

# OAKMONT NEWS

Oakmont's Semimonthly Newspaper

[www.oakmontvillage.com/news](http://www.oakmontvillage.com/news)

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## Sunset and Sunrise



As 2023 came to a close, photographer Julie Kiil captured a spectacular "artist's sky" sunset from her deck.



Morning golfer Kathy Faherty says she doesn't usually take time out of game for photos, but a recent morning was too perfect, complete with no wind and a beautiful reflection.

## Vaccination Clinic on January 18

■News Staff Report

If you weren't able to get all your vaccines at the last Oakmont clinic days, you're in luck. OVA is once again hosting a Vaccine Clinic Day on Thursday, January 18 at the Berger Center, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This vaccine clinic is offering the Quadrivalent Flu Vaccine, XBB COVID Vaccine, RSV (ages 60+), Shingles (Shingrix), Pneumonia (Pevnar 20), and Tetanus (Tdap).

You can make an appointment at [www.safeway.com/vaccinations/group-clinic/OakmontVillageSantaRosa](http://www.safeway.com/vaccinations/group-clinic/OakmontVillageSantaRosa).

Please bring your medical and prescription card to the clinic at the time of your appointment, your CDC vaccination card or digital record of vaccines, plus the printed version of the consent form you receive at the time of booking your appointment. There will also be consent forms at the clinic.

If you are not insured, please prepay with the Safeway pharmacy by calling (707) 766-9477. Safeway is unable to bill for Kaiser members.

## Fire Preparedness Focus of Two Upcoming Town Halls

■News Staff Report

Two January Town Halls will address important information regarding fire safety and preparedness.

### NEW HOME HARDENING REQUIREMENTS EXPLAINED

On Tuesday, January 23, the first of these Town Halls will address new requirements for many homeowners that went into effect this month.

The City Council recently approved new rules for home hardening and brush requirements for Santa Rosa homes in the WUI, the wildland urban interface, which includes homes in southern Oakmont. These rules went into effect mid-January, and will be phased in through mid-2025.

To explain these new rules, Oakmont has invited Paul Lowenthal, Santa Rosa fire division chief and fire marshal, for the 1 p.m. Town Hall in the Berger Center. This presentation will also be available online through Zoom.

Lowenthal will explain the new rules, including ways homeowners can create a wider buffer around homes, trim and prune vegetation, and other ways to clear flammable debris to help slow or stop the spread of fire. He will also share about property inspections to be conducted by the fire department, along with their mission to educate residents on fire safety, plus open the floor for those with questions.

"The goal of this is to prevent what we've had happen now too many times, to mitigate the risk and make our community safer," Lowenthal told the *Press Democrat* in an interview. "This has the potential to really make some significant impacts and make our community safer and more resilient against future wildfires."

### TRENDS IN HOME FIRE INSURANCE

A February 6 Town Hall will explore home fire insurance and current trends in the industry at 1 p.m. in the Berger Center and on Zoom.

Two speakers from the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) will be the keynote presenters. Mark Vaughn will share information about IBHS' "Wildfire Prepared Home" programs. These new IBHS home certification programs are examples of current best practices that can help homes survive a wildfire.

Steve Hawks, director of Wildfire Policy for IBHS, will present the scientific research and reasons behind the development of these programs. Insurance companies are beginning to require homeowners to perform particular actions to either keep their present insurance or to obtain new insurance, and Hawk's presentation will help homeowners understand the application of these programs.

The town hall will include time for residents to ask questions of the speakers.

## Increase in OVA Dues, Access and Guest Cards in 2024

■News Staff

Starting in January, OVA dues will increase from \$113 to \$125 per month. The \$12 hike, driven in part by rising insurance costs, incorporates a \$6 increase that was deferred in the 2023 budget.



The 2024 budget also calls for a \$6 increase for insurance, operating expenses and funding of reserves, bringing monthly dues to \$125 per member.

"As you may recall, the final negotiations for our insurance for 2023 were settled after the OVA budget was prepared, and the board decided to defer a \$6 increase in dues (roughly 5%)," OVA Board President Marianne Neufeld wrote in her October message to the community. "The 2024 budget also calls for a \$6 increase for higher insurance premiums, operating expenses and reserves, thereby increasing dues to \$125 monthly."

The tripling of insurance premiums in 2023 resulted in the board deciding to self-insure about \$10 million of the organization's assets to cover potential losses. Neufeld said a favorable turn in 2024's finances will no longer require self-insurance.

2024 also brings a change in the cost of new or replacement Access Cards and Guest Cards, which members need to enter facilities. The fee will increase from \$25 to \$30 to cover the increased cost of materials.

## Message from the OVA Staff

Dear Residents,

We are immensely grateful for the collective generosity displayed in supporting staff appreciation efforts. You all have made a meaningful difference in recognizing the hard work and dedication of the OVA staff.

A heartfelt thank you to each resident for being an essential part of appreciating the staff and for fostering a spirit of appreciation within our HOA community. Your kindness is truly appreciated.

Warm regards,  
Your OVA Staff





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## OAK at the VOM Golf Club

■ Hilary Gruendle

### SUPPER CLUB DINNER AT OAK

OAK is starting a supper club series in 2024 with the first to be on January 20.

Dine in the banquet room with views of the mountain and enjoy a 3-course menu. Live music will be provided by Carl Green. Reservations can be made between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. The cost is \$55 per person.

First Course: Warm Goat Cheese Salad or Duck Confit Salad.

Second Course: Duo of Duck or Beef Bourguignon, mashed potatoes and stewed vegetables or Ratatouille.

Third Course: Flourless Chocolate Cake or Creme Brulee.

Call (707) 539-0415 x 5 to reserve now.

### PAINT AND SIP AT OAK WITH PAINTED CELLARS BLOSSOMING

JAN. 17, 5-7 PM, \$45

Join us for a special paint and sip evening hosted in the Valley of the Moon Club's elegant Banquet Room! Create your own work of art on canvas with the guidance of a friendly instructor. We will be painting this beautiful cherry blossom tree by Madelyn Hansen!

Delicious dinner and appetizers are available throughout the evening for purchase. Wine is available for purchase by the glass or bottle. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. to check in, get comfortable, and get ready with your beverage and bites.

Please Note: All art supplies are included. No painting experience needed. No complimentary food or wine is included with your ticket to this event.

Limited space available so go the following link to reserve your tickets:

<https://www.paintedcellarsoco.com/events/blossoming-1-17-24>



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## AARP Foundation Tax-Aide

■ Diane

### FREE TAX PREP AND FILING IN OAKMONT

AARP Tax-Aide will be returning to Berger Center with free tax preparation service on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning February 5 through April 15 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please note there will be no service on April 1.

Appointments are required and the line will open January 23. You can text or call in for an appointment at (707) 582-0565 and an AARP volunteer will get back to you.

Tax packets with instructions will be distributed on Tuesday, January 23 from 10 a.m. to noon in front of the Berger Center. Just drive or walk up and we will hand you a packet with the intake booklet and instructions. You can also pick up a tax packet during normal tax preparation hours in the Berger Center.

AARP Tax-Aide is a 100% free service funded by the AARP Foundation for seniors and those in need who may not be able to afford a paid tax preparer or cannot do their own taxes. You do not need to be an AARP member to use this service, and there is no age limit! The tax counselors and client facilitators are all trained volunteers and past annual skills tests.

Many people wonder if we can do their taxes and the answer is yes for most situations—we are trained on both standard and itemized deductions, brokerage accounts, stock gains or losses, sale of a house and many other scenarios. Call (707) 582-0565 with any questions.

Common reasons for having to turn people away include having rental income, complex Schedule K-1s, have a pension from another country, recently moved to California from another state, bought an electric vehicle and want to claim a tax credit, or have a business with a net loss or with expenses totaling over \$35,000.

## E-Waste Collection



■ OVA Staff

### SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 20 AND 21, 9-5 PM

E-Waste Collection will be a two-day event, sponsored by Conservation Corps North Bay. They will be parked in the Berger parking lot, 310 White Oak Drive, parallel to the street. There is no appointment needed for this event.

Accepted e-waste items are computer equipment (computers, monitors, laptops, keyboards, printers, mice, hard drives), consumer electronics (DVD players, VCRs, gaming devices, stereo components, radios, PDAs, cell phones, cables), televisions (CRTs and LCDs), and office equipment (telephones, fax machines, copiers). The only kitchen appliances accepted are microwaves.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Well over 20 years ago, John Taylor, Don Appleby and myself were assigned by the OVA Board to pursue selection of a firm to design an OVA office to be located in the grassy area between the Central pool and the Berger parking lot. We interviewed over a dozen-and-a-half firms in the Northbay area, and found Archilogix to be far and away the best firm to take this on.

While they were hired to design a new office building, the OVA soon discovered their community planning expertise to be a huge asset. And it still is. It would be extremely foolish to waste further time talking about looking for someone better prepared to take on the current Berger project. As numerous speakers stated at the December Board meeting, now is the time to tell newbies to Oakmont that the due diligence has long been completed, and it is time to move ahead.

As Board President Neufeld so succinctly stated in her November 25 *Oakmont News* President's Message, we should have taken Mitch Conner's (Archilogix) advice many years ago and let the naysayers and grumblers continue their sniping. It would have saved the community a ton of money. Fortunately, we currently have a plethora of experts both on and off the Board. We should move forward immediately.

Wally Schilpp, Oakmont Gardens

## Current Events Discussion Group



■ Tina Lewis

Start the new year out by coming to Current Events every Friday from 1-2:30 p.m. at the East Rec. There is Zoom available for those who can't attend in person.

The year 2024 promises much to discuss from local to state to national to international. Look for special reports and in-depth issues discussed from opposing points of view. Another innovation is our social gatherings following the meetings. We meet at a place determined at the end of each meeting for Happy Hour. Lately OAK has become the most popular place.

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



## Lawn Bowling



■Mary C Blake

### CURIOUS ABOUT LAWN BOWLING?

If you're interested in learning to bowl, email us at oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com. Lessons are free. Usually, we have 2 to 3 lessons, one hour each, followed by a practice game.

### DAILY DRAW

October through April, our daily draw (open to all OLBC members) is Monday through Saturday. Show up at 12:15 to bowl at 12:30 p.m.

Feeling a bit rusty or still not sure of some of the rules? No problem! Just ask if you're not sure of something. Or let the training coordinator (see below) know if you'd like a refresher course.

### HELPFUL POINTERS (I HOPE!)

It's easy to find pointers on line. Maybe you have a favorite? Let me know at oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com. In the meantime, here are a few tips I found at [www.jackhighbowls.com/help/9-tips-for-how-to-play-bowls-well/](http://www.jackhighbowls.com/help/9-tips-for-how-to-play-bowls-well/). I've had to edit significantly to fit this space so check out the original and let me know what you think.

The following is from *9 Tips For How To Play Lawn Bowls Well* by Reece Williams:

Lawn bowls is a friendly and pleasant sport to take part in. However, it's is competitive, so have a few tricks up your sleeve.

1. Practice. To hone your skills, bowl at least 3 to 4 times a week with other team members.

2. Focus. Don't focus on the target, but the road your bowl should follow. Take your time and don't worry if it doesn't go the way you plan.

3. Practice distance. Roll the bowl a short length and as close to the center line as possible. Then increase the length of every bowl after. If a bowl fails to pass the previous one, try again. Once you have completed the game, start bowling in the opposite direction starting with a long length, and shortening each following roll.

4. Be Competitive. Look at the way the other players bowl, look at their technique. What are they doing differently from you?

5. Challenge Yourself Before Tournaments. To stay fresh before a tournament, join a Daily Draw the day before.

6. Record Results. Keep a record of your results, consider how you might improve—and ask others.

7. Invest Well. If you're buying new bowls, make sure they're right for you before making the investment!

8. Communicate After a game, talk to other bowlers about decisions and technique.

9. Stretch. Stretching before a match is always advised. Consider Lunges, Torso Twists and Arm swings.

Other Points: Step onto the same spot on the mat every time (Note: some use different positions for forehand vs. backhand and for shorter mats). Keep your shoulders square as you deliver. Your arm should swing in a straight line. Move your arm in a controlled, graceful pendulum.

Conclusion: Mr. Williams' two concluding points were: practice and ask others for advice.

Email: oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com. Website: [www.oakmontlawnbowling.com](http://www.oakmontlawnbowling.com).

## Pickleball Corner

■Peter Copen

### THREATS FOR THE NEW YEAR

*This article includes excerpts from an email from Steve Spanier*

It was a year of reckoning, a year in which humanity finally began to understand that it faces an existential threat, a threat unlike any we have ever faced before, a threat that will wreak havoc on our fragile planet if we fail to stop it—and it may already be too late.

We are referring, of course, to pickleball. Nobody knows where it started. Some scientists believe it escaped from a laboratory in China. But whatever its origin, it has been spreading like rancid mayonnaise ever since, to the point where pickleball courts now cover 43% of the continental U.S. land mass, subjecting millions of Americans to the inescapable, annoying POP of the plastic ball and the even more annoying sound of Boomers in knee braces relentlessly telling you how much fun it is and demanding that you try it.

Unfortunately, pickleball wasn't the only existential threat to emerge in 2023. There was also Artificial Intelligence, or AI. What is AI? To put it in simple layperson terms, it is a computer thing that laypersons cannot possibly understand.

AI does provide some unambiguous benefits to humanity. It enables college students to produce grammatically correct essays about books they have not personally read. But according to some experts there is a possibility that AI will wipe out

all human life. This is what computer professionals call a "bug."

Will AI, in fact, kill us all? Why would it want to? To answer that question, we took the unusual step (for us) of doing some actual research.

We asked an AI program called ChatGPT to "briefly summarize the benefits of wiping out all human life." This is the response it gave:

"While I don't endorse or promote this view, purely hypothetically, benefits could include environmental recovery, cessation of human-induced global catastrophes, and resource preservation. However, the value and importance of human life, culture, and experience make such a scenario undesirable from a human perspective."

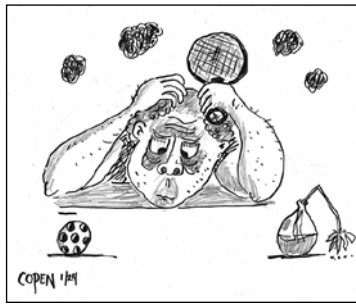
When ChatGPT was asked if pickleball posed any existential threat, it said: "Pickleball itself poses no existential threats. However, if taken metaphorically, any obsession or extreme focus on leisure activities to the detriment of other aspects of life could be considered a potential concern for one's overall well-being."

So, 2023 was not a good year for humanity. And not just because of AI and pickleball.

Many other bad things are happening—scary things that are beyond the control of ordinary citizens of pickleball like ourselves. Which of course is why we have elected leaders. This year they proved, as never before, that although they often appear to be narcissistic gasbags, they are somehow capable, when confronted with a serious problem, of making it worse.

As for 2024... let the good times roll!

**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.



Cartoon by Peter Copen.

## Café Mortel



■Linda Suhr

### MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF SOLO AGING BY DR. SARA ZEFF GEBER

Are you single? Are you child-free? Do you have adult children who live far away? Is your extended family not a part of your daily life? If you answered yes to any of these, you are a Solo Ager.



Dr. Sara Zeff Geber.

Oakmont Cafe Mortel is pleased to host Dr. Sara Zeff Geber, nationally known author and professional speaker on retirement and aging, in presenting "Meeting the Challenge of Solo Aging." If you are or will be aging on your own, we invite you to attend this presentation and discussion to learn about your options and the decisions necessary

to create a fulfilling life now, a secure future in the years ahead, and the end-of-life experience you want.

Dr. Sara Zeff Geber will focus on:

- Identifying what matters most.
- Finding resources in lieu of family to provide for your needs.

- Considering how and where you want to finish your life.

This interactive presentation and discussion will provide you with information on how to be your own best advocate in the years ahead and understand the steps to take in building a rich life, regardless of family support. Although the topic is serious in nature, Dr. Geber's style is light-hearted, conversational and provocative.

This presentation is based partly on Dr. Geber's 2018 book, *Essential Retirement Planning for Solo Agers*. She defines a Solo Ager as anyone, single or partnered, who does not have children or is aging alone for any reason.

Join Cafe Mortel on Saturday, February 3, from 10:30–11:30 a.m. in the Berger Center at 6633 Oakmont Drive. Mark your calendar! Zoom not available. All are welcome.

## OakMUG



### Oakmont Macintosh Users Group

■Peg Clark

#### ALL ABOUT APPLE MAPS

Apple Maps is one of the most convenient and frequently used app on the iPhone and the iPad. It can be used in the car, on a bike, when walking and even for public transportation. Not only can you use Apple Maps to plan your route and get around locally, but you can also explore far away destinations. Apple Maps is so convenient that you can search places to visit, eat, shop and get needed services almost anywhere in the world.

In our next OakMUG presentation, you will learn how to do all of the above. In addition, you will be able to find the best routes, travel times, download your maps to use when there is no internet service and much more. If time permits, we will also cover setting leave and arrival time, marking parking locations, seeing the weather, making calls, location open and close times, talking to Maps and having Maps talk to you and more.

Please join us for our next OakMUG meeting on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 2 p.m. at the East Rec. Richard Lazovick will be presenting everything you need to know about Apple Maps. If you have any questions, please email us at oakmontmacusersgroup@gmail.com.

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■Carolita Carr

**COMING UP NEXT**

**MARDI GRAS WITH THE MAGIC BAND**

**WHERE:** Berger Center

**WHEN:** February 10

**TIME:** Doors open at 5:30 p.m., music at 6:30

**COST:** \$20 per person. Each member may bring one non-member guest. Bring snacks for your table and BYOB

Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, is on February 13 in 2024, so the Saturday before is the right time for our celebration.

We have the Magic Band, which is an Oakmont favorite. Their three different lead singers cover every imaginable style of music. The amazing harmonies will delight you. And they have the very best horn section in the Bay Area. You will want to dance to every tune. Wear your beads, masks and Mardi Gras colors and you will fit right in.

This will be the first Boomer dance of the new year, so sign up as soon as you get our email message announcing the event. We are selling out, so don't be disappointed. Act fast to be included in this evening of fun.

**MEMBERSHIP**

If you are new to Oakmont or have simply forgotten to renew your membership, joining is easy. The cost is \$15 per person, and you can sign up by visiting our website, oakmontboomers.org.

**Oakmont Singles Social Club**



■Bailey Penzotti and Priscilla Roslyn

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
JANUARY SOCIAL CLUB MIXER  
GETTING TO KNOW YOU**

**DATE AND TIME:** Friday, January 19, 6 p.m.

**LOCATION:** East Rec. Center

Let's start the 2024 New Year by gathering together for the purpose of getting to know each other better. We'll play a game that will help all of us learn something new about our fellow members. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and always your beverage of choice. First time attending a Singles mixer? Bring your Proof of Covid Vaccination.

Please wear your name badges. If you don't have one, we will have forms for you to complete for the cost of \$10. RSVP to Priscilla, proslyn49@aol.com by Monday, January 15.

**BE A MEMBER OF OUR BOARD!**

OSSC elections will be coming soon. We're looking for more volunteers to our board. There will be at least three specific positions available including Bon Appetit Chair, Membership Chair and Communications Chair. Talk to any current board member to learn how you may become an essential part of our Singles Social Club.

**JANUARY BON APPETIT (SINGLES ONLY)**

Due to the continued holidays, there will be no plans for a Bon Appetit outing this month. We will resume exploring our local eateries in February.

Do you live in Oakmont? Are you Single? If so, join our club to mix and mingle with other Singles. Oakmont Singles Social Club offers the opportunity to network with other singles who may have your same interests. For \$12, you develop new friendships, enjoy meals out with Bon Appetit or reserve a seat at a singles table for Oakmont events.

To join or renew your membership to the Singles club, complete a membership form in the Singles folder in the OVA Office.

**InvestOAK**



■Joe Pundyk

**JANUARY 19: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INVESTING "AI-101"**

The technical and investment world is excited about the potential applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI). In the first session of InvestOak the main concepts of this technology will be discussed.

Many tech gurus feel the AI revolution will be as important as was the introduction of computers in the middle of the 20th Century. The technology will be discussed by our guest speaker, David Zweig who is a resident of Oakmont.

Please join us on January 19 from 10-11 a.m. in Room B of the CAC. Come join the conversation with us early as we have limited space.

**Wii Bowling  
Oakmont Lanes**



■Terry Leuthner

Oakmont Lanes Bowling Club is a Bowling League consisting of four-person teams that utilize Nintendo Wii to simulate the experience of bowling without the weight of a bowling ball. Any resident who has the ability of holding a small remote control in their hand while swinging their arm as if they were rolling a bowling ball will be able to join.

Anyone interested in joining our club, either as a team bowler or substitute, please call me at (707) 291-3023 or stop by the East Recreation Center on Tuesdays from 2-3:30 p.m. to see us in action. We charge \$25 for a ten-week tournament that includes the play-offs.

We bowl every Tuesday of the month except for the fourth Tuesday. The 2 p.m. League consists of 10 teams, 4 bowlers per team. Each bowler bowls 3 games and has his/her own handicap (80%) and average. Bowler and team results are recorded each week.

See www.oakmontlanes.com for club information, bowling dates, week results, schedules to bring cookies and to setup/tear down equipment.

**Christmas Party:** Everyone enjoyed our Christmas party on Dec. 2 at the West Recreation Center catered by Oakmont Village Market. Thanks Laura and Dave.

**Bowling Dates for January:** Started on Jan. 9 (week #1, Fall League 2024), continues on Jan. 16 (week #2) and 30 (week #3). No bowling Jan. 23 (fourth Tuesday).

**Bowling Dates for February:** Feb. 6 (week #4), 13 (week #5) and 20 (week #6). No bowling Feb. 27 (fourth Tuesday).

**Bowling Dates for March:** Mar. 12 (week #7) and 19 (week #8). No bowling Mar. 5 and 26 (fourth Tuesday).

**Bowling Dates for April:** Apr. 2 (week #9), 9 (week #10), 16 (playoff tournament) and 30 (week #1 Summer League). No bowling Apr. 23 (fourth Tuesday).

**RESULTS AS OF DEC. 12: FALL 2023 LEAGUE TOURNAMENT**

Top three teams from the 1:30 League bowled the top three teams from the 3:15 League to determine the Fall 2023 Team League Champion.

First place, 4 Tops; second place, Alley Oops; third place, High Rollers; fourth place, Pin Pushers; fifth place, Strike Outs; sixth place, Strikers.

Congratulations Team Champions, 4 Tops: Peggy Ensley, Joanne Abrams, Laurel Earles, and Robin Schudel (Capt). "Fall '23-4 Tops" will be engraved on the Team Champion Trophy.

Men's High Games: Scott Harris, 258; Glenn Hewitt, 245; Larry Souza, 204.

Women's High Games: Joanne Abrams, 279; Valerie Hulsey, 236; Peggy Ensley, 209; Lynda Rebsamen, 204; Laurel Earles, 200.

**Canine Club**



■Jean Nattkemper

**LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD**

2023 was a very good year for the Canine Club. The Membership Appreciation Party, the Spring Picnic, and the Dog Show were resounding successes. The dedicated Canine Club website (www.oakmontcanineclub.org) was expanded to include a list of dog walkers and sitters.

Looking forward, the club is planning its major events for 2024. You won't want to miss any of them, especially those for members only.

To enjoy it all, join the club, if you have not already done so. The fee is \$12 for individuals and \$20 for households. Please make a check payable to the Oakmont Canine Club, and place it in the Canine Club folder in the OVA Office.

**YAPPY HOUR DOG WALKS**

These leisurely walks of about 1 to 2 miles are open to all Oakmont residents and all dog breeds. Bring water for yourself and your pup, and wear comfortable walking shoes. Rain cancels all walks.

PJ's Yappy Hour Dog Walk: Friday, January 26, 10 a.m. Meet at Catholic Church Parking Lot.

Linda's Yappy Hour Dog Walk: Monday, February 12, 10 a.m. Meet at East Rec Parking Lot.

**GOINGS-ON AT THE DOG PARK**

Mark your calendars, owners of curly-coated dogs! The club has scheduled a Doodle Dog Play Date on February 17 at 10 a.m.

Please remember to empty and clean the water bowls when you enter the park, especially important because of the new canine disease.



You also can help keep the Dog Park safe and healthy by volunteering to spend 1 hour a week cleaning up and reporting, if necessary, maintenance and human or dog behavioral issues to Peri Olinger. To learn more, contact Peri at periolinger@yahoo.com or (707) 479-6961.

**JOIN CANINE-ASSISTED THERAPY**

Volunteers in Paws for Healing take their dogs to hospitals and senior facilities, or to libraries where children improve their skills by reading to dogs. The next training dates are January 27, February 3, and February 10, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If interested, go to www.pawsforhealing.org or call (707) 775-9241.

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## Meditation

■Joanne Davey

"In, Out. Deep, Slow. Calm, Ease. Smile, Release. Present Moment, Wonderful Moment."—Thich Nhat Hanh

### OAKMONT WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

We invite you to join one or both of our weekly drop-in meditation sessions which have been taking place for many years. Beginning and experienced meditators are welcome. We approach meditation as a non-denominational practice.

**Saturdays:** 10:30 a.m. in the CAC Building, Room B. This is a 35-min. meditation. This session frequently begins with a short 15-20-minute talk about various aspects of meditation.

**Tuesdays:** 4 p.m. in the CAC Building, Art Room. A 30-min. meditation.

If you have questions, please contact: Trisha Mitchell, (650) 255-4026, or Liz Buckley, (707) 538-3235.

## Yang Style Tai Chi

■Vicki and Kenn Chase

### NEW! TAI CHI BASICS CLASS

Congratulations to the first group of students to complete the entire Yang Style Tai Chi, Short Form. Starting last February this group met weekly to learn and refine the 54 moves in the Short Form.



Photo by Vicki Chase.

A new class, emphasizing the Basics of Tai Chi began on January 10, and classes will continue on Wednesdays at the West Recreation Center, upper level 9-9:50 a.m. Registration is still open, but hurry because space is limited. The fee is \$60 for four consecutive classes payable at the first class you attend in January.

Tai Chi is the ancient art of moving meditation is based on the principles of yin and yang, bringing balance and harmony to both body and mind. It was developed hundreds of years ago in China. Through the centuries, the Chinese have utilized Tai Chi as a healing art.

We now have current medical research to confirm the power of Tai Chi as an optimal preventive as well as restorative healing technique. Tai Chi improves balance, flexibility, strength and self-confidence. Research further shows that Tai Chi can lower blood pressure, improve cognitive function, decrease anxiety, depression and stress, as well as, decrease falls and much more.

Regular practice brings an improved ability to conduct daily activities and an increased ability to cope with the changing times. Kenn's teaching style emphasizes the meditative and health qualities available through regular practice. Anyone can do tai chi as it is slow moving and no impact.

Oakmont resident, Kenn Chase has been teaching Tai Chi for over 50 years. He brings his world-wide experiences and expertise combining the best of Eastern philosophy, Western mind-body techniques and medical research to enhance learning and each student's potential.

Come join the class and see what Tai Chi can do for you!

For further information and/or to register: taichikenn@yahoo.com. Website: integralwaytaichi.com.

## Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

### HAPPY NEW EXERCISERS

A good way to welcome the new year is to welcome folks new to Oakmont Health Initiative (OHI.)

Less than a year ago, John McCarthy and Ellen Woolford were long-time East Coast dwellers. For over 30 years they were part of the faculty of University of Massachusetts, Amherst. They also shoveled snow.

Both were researchers, advisors and professors of Linguistics. At the end of his long career, John spent five years as Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Today the two are



Ellen and John before class.  
(Photo by Charlene Bunas)

Oakmont dwellers, part of the community of clubs, conversations and snow-free sidewalks.

Two weeks after their move, they discovered OHI. For John it was a first-in-a-lifetime experience: "Our first few sessions were discouraging; it was all so unfamiliar. But we received tons of encouragement from the regulars who'd seen first-timers get discouraged and drop out. And JoRene and Nicole, both excellent leaders with very different styles, continued to motivate us to keep going the full 60 minutes. We're very grateful that we stuck with it, thanks to their support."

This couple needed no encouragement to jump into Oakmont: in addition to OHI three times a week, they've loved classes through Oakmont Lifelong Learning, "Sundays at Oakmont" (Symposium and afternoon movie,) Oakmont Democrats and Oakmont Progressives Clubs plus their HOA Board round out their network. Recently, together with John's sister, they experienced another first: Blessing of the Animals at St. Francis Winery.

John and Ellen love the natural beauty, nice weather, food and wine of Sonoma County. "We specifically chose Oakmont because we wanted to be a part of a community into which we could quickly integrate." Not bad for two newcomers who exercise with OHI and no longer need snow shovels!

Meeting ID: 849 7221 1947. Passcode: 558819.

## Parkinson's Support Group

■Chris Nota

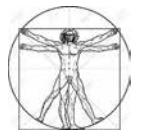
### OAKMONT PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP IS NOW MEETING REGULARLY

The newly formed Oakmont Parkinson's Support Group is gaining momentum. Our group meetings are the first and third Friday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m., West Recreation Center (Upper Level). All are welcome! If you are interested just show up.

The group includes people with Parkinson's Disease and their Care Partners which are often spouses, family members or friends. We focus on an agreed topic, sharing challenges and solutions. On occasion we will have speakers on the selected topic. Tears and laughter are equally possible at our meetings. Examples of topics are exercise benefits, sleep challenges, medication management and keeping our spirits up.

We welcome all whose lives have been impacted by Parkinson's Disease to join us. For more information, email me at chrisnota@gmail.com.

## Fitness Club



■John Phillips

### CORRECTION

I hope everyone had a fun and safe New Year, and that I will be seeing you at the center soon. Don't put off what you can do today for tomorrow.

It was brought to my attention that in my last article I said that alcohol was a sugar when I should have said that alcohol was made from fermenting sugars. This, however, really doesn't change the article because alcohol does make it difficult to lose weight.

When the body consumes alcohol, it recognizes the alcohol as a toxin and removes it from the blood and stores whatever it can't remove from the body as fat. There is no nutritional value in alcohol but there are calories. If you remember my article, to lose weight/body fat, you need to create a caloric deficit. Since, alcohol has no real nutritional value, why would you want the extra calories that it provides?

Now you can lose body fat and weight and still enjoy some alcohol. Just be aware of the calories of the drinks that you are consuming and what foods you are substituting for the additional calories that you are consuming. Good Luck!

### TEST

I'm going to conduct a test to see who actually reads my articles. I've been trying to figure out how to clean out the old workout cards, and this is what I came up with. I have placed a new set of files in the front of each of the drawers that hold the workout cards. When you come in and if you still use your card, pull it from the files in the back, perform your routine and then place it in the files in the front. In about 3-6 months I will pull the files in the back and all we will have will be the active member cards left.

If you have any question regarding this article or fitness in general, please feel free to contacting me by phone/text at (707) 494-9086 or email: wkuout2@aol.com, or simply stop by the center. Remember I do an orientation every other Monday at 4:30 p.m. and Friday at 10 a.m. I also hold Seminars every Tuesday at 1 and Thursday at 3. Please check the board at the entrance of the center for dates and times.

I hope to see everyone at the Fitness Center soon.

## Ladies Friendship Bible Study



■Nancy Crosby

### NEW STUDY ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

It's a great time to start something new! The Bible is filled with answers that bring peace, joy, and purpose to life. We are starting a new 10-week study entitled, "Meeting the Spirit."

From the introduction: "Christians today have certainly heard about the Holy Spirit, but many of us have never encountered the Spirit in a life-changing way. That is what this study is intended to do in your life—change it! We will examine key passages of Scripture that teach us vital truths about Who the Spirit of God is and what He is anxious to do in our lives."

Our small and friendly group would love to welcome you! This class meets on Fridays, from January through mid-March. Please call me for more information. Hope to see you there!

**WHEN:** Fridays from 10:15-11:50 a.m.

**PLACE:** CAC Art room

**LEADER/CONTACT:** Nancy Crosby, (707) 480-0566





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**Happy New Year!**



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# Lifelong Learning

■Marlena Tremont

## TWO CLASSES AND A CONCERT

### US MAP WORKSHOP— STITCHING MEMORIES

Instructor: Robert Mahar

Mondays, Feb. 5–19, 3-week session

Cost \$70 plus \$20 Supplies

Class Size Limited to 24. On-line registration only!  
No walk-ins.



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



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Instructor: Morgan

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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.

This class is available in person, on Zoom or as a recorded session to watch at your leisure. Purchase multiple classes for the same person at the same time

and save 25% off the total!

### SONOMUSETTE: SONGS FROM THE ROMANTIC CITY OF PARIS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 7 PM BERGER CENTER, TICKETS \$25

Table seating. Tables of 8 available. Complimentary chocolates provided for each table.



Experience the spirit and tradition of a 1900s French sidewalk cafe. Allow the charms of Parisian icons Edith Piaf, Charles Aznavour and Jacques Brel to invite you to into an intimate city of romance.

Three ways to register for the Environment Class or the SonoMusette concert: 1. Go to OakmontLL.org; 2. Fill out a form in the OLL folder in the OVA office; 3. Pay at the door.



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## Grandparents' Club

■Leslie Brockman, Chair

### HERE WE GO AGAIN ... COME JOIN THE FUN!

Calling all Oakmont grandparents! Grandparents' Club is starting again, with our first meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 4 p.m. at the East Rec.

This year will be filled with fun adventures for you



Children and grandparents enjoy painting at West picnic grounds. (Photo by Kathy Sowers)

and your grandchildren. Note these dates: Easter Eggstravaganza is on Saturday, March 30, 1-2:30 p.m.; Grandparents Summer Week is July 21-26.

Our brand-new website is nearly complete, but you are invited to join the club now by submitting your \$20 yearly family dues. Membership forms may be found in our folder at OVA office or at the January 23 meeting. Cash or checks accepted until the website is active.

Questions? More information? Text or email me at (949) 683-7725 or oakmont.grandparents@gmail.com.



Cooper catches a fish at the East Pond. (Photo by Kathy Sowers)

## Bocce Club



■Maureen McGettigan

### ELVIS ROCKS AT THE BOCCE BALL CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Saturday, December 9, Elvis was in the building—the East Rec building, that is.

An Elvis impersonator (Johnny Sanchez) rocked the annual bocce ball Christmas party by shaking his stuff. The crowd danced, sang, and shook their booty as Elvis charmed us with his music and high energy theatrics. The crowd of 62 bocce ballers have been big fans of Elvis for the past 3 years. Let's hope Elvis never dies.

Bocce ball is every day at 1 p.m. at the West Rec. bocce courts (Monday to Saturday).



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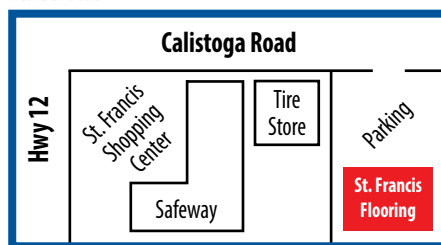
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# Hikers



■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](http://www.oakmonthikingclub.org) to join the club, get more hike details, club information, photos and lots more.

Please keep checking our website for updates.

## INTERMEDIATE HIKE: JANUARY 11 MONTINI PRESERVE, SONOMA OVERLOOK AND CEMETERY

This is an intermediate hike plus an optional stroll. We all park and start at the Sonoma Police Department, walking to the Sonoma Cemetery to learn and pay respects to Dr. Henry Boyes and Frank Matsuyama. From there, the intermediate hikers will head to the Overlook and Spotted Fawn Trail loop.

The short hikers will walk to historic Sonoma Plaza and meet to head over to La Hacienda for lunch with Bonnie's Brownies for dessert!

Intermediate hike: about 4 miles and 375 feet elevation. Hike leader is Gary Andersen, (360) 778-9604.

Short stroll: about 8 blocks and 75 feet of elevation. Stroll leader is Bonnie Andersen, (949) 929-1415.

Please bring enough cash or Venmo to reimburse me for your food plus tax and 20% tip.

## LONG HIKE: JANUARY 11 JACK LONDON HAYFIELDS TRAIL— IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JACK LONDON!



Colorful Vineyards at Jack London Park.

Meet at the Berger Center for an 8:30 a.m. departure. Please bring Jack London Park pass, should you have one. From the Upper Parking Lot, we follow the Lake Trail, Upper Lake Trail and Mountain Trail. Beyond Deer Camp branch right onto the pretty Hayfields Trail, eventually reaching a turnaround near the park boundary. On the return, there is an option to hike up to the park summit. This would be an additional mile by a good trail, or 0.6 miles by the steep Express Lane.

Around 7 miles with 1,500 feet of elevation gain; more as indicated if going to the summit. Layered clothing, water, and lunch. Poles would be useful

as the are some rocky passages. Hike leader is Chris Jones, (707) 291-5461.

## LONG HIKE: JANUARY 18 SUGARLOAF PEAK HIKE

For this hike we will hike the complete rim of the park along the Sonoma/Napa County ridge line. Join the Oakmont Long Hikers as we take on an ambitious "peak" hike at Sugarloaf Ridge SP. We'll hike the complete rim of the park along the Sonoma/Napa County ridge line.

This 9.5-mile hike, with an elev. gain of 2100 ft. 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. Hike leader is Dave Chalk, (707) 972-8988.

## LONG HIKE: JANUARY 25 CATARACT TRAIL, MARIN

Incredible waterfalls one after the other for a couple of miles, the hike ascends, sometimes steeply, and partly by steps and viewing platforms. Our walk then continues in a loop that leads back along Alpine Lake.

An outstanding o n c e - a - y e a r experience not to be missed. 8 miles and 2000 ft elevation gain.

Bring poles, lunch, water, dress in layers. Leave the Berger at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Martin Johns, (330) 815-5167.



One of many waterfalls along the Cataract Trail.

# Movies At Oakmont



WHERE: Berger Center

SCREENING DAY AND TIME: Sundays

HOSTS: Mike McInnis, Deborah Davidson,

Jeff Neuman, Ylysa Snyder and Barbara Rosenlicht.

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



## JANUARY 14 AT 2 PM THE COVENANT

During the war in Afghanistan, a local interpreter risks his own life to carry an injured sergeant across miles of grueling terrain. .2023, R, 2:03.



## JANUARY 21 AT 2 PM THE BOYS IN THE BOAT

A 1930s-set story centered on the University of Washington's rowing team, from their Depression-era beginnings to winning gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. 2023, PG-13, 2:04.



## JANUARY 28 AT 2 PM FLORA AND SON

A single mom at war with her son is trying to find a hobby for him. One day, she rescues a guitar from a dumpster. 2023, R, 1:37.

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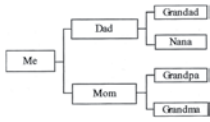
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## Genealogy Club

■Melinda Price



### RELIGIOUS RECORDS FOR GENEALOGY

The next Genealogy Club meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 22 at 1 p.m. in the East Rec. The meeting will be in person and also by Zoom. Watch for emails giving directions on joining by Zoom.

SRJC professor Denise Beeson, an expert in genealogy, will cover how to find and use religious & church records.

For many years, access to religious records was spotty at best, and some religious organizations, particularly Catholic dioceses, were unwilling to allow their records to be online. That's changed, and many more records are now available, including records in Europe, Canada (Quebec) and other foreign countries. Denise will talk about access to records, what information they contain, and how they are so useful for finding baptisms, marriages and deaths, etc.

Denise also gives free SRJC genealogy classes weekly beginning January 16 or 17.

The Oakmont Genealogy Club meets from 1-3 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month (except July and December) both via Zoom and live in the East Rec. There are no club dues, and anyone who is interested in their family history can join.

For information about genealogy research or club activities, please visit our website at: [www.oakmontgenclub.org](http://www.oakmontgenclub.org). Past programs are posted there as well as tips and internet links. Email us at: [oakmontancestry@gmail.com](mailto:oakmontancestry@gmail.com) if you have research questions or would like to receive our e-newsletter.

## Music at Oakmont



■Judy Walker

### THE TALENTED AZNAVOORIAN SISTERS

The Aznavoorian Sisters' first concert together was at the ages of 4 and 8 at their Armenian church in Evanston, IL.

Their 1st Prize in the Illinois Bell Young Performers Competition resulted in a live performance with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra on PBS. Since then, the sisters have toured



France, Armenia and Finland, performed at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, and presented countless programs in their hometown of Chicago. They were subsequently winners of the National Foundation of the Arts Recognition and Talent Award leading to performances at Kennedy Center as well as at the White House where they met two presidents. In 2022 the sisters released their first album—"Gems from Armenia" in recognition of their Armenian heritage.

They will be making their debut at our February 2024 concert. You will probably recognize Marta, the pianist, since she has performed here multiple times as part of the Lincoln Trio. It will be wonderful to welcome Ani as well to our concert series. Interestingly, she will proudly be performing on a cello made by her father, Peter Aznavoorian.

A later release will describe their program of music. In the meantime, please mark your calendars for this delightful event.

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 8 at 1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Berger Center, Oakmont

**ADMISSION:** \$30 or with Season Pass

## Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■Star Power

### WHAT'S NEW FOR YOU?

Here we are in yet another new year. Sounds so odd to be saying twenty-twenty-four! Seems like just yesterday we were worried about the new millennium coming in and throwing everything out of sync. Thank goodness that didn't happen.

Unfortunately, as the years passed, many, many things in this millennium are already out of sync. But "new" for Valley of the Moon Rotary is a year of new and exciting speakers and projects, including our yearly fundraiser Crab Feed on February 24, always a crowd-pleaser with delicious food, raffle and auctions.

VOM Rotary is starting out the year with terrific speakers to maybe help put this world right again. Already our club has heard about the New Vision at Hanna Center in Sonoma.

Coming up on January 18, is a very unusual group called Prescott Regulators and Their Shady Ladies who will perform for us via Zoom. They put on reenactments from the wild west promoting the rich history of Prescott, Yavapai County, and Arizona. Also, they raise funds for the Yavapai College Military and Military Families scholarship fund. This one should be very entertaining.

Then, on January 25 our speaker will be Carolita Carr talking about the Jewish Interest Group here in Oakmont.

Already we're working toward making this world a better place. What better way to start out a new year than to check out a Rotary Club? VOM Rotary meets on Thursday mornings at the East Rec. Center. Our meetings start at 8 a.m., but we encourage folks to come earlier for some coffee, donuts and camaraderie.



## Oakmont Vets Club

■John De Groot



### ALL ABOUT SONOMA VALLEY GRAPES

January 25 in the Berger Center, the Vets Club will feature at least part of the family that owns local winery, Glen Lyon Vineyards & Winery. Squire Fridell—Vintner, Winemaker, Vineyard Manager, CEO, CFO, COO, EIEIO, WINO and janitor, will give an informative if not entertaining presentation on everything you'd want to know about growing grapes, tending grapes, harvesting grapes, and ultimately drinking "grapes." Well, grapes from the Sonoma Valley anyway. Oh! And Squire may even have a word or two about gophers. He's literally become an expert.

Want to know more? You have to attend the presentation on Thursday, January 25 at 4 p.m. Well, you can also "Hit" their website at [glenlyonwinery.com](http://glenlyonwinery.com). They are just down the road in Glen Ellen. Family-owned, you will be delighted with their story. Buying a little more than 25 acres here in Sonoma County 30 years ago, Squire and his wife Suzy packed-up their 3-year-old daughter Lexy, all their worldly goods, and traded the packed freeways of Southern California for the backroads and fertile grounds of the Sonoma Valley.

Please join us. Not only because we're starting a new membership drive (\$20 for the year), but you will enjoy the program as well as reacquainting yourself with some of the terrific vets in our club.

## Men's Bible Study

■Lou Lacson

### OUR JOURNEY

Some would say, "Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming, 'Wow! What a Ride!'"

But then again, some would opt to simply wither like a rose until the end but certainly cannot proclaim the "What a Ride" banner. Anyways, if you are spiritually prepared, either journey will be quite fulfilling at the end.

Join us on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. East Rec. Men's Bible Study to start the new year. Begin another year's journey of life.

## Performing Arts Workshop



■Sherri Hoefling

### OPEN MIC FOR JANUARY POSTPONED TO FEBRUARY 7

Due to the proximity of New Years Eve, the January Open Mic will be cancelled and the next Open Mic will be February 7. Sorry to have to postpone but with everyone being busy for New Years, I did not have enough "helpers" for the January Open Mic.

If you would like to see this event continue, I encourage you to volunteer to make this happen. No job will be particularly time consuming but if you volunteer to work, I do need you to show up that month. We need someone to work the sign in desk, help with moving and setting up sound equipment (a good learning experience), working the timer, etc. Please call me if you can help.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in February and Happy New Year to all!

**WHO:** You and your Oakmont friends

**WHAT:** First Wednesday Open Mic

**WHERE:** Upper East Rec.

**WHEN:** First Wednesday of every month, 6 p.m., next Open Mic is February 7

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

## Passages



**Joyce Passeti O'Connor** moved from San Francisco to Oakmont in 2010 with her dog, Mimi. She was a member of Playreaders, and an active member of Star of the Valley Catholic Church.

Joyce was born in San Francisco on July 2, 1931 and passed away in Santa Rosa on December 1, 2023 at the age of 92. A memorial mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m., Thursday, January 18 at Star of the Valley Catholic Church.

**Ed Sutter**, born on Sept. 17, 1942, passed away on Oct. 20, 2023. He was a resident of Oakmont for 14 years and lived with his partner, Peggy Dombeck. He was a member of several groups, including Current Events, Meditation, Cafe Mortel, and the Jewish Interest Group.

Please contact OVA Communications Director Crissi Langwell by e-mail at [crissi@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:crissi@oakmontvillage.com), to publish the name and date of death of your loved one in the *Oakmont News*.



## Oakmont Sunday Symposium



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

■Harriet Palk

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

### JANUARY 14: MARK RANDOL HOW HOMELAND SECURITY WORKS FROM AN INSIDER

During 35 years of military and federal government service in the intelligence and security fields, Mark



Randol has worked behind the scenes to help keep America safe. In this engaging presentation, Mark will describe some of the most interesting but least well-known aspects of the national and homeland security enterprise.

### JANUARY 21: TEKTEHK THEY WERE HERE FIRST!

We all love our Sonoma County Valley, and we actually are living on the ancestral land of the Mishewal Wappo people. They were here first, from around 10,000 BC. They loved and cherished this land, honored it, respected it and fiercely protected it from invasions. They are here to tell us about their proud history, culture and people. Come meet the people who were here before us.



### JANUARY 28: ANDREW ROGERSON JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE 'EM DOESN'T MEAN THEY AREN'T THERE

Take a tiny teaspoon of unpolluted river, lake or ocean water; and it will contain over a million microbes all invisible to the naked eye. Make no mistake. We live in the "Age of Microbes"—always have, always will.



Andrew Rogerson, scientist extraordinaire, will shine a light on this invisible, magnificent and diversified world that he has spent a lifetime investigating.

## Oakmont Democratic Club



■Thomas Amato

### DOES IT MATTER WHO WINS?

As 2024 begins, Americans are watching the political landscape unfold.

Whether former President Trump wins in 2024 depends on all of us being involved, so join us on Thursday, January 25 at East Rec. Center as we examine what Trump and GOP are proposing and how Oakmonters can effectively respond. We will discuss the Heritage Foundation's publication *Project 2025*, which is being proposed as an implementation plan for an incoming Republican President. The social starts at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m.

This year Oakmonters from the Democratic Club, the Progressives Club, the PerSisters, Standing for Justice and Sister District plan to work together and this will be our first joint meeting.

Join us on January 25 with a Social at 6:30 and Program at 7 p.m. For more information visit our website at [oakmontdemclub.com](http://oakmontdemclub.com).

## Jewish Interest Group



■Howard Sidorsky

### JEWISH HEROES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION JANUARY 21 AT 2 PM, EAST REC. CENTER

At this meeting we will explore who the Jewish heroes were and how they contributed to the American Revolution. Ron Gibbs our presenter will answer the following questions, and more:



Ron Gibbs.

1. Who were the Jews of the 13 colonies? Where did they come from, and where did they live?
2. What did they do for a living?
3. Were there religious freedoms for the Jews of the 13 colonies?
4. The Liberty Bell bears the inscription from Leviticus (25:10): "Proclaim Liberty throughout the Land and to all the Inhabitants thereof." How does this Old Testament quote fit with revolutionary thinking?
5. How did the Jews of North America view the idea of Independence?
6. Once the war got started, how did Jews support the revolution? As soldiers? As political leaders? As financiers? As martyrs?
7. What was the consequence of independence to Jews?

No doubt other questions come to mind. Please come and ask them.

Join us on January 21 at 2 p.m. to learn more about a piece of Jewish history that you probably know very little about. Also, feel free to bring appetizers, nosh and other items to share with your neighbors. There will be time for chatting, noshing and socializing 10 to 15 minutes prior to the presentation.

As usual, we will need help setting up at 1:30 p.m.

## Oakmont Music Lovers

■Judy Walker

### DISCOVERING MINDFULNESS THROUGH MUSIC

What does "mindfulness" mean to you? In this presentation, Carolyn Mae Lucas uses "mindfulness" in the sense of awareness, focus and acceptance of what is. She will explore some ways that listening to music can increase your mindfulness and some ways that mindfulness can help you enjoy music more. The audience will experience mind, body and sound awareness. Demonstrations include recorded orchestral music by Brahms and Smetana and live piano compositions by Mendelssohn and Debussy.

Carolyn-Mae Lucas teaches music appreciation online, for Santa Rosa Junior College's Older Adults (Lifelong Learners) Program. She has been a teacher for more than 50 years, including Montessori preschool/kindergarten, 2nd through 5th grades in the Petaluma School District, 7th grade social studies at an international school in India, popular music sing-alongs (16 years) at independent retirement and assisted living homes, and 19 years as a private piano teacher.

As a pianist and music historian, Carolyn-Mae has developed recital dramas on six women composers and semester-long courses on the lives and music of Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn, Mozart and Schubert. Carolyn-Mae draws on half a century of bhakti and hatha yoga practice, breathwork, mindfulness and visualization.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, January 16, 10:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** East Rec. Center

**ADMISSION:** Free (donations gratefully accepted)



## Silver Guys of Oakmont



■D. Hall

### NEW YEAR WELCOMED BY MEN'S GROUP

Silver Guys of Oakmont will usher in the new year with a potluck for members and their guests on Sunday, January 14. The event will take place from 2–5 p.m. in the East Recreation Center. As usual, attendees are invited to bring with them a food item and beverage to share.

Silver Guys of Oakmont provides an opportunity for Oakmont gay men and their friends to enjoy non-political social, educational, and community service activities. All men in Oakmont are welcomed.

## Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

### RULES, RULES, RULES

As a competitive sport, Pétanque is governed by an international federation, FIPJP, that issues the official rules: <http://tinyurl.com/FIPJP-Rules-English>. A cadre of certified umpires handles enforcement including penalties for violations. There is also a body of umpire interpretations that are, effectively, official unwritten rules.

At the club and recreational levels, however, Pétanque is played in "friendly" games without umpires. This leads to the practical problem of how rules are to be interpreted and enforced during informal play. Enter American Steve Ferg who has directed "The Pétanque Libre Project" (PL) since 2017: <http://PetanqueLibre.wordpress.com>.

The goal of PL is to create a compendium of the traditional rules of the game as it is actually played informally every day all over the world. Under PL Rules (<http://tinyurl.com/Petanque-Libre-Rules>), agreement between the teams substitutes for the umpire. "The Consensus Rule" embodies the cardinal PL principle: "Any of the above rules may be changed, waived, supplemented, or over-ridden by agreement of the teams or by the competition organizer."

A unique feature of the PL Rules is that singles games are played with four boules instead of three unless, of course, the players prefer to play with three. Four Boule Singles is a variation that has been played even in some FIPJP world championships as early as 1959.

*Under official competition FIPJP rules, this player has committed two violations, each of which could draw an official warning as penalty from an umpire: a failure to mark the position of the circle on the terrain and a foot fault for not keeping both feet inside the circle. A repeat violation of either would lead to disqualification of a boule. Under informal Pétanque Libre Rules for friendly games without an umpire, both violations are unpenalized, accidental mistakes, for which opponents may cite the rules and insist upon observance.*



### 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.



## Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■ Beverly Singer

### SHRED-A-THON DATE IS FEBRUARY 22

Thursday, February 22, 9 a.m.–noon at the Berger Center parking lot is the next time you can rid yourself of those important papers clogging your cabinets. We all know how tax forms, bank and investment statements can accumulate. Eventually the time comes to get rid of them and your Kiwanis members in their blue jackets are here to help you get them into the big shredding truck.

If you have never been to the Kiwanis/OVA Shred-A-Thon, you will be surprised at how smoothly it can go, unless someone inadvertently puts metal strips, coins or very heavy cardboard folders in the papers to be shredded. Some items have jammed the shredder in the past, so please be careful and just shred important papers.

Cars begin lining up before the 9 a.m. start time and continue until the finish time at noon, or until the shredding truck is full. I give you a warning: don't wait until noon or you could be disappointed. One time the shredder jammed and another time it was

full before noon.

You might notice that at each Shred-A-Thon many of your favorite Kiwanis members are looking older and need to call on family members to help. Your Kiwanis Club needs more members to help in the community services they are noted for. Besides the two Shred-A-Thons a year, Veterans Day program, Redwood Empire Food Drive and other community service projects, Kiwanis helps support many children and family groups and schools.

The *Press Democrat* recently had a big story about the Valley of the Moon Children's Home which is very close to Oakmont. The home has a highly skilled staff to support children in emergency situations who have lost parents and their homes. The staff at the home support the children until suitable foster homes can be located for them. The staff always tries to match the children with their own family first. Director Meg Easter-Dawson was a recent guest at a Kiwanis breakfast meeting. The Kiwanis Club is a big supporter of the home.

The Kiwanis Club also helps support the CHOPS Teen-age Club, the Boys and Girls Club, the YMCA Sonoma County Safe House, The Kiwanis International Children's Fund, the Salvation Army and many more children's groups and schools. We can only do this support because we have fun doing Fundraisers. The donations you wonderful Oakmonters give at the Shred-A-Thon have become an unexpected fundraiser.

Our biggest fundraiser is the Carnitas and Margaritas Event in August. Without fundraisers, clubs couldn't operate efficiently. But we need more help from you if you want us to continue. Please consider joining us.

