

Sydney WACHHORST

Designer Sydney Wachhorst, founder of W Design Interiors, is joining forces with Brick Monkey, a curated specialty home furnishings store based in Redwood City. Wachhorst believes the collaboration is a natural fit. “I’ll be able to work with a creative, experienced retailer/manufacture

People to Know

to ensure perfection in executing our projects while also exposing this little gem to my clients on the Peninsula.”

A Bay Area native, Wachhorst specializes in all aspects of design, including space planning, architectural consulting, remodeling projects, and integrated garden design to help homeowners create a natural flow between indoor and outdoor spaces.

An artistic bent runs in her family, says Wachhorst, who as a child would accompany her mother (also an interior designer) to the SF Design Center; tag along with her uncle, who ran a large lingerie line, to the fabric houses in New York; and visit her aunt, a talented artist who taught her how to garden, quilt, and paint.



“Along the way, I discovered that all my passions, interests, and experiences were the perfect prerequisites for an interior designer,” says Wachhorst, who earned her B.A. at Purdue and Master’s at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York.

Now the busy wife of a local neurosurgeon and mother of two teenagers, Wachhorst loves helping her clients transform a house into a home. “My job is to create a backdrop for their evolving style.”



Sarah-Jane MEASOR

Sarah-Jane Measor has enjoyed a lifelong love affair with dance—as a performer, an instructor, a ballet academy director, a co-founder of a professional dance company, and now as the first woman to debut an original work for Menlowe Ballet.

“I choreograph for students all the time, but developing a full-length ballet is a personal milestone for me, and an honor,” says Measor, whose production, entitled *Portraits*, tells the powerful stories of inspiring women from British history in five vignettes. *Portraits* debuted last fall and, by popular demand, will be performed again during the spring season April 28 – 30.

Choreographer is an obvious next step for Measor, who was part of the leadership trifecta that launched Menlowe Ballet in 2011. She continues to serve as the company’s Associate Artistic Director working alongside husband and Artistic Director Michael Lowe. “Menlowe Ballet is a dream come true for my husband and me,” she notes.

Born and raised in England, Measor taught and performed professionally in Hong Kong before coming to the United States in 1990. She joined the faculty of Menlo Park Academy of Dance as a teacher in 1992, and now owns the accredited ballet school that is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year.

A natural mentor, Measor often highlights her talented students in Menlowe Ballet performances, where professional dancers and aspiring students share the stage as well as their love of dance.

Terri PIAZZA SHONG

After 13 years as the South Peninsula’s go-to caterer, Terri Piazza Shong is opening her first storefront on West Main Street in Los Gatos. Culinary Courier & Market will offer freshly prepared foods like salads, soups, sushi, entrees, and side dishes, in pre-packaged quantities for customers to grab and go.

This gourmet specialty market complements Shong’s existing catering company, and, just like her original business model, will depend on some uniquely qualified staff for its success. “Throughout my years



at UC Santa Barbara, I volunteered with the developmentally disabled,” she explains. “When the demands for my catering services kept growing, I turned to CIWP (Community Integrated Work Program) for help.” CIWP provided a team of developmentally disabled adults, accompanied by a job coach, to work in the kitchen alongside Shong and her team of professional chefs.

“Now that we’re expanding into the retail market, we’re hiring two additional CIWP teams to work with us on food prep, packaging, stocking shelves, and cleaning,” says Shong. “Not only will these teams help us manage our ever-growing business, but they also contribute so much to the everyday happiness in our kitchen.”

A self-taught chef, Shong says she took every cooking class she could fit into her busy, working-mother-of-three schedule. “I have a Ph.D. in self-taught cooking and in hands-on culinary research,” she says. ♦

—JILL LAYMAN