

OAKMONT NEWS

Oakmont's Semimonthly Newspaper

www.oakmontvillage.com/news

November 25, 2023 • Volume 61, Number 22

Veterans Day in Oakmont



Left to right: John De Groot, chairman of the event; featured speaker Gen Howell M. Estes, III, General, US Air Force; master of ceremonies David J Paul, USAF Col (ret); and Navy veteran Michael Hudson, organizer of parade and event.



Sunny skies brightened the Berger Center for Oakmont's 2023 Veterans Day observance. There was music, speaking and a parade. The mid-day program audience included John Adams (second row), Air Force, Vet's Club chairman emeritus, and Wendell Freeman (first row), Marine Corps sergeant, 1941-45. (Photo by Julie Kiil)



Members of the New Horizons and Sonoma Hometown band played patriotic music and accompanied service recognition during the Veterans Day program. Other groups taking part included Coast Guard personnel from Two Rock outside Petaluma and Santa Rosa Troop 55, Boy Scouts of America.

President's Message

■Marianne Neufeld, OVA Board President

The board has received additional feedback from the community regarding the Central Complex area. After reviewing the 2030 group suggestions and the additional feedback from the community, the board is ready to move forward with exploring ideas for the Central Complex area with a professional planner.

As required by law, we have reserves to pay for the renovation to the CAC building, but we need the assistance of a professional planner to advise us on what we need to do for code compliance and to use the Central Complex area efficiently.

Some residents may feel uneasy about exploratory planning, but we must be open-minded and look at all prospects. It is essential to keep the community informed during the planning stage, which will be required in the scope of work for the planner.

We can learn from experience, such as when the CAC was built in 2006. There was community outrage about the cost, so it was downsized, and hindsight tells us we should have gone with the larger building and avoided paying rent for office space. I would like to see planning appropriately done to save us money in the future by not having to redo it all over again.

For years, some residents have been concerned that a new Berger is in the plans. A new Berger is neither planned nor part of the plan we will request at the present time. Major construction of that type would take a vote of the community, as was done when the golf course was purchased. OVA cannot take on a huge loan until the golf course loan is substantially paid, which will be about five years.

I suggest we approach the planning stage for the Central Complex Area with an open mind to achieve a well-thought-out plan we will be proud of.



OVA Board Approves Painting, Deck Policies

■Al Haggerty

The OVA Board gave final approval to a new painting policy and a new deck policy at its Nov. 15 meeting. Both will be posted on the Berger bulletin board within 15 days of the approval.

The purpose of the painting policy is to assure a harmonious appearance through careful selection of exterior colors. Trim paint that complements the body color enhances the exterior design. The guidelines apply to both maintained and non-maintained areas.

All exterior painting and staining require an approved application from the Architectural Office. Paint chip and stain samples are required. A palette of approved colors is available in the Architectural Office. All units of duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes must be painted the same colors and at the same time. Colors not on the palette will be considered. A paint chip is required.

See **BOARD** on page 3

Three OVA Board Seats Up in '24 Election

■News Staff Report

Nominations are open for three positions on the OVA Board to be filled in elections in early 2024. The deadline for nominations is Friday, Jan. 4.

The three directors whose seats are up are Iris Harrell, Marianne Neufeld and Jeff Neuman.

Oakmont members who are in good standing can declare their candidacy by letter, which must be postmarked or delivered by Friday, Jan. 4. Letters may also be dropped off by the same date at the OVA office, 6637 Oakmont Drive, Suite A, or emailed to Dawn McFarland (Dawn@

oakmontvillage.com).

Candidates should also send a statement of up to 300 words, and a photo, by Thursday, Feb. 1. The statements and photos will be published in the *Oakmont News*.

Those seeking seats on the board will take part in a candidates' night on Thursday, Feb. 22, starting at 6 p.m. in the Berger Center. Members will have an opportunity to submit questions.

See **BOARD ELECTION** on page 3



■Janice Weekes

FEBRUARY 2, 2024 AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE RETURNS TO OAKMONT

The highly acclaimed AARP Driver Safety course is returning to Oakmont in February. This 8-hour course has been updated to include the latest in driver safety tips as well as California-specific information. There are also useful details about what to look for when shopping for a new car as well as tips on mastering new automotive technology. Many insurance companies offer a discount for customers who attend the class.

The class will be offered on two consecutive Fridays, February 2 and 9, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day. The program is open to AARP members and non-members. Checks made payable to AARP will be collected on the first day of class - \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members.

This class is only open to Oakmont residents and registration is limited. Please sign up early. Call the Oakmont Village Office at (707) 539-1611 to reserve your spot.

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At-a-Glance Summary—Nov. 15 OVA Board Meeting

■Harriet Palk

CONSENT CALENDAR

Appointed Rex Fuller as chairperson of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Oakmont Emergency Preparedness: Emergency drill conducted October 14. Fifty-seven Oakmont and Villages at Wild Oak (VWO) volunteers participated, with 168 emergency messages handled and 65 reports from Oakmont and VWO neighborhoods. Some MYN neighborhoods participated, with over 40% of Oakmont neighborhoods now organized using MYN procedures. Plans are underway for larger participation in future drills. Volunteers are still needed in all areas, including OEPC board, neighborhood radio operators and message handlers.

Golf Advisory: Golf for the period is up year over year with play on Sugarloaf exceeding expectations. Courses are in very good condition. Restaurant was profitable for the most recent period. New rates have been announced for 2024. Size of events is trending down.

Hiring, training and retaining staff remain difficult. Leaky roof over the kitchen, grill and banquet center has been replaced. Work on trees remains active. At least 40 people walk on the courses every day when they should not be there. The danger cannot be overstated. Events presented by the golf club to the community mostly sell out.

Architectural: Since the last board report in August, there were 60 standard violations (juniper complaints, no application project work, weeds, overgrown plantings, parking and storage) and 121 AC Firewise Home Visit violations. There are 181 violations active at this time.

Fifty-five fences were recently checked for compliance with OVA policy; only one was not

compliant. There have been approximately 1,324 applications processed this year to date.

Volunteer Resource: In October, the committee held its second open house for volunteer opportunities. Despite significant advertising, the event was not well attended. The majority of those who attended signed up for a new volunteer opening. The three broad categories of volunteerism in Oakmont—administrative service, club service and community service—all need to be clarified in the New Resident Packets. There are many openings in Lifelong Learning, Volunteer Helpers, the Emergency Preparedness Committee and the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide project. In the New Resident Questionnaire, 37% of responders have indicated that they have some interest in volunteerism. The committee is currently exploring ways to encourage volunteerism as a means of strengthening our sense of community.

Welcome: Volunteers are responsible for reviewing the New Resident Packet with new residents and taking them on tours of facilities. Requests come through the OVA office, Nextdoor, the OVA website and articles in the *Oakmont News* and are passed on to the committee leads for assignments to volunteers. Material for the packets is printed in the OVA office. Chair is now Barbara Sater, with former Chair Katy Carrell continuing as a committee member.

DECK POLICY AND PAINTING REVISIONS

Board approved and adopted the Architectural Committee's Deck and Paint Revision Policies effective immediately. Management will notify association members of the new policies by posting them on the Berger bulletin board within 15 days of adoption.

OVA Presents Barbara Higbie & Friends

■OVA Staff

On Friday, Dec. 15, bring in the holidays with Barbara Higbie and Friends—a Grammy-nominated Windham Hill pianist, vocalist and fiddler, and her mega-talented band. Held at the Berger Center, doors



open at 5:30 p.m. and the event starts at 6. Tickets are \$30 per person and are available now at the OVA office.

Barbara Higbie's family moved to Ghana, West Africa when she was 13. It was there she first fell in love with music and studied with master drummer Mustafa Tetty Addy. Later in life, after musical studies at Mills College, studies at the Sorbonne, and a sojourn performing in Paris, she returned to West Africa with a Watson Fellowship to collect traditional music. A professional musician since age 17, Barbara has played everything from traditional jazz, bluegrass, and Irish to new classical music, blues, and African pop. She is known for her ability to compose in a style that is both genre-bending and accessible.

A Grammy-nominated, Grammy award-winning composer, pianist, fiddler, singer-songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist, Barbara Higbie has performed on more than 100 albums, including songs with Carlos Santana and Bonnie Raitt.

Performing with Barbara Higbie on Dec. 15 will be Mia Paxley, Vicki Randle, Michaelle Goerlitz and Dewayne Pate. For more about Barbara, visit barbarahigbie.com.

BOARD ELECTION Continued from page 1

If there are the same number or fewer qualified candidates than the three open positions, the board of directors may vote to seat the qualified candidates by acclamation without member balloting.

Ballots for the election will be mailed to members by early March. Results of the election will be announced at the 2024 Annual Meeting on April 1. Voting is by mail. Ballots may also be turned in at the Annual Meeting at the Berger Center prior to the start of ballot counting at 10 a.m.

KEY DATES IN OVA ELECTION

January 4—Nominations deadline
February 22—Candidates' Night, 6 p.m. Berger Center
Early March—Ballots mailed to members
April 1—Results announced at annual meeting

BOARD Continued from page 1

DECK POLICY

All new construction and replacement decks require an approved application from the Architecture Committee before construction begins.

All new and replacement deck surfaces attached to or immediately adjacent to the home must be constructed of Class A, Class B or approved nonflammable materials. Nonflammable materials include lightweight concrete and metal products such as aluminum. Class A or nonflammable materials are preferred.

Railings and gates on or adjacent to the deck or within five feet of the house must be constructed of Class A or approved nonflammable materials. Railings on or adjacent to the deck greater than five feet from the house must be of Class A, Class B or approved nonflammable materials. Requirements for underdeck enclosures are outlined in the policy, which is available from the Architectural Committee.



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Great Decisions

■George McKinney

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"Great Decisions" is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. It focuses on the most critical global issues facing America today. The program involves reading the *Great Decisions Briefing Book*, and meeting in a discussion group with your Oakmont neighbors. There are 30-minute videos to supplement the *Briefing Book*.

You don't need to be an international affairs expert to participate. Each of us brings a fascinating personal perspective from a lifetime of learning, experiencing, and traveling. Occasionally we have a neighbor with particular knowledge of the part of the world being discussed, and we all benefit from that.

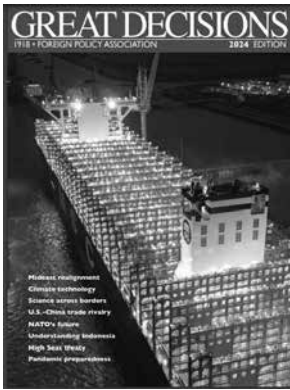
Meetings are 10 a.m.–12 noon on Monday mornings every other week from February through mid-May in the East Rec. Center.

The eight topics for 2024 are: 1: Mideast Realignment; 2: Climate Technology and Competition; 3: Science Across Borders; 4: U.S.–China Trade Rivalry; 5: NATO's Future Since Ukraine; 6: Understanding Indonesia; 7: High Seas Treaty; and 8: Pandemic Preparedness.

