

OAKMONT NEWS

Oakmont's Semimonthly Newspaper

www.oakmontvillage.com/news

January 11, 2025 • Volume 63, Number 1



Caroling at the Berger

The Ukesters led Oakmonters in a holiday sing-a-long at the Berger Center on Friday, Dec. 20, in a winter celebration that included caroling, cocoa and cookies. (Photo by Julie Kiil)



In Loving Memory of Marianne Neufeld, Former OVA Board President

■Christel Antone, OVA General Manager



A remembrance celebration is being planned and details will be forthcoming.

It is with profound sadness that we share the passing of Oakmont Community Member Marianne Neufeld, a former OVA Board President

and an extraordinary member of our community. Marianne's contributions to Oakmont and beyond will forever be remembered and cherished.

Marianne led by example, not just by coming up with ideas but by rolling up her sleeves and doing the work. Whether it was spending countless hours in the parking lot during the Junk the Junipers event for weeks on end or taking time to personally drive residents to their doctors' appointments, she embodied selflessness and dedication in all that she did. Marianne played a pivotal role in paving the way and supporting numerous committees and groups, including the Architectural Committee, Firewise Committee, Landscape Committee, and various volunteer teams, among others.

As her close friend Ron Elkind shared, Marianne's generosity extended beyond Oakmont. She volunteered with the downtown district of Santa Rosa, contributing time and personal resources to a beautification plan. Marianne approached all

her endeavors, whether within our community or beyond, with the same passion, grace, and tireless commitment to making it a better place.

Ron also reflected on Marianne's unique attributes and how she instilled them in others, including generations of her own family. I can personally attest to her incredible impact, as I had the privilege of working closely with her over the years. Marianne was not just a mentor to me as I transitioned from the Architectural Office to my role as General Manager, she was a guiding light, always there to support, inspire, and lift me up when I needed it most.

Marianne deeply loved and cherished this community, striving for its best through compromise, beautification, and upholding the shared standards with unparalleled grace and poise. Her ability to lead, connect, and give back touched countless people and will forever remain part of Oakmont's legacy.

Our hearts go out to Marianne's family and loved ones during this difficult time. As a community, we offer our condolences and gratitude for all she gave to Oakmont. Details about honoring Marianne's memory will be shared as they become available.

Let us take a moment to reflect on her life, her impact, and the lessons she leaves behind. Marianne's spirit will forever be a part of Oakmont, inspiring us all to continue her legacy of service and compassion.

OVA Election Key Dates

■Christel Antone, OVA General Manager

- Candidates' Night: February 19, at 6 p.m.
- Annual Meeting: April 7.
- Ballot Counting begins at 10 a.m. on April 7.

CAMPAIGN SIGNS

To ensure a fair and respectful election process, the following rules apply to campaign signage within the community:

- Allowed Materials: Paper, cardboard, cloth, plastic, or fabric.
- Prohibited Materials: Signs made with lights, roofing, siding, flora, or other unconventional materials are not permitted.
- Size Limits: Campaign signs may be up to 9 square feet. Flags and banners may be up to 15 square feet.
- Placement: Signs can be displayed in your yard, window, door, balcony, or on an outside wall of your separate interest.
- Display Period: Signs may be displayed starting February 10, and must be removed no later than 7 days after the election.

Explanation: The display date for campaign signs has been set for February 10, to allow time for candidate statements submitted by the February 6 deadline to be reviewed and for candidates to be officially announced. This ensures fairness and equal opportunity for all candidates to prepare their campaigns.

Join us on Candidates' Night to learn more about those running and their vision for our community.

For further information, please contact dawn@oakmontvillage.com.

Unused OVA Website User Accounts to be Deleted

■OVA Staff

We're doing some housekeeping for the OVA website at oakmontvillage.com.

To ensure our user base remains current, we will be deactivating and deleting website accounts that have been inactive for one year or more. If you would like to keep your account to access the OVA website, simply log in before Jan. 15. This will prevent your account from being deleted. If you no longer wish to use your account, no action is needed.

If you do not log in by the deadline, your account will be removed from our system. Should your account be deleted before you access the website, the OVA office can help set you up with a new account.

OVA website accounts allow users to view items like *Inside Oakmont*, articles, club news and documents on the website. The upcoming website account cleanup does not affect or involve HOA owner accounts.

If you have any questions or need any assistance accessing your account, feel free to contact the office for support by calling (707) 539-1611.



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

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What's Up with MYN

■Katy Carrel, Meet Your Neighbors Co-Chair

Welcome to 2025 from the Meet Your Neighbors (MYN) team. MYN is based on the "neighbors helping neighbors" model, focusing on emergency prevention and preparedness. In 2024, the number of organized MYN neighborhoods in Oakmont grew from 40% to 55% of Oakmont homes. We are working hard to reach our goal of 100% coverage in Oakmont so that all residents are prepared for disasters.

There are many reasons to establish a MYN program in your neighborhood, including:

- Strengthening community connections.
- Enhancing individual, neighborhood, and community preparedness.
- Empowering residents to be self-reliant when first responders are unavailable.
- Collaborating effectively with fire departments, law enforcement, and county government.
- Promoting safer, more resilient emergency preparedness through collective efforts.

If your neighborhood is not part of MYN, consider letting us help you establish a MYN program.

The MYN team is actively collaborating with various partners to enhance emergency preparedness in our community. Key initiatives include:

- Working with the Red Cross to designate any one

of our recreation centers as a potential mass casualty shelter and to offer educational classes.

- Partnering with the Welcome Committee and local realtors to educate new residents about emergency preparedness.

- Encouraging sub-HOAs to promote MYN programs within their neighborhood groups.

- Maintaining a comprehensive, user-friendly website (oakmontvillage.com/MYN) filled with valuable resources for Oakmonters to support their emergency preparation.

- Coordinating with Santa Rosa City and Sonoma County officials to refine and improve our collective preparedness procedures.

Oakmont is a desirable place to live, and we encourage all residents, especially those who are new, to become familiar with the MYN website and materials, as well as the importance of disaster preparedness.

MYN holds educational monthly meetings that are open to all Oakmont residents—whether you are in an MYN neighborhood or not. Come and learn.

Join us the fourth Wednesday of every month in the East Recreation Center from 2–4 p.m. Questions? MYN@Oakmontvillage.com.

Prospective OVA and Sub-Association Board Members Invited to Information Session

■Jerry Gladstone, OVA Board

Are you interested in serving on the Oakmont Village Board of Directors or your sub-HOA Board? How do you run for a board seat, what being on the board entails, what you need to know, how much time needs to be devoted to board work? We have planned an introductory Prospective OVA and Sub-Association Board Director seminar to answer these and other questions.

The planned session includes personal preparation, how to run for a board seat, time commitment, OVA and sub-HOA governing documents, understanding

legal aspects, as well as financial and insurance matters. As meetings are conducted formally, an introduction to Roberts Rules will be presented.

This introductory session will provide time for questions and answers. If there is interest, in-depth follow-up sessions on specific topics may be scheduled.

Mark your calendars for Monday, January 20, 10 a.m. to noon in the East Rec. Center for this event.

For additional information please contact askova@oakmontvillage.com. Please leave your name and contact information as it will help us plan.

AARP Tax-Aide

■Diane Ethier

AARP TAX-AIDE PROVIDES FREE TAX SERVICE IN OAKMONT

AARP Tax-Aide will be returning to the Berger Center Fireplace Room with free tax preparation service on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning February 3 through April 14 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Tax packets with instructions will be distributed on Thursday, January 23 from 10 a.m. to noon in front of the Berger Center—the same day we start taking appointments. You may also pick up a tax packet during normal tax preparation hours in the Berger Center. Everyone needs to pick up a packet and complete the Intake Booklet prior to your tax appointment.

Appointments are required and there three ways to get one. The best way is to send a text message to (707) 582-0565 and you will get a text with a suggested date and time. You can also call the phone number and someone will return your call. In-person appointments can be made on January 24 at the packet distribution or on February 3 or February 5 at the tax site.

AARP Tax-Aide is a 100% free service funded by the AARP Foundation. You do not need to be an AARP member to use this service, and there is no age limit or income limits. 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 common situations—we are trained on both standard and itemized deductions, brokerage accounts, stock gains or losses, sale of a house and many other scenarios.

For more information visit taxaide.info/ca-sonoma-county or call (707) 582-0565 with any questions.



E-Waste Collection



■OVA Staff

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 AND 19, 9 AM-5 PM

E-Waste Collection will be 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.

Oakmont Neighbors Together

■Susan Chauncy

Oakmont Neighbors Together has been providing residents of our community with emergency grants, since 2019. Through its partnership with Council on Aging, grants are issued directly by CoA, which ensures that the privacy of recipients will be respected.

If you, or someone you may know could use a bit of a financial lift in order to address HOA dues, a medical or dental bill, a utility bill or other emergency need, please stop by the OVA office and pick up a simple application, or contact Jaime Escoubas at Council on Aging, at (707) 525-0143.

If you have a general question, please feel free to email Susan Chauncy at susandchauncy@icloud.com.



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Oakmont Vets Club

■Paul Gowins

A NEW YEAR BRINGS US SOME NEW THINGS

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Friends, and all interested parties, lend me your eager ears!

We have a winner. In fact, we have an entire year of winners. 2024 will be a hallmark in the growing legacy of our club. We have been in-house doing things, and we have been out there doing more things, and we have stuck the landing of every event we tried to fly. What an adventure we have embarked on this past year together. Now we are at the precipice of a whole new story to begin writing together. May it be as successful.



Vets Club assembly. (Photo by John Adams)

Make no mistake, the year ahead will hold some changes and new challenges for our group in molding our course ahead. There will be some new faces amongst our leadership, and new ideas and voices will be raised in the days and months ahead that will add exciting new possibilities to our horizons in the next year. So, if you have not yet made the commitment to make your contribution to the club, now is the time to send in your dues and join the club making a difference. We're looking for a few good men and women to help lead us.

Oakmont Vets Club wishes our team, their families, and all our entire community a safe, healthy and wonderful new year! While we are still buzzing with the stupendous experience of the concert fundraiser we just did for the Honor Flights and, our vets we will send to D.C., and in fact all the many great successes we have accomplished together during 2024, let us take a moment to express our deepest appreciation for the work and contributions of those special core members who have made all our events, activities, special projects and meetings the lasting memories they deserved to be.

Official News Sources for Oakmont

■News Staff

A lot is happening in Oakmont! To keep up to date with all things in our community, be sure to follow the official news and information sources for Oakmont Village Association. This would be this *Oakmont News* newspaper, our website at oakmontvillage.com, and our e-blasts, including our weekly *Inside Oakmont* email newsletter.

To sign up for our email newsletter and other e-blasts, follow the instructions at oakmontvillage.com/eblasts.



Branch #92

■Bern Lefson

LEARN THE LATEST ON HOMEOWNER INSURANCE

January 14, at the Berger commencing at 11:30 a.m. the SIR 92 luncheon will provide sustenance to learning what the homeowner insurance industry has in mind for us and things we can and should do to keep our insurance.

Our featured speaker knows of what she speaks. Iris Harrell has the experience of having chaired OVA's Firewise Task Force and being a Certified Firewise Assessor through Firesafe Sonoma and Calfire. Iris has been a musician in a traveling band on the road across America for five years. She is a founder of Harrell Remodeling (Design/Build)—CEO, General Contractor and designer for 30 years. Sold the company to the 40 employees through an ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan).



Iris Harrell.

Her volunteer work includes helping with affordable housing through Habitat for Humanity, Christmas in April Chair of Design Committee at Portola Valley HOA, Appointee to Architectural Site Control (ASCC)—Town of Portola Valley, OVA Board, Formation of the Firewise Task Force.

This luncheon is open to all. It is recommended that one comes to this presentation and become acquainted with our club to consider joining us. To come one must make a reservation by contacting Sherry at smagers9@gmail.com. Information about this event is also on our website: www.sir92oakmont.org.

SIR 92 is a social club with the aim of helping the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■Richard Osborne



KIWANIS SHRED-A-THON

Wow, the Kiwanis Club of Oakmont is holding their Shred-A-Thon on Thursday, February 13th in the Berger Parking Lot. This popular event brings the opportunity to freely and safely shred those past taxes and other financial papers. But there is a catch: the shredding truck cannot handle any metal; this means no paper clips or other bindings; remove them before bringing to the Shred-A-Thon. Also, the shredding machine cannot process slides, x-rays or other such materials: they would jam the machine. Kiwanis volunteers will take the box from your car, one box per car, empty the contents into the shredding truck and return the box to your car. They will be on the lookout for damaging items so please do not bring them.

As you might know, Kiwanis is a national organization that serves children and the Shred-A-Thon is the Kiwanis Club of Oakmont, your local club, fund-raiser to support children in the Sonoma County area. We are on the web at kiwanisclubfoakmont.org and you can reach us at kiwanisclubfoakmont@gmail.com.

OAK at the VOM Golf Club



■Khiana Schmuhl,

Valley of the Moon Club General Manager

Here is what you can look forward to at OAK restaurant and Valley of the Moon Golf Club.

VALENTINES DAY DINNER

\$65 per person and reservations can be made between 5–7 p.m. on Friday, February 14.

Menu:

First course: Lobster and Shrimp Bisque; or Pomegranate Salad with sliced red onions, blood oranges, fresh goat cheese with balsamic vinaigrette.

Second course: Pan Seared Sea Bass topped with lump crab, butter and herbs, grilled broccolini, garlic whipped potatoes; or Filet Mignon with grilled asparagus, garlic whipped potatoes, blackberry gastrique.

Third course: House made Chocolate Pecan Cookie with Vanilla Bean Ice Cream; or NY Cheesecake with seasonal berries and raspberry sauce.

Reservations can be made by calling (707) 539-0415 ext. 5.

THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER SPECIALS

Jan. 16: Cilantro Pesto Chicken Thigh—Creamy Polenta, Roasted Peel Onions, Bell Pepper Succotash, BBQ Sauce, \$25.

Jan. 23: Chicken or Steak Fajitas—Marinated chicken or flank steak, sauteed peppers and onions, Spanish rice, pinto beans, queso fresco, \$23.

Jan. 30: Shrimp and Grits—Sauteed shrimp, corn succotash, Caggiano andouille sausage, cheese grits, \$24. Happy Hour all day on Sundays.

FAMILY STYLE DINNERS

For \$48 plus tax you receive: choice of 2 pizzas (Pepperoni/Sausage, Chicken BBQ, Cheese, or Margherita), Large Caesar Salad, Large Creamy Alfredo Pasta, Garlic Bread (feeds up to 4 people).

Family Style To-Go Orders will be Fridays–Sundays. Call (707) 539-0415 ext. 5 to place your to-go order.

LIVE MUSIC MONDAYS

Jan. 13: Highway 12 Band

Jan. 20: Jami Jamison

Jan. 27: Second St. Band

Jan. 30: Disco and 70's Dance Party with DJ Dan

COUPLES GOLF MIXER

WHEN: Sunday, February 16, 12:30 p.m. Shotgun

FORMAT: 2-Person Scramble

COST: \$125 per non-member couple; \$70 per Annual Member couple. Price includes: Green Fee, Cart Fee, Range Balls, Drink Ticket and Dinner Buffet

Reserve your spot today! Golf Shop: (707) 539-0415, Ext. 1.

One Day Range Card Sale, Jan. 24: \$100 Range Cards.

Finally, we'd like to extend a friendly reminder to refrain from fishing on any of the golf course ponds due to safety concerns. We'd also like to remind everyone to follow the golf course walking hours located on our website at playvom.com.

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.

Oakmont Sunday Symposium



Berger Center, 7902 Oakmont Dr.
 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon, \$3 donation
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 12: DENNIS DRAYNA OZEMPIC

Ozempic is a blockbuster drug originally created for diabetes. Turns out, it has a bigger effect on weight loss, reliably reducing weight by up to 25%. It may also have an effect in reducing opioid addiction. Ozempic is currently one of the world’s most successful drugs in terms of sales, and 6% of the U.S. population is now taking it.



Dr. Drayna established the first genetic map of a human chromosome and at NIH applied genetic methods to study human communication disorders. He holds 19 US patents, is the recipient of numerous scientific awards and has a strong commitment to communicating important scientific information to public audiences in ways that are clear, engaging, and entertaining.

JANUARY 19: DIANNA MACDONALD SANTA ROSA CITY COUNCILPERSON



Come meet Dianna MacDonald. She represents Santa Rosa District 3 which includes Oakmont, Skyhawk and Bennett Valley. She’ll tell us what she does on the City Council and what’s going on in Santa Rosa. Let’s show up en masse to show her that Oakmont actively cares about how she represents our interests.

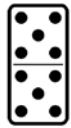
JANUARY 26: DAVID SHEW, NAPA COUNTY FIRE ADMINISTRATOR EMBERS ARE THE ENEMY

No one wants his house to burn down; but, if it does, it starts with an ember. You’ve junked your juniper, replaced your house vents and are working on your five feet of “defensible space.” Are you done? You wish. Fire science is constantly evolving.



You’ll want to hear Dave Shew, with a long and varied fire career, tell us about small and big things we can all do to help keep our homes and community safe.

Domino Club



■Brian Huckins

OAKMONT DOMINO CLUB TOURNAMENT ON JANUARY 23

The Oakmont Domino Club meets every Thursday morning at 9:30 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.

It is easy to learn and anyone who can add, subtract and divide can play the game. Looking for players of all abilities to join. Lessons are available.

We are having a tournament on January 23. Play will commence at 9:30 a.m. and finish up in early afternoon. There will be a minimal entry fee and prizes. Please call by Thursday, January 16 if interested and you wish to play in the tournament.

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

Pickleball Corner



■Tim Smith

PRESIDENTIAL PARTING NOTE

As we transition into a new year, and I depart as OPC’s president, I want to offer a view of 2024.

It has been a full year, and a rewarding year as well. Some of 2024’s highlights:

- Record membership growth. Hats off to membership director Robert Williams. Reaching 216 members means our sport is growing, and the club is doing a good job of representing their interests.
- New gates on the middle courts. This relatively simple and inexpensive solution has reduced the annoying interruptions to gameplay and increased playable court time.
- Shade sails to replace the courtside awning. Thanks to OVA’s action, more people will enjoy more shade courtside more of the time.
- Drier courts faster. Thanks to Ed Russell and his crack VAPTR team, OPC enjoys a state-of-the-art drying solution that gets more people playing sooner and more safely.
- Website upgrade. OPC’s redesigned site now has greatly expanded content with sections targeting newcomers to Oakmont and pickleball newbies as well as a section aimed at member health and safety.
- Court expansion. While we didn’t achieve our 2024 goal regarding court facility expansion, OVA’s efforts positioned us (hopefully) for favorable action to gain more courts early in 2025.
- Social events. Thanks to Valerie Oliver and her team, we enjoyed another year of great events—and fun!
- Tournaments. Thanks to tournament director Larry Burns and his team of organizers and officials, OPC raised the bar on tournaments in 2024 with innovative programming and excellent participation.
- Amazing volunteers. OPC has a wide network of people who make this club work. We appreciate everything you do! Thank you, and pickle on!

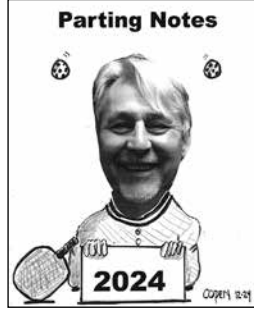


Photo by Tim Smith, graphic by Peter Copen.

New Player Orientation: 9 a.m. Tuesday mornings. Contact Victoria Dettman, (707) 230-2958. Call Jim Howard at (209) 761-8517 for demo loaner. Mentoring: Barbara Ricossa, ricossa@ymail.com. Visit our WWW site: <https://oakmontpickleballclub.com/>

InvestOAK



■Joe Pundyk

WAYS TO LOWER INCREASING POWER RATES

The subject of the next meeting of InvestOAK on January 17 will concern the power requirements for Artificial Intelligence “AI,” which may raise PG&E users’ costs. After the discussion there will be a Stock Market Review covering results for the last few months of last year, including a comparison of the U.S. and foreign stock market performances.

The next meeting will take place on Friday, January 17, from 10–11.30 a.m. at the Central Activity Center, Room B, renamed Birch. It’s recommended to arrive early to assure a seat.

The content discussed in the InvestOAK meeting is only for informational purposes. One should not construe in the meeting discussions or presentations advice or endorsement for investing. One should consult with a qualified fiduciary that will give you the required advice.

Tennis Club



■Jack Breibart

LOOKING BACK AND AHEAD

Well, now that the big Winter Social is behind us a couple of days, you’ve probably had time to put away the dancing shoes (you might need a new pair for next year), rest those parts of your body you didn’t think about when you were making those great moves on the dance floor, and gotten your head back on right from “just one more.”

So, what do we do now?

That’s just what the Tennis Club is discussing.

I have it from an impeccable reliable source, who has asked not to be identified because she/he has not been authorized to discuss private matters, that there is talk about a monster fundraising event in April, likely in the Berger Center. Planning for the event is still in the marshmallow state and far away, but you may want to put a few more bucks into the cookie jar to be ready when and if the hands go out hoping for donations.

Switching to the real tennis world, the Australian Open, the first of the Grand Slams, begins this coming weekend, so adjust your sleeping schedules so you can stay up late to watch live.



Scene from centre court (that’s how the Aussies spell it) at the Australian Open. (Photo by Steve Collis/Creative Commons)

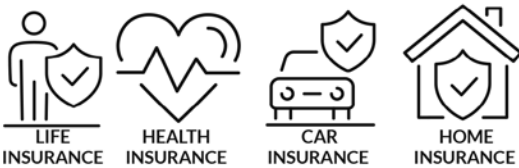


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Lifelong Learning

■Marlena Tremont

CLASSES AND CONCERTS

WINTER CLASSES START THIS MONTH

To hear the instructors talk about their classes, go to OakmontLL.org and click on the recording of the Winter Class Preview.

ETTA JAMES AND RAY CHARLES: LIVES, TIMES AND MUSIC

Instructor: Pamela Rose
Mondays, Jan. 13, 27,
Feb. 3 (no class on Jan.
20), 3–5 p.m., Berger
3-week session. Cost: \$50



THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION



Instructor: Mark Jordan
Wednesdays, Jan. 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 26,
(no class Feb. 19), 3–5 p.m., Berger
6-week session: Cost: \$95



**FOUR DAVIDS,
FOUR GREAT SCULPTURES**
Instructor: Lynn Ostling
Thursdays, Jan. 9, 16, and 23, 3–5
p.m., East Rec
3-week session. Cost: \$50

FLEMISH, DUTCH AND BRITISH ART

Instructor: Christian Quintin
Thursdays, Jan. 30 and Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27,
3–4:30 p.m. (shorter class time), East Rec
5-week session. Cost: \$60

THE FASCINATING WORLD OF MICROORGANISMS

Instructor: Andrew Rogerson
Mondays, Feb. 10, 17, 24 and Mar. 3, 3–5 p.m., Berger
4-week session. Cost: \$65

UPCOMING CONCERTS

February 14: Pianist Frederick Hodges, 7 p.m., table seating

March 14: Blues concert with Pamela Rose, 7 p.m., table seating

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

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.

Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■John Brodey

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

It's that time of the New Year and here's hoping you didn't make any resolutions or at least one that requires a big commitment.

A recent study found that 80% of people who guilt themselves into a NY resolution give up entirely after two-and-a-half weeks. That's pretty sad considering the effort made. Lifestyle changes can be the right idea but if you only do intermittent fasting for a couple of weeks and then go back, what was the point?

Some resolutions are easier to embrace and involve more of a change in attitude. Mine for last year was: "say no to nothing." It was about being more open to new opportunities, invitations, experimentation. Things that take you outside of yourself. Like people who stick to meat and potatoes, you don't know what you are missing. Be open to trying something new. If we just put ourselves out there, we have a chance to keep growing and learning. You're never too old.

Invariably, when we have a new guest who is considering joining the VOM Rotary Club, they often say that they were looking for something more meaningful to include in their life. Doing good in the world is a noble mission and the concept that we all can make a difference is empowering in its own way. Our work with both local and international nonprofits is eye opening and mind expanding.

We learn a lot. Our guest speakers each week are inspiring, and the focus of their work engages us to think outside the bun. Just maybe this new year you might consider coming to one of our weekly breakfast meetings and see for yourself. Happy New Year!

Contact our membership chair David Beach at d.beach@utoronto.ca for more information.

Movies At Oakmont



WHERE: Berger Center

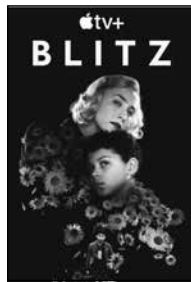
SCREENING DAY AND TIME: Sundays at 2 p.m.

HOSTS: Mike McInnis, Deborah Davidson, Jeff Neuman and Barbara Marquardt.

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

JANUARY 12: BLITZ

The stories of a group of Londoners during the German bombing campaign of the British capital during World War II. 2024, PG-13, 2:00.



JANUARY 19: YOUNG WOMAN AND THE SEA

The story of competitive swimmer Gertrude Ederle, who, in 1926, was the first woman to ever swim across the English Channel. 2024, PG, 2:09.



JANUARY 26: THE GREAT LILLIAN HALL

Lillian Hall, a Broadway actress, has never missed a performance throughout her long, illustrious career. Yet in the rehearsals her confidence is challenged. People and events conspire to take away her ability to do what she loves most. 2024, TV-14, 1:50.



Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

OAKMONT PÉTANQUE 2025 SCHEDULE

The Oakmont Pétanque Club has posted its schedule for tournaments, evening events, and interclub competitions in the 2025 season.

The three tournaments include Springtime (Saturday, April 5), Bastille Day (Saturday, July 12); and Oktoberfest (Saturday, October 4). Each tournament kicks off at 9:30 a.m. registration with teams randomly assigned followed by play as soon as teams are finalized. Following the announcement of winners, a potluck picnic lunch to which all club members and significant others are invited follows at approximately 11:45 with time pending the conclusion of play.



Opening End of 2024 Springtime Tournament, (L to R): Judy Dumm, Rachel Meserve and Ellean Huff.

Two "Sweet Time Pétanque" socials are scheduled for Thursday, June 12 and Thursday, August 14. Evening Pétanque begins at 6 p.m. with socializing over potluck desserts followed by open casual play.

The third annual "Boule Fight for Santa Rosa Bragging Rights" is a home-and-home interclub tournament between Oakmont Pétanque Club and Pétanque La Rose Santa Rosa. The first match will be played at Pétanque La Rose on Sunday, May 4 and the second match will be played at Oakmont on Saturday, May 17. Each club will field three triples teams and the championship will be determined by total games won over the two days.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

French in origin, Pétanque (pay-tonk), also known in the United Kingdom as Boules, has been a feature of organized play in Oakmont since the 1980s. The club, founded as an OVA organization in 1996, encourages all Oakmonters who may be interested in playing or learning to play 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. Club Play days are casual friendly games with teams randomly chosen. The club has boules to lend while you're learning, and you'll be playing right away.

Star of the Valley Bingo is Back

■Peter Hardy

Star of the Valley will host its monthly bingo on January 14 at 4 p.m. We ask that everyone arrive about 30 minutes early in order to pay for their dinner and/or bingo cards. This month will feature Tortellini Meatball Soup, and Garlic Bread with Brownies for dessert. Cost of dinner is \$10 and Bingo Cards are \$2 each.

If you don't play bingo, you are welcome for dinner which begins at approximately 5:30 p.m. All are welcome.



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 hike details, club information, photos and more.

For a complete description of each hike and to register, please keep checking our website for updates.

JANUARY 16: LONG HIKE

JACK LONDON STATE PARK TO NORTH SONOMA MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

This wonderful and popular hike begins at both trailheads and will take you through Redwood conifer forests, babbling creeks and spectacular views. On the infamous "Bill's Hill" we'll lunch and exchange car "keys" and resume our delightful journey. Approximately 8 miles and 1670 ft. elevation gain.



View from Bill's Hill above the clouds.

Hike leaders are Chris Sork and Frank Galli, (707) 495-3196. Leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. Bring your lunch and poles if needed.

JANUARY 23: LONG HIKE MUDDY HOLLOW, WHITE GATE, ESTERO POINT REYES

This is a moderate, loop hike of 9.5 miles and 1036 ft. of elevation gain in beautiful Pt. Reyes National Seashore. The views are excellent while hiking in varied natural settings including woodlands, grasslands,

estuaries and along a lake.

Meet at the Berger Center at 8:30 a.m. The hike starts from the Muddy Hollow Trail Head accessed from Limantour Road which starts near Point Reyes Station and goes to Limantour Beach. The hike includes the Muddy Hollow, Estero, and White Gate trails, and Muddy Hollow Road. Some sections of trail could be muddy because of high rainfall and bluff sections with open grassland could be windy.

Good hiking boots, hiking poles, hiking pants and layered clothing for warmth are recommended. Bring a lunch and sufficient water for a hike of this length. Also, consider bringing binoculars as we are likely to see a variety of birds and maybe Tule Elk. On a clear day the coastal views are stunning.

Rains cancels the hike. Hike leader is Marc Sylvester, (707) 931-8236.



Point Reyes Tule Elk.



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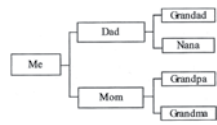
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Genealogy Club

■George McKinney



UNDERSTANDING EASTERN EUROPEAN JEWISH HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

The next meeting of the Genealogy Club will be January 27 at 1 p.m. in East Rec. and on Zoom (see below for the Zoom link).

Peggy Dombeck and Elihu Smith will combine to review the history of Eastern Europe from 1700-1925 in maps and how to deal with genealogy research there.

Meeting ID: 862 2760 9536. Passcode: 030213.

IT'S ALSO TIME FOR DENISE BEESON'S CLASSES

Denise offers free classes in genealogy through the SRJC. They begin the week of January 14. She has two sections of Genealogy for Beginners, one on American Migration and one on European migration, one on Database Tools, and one on Roadblocks, Brick Walls, and DNA. You can find more by reading the brochure here: Beeson 2025 SPRING SRJC FLYer.docx.

If you have any questions, contact Denise at (707) 694-6826 or dbeeson@santarosa.edu for further assistance.

The Oakmont Genealogy Club is open to all residents interested in genealogy or history research. We meet regularly the fourth Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in East Rec. and on Zoom. Our website is oakmontgenclub.org.

Email us at oakmontancestry@gmail.com if you want to be on our email contact list.

Silver Guys of Oakmont



■D. Hall

WINTER POTLUCK IN EAST REC.

Silver Guys of Oakmont and their invited guests will convene for a winter potluck from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, January 12 at the East Recreation Center. As usual, bring food and beverage

to share.

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



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Jewish Interest Group



■Howard Sidorsky

KLEZMER MUSIC AND HANUKKAH EVENT

On Sunday, January 19 at 2 p.m., at the East Rec. Center, Klezmer clarinetists, Paul Alexander and Patti Pacheco-Gregg, will give a talk about klezmer, a popular musical genre of the Jewish and Roma (Gypsy) peoples. Topics will include the origins and history of Klezmer music from the 16th century to the present.



Paul Alexander.

The journey covers the Old-World Klezmer of the Pale of Settlement, Eastern Europe, Spain, Portugal, and North Africa to the early twentieth century Klezmer of American immigrants, and present-day jazz/Klezmer fusion styles. The musicians will demonstrate Klezmer style and performance techniques, and discuss a few of the basic forms, and time signatures.

The question up for discussion will be: What is Klezmer to you, and why do you think it is such a popular and beloved musical tradition?

The program will begin at 2 p.m., on January 19 and take place at the East Rec. Center. A \$2 donation per person is appreciated.

As usual, bring a snack or beverage to share. Coming early to help set up is always appreciated.

Everyone in Oakmont and their guests are invited to all Jewish Interest Group sessions.

A NEW OAKMONT JEWISH TRADITION

Each night of Hanukkah, December 25-January 1, Oakmonters who are Jewish gathered for the evening lighting of the lights on the OVA created Menorah. The crowd varied in size from night to night, but all who attended enjoyed reciting prayers, singing songs and eating jelly donuts—a Jewish/Israeli tradition.



Menorah Lighting. (Photo by Howard Sidorsky)



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Water Fitness




■Valerie Hulsey

Water Aerobic Classes will continue on the Winter Schedule. There will only be one class a day Monday through Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at the West pool. We meet rain or shine, so don't hesitate to come!

The water is still toasty warm at 86 degrees so grab your winter swim robe and join us for fun as we exercise.

There is a drop-in fee of \$8 and we look forward to seeing you soon.



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Oakmont Squares



■Barbara Wooley

HELLO NEW YEAR!

The Oakmont Squares celebrated Christmas in style with Christmas snacks with a visit from Santa (Red Johnson). For New Year's Eve, Oakmont Squares invited members of the Singles and Pairs Square Dancing Club for dancing and a potluck dinner to welcome in the New Year.



In the spirit of the season, members of the Oakmont Squares were happy to collect canned and dried foods which were then delivered to the F.I.S.H. of Santa Rosa Food Pantry by club member Cheryl Malseed. F.I.S.H (Friends in Sonoma Helping) has been proudly serving those in need in Sonoma County since 1971. For more information about F.I.S.H, please contact them at (707) 527-5151 or contact@fish-of-santa-rosa.org.

While the Oakmont Squares beginner class is now

closed to new members, experienced dancers who wish to join the group, or to just drop in, are welcome to come dance at any time. No partner is necessary since it is customary to switch partners often to get more dancers on the floor.

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.

Come dance in a square and make a circle of friends. For information call Jenny at (707) 367-2102.



Photos by Barbara Wooley.

Current Events



■Tina Lewis

This is a very important time to discuss current events! Please join us every Friday from 1-2:30 p.m. at the East Rec. to hear all sides of issues from local to international. Come in person if you can, on Zoom if you can't.

Following the meeting join us at OAK for Happy Hour. This has become very popular, giving everyone a chance to socialize, unwind, and have something to eat and drink.

If you want to be put on the mailing list, including Zoom, email tinalewis31@comcast.net or call (707) 758-9739.



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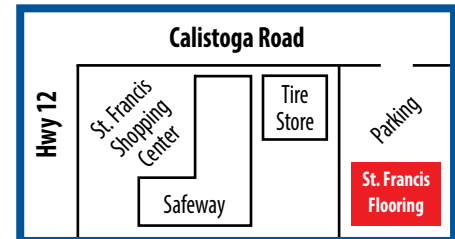
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Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

DON'T DROP YOUR RESOLUTION BALL

Since 1904, party goers have welcomed each new year by celebrating the Ball Drop in Times Square. Around the world, revelers bid adieu to end of one year and embrace the new of the next. Except for WWII brown-outs of 1942-1943, and during Covid, this symbol of optimism has been a warm "Happy New Year" ring.

If you are optimistic about "getting fit" in the new year, look no further than OHI. Oakmont Health Initiative leaders JoRene and Nicole begin January 2025 with motivation and support for all; you're welcome to come to class. Both instructors encourage participants to exercise with respect of personal ability. Bad hip? Old knee? Recent back surgery? Arthritis? Been ages since class exercising? No problem.

Photos by author.



If you've been away from strenuous exercise for a while, you might check with your doctor. Aerobics are challenging! Other than that, come, do what you can and celebrate what you could do. In another month... or two... you will find improved fitness and newfound energy. Fitness comes in increments.

Class participant Nancy says, "OHI classes are a blessing, both in making new friends in Oakmont and staying connected." She says she's always glad she made the effort. "No matter what the exercise, you feel so good afterward!"

A friend says, "There are two kinds of people in this world: those who drop balls and those who keep them in the air." Your choice?

OHI offers three free guided work-out sessions a week. Three! Free! Berger Center or Zoom (832 5893 6515 /053432) 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. No class on second Friday of the month.

Additional information is on Oakmont Health Initiative website. To the beginner, advice is this: check with doctor, wear appropriate shoes, drink water and be grateful.

Strength and Balance Class

■Valerie Hulsey

MARY'S FITNESS CLASS

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Balance and Fitness classes on Fridays, at 9:30 a.m. at the East Rec.

There is a \$5 drop-in fee for classes and don't forget to 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.



New NIA Movement Class

■Lisa Erwin

NIA MOVEMENT CLASS STARTING ON JANUARY 19

I am very excited to bring the joy of NIA to anyone interested. I have been dancing since childhood and have studied ballet, modern, jazz and Afro-Caribbean dance styles. I am a NIA White Belt practitioner and am certified to teach through Nia Technique, Inc. I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, and have taught many classes involving mindfulness practice and emotion regulation. I find that NIA is the ultimate expression of finding joy and healing in movement.

We plan to meet twice per month, eventually on the second and fourth Sundays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the West Rec Center, Lower Level, movement studio. It is a beautiful space with a good deal of room and great sound equipment.

Please note that for the first three months of 2025, class dates will be somewhat irregular, due to instructor's prior commitments. Therefore, the schedule for January through March is as follows: January 19 (third Sunday), February 9 (second Sunday), February 23 (fourth Sunday), March 2 (first Sunday) and March 9 (second Sunday).

As of April, the schedule will be the second and fourth Sundays through August 10. A new schedule will be set for the fall.

The cost is \$8 per single class or \$12, if you wish to pay for the whole month (two classes—starting in February).

Everyone will have the option to modify any of the moves, to suit your body, or to dance in a seated position. NIA emphasizes healing and moving in your personal body's way. Instruction is modified according to class members' physical abilities.

NIA increases and encourages flexibility, self-expression, joy of movement and music, for all levels of ability and intensity. It is a program for everyone, regardless of age, health or fitness level. Further information can be found at nianow.com.

For further questions, please contact me at lderwin2014@yahoo.com.



■Carolita Carr

AN EVENING OF KARAOKE

WHEN: Saturday, January 18

WHERE: Berger Center **WHAT:** Karaoke

TIME: 6 p.m. to sign up and get in the queue; 6:30-8:30 p.m. music

CHARGE: Free to members, each member may bring one non-member

BRING: Snacks to share and BYOB

It's a new year and we are starting with a bang! We hope your voices are ready, because we've got Bill Hillendahl and his karaoke equipment back. Last year, we were all a bit shy, and slow to start, but we got into it. This year we know what to expect and we're ready to go!

Pick out the songs you love to sing, step up to Bill's table, and let the rest happen. Register on our website, oakmontboomers.org. You won't want to miss this fun evening.

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.

Meditation

■Joanne Davey

MEDITATING TOGETHER

WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

"Sitting here is like sitting under the Bodhi tree. My body is mindfulness itself, calm and at ease, free from all distraction."—Thich Nhat Hanh

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

Saturdays at 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 at 4 p.m. in the CAC Building, Art Room: A 30-min. meditation. We approach meditation as a non-denominational practice.

If you have questions, please contact Trisha Mitchell, (650) 255-4026.

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. (no bowling fourth Tuesdays) to see us in action. We charge \$25 for a 10-week tournament that includes the play-offs. 2 p.m. League: 10 teams, 4 bowlers per team. Each bowler bowls 3 games and has his/her own handicap (80%) and average.

See www.oakmontlanes.com for club information, bowling dates, week results and team schedules to bring cookies and help setup at 1 p.m. and tear down equipment at 3:30 p.m.

Christmas Party: Everyone enjoyed our Christmas party on Dec. 9 at the West Recreation Center catered by Oakmont Village Market. Thanks Laura and Dave.

Bowling dates for January: Jan. 14, 21. No bowling Jan. 28 (fourth Tuesday).

Bowling dates for February: Feb. 4, 11, 18. No bowling Feb. 25 (fourth Tuesday).

RESULTS AS OF DEC. 3 (CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY OFF TOURNAMENT, FALL LEAGUE)

2 p.m. League: first place, Pin Pushers; second place, High Rollers; third place, 4 Tops; fourth place, Pocket Hits; fifth place, King Pins; sixth place, Alley Oops.

Congratulations: Pin Pushers—Rich Laden, Felicia Laden, Valerie Hulsey, Larry Souza (Capt). "Fall '24—Pin Pushers" will be engraved on the Team Championship Trophy.

Men's High Games: Larry Souza, 267; Don Shelhart, 230; Glenn Hewitt, 223; Rich Laden, 223; Terry Leuthner, 222; Scott Harris, 205; Charlie Ensley, 203.

Women's High Games: Vickie Jackanich, 246; Joanne Abrams, 235; Sandy Osheroff, 225; Robin Schudel, 219; Laurel Earles, 216; Rhonda D'Agostini, 213; Felicia Laden, 209; Peggy Ensley, 207.

Oakmont Lanes is starting our 17th year. Thanks to everyone who has made this Wii Bowling Club successful with all the fun and camaraderie you share together.

Happy New Year!

Jazz Club

■Delora Hurst

NICOLAS BEARDE IN CONCERT

On March 8, one of the most revered singers in the country will again grace our stage in the Berger Auditorium. When Nicolas Bearde last performed in Oakmont, he received an immediate standing ovation, and then minutes of the thrilled audience shouting "Encore, Encore." He is absolutely mesmerizing when performing. His ability to capture the feeling of the lyrics he is singing is phenomenal.

He has worked in movies, the stage, and was featured in a staged radio play starring Danny Glover. He also became part of Bobby McFerrin's groundbreaking acappella "Voicestra" and spent 10 plus years on the road. He then became featured vocalist and narrator for Vincent Herring's "Story of Jazz Orchestra" highlighting the 100-year history of recorded jazz music.



Mr. Bearde will be accