'FLYING FELT NATURAL TO ME' SAID CHARLIE EDWARDS, WWII FIGHTER PILOT- P. 4





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DEC. 30, 2016–JAN. 12, 2017 ■ VOL. 30, NO. 1



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From the ashes of the Summit Hill fire, hope continues to shine

By Lorraine Gabbert Senior Staff Writer

Open hands and open hearts can make all the difference. When the Summit Hill fire struck in May 2008, Almaden resident Jim Johnson rushed to help, putting out flames with a shovel.

"There was ash and rubble everywhere," he says. "I saw people I thought were camping, but then it hit me: These people had lost their homes, cars, everything." About 35 houses burned in the fire, affecting the elderly, Vietnam Vets and families with young children. Jim Johnson found people living in tents and cars with no help in sight. It was so hot, metal melted and carpets and drapes burst into flames, even in concrete homes. Amongst the wreckage, he saw melted basketball hoops, tricycles and scorched toys.

"As I drove down the hill, I decided I had to do something," he says. Gathering friends, and friends of friends, he



"It was laborious, but we wanted to help," says **Leisa Johnson**, pictured here with husband **Jim Johnson**.



Volunteers lend a helping hand, clearing debris from the devastating Summit Hills fire in 2008.

marshaled volunteers to lend a hand clearing debris, rebuilding homes, cutting down dead trees and planting 4300 new ones, and feeding the hungry. During the course of several years, more than 190 volunteers joined him and his wife, Leisa Johnson, in lending aid. Filthy and sweaty from their hard work, they told them they had never felt happier in their lives knowing what they did make a real difference.

"The people who lived there would cry and hug and thank us," says Jim Johnson. "It was laborious, but we wanted to help," says Leisa Johnson. "We'd be cleaning up the ashes thinking this was someone's home. It was devastating."

Jim Johnson says that when he first went up the hill, he felt helpless, but soon realized it wasn't completely hopeless. After the fire, everything was exposed and people got to know each other, connecting through him. "I prayed for a lot of people and made friends for life," he says. "I went up with big crews of people to clean up and do tree planting and the people who lived there started helping us and helping each other."

One day in 2008, he had ordered 1200 trees and didn't know how to pay for them. "It's God's gig," said Leisa Johnson. That day his phone started ringing and \$5500 came in through word of mouth as well as a check from a church for the nursery. There was a storm warning on the Saturday they went to plant the trees, but they decided to try anyway.

See SUMMIT HILL FIRE, page 16

Leland Chargers help Second Harvest Food Bank collect and sort turkeys

he Leland Chargers Varsity Football team braved the rain on Saturday, Nov. 19 to help Second Harvest Food Bank collect and sort hundreds of turkeys in preparation for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The players helped sort nearly a thousand pounds of food in a effort to help feed the 1 in 10 residents in Santa Clara County who rely on Second Harvest Food Bank to provide healthy meals for their family.

The event was such a positive experience for the team that they have decided to expand their efforts in 2017 to include a turkey drive.





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This Week:

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Violin virtuoso Kamio to perform with Symphony Silicon Valley: PAGE 21

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Almaden **Times**

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Valley Currents

cur rent (adj.) *Present, topical, timely, newsworthy.* (n.) *Movement in a definite direction, a flow.*

U.S. Navy fighter pilot

CHARLIE EDWARDS, WWII FIGHTER PILOT

'Flying felt natural to me'

By Pamela Varma

Special to the Times of his

wo months shy of his 98th birthday, Charlie Edwards still has his World War II fighter pilot confidence.

"It might sound cocky, but I have never done anything in my life as well as I flew an airplane," he said during his recent visit to Kauai. "Flying felt natural to me."

Charlie was a member of the VC-66, a U.S. Naval Air Squadron that was stationed on Oahu, Maui and Kauai during the war. The VC-66 was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its collective accomplishments during battle, and Charlie received the Air Medal for his role in sinking a Japanese submarine.

Returning to Kauai's Pacific Missile Range Facility for the first time in 72 years, Charlie was greeted by sailors and civilians. Several days later, sitting on the couch of a rented condo in Poipu, glass of wine in hand, Charlie recounted some of his most memorable moments during World War II.

As a Navy pilot, Charlie had to acquire skills that most other pilots never learn, most notably taking off from, and landing on, an aircraft carrier, an ocean-going warship that is equipped with a runway.

During the war, most land-based runways were about 1,500 feet long, but most aircraft carriers were

only 1,000 feet long, leaving runway lengths of 600 feet.

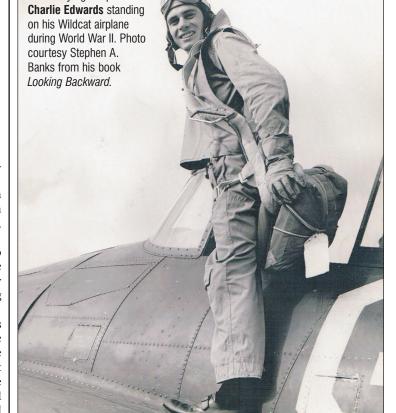
But Charlie served primarily on escort carriers that were much smaller, only 400 feet in length, with only 250 feet of runway.

It took skill — and guts — to master landing in such a finite space, on a ship that was not only making forward motion, but being tossed by ocean waves.

"It had to be intuitive. There was a landing signal officer up front. He gave you a sign to cut your engine or wave off, go around and try it again," Charlie says. "But there was a limit to how much he could control the moment that you would strike the deck, compared with how the ship was rolling or pitching in the waves.

"In rough seas, there would be a bad relationship between the moment you cut the engine and when the ship either went up or down," he says, laughing. "Every carrier landing got your attention, you bet!"

Upon touchdown, arresting gear that included eight or nine cables tightly stretched across the deck, grabbed hold of the plane's tailhook to rapidly decelerate it. If a pilot failed to catch one of the cables with his tailhook, the plane could slide into a barrier at the end of the runway. Beyond the barrier were parked planes or an elevator that led down to the hangar deck.



Even for trained pilots, landing on an aircraft carrier was not an easy task.

"A lot of planes missed those cables and went into the barrier," Charlie says. "And once in awhile, somebody would go over the side.

Taking off from an aircraft carrier was also an adventure, especially when the plane needed to be catapulted. One time Charlie was catapulted off a carrier in the dark of night in the Marshall Islands.

"That was pretty scary," he says.
"They didn't consult us pilots about how they were going to get us in the air. It depended on how much wind they had across the deck and how fast they were trying to get people into the air."

"If you see a submarine, sink it"

As a fighter pilot, Charlie experienced being shot at by enemy planes numerous times. During training, the men had spent many hours learning aircraft recognition, so that in a tenth of a second of looking at their radar screen, they could tell how many aircraft were heading toward them, and whether they were friendly or the enemy.

But sometimes enemy fire came from submarines.

See EDWARDS, page 6



Charlie Edwards standing on the wing of his plane after helping sink a Japanese submarine on April 4, 1944, east of the Marshall Islands. Photo courtesy Stephen A. Banks from his book Looking Backward

Mailbox

Fake news detected

Dear Editor,

In the Almaden Times Dec. 16-29 Mailbox, Gene Hopkins writes that Clinton won only 57 counties out of 3141.