The only cost to participate is \$28 for the *Briefing Book*. The videos are free online. Deadline to register is Dec. 1, and meetings will begin in February, 2024.

We look forward to having you with us discussing Great Decisions.

For more information and to join a Great Decisions discussion group, contact me at oakmontgd@gmail.com.



■Ray Haverson

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

WHAT: New Year's Eve Party

WHEN: Sunday, December 31

WHERE: Berger Center

TIME: Doors open at 4 p.m.; appetizers from 4:30–5:30 p.m.; buffet dinner from 6–7 p.m. (approx.); music from 7:30–11 p.m. (approx.)

COST: \$ 128 per person (sorry the costs have gotten so expensive)

MUSIC: The fabulous Poyntlyss Sisters (back by popular request). They will perform for 3 hours, playing some of the best music in or out of the entire Bay Area. They are fantastic.

MENU: Hand-carved Prime Rib, Chicken Chardonnay, Green Salad, roasted vegetables, Potatoes Au Gratin, Pesto past, rolls and butter, Chocolate Tuxedo Cake and a Citrus Cake as well; coffee and lemon water.

You will not want to miss this New Year's Party. It is our best party of the year! Yes, you may bring your friends and neighbors. This party is B.Y.O.B.

Make your reservations early, as we sold out fast the last two years. We had 195 last year and a waitlist of 49, so you need to hurry if you do not want to be left out.

You can make your checks out to Sha-Boom. If you have others sitting with you, please include all names in one envelope otherwise there may not be room at your table. Please note: no seats are reserved without payment.

You can go to our folder in the OVA office and put your reservations in the Sha-Boom folder. You can also mail them to 7111 Oak Leaf Drive, Santa Rosa, Ca. 95409, or you can put them in my mail slot (right side of garage door). Please note: no refunds.

Any questions, feel free to call me at (707) 539-6666, or you can e-mail me at haversonr@comcast.net.

See you all on New Year's Eve!

Bocce Club



■Gale Schlee

The Falling Leaves Tournament featured men vs. women. The event was played on November 4 at 1 p.m. at the Bocce Courts. The men won on two courts and the women won on one court. All of the games were close.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9: CHRISTMAS PARTY

The next event will be the Christmas Party on December 9 at 5 p.m. There will be good food and entertainment by "Elvis" who sang for us last year. It was a great party. Please join us.

Grief Support Group

■Robert Hallett

GRIEF SUPPORT FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Grieving the loss of a loved one can be challenging, daunting, and stressful, especially during the holidays. The good news is you don't have to do it alone.

Consider joining the weekly Grief Support Group in Oakmont which meets weekly on Tuesday mornings from 9–10:15 a.m. at 6637 Oakmont Drive, Suite B. This is an open-ended, drop-in group, led by a local hospice bereavement counselor. Come and share with others who are going through similar loss, hear how others are coping, find strength in community!

For more information on the group please call (310) 415-6133 or email larry.hallett@gmail.com.



■Charlene Bunas

THICKENING THANKSGIVING?

Overheard from the back two rows of a recent OHI workout class: "Yikes, I hate to see Thanksgiving this year." This particular anonymous exerciser has lost 15 pounds and hopes to keep it off during the holidays.

This exerciser's anxieties are shared by many so let's talk turkey, and dressing, and mashed potatoes with gravy. While we're at it, how about sweet potatoes with butter and real maple syrup? Don't forget plural pies (pumpkin and pecan, apple and mince).

Just because we're in the thick of the holiday season is no reason to be in the process of thickening waistlines. Counterbalance extra calories with extra workouts and added walks.

Counterbalance concerns by including activities that do not heavily involve food. Before the feast, sit away from "snack table," talk to someone you've not seen for a while, ask "what's going on with you?" And really listen. During dinner, hold your fork in your non-dominant hand. Be the last person to clean your plate (i.e., eat slowly). Besides the annual after-dinner walk, how about a game of Pictionary, Uno, Golf, both on the course and on the card table.

Don't weigh yourself Thanksgiving morning or the morning after. That's a fool's folly, gives very short-term stats and adds to holiday stress.

Regardless of what/how much you eat Thanksgiving, just remember that fitness is life's journey, never a one-meal sprint. "How good is exercise during the holidays?"

Immediately return to OHI class and you'll notice how stinkin' thinkin' magically morphs into positives. Meeting ID: 849 7221 1947, Passcode: 558819.

Travel and Adventure Club

■September Holstad

NO MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER

Due to the holidays, there will be no Travel and Adventure Club meetings in November and December. Happy holidays to all and see you in the New Year!

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■Carolita Carr

ANNUAL MEMBER-ONLY HOLIDAY PARTY

WHEN: Thursday, December 14, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

TIME: 5:30 p.m. doors open, 6 p.m. dinner

WHERE: Berger Center

Yes, it's that time again, time for our member appreciation evening. We do this every year at the holiday season to thank our membership for their enthusiastic support for and continual attendance at our events throughout the year. What a great group you are! It is also a chance for our members to mix and mingle, maybe meet new friends and reconnect with those we have met before. There will be no assigned seating. Please register for this event on our website, oakmontboomers.org, but the event may be "sold out" by the time you read this. We are sorry that we don't have room to accommodate everyone.

We will begin with appetizers and progress to a delicious buffet dinner with ham, turkey and all the trimmings. All you need to do (besides being a member, and registering) is bring the beverage of your choice.

Of course, it wouldn't be the Holiday Party without the Ugly Sweater Contest! Categories are "Best Couple," "Best Illuminated," "Most Original," and "Tackiest." Remember, this is a sweater contest. So, come as a Christmas tree if you wish, but there's got to be a sweater in there somewhere..

So to repeat, this is free to members, and open to members only, so join Boomers to take advantage of this event and many more to come in the new year. See our website (oakmontboomers.org) for more information.

OVA Employee Appreciation Fund

■News Staff Report

As the seasons change and the holidays approach, many of our members have asked, "What can we do to recognize the work of the OVA staff?" In 2016, the OVA Board approved the Employee Appreciation Fund to recognize the non-management team with a special thank-you in the form of a holiday bonus gift.

Donations will be distributed at year-end. Members who wish to donate may contribute via check by December 8 to the OVA Office at 6637 Oakmont Drive, Suite A.

Please make checks payable to OVA, and on the memo line, please write "EMP APP Fund" (OVA Employee Appreciation Fund).

The team at the OVA office is fortunate to work with the wonderful residents who make our job so enjoyable.

Sleep Apnea

■Bob Flandermeyer

GREG ACKROYD, M.D.—GUEST SPEAKER

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, the Sleep Apnea Club welcomes Greg Ackroyd, M.D. as our guest speaker. Dr. Ackroyd will offer information on sleep apnea and CPAP machines, and welcomes your questions. Bring your equipment so your settings can be adjusted, and to find an optimal mask fit.

Those who have attended Sleep Apnea meetings have shared how much they have benefited from this group. We meet at 1 p.m. in the Berger, room G.

Have a question now? Call me at (707) 694-8018.

Oakmont Singles Social Club



■Priscilla Roslyn

DECEMBER MIXER ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY/GIFT EXCHANGE

DATE AND TIME: Friday, December 15, 6 p.m.

WHERE: East Recreation Center

At this festive time of the year, let's come together for holiday spirit, friendship, and camaraderie. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and BYOB. Our very own member, Louise Bettner, will entertain us with her piano talent, and perhaps the opportunity for a sing-along.

Once again, we will have a White Elephant Gift Exchange, so either re-gift from home or wrap a gift (no more than \$15) to bring. It is always so much fun to see who will not open their gift, and retain it, or who will open it, offering the opportunity to steal. If so desired, wear festive attire or ugly sweaters. Don't forget to wear your name badges.

Come to have fun! If attending for the first time, please provide proof of Covid vaccination. RSVP by December 11 to Priscilla, proslyn49@aol.com.

NO BON APPETIT IN DECEMBER

Are you Single and live in Oakmont? Our club has monthly mixers, always here in Oakmont, and Bon Appetit's at a variety of local restaurants ten months out of the year! Membership (\$12) and badge (\$10) forms can be found in the Singles' folder at the OVA office. Just complete the forms and place them with your checks payable to OSSC in the appropriate envelopes.

If you join now, your membership will be good through December, 2024. Another perk? We reserve tables for Singles at Boomer events! Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to meet, mix, and mingle with like-minded singles here in Oakmont.

Jazz Club



■Dolora Hurst

GRAMMY NUMBER 3

This will be our singer Jamie Davis's third nomination! I hope you have your ticket for the Jazz Show on November 25. This program will be played by a group of musicians as fine as you may ever be able to hear play together. Each one is exceptional. It is unusual to have a group of such talent play together. They are individually musicians who are accomplished enough to play as soloists. We are fortunate to have them play together on one stage.

Jamie Davis has been informed that he is nominated for another Grammy, and this will be his third. Glen Pearson on piano is being nominated for his second Grammy. Each of these musicians has performed around the world, and has worked with many of the famous musicians that we know. I am going to give you a quick rundown of them individually.



Jamie Davis.

Jamie Davis has just returned from performing in Dubai. It was his second booking there. He is said to have one of the "best five voices" in the world. You just need to hear him and you will believe that. He was, and is again, a Count Basie singer with the new Basie Orchestra. That orchestra was called the best orchestra in the world.

Glen Pearson, pianist, is also a Count Basie Orchestra musician. Glen formerly was director of the world-famous Harlem Boys choir for 11 years. His Grammy nomination was with the Basie Orchestra "Live at Birdland."

Leon Joyce, Jr, drummer, assembled a world class band, selecting the material, performers, and then rehearsing and conducting for television "A Tribute to Smokey Robinson" that was chosen for the award-winning History Makers show that aired on PBS.

Richard Howell, saxophone, is a vocalist, multi-instrumentalist, and composer. He has played with Etta James, Chaka Khan, Della Reese, Regina Carter, Taj Mahal, Don Cherry, Charlie Haden, and too many others to name.

Chris Amberger, bassist, is a Bay Area legend composer, band leader, educator, and humorist. He toured the world with Cal Tjader, Rosemary Clooney, Art Blakey, the Jazz Messengers, and also the George Sheering Quintet.

The show will be cabaret seating at the Berger Center, with drinks and snacks permitted. Singles and Jazz Club tables available. Tickets available at the performance Nov. 25, concert at 7 p.m.

For information call (707) 537-7720 (before 4 p.m. on Nov. 25). Tickets are \$40.

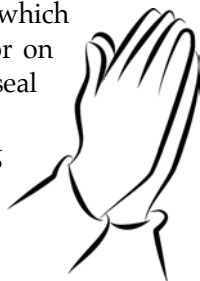
Men's Bible Study

■Lou Lacson

THANKSGIVING IS THANKFULNESS FOR THE BREAD OF LIFE

Jesus answered to those who ask, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."—John 6:26

Come and share this thanksgiving together at our Men's Bible Study. Join us every Thursday 10:30 a.m. at the East Rec. Center.



