandnickel.com

Celebrate the Business of Pride with the Silicon Valley Business Journal

Join us for the official Pride Week kick-off event in Silicon Valley, which will include a panel discussion from LGBTQ community leaders and allies, followed by a pre-Pride networking mixer. We will also release our FIRST EVER list of top 25 LGBTQ owned businesses here in Silicon Valley.

Tuesday, August 23, 2016
Justin’s Venue of Santa Clara
1285 Homestead Rd.
Santa Clara, CA 95050

Agenda
5:00 PM - Registration
5:30 PM - Welcome
5:45 PM - Panel discussion begins
6:30 PM - Networking Mixer
8:00 PM - Event concludes
To register, visit http://bizj.us/1jl8rg
THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH... IN SPACE!... Blast off on an intergalactic adventure with the Circus Space Fleet at RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY’s “Out of this World” (Aug 25-Sept 5). This truly unique journey features some of the world’s most spectacular and talented performers, including never-before-seen gravity-defying acrobats, orbital aerialists, majestic animals, fearless daredevils and humorous clowns. Mon, 11:30pm; Thurs-Fri, 7pm; Sat, 11am, 3 & 7pm; Sun, 1 & 5pm. (San Jose: SAP Center, 525 W. Santa Clara St.; 408/287-9200)

SUMMER SHAKESPEARE... The words of the Bard are brought to life by a talented ensemble of repertory actors at the SANTA CRUZ SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL (thru Aug 28), where its summer outdoor performances have long been a cultural institution for generations of theatre-goers. August performances include: A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Shakespeare’s moonlit comedy of love run amok (thru Aug 28); and Hamlet, his most transcendent and enduring tragedy (thru Aug 28). Continuing its tradition, Shakespeare Santa Cruz showcases the season’s intern company with a Fringe production of the time-traveling, gender-bending comedy Orlando (Aug 17 & 23-24) by Sarah Ruhl and based on the novel by Virginia Woolf. Wed- Thurs, 7:30pm; Fri, 8pm; Sat-Sun, 2 and/or 8pm. (Santa Cruz: The Grove at Delaveaga Park, 501 Upper Park Rd.; 831/460-6399)

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL... Attracting theatre lovers from across the country, TheatreWorks’ annual NEW WORKS FESTIVAL (Aug 12-21) is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to experience new plays and musicals in their early stages of development. This year’s festival presents staged readings of Something Wicked This Way Comes (Aug 13-20), a tuneful, tantalizing musical thriller based on the novel by Ray Bradbury; Gravity (Aug 14), an original tale of romance, feminism and the art of science; The Four Immigrants: An American Musical Manga (Aug 14-20), a comic musical drawn from one of the first graphic novels ever created; Archduke (Aug 16-20), an exploration of the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by Pulitzer Prize finalist Rajiv Joseph; In Enter the Valley (Aug 19-21), a play inspired by the life of Pablo Neruda; and Eddie the Marvelous, Who Will Save the World (Aug 19-21), an innovative new musical about a man with two sides: Eddie the Marvelous and Eddie the Real. See website for schedule and times. (Palo Alto: Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Rd.; theatreworks.org)

FAIR FUN... The SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIR (Aug 4-7) is a venerable summer staple and a draw for families and thrill seekers alike. Expect carnival rides, a petting zoo, competitive exhibits for animals, an amateur wine competition, arts and crafts booths, decadent fair food, and a plethora of live music events. Woven in with riding on the Ferris Wheel and enjoying funnel cakes is a new learning attraction for kids—Mind Works!—a blend of science and wizardry with three zones of interactive fun. Thurs, 1-10pm; Fri-Sat, 11am-11pm; Sun, 11am-10pm. (Santa Clara: County Fairgrounds, 344 Tully Rd.; 408/494-310)

Karen Gastaldo
Calendar Editor
Discover Magazine
www.dineshopplay.com

WINE & DINE.... Take in the flavors of the season at several food and wine events in the region. At J. LOHR WINERY, partake of a special flight of four wines specially paired with gourmet cheeses at Wine & Cheese Fridays (Aug 5, 12, 19 & 26; 5:30pm); take part in Wine Wednesday: Western Hemisphere Pinot Noir, a special class that focuses on the varietal (Aug 24; 7pm); or enjoy tapas-style cuisine at Small Plates: Farm to Fork with Chef Bruce Finch (Aug 27, 6:30pm). (San Jose: J. Lohr San Jose Wine Center, 1000 Lenzen Ave.; 408/918-2176)

