

## Willow GlenTimes

CHARLIE EDWARDS, WWII FIGHTER PILOT

# 'Flying felt natural to me' 

## By Pamela Varma

Special to the Times

Two 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 VC66 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

U.S. Navy fighter pilot Charlie Edwards standing on his Wildcat airplane during World War II. Photo courtesy Stephen A. Banks from his book Looking Backward.

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.
"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 "hunterkiller" mission, flying solo in pro-peller-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.
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.
"My job was to strafe the sub with armor-piercing .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

See CHARLIE, page 13

# Beatles Yellow Submarine animator to appear live 

Beatles Yellow Submarine animator Ron Campbell will be exhibiting his artwork featuring beloved cartoon characters at the Kaleid Gallery in downtown San Jose from Jan. 20-22. Campbell's career encompasses more than 50 years in children's television with many successes, such as Scooby Doo, the Smurfs, Rugrats,

cartoons, including Scooby Doo, Rugrats, Smurfs, Flintstones, Jetsons and more.
Campbell's former studio was awarded a Peabody and an Emmy for his work in children's television. Since retiring after a 50 -year career, he has been painting subjects based on the animated cartoons he has helped bring to the screen. With particular emphasis on Winnie the Pooh, Flintstones, Jetsons, Teenage Mutant Ninja, and Turtles.
Campbell will showcase his original Beatles cartoon paintings created especially for the show and new Beatles pop art paintings at the exhibit. Campbell will also feature other artwork based on his 50 -year career in


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## Times Feature



## Popular eatery Pasta Pomodoro's mysterious closing disappoints

## By Frank Shortt

## Times staff writer

K.C., a San Jose resident and habitude of area eatery, Pasta Pomodoro, purveyor of fine food, seemed very disap pointed as he tried the door and was greeted with a closure sign.

Without fanfare or prior notice, Pasta Pomodoro Restaurant, a longtime staple of area diners has closed their doors until further notice.

Restaurant employees were also disappointed by the closure as they were given no notice of layoff but instead were sent a text. The text read: "Pasta P. has ceased operations. You are on unpaid furlough! Do not come to work. You will receive more info and final pay by Friday."

There is no sign that they will ever again open their doors to the eating public. According to another sign on the door there seems to be some problems with paying their rent, as the landlord placed a notice of non-payment of $\$ 17,000$.

There had been signs that business was not doing as well as in past years; lots of empty tables, prices increasing on the menu, and less food on the plates was very noticeable. Customers were beginning to complain of the quality of the food. Some customers said, of their eating experience there, "It seems that there is more pasta being served and less meat and shrimp on the plates.'

On the positive side, K.C., the disappointed diner, said, "The food at Pasta Pomodoro was always well prepared and seemed to be of high quality. I will miss the convenience of having them here locally."

K.C. tries to visit Pasta Pomodoro with no success.

Some other eateries, questioned during the writing of this article, did not even know that Pasta Pomodoro had closed their doors. It seems there was a lot of secrecy involved in this closure, as well as other locations throughout the Bay Area.
Chase, employee of Iguana's, averred "There seems to have been an increase in our business in the last few days. Maybe this was due to folks getting tired of leftover Christmas fare, turkey soup, turkey sand wiches, and such. Could be some bleed-over from Pasta Pomodoro!"
Sarah, employee of McDonald's, seemed assured that "Business at McDonald's, the week before New Year's Day has picked up considerably in the afternoons and evenings."
Residents from the local area, such as the Villages Golf and Country Club, will need to seek another restaurant to meet their needs in the future as many of them came to Pasta Pomodoro in the evenings for convenience sake.
Pasta Pomodoro may be able to work out all their difficulties and remain in the area. Paying back rent will most likely be the first priority.

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## San Jose minimum wage increased

Minimum wage employees who work in San Jose are now receiving a 10 cent per hour increase. Under the initiative approved by San Jose voters in 2012, the minimum wage has increased from $\$ 10.30$ to $\$ 10.40$ per hour.

To prevent inflation from eroding the value of the minimum wage, the initiative ordinance requires increases to take effect each year based on the Consumer Price Index (Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, U.S. City Average for All Items.) Over the last 12 months (August 2015 to August 2016), the CPI increased .7 percent. If the CPI remains the same or decreases, the minimum wage in San José would remain the same.

