

Garden Talk™

San Diego's Garden Resource



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

Fall & Winter Veggies

BY WALTER ANDERSEN, JR.



Oregon Sugar Pod II

I find that most people who grow vegetables in our area only grow them in warmer weather. There are many, many vegetables that are easy and fun to grow in cooler winter months. There are many varieties you can

buy in six-packs, but check the seed racks; there are a lot more different and interesting varieties to grow.

Beets you might want to try:

'Chiogga' Beet – Unique and interesting heirloom variety. When cut, it has stripes of white and red through the root. Has a sweet flavor, raw, cooked or pickled.

'Ruby Queen' Beet – Deep crimson Beet that is an heirloom variety. Easy to grow, it has a buttery flavor. They can be grown in poor soil with decent results, but do better in good soil.

'Bulls Blood' Beet – This variety is primarily grown for the foliage which rivals Chard and Spinach. The root is quite tasty when

harvested small. An heirloom variety.

'Early Wonder' Beet – This one is very tasty with delicious greens. Your crop is ready in about seven weeks.

'Gourmet Blend' Beet – These are a combination of several different varieties with various colors to add interest to any dish.

Carrots can be fun:

'Tonda di Parigi' Carrot – This is a 19th Century Parisian favorite. Sweet and petite almost ball shaped. Deep orange, tender, and sweet flavor. Great for shallow beds or where the soil is hard just a little ways down. Good for containers as well.

'Royal Chantenay' Carrot – A great home grown variety, not too long, 5" to 6". Good for containers, nice sweet flavor. Excellent for juicing.

'Little Finger' Carrot – This gourmet 'mini-carrot' is fun and easy. Deep orange color with sweet flavor. They are only about 3" long when harvested. An heirloom variety.

Peas to consider:

'Oregon Sugar Pod II' – A great pea for home gardens. It produces large crops of 4" delicious pods which are harvested and eaten when the pods are flat, before the seed forms. They only grow to about 28" tall so they are easy to manage.

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You Can Grow Blueberries

BY JOLENE ANDERSEN

Who doesn't like Blueberries? Especially fresh blueberries? No one who I know. These plants are relatively new to our area, introduced in the last 15 years or so. *Vaccinium corymbosum*, the botanical name, is native to the north-eastern part of the United States. Growers have found that by preparing the soil and creating an acid condition, many varieties will do well in Southern California. Newer hybrids have been introduced that do well with little winter chill and are well suited to our milder climate.

Blueberries make a nice landscape plant and can be used as informal hedges, individual

plantings and even container plants, in pots or tubs. The most important things you need to provide is full sun and well draining acidic soil. For most plantings we recommend Sunshine brand planter mix (in the green bag) or Sunshine brand Azalea-Camellia-Rhododendron Mix. These products are high in Canadian peat moss, which is naturally acidic. You could also use Canadian



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Dates To Remember

DEC 1 – Poway store closes at 4:30pm.

DEC 1 – Holiday Open House at the Poway store from 5–7pm.

DEC 8 – Holiday Open House at the San Diego store from 11am–1pm.

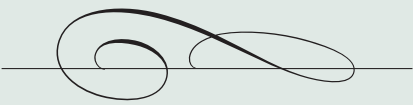
DEC 24 – Poway store closes at 2pm.

DEC 25 – Both stores will be closed for Christmas.

DEC 31 – Poway store closes at 2pm.

JAN 1 – Both stores will be closed for New Year's Day.





'Twas The Days Before Christmas

BY JOLENE ANDERSEN

'Twas the days before Christmas
And all through the stores
All the workers were busy
With their holiday chores!

They are wrapping and foiling
The cyclamen and points
'Til their fingers are blistered
And there's pain in their joints.

Everyone is running
As fast as can be
To get every last ornament
Packaged for every last tree.

There is flame retarding, flocking
And green trees galore
Garland, wreaths and
Oh yes! Swags for the door!

We have gloves and thermometers,
seed, houseplants and hats!
Pots and containers oh so fine,
Flags for the poles and also some mats!

For every gardeners list of wishes
We have something to fill their dream,
Whether chemical or organic—
We can help you, come in and meet our team!