Community Carol Sing

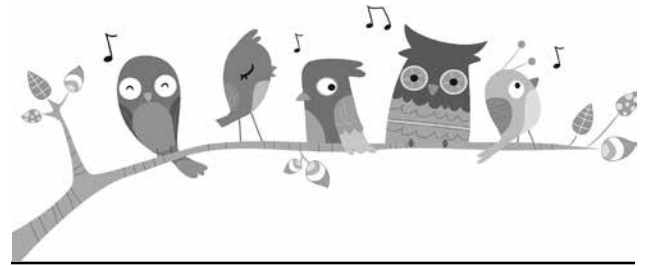
■News Staff Report

Oakmont resident Kay Oppenheimer believes the holidays should start with a song. This is why she is spearheading a good old-fashioned Community Carol Sing on Sunday, Dec. 17, 4 p.m. to sunset, at the Gazebo in Kenwood Plaza Park, and she is inviting other Oakmonters to take part.

Sponsored by Kenwood Community Church, the event is open to anyone who likes to sing, with hopes of making this an annual event. Those who want to lend their voices should dress warmly and bring a flashlight or lantern for reading sheet music at dusk. Harold Julander will accompany this Carol Sing, and there will be hot chocolate and cookies served in the church's Fellowship Hall.

In the chance of rain, carolers will gather in the Sanctuary of Kenwood Community Church.

For more information, contact Kay Oppenheimer at (707) 575-3091 or kplusj@gmail.com.



Valley of the Moon Fellowship

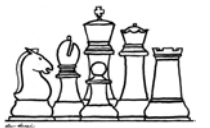
■Robert Hallett

FUN AND FELLOWSHIP DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Valley of the Moon Fellowship (VOMF) is a twice-a-month gathering for fellowship, open discussions on topics of interest, opportunities for community service, and spiritual renewal. The group is non-sectarian and welcoming and inclusive to all. A theme or topic is shared each gathering which stimulates lively discussion. With the holiday season upon us, we will have some wonderful discussions around our fellowship.

Please join us on the second and fourth Sunday of the month, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. We meet at 6637 Oakmont Drive, Suite B, just around the corner from the OVA office. Bring along a snack to share, if you wish, make new friends, enjoy caring fellowship, and depart feeling renewed. Happy Holidays!

Drop-In Chess



■Richard Duncan

The Drop-In Chess Club is an informal group made up of Oakmont residents who meet on a weekly basis to enjoy the mental gymnastics offered by this masterpiece of board games.

The Drop-In Chess players meet on Tuesday afternoons between 1-4:30 p.m. in the Card Room at the Central Activity Center, 310 White Oak Drive. Beginners are welcome and there are no fees or costs—just your time as you see fit. Bring a board and chess set if you have one. The atmosphere is casual and players of varying proficiency, both men and women, take part in these games.

If you have not played chess in a while, are new to our Oakmont community, or are just curious and would like to know more about the "Game of Kings," drop in and check us out. If you have any questions or would like to know more, feel free to contact me at richardgduncan@comcast.net or (707) 225-0661.

Oakmont Sunday Symposium



Berger Center, 7902 Oakmont Dr.
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon / \$3 donation
www.oakmontsundaysymposium.org

■Harriet Palk

Season passes are still available for \$50.

Coffee, tea and individually wrapped snacks are available for sale in Berger from 9:45–10:15 a.m. before the presentation begins.

NOVEMBER 26: ENJOY YOUR LEFTOVER TURKEY!

DECEMBER 3: MICHELE CHABOUDY INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: MAKE IT HAPPEN

How do people go from having an idea to making it happen? How do they stick with it when things get tough?

Michele Chaboudy became an entrepreneur in the media start-up world, teaches at Golden Gate University and Santa Rosa Junior College and is currently President of the World Affairs Council of Sonoma County.

We'll be taking a break while you're enjoy the holiday season!



JANUARY 7: DR. BRIANNA STUBBS, BUCK INSTITUTE LIVE BETTER LONGER

Dr. Brianna Stubbs is a lead research scientist at the Buck Institute, specializing in understanding the effects of "exogenous ketone ester supplementation." Got that? It's a key ingredient to heathy, happy aging and she'll tell us all about it.

Easier to understand: Brianna is also an elite British rower, winning two gold medals for Britain.



Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■Valerie Hulsey

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

It's been a busy stretch here at the Valley of the Moon Rotary, but first a question. How many VOM Rotarians does it take to replace a light bulb? Well, as we recently discovered the answer is 10 people, four to hold the ladder steady and one who is foolish enough to climb it.

The occasion was our recent "Fix It Day." A few Saturdays ago, volunteers from the club set out to visit Oakmont residents who needed a hand with things like replacing ceiling lights, air filters on the heating/cooling systems, garage door pulls and smoke detector replacements. We are enthusiastic but we are not electricians or plumbers but we do the best we can. The program was on hiatus during Covid and we have begun anew.

We put the word out in the *Oakmont News* and ended up with a list of about 30 requests for help our 4 two-man teams to handle.

There is a learning curve. Houses are not always uniform. On our first house my partner (ladder man, thank God) disconnected the smoke detector to see where to replace the battery. Nothing to be found. Our thinking was all wired alarms should have a back-up battery.

Here we go down the rabbit hole already but we're learning and happy to help.

Oakmont Progressives



■Linda Suhr

HOLIDAY PARTY

Before launching into what could be, politically speaking, the most consequential year of our lives, it is time to take stock of accomplishments and steps needed to save American democracy and gear up for action in 2024. It's time to gather.

Oakmont Progressives and Oakmont Democrats invite members to a Holiday Party at the East Rec. Center on Monday, December 11, from 5:30–8:30 p.m. You will hear a brief recap of actions and topics covered in 2023 and get a taste of ideas and actions for 2024. You will also learn about Left of Oakmont, a new alliance of five groups—Oakmont Democrats, Oakmont Progressives, Sister District, Standing for Justice and Per-Sisters. Enjoy friendly games (you just might win a nice bottle of wine!), but mostly spend time enjoying fantastic food and cheerful camaraderie.

You must register to attend. Go to www.oakmontprogressives.org/event-details/2023-progressives-holiday-party. When you register, you will be asked what type of dish you intend to bring. The choices are main dish, side dish or appetizer. Oakmont Progressives and Oakmont Democrats will provide dessert, decaf coffee, teas and ice water. Please bring your place setting, cup, utensils, napkin and beverage. If you would like, please bring an extra bottle of wine with a ribbon tied on to be given away for our game.

All members of Left of Oakmont—Oakmont Democratic Club and Oakmont Progressives, Sister District, Standing for Justice and Per Sisters—are welcome, and there is no charge, though donations are gladly accepted to financially compensate future speakers and actions.

Not a member? Go to oakmontdemclub.com to join Oakmont Democrats or to www.oakmontprogressives.org to join Oakmont Progressives and register for the Holiday Party. Space is limited, so register soon. For questions, email Linda at travels@sonic.net.

Please join us in celebrating with kindred spirits and nourishing our souls in preparation of the work ahead in 2024.

Oakmont Music Lovers

■Judy Walker

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF LUCIA DLUGOSZEWSKI? A REDISCOVERY

The esteemed UC Santa Cruz music professor Amy Beal returns to the Oakmont Music Lovers series with a presentation about Detroit-born, Polish-American composer Lucia Dlugoszewski (1925–2000), a prolific experimentalist who, despite her enormous musical output and relentless creativity, has been completely neglected by music history studies of the 20th century.

Using materials housed at the Library of Congress and other archival collections, Professor Beal will discuss her recently published book, *Terrible Freedom: The Life and Work of Lucia Dlugoszewski* (University of California Press, 2022), which has just been named as recipient of the ASCAP Deems Taylor/Virgil Thomson Book Award in the field of concert music.

Please join us for a morning of fascinating examples of graphic poetry "scores" and unique musical examples from Dlugoszewski's few recorded works.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 5 at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: East Recreation Center

COST: Free admission (donations gratefully accepted)



Amy Beal.

Music at Oakmont



■Rosemary Waller

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 THE DOVER QUARTET AND A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Our December concert showcases the artistic excellence of one of the finest string quartets in the country, making their third appearance at Oakmont. Receiving accolades for their playing from critics and audiences alike, The Dover Quartet will present an exciting program of works by three entirely different composers appealing to all tastes.



Dover Quartet.

The concert will begin with the exuberant *Quartet in G minor opus 74* by Haydn, nicknamed "The Rider" due to the seemingly galloping theme of the last movement. The program ends with the uplifting string quartet number nine by Shostakovich. Written after a particularly difficult period when three personal relationships turned out to be disastrous, Shostakovich finally was happily married and dedicated this quartet to his new wife. This is generally a lighter, less complicated work than some of his previous quartets, although containing some dark currents. It is written in five movements to be played without a break.

In between these contrasting pieces, we're delighted to introduce the Oakmont audience to the African-American composer Florence Price, who wrote prolifically—symphonies, chamber music, choral, concertos together with many vocal pieces based on spirituals, which were often sung by the great Marian Anderson. Relatively unknown until recent years, her works are now getting a lot of attention on stages across the world. Price's *Quartet in G major* epitomizes her general style incorporating European classicism with her ancestral music of the southern United States. The work comprises two contrasting movements, the second being an impressive set of variations based on the style of an American folk song. I'm so delighted that we have a chance to hear her music in Oakmont.

As a recognition of the holiday season and, I confess, as an enticement for a large turnout, we are serving wine and goodies after the concert. We really hope that you, together with friends and neighbors come to hear these wonderful artists playing extraordinary music.

Our website, www.musicatoakmont.org will provide a lot more detail regarding this and other concerts in our series.

WHEN: Friday, December 1 at 1:30 p.m. (please note change of day from our usual Thursday concerts)

WHERE: Berger Center

ADMISSION: \$30 payable by cash or check or with Season Pass





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Receive one raffle ticket for each coat you donate & enter to win a bottle of wine & a \$100 gift basket full of goodies for your holiday get togethers. Drawing will be held December 22.



*Please go through your closets & donate your extra coats to those in need. Ask your family & friends to help donate too!
We will be collecting coats for men, women & children.*



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Canine Club

■Jean Nattkemper

A PICTURE WORTH A 1,000 WORDS

Celebrate the holidays by having your pup pose for a photo with Santa at Western Farm Center, 21 West 7th St., Santa Rosa. This annual event, benefitting CCI (Canine Companions for Independence), takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on December 2 and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on December 3. The fee for a photo is \$25 and includes a chance to win a door prize.



EARLY BIRD BENEFIT

Take advantage of the Early Bird Special by renewing your membership in November or December. If you pay this year, the cost is \$10 per individual and \$16 per household. Dues paid after December 31 are priced at \$12 and \$20.