This is fake news. AP reports

that Clinton won 487 counties. Gene also writes that Clinton's 1.5 million lead in New York City accounts for her 2 million vote lead; not true.

Peter GrootAlmaden Valley

LET THE ALMADEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your letters to editorial@timesmediainc.com or mail to: Almaden Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124



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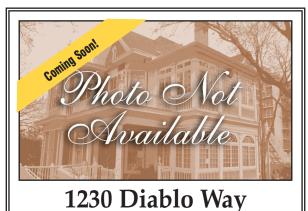
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Times Local News

Edwards

Continued from page 4

"We didn't know one submarine from another," he says. "We were told, 'There are no friendly submarines out in the middle of the Pacific, so if you see a submarine, sink it.' "

Once, several hundred miles east of the Marshall Islands, Charlie and other Navy pilots had been instructed to go on a "hunter-killer" mission, flying solo in propeller-driven Wildcats, to seek out enemy aircraft and submarines.

"My torpedo bomber and I would fly in triangular courses. We'd go out 300 miles from the carrier, make a left, then turn back to the ship," he says.

On April 4, 1944, during their first trip of the day, Charlie spotted a Japanese submarine that had surfaced.

"My job was to strafe the sub with armorpiercing .50 caliber rounds to keep people off the sub's deck so they couldn't shoot at us. I had 800 bullets to unload."

The torpedo bomber and his aircrew also began attacking the sub, firing three pairs of rockets and two depth bombs, then Charlie dove his plane down diagonally across the submarine, firing at the ship's conning tower. More rockets and strafing followed.

"I hung around until I was out of ammunition, and the torpedo bomber had gone home," Charlie says. "When I left, the sub was in the water at a 45-degree angle with the bow out of the water and the stern way down. We figured it was not a good situation for them. Later, we learned that Tokyo reported that the sub was never heard from again, so they gave us the kill."

I'll land in deeper water

Just four months later, Charlie had another memorable experience. He had hitched a ride on a torpedo bomber to Oahu, where he was to pick up a reconditioned fighter plane and fly it back to Maui, where he was stationed.

"I checked it out visually as much as I could and took it out to the end of the runway. It sounded good to me, so I took off," he says. "I was just past Molokai, when the engine quit, cold! There was no wind-milling of the propeller or anything. Just bang!

"Fighters have a glide ratio kind of like a red brick," he says, laughing at the imagery. "I hit the SOS button."

He was flying at about 500 feet, too low of an altitude to bail out, so he knew he needed to find a place to land.

What he saw was a golf course off Maui's north shore, and envisioned landing on a lovely fairway. But when he looked down, "all I could see was trees and sand traps. I was concerned that I might flip over and be killed. I thought, 'Nope, no, no!' "

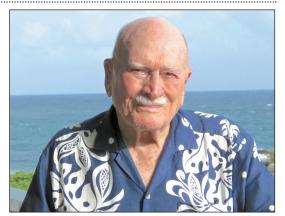
As seconds ticked by, he realized his only option was to land in the ocean. He saw green, shallow water near the shore, but quickly realized if he tried to land there and the plane flipped over, he would be trapped and unable to get out.

"So I'll land in the deeper blue water," he thought to himself. "From there, it was simple, no different from a carrier landing, except I did it wheels up, and I didn't lower my tailhook. It landed nicely, a little over 150 yards from shore."

Charlie got out of the plane and began swimming for shore.

When he was halfway in, a young Hawaiian man swam out to help him.

"He had seen me go down," Charlie says, touched at the memory of the young man's



Charlie Edwards during his visit to Kauai in October 2016. *Photo by Pamela Varma*

willingness to help him. "That fellow might still be alive. If so, I would certainly like to shake his hand."

Minutes after swimming ashore, Charlie found himself in an ambulance, though he was perfectly fine.

From the time his motor quit to the moment he landed, was barely 40 seconds.

"Things had to be done. Decisions had to be made," he says. "It worked out nicely."

Charlie gives thanks to the Navy that had actually trained him and other pilots to make emergency water landings and how to get out of the plane's cockpit in such instances. "They figured that was going to happen sooner or later, so I was prepared for it."

The entire experience sounds like a scene from a movie, but Charlie says there was a downside: in his plane, he had been carrying a sack of mail for his squadron.

"Oh boy, I was reluctant to go back to the ready room and admit what had happened. Those letters were so precious, and there I had sank a whole bunch of them in deep water." (A ready room is the space on an aircraft carrier where pilots stand at the ready near their planes.)

"I was greeted less than enthusiastically by my buddies when I got back," he says. "What the Hell, it was my mail too! There had probably been a couple of letters for me."

Don't have to take my hat off

After the war ended, Charlie was asked to work in intelligence for the newly-formed Atomic Energy Agency in Washington, D.C., "checking what Russia was doing in the nuclear business. It was fascinating," he says. He worked there for many years.

His beloved wife of 68 years, Marnie, with whom he raised four children, passed on four years so, so Charlie has found new things to keep himself busy.

A handful of years ago he took up archery, and has competed in national championships across the country. He is usually the only competitor in the 95 to 99 year old age bracket, so today he is the current national champion for his age group and his score remains unchallenged.

Charlie has also started writing a book, tentatively titled, "My Wonderful Life," retracing all of his life's adventures, for which he is truly thankful. But sometimes he finds himself facing writer's block.

"I say to myself, 'Come on Charlie, are you going to write a book or not?' I want to do that while I'm still young," he says, laughing.

Revisiting his military accomplishments for his book reminds Charlie how fortunate he was to become a fighter pilot — and how large of an impact those few years had on his entire life.

"I would not give that up. You couldn't buy it from me. Millions of dollars wouldn't interest me. It helped define me very much, and in a real good way," he says. "I just don't have to take my hat off to anybody."





Tackie Tones My Real estate experience is your advantage





Times **Feature**

Almaden Times welcomes new 'Ask The Lawyer' columnist

Ask the

Lawyer

By Steven R. Roeser, Esq.

Special to the Times

This Week's Question:

"Dear Steve, please tell us a little about yourself!"

—Donald D.

Almaden Valley

Answer:

The name for the individual submitting the question looks all too familiar! Well hello, Mr. DeVries!

It is with great pleasure that I begin my first Almaden Times column by wishing all of our readers a very Happy New Year! May you all enjoy a year filled with peace, love, joy and prosperity.

This column first began a whopping 30 years ago, in August, 1986. For three decades, Mr. Don DeVries, Esq., wrote this column and covered legal issues affecting Silicon Valley with grace, humor and a high level of intellect. We want to give a special thanks to Mr. DeVries for his service to the Almaden Valley community and greater Silicon Valley area over the course of his legal (and columnist!) career! This columnist has a feeling you will hear from him again in 2017 as a guest writer.

Mr. DeVries covered a remarkable period of time writing for you all, and perhaps the most significant in the history of Silicon Valley to date. To think how the area has changed from the mid-1980's to now is astounding. As I was born in Mountain View, raised in the bay area, attended law school at Santa Clara University, and have

spent my career practicing in Silicon Valley, I have had the privilege of watching the transformation first hand, from a different generational perspective.