So drop in the stores, bring in your list
We can put the magic in your holiday living...
By making your gardening receivers smile
You won't have to endure any "misgiving"!

If you are just stuck, no thought of what to do,
Come in, pick up a gift card, right color, right size
Makes gifting giving so easy
And will make the gifter appear so wise!

So see you here, in one of our stores—
We are Pro's at getting things done!
Let us help complete your Christmas List
And make your holiday a Very Merry One!

A very Happy Holiday to all and
For the past Year of Loyalty and Goodwill, Thank You!
And to each of you and those you love...
Peace, joy and happiness in all you that to do!



Fall & Winter Veggies

continued from p1

'Super Sugar Snap' Pea – This is an improved snap pea for early harvest (about 66 days). Plump crisp pods filled with sweet round peas. Great in salads, stir-fries and soups. Train on trellis to 5' tall.

Shelling 'Progress #9' Pea – Delicious tasting peas with 5" long pods. This is a heavy producing variety.

Spinach varieties:

'Bordeaux' Spinach – Beautiful innovation in spinach, the burgundy stems and veins accent the bright green leaves. Rich with sweet flavor. Bordeaux enhances any fresh garden salad and adds color to spinach dip, pizza and quiche. Pick leaves from small to full size. Quick 28 to 40 day crop.

'Tye' Spinach – Very tender and delicious, compact and easy to grow. A very generous producing plant, high in iron and Vitamin A & C, low in calories. Heat and disease resistant. 28 to 40 day crop.

Cabbage, a little different:

'Qingdao 65' Cabbage – Quick and easy to grow, sweet flavor compared to Western head cabbage. Soft texture and easy to digest. Ideal for short season crops of about 65 days.

'Red Acre' Cabbage – Perk up cole slaw or your favorite stir-fry with this gorgeous deep red cabbage. Sweet flavor of cabbage fresh from the garden is much better than store-bought. Solid heads early on small compact plants, ideal for smaller gardens.

Radish just a little different:

'Easter Egg Blend' Radish – This is a blend of red, white, rose pink, purple and bi-color roots. Eat fresh in salads, or add crunch to sandwiches. A fun choice for children. Short

crop of about 30 days.

'Miyashige White' Radish – Young shredded daikon radishes are often used in sushi, but their light, crunchy, slightly spicy flavor is a unique addition to many other dishes. 'French Breakfast' Radish – A great variety, over 100 years old. It has a wonderful delicate flavor, looks incredible on a vegetable platter. Only about 28 days till harvest.

'Cherry Belle' Radish – Good cool season fast maturing, and easy to grow. Mild flavor and crisp texture makes it a great addition to salads, sandwiches and snack trays. Only 24 days until harvest.

Lettuce with a different twist:

'Lolla Rossa' Lettuce – A leaf type lettuce with deep curled leaves, frilly with a rosy red blush. Ideal for salads, great texture and volume.

'Marvel of Four Seasons' Lettuce – Beautiful red color is both tasty and attractive. An heirloom variety that has tender leaves, green at the base to almost 'cranberry-red' with a crinkly texture.

'Red Sails' Lettuce – Fancy buttery, ruffled leaves tinged burgundy at the edges. A salad lover's dream. Baby greens can be harvested in just two to three weeks. It forms a full head in about six weeks. Light green leaves with red-bronze tips, make it an attractive container plant too.

For optimum results, be sure to prepare the soil with a good soil amendment and fertilize monthly with something like GroPower Vegetable, or E.B. Stone Tomato & Vegetable plant foods. If you want to try these in containers I would suggest Sunshine Potting soil in the blue bags. ■

You Can Grow Blueberries

continued from p1

peat moss mixed 50-50 with Ada Perry's Redwood Compost. It's ideal to have a soil mix with a pH of 5 to 5.5. Though self-fruitful, you will have better production with two different varieties of blueberries; which allows you to enjoy larger fruit crops due to cross pollination.

When planting in containers, use a fairly large container, like a 20 inch square box or octagonal tub or one of the larger plastic containers, at least a 15 gallon size. Place the mix of your choice in the bottom of the container to bring the root ball up nearly even to the top of the container, pack in additional

soil lightly and give a good watering.