To renew, make your check payable to the Oakmont Canine Club and deposit it in the Canine Club folder at the OVA office.

WOOFERS DOG WALKS

Thursday, December 11, 10 a.m.—meet at West Rec. parking area; Friday December 22, 10 a.m.—meet at East Rec. parking lot.

These dog walks are casual, self-paced walks of about 1 to 2 miles and are open to all Oakmont residents and all dog breeds and sizes. Bring water for yourself and your pup, and wear comfortable walking shoes.

GOINGS-ON AT THE DOG PARK

Happy Tails Dog Park is located at 6302 Stonebridge Rd., behind the Community Garden. It is open from sunrise to sunset and available to all Oakmont residents.

- Bring your balls, frisbees, and discs to the Big Dog Play Date on Saturday, December 16 from 10 a.m. to noon. Open to all dogs weighing more than 35 pounds.

- For dogs less than 25 pounds, the park is reserved from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. every Sunday and every Wednesday. Thanks to all who have respected the safety concerns of small dog owners by observing this 2-hour window each week.

- A few reminders. Please remember not to bring dog treats, food, or drink of any kind other than water into the Dog Park. Also watch your dog and be ready to use the waste bags and receptacles located throughout the park.

- Help Needed: You can play a critical role in the operation of the Dog Park by joining the volunteer caretakers who spend 1 hour each week cleaning up and reporting, if necessary, maintenance and human or dog behavioral issues to Peri Olinger. Contact Peri at periolinger@yahoo.com or (707) 479-6961 if you have questions or wish to help out.

DOG RESCUE EVENT

Come meet and greet adoptable dogs at the Dogwood Animal Rescue event on December 9. It takes place on the Berger lawn from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

INFO THAT MAKES LIFE EASIER

The club website (<http://www.oakmontcanineclub.org/>) lists upcoming events and resources such as pet sitters, dog walkers, groomers, dog-friendly restaurants, etc. Give your dog a place on the site by sending a photo to Steve Huntley at shuntley@huntleyenvironmental.com, and h



Performing Arts Workshop

■Sherri Hoefling

OPEN MIC SHOWS OFF “OAKMONT’S GOT TALENT”

The first Open Mic was a grand success with almost 60 attendees and 12 acts! I would like to compliment all those brave souls who got up on stage at the East Rec. on Nov. 1 and created a wonderful evening. My thanks to the band RELISH, who was there to back up anyone who wanted it.

It was interesting to see the many levels of performers. For some, this was a first venture and really brought forth the stage fright. Although this is difficult for some people, this is what Open Mic is all about—finding your voice and being able to get up in front of people. Take heart brave souls, next month it will be easier. And for those more seasoned performers, thanks for coming and sharing your talents.

We had people who sang and some instrumentalists who showed off their playing. There were guitarists, pianist, banjo players and a violinist.

I hope many from this month will return and hope to see a variety of performers on Dec. 6 at East Rec. I hear there is a magician here in Oakmont, anybody juggle? Comedians? Trick dog acts? Please no Fire Dancers ... it makes Oakmonters nervous.

Here are the changes we will make for the second Open Mic on Dec. 6:

- Let’s start at 6 p.m. It gives more time for folks to get some dinner, and sign-ups did not take as long as I thought.

- There will be a mix of table seating and theater seating so that you can feel free to BYO-BS—Beverages and Snacks.

- End time will depend on how many people sign up. End will probably be around 8 p.m., max of 9 p.m.



- I will get the sing-along more organized. We had trouble getting the entire page of the song I put on the big screen, so that can be worked out.

You do not need to perform to attend. Every performance needs an audience.

WHO: You and your Oakmont friends

WHAT: First Wednesday Open Mic

WHERE: Upper East Rec.

WHEN: First Wednesday of every month, 6 p.m. This month is Dec. 6

MORE INFO: Sherri Hoefling, (707) 236-5500 or Jim Munger, (707) 775-8943

Current Events Discussion Group

■Tina Lewis

Every Friday from 1–2:30 a.m. Current Events meets at the East Rec. There is Zoom available for those who can’t attend in person.

There’s a lot to talk about, from Oakmont to Santa Rosa to California to national to international. Look for special reports and in-depth issues discussed from

opposing points of view. Following each meeting, we gather for Happy Hour at a place determined at the end of the meeting, places such as Oak, Palooza, Salt & Stone, and The Saloon at Jack London Lodge.

If you are not on the Zoom mailing list and wish to be, email tinalewis31@comcast.net or call (707) 758-9739.

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Sunday, December 10th
10:30 am–1:30 pm

\$18 per guest at the door
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301 White Oak Drive
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RSVP by December 6th at 707-899-1263 or
oakmontgardens.com/news-events.



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Oakmont Squares



■Barbara Wooley

OAKMONT SQUARES CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN

A fun time was had by all as the Oakmont Squares celebrated Halloween! Dancers showed off their Halloween spirit, adorning themselves in creative costumes that ran the gamut from cute to scary. Club members danced to Halloween inspired tunes, such as “The Devil Went Down to Georgia,” “Witch Doctor” and more, taking short breaks to catch their breath and snack on treats such as popcorn, cookies, and cake.

With the recent addition of new members for the fall



Margi Nielsen and Deb Scharping. (Photo by Barbara Wooley)

class, club members now make up three full squares for the green tips (class level) and two squares for the red tips (mainstream level). While the fall class is now closed, experienced dancers who wish to join the group, or to just drop in, are welcome to come dance at



Kathy Camp and Tony D'Agosta. (Photo by Barbara Wooley)

any time. No partner is necessary since it is customary to switch partners often to allow all members the chance to dance.

The Oakmont Squares meet Tuesday evenings from 7–9 p.m. at the East Rec. Center. Donation is \$8 per person/night or \$25 for the month.

For information call Jenny at (707) 367-2102.

Valley of the Moon Women Niners

■Debra Kiddoo

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP AND HALLOWEEN TOURNAMENT/PARTY

The VOM Women Niners held its 2023 Club Championship over a two-day period with nine holes played on the front and back of the Sugarloaf golf course October 12 and 19. The winners were: Nancy Barrett with an overall low gross of 85 (net 68) and Colleen Casey with an overall low net of 60 (gross 87). Congratulations to our champions!

There were also winners for the first–third in two flights: Kathy Camp, Linda Yates, Joan DiMaggio, Mary Jobson, Vanita Collins, Christy Rexford and Debbie Kiddoo. Well done, everyone.

The Women Niners celebrated Halloween with a shotgun tournament and picnic lunch at the CAC on October 26. We welcomed many guests, got into the spirit with costumes and had a blast! The food was a delicious spread by Oliver’s Market organized by Colleen Casey.

The game was “putts only” with 10 winners: Christy Rexford, Patty Hoagland (guest), Yoshi Smith (guest), Mary Jobson, Linda Yates, Gail Schlee (guest), Judy Aiken (guest), Vanita Collins, Patti Schweizer, and Vicki Eschelbach. Way to go!

The club welcomes all level of golfers interested in fellowship,

recreation, and playing by USGA rules. The dues for 2024 will be \$69 which includes NCGA dues of \$46. Applications will be at the Sugarloaf pro shop. Membership in the VOM Golf Course is not required to join.

Contact JoAnn Banayat at (415) 279-2954 or jbanayat@sbcglobal.net for questions about membership. Hope to see you soon!

Nancy Barrett and Colleen Casey.



Halloween 2023.

New to Oakmont?

Meet with a volunteer from the New Resident Welcome Committee to learn about everything Oakmont—from governing rules, important phone numbers, activities, services, facilities and emergency prep.

Contact us at welcome@oakmontvillage.com. The Welcome Packet is available at oakmontvillage.com/article/new-resident-welcome-packet.

OAK at the VOM Golf Club



■Hilary Gruendle

LIVE MUSIC AT OAK

Every Monday, enjoy Live Music at OAK. Call today to reserve a table (707) 539-0415 x 5.

Check our events page for more events: www.playvom.com/events.

Here is our Live Music schedule from now until the end of the year. Reservations are required to attend.

Nov. 27: The Retro Rockers, 5–7:30 p.m.

Dec. 4: The Magic Band, 5–7 p.m.

Dec. 11: Jami Jamison, 5–7:30 p.m.

Dec. 18: Two of Us, 5–7 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT OAK

Oak will be offering a 3-course menu for Christmas Dinner on December 25.

WHEN: Monday, December 25, starting at 4 p.m.

COST: \$40 per person

MENU: Starter—Choice of Roasted Beet Salad (arugula, red and gold beets, candied pistachios, goat cheese and lemon herb vinaigrette) or Roasted Butternut Squash Soup (curried pumpkin seeds and crème fraîche); Main Course—Choice of Pan Seared 6 oz Filet of Beef (garlic potato puree, butter carrots and red wine demi-glace) or Pan Seared Halibut (garlic potato puree, butter carrots, her butter sauce) or Butternut Squash Ravioli (brown butter, sage, Parmesan, pomegranate seeds); Dessert—Choice of Flourless Chocolate Cake or Whipped Cream with Berries.

Reservations required. Call today to reserve (707) 539-0415 x 5.

NYE AT OAK WITH THE MAGIC BAND

Celebrate the New Year with dinner and dancing with The Magic Band at OAK on Dec. 31.

WHEN: Sunday, December 31, 6–9:30 p.m.

COST: \$80 per person

TIME: Doors open at 5:45 p.m. with Cash Bar.; Music from 6–9:30 p.m.; Appetizers from 6–6:30 p.m.; Dinner Buffet 6:30–7:15 p.m.; Celebrate the New Year at 9 p.m.; event ends 9:30 p.m.

DINNER MENU: Assorted appetizers; Seared Salmon, Prime Rib, Butternut Squash Ravioli, Grilled asparagus, garlic mashed potatoes, mixed green salad, bread rolls and butter; Flourless Chocolate Cake, mixed berries and whipped cream.

Link to purchase tickets: <https://bit.ly/3DQmIEj>.

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Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

FANNY, THE "GODDESS OF PÉTANQUE"

According to legend, Fanny was a café waitress who invited 0-13 losers to kiss her on the cheek as consolation when they ordered a pastis to drown their sorrow. One day a losing player with whom she had some past grievance appeared for his consolation but Fanny "turned the other cheek," offering instead her backside.



The Oakmont Pétanque Club's Fanny.

With the kiss that followed, a tradition was born. Losing 0-13 became "being Fannied," and nearly all Pétanque Clubs have a Fanny in some form. The Oakmont Club's Fanny has been something of a lucky charm—although she has been present for all of the club's tournaments for the last six years in case needed, there have been no shutout tournament games.