If the 8 a.m. Thursday breakfast meeting at the Berger Center doesn't meet your schedule, we can consider changes. Why not some meetings at different times if enough people request? For information contact President Ann Isaacs, (916) 261-7270 or annisaacs1@att.net.

## 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](http://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.

### OAKMONT COMPUTERS

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

### DUMP RUNS

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

### 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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.

### 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.

### RESIDENTIAL POWER WASHING AND WINDOW CLEANING

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

### 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.

### 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.

### ADVANCED MASSAGE WITH MARK SENZIG

Beyond massage pain relief. Mobile or office. Therapeutic approaches. CA Cert. #21935. [www.marksenzig.com](http://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.

### PROFESSIONAL WOMAN NEEDS ROOM TO RENT BY AUGUST 2024

Therapist, responsible, non-smoker, prefers furnished or unfurnished, safe tranquil environment. If you have a room available or know someone who does, please get in touch by calling (831) 359-8856 or email [sandi@willowtreesantarosa.com](mailto:sandi@willowtreesantarosa.com).

### THE VINE LANDSCAPING

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

### HANDYMAN/CARPENTER

Easy to work with, reliable. Reasonable pricing. Oakmont/Sonoma references. 32 yrs. experience. Remodels, electrical, plumbing. Hardwood floors. Free estimate. Ernesto, (707) 974-0359.

### DOORS AND WINDOWS

Consultative sales and installation. Local suppliers. Father and son team, 30 years of experience. Lic. #527924. [www.doorbeautiful.com](http://www.doorbeautiful.com). Call (707) 539-3196.

### GALUS PAINTING

Interior/exterior professional painting. Small jobs OK. Call Leo at (707) 579-2680.

### MEN'S SHIRTS—OAKMONT HANDMADE

Zippers or easy buttons, 1/2 sleeves for comfort, sizes 38-46. Great designs. Go to [www.DHallShirts.etsy.com](http://www.DHallShirts.etsy.com).

### FOR SALE 2016 TESLA MODEL X

Luxury electric SUV, easy entry, spacious interior, pristine condition. White interior and exterior. Gary, (831) 420-7638.

### CAREGIVER/COMPANION

Providing 26+ yrs. of local quality professional care that supports one's empowered sense of independence, safety and trust. All aspects of daily living, including meal prep., light housekeeping, medical appts., outings. 3-hour min./ overnights available. Excellent references. Irene G., (707) 322-0057. Not an agency.

### To place an ad, contact:

CJM Productions  
2105 Longhorn Circle  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
(707) 206-1957  
[cjprod567@gmail.com](mailto:cjprod567@gmail.com)



# 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

January 1–15  
Marianne Neufeld 707-953-5302

January 16–31  
Ron Kaufman 707-541-6713

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](mailto: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

**Marianne Neufeld, President**  
[marianne.neufeld@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:marianne.neufeld@oakmontvillage.com)

**Olga Ydrogo, Vice President**  
[olga.ydrogo@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:olga.ydrogo@oakmontvillage.com)

**Iris Harrell, Secretary**  
[iris.harrell@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:iris.harrell@oakmontvillage.com)

**Jeff Neuman, Director**  
[jeff.neuman@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:jeff.neuman@oakmontvillage.com)

**Mark Randol, Director**  
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**Steve Spillman, Director**  
[steve.spillman@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:steve.spillman@oakmontvillage.com)

**David Dearden, Director**  
[david.dearden@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:david.dearden@oakmontvillage.com)

**Elke Strunka, Treasurer**  
(Non-voting officer)  
[elke@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:elke@oakmontvillage.com)

**GENERAL MANAGER**  
**Christel Antone**  
[christel@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:christel@oakmontvillage.com)

## OVA BOARD MEETINGS

Townhalls 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays of the month and board meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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](mailto:Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org)

### City Councilwoman Dianna MacDonald District 3

Email: [dmacdonald@srcity.org](mailto: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](http://oakmontvillage.com/inside) and enter your information to subscribe.



## Tennis Club



■Jack Breibart

### COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR

The new year is here, dancing shoes have been put away, and the Tennis Club is ready to roll—or swing as the case may be.

A string of events will begin on Friday, January 26, at 11 a.m. on the West Courts. All you have to do is show up with racket and beverage and the club will provide the rest: snacks and tennis balls. Format is “drop in.”



Long pants and sweatshirts are appearing on the courts with the colder weather.

This will be followed by a Sweet Heart event on February 14. Details are secret right now—I made that up—but the board will release what you need to know soon.

Meanwhile, play continues on the courts, weather permitting, but it wasn't permitting often late in December.

This meant that Peter Hogan, administrator of Tuesday and Thursday open tennis on the East Courts, and his sidekick, Arnie Herskovic, spent considerable time with squeegee mops and brooms trying to get the courts in playable condition and casting an envious eye at the high-tech blowing machine that dries the pickle ball courts.

Besides the Tuesday and Thursday open tennis, there are other opportunities for those new to Oakmont. Friday morning on the West Courts is whoever shows up, and Sundays are more formal on the West Courts, too. Brian Williams has been arranging the Sunday matches, but he has turned this duty over to Neil Linneball. So if you want to join the Sunday games, email Neil at neilscience@gmail.com to get on the list.

And speaking of Peter Hogan and Brian Williams, they were two of four recipients of special recognition at the recent Winter Social at the Oak Saddle Club:

Peter for his sterling work in keeping the Tuesday and Thursday tennis on track, and Brian for his also sterling work in organizing the Sunday tennis.

The other two honorees were Tony Agoos and Melanie Gott. Tony has been holding clinics on Thursday afternoon on the West Courts. Those who have participated swear their games have been moved up a notch or maybe more. Tony also shows off his games on Sundays—playing just hard enough to make the matches competitive.

Melonie is leaving after a great job as the board's membership Honcho. She will be replaced by Rex Fuller.

## Playreaders



■D. Hall

### WILD COMEDY FOLLOWED BY SOCIAL COMMENTARY ON STAGE

Oakmont Playreaders kicked off the new year last week with a boisterous comedy, *Complaint Department and Lemonade* by Kamron Klitgaard. With only one performance, the play featured Marcel Coder, Star Power, Jeff Sheff and D. Hall as complainants who become the complaints. These four actors played 15 roles, each role signified by a unique hat.



In December, Playreaders presented Dylan Thomas's wonderful reminiscence, *A Child's Christmas in Wales* read by Jim Preston, followed by a delightful holiday social. (Photo by John Dolan)

On January 15, Marcel Coder presents *Shallow End* by Wendy McLeod and *Post-Its* by Paul Dooley. These are social commentary one-acts that tug on the emotions. February promises more comedies.

Please join us on the first two Mondays of every month in Room B of the CAC at 2 p.m. You must be seated by 2 p.m. when the door closes.



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■Greg Fauss



### NEW YEAR, NEW RELATIONSHIPS?

Maybe this is the year to repair an old relationship or try out a new one with a faith community—and ultimately with God.

Allan Linton writes, “For most of my life I’ve celebrated New Years Day with my family. Every year we squished together in one of our living rooms staying up until the early hours of the morning hugging, kissing and joyously wishing each other a happy new year.

“Jesus himself experienced the many joys of companionship. He traveled with them, sang with them, ate with them. Almost every day of his three-year ministry was spent with his friends by his side.

“This year I realized just how fortunate I am to be loved by a God who loves companionship. Here you will find people just like you who have gone through similar experiences, good and bad, and who are all your loving brothers and sisters in Jesus.”

Our Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. in the East Rec Center at 7902 Oakmont Dr. All are invited to a “Get to Know You” potluck at noon on Sunday, January 28.

This month we are beginning two new Bible Studies to discuss: “Questions Jesus Asks” and the “End Times.” We meet in the OVA Outer Office, Suite B at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays.

For more information about us, our Saturday Morning Prayer meeting, and special events please visit our website at [www.occsantarosa.org](http://www.occsantarosa.org), write us at [occsantarosa@gmail.com](mailto:occsantarosa@gmail.com) or call at (707) 595-0166.



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