



# Alden Lane Nursery Newsletter

JANUARY 2010

*Serving You Since 1955*

981 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA • [www.aldenlane.com](http://www.aldenlane.com) • (925) 447-0280

## Announcements

- **Watch the Valley Gardener** on TV30 for great gardening tips with host Jacquie Williams-Courtright at 7:30 am and 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and repeated on Saturday at 7:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. & Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.
- **The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club** will meet at **Alden Lane Nursery** on Thursday, January 14, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. The program will feature Kathy Echols, a horticulture instructor at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill. She will be addressing Australian and South African plants. Visitors are welcome. Our February meeting features Gisele Schoniger discussing breakthroughs in natural organic practices. She is an organic gardening educator at Kellogg Garden Products.
- **Master Composter Training Program** is accepting applications for 2010. [Stopwaste.org](http://Stopwaste.org) is offering a 4 month training and educational program to promote recycling of organic materials. If interested visit the website at [www.BayFriendly.org](http://www.BayFriendly.org) to apply on-line or download an application.
- **The Mt. Diablo Rose Society** meets the second Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. Call for details 829-4929.
- **Tool Sharpening company "Absolutely Sharp"** will be at Alden Lane on the following Sundays: January 10th, 17th & 24th from 1:30 to 4p.m. They'll be here to sharpen all your pruning tools and kitchen knives too. They charge a nominal fee and you'll be ready to prune with your "like new" pruning tools when they're done.

## 4th Annual "Orchids Under the Oaks"



**January 9-10th**  
**10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

*Need a vacation  
from all the holiday  
excitement?*

We have your island breezes flowing right here at Alden Lane! Saturday and Sunday, January 9th and 10th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. we will feature "**Tradewinds of the Tropics**", the theme for our **4th Annual Orchid Show and Sale**. This Orchid and Art Event will showcase a greenhouse full of orchids from around the world, our orchid marketplace with vendors from throughout California

with hundreds of orchids for sale, and seminars daily (**see our website for more details**) with experts to answer all your orchid questions. We have added even more seminars on Roses, Espaliered Fruit Trees and New Plant Introductions for Spring.

In addition, we have opened up a second vendor area to local artists specializing in botanical arts and crafts to display and sell their works. Another area not to miss is the "Living Art" gallery featuring a sparkling array of orchid arrangements like you have never seen before! All vendor and art exhibits are indoors in heated spaces.

All this tropical beauty is waiting to carry you into the zone of balmy breezes and colorful island vistas – and **ALL FOR FREE!** That's right- no charge for this little bit of heaven in the middle of January. Please mark your calendar and bring your friends.



# Fresh Fruit from Your Garden



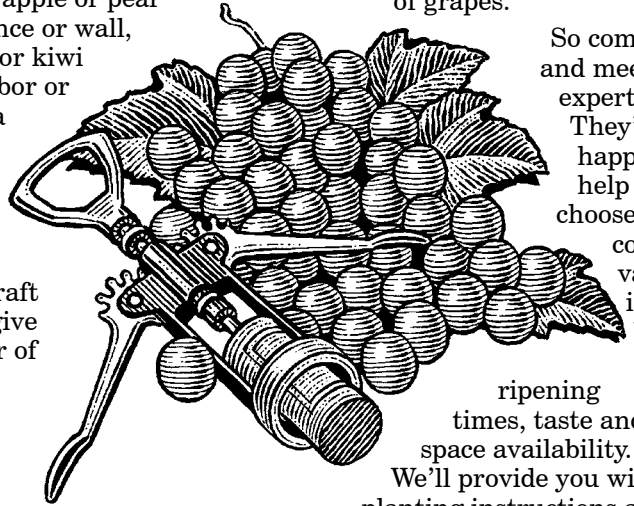
Nothing beats the taste of a sun-warm, tree-ripened fruit picked straight from the tree in your own yard. You know it's fresh, juicy and with the right cultivation, pesticide and chemical-free which you can't always say about store bought fruit, which is often held in cold storage for months and has been treated with who-knows-what to get that perfect market appearance!

don't need a lot of space. Grow an espaliered apple or pear along your fence or wall, train a grape or kiwi up over an arbor or trellis, plant a dwarf peach or apple in a container on your deck. Plant a fruit salad multi-graft tree – it will give you a summer of fruit!

Watch for news of our culinary-themed demonstration gardens this year which will show ways of adding fruit to your garden and many more.

Varieties on our list are selected to be successful in our area. Also there is a choice of two different combination Fruit

Salad trees and over 20 varieties of grapes.



So come in and meet our expert staff. They'll be happy to help you choose the correct varieties based on

ripening times, taste and space availability.

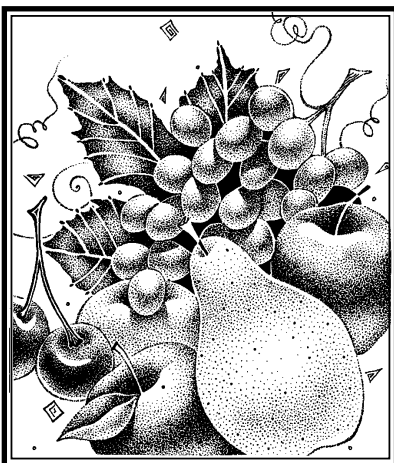
We'll provide you with planting instructions and all the necessary items and knowledge to get you growing. Whether you have space for a whole orchard or just a single tree – come in and see our extensive selection and soon you'll be picking ripe fruit from your garden.

We have a great inventory of fruit trees, berries, and grapes available for your selection. All of our trees are planted in bio-degradable pulp pots which prevents damage to the roots. This means you'll have even more success than with traditional bareroot plants.

Consider using fruit trees in the yard to provide shade or block unwanted views. You

## BACKYARD ORCHARD SEMINAR

January 16th — 11-12 noon



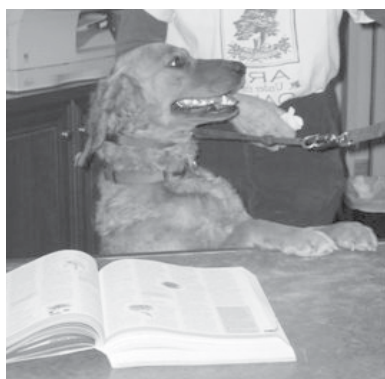
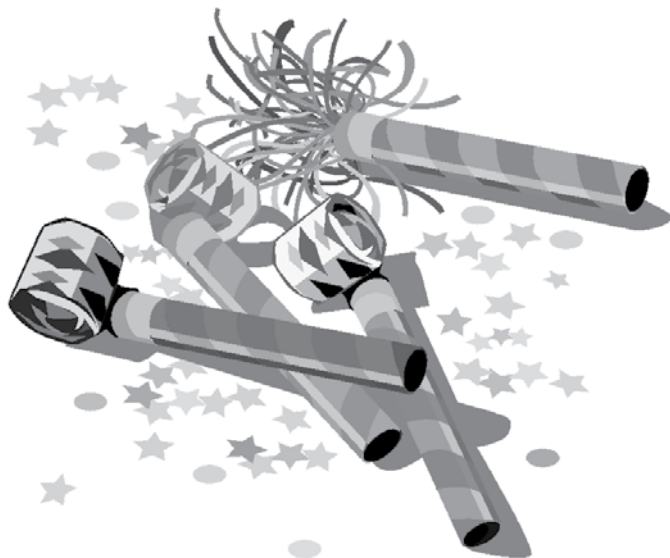
January is here, it's time to get started on the new year and a new crop in the backyard orchard. I'm sure a lot of you have made resolutions to exercise more, eat healthier, or maybe spend less money this year, and to you I say "PLANT A FRUIT TREE!" you could kill three birds with one stone! This is the month for "Bare Root" planting which is the absolute best way to establish most fruit trees and berries. It is also a frosty time of year, so don't forget to cover those frost tender citrus and Avocado trees and give them a good drink if it hasn't been raining.

In January, Josh will demonstrate how to plant a bare root fruit tree in your backyard. Step by step and "hands on" we'll take you through the entire process including amending the soil, digging the hole, and initial pruning. Fee: \$5.00. **Bring a friend for free!** Call ahead to register.



# Notes for January Gardening

- ♪ **Move your living tree outdoors.** Care for other holiday gift plants such as azaleas and camellias by placing them outside where they will thrive in cooler temperatures.
- ♪ Keep your New Year's Resolution . . . join the **Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club**. Call today to join. Phone: 417-8809.
- ♪ Remember **Seed Potatoes** are available by **mid January**. Choose red, white and russet, purple & yellow varieties.
- ♪ Brighten the garden with **jewel colored bedding plants**. Refresh your garden containers with primroses, pansies, Iceland poppies and more. Check with the staff!
- ♪ **Time to dormant spray fruit trees!** Spray fruit trees with Lilly Miller Dormant Oil **NOW!** This will take care of the overwintering pests that will pose a problem during the growing season. If you missed the fall application of Copper, go ahead and apply it the week before or after the application of the Oil. You'll follow this up with Copper Dormant spray around Valentine's Day. (While you're here, you may want to find that special Valentine's Rose or blooming plant for your sweetheart.) There are several Copper sprays to select from: **Monterey Liqui-Cop**, **Bonide Liquid Copper Fungicide**, and **Lilly Miller Microcop plus Sta-Stuk "M"**.
- ♪ **Feed the lawn monthly** even during cold winter months. This maintains its green color and minimizes rust disease. **Masters Fall and Winter Lawn Fertilizer** is especially formulated for our area and the season.
- ♪ **Spray Roses Now!** An application of dormant oil just after winter pruning on roses will help reduce pest populations by smothering over-wintering eggs. Spraying fungicides, as well, will halt diseases such as rust, blackspot and powdery mildew. **Safeti-cide Oil** is listed as organic or use other time honored products such as **Ortho Volck Oil**. Fungicides include **Liqicop** and also copper soap, (both approved for organic gardening) and also **Bonide Fungonil** . . . known to be very effective.
- ♪ **Prevent Crabgrass now!** Crabgrass has pale green-yellow foliage that spreads through your darker green lawn crowding out the good grass. Crabgrass dies with the onset on cold weather, leaving seeds that will sprout as the spring weather warms the soil. Applying **Master's Lawn Fertilizer Plus Crabgrass Control** now will prevent crabgrass seeds from sprouting.
- ♪ And don't forget to add some zing to your cooking. **Garlic starts are here.** Garlic should be planted through early January for the best results.



## Hailey's Comments

*Auld Lang Syne, let's bark in*

*2010. It's just me, your local nursery dog, Hailey, howling in the New Year. You've seen horticulture enthusiasts at festivals, flower shows, and on TV – caring for roses, negotiating pruning techniques, and bare root planting. You may question your ability to garden. If you have ever buried your head in discouragement of the state of your landscape, grab your dog and a friend in pursuit of vegetation training at Alden Lane Nursery. Gardening does require patience and practice but having fun requires only what you want to give!*

*A basic knowledge of learning growing commands is helpful for a successful harvest season. You don't have to be a pro nursery person to take part in learning growing techniques. Most gardeners just love digging in the dirt and value fun and sportsmanship over winning a flower competition. If you are not interested in competing in the orchid show this month or rose show later, there are master growers that are available to help you train your orchids and roses on any level. The masters of **Bare Root Planting: Training The First 3 Years** and **Rose Care and Pruning Seminars** will be conducting a class during the month of January.*

*Gardening will strengthen your bond with your plants, build gardening confidence, and you will gain health benefits.*

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**Paws for Reflection:** *Life is like a dogsled team . . . If you ain't the lead dog, the scenery never changes.*

— Lewis Grizzard

# Roses Are Here

We have hundreds to choose from – Here's what's NEW!

## **EASY DOES IT**

### **– All American Rose Society Rose of the Year 2010**

As the name implies, this rose is simple to grow. The colors of mango orange, peach pink and ripe apricot bounce off the disease resistant glossy green leaves. With a rounded, bushy plant habit and a fruity fragrance, this rose is the only AARS award winner for 2010. This rose will also be available in a 24" patio tree and 36" standard tree.



## **NEW INTRODUCTIONS**

### **HYBRID TEA ROSES**

The flowers are well-formed with large, high-centered buds, and each flowering stem typically has a single shapely bloom.

#### **Cabana – Jackson & Perkins Exclusive**

Striking coloration and a distinctive spicy fragrance earned this rose the Green Thumb Award. Each deep pink flower has soft yellow stripes. It's a Must Have for your Rose Garden!

#### **Elegant Lady – Jackson & Perkins Exclusive**

You may remember the rose Diana, Princess of Wales; well here she is dressed up with a new name that reflects classic beauty and radiance. The tall plant produces lavishly graceful pink blush flowers of impeccable form and generous perfume. This rose will also be available in a 36" standard tree.

#### **Eternal Flame – Introduced by Star Roses**

A new Memorial Collection rose with classic, high-centered blossoms of soft, flickering yellow. Long stems and strong citrus fragrance combine to make a great cut rose. This rose offers above average disease resistance.