NEW CONSENSUS ON FOOT FAULTS

Since Pétanque rules require that both feet remain planted inside the circle until a thrown boule hits the ground, how to handle foot faults—stepping on or outside the circle or lifting a foot off the ground—has been a recurrent issue. One argument is that the offending player should be given an official warning (in umpired tournaments a yellow card). A second warning would then disqualify a thrown boule and have it removed from the terrain. The other point of view is that the boule was thrown against the rules and should be immediately disqualified and removed with any boules disturbed from the throw restored to their original locations.

However, there is virtually never evidence that a throw's success was due to the foot fault. The idea that stepping on the circle or lifting a foot must certainly or even probably have enabled a good throw or shot seems implausible. Therefore, the international Pétanque umpire community has endorsed the view that a player committing a foot fault should receive an official warning but nothing on the ground should be changed.

In non-umpired friendly or tournament play, this effectively means that there is no penalty for a foot fault. However, the opposing team is certainly justified in calling the violation to the attention of the offending player and insisting that the player observe the rule.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

The club encourages all Oakmonters who may be interested in playing or learning to play pétanque (pay-tonk) to come to the courts between Berger and the OVA offices at 9:45 a.m. on the Club play days of Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. The club has boules to lend while you're learning, and you'll be playing right away. No dues are required—just sign up to be on the club roster.

Club play days are casual friendly games with teams randomly assigned. Anyone, regardless of experience, is welcome to enjoy the challenge and camaraderie of a simple game that is inexpensive, fun to play, learned quickly, and endlessly fascinating in its deeper levels of execution and strategy.



Oktoberfest Tourney 2023 (l to r): Richard Goodwin and Margi Nielsen (6th place), Cynthia Goodwin and Steven Payette (5th place).

■D. Hall

COMEDY PRESENTATIONS TO HOLIDAY JOLLIES

In splendid fashion, Ginna Zoellner and Jim Preston staged a knockout performance of Willy Russell's *Educating Rita*, as Oakmont Playreaders head into the holidays. November's presentation, which pitted a cockney student against her dour professor, had audiences sympathizing and laughing at the same time. The final two Mondays in November will be for rehearsals as Playreaders pivot into holiday fare.



Playreaders November production *Educating Rita* by Willy Russell. Readers were Ginna Zoellner and Jim Preston. (Photo by John Dolan)

Playreaders



On December 4, three short plays will feature Jim Preston, Sandy White and Ginny Smith in *The Gift of the Magi*, *A Cup of Christmas Tea*, and a monologue about a Jewish Santa. On December 11, Jim Preston will present a reading of Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales*.

The remainder of December will be dark as will Monday, January 1, 2024. But on January 8, I will stage a raucous comedy one-act *Complaint Department and Lemonade* by Kamron Klitgaard. Marcel Coder, Jeff Sheff, and Star Power will join me on stage.

A word to audiences: please make sure you are in your seat by 2 p.m. on performance Mondays (come earlier.) We can't seat people after the play has begun and we have resorted to turning people away due to full houses.

Join us on the first two Mondays of every month (except January 1) at 2 p.m. in Room B of the Central Activities Center.

Lifelong Learning



■Marlena Tremont

WINTER 2024 CLASS PREVIEW WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 BERGER CENTER

Music and refreshments at 2:30 p.m.; Program at 3

WHAT TECHNOLOGY MEANS: REINVENTING HUMANITY

INSTRUCTOR: NELSON KELLOGG
Mondays, Jan. 8–22, 3–5 p.m., Berger Center
3-week session. Cost: \$50



This class investigates the past, present and future human experience in light of the tools and processes we have invented like money, bookkeeping, agriculture, time, transportation, medicine and now, AI. How have these inventions changed what we do, who we are, our sense of community, our relationships and our sense of purpose.

Nelson "Buzz" Kellogg is a writer and lecturer in public philosophy, particularly in the history and effects of technology, and its impact on human social evolution.

ART AND HISTORY
INSTRUCTOR: CHRISTIAN QUINTIN
Wednesdays, Jan. 10–Feb. 14, 3–5 p.m., Berger Center
6-week session. Cost: \$95

Explore the art and history of different time periods in different countries including a look at rarely seen artwork and almost-unknown artists. Learn about the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, Classical Art and Impressionism in France; Dutch and Flemish works and the art of Bosh and Brueghel the Elder.



Christian Quintin was born in France and studied of the Beaux Arts Academy in Paris. His works have been exhibited at galleries across the country.

THE FAMILY IN GLOBAL
PERSPECTIVE: A GENDERED JOURNEY
INSTRUCTOR: DR. ELAINE LEEDER
Thursdays, Jan. 11–Feb. 15, 3–5 p.m., East Rec.
6-week session. Cost: \$95



The family is a complex topic that needs to be understood historically, culturally, economically, and sociologically. This course examines the changing nature of the family as societies and

economies change, comparing the American family with those in other parts of the globe.

Elaine Leeder (MSW, MPH, PhD) is Dean Emerita/Professor Emerita from Sonoma State University has traveled to 65 countries and written a university textbook on global family life.

JUST ADDED!
US MAP WORKSHOP—
STITCHING MEMORIES
INSTRUCTOR: ROBERT MAHAR

Mondays, Feb. 5–19

3-week session. Cost: \$70 plus \$20 supplies



This class embraces a community storytelling spirit while stitching memories on a vintage US map. What are the places you've called home? Places you've traveled? Share your memories. All supplies provided.

Course includes basic stitches for beginners. Seasoned stitchers apply longstanding skills to this uniquely personal creation.

Robert Mahar, artist and past associate producer of NBC's *Making It* currently teaches historical craft traditions across the US. He spent 13 years as a contemporary art appraiser.

ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS AND
GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE
INSTRUCTOR: ANGELA NARDO-MORGAN
Thursdays, Feb. 22–Mar. 14, 3–5 p.m., East Rec.
4-week session. Cost: \$65

Explore the urgency of climate change and the moral imperative it poses to humanity through discussions of our responsibility to wild species and ecosystems and to present and future generations of humans dependent on critical ecological systems. What are the biggest environmental challenges and can we make a difference?



Angela Nardo-Morgan is a Councilmember of the North Sonoma Valley Municipal Advisory Council and Director of Philanthropy and Development for Marine Conservation Institute.

Classes available in person, on Zoom or as a recorded session to watch at your leisure.

Purchase multiple classes at the same time for the same person and save 25% off the total.

To register go to OakmontLL.org, fill out a form in the OLL folder in the OVA office or register at the door.

Hikers



■Scott Finn

We welcome you to join us on a hike whether you are a member yet or not and the annual membership is only \$15. Go to our website at www.oakmonthikingclub.org to join the club, get more hike details, club information, photos and lots more.

Please keep checking our website for updates.

NOVEMBER 30: LONG HIKE LAKE SONOMA BUMMER PEAK

From Lone Rock parking lot, we follow the 1/2 Canoe Trail around Bummer Peak to the Cove Trail for lunch at Madrone Point. The trails go in and out of the Madrone and Oak Forest before following the edge of Lake Sonoma along the Rancheria Creek Trail. Hike length will be about 9 miles with 1,100 feet of elevation gain.



View From Lake Sonoma Bummer Trail.

Bring water, snack/lunch, and poles. No parking fee. Meet at Berger Center at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is John Ferreira, (650) 760-0497, ferreirajohn@msn.com.

DECEMBER 7: SHORT HIKE JACK LONDON STATE HISTORIC PARK

Discover the historic area once owned by the famous prolific author, Jack London. We'll see his Wolf House, House of Happy Walls Museum, and the Beauty Ranch historic buildings, including the cottage where he wrote many of his books. Three miles with some elevation gain/loss along rocky walking paths. JLSHP parking fee: \$10 or CA State Park Pass.

Bring water, optional poles. Rain cancels. Depart

Berger 9:30 a.m. (note later departure time). Hike leader is Donna McCullough, (707) 539-5730.

DECEMBER 7: INTERMEDIATE HIKE JENNER HEADLANDS PRESERVE

This preserve is one of my favorite places with absolutely gorgeous views of the Pacific and those lovable Dutch Belted Cows. We will hike the Sea to Sky and Raptor Ridge loop at a moderate pace, 4.5 miles and 941 feet of elevation. Bring your lunch as we will dine alfresco at the picnic tables near Raptor Ridge.



Brown Belted Cow.

After lunch I'll be making a 15-minute presentation on the impact that December 7, 1941 had on Sonoma County residents and, oh yes, I'll bring Bonnie's Brownies. Heavy rain may postpone the hike, note early start time of 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Gary Andersen, (360) 778-9604, garyandersen66@gmail.com.

DECEMBER 7: LONG HIKE SUGARLOAF RIDGE STATE PARK

Join the Oakmont Long Hikers as we take on an ambitious "peak" hike at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. We'll hike the complete rim of the park along the Sonoma/Napa County ridge line. This 9.5-mile hike, with an elevation gain of 2,100 feet, will offer many dramatic view sites.

Bring the 3 Ls (liquids, lunch, layers) and, of course, plenty of energy. Depart the Berger lot at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Dave Chalk, (707) 972-8988.

Pickleball Corner



■Steve Bangert

GEEK WEEK TWEAK

In case people didn't realize it, I'm a big science geek. So, when Peter asked for articles, I naturally decided to look into the physics of pickleball.



Cartoon by Peter Copen.

The physics of pickleball pretty much revolves around spin. Before going any further I want to be sure we all know what top and back spin means. If you imagine sitting on the long side of a court with the ball going left to right a ball with top spin is spinning clockwise and counterclockwise for backspin.

Trolling the Internet, I found some YouTube videos on the topic. Unfortunately, I didn't find any equations to wow people. However, they did do experiments with some interesting results. They have a special ball machine that can put top, no, or back spin on a pickleball. First interesting observation is after the bounce, regardless of the spin, the ball bounces up with top spin. A top spin ball starting at 1475 rpm bounces off the court at 1875 rpm, a flat no spin ball

bounces off at 950 rpm, and a backspin starting at 825 rpm bounces off at 325 rpm.

An experiment was also done to see what effect spin had on how far the ball bounced. A top spin ball at 1400 rpm bounced 22 feet from where it hit the court on the first bounce. In case you didn't know that's one half the length of a pickleball court. A flat no spin ball hit to the same location on the court only bounced 11 feet and a back spin ball bounced 8 feet.

What does that mean for a player trying to return a ball? It means you better be paying attention to how your opponent hit the ball. Don't forget that if you're volleying the ball it didn't bounce and will have whatever spin your opponent put on the ball.

Do I think about the physics of pickleball while playing? No! But I do try and pay attention to how my opponent hits the ball and learn through experience how to hit the return so it goes over the net, stays in bounds, and is so high my partner or I don't end up eating a pickleball for lunch.

New Player Orientation: 9 a.m. on Tuesday mornings. Arrangements can be made by contacting Nancy Lande at (707) 978-2998 to schedule a session. Call Jim Howard at (209) 761-8517 for demo loaner.

Lawn Bowling



■Mary Blake

GIFTS FOR KIDS AND OUR HOLIDAY GALA

The Holiday Gala is Friday, December 8. Last day to select a child in need of a present is Tuesday, November 28! If you're happy buying a gift but hate shopping, contact Pam Dempsey or Linda Pickell.

HELP!

A small number of people are doing a lot of the work. We could use help. If there's a committee you feel you could help with, please contact the committee chair.

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

- Welcome—Janet Johnson welcomed us.
- Treasurer's report—Tony Lachowicz. Current balance is \$2,014.15. We usually have about \$2,000 to \$3,000. Dues for 2024 are \$20 per active member, \$15 per associate member. Pay by February 1st to be included in the Green Book. Leave your information and a check in the OLBC folder in the OVA office, or in Tony's cubby, or give cash directly to Tony.
- Committees.
 - Tournaments—Steve Pickell. Thanksgiving will have some surprises. Then, no tournaments until late February. Janet pointed out what a great job Steve and Pam have been doing!
 - Social Committee—Pam Dempsey. The social committee includes Pam, Linda Pickell, and Marilyn McKeever. The remaining event for 2023 is the Gala.
 - Training—Mary Blake. Topher Gayle has agreed to be training coordinator starting January, 2024.
 - Communications—Mary Blake. Most attendees read these articles and the e-blasts. Mary could use suggestions for the articles in the *Oakmont News*.
 - Status of the Green—Jim Krause. Thanks to Jim's hard work, the green is spectacular and bowling is good. Jim said the green needs spiked more often and the brown grass is Bermuda. They'll be seeding with more bent grass.
 - Gala—Pam Dempsey. We still need people to take children's names. And we need volunteers to wrap presents. Sign up in the bowls room or contact Pam.
 - Election—Mary Blake. We had 27 online ballots and 14 written ballots. There were no write-ins. Continuing as President is Janet Johnson, VicePresident is Pam Dempsey and Director is Gerry Macintosh.
 - Other: Marilyn Garland oversees our participation in Grandparents' Day and the Senior Games will be May 31 and June 1.

7. Q & A:

- Will there be new OLBC shirts? They can be ordered but will be more expensive.
- How many new members did we get in 2023? 14.
- It was suggested that our tournaments become round robins. Advantages are that a tournament is completed in one day, our club is bowling through the day and therefore more visible to other Oakmont residents, bowlers will play against a wider variety of competitors, and the final game happens that day rather than days or weeks later. Jim Brewer suggested that we do a test game early in 2024.
- It was also suggested we have more follow-up training. We'll discuss this with Topher.

Email: oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com. Website: www.oakmontlawnbowling.com



Tennis Club



■Jack Breibart

THE BOARD IN ACTION

How is this for a problem? The board of the Tennis Club is so flush with funds (a very modest amount) that it needs to figure out how to spend some of it. That is one of the interesting points to come out of the board's annual meeting on November 13 at the Berger Center attended by about 30 members.

A vigorous discussion has been going on post-meeting about how to dole out the "excess" in funds. Stay tuned.

In other business: the old board (Jim Hughson, Judy Passaglia, Frank Passaglia, Arnie Herskovic, Maureen Pennal and Dave Coar) was voted in for another year. Mellie Gott announced that she is moving and will be leaving the board although not the Tennis Club. A hats-off thanks to Mellie who has been a busy Communications Director.

Dues for membership in the Tennis Club, which has grown to about 90 members, will remain at \$20 per year. New members can join the club by going to the OVA office and asking for a sign-up form from the Tennis Club folder.

Marueen ran down the list of three events the club sponsored this year (one was canceled due to rain) and Frank suggested that this be bumped up to six or eight events in 2024.

Other items: new gamma balls have been purchased for the ball machine in the club's shed on the West Courts; discussion about the possibility of a portable backboard on Court 4 in the West; replace medical supplies in the first-aid boxes in sheds at both East and West.

More details were announced for the Gala Evening of Dining and Dancing on January 19 at the Saddle Club, which is opening inside and outside rooms for the event. Music will be by the Second Street band. Frank and Judy, who are involved in the arrangements for the evening, gave the menu rundown: appetizers, salmon or New York steak or both, Caesar salad, seasonal vegetables, mashed potatoes, and mac and cheese. There also will be a veggie option. The food will be buffet style.

There will also be a great liquid "menu." No corkage fee for bringing your own bottle and drinks at the No Host Bar will be only \$5 each. A real deal, thanks to Frank's negotiating skills.

Oakmont Cat Care Coop

■Mary Ellen King

NEED CARE FOR KITTY WHILE YOU ARE AWAY?

Join the Oakmont Cat Care Coop and share the care! For Oakmont residents only. Active participation for over 15 years.

For information and to get on the list contact me at (707) 849-1581.



Strength and Balance Class

■Valerie Hulsey

Strength and Balance classes are held every Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the East Rec. Center. The classes are not sponsored by the Santa Rosa Jr. College (SRJC) so there is a \$5 drop-in fee for each class.

Classes are limited to 72 people so come early to ensure you get a chair. Bring your Theraband for strengthening, if you do not have one you can purchase one for \$5 when you arrive.

Bring water and come and have some fun and improve your balance at the same time.



Oakmont Volunteer Helpers

■Matt Zwerling



AGING IN PLACE

SONOMA COUNTY 211 SERVICE

At a recent emergency preparedness program sponsored by Emergency Prep Help for Seniors I was introduced to the 211Sonoma.org program. While I had heard about 211 previously, like so many other things it found itself lodged in the uncharted recesses of my brain. So, what is 211 and how can it be helpful to our Oakmont community?

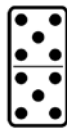
2-1-1 Sonoma is a free service, available 24/7, providing non-disaster information. It is managed by the United Way and funded by PG&E.

2-1-1 Sonoma "...is the comprehensive information and referral service for Sonoma County. We connect Sonoma County callers, website-users and texters each year with information about health and human services available to them."

Their website (211Sonoma.org) has a wealth of information on such things as Food Assistance, Income and Expense, Health Care, Seniors, Transportation, Legal Services, etc. There is up-to-date information on Covid, Sonoma County Health Department orders and guidelines, and current incidents such as fires or earthquakes.

I would encourage everyone to explore this valuable website and service, particularly if you are in need of support or information which might not be available within Oakmont.

Domino Club



■Brian Huckins

MIX THOSE DOMINOES

The Oakmont Domino Club meets every Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Central Activity Center Card Room.

We play the popular Five-up Game (more commonly referred to as the San Francisco Five-up Game). Two, three or four can play. The four handed or partners game is our preferred format.



A slight wager has been known to add to the interest.

It is easy to learn and anyone who can add, subtract and divide can play the game. The fundamentals are simple and can be learned quickly. The finer points can be managed with a little study and practice.

Looking for players of all abilities to join. Lessons are available.

Please contact me at (415) 602-9083 or bvhuckins@gmail.com.

Water Fitness



■Valerie Hulsey

Although the weather is a little colder the pool is a toasty 86 degrees so please join us at the West Pool for a terrific Water Aerobics class. Mary teaches Monday through Thursday at 9:30 a.m. There is laughter and fun in the pool and sometimes in the hot tub, not to mention this is great way to exercise with no strain on your body.

Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) is not sponsoring these classes so there is an \$8 drop-in fee for all classes.

New and Exciting Volunteer Opportunities

■Bev Levy, Volunteer Resources Committee Chair

Two top notch organizations request you join their team: Lifelong Learning and the AARP Tax-Aide assistance program here in Oakmont.



LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong Learning program offers both classes and concerts and is in need of volunteers to help set up beforehand or administer during the programs. Duties vary, as do dates. There is also a specific date, December 13, that needs volunteers in the afternoon for the Class Preview event.

If interested, please contact Charlene Bunas (2charbee@att.net) or leave message at (707) 282-9230. There is also an opening for an audio-visual backup person to be trained, interned, and then responsible for A/V for one of the four classes offered in a term.

AARP FOUNDATION TAX-AIDE

The nation's largest volunteer-based free tax preparation service is looking for compassionate and friendly people to join the Oakmont team this upcoming tax season. Volunteers are needed to prepare tax returns, greet clients, help organize paperwork and/or work from home making appointments. No prior experience necessary.

The asked for commitment is five hours per week February through April 15, 2024. Oakmont location schedules Monday and Wednesday and Sonoma location is on Fridays.

New Volunteer Orientation Meetings are 10-11:30 a.m. on Nov. 17 and Dec. 5 at the Franklin Park Clubhouse, 2095 Franklin Avenue, Santa Rosa. Oakmont contact is Diane Ethier, (651) 210-0805 or dianeethier@earthlink.net.

Volunteers keep this program strong and growing in Sonoma County. This past year, 75 Tax-Aide volunteers here prepared and filed around 2,500 tax returns for Sonoma County residents with low to moderate income.

There are many other volunteer opportunities here in Oakmont for you to consider. Please contact volunteers@oakmontvillage.com for a current list of needs and the contact person.

Oakmont Garden Club



■Patty McHugh

PRESSED FLOWER WORKSHOP WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13, 9:30-11:30 AM EAST REC., 7902 OAKMONT DRIVE

The Oakmont Garden Club does not hold a general meeting in the month of December, a month filled with holiday celebrations and a time for gatherings of family and friends. We are, however, offering another Pressed Flower Workshop for those interested in learning a new craft and perhaps creating a special gift for someone special.

The pressed flower workshop is conducted by the talented Jan Lochner of Sebastopol. Each participant will leave with at least five items including a bookmark, a note card, an ornament and a magnet. Jan arrives with trays and trays of colorful pressed flowers and all the materials you need to complete your items.



The cost of the hands-on workshop is \$35 per person and enrollment is limited. The workshop is open to all Oakmont residents, however, Garden Club members have priority. If you would like to attend, place your check, made payable to Oakmont Garden Club, in our folder at the OVA office. Your check is your reservation. Checks received after the class has filled will be returned.

CLASSIFIEDS

BODEN PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR

For all your plumbing and heating needs. Local plumbers in business since the late 20th century, licensed, bonded and insured. Same day service is often available. Money-saving coupons! CA Lic. #659920. Please call (707) 996-8683 or go to www.BodenPlumbing.com.

GARDENING

Done with an emphasis upon a natural look since 2007. Small jobs OK. Handyman as well. Richard, 833-1806. Oakmont resident.

BABE'S TRANSPORT

A personal transportation service for airports, cruises and vacations, doctor visits, shopping and so much more. Flat fee per trip. Larger vehicles on request. All drivers Covid vaccinated. Commercially licensed and insured. TCP #40474. Call Babe's for reservations at (707) 545-2850.

MASSAGE THERAPY

Massage studio now open in Oakmont. One-hour custom massage, \$100. Book your session now. Brittany Koop, CMT, #91724. Call (707) 849-3915. By appointment only.