Silicon Valley is unpredictable, exciting, and as innovative as anywhere in the world. It is ripe with opportunity, but also can be perilous in terms of the speed of life and its

effect on our life outlook. The challenge in Silicon Valley for us all is balancing family and work life, keeping those priorities in the correct order (family first), and finding time to have some fun in between.

My goal is to share legal issues and topics relevant to individuals and businesses in Silicon Valley, our family and professional lives, and other special topics that affect or pertain to us as residents of this community (such as the San Jose Sharks ... GO SHARKS!).

To give you just a little background on me, my wife Brit and I reside with our young son

Jaxon (and our dogs) in Silicon Valley. I received my undergraduate degree while spending several blissful years studying by the beach in Santa Barbara, California. I have been practicing law for 14 years, primarily in Silicon Valley, with a short stint in southern California in between. I started my career as a lawyer at a historic, well-known law firm in downtown San Jose after gradu-

ating from Santa Clara University of Law. I "hung my own shingle" (legal slang for opening a law practice) several years ago, and am excited to be connecting with my alma mater's community in a new way in the greater San Jose area. When I am not with my family or working, I enjoy sports and exercise, travel, spending time working with

our dogs, and free writing (and I must add that I am very excited to be taking over this column!).

As a 6'4 guy, I spent a lot of time playing basketball as a kid, well into my adulthood. Basketball players like basketball shoes. As many of our parent readers know, kids take their hoops shoes seriously! I recall one day long ago, perhaps I was 15, when I came across a pair of real-life, size 22 Shaquille O'Neal basketball sneakers on display in the store. I still remember how big those shoes looked as I peered closely at them. How could someone

actually fit into those shoes?

I have a bit of that overwhelming feeling now, taking on this column and trying to fill the shoes of my friend Mr. DeVries, after he carried the pen for this column for three decades. I am thankful for the opportunity to write for you all, and I hope that in due time, I will earn your respect and loyalty as Mr. DeVries did. My ultimate hope is that with

Silicon Valley is unpredictable, exciting, and as innovative as anywhere in the world. It is ripe with opportunity, but also can be perilous in terms of the speed of life and its effect on our life outlook.

some time, you all will look forward to reading this column when the Almaden Times hits the stands

And of course, I will be waiting for your questions so that I may respond via these articles. No more questions, Mr. DeVries!

Here is to wishing you all and your families the very best in 2017 and beyond.

Until next time..

Kindest Regards,

Steven R. Roeser, Esq.

You can reach Mr. Roeser with your questions by email at info@almadenvalleylawyers.com, with "Almaden Times" in the subject line, or by telephone at (408)268-9500. Your real name will not be used. No attorney-client relationship is created by these articles. For more information on our practice, please visit www.almadenvalley lawyers.com







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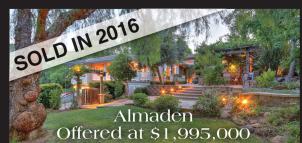


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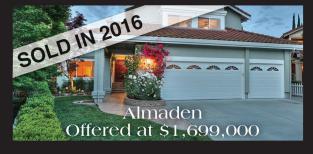






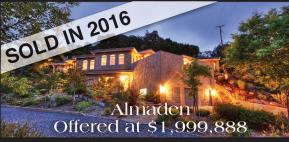








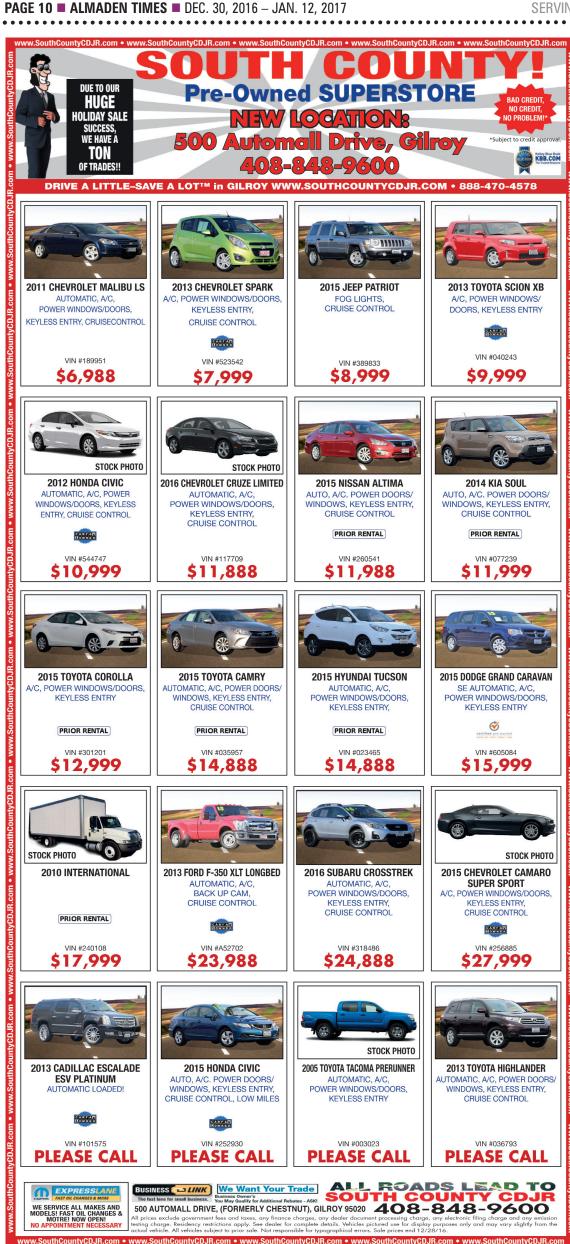












Times Local News



Remembering Salvatore Lobbato

alvatore Lobbato, long time Almaden resident, and owner of ABC Jr. Bootery, was a household name. For many youngsters he was Mr. Shoehorn; for others, Almaden Plaza Santa (er, his helper, of course!). For

Almaden golfers, he was "friend"; for his three daughters, "dad" regardless of the title, it was always spoken with pride.

The ABC Jr. Bootery was located on Lincoln Ave. for many years across from Garden Theater, then enlarging and relocating to The Pruneyard. Many of his

loyal Almaden families followed him.

Sal was born July 10, 1917 in Newark New Jersey to Italian immigrant parents. He married his childhood sweetheart Carrie and they had 3 girls, their own ABC's - Annette, Bernice, and Carol - who gave him the name for his specialized children's

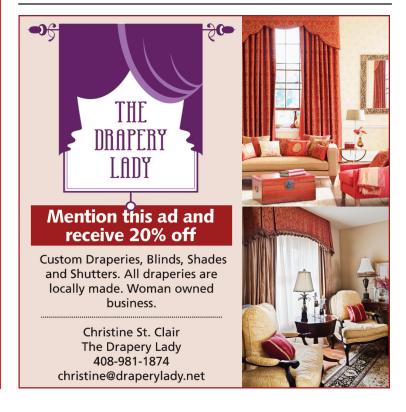
1952 brought him to the west

coast for a job interview in Fresno, but he never got further than San Jose, as it was back to school time - then known as "GREATER SAN JOSE DAYS." Mr. Irving of Blooms shoe store offered him a job, and from there,

he eventually launched his own specialized children's store. At that time Almaden was a two lane often foggy road winding through prune orchards - boy, have things changed! Now, new schools and many more merchants line the street. New housing offered the perfect choice to settle his

family in a valley resembling his parents native hills in Italy.