#### **Secret's Out – New from Star**

This rose puts a new twist on the old "Secret" rose, this one has aroma! It's a pure white Hybrid Tea rose with all the excellent characteristics that made Secret an AARS winner, but with a stronger, spicy fragrance.

#### **Sedona, 2010 Rose of the Year – Introduced by Jackson & Perkins**

The warm colors of this new J&P rose are reminiscent of the picturesque red bluffs and magnificent sunsets of the high desert. Each bloom echoes of red rocks as it opens to reveal shades of reds, corals, and oranges. This will also be available in a 36" standard tree.

## **FLORIBUNDA ROSES**

The flowers are often smaller than hybrid teas but bloom in large sprays, giving a better floral effect in the garden. Floribundas are found in all hybrid tea colors and many with the classic hybrid tea-shaped blossom.

### **Brilliant Pink Iceberg – Weeks Roses Exclusive**

A color mutation of the renowned white Iceberg rose has finally occurred. It has the same mild honey

fragrance, free flowering habit. The color has been kicked up a notch to a bright cerise pink painted onto cream.

### **Drop Dead Red – New from Weeks Roses**

So velvety . . . so intense . . . this jaw-droppingly delicious red rose with a mild tea fragrance is sure to lure you to linger. This color will stop 'em in their tracks. This rose stays red to the very end, making this bushy showy plant a natural for the landscape. It will also be available in a 24" patio tree and a 36" standard tree.

### **Monkey Business, 2010 Floribunda of the Year Rose – Jackson & Perkins Exclusive**

You will go bananas for this unique yellow rose. Clusters of high-centered blooms and lush foliage harbor surprises in the unexpected licorice fragrance. Snip bouquets and bring the summer sunlight indoors. This rose will also be available in a 36" standard tree.

### **Pumpkin Patch – Weeks Roses Exclusive**

Color so scrumptious - it looks good enough to eat...and you certainly can if you watch out for the thorns. Buttery-rich coppery buds open into clusters of fragrant octobery-orange beauties held tightly against shiny green leaves. Intense! This rose will also be available in a 24" patio tree.

### **Sweet Intoxication – New from Jackson & Perkins**

Rich magenta blooms can permeate the garden with an alluring, powerful clove fragrance. The upright growth habit makes this rose an ultimate garden vixen, standing strong while casting a spell. This rose will also be available in a 36" standard tree.

## **GRANDIFLORA ROSES**

Grandiflora rose shrubs are typically larger than either hybrid teas or floribundas, and feature hybrid tea-style flowers borne in small clusters of three to five, similar to a floribunda.

### **All American Magic – Introduced by Star Roses**

A new grandiflora rose with a unique color combination of double bright red and yellow flowers which fade to pink and cream. This one is less fragile than most other “striped” roses when it comes to disease resistance and hardiness. Beautiful!

### **Ch-Ching – New from Weeks Roses**

Hit the jackpot with this clear long lasting glowing yellow rose. It cashes in with qualities like vigorous bushy growth that flowers like a weed and smells up a storm. You will have a sure winner when you put your money down on this rose. Fragrance is a strong sweet spice and fruit. Yum!

### **LANDSCAPE ROSES**

Most landscape roses having the following characteristics: lower growing habits, repeat flowering, disease and pest resistance and non-suckering, growing on their own roots.

### **Limoncello – Introduced by Star Roses**

A profusion of continuous light yellow flowers distinguishes this vigorous grower. It is the first yellow in the award winning Meidiland Series. Displays best in large landscapes and mass plantings. Disease Resistance is excellent!

### **MINIATURE ROSES**

Today, miniature roses are represented by twiggy, repeat-flowering shrubs ranging from 6" to 36" in height, with most falling in the 12"-24" height range. Blooms come in all the hybrid tea colors.

### **Cinnamon Girl – Jackson & Perkins Exclusive**

Fountains of rich magenta blooms will permeate your garden with an alluring strong clove fragrance. Sparkling amethyst clusters beguile even the most precocious rose lover with non-stop color and fragrance season after season.

### **Daddy’s Little Girl – Introduced by Weeks**

This miniature rose can be very well behaved in the garden, yet tends to be a show-off. Her compact habit and parade of pointed petite plush-pink buds, with a pinch of cream on the reverse, make her an easy addition to the garden. Has a slight fragrance and is ideal in a patio pot or if you have limited space in the garden. This rose will also

be available in a 24" patio tree.