If you choose to plant in the ground, dig a generous hole, at least two times as wide as the container, approximately 24 inches wide and about 18 inches deep. Use the same mix (above) as if you were planting in a container, place some in the bottom of the hole to raise the root ball off the native soil. Fill in with the mix, tamp in and water. Planted in the ground, space plants about four to five feet apart so they do not become overcrowded and to allow for ease of harvesting.

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Words

From Walter

BY WALTER ANDERSEN, JR.



Why Buy Your Christmas Tree From WAN?

Christmas is a very special time of the year. Probably the most traditional part of the holiday is selecting a beautiful Christmas tree. Things have changed a lot in the growing of Christmas trees over the years. Forty years ago the most common tree was Douglas Fir. These were grown on farms in the northwest, however they were not trimmed very much, so they grew fast and were kind of thin and gangly looking. Some growers started to prune or trim them to make them bushier. Then, the tree farmers started growing Noble Fir, which is thicker and bushier by nature. But to make them even thicker they also trim these

trees. They have a bluish cast and are a little more rigid, compared to Douglas Fir. Now, in Southern California, Noble Fir is probably the most popular Christmas tree.

Walter Andersen Nursery has been buying from the same grower for more than 20 years, and we think these are the very best available. The farmers are meticulous when growing the trees. The trees are fertilized and trimmed back several times during the growing season, which makes a thicker, bushier tree. They wait to harvest the trees until the last moment to insure the trees we get are the freshest available. If it was snowing the day they were loaded, the trees may arrive with snow on them.

We make a fresh cut on every tree trunk. We install a custom-made heavy duty stand on each and every tree we sell. Please note that many older stands are not sturdy enough to hold up these heavy trees. Each stand is fitted with a water bowl, to keep the tree as fresh as possible. All the stands are braced to the sides to keep the tree nice and straight. Many of the trees we sell qualify for FREE DELIVERY! This way you don't risk scratching the paint on your car. If you live in an area where we charge for delivery, or it is a smaller tree, our delivery charge is reasonable, so it still saves you a lot of time and work. Best of all, when you buy your tree, it is not bundled up so you can see the whole tree standing and make sure there are no surprises like open areas or gaping holes.

We also sell custom grown Douglas Fir, Frazier Fir and Grand Fir. We can apply flame retardant and flock to your trees and greens, if you like. ■

2012 Fall Rose Show Winners

This year's fall rose show saw some familiar faces, new exhibitors, and as always, gorgeous roses. A special award was presented by Sue Streeper to Jack Shultz from the American Rose Society. Below is a list of the winning entries.

Best Hybrid Tea or Grandiflora – 'Cajun Moon' shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay

Best Single Stem Floribunda – 'Frankie' shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay

Best Old Fashioned Type – 'Outta The Blue' shown by Dick & Sue Streeper

Best Miniature/Mini Flora – 'Bees Knees' shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay

Best Mini Flora/Mini Spray – 'Kings Mountain' shown by Len Schultz

Best Bouquet – 'Let Freedom Ring' Shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay

Best Mini Flora/Mini Bouquet – 'Irresistable' shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay

Best Floating Bowl – 'Frankie' shown by Sandy Campillo

Best Mini Flora/Mini Floating Bowl – 'Doris Morgan' shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay

Most Fragrant Rose – 'The McCartney Rose' shown by Pete Bompensiero

Best Fully Open Variety – 'Wild Blue Yonder' shown by Sandy Campillo

Best Non-Classified Rose – 'Twomey's Mistake' shown by Dick & Sue Streeper

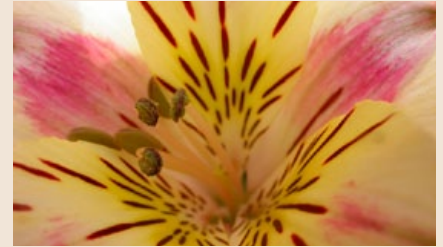
Best Climbing Rose – 'Night Owl' shown by Dick & Sue Streeper

Andersen's Choice Award for Best Non-Awarded Rose – 'Let Freedom Ring' shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay

Queen of Show – 'Memphis Music' shown by Carl & Bobbie Mahanay ■

Don't Rely On Florists For Your Alstroemerias—Grow Them Yourself!