After retirement, he and his wife continued to promote his daughter and son in laws' business in Princeton Plaza, so multiple generations of families knew Sal and Carrie Lobbato. Sal passed away in the first week of December 2016, but he will not soon be forgotten.



californiamoves.com

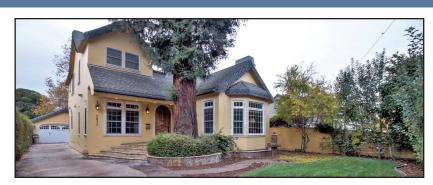
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American Red Cross

Superheroes needed to help save the day! Drivers wanted.

Are you interested in a meaningful volunteer opportunity that will make a real impact in the community? Yes? Then Volunteer Transportation Specialist is for you!

Did you know that donated bloods spoils, has a use-by date, and cannot exceed its expiration? Getting blood products delivered safely and when needed is *crucial*.

The Red Cross is looking for a few good drivers to serve as volunteer transportation specialists to deliver lifesaving blood products to Bay area hospitals. Drivers help ensure that blood products are available when and where needed for patients. Accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those in treatment for cancer may all need blood products.

What to know:

- ☑ Drive Red Cross vehicles (not big trucks!)
- ☑ Use small hand trucks
- ☑ Training provided
- ☑ You pick your schedule, ad hoc when available or repeating weekly 2-4x/month

What you need:

- ✓ Valid CA driver's license with minimum of 3 years driving
- ✓ Verifiable and safe driving record
- ✓ Able to lift boxes of lifesaving blood products of up to 45 pounds a short distance

To learn more: contact **Sydney Lorek** at sydney.lorek@redcross.org or (408) 857-8591.

To apply: http://www.redcross.org/local/california/northern-california-coastal/volunteer#step1 and select **Blood Services**, then **NCPW Biomedical Services**: **Transportation Specialist**. Thank you!

Times **Features**



CHRISTMAS CHEER

Local Air Force veteran receives keys to car to assist with transportation to two new jobs

he holidays are merry and bright for Eleanor Jimenez (above, center), a local 13-year Air Force veteran who will receive keys to a practically brand new car from Caliber Collision and Allstate Insurance as part of the National Auto Body Council's Recycled RidesTM program.

Recycled Rides is a nationwide program in which businesses in the collision industry team up to repair and donate cars to veterans, and individuals in need. Caliber Collision technicians volunteered personal time to refurbish the 2014 Toyota Camry which was donated by Allstate.

Jimenez, a single mother who raised three

sons, unexpectedly lost her job. She fell behind financially while she was unemployed, struggled to make ends meet, and eventually seeking support at a shelter. She recently landed two jobs, one of which has her leaving work often at 3 a.m. when public transportation is not available. The Recycled Rides gift will enable Jimenez to now get to and from her jobs on time and safely.

Jimenez was nominated for the Recycled Rides gift by Veterans Resource Center which assists veterans with transitional housing, employment and training, and other support services.

Assistance League gives books to school children

he Assistance League of San Jose (ALSJ), an all-volunteer philanthropic organization, announced that it gave children's encyclopedias to 1,257 elementary school children within nine secondand third-grade classroom within several school districts including the San Jose Unified school district.

"The purpose of our Readers are Leaders program is to instill the love of reading in young students through volunteers who read in their classrooms on a regular basis," said Pat Passarelli, past president of Assistance League who delivered the book entitled National Geographic Little Kids' First Book of How to a combination second and third grade class at Lyndale Elementary school.

Free Cash for College Workshop to be presented January 21

tate Sen. Jim Beall is sponsoring a free "Cash for College Day" on Jan. 21 at Silver Creek High School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is open to all high school students.

The goal of "Cash for College Day" is to help college-bound students and their families understand the options available for paying for college expenses.

"Sometimes the biggest challenge for students isn't getting into college but figuring out how to pay for college," Beall said. "All too often, students and their families take out college loans without fully understanding the terms of the agreements. I don't want that to happen."

Students and their families can get personnel and professional assistance with completing their Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms, also known as FAFSA. Information about resources will be available for foster youth and students eligible for AB 540, also known as the California Dream Act. Assistance with California Dream Act applications will be provided.

There will also be a resource fair with representatives from various Northern California universities, including Stanford, UC-Berkeley, UC-Santa Cruz, San Jose State, De Anza College, Mills College, San Jose City College, Evergreen Valley College, and more.

For more information about the workshop or to RSVP, contact the Senate District 15 office, (408) 558-1295, or click here. Silver Creek High School is located at 3434 Silver Creek Rd., San Jose, CA

Times Features



The Hom family (I to r) **Brandon Kathy, Brian and Steven** announce the opening of their new Vitality Bowls restaurant in Feb. 2017. The Homs recently sponsored an allergy awareness night with the Golden State Warriors.

Vitality Bowls to give eating healthy new meaning in South San Jose

By William Bellou

Publisher

ritality Bowls, known for its cafe vibe and superfood tasty menu, has signed an agreement with Hom family to open two south bay locations.

Entrepreneurs Brian and Kathy Hom, along with their two grown sons Steven and Brandon will open their 5660 Cottle Rd. location in Feb. 2017. A second location will opening on Cherry Ave. next spring.

The family is advocates of safe eating for people with food allergies. The Homs lost their son BJ to a food allergy in 2008. BJ Hom died at age 18 from traces of peanuts in a chocolate mousse

dessert in on a family vacation in Los Cabos, Mexico.

The Homs helped pass the voluntary Federal law for stocking Epi pens in schools and helped pass the law that mandates stocking Epi pens in California schools. Starting on Jan. 1, 2017, a new California law will allow Epi pens to be

stocked at restaurants. The Homs plan to stock Epi pens at both Vitality Bowls Cafes.

"I'm thrilled to open my first Vitality Bowls location," said Brian, a seasoned procurement professional in the high tech industry and a local food allergy advocate. "My wife who currently works in the high tech industry and I have been wanting to provide people with a healthy fast casual food alternative as well as a safe place for people with food allergies. This will be a haven where people can feel good about eating out." Brian will be working full-time at the 5660 Cottle Rd. location.

Originating in Northern California and specializing in acai bowls that feature a thick blend of the Amazon's antioxidant-rich berry, topped with a variety of superfoods – Vitality Bowls has solidified itself as America's superfood cafe. All items on the menu are made to order for each customer and are prepared in a kitchen to avoid cross contamination whenever possible for customers with food allergies. No ingredient fillers such as ice, frozen yogurt, added sugar or artificial preservatives are used, giving the purest taste possible to each menu item.