SEMI-RETIRED RN

Seeking clients in Oakmont. Providing professional caregiving services in your home. Companion care, meal prep, shopping, light housekeeping, dementia care, assist with bathing, personal advocate, transportation to medical appointments, looking in on loved ones in Assisted Living or SNF facilities. Three-hour minimum, excellent local references, not an agency. Kai, (707) 833-5078.

OAKMONT COMPUTERS

PC and Apple repair in Oakmont Village. Technical services and onsite repair. Media transfers. 6536 Oakmont Dr., (707) 282-9046.

ONE WAY PLUMBING, INC.

Dependable experts serving you and your neighbors with excellence and integrity for over 20 years. Licensed, bonded and insured. Senior discounts available. CA Lic. #854537. Find us on the web at www.onewayplumb.net or call us at 537-1308 for all your plumbing needs.

HANDYMAN SERVICES

Carpentry, drywall, electrical, plumbing, installation and assembly. Other imaginative jobs welcome! Fair hourly rate. www.thehandylance.com. (707) 881-7292.

FOR ALL YOUR PAINTING NEEDS

Quality affordable work at reasonable rates. Interior painting including rooms, cabinets, railings, decks, fencing. Pressure washing and more. Call Michelle, (707) 378-3600.

GARAGE DOOR SERVICES

Locally owned and operated Dependable Doors offers full servicing, repair, and replacement of garage doors and motors. Call Casey at (707) 775-8009 for all of your garage door needs. Lic. #1016951.

REPAIRS PILING UP? CALL RAY

No job too big or too small. Heating, water heaters, plumbing, electrical, drywall, patching, painting, appliance repairs, honey do's, etc. Quality and affordable. Ray, (707) 280-2699.

MARTHA L PROFESSIONAL HOUSE CLEANING

Home, office, move-outs. Window, bed linens and much more. 19+ years of experience. References upon request. 548-9482 or marthal1041@att.net.

CARPET, UPHOLSTERY AND TILE CLEANING

Gavin Anderson, local Sonoma resident. 20+ years experience. Senior pricing. Free estimates. Call 935-6334.

TREE TRIMMING

Pruning, trimming, hedges. Fruit trees, stump grinding. Fall clean-ups. Over 20 years of experience. Free estimates. Call Alex, (707) 322-1646. Lic. #06530716.

HANDYMAN RESIDENT

Ask for Ricky, a personable "Jack of all Trades" with great attention to detail. I meet your quality goals and prioritize Oakmont residents. Let's discuss the work and its cost. (408) 838-5618.

YOUR PERSONAL CAREGIVER AND ADVOCATE

Qualified to care for all your needs. Available 24/7 or hourly. 20+ yrs. experience providing honest, reliable, dedicated, competent, compassionate care, with a sense of humor. Native CA, clear background check with fingerprinting. Specialize in Dementia. Starla, (925) 698-6312. Many references and website available. Not an agency.

TONY'S GARDENING SERVICES

General landscape, mowing, yard maintenance (free fertilizer included, so your grass and plants can be greener than ever), high weed clearance, clean-up, hauling, trimming, pruning and gutters. Free estimates. Ref. available. Tony Sandoval, (707) 321-2958.

CUSTOM WORKS CONTRACTING

Licensed, Bonded, Insured Contractor, Lic. #833926 (check lic. # on CLSB website). USMC Veteran-operated and owned. Here to help out the Oakmont community in all trades for repairs and maintenance, door/windows replacements, kitchen and bathroom remodels, decks, fences, and much more. Please call Jamie Flatt for free estimates on projects. (707) 721-4002.

VALLEY OF THE MOON PLUMBING

We are a local plumbing company that can take care of all your plumbing needs from service and repair, to remodels and additions. Call today to schedule a free estimate. (707) 800-2043.

RESIDENTIAL POWER WASHING AND WINDOW CLEANING

Servico Window Cleaning Co. Free estimates. Call today, (707) 249-3343.

THE VINE LANDSCAPING

Professional fruit tree pruning, ornamentals. All aspects of general landscaping. Monthly service. Older experienced gardener. Call (707) 252-3138 or (707) 338-1807.

COMPUTER OOPS?

Oakmont Onsite Personal Computer Services. 11+ years helping Oakmonters. Call Chuck for all things computer and Tutoring. References available. Over 350 satisfied Oakmont customers. \$50/hr., one hour minimum. (707) 293-8011.

FELIX'S TREE SERVICE

Trimming, pruning, topping, removal, stump grinding. Fire protection. Licensed and fully insured. CA Lic. #955271. Free estimates. Call Felix at (707) 753-3032.

DUMP RUNS

Yard waste, construction debris, junk garbage. Reasonable rates, free estimates. Call Erick, (707) 537-5459.

BALANCE AND BODY WORK

Learn to improve your balance and move easier. Brain based exercises and therapeutic massage. Downtown Santa Rosa studio. Contact Christopher Cormier, (707) 478-2512, ewithchris.com.

HOME FOR RENT

Newly remodeled 2 bed/2 bath in quiet cul-de-sac. Available now. Seniors 55+. No pets. \$3,200 per month and \$5,000 security deposit. Call (707) 595-3413 for more details.

CHRISTMAS LIGHT INSTALLATION

Embrace the holiday spirit by hanging lights around your home. Call Adam at (707) 332-2411 for a free estimate and more information.

SONOMA VALLEY LEGAL SERVICES

Providing legal services for Estate Planning, including preparation or amendment of wills, trust, healthcare directives and powers of attorney, Family Law Mediation and other non-litigation family law services. Call for a free 30-minute consultation. Attorney Bailey Penzotti, (707) 615-3220.

PAINTER/HANDYMAN

Interior/Exterior. 30 yrs. experience. Single rooms or full interiors. Friendly and honest. Morse Painting, Lic. #656306. Call Dan, (707) 799-5823.

HAVING TROUBLE GETTING YOUR GARBAGE TO THE CURB FOR PICK-UP?

I can come to your home to put your trash receptacle to the curb Wednesday afternoon, and bring it back on Thursday afternoon. Call Dan Lennox, (707) 889-0205.

ADVANCED MASSAGE WITH MARK SENZIG

Beyond massage pain relief. Mobile or office. Therapeutic approaches. CA Cert. #21935. www.marksenzig.com. (707) 480-1225.

GUTTER GUARD INSTALLATION GUTTER CLEANING

Window cleaning, power washing and solar panel cleaning. Over 20 years in Oakmont. Call Alex, (707) 291-0429.

GUTTER CLEANING

Don't let those gutters get clogged. Call us! Steve, (707) 568-6741.

GOLDENDOODLE PUPPIES FOR SALE

8 weeks old. Call Alex at (707) 322-1646.

Oakmont News Classified Rates

- Classified ads of 150 spaces or less, (payment to accompany this form) \$25 per insert
- Pre-paid standing ads of 150 spaces or less, for a period of 3 months (6 issues) \$120
- Pre-paid standing ads of 150 spaces or less, for a period of 6 months (12 issues) \$216
- Pre-paid standing ads of 150 spaces or less, for a period of 1 year (24 issues) \$384

A space is a letter (including those in the heading), punctuation mark, and a space between the words in the ad. Additional \$4 for the next 40 or less spaces. Whenever applicable, CA state license or certification number must be included.

DEADLINE: 10 days prior to publication.

MAIL TO: CJM Productions, 2105 Longhorn Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Tel (707) 206-1957 • cjmprod567@gmail.com

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CJM Productions also handles advertising for the *Oakmont News*.

CJM Productions and the **Oakmont Village Association** assume no responsibility for the content of any ads that appear in the *Oakmont News* nor do we endorse or recommend any product or service advertised herein.

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Oakmont Village Association

OAKMONT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Hours: M–F 9 AM–5 PM—Open during lunch
Tel 707-539-1611

6637 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A

OVA E-mail: askova@oakmontvillage.com

Website: www.oakmontvillage.com

Book appointments with staff at: oakmontvillage.com/staff

MAINTENANCE OFFICE

Hours: Daily 6 AM–10 PM

Tel 707-539-6720

Maintenance Building (next to Central Auditorium)

CONDOMINIUM FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (CFM)

OVA Accounting

Tel 800-585-4297

OAKMONT NEWS

Tel 707-206-1957

E-mail: cjmprod567@gmail.com

PAS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Hours: M–F 9 AM–Noon, and 1–4 PM

Tel 707-539-5810

6572 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A

(for Association Maintained Homes)

ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE

Hours: M–Th 9 AM–Noon, 1–5 PM

Tel 707-539-1611

6637 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A-1

E-mail: ale@oakmontvillage.com

Violations: dani@oakmontvillage.com

AVAILABLE IN OVA OFFICE

GAS SHUT-OFF WRENCH.....\$12

TENNIS COURT KEY.....\$2

VIALS FOR LIFE.....FREE

RESIDENT ACCESS CARD.....\$25 EA

REPLACEMENTS.....\$25 EA

GUEST ACCESS CARD.....\$25 EA

BULLETIN BOARDS

There are three OVA bulletin boards, one at each recreation center, where OVA events can be posted. Please bring in notices to the Events Coordinator at the OVA Office. Size is limited to 8.5"x5.5". Items "For Sale", "For Rent" or "Want to Buy" can be put on a 3"x5" card and left at the OVA Office.

LOCKER RENTALS

Annual Locker Fee \$30 (January 1–December 31). If you wish to rent a locker, come to the OVA office and give us a check, your information and the number of the locker you want to rent. You provide the lock. We can prorate the annual fee. Daily use lockers are free. NOTICE: Weekly locker inspections are done by OVA Maintenance. Locks could be sawed off with no prior notice and locker contents removed on all unpaid lockers. Items will be held in OVA Maintenance office for 30 days. If you have any questions, please contact the OVA Office M-F 707-539-1611

GUEST PASSES

The following are OVA Guest Pass types and duration: 1) Guest from outside Sonoma County—up to 90 days; 2) House sitters—up to 90 days (OVA host must present written request to OVA Office for approval prior to visit); 3) Guests living in Sonoma County—2 days per card, and no more than 3 cards per month. Guest cards are available during regular hours in the OVA Office for a \$25 non-refundable fee. Guests accompanied by their Oakmont host are not required to have a Guest Pass.

STREET CLEANING

City streets in Oakmont are cleaned by the city early on the fourth Friday of each month. Residents who want their streets swept should avoid street parking overnight on those days.

NEED A RIDE? GIVE A RIDE! OAKMONT VOLUNTEER HELPERS

We provide the following services to Oakmont Residents:

- Transportation to medical/dental appointments in Santa Rosa only
- Meals on Wheels, 707-525-0383

COORDINATOR Rides to Medical Appointments

November 16–30

Barb Lowell 707-538-0333

December 1–15

Nancy McDonald 707-591-3110

If you would like to be a volunteer, please call 707-539-8996.

Donations to Oakmont Volunteer Helpers are appreciated and tax deductible. Mail your check payable to Oakmont Volunteer Helpers, 6637 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. Thank you.

Mon.–Fri. medical rides before 9 AM or after 4 PM are subject to limited volunteer driver availability. No service on weekends or holidays. Please call at least three full working days prior to appointment.
We regret that we are unable to provide either wheelchair or emergency service.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WRITER GUIDELINES

The *Oakmont News* welcomes letters of up to 250 words from residents to express opinion, criticism or praise. They must include the writer's name and Oakmont address, although the address won't be published. See details on how to send them at <https://oakmontvillage.com/submit>. While letters to the editor may be edited for length and spelling, they are not edited for accuracy. Opinions are that of the writer and not necessarily the Oakmont Village Association.

POOLS & JACUZZIS

Access to OVA pools is by magnetic card. Call OVA Office, 707-539-1611 if you need a permanent new member pool access card or to register for a temporary guest pool access card.

WEST: 7 AM–9 PM

(Closes 7 PM Wednesdays for cleaning)

EAST: 6:30 AM–9 PM

(Closes 7 PM Mondays for cleaning)

CENTRAL: 5:45 AM–9 PM

(Closes 7 PM Tuesdays for cleaning)

JACUZZI HOURS: Same as facility. No one under 18 years in West and East pools and Jacuzzis.

CENTRAL POOL HOURS FOR PEOPLE UNDER 18:

Labor Day–Memorial Day: 11 AM–2 PM daily

Memorial Day–Labor Day: 12–4 PM daily

Children must be accompanied by an OVA member/resident or adult with a valid guest pool access card.

NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY AT ANY OVA POOL.

ALL FACILITIES CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY.

STORAGE UNITS AND PARKING

Oak Creek RV & Self Storage
SP176, www.storagepro.com
707-913-7326

LIBRARY

Central Activity Center, 310 White Oak Dr.
Hours: Daily 6 AM–9 PM. Closed Christmas Day. It is run by volunteers. All donations are gladly accepted. Materials we cannot use will be passed on to others.

OAKMONT COMMUNITY GARDEN ON STONEBRIDGE

For more info on signing up, email
Oakmontcommunitygarden@gmail.com.
Contact for current availability.

HAPPY TAILS DOG PARK

6302 Stone Bridge Rd
Open to residents of Oakmont Village Association from sunrise to sunset. Small Dog Hours are from 3–4 p.m. on Sundays and Wednesdays.

FITNESS CENTER

Central Activity Center, 310 White Oak Dr.
Daily 5:45 AM–9 PM. Closed at 7 PM on Tues. for cleaning. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas day.

2023–2024 OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

E-mail: askova@oakmontvillage.com

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marianne.neufeld@oakmontvillage.com

Olga Ydrogo, Vice President

olga.ydrogo@oakmontvillage.com

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Elke Strunka, Treasurer

(Non-voting officer)
elke@oakmontvillage.com

GENERAL MANAGER

Christel Antone

christel@oakmontvillage.com

OVA BOARD MEETINGS

Townhalls 1st Tuesdays of the month and board meetings 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 1 PM

Always online via Zoom and in-person when possible. All residents are welcome. Information to join online is e-blasted out to the community for every meeting along with the in-person location when applicable. Sign up for e-blasts from OVA at oakmontvillage.com/inside.

The Board of Directors of Oakmont Village Association reserves the right to select those articles submitted for publication that seem appropriate to the purpose of this association.

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS

**County Supervisor Susan Gorin
District 1**

Phone 707-565-2241

Address: 575 Administration Drive,

Rm. 100A, Santa Rosa 95403

Email: Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org

**City Councilwoman Dianna MacDonald
District 3**

Email: dmacdonald@srcity.org

Address: City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Ave.,

Rm. 10, Santa Rosa 95404

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE IN OAKMONT

- CityBus #16 bus takes residents to 5 different shopping centers weekday mornings and around Oakmont afternoons.

- Sonoma County Transit #30 bus goes to Memorial and Kaiser Hospitals and downtown Santa Rosa. Returns via Oakmont to Sonoma.

- Schedules available at OVA office.

BE ON OVA E-MAIL LIST

Know what's going on in Oakmont. You'll receive the weekly "Inside Oakmont" newsletter, Board Meeting notices and agendas, special notices and meeting announcements. To join the OVA's e-mail list, visit oakmontvillage.com/inside and enter your information to subscribe.

Oakmont Birders

■Dawna and James Foreman

OAKMONT CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The 124th annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) season is coming up fast! Oakmont birders and friends from nearby will count bird species on Sunday, December 17, rain or shine. We'll gather at the Berger Center parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and divide into teams of 3-4 for the morning effort. Lunch break is at 12:45 for a BYO picnic at the tables behind Berger.

Last year, when we gathered for lunch, all were very excited to share stories and hear about three species observed: a Virginia Rail at one of the golf course ponds, a Red-breasted Sapsucker on a ridge, and a flock of six White-throated Sparrows near West Rec. Center. Ideally, we count until 3 p.m. or so, but for some, that's a long day. Do what you can!



Virginia Rail.



Red-breasted Sapsucker.

CBC stats show us that the morning tends to yield the most species and individuals within each species group. So, if you want to count part of the day, then it's the morning. What will we find this year?

CBC week begins three days before and ends three days after our count day. So, from Thursday, December 14 through Wednesday, December 20 we can tally species. Last year, six of us did a sweep of the major areas around Oakmont on Friday morning before count day and will do it again this year. We welcome experienced birders who want to join in from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. As you know, any given day in the field can be very birdy, or not. By doing a "mini" count the Friday before our Sunday event, we take the best numbers for each area and use them in the final tally.

While we do not officially gather at dark on count day to "owl" Oakmont, owl species heard or seen

around Oakmont are good data. Great Horned Owls and Western Screech Owls are common. Folks who keep bird feeders on their decks and patios are also welcome to provide their observations to the group leaders at the email given below.

Oakmont CBC Leadership: Dawna and James Foreman, who have participated in the Oakmont CBC since 2016, will be leading again this year. Last year each team used the eBird field app to record species, then submitted a "trip list" by having an experienced eBirder report to our consolidated eBird list. Oakmont is just one of the 12 counts in Santa Rosa within a 15-mile diameter, typical of each CBC effort across the US and around the world. Our Santa Rosa CBC leader, Gene Hunn, is delighted to receive our group's final tally in eBird.

Join us! We look forward to birding with old friends as well as welcoming new, experienced, bird watchers on Sunday, December 17. Email Dawna at Mojbird22@gmail. Do you use the eBird App in the field? Please include that info in your email and let us know your availability for the day.

See you in December. Happy birding!



■Greg Fauss

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

In Charles Dicken's *A Christmas Carol* the central character is Ebenezer Scrooge. As a boy I enjoyed watching the old black and white version of that movie. Alistair Sim did a phenomenal job portraying Scrooge.

Years of watching the travails of Scrooge have spoiled something for me, though—the name Ebenezer. I've always associated it with Scrooge. The original meaning was light years away from. It actually means "Stone of Help" and dates from a time (in 1 Samuel 7:12) where Israel experienced God's help. I name that I could come to associate with humankind's selfishness can actually serve as a reminder of the readily available help of God.

Please join us at our next potluck on Sunday, Nov. 26 at noon, with a presentation from Pastor Greg on his most recent visit to Europe that included visiting aid centers in Ukraine and demonstrations in Berlin.

Advent Wreaths will be made after our Sunday service December 3—we'd love to have you with us for that!



Christmas Eve will be celebrated in the morning at our regular 10:30 a.m. time. Join us for a special service and a great start to Christmas.

Our Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. in the East Rec. Center at 7902 Oakmont Dr.

For more information about our Wednesday morning Bible study, Saturday Prayer, and special events please visit our website at www.occsantarosa.org, write us at occsantarosa@gmail.com or call at (707) 595-0166.

Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■Beverly Singer

THANKS TO ALL VETERANS

Did you see former Marine and Kiwanis member 101-year-old Wendell Freeman, slim as ever, in his WW2 marine uniform? Darn the luck, I missed all the Veteran's Day festivities this year. I was home with a terrible cold, but other Kiwanis members were at the Berger Center to greet guests. Thank you and "hats off" to the Vet's Club, McBride Realty, Oakmont Gardens and other clubs whose members helped bring a very inspiring parade and program to Oakmont.



Marine Vet Wendell Freeman.

Wendell has told us before about his escapades after leaving the farm, in Minnesota at age 17 to seek a different lifestyle. He did not expect the adventures he got when he joined the Marines before WW2. Pearl Harbor happened and soon Wendell found himself island hopping in the South Pacific. If you want more of that story you can catch Wendell at a Kiwanis meeting and find out.

After the war, Wendell completed his university education and became an engineer. He had a successful career and upon retirement he and his schoolteacher wife, Patt, moved to Oakmont.

Wendell still maintains a lovely, large garden and has done and still does many services for the local schools, children, families and our community. When he was the Kiwanis president, he started a garden with fruit trees for Luther Burbank Elementary School in Santa Rosa. For years Wendell maintained their garden and was happily welcomed by students and faculty when he arrived. The Kiwanis Club continues to support Luther Burbank School. Service to others has been Wendell's motto as it is for all Veterans who deserve our gratitude. Thank you, Vets.

Kiwanis Clubs in region 32 which encompasses a large area from Petaluma to Lake County and out to the ocean, had a zoom meeting which allowed members to talk together and find out what services clubs are doing for children and the communities. The main goal of Kiwanis is to make lasting and worthwhile differences in the lives of children.

If you have been to Howarth Park in Santa Rosa, you may have seen or taken children to the Circle K playground which Kiwanis members started and maintain. New additions are being planned by Kiwanis Clubs.

In December, Kiwanis members will be ringing the Salvation Army bells at many locations. You are always invited to come join members. They need your help. Contact Ann Isaacs, (707) 261-7270 or annisaacs1@att.net.



Movies At Oakmont

WHERE: Berger Center

SCREENING DAY AND TIME: Sundays

HOSTS: Al and Carol Haggerty, Mike McInnis, Jeff Neuman and Deborah Davidson.

NOTE: All films are shown with English subtitles, when possible, free of charge—compliments of OVA.



NOVEMBER 26 AT 2 PM THE BUCKET LIST

Two terminally ill men escape from a cancer ward and head off on a road trip with a wish list of to-dos before they die. 2007, PG-13, 1:37.



DECEMBER 3 AT 2 PM OPPENHEIMER

The story of American scientist, J. Robert Oppenheimer, and his role in the development of the atomic bomb. 2023, R, 3:00.



DECEMBER 10 AT 2 PM A HAUNTING IN VENICE

In post-World War II Venice, Poirot, now retired and living in his own exile, reluctantly attends a seance. But when one of the guests is murdered, it is up to the former detective to once again to uncover the killer. 2023, PG-13, 1:43,



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As an Oakmont resident, I will be there for you throughout the entire process.

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ICON PROPERTIES



Allan Bolchazy

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