Enjoy the diverse sampling of tamales and other foods at the TAMALE FESTIVAL (Aug 6-7), which also features live music and multicultural performances in a lush outdoor setting. Hours TBA. (San Jose: Emma Prusch Park, 647 S. King Rd.; sjtamalefest.com)

And at CHACHO’S TACO FESTIVAL (Aug 20), the only official Major League Eating (MLE) sanctioned taco eating contest, local vendors exhibit the latest in Mexican fusion cuisine along with traditional favorites. 11am-8pm. (San Jose: St. James Park, N. 2nd St.; chachostacofestival.com)

HOT LATIN JAZZ COMES TO SAN JOSE... One of the most highly anticipated events of the year, the SAN JOSE JAZZ SUMMER FEST returns for its 27th successful year Aug 12-14 in downtown San Jose. Nationally recognized as one of the biggest Latin music festivals in the country, this showcase for jazz and related genres attracts tens of thousands of music lovers, concert-goers and families alike. The three-day event features 120-plus performances on 12 stages and an acclaimed roster of artists from around the world, including Grammy Award-winning artists, the hottest salsa and Latin bands, classic jazz pioneers, world music stars, top local emerging musicians, and genre-busting hip-hop, R&B and soul artists. For more information and complete schedule check out website. (Downtown San Jose: Plaza de Cesar Chavez Park, 194 S. Market St.; 408/288-7557; summerfest.sanjosejazz.org)
J. Lohr Wine & Cheese Fridays ($15)
Friday, August 19 2016 - 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Kick off the weekend with J. Lohr! The J. Lohr after-hours wine bar will be open every Friday. Stop in to enjoy wine by the glass and selected cheese plates available for purchase. Each week will feature a special flight of four wines (2 oz. pours) specially paired with four gourmet cheeses.

Wine and cheese flights will be available for $15 with advance ticket purchase only. Table seating is limited but can be reserved with purchase of the Wine & Cheese flight ($15). Walk-ins are welcome, but cheese and table availability are not guaranteed.

Contact Darrell at 408-918-2195 for ticket purchase and reservations. Email sjevents@jlohr.com for more information.

The Barrel Room

Until recently the Barrel Room was home to our aging red wines. Although its walls are no longer lined with American and French Oak barrels, it is still highly reminiscent of a building nestled in Tuscany, Italy. With its grand redwood doors, vaulted ceiling, and rustic charm, our Barrel Room is the ideal setting for an intimate celebration.

4525 Hecker Pass Hwy
Gilroy, CA 95020

Vines & Vibes
Date: Wednesday, August 10
Time: 5:30 to 8:30pm

Listen to great local bands under our shady canopy while enjoying a glass, or bottle, of great Guglielmo wine with your friends. Bring your own picnic or purchase food from our local caterer. This year we’re also featuring delicious Kettle Corn from local company Cal Coast! No admission, no cover charge - just a great time with great wine and music! No outside alcohol and no one under 21, please.

Annual Guglielmo Harvest Festival
Date: Saturday, August 20, 2016
Time: 2:00pm to 9:00pm

Come and celebrate the harvest with the Guglielmo Family! Games, appetizers and wine will start the day, followed by the blessing of the grapes, a fabulous barbecue dinner, more wine, and dancing to the great music of "The Heartbeats". Tickets are only $65.00 per person ($55.00 for Wine Group Members), and can be purchased by visiting the Tasting Room or giving the Winery a call. No outside food or drink may be brought in and no one under 21, please.

Roudon-Smith Winery

Enjoy the wines of Roudon-Smith Winery while taking in the stunning views of the California coastline. Join Al for a great evening of wine tasting on the water. Watch the sunset, raise your glasses and give a toast to wine tasting at its finest. Complimentary hors d’oeuvres is included. For more information or to sign up for this cruise please contact their office at 831-423-1213 or visit Chardonnay Winemaker Cruise
**Park Valencia is NOW OPEN**

The new park has been partially unveiled! Check out the new grass area, stage and the chameleon sculptures. Park Valencia will also be home to a new tot lot and two food kiosks: Smitten Ice Cream, opening later this summer and Poke Bar, opening this fall.