## Bill Gates says we are vulnerable to flu

Philanthropist Bill Gates is worried that too much regulation will stop the world from controlling a major flu outbreak. Bill Gates' foundation invests in global healthcare.
"There's a lot of discussion right now about how we respond in an emergency, how we make sure that the regulatory and liability and organizational boundaries don't slow us down," said Gates "We are a bit vulnerable right now if something that spreads very quickly like say flu."

## Willow Glen Times

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## Valley Currents

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

## Remembering Salvatore Lobbato <br> they had 3 girls, their own ABC's -

SAlm Lobbato, long time Almaden resident, and owner of $A B C$ 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. Boot-ery was located on Lincoln Ave. for many years across from Garden Theater, then enlarging and relocating to The Prune-yard. 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

Annette, Bernice, and Carol - who gave him the name for his specialized children's store.
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 resem-

bling 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.

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

On 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".



## A witness to history

Former San Jose Vice Mayor Rose Herrera joins San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo in honoring Lieutenant Edward J. Ames. The 93 -year old San Jose resident is the last surviving crew member from the USS Astoria to have witnessed the attack on Pearl Harbor. Ames received an accommodation for his 40 years of service to the United States Navy on December 12, 2016.

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# 'A Tale of One City' 

By Mayor Sam Liccardo Special to the Times

TThe holidays give us an opportunity to enjoy time with family and loved ones, and to reflect on the blessings of our past year.

I feel blessed to serve San Jose's incredible community. Like every big city, we have daunting challenges to confront -- among them poverty, crime, homelessness, and decaying infrastructure. Throughout 2016, however, against the backdrop of a deeply divided nation, San Jose increasingly became a beacon for the power of working together. For our "Tale of One City," we have many to thank.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank the voters of San Jose for their willingness to reinvest in our city with new revenue measures. These efforts garnered broad community support of organized labor, the business community, and nearly the entire Council, generating dollars critically needed to buffer core services against looming deficits in the future. We've already put some of these new dollars to work in June when we:

- Dedicated $\$ 17.7$ million to meet -- for the first time in more than a decade -- the annual funding needs for basic repair and repaving of all of our major roads.
- Allocated funding to expand police officer recruitment efforts, and set aside the funds needed to increase sworn police officer staffing by 41 positions in future years.
- Ended the periodic "brown-out" of fire companies, restored two "squad car" units and funded traffic signal pre-emption technology to help improve emergency fire and medical response.
- Added an additional 19 Community Service Officers to respond to burglaries and other low-priority calls, freeing up sworn officers to handle more serious crimes.
- Doubled funding for homeless rapid rehousing services.

San Jose voters also joined leaders countywide to adopt two measures that will provide billions of new funding to address two critical needs: traffic relief and road repair (led by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group) and home lessness (led by the County).
By working together with our community, we have also made significant progress on a number of other key priorities:

- Last year, we launched "San Jose Works," to give teenagers living in gang-impacted neighborhoods their first jobs. This year, dozens of employers -- like Home Depot, Jabil, Microsoft, and Target -- stepped up with our non-profit partner, Work2Future, to employ more than 1,200 teens, while Citibank provided the first-time wage earners with financial literacy tools. (If you'd like to give a teenager a chance, please email


## SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

[^0]No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice
No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice serve you every day.

sjworks@work2futurefoundation.org.)
Last fall, we convened mayors from throughout Silicon Valley to urge a regional, "all-together" increase in the minimum wage. So far, councils representing the cities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, and San José have all voted to raise the wage to $\$ 15$ by 2019 or sooner.

- The City Council unanimously approved my 2015 direction to accelerate implementation of body-worn cameras by our police department. Chief Eddie Garcia didn't need any prodding, though; working with the police union, Independent Police Auditor Walter Katz, and community advocates, SJPD fully deployed body-worn cameras this summer. Chief Garcia and his team continue to boost police accountability such as by releasing an independent study of racial bias in arrests, launching the "Coffee with a Cop" neighborhood gatherings, and expanding officer training in racial bias, force de-escalation, and mental illness.
- In November of 2015, when we had more than 700 homeless U.S. military vets in our Valley, Supervisor Dave Cortese and I pledged an end to veterans' homelessness by the 100th anniversary of Veterans' Day, in 2018. Led by Destination: Home and a consortium of non-profits, faith congregations, and the City and County, the "All the Way Home" campaign housed more than 500 of
those vets in our first year -- and we'll keep pushing until we finish the task.