BY MELANIE POTTER



If you've received a bouquet of flowers recently, chances are it contained alstroemerias. Also called Peruvian lily or Inca lily, these perennials are a staple in the florist trade and prove to be a hardy, colorful and easy-to-grow addition to your yard.

Native to South America, the hybrids available now are better than ever with sturdier stems and the offer of a longer blooming season. We receive shipments from December through July because of their constant availability from growers. The blooming season begins in spring and continues through early fall.

Pick a color, any color. The selection is choice, and includes yellow, apricot, orange, salmon, pink, red, mauve, lavender, purple, cream, white and bi-colors. The plants are made more striking by their markings – contrasting blotches and flecks at the neck of their azalea-like flower. Plants can grow to 5 feet high. The plants grow well in the differing micro climates of San Diego. Cooler temperatures are preferred and a rich, loamy soil that drains well is ideal. In coastal areas they need sun all day, but can take some filtered sun in the late afternoon. Inland areas will

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Jack Shultz (middle) received a special award from Sue Streeper. With Walter Andersen, Jr. on right.

In-Store Specials!

Sale Prices Valid Dec 1–31, 2012

Hummingbird Swing

Sale \$5.99 Regular \$9.99

Place near a feeder or food source & watch them swing!

Hummingbird Nesting Material & Holder

Sale \$6.99 Regular \$11.99

Watch Hummingbirds pull these fibers to build a nest!

4 pc. Nylon Brush Set

Sale \$9.99 Regular \$13.99

Premium Nylon Brush Set, Perfect for Cleaning Bird Feeders!

Clinger's Gold Finch Feeder

Sale \$14.99 Regular \$19.99

A special feeder for Goldfinches. Available in Red, Yellow & Green.

All specials limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer.

Alstroemerias

continued from p3

need morning sun with filtered light in the afternoon and good air circulation. Alstroemerias also do well in pots (start with a large container to accommodate their large root system).

Despite being thought of as drought tolerant, do provide regular and deep watering for best bloom best.

Alstroemerias do not require heavy feeding. If you want to feed them, we recommend our all-time favorite Gro Power.

Remove the stem when a flower has faded on the plant, preferably before seed pods develop, which slows down the blooming process. Remember to pull the stem (at the soil line) and flower rather than cutting it so the stem is separated cleanly from the rhizome.

Alstroemerias are easy to divide. They just need to be separated, or pulled apart to make more plants. Because they are slow to reestablish, Alstroemerias should be divided only when they have completely outgrown their place in the garden. Divide each plant in half in October to ensure growing a full, lush plant sooner. ■

News From The Nest



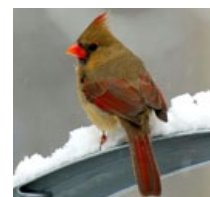
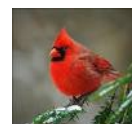
BY OLD BEN OF OLD BEN'S WORKSHOP

Anyone who has lived in the Midwest or East Coast has most likely seen a Northern Cardinal.

Every greeting card company in North America must use this bird's picture against a backdrop of snow during the Christmas season. And why not, it's one of those birds that even if you're not a bird watcher you'll for sure notice it.

Northern Cardinals can be found across the Eastern U.S. from Lower Canada south to the Gulf Coast and west to Arizona and parts of southern California. The Cardinals range has expanded dramatically since 1886 when it was rarely seen north of the Ohio River. Cardinals are permanent residents throughout their range and do not migrate.

The male is a bright red with a pointed crest on the top of his head. The female is mostly buff



brown in color with some red on her head, wings and tail. Both have small black masks on their faces that surround the bill and eyes. Cardinals are about 8 to 9 inches long.

Look for Northern Cardinals in inhabited areas such as backyards, parks, woodpiles, and shrubby forest edges. Cardinals nest in dense tangles of shrubs and vines. The adults' food consists of insects, spiders, wild fruits, berries, grains, and weed seeds. Two types of seed they love are black oil sunflower and safflower. Cardinals nesting season last from March to August. They usually raise two to three broods a year. Cardinals live up to 15 years.