**Summer Concert Series**
**Every Wednesday in August from 6pm-8pm**
**Park Valencia, FREE Event**

Enjoy the new and improved Park Valencia with a Summer Music Series! A tribute band will rock out on the new stage every Wednesday in August from 6pm-8pm, come enjoy #LifeOnTheRow!

**Summer Concert Line-Up**
- 8/3 — Evolution (Journey Tribute)
- 8/10 — Stung (Police Tribute)
- 8/17 — Long Time (Boston Tribute)
- 8/24 — Zeboop (Sanata Row Tribute)
- 8/31 — The Three of Us (Beatles Tribute)

**Saturday Yoga Series Presented by lululemon athletica**
**Saturday Mornings Through September, 9a.m.-10a.m.**

Get your Namaste on in the sunshine with a FREE Saturday morning yoga class presented by lululemon athletica. The series will feature a free 1-hour yoga class from now-September. The location this year will be in Santana Row Park. The series will feature instructors from different yoga studios in the South Bay area. Registration opens at 8:30a.m. and class runs from 9a.m.-10a.m. Please be our guest and enjoy! For more information on instructors, contact the Santana Row lululemon store directly at 408.557.8721.

**Live Weekend Entertainment**

*Friday evenings beginning at 5p.m.*
*Saturday’s beginning at 12p.m.*
*Sunday’s beginning at 12p.m.*

Live entertainment can be found in the Oak Tree Lounge (in front of Pinkberry or Santana Row Park (near the large chess board). Live entertainment is subject to change, and weather permitted. For a complete list of weekend entertainment available, contact the Santana Row Concierge Center at 408.551.4611.

**Style of STEM Fashion Show by Silicon Valley Education Foundation**
**August 17th, 5:30pm-7:30pm**

Lights...Camera...Fashion! The Silicon Valley Education Foundation and Santana Row are pleased to present Style of STEM, a fashion show with purpose. On August 17th, Silicon Valley leaders will work the catwalk in the latest men’s and women’s fashions from select Santana Row retailers in support of STEM education. The event will be held in Santana Row Park and will feature complimentary wine and appetizers. All proceeds will benefit SVEF’s STEM education programs. Tickets are $30 each and available for purchase on www.SantanaRow.com.
Syrahs from Around the World
August 18, 2016
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Finding out about different wines is one of life's pleasures. Join the delight with a special tasting as we celebrate the general release of our 2012 Syrah - which earned Gold AND Best of Class of Region at the California State Fair! Discover why the Syrahs of California, Northern Rhone, Australia, and New Zealand are so unique, with guidance by Ilyse Pender, our Club Manager and Certified Sommelier. Then use what you've just learned to identify each in a blind tasting. Cost is $20 per person + tax; $15 per person + tax for Wine Club members and their guests. Reservations by August 12, please. Price includes flight of five wines plus light snacks.

Wednesday, August 17th
Our Production Team's Technical Director Bill Snyder and Wine Educator Bob Zamora will help you understand the science behind both growing grapes and winemaking.

August 20th
Santana Row Wine Walk

Wrights Station Vineyard & Winery is located along the summit of the Santa Cruz Mountains, halfway between Santa Cruz and Los Gatos, and just an easy one hour drive from San Francisco. The winery specializes in estate grown Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, along with additional varietals sourced from local vineyards. Visit us, and enjoy the elegant but relaxed family-friendly atmosphere, magnificent vineyard and mountain vistas, and fine Santa Cruz Mountain wines.

Commitment to Community
Joseph George Wines has a three generation legacy of supporting and contributing to local schools, organizations, and charities. Being in business for 75 years is a feat that cannot be accomplished without continued support from our community. Our founder believed that giving back promotes a vibrant community and a thriving marketplace. Each year we donate tens of thousands of dollars, along with our time, to dozens of charities.
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Film and Photography

The organizers may film and photograph the event. These materials will be used online and offline to promote Silicon Valley Concierge Association and to advertise future events.
By attending the event you agree to appear in such films and photographs.

Valley Access E-Magazine (VAM) svconcierge@mindspring.com

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR E-MAGAZINE, IS THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH NOTE: ARTICLES AND SPECIAL DATES APPEARING IN THE VAM ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

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