### **Raspberry Punch – Jackson & Perkins Exclusive**

This miniature has a slight fragrance and covers itself with dark pink blooms. It is self-cleaning and very disease resistant.

### **Small Miracle – Jackson & Perkins Exclusive**

This compact bush is loaded with exquisite, pure white blooms, on rich, dark foliage. Has a slight fragrance. It may be compact bush in size, but it does make a big impact on small spaces.



### **CLIMBING ROSE**

The canes of the shrubs grow much longer and more flexible than the normal (“bush”) forms; in modern roses, climbing roses are the result of spontaneous mutations. Most Climbing roses grow anywhere from 8’–20’ in height and exhibit repeat-bloom.

### **Cancan – Introduced by Star Roses**

The magenta red to light pink flower color is suffused with cream white towards the center. Flowering is continuous and disease resistance is excellent. As a climber it can get 10’ tall.

### **Orange Crush – Star Roses Exclusive**

This rose offers a new color for a modern climbing rose. Bright orange double flowers against green, glossy foliage, flowers do not fade in the heat of summer and this climber will re-bloom throughout the season. Good disease resistance . . . Beautiful!

### **The Charlatan – New from Star Roses**

The uniqueness of this rose can be seen in the clean light-pink petals and the multitude of golden stamens bursting from the center of the flower. Truly a unique rose that will bloom continuously throughout the season. Excellent disease resistant to mildew and rust.



## **Livermore Recycles Christmas Trees 3 Ways**



❶ **Christmas Tree Recycling** – If you haven’t made arrangements for your cut Christmas tree yet it can be dropped off at the nursery on Saturday, January 2nd from 8:30 to 3:00. **Local Boy Scouts** will be on hand to take your cut tree for a \$5 donation.

❷ **Special One-Time Tree Pickup** – Week of January 4, 2010. On your regular service day, a special truck will pass down your street and pick up Christmas trees at the curb. Trees must be at the curb no later than 6:00 a.m. Please adhere to these restrictions:

- Only clean trees are acceptable (no flocking, tinsel, or tree stands)
- Trees must be cut to 6' or less
- If you have any questions please contact Waste Management 447-1300.

❸ **Use Your Green Waste Cart** to recycle Christmas trees anytime after the holiday with the following restrictions:

- Only clean trees are acceptable (no flocking, tinsel, or tree stands)
- Trees must be cut into lengths that will allow the lid on the cart to easily and completely close
- If you have any questions please call 447-1300.

**In Pleasanton call Pleasanton Garbage Service at 846-2042 or your local Boy Scout Troop for details.**

# Pruning Seminars

Please call ahead to reserve a seat — 924-447-0280

## ► Saturday, Jan. 16th at 11 a.m. Bare Root Planting & Initial Training

If you missed our earlier pruning classes, Josh will be happy to field all your pruning questions. Fee: \$5 **Bring a Friend for Free!**

## ► Saturday, Jan. 16th at 10 a.m., & Sunday, Jan. 17th, 1-2:30 p.m.

Join us for our ever popular **Rose Care and Pruning Seminars** with All American Rose Selections (AARS) consulting rosarians **David Lowell and Ken & Judy Jones**. David will present on Saturday, and Ken & Judy on Sunday. They will speak about proper pruning techniques, feeding, and general care as well as the best varieties for the Valley. **FREE!!!**

## ► January 30th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Our last general pruning class of the season with Josh. **FREE!** Call to reserve a seat.

## Concannon Vineyard

Don't miss these great  
Pruning Demonstrations on  
January 23rd at  
Concannon Vineyard  
4950 Tesla Rd., Livermore

## ► January 23rd from 11:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Rose Care and Pruning repeated with consulting rosarians **Ken & Judy Jones**. **FREE!**

## ► January 23rd from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Grape Care and Pruning with Concannon grape expert **Jim Ryan**. **FREE!**

## Las Positas Horticulture Classes

Call now for registration information for great horticulture classes – 373-5800. The spring semester begins January 19th. You can log on to [www.laspositacollege.edu](http://www.laspositacollege.edu). Register now! In addition to great Horticultural offerings check into the Viticulture and Winery Technology classes.

# January is Pruning Month

As the temperatures have typically dropped and held low for a few weeks by mid January, most deciduous trees and shrubs are ready for their annual pruning. Alden Lane Nursery has a few helpful resources for assisting you in this sometime overwhelming subject. First of all, please take advantage of a number of pruning classes scheduled over the next month. We also have a great selection of tools and gloves and helpful pruning books. Our web page also includes pruning diagrams for guidance.

- For pruning fruit trees, pick up a copy of a very handy pruning book titled, **“How to Prune Fruit Trees”** by Robert Sanford Martin. This book packs a wealth of information into its 90 pages, covering virtually every type of fruit tree and fruiting vine home gardeners will encounter. The book illustrates and explains in a brief format how each type of tree produces fruit and what pruning is required to help, not hinder fruit production. Every fruit tree owner should have a copy.

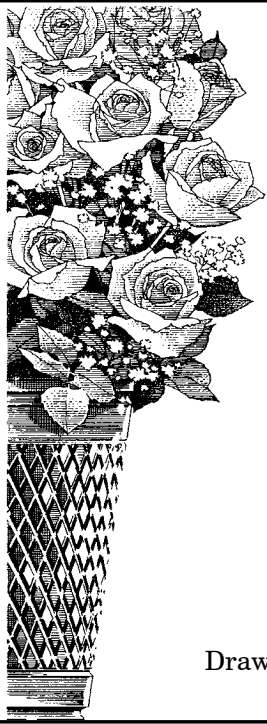
- Another big help in the process of pruning trees is good tools. **Barnel Ultra Reach Telescopic Precision Lopper** simplifies a lot of tasks including pruning above your reach. It is well designed and sturdy, this pruner combines the reach of a pole with the leverage and strength of a pair of loppers. One can prune branches ordinarily out of reach, with the easy to grip handle and lopper-like action that magnifies your strength. Cuts up to 1.5" and telescopes to about 8'

- As long as we are talking about pruners, **Felco Pruners** are our very favorite hand pruners. Felcos come in a variety of sizes and types (including left handed shears.) We have Felcos displayed where you can give them a test drive. Come in and see them.

- Finally in the line up of pruning aids, what can be more helpful than a good pair of gardening gloves. **West County Gloves** offers a nice collection of well made gloves that are comfortable and engineered to wear well. This is a Bay Area company, beginning its life in the sports apparel industry.

Gardening is popular across all demographics, and when designer/founder (bicyclist) Beverly Schor was dissatisfied with the available gardening gloves, she went to work designing her own pair. The result is practical, attractive and comfortable. In addition to a good general purpose gardening glove, West County Gloves also produces the amazing “American Beauty” Gauntlet rose glove. Tested here at the nursery, this glove will allow you to thrust your hands into rose pruning chores without fear of thorns tearing up your hands. We have found the synthetic suede cloth completely stops thorns before reaching the skin. We would be happy to show you a pair.





# Win A Free Pair of \$34.99 Roses

A \$69.98 Value

Need not be present to win.  
No purchase necessary.  
Drawing to be held January 31, 2010.

## MODERN BUSH ROSES

January 2010

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to receive the newsletter online.

## BENCH & HYDRANGA



cozy garden bench—all from the comfort of your backyard. Create your own oasis with these stunning images of places near and far.

By the pool, in an outdoor kitchen, on a balcony, porch or patio, the Giclee' on Canvas adds a new design to these areas.

The images are generated from high resolution digital photography.

Framing is not needed, stainless steel staples will not rust, and special mounting hardware included for outdoor use and can sustain winds up to 50 mph.

Two year manufacturer warranty.

## From The Garden Store **ANDREA'S FAVES** **ARTEFX –** **OUTDOOR CANVAS ART**

*Presented by West of the Winds Designs*

These sharp and vibrant photographs are digitally reproduced and printed on artist canvas and then coated with UV and waterproof lacquer which prevents fading. Stretched and gallery wrapped on 1.5" all weather stretcher bars, they can be placed in any outdoor location with direct exposure to the elements.

Enjoy the view of a Tuscan Countryside, an Ocean Sunset or imagine a quiet nap on a



PERFECT DAY



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**IMPORTANT!**  
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**Winter Hours:** Alden Lane will be open 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily.

## SPECIAL COUPON

Present This Coupon & A Canned Food Item  
TO RECEIVE FREE

A 4" Blooming  
Viola  
Plant!!



(\$2.19 Value)

Food Donations are Optional. All donations go to local relief agencies. One coupon per family, please!  
Offer Good January 2-31, 2010.

## HOW TO FIND ALDEN LANE NURSERY