We've collectively made progress on homelessness in other ways: when the Council eased restrictions, shelters, churches and synagogues citywide generously opened their doors to create a network of supportive shelters. In July, after the Supreme Court resolved six years of litigation, San Jose implemented its inclusionary and impact fee programs to require developers to build or pay for affordable housing units with every project.

A half-decade of battles and lawsuits over pension reform finally ended when voters approved an agreement that we forged with 11 unions, and which fiscal reformers, businesses, and city employees broadly supported. San Jose taxpayers will save more than $\$ 42$ million this year with the passage of Measure F, and will become better positioned to maintain core services, while every California city continues to grapple with fast-rising retirement costs.

- This summer, we celebrated the launch of our fifth new international route at San Jose-Mineta International Airport (Beijing, Frankfurt, London, Shanghai, and Vancouver) in the last 18 months, and the fastest air service growth of any airport in the nation. Advocacy by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and the Chamber of Commerce proved critical in this success.
Although I'm proud of my own role in each of these efforts, I'm far more proud of a community that pulled together to lift our collective aspirations higher than our personal ambitions.


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# Bellarmine's Micallef proving to be more than a runner 

By Aaron Ross
Bellarmine College Prep
Prep2Prep.com

FIor most people, running may be viewed more as a jovial exercise, or punishment from a coach. For Bellarmine senior Ben Micallef, it is a lifestyle, a daily 4:30 in the morning routine to ensure he can get at least 60 miles per week under his feet.

As one of the most touted 800 meter runners in the nation, however, Micallef hardly restricts his training to his running, also spending three days per week in the weight room, and others in a boxing gym. It may sound atypical and non-traditional, but the results cannot be disputed. Micallef is aiming for his second Central Coast Section championship in the event this spring, and has college offers from some of the best schools in the country.
The Bells senior is currently the top-ranked 800 meter runner in the state of California, and 14th in the nation, with his personal record (PR) at 1:52.29 for the two-lap race. and has his sights set on his third West Catholic Athletic League championship and second CCS championship after dominating last year's championship, winning by two whole seconds. He finished fourth in the CCS as a sophomore, running 1:56 at the time, less than a second away from a title even at a young age.

Part of what makes Micallef so unique is the journey that took him to Bellarmine,
"I was born in Newport Beach, and then lived in Allentown, Pennsylvania for five years, and then I moved to Singapore for five years," Micallef stated. From Singapore, Micallef moved to Los Gatos, where he attended Fisher Middle School and found his love for running.
"Honestly, I'd say my running started in Singapore," Micallef added. "In grade school, it was a requirement that we all do the FitnessGram pacer test,"

The FitnessGram Pacer Test is a multistage aerobic capacity test that progressively gets more difficult as it continues.
"I was always in my class the fastest person, and that was really important to me," recalls


Bellarmine senior Ben Micallef is training for his third year of varsity competition. Photo by Aaron Ross

Micallef. "In seventh grade, I ran a 2:08 800 meter, which is pretty crazy for a seventh grader. When I did that, I decided 'Alright this is what I want to do.'. So in eighth grade, I stopped playing volleyball, I stopped Tae Kwon Do, and I just ran."
While Micallef stopped his other activities to run at that time, he's now picked up some new activities to cross train.
"A lot of runners cross train," says Micallef, "Some guys bike, some swim and some guys just run extra miles, which isn't good, but everyone has their own way to cross train. I box."
Micallef finds his inspiration to box from his grandfather, who passed away.
"Back in his day, he was a big amateur boxer in Detroit," the Bellarmine senior recalled. "I never knew him that well, but as my dad told me about him, I wanted to be like my grandfather.'
Micallef's running career is far from over, as he is in talks with Cal-Berkeley and Wisconsin.
"If anything made me feel the way running does, I'd do it," says Micallef.

With his eye on the future, Micallef and the Bellarmine track and field team look to the spring season and another WCAL and CCS championship.