The menu features a variety of options, such as the Energy Bowl (with organic acai, goji berries and bee pollen), the Dragon Bowl (featuring organic pitaya, coconut milk and bananas) and the signature Vitality Bowl (with organic

The Homs helped pass the voluntary federal law for stocking Epi pens in schools and helped pass the law that mandates stocking Epi pens in California schools.

acai, strawberries and honey). Additionally, the brand recently announced exclusive additions to its kids menu. Plus, fresh juices, organic soups, panini and salads are available in each cafe.

The eatery will also include a full-service coffee bar, complete with espresso and superfood drinks that are packed with antioxidant-rich acai, pitaya and matcha. Organic cold brew nitrogen-poured coffee and organic kombucha will also be available on-tap.

"Brian and Kathy are exactly the right entrepreneurs to grow the brand in San Jose," said Tara Gilad, co-founder of Vitality Bowls. "Their commitment to preventing food allergy illnesses makes them the perfect owners for our brand. We're so excited to see how they'll change the lives of locals in their two new cafes."



The Almaden Singles Club volunteers are shown loading the truck being with bags for Sacred Heart Community Service.

Gifts for Teens distribute gift bags for homeless

he Gifts for Teens project has just finished filling and distributing 1283 bags and special gifts for local homeless and needy teenagers who are often overlooked at holiday season.

More than 365 volunteers were involved in assembling the bags which are given out through five social service agencies serving downtown San Jose.

Each bag has an estimated value of \$200 to \$250 and contains things that teens like and need; a sweatshirt, warm apparel, games, personal care and school items, store gift cards, cosmetics and jewelry, and much more.

The tree will be on display through Jan. 1.



A huge pile of small candies, weighing at least a ton, donated by Dr. Christopher Corsa, Almaden Orthodontist, Smiles for Pretty Faces, on Camden Blvd.



Almaden District 10 Christmas Tree on display at Christmas in the Park

Imaden District 10 team has put together a Christmas tree honoring those whom make our community great. The tree features ornaments honoring all of our fabulous neighborhood associations. There are also ornaments that honor our stand out community leaders and organizations. Finally, the tree features our beloved Mt. Umunhum Radar Tower at the top!

Times Cover Story

Summit Hill fire

Continued from page 1

The rain stopped just as they arrived and didn't start again until they were heading down the hill, watering the 1200 newly planted trees. "It made me feel like I wasn't alone," says Jim Johnson. "God was looking over my shoulder."

Over time, the Johnsons developed personal relationships with the residents affected by the fire. "People were afraid to take much food," says Jim Johnson, "but we told them to take more. We handed them grocery bags and said this is for you." Leisa Johnson agrees. "Sometimes it's hard for people to accept help," she says. "They'd say, 'No,' but someone else would take it for them. We can't give them everything they need, but we can give them food. It's a way to connect with others. You have to be able to help them want to fight to survive."

Sunshine, a Vietnam Vet living in the canyon, lost his trailer in the fire and now lives in a broken down truck camper. When Jim Johnson first approached him, Sunshine, wary of strangers was hostile, but after receiving the food he quickly ate it and warmed up to him. "He was hugging me and sharing his war stories," says Jim Johnson. "When I was leaving, he said, 'Don't forget about us.' They need help and a shoulder to cry on."

Out of their food drive efforts was born Fishnet Care and Share, which currently distributes about \$40,000 of food each week to low income families, senior centers, foster group homes, sober-living centers, a battered women's shelter and more. "Our goal is to help as many people as possible with the resources we have," says Jim Johnson.

They also continue to bring groceries and aid to the fire victims.



Jim Johnson spent countless hours helping after the fire.

When the Loma Chiquita fire destroyed 12 homes in October, they didn't miss a beat, including those residents in their food drive.

They hope to raise \$10,000 to cover the costs of wheelbarrows and dumpsters for clearing debris, as well as chain saw supplies and trees and sandbags to prevent erosion in the fire-ravaged area. They also need \$100,000 to provide temporary housing for residents who lost their homes and don't have the means to rebuild them. "One man lives in a tent and is probably very cold," says Jim Johnson. "I'd like to help him get a trailer."

Jim Johnson hopes others in the community will help them with planting trees, filling sand bags, and donating funds. "I feel disappointed that there's not more concern about these people in the community," he says. "They don't live that far from us. They had productive lives and homes and now it's like they live in a third-world country and there's no safety net or real help for them."

Providing food, compassion and hope to people in need is nothing

new to Jim and Leisa Johnson. While in their 20s, living in Colorado, they found themselves in a desperate situation. Jim had accepted a job in the Bay Area that fell through. At the same time, they lost their life savings through an investment with a developer who went bankrupt. They went three days without eating, as they had no money for food. Then came a knock on their door; it was a neighbor with a pot of soup. "We recovered quickly and got jobs but it opened my eyes to those in need," says Jim Johnson.

With first-hand experience of how it felt to go hungry, they started a food outreach. "Don't do it," said a friend. "You'll have every welfare case in the county at your doorstep." Jim Johnson hoped he would. A short time later, that same friend lost his job and the Johnsons brought him food. "I don't know what we would have done without your help," said his friend.

"Jim's good about making things happen," says Leisa Johnson. "If there's a need, he'll take care of it."

Growing up, Jim Johnson's family modeled compassion. His father and grandfather were ministers and were constantly helping others. He also recalls his mother making meals for the hungry and giving out food from their home.

"I felt like God told me to help these people," says Jim Johnson. "I find happiness and fulfillment in helping others. I remembered when we needed help and it felt like no one cared. I go out of my way now to help people. Just showing compassion and caring means a lot to people."

If you would like more information, please see: www.fishnetcareandshare.org and Summit Fire Responders on Facebook. Please send donations to: Fishnet, PO Box 41034, San Jose, CA 95160.



Hunger at Home 'Bridge the Gap' Gala takes aim at hunger

n Nov. 18, Hunger at Home held a spectacular event titled "Bridge the Gap", hosted by Team San Jose. The fall gala was held in downtown San Jose at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center. Hunger at Home has invited select local charities, Martha's Kitchen, The Salvation Army and Bill Wilson Center, to participate and receive a portion of proceeds raised from this fundraiser for their dedication to alleviate the hunger and homeless crisis in our community.

"Being chosen as one of the beneficiaries of the gala means a lot to Martha's Kitchen," said Edita Cruz, Director, Martha's Kitchen. "This is the 11th year we have had a benefit dinner. Putting together an annual event is a taxing job for our lean staff. Putting together an event as big as this gala would have been virtually impossible [for Martha's Kitchen alone.]"

"In my 15 years at Martha's Kitchen, I have been to meetings envisioning a time when surplus in the community was shared with the needy," Cruz continued. "Hunger at Home has made it a reality and our community is the better for it."



Attendees to the "Bridge the Gap" fundraising gala experienced red carpet treatment, a complimentary color photo, and cuisine that delighted even the most discerning palate, starting with hors d'oeuvres and wine pairings, followed by an elegant formal plated dinner and dessert extravaganza. A silent auction was conducted during the reception and guests were able to bid on silent auction items using their mobile phones. Following the live auction guests danced the night away with live music by local artist, Greg Kihn, and "The Greg Kihn Band".



Times Features





Holidays sparkle downtown at Christmas in the Park

Enjoy these festive scenes from San Jose's beloved annual "Christmas in the Park" event. Photos by Brigitte Jones

How to recycle your holiday tree

Curbside collection of holiday trees is on your collection day beginning now through Jan. 27.

Homeowners must remove stands, tinsel, and decorations. Cut into 5-foot pieces. Set out on the curb near your carts by 6 a.m.

Too much holiday trash?

Use Extra Garbage Stickers, available at City Hall, libraries, Lucky, and Safeway stores in San José. Place extra garbage in a 32-gallon plastic garbage bag labeled with an Extra Garbage Sticker on the curb near the garbage cart on your collection day.

Questions about recycling?

Go to sjenvironment.org/curbside-recycling to view, print, or order a copy of the Recycling Guide, available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

For service questions

Contact your recycling, garbage, or yard trimmings collection company to report missed collections,

replace damaged carts, report service issues, or change your cart size. Go to sjenvironment.org/lookup to find your collection company and pickup day, to get street sweeping information, and for the schedule of neighborhood cleanups.

Santa Clara County Library District earns Four Star Rating from National Publication

The Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) has been rated among the top public libraries in the United States.

Awarded a four star rating from the Library Journal Index of Public Library Service, the national rating system is designed to recognize top performing public libraries within the nation.

In 2016, 7,349 U.S. public libraries qualified to be rated with only 260 libraries receiving the distinguished Star Library one, two, three, four or five star rating.

Thirteen California libraries were awarded the prestigious Star Rating in 2016.

"Receiving a four-star rating such as this reinforces just how invaluable the libraries are to our communities," stated County of Santa Clara Supervisor Mike Wasserman, Chair of the Santa Clara County Library District Board. "Libraries are more than just a gathering place for exploring, imagining or interacting with other community members. Our libraries offer vital resources, special collections and the newest in technologies that help build our communities and create vital learning centers for all our residents."

Library Journal is one of the library field's leading professional publications and developed its national ranking of public libraries from per capita statistics.

The ratings are based on five categories, including library visits, circulation, program attendance and public internet computer use and the most recently added category: circulation of electronic materials.

The top five reasons community newspapers are thriving

ditor & Publisher published a short piece today that shared some bright news about the newspaper industry.

In their article, "Despite Doom and Gloom, Community Newspapers are Growing Stronger" they reveal that community newspapers are still finding success—contrary to seemingly endless discussions about the death of the medium. Many of the publishers they interviewed shared that their circulation and revenue are growing, and they don't see that changing any time soon.

So why are community newspapers faring better than their larger, metro counterparts?

- 1.) **Local News Focus** By limiting the geographic area they cover, community newspapers can dive deep into their local coverage and provide unique content that is not offered in abundance online.
- 2.) **Low Overhead** Many community newspapers are able to run successfully from small offices, with a small staff.
- 3.) Adaptability Without having huge bureaucratic structures in place, community newspapers can change strategy quickly and implement changes more easily that larger, complex organizations.
- 4.) Accessibility to Sources Social media such as Facebook have given local reporters easier



access to the people they're looking to interview for their stories.

5.) Community Involvement – Having a local office, with a local presence enables the newspaper to become an active part of the community it's covering, leading to more favorable views from its readership and greater insights into the social structure of the area it serves.

The *Almaden Times* will soon begin its 30th year covering community news in Almaden Valley.



Girls Softball Sign-ups for Almaden Valley - AVGSL

AVGSL online registration is open!

Please visit WWW.AVGSL.ORG to register or to find all the information regarding our league. We are accepting registration for ages for Under 6, Under 8, Under 10, Under 12 and Under 14.

EVERYONE is welcome to join our league and it does not matter what skill level because we have a spot for you. AVGSL's main goal is to insure that all players are in a fun, positive environment while learning and expanding their softball skills. AVGSL promotes a sense of belonging for everyone. We emphasize teamwork and the sense of individual success that contribute to team sports.

If you have questions please email **president@avgsl.org** and we will be happy to help.

Fundraiser for Lottie Drake to help fight breast cancer

he Almaden Valley Softball League sponsored a family movie night at the Almaden community center on Dec. 16 to raise funds to fight breast cancer for Lottie Drake.

Leland and Presentation High school students gave up their Friday night and were happy to support a great cause. The students showed their support setting up and running the refreshments for the entire event.

An estimated 100 friends and family braved the cold to support Lottie, wife of John Drake, long time softball and girls' basketball coach for AVGSL and Almaden NJB. Lottie is fighting stage four breast cancer.

The Drake's have four children ranging from 1 - 14.

For more information, email Sandy Baggott: sandybaggott@gmail.com.



Times Community News

San Jose wins award for innovative tactics to combat illegal dumping

CACHE CREEK

March 14, 2017 Tuesday

Arrive: 7:45 a.m. Depart: 8:00 a.m.

Return: 6:00 p.m. approximately

Cost: \$35.00 includes \$10.00 slot play or table match play with

players card.

Sign up M, T, W 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. at Almaden Community Center

Questions:

Sally: 408 825-9619 Richard: 408 219-8641









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WE ARE LOOKING FOR HARDWORKING, PASSIONATE TEAM MEMBERS! You must be:

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- · Have a CA Food Handler Card (or willing to get one)
- Are a quick learner, self-starter, high energy individual who can thrive in a fast pace, high pressure, non-stop, multi-tasking, chaotic environment
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Details:

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- Minimum 4 Hour Shifts- Flexible Schedule Mon-Fri & Weekends
- Hourly Rate: starts at \$10.50 plus tips. Starting July 1, 2017 stating rate will be \$12.00 per San Jose minimum wage.
- Promotion opportunities available.
- Enjoy your long and fulfilling career at Vitality Bowls
- Email your resume & cover letter to: villageoaks@vitalitybowls.com

an Jose residents are noticing a decrease in blight on city streets and open areas as a result of comprehensive, innovative, and successful efforts by the city's Environmental Services Department (ESD) to reduce illegal dumping.

Keep America Beautiful, a national nonprofit organization, recognized these efforts by awarding the City of San Jose with its 2016 National Community Improvement award for Litter Prevention.

Established in 1953, Keep America Beautiful provides the expertise, programs, and resources to help people end littering, improve recycling, and beautify America's communities.

"This is a tremendous honor by a national organization that underscores our collaborative approach to a complex issue," said Kerrie Romanow, director of the San José Environmental Services Department, which leads the program.

"Because of our strong internal and community partnerships, we're seeing visible results that are making our community cleaner and greener and engaging our residents to strengthen our neighborhoods."

As in many large cities, illegal dumping has been a growing problem in San José. A 2015 assessment revealed a 50 percent increase in illegal dumping incidents on public property within the last three years.

In response, a citywide task force led by ESD developed a comprehensive program focused on prevention, cleanup, education, and community engagement to provide practical and convenient alternatives to reduce illegal dumping. In addition, it included a coordinated effort to remove items such as abandoned mattresses, furniture, and trash from streets and waterways.

"Our program includes free curbside pickup of large items like furniture and appliances, regular cleanup routes in areas with a high incidence of illegal dumping, and a new fulltime illegal dumping rapid response team to address resident cleanup requests," said Romanow.

Along with a broad public education campaign, partnerships with neighborhood associations, CommUniverCity (an innovative partnership between the City of San José, San José State University, and downtown neighborhoods that works with low-income communities), and the Behavioural Insights Team through Bloomberg Philanthropies' What Works Cities initiative have helped assess the problem, identify solutions, and maximize outreach.

"I'm not surprised that the City of San José won such an award," said Pete Kolstad, chair of the San José Neighborhoods Commission. "Their creativity and enthusiasm have energized San José."

Since July 2016, the city's illegal dumping rapid response team has removed more than 320 tons of dumped materials and trash, including 1,193 mattresses and 620 shopping carts, from San José streets and public areas.

Keep America Beautiful's National Awards program recognizes the best of the best among their network of community-based affiliates, leading corporate partners, and individual volunteers across the country who have committed to delivering cleaner, greener, and more beautiful communities.

"It's my privilege to recognize the City of San José for such valuable, mission-based work that helps their community be more socially connected, environmentally healthy, and economically sound," said Becky Lyons, chief operating officer of Keep America Beautiful.



Almaden Valley Rotary Club sponsors senior luncheon

his holiday season, the Almaden Valley Rotary Club sponsored the Seniors Christmas Luncheon at the Southside Community Center. AVRC has been hosting the luncheon for the past 20 + years as one of several community service projects to benefit seniors and persons in need. In addition, December 9 the group host-

Community Center.

ed a similar luncheon at the Willow Glen

The club selected these projects in order to

bring together seniors to help celebrate and

instill the spirit of the holiday season. Many

of the seniors have lost their spouses along the

way and the holidays are especially difficult for

many of them without their life long compan-



Rotary Club president serves seniors.

ture of thanks to AVRC as we also contribute financially to the South Valley YMCA on an annual basis.

ions. At the luncheons, there

was an abundance of "dis-

cussions" between groups of

attendees with smiles of hap-

piness and gratitude. Many

South Valley YMCA staff

and volunteers assisting AVRC by serving lunch to

the attendees. Their assis-

tance at this function is a ges-

The San Jose Metropolitan Band, which provided holiday music during the luncheon, is another group AVRC assists financially and they in turn contributed their talents with holiday music.

-Paul Uenaka, AVRC president

Times Community News



First 5 Commissioner **Eleanor Villarreal**, former White House Chef **Sam Kass**, First 5 Commissioner **Corazon Tomalinas**, County Supervisor **Ken Yeager**, and First 5 CEO **Jolene Smith** at the launch of the Food Shed Program.

Supervisor cites focus on children's health

By Ken Yeager
Special to the Times
uring my 10 years on the
Board of Supervisors. I

uring my 10 years on the Board of Supervisors, I have always been striving to improve the overall health of all Santa Clara County residents.

However, since I began serving on FIRST the 5 Commission in 2010, improving the health of the County's children has become a particular focus of mine.

FIRST 5 Santa Clara County is one of the 58 First 5 organizations that were created in each California county following the 1998 passage of Proposition 10 by

state voters. Prop. 10 levied a 50-cent per pack tax on cigarettes and dedicated the revenue from that tax to health and education programs focused on children ages 5 and under.

I recently wrote about leading FIRST 5 to create a policy that required childcare programs to meet healthy nutrition standards if they wanted to receive funds from the commission. I also brought FIRST 5 and the Santa Clara Valley Water District together on a program to bring water bottle filling stations to schools, community centers and other public gathering places throughout the County.

As a FIRST 5 commissioner, I have also been a champion of the Family Resource Centers and the Court and Child Welfare Initiative.

The 15 neighborhood-based Family Resource Centers are located throughout the County and open to everyone. They emphasize child and family enrichment, focusing on oral language development and early lit-

eracy, health and nutrition, school readiness, art enrichment, and parent/caregiver leadership models.

The Court and Child Welfare Initiative focuses on the children in our county who have become

> involved with the justice system, whether it be family court, dependency court, juvenile court or even criminal FIRST 5 court. works with the judges, attorneys and staff of the Santa Clara County Superior Court to ensure that children and families have the health, developmental, and social underpinnings necessary for success in life.

I am honored to once again serve as chair of the FIRST 5 Santa Clara County commission in 2017.

FIRST 5, with each county having its own commission, is an excellent example of statewide collaboration. The California State Association of Counties, which I have represented Santa Clara on since 2012, is another one. CSAC played a role in last year's crucial negotiations with the federal government that led to California securing more than \$6 billion in Medicaid funding over the next 5 years. Those dollars will fund safety net programs throughout the state, including providing a large part of Santa Clara Valley Medical Center's operating budget during that period.

In 2017, I will once again serve on the CSAC Executive Committee. I am also Santa Clara County's representative to the National Association of Counties. In the coming year both organizations are likely to play a vital advocacy role for counties in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.







CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1675 Winchester Boulevard (near Hamilton), Campbell, 95008. Church Office: 378-3472. www.campbell-umc.org. E-mail us at: campbell umc@earthlink.net. SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Handicapped, hearingimpaired friendly facility. (Nursery Care available). SUNDAY SCHOOL for every age at 9:00 a.m. WHAT YOU WILL FIND: Youth/Young Adult programs, Choirs for all ages, Active Senior Fellowship, a dynamic and diverse congregation of seekers motivated to explore the guestions of faith and life: opportunities for fellowship, study, spiritual growth and outreach. Campbell UMC is a Reconciling Congregation ~ ALL ARE WELCOME! Campbell UMC sponsors Bright Days preschool, offering a play-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum. Call 378-8422 for informa-

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120 Pastor, Rev. Dr. Michele Rogers 408 268-0243 www.AlmadenCongregational.org

We are a welcoming Church engaged in progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC. Open and affirming (O&A)

and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local Innvision Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty

Worship 9:00AM, Sunday School 10:00 AM Sundays.

1st Sundays in Worship: Holy Communion 2nd Sunday in Worship: Folk Choir

3rd Sundays at Coffee Hour: Round Table Disc 4th Sundays in Worship: Blessing of Birthdays/Anniversaries/other

"iov" Occasions Tuesday, AA Meetings, 8:15-9:15 PM.

Wednesdays, 9:30 AM., Women's Study Group

CHURCH OF CHRIST

5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118 408 265 5837 www.bibleroad.org We strive to be a group of Christians that love and honor God and Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We assemble each Sunday to encourage each other through singing, studying, praying and sharing in the Lord's supper. Simplejust like what one reads about in the New Testament. Bible class at 9:30 AM Worship at 10:30 AM Located in south San Jose near Kooser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic

Club). Come make new Christian friends!

EAST VALLEY CHURCH

We are a Multicultural Christian Community committed to making Christ known to our Neighbors Community and World. Sunday Schedule: Coffee and Conversation 9:15am Worship 9:45am, Sunday School for all ages 11:15am

Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. Our NEW Children's Building is Open! Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men. Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery (Please see website for details and meeting times www.eastvalleychurch.com) VBS: June 13th - 17th (5:45-8:30pm) & Sports Camp: July 18th - 22nd (9am -12:30pm) For more details or to register please visit our website Senior Pastor - Pastor Ron

Johnson, Community-Life Pastor -Pastor Patrick Boyd, Children's Ministry Co-Directors - Alyssa Friend and Kristen Pearson We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San lose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231, e-mail info@eastvalleychurch.com

We are associated with Converge Worldwide www.convergeworldwide.ora

Community

Newspapers

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector Phone: 408-268-0243 Web:www.eca-sj.org At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in our Youth Groups. During the school year we have ioint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH

Visit our Web Site at wwww.evcsj.com 2750 Yerba Buena Rd. San Jose CA 95121. Phone: 408-274-7422. Saturday worship is at 5 pm. Sunday worship services at 9 am and 11 am.. Excellent contemporary Christian music and Biblebased teaching. Nursery care and Children's Sunday School programs at 9 am and 11 am. Junior High students meet at 9am and High School students meet at 11am. Nuevo Comienzo: Servicio en espanol, Domingo 4pm.

FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com

Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Faith.Knowledge.Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m.

Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday -Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our 3sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.

THE POINT CHURCH

www.ThePoint.Church 3695 Rose Terrasse Circle, San Jose CA 95148 Located at the top of Aborn Rd and Murillo Ave.

Come be inspired and build your faith as we worship together this Sunday @ 10:30 AM. KidsPoint is our children's ministry, serving infants through 5th grade. It is a fun and safe experience for kids as they grow in their walk with God. ONE is our student ministry, serving 6th through 12th grades. We help lead students into a growing relationship with Jesus through conversations. fun and service. Because of the diversity of Evergreen we offer church services in 5 languages each with their own auditorium and pastor.

10:30 AM English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Cambodian. Spanish at 1:00 PM.

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1 + (408) 997-4800. or visit our website at www.churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

ST. BASIL THE GREAT GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

6430 Bose Lane, San Jose, CA 95120 Church Office 408-268-3214 Clergy: Fr. Allan Boyd Experience our Lord Jesus Christ, entering into His presence by worshipping like the earliest Christians. The Orthodox Christian Church is evangelical, but not Protestant, It is orthodox, but not Jewish. It is catholic, but not Roman. It is NOT non-denominational, it is predenominational. It has believed. taught, preserved, defended and died for the Faith of the Apostles since the Day of Pentecost 2000 years ago. What happens when vou reunite created matter to its Creator? Come and see! All are welcome to our warm, multicultural Church community, where services are done primarily in English.

Services are every Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Orthros/Matins (morning prayers) 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy of St John

Chrysostom

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135

408-223-1562. www.stfrancisofassisi.com

www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star -Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center Parish Gift Shop Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:

St. Francis of Assisi Chapel Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass

St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM

Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road

Sunday 9:30 AM The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday 8:15 AM

For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom

Worship listing advertisements are \$495 annually. (408) 898-7534.



www.AlmadenTimes.com www.EvergreenTimes.com

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Times Entertainment



Violin virtuoso Mayuko Kamio

Violin virtuoso Kamio to perform with Symphony Silicon Valley

Welcome the New Year with two of Pulitzer Prizewinning composer Kevin Puts' widely acclaimed orchestral works.

Violin virtuoso Mayuko Kamio, winner of the prestigious Tchaikovsky competition, then forges a new Russian-American alliance, playing both Kabalevsky's lively and lyrical concerto and Foss's tribute to musical Americana, ending in a Western hoedown.

The orchestra concludes with one of Bernstein's most sparkling scores: the concert suite from his 1944 ballet Fancy Free.

Conductor: Paul Polivnick. Soloist: Mayuko Kamio, Violin. Works: Kevin Puts: Millennium Canons, this noble company; Dmitry Kabalevsky: Violin Concerto in C Major, Opus 48; Lukas Foss: Three American Pieces; and Leonard Bernstein: Suite from Fancy Free.

The concerts will be held at 8:00 pm Sat. January 21 and 2:30 pm Sun. January 22, 2017. For more information call 408.286.2600, or visit symphonysiliconvalley.org.

Goodbye Lissa and Sam

The airwaves of the South Bay are going to be a little less fun next week now that Lissa Kreisler and Sam Van Zandt have left 94.5 KBAY.

Lissa and Sam worked hard to strengthen the community in their support of many worthy causes and non-profit groups. Lissa has kept Silicon Valley informed and laughing weekday mornings since 1988. Sam became her co-host more than a decade ago.

This summer, Lissa's strong support aided the successful effort to save the Cambrian Park Plaza Carousel.

KBAY becomes Bay FM

Alpha Media has changed the format of the station which is now 94.5 Bay FM. The station now plays the hits from the 70s, 80s, and 90s.

Alpha Media VP of Programming and Bay FM Program Director, Ronnie Stanton commented on the announcement, "This is a hugely exciting moment in the history of these call letters. We will continue to play the artists that made us famous for years as well as adding the best music of the 70s to create an upbeat blend of music's finest decades."

The format change took place on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, at 5 p.m.



Caltrain Holiday Train makes the season a little brighter for thousands

Earlier this month, Caltrain's annual Holiday Train traveled down the peninsula from San Francisco to San Jose and collected 2,500 toys and more than \$2,500 in cash donations.

The toys are given out to thousands of needy children throughout the region through the Salvation Army's Season of Sharing program.

Caltrain ran its first Holiday Train in 2001. Since then, more than 55,000 toys have been distributed to children in the region who otherwise might not receive gifts this time of year.

During the depths of the recession, the Holiday Train took a two-year hiatus beginning in 2010, but it came roaring back in 2012 thanks to the support of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Over the last five years, the Foundation has played a crucial role in keeping the annual tradition alive, both through direct financial support and by soliciting support from other sponsors. This year the Holiday Train received more than \$50,000 in sponsorships.





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Charles Schalz Maseam

Thursday February 9, 2017

Come see how the Peanut characters were born by Charles Schulz.

Arrive between 7:15 & 7:30 a.m. Depart 7:45 a.m. Return by 6:00 p.m.



Cost: \$60, includes transportation, museum entry and choice of lunch menu at the time of sign up.

A one hour guided tour of the museum followed by lunch at the Warm Puppy Cafe. After lunch enjoy time on your own to browse the museum and shop.

Sign up M ,T, W 9:30-11:30 a.m, Almaden Community Center

Trip Questions: Sally, 408 826-9619 Richard, 408 219-8641









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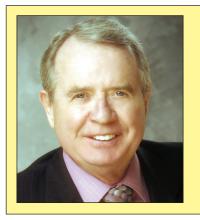


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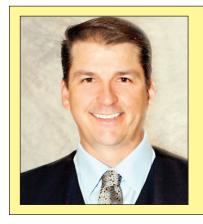


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If interested in these opportunities, please contact Diane Parento in the Human Resources at 408-270-6805 or dparento@eesd.org. Applications available in Human Resources and on our website: www.eesd.org

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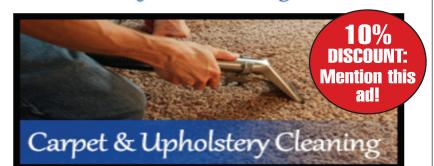


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