The Cardinal ranks number one with seven states naming it their official bird. The States are: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia. ■

Dormant Spraying

BY WALTER ANDERSEN, JR.

Why do we recommend dormant spraying your roses and deciduous fruit trees? Dormant spraying will reduce peach leaf curl and shot hole fungus on fruit trees and will help ward off rust and mildew from roses in the coming season.

December and January are the best times of the year to apply dormant sprays to control fungus and insects that may live on your plants over the wintertime. When you spray, you should be very generous with the spray material so the plants are covered from top to bottom and dripping wet. Whatever lands on the soil below will help control fungus spores and insects that might be in the top few inches of the soil. By drenching the plants, the spray gets into all of the little nooks and crannies. All leaves that have dropped should be raked up and removed.

You can use a hose end sprayer or a tank type sprayer; hose end sprayers take less application time. For optimal results, at least two sprayings are recommended. Ideally the first application should be in mid December, the next one the first part of January and the third, middle to late January. Do not spray after the new growth or bloom buds start to swell; they may burn from the spray. If your



roses or deciduous fruit trees have not lost all of their leaves, you may still spray them. This will cause the leaves to drop and make pruning easier.

The two sprays we recommend are Liqui-Cop by Monterey Chemical and Volck Oil Spray by Ortho. If you prefer to be totally organic, Bonide Copper Fungicide is for you. Be sure to read and follow the directions; for winter spraying, you use them at a heavier concentration than during the growing season. Liqui-Cop uses three to four tablespoons per gallon, Volck Oil Spray uses five tablespoons per gallon. Bonide Copper Fungicide uses two ounces per gallon.

DO NOT let this strong concentration of spray material get on desirable green plants nearby. If you have something green planted below the fruit trees, you should cover them with a plastic tarp for protection. Later on, during the growing season, these sprays can be used on your plants, but at much reduced concentrations. Do not spray on breezy days, and it would be best if you wore gloves and a spray mask. ■

Join in the Holiday FUN!



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™



You're Invited

To Our Annual Holiday Open Houses!

Poway

December 1, 2012 from 5-7pm

San Diego

December 8, 2012 from 11am-1pm

Shop with us, get your FREE photo with Santa, and enjoy food and beverages.

Select your tree, holiday plants, ornaments and décor, as well as gifts for friends and family. As always, it's family and pet friendly.

WANT FUN!

Walter Andersen Nursery

Giving Back to the Community Since 1928

Walter Andersen Nursery provided blooming Poinsettias for the **Armed Services YMCA's** Christmas That You Missed event held in June for service men and women who were on deployment for the holidays. The nursery will donate these festive plants next year in support of the program.

Donate a Toy!

We'll also partner with the Armed Services YMCA to provide toys for Christmas gifts to the families of service men and women in addition to giving a monetary donation to support their work this holiday season. If you would like to **donate a toy to the Armed Services YMCA**, they are looking for new, unwrapped toys with an approximate value of \$20. We will have **drop offs in both stores until Dec. 9** in support of this great cause!

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

www.walterandersen.com

**Enjoy
Special
Savings!**

Bring in coupon
or show cashier
on your
smart phone!

Use Dec. 1, 2012 in Poway or Dec. 8, 2012 in San Diego

Bring this coupon with you to our 2012
Holiday Open House & get

\$10 Off

on a Purchase of \$50 or More

#110841

This offer may not be used in conjunction with any other discounts, consultation services and sod or gift certificate purchases.

Use Nov. 23 - Dec. 31, 2012 in Poway or San Diego

Bring this coupon with you to either
Walter Andersen Nursery location & get

\$5 Off

on a Purchase of \$25 or More

#101265

This offer may not be used in conjunction with any other discounts, consultation services and sod or gift certificate purchases.

Holiday Plants Not Limited To Poinsettias

BY HOME & GARDEN SHOWCASE



Cyclamen

The Holiday Cacti or Cyclamen are great alternatives to the traditional poinsettia. These plants offer colorful holiday blooms, plus you can enjoy them all year 'round.

The Holiday Cactus, also known as the Thanksgiving Cactus (*Schlumbergera truncata*) or the Christmas Cactus (*Schlumbergera*), can be bought during the holiday season already in bloom. It should sit in indirect sunlight, in regular indoor temperatures. Keep the soil moist and fertilize weekly.

To get last year's cactus to bloom, leave it at night at temperatures around 55 degrees while the plant is beginning to flower. If you can't store them at that temperature, don't worry. They will flower with 12 to 13 hours of darkness each night. One trick is to lay black plastic over the plant when the lights are on.

Cyclamen, available in white, red, and deep pink, generally lay dormant during summer months and bloom indoors during winter. It's possible to have Cyclamen bloom from late fall to early spring by following these tips:

- When you first purchase the plant, use a houseplant fertilizer once a week, taper off to once a month after a few weeks.
- Keep the plant in a cool area.
- Provide non-direct bright light and be sure to keep the plants away from heat ducts and vents.
- When mature blooms begin to fade, try pulling off the flowers rather than cutting. ■

You Can Grow Blueberries

continued from p2

About the first of March start fertilizing your new blueberries with a good acid-type fertilizer such as Dr. Earth brand Rhododendron-Azalea-Camellia. Gro Power Azalea-Camellia-Rhododendron food is another excellent product for acid loving plantings. Try to fertilize the first of each month spring through fall for optimum results.

To insure your planted areas stay on the acidic side, you may have to apply Soil Sulphur occasionally, as our alkaline water may cause pH levels to rise. To keep them greener, your blueberries may want an iron supplement once or twice a year.

Blueberry Varieties:

BOUNTIFUL BLUE

This variety has a prolific fruit set of large, super sweet berries and the "bluest" foliage. Works well in the landscape or in containers. It's a smaller plant to about 3 - 4 feet tall and about as wide. Attractive foliage holds well into winter.

JUBILEE

Abundant crops of medium-large, very sweet fruit mature from late summer through fall. Attractive blue-green foliage remains evergreen in mild winter climates. Should produce a little better in cooler inland areas. The plant grows to about 4 - 5 feet tall.

MISTY EARLY SEASON

Very low chill requirements will set sky-blue medium large, very sweet fruit that matures early, usually mid-summer through fall. Attractive blue-green foliage remains evergreen in milder climates. The plant naturally grows a little taller to about 5 - 6 feet.

O'NEAL

This variety is often considered to have the best flavor of the Southern Highbush Blueberries. Large dark blue fruit matures very early from summer to early fall. This one will grow to 5 to 6 feet tall and as wide.

SOUTHMOON

This variety produces large sky blue fruit that ripens in summer. Highly productive in areas of cooler winter hours. White bell-shaped flowers and colorful fall foliage are added benefits. This one may lose all foliage in winter. The plant can reach 6 feet tall and wide.

SUNSHINE BLUE

Pink blooms, fade to white and yield abundant crops of large tangy fruit. This is a very low chill variety that grows well and produces even in our coastal areas. Semi-dwarf to about 3 to 4 feet. Attractive foliage holds well into winter. ■

December Garden Class Schedule

All Saturday classes are FREE and last about an hour. Complimentary coffee is served. During inclement weather, classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. Class topics are subject to change with no notification. You may call for confirmation.

9:00AM SAN DIEGO NURSERY	9:30AM POWAY NURSERY
12/1 Rose Pruning	12/1 Making Your Christmas Decorations
12/8 Compost—Not Your Mama's Coffee Grounds	12/8 Rose Pruning
12/15 Pruning Peach, Nectarines & Almonds	12/15 Fruit Tree Pruning with Richard Wright
12/22 No Class Scheduled	12/22 No Class Scheduled
12/29 Pruning Apples, Pears & Other Fruit Trees	12/29 Bare Root Roses—Care & Transplanting

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Visit Our 2 Locations:

SAN DIEGO

3642 Enterprise Street, San Diego, CA 92110
{619} 224-8271

POWAY

12755 Danielson Court, Poway, CA 92064
{858} 513-4900



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