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

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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 joint 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 $7: 30 \mathrm{AM}$ and 10:30AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.
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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 CHURCH 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 408-268-321
Clergy: Fr. Allan Boyd
Experience our Lord Jesus Christ in the beauty and magnificence of Holy Week \& Easter after the manner of the earliest Christians. All are welcome to our warm, multicultural Church community, where services are done primarily community, where services are done primarily
in English. What happens when you reunite in English. What happens when you reunite
created matter to its Creator? Come and see! created matter to its Creator? Come and see
Holy Week Services preparing for Eastern Orthodox Easter on May 1:
Wednesday 4/27 7 a.m. Pre-sanctified Divine Liturgy
7 p.m. Sacrament of Holy Unction (anointing of oil for healing of body and soul) Thursday $4 / 28 \quad 7$ a.m. Morning Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
7 p.m. Nailing of Christ to the Cross Reading of the 12 Gospels
Friday April 29
7 a.m. Royal Hours
3:30 p.m. Descent from the Cross 7 p.m. Lamentation Service With candlelit funeral procession around

## church

Saturday April 30 8:30 a.m. St. Basil morning Vesperal Divine Liturgy
11p.m. Candlelight Resurrection Service "Come receive the light!"
Midnight-Sunday Pascha/Easter Service

## Divine Liturgy

Sunday May 1 Easter Sunday
11 a.m. Agape Vespers - Christ's Good News in many languages
1-5 p.m. Pascha/Easter picnic at Almaden Lake Park Cinnabar 1 ,
6099 Winfield BI., San Jose 95120
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562. www.sttrancisofassisi. 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 offer-
ing 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:
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 Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mas

- Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road Mt. Hamilton Gran
Sunday $9: 30 \mathrm{AM}$
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) 558-3623. , (1ink

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> According to Multiple Listing Statistics for 2016, Margaret and David Yost helped more Almaden sellers than any other agent or team.

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## Success... One Sale at a Time.

## Thank you Almaden!

Your referrals and kind regard make

Margaret \& David represented the buyer and/or seller in the following sales:

| 6970 Hollow Lake Way | \$3,950,000 | Seller |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 904 Briana Ct. | \$2,000,000 | Seller |
| 1090 Valentine Ct. | \$1,750,000 | Buyer |
| 995 Hampswood Way | \$1,700,000 | Seller |
| 6649 Camelia Dr. | \$1,675,000 | Seller |
| 969 Yarmouth Way | \$1,575,000 | Buyer |
| 6469 Oakcrest Dr. | \$1,500,000 | Seller \& Buyer |
| 787 Almondwood Way | \$1,500,000 | Seller |
| 1152 Holly Ann PI. | \$1,450,000 | Buyer |
| 7073 Rycroft Ct. | \$1,400,000 | Seller |
| 950 Hurlstone Ln. | \$1,375,000 | Seller |
| 6336 Gondola Way | \$1,350,000 | Seller |
| 6579 Gardenoak Ct. | \$1,340,000 | Seller |
| 6280 Via De Adrianna | \$1,301,000 | Seller |
| 6601 Creekview Ct. | \$1,300,000 | Seller |
| 1043 Kristen Ct. | \$1,300,000 | Buyer |
| 6551 Timberview Dr. | \$1,270,000 | Seller |
| 881 Hampswood Way | \$1,250,000 | Seller |
| 383 April Way | \$1,250,000 | Seller |
| 946 Marble Ct. | \$1,200,000 | Seller |
| 6228 Via De Adrianna | \$1,182,000 | Seller |
| 6528 Skyfarm Dr. | \$1,160,000 | Seller |
| 419 Clearview Dr. | \$1,150,000 | Buyer |
| 5923 Kyburz PI. | \$1,100,000 | Seller |
| 6392 Lillian Way | \$1,070,000 | Buyer |
| 2609 La Mirada Dr. | \$1,050,000 | Seller |
| 948 Meadowood Dr. | \$1,030,000 | Seller |
| 6534 Camden Ave. | \$1,007,500 | Seller |
| 534 Curie Dr. | \$953,000 | Seller |
| 6696 Buggywhip Ct. | \$784,000 | Buyer |
| 1335 Shelby Creek Ln. | \$775,000 | Seller |
| 2580 Baton Rouge Dr. | \$715,000 | Seller |
| 5950 Chesbro Ave. | \$650,000 | Seller |



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Gloria Ashdown,
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BLOSSOM VALLEY
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Ted Toffey,
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Times Features

## Charlie

Continued from page 1 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 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 ambu-


Charlie Edwards in October 2016. Photo by Pamela Varma
lance, 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 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."


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

Vitality 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 antiox-idant-rich acai, pitaya and matcha. Organic cold brew nitrogenpoured 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."


[^0]:    If you are interested in hosting a Coffee with a Cop Event in your area, contact Sgt. Rebecca Marquez at 408.277.5271 or 2984@sanjoseca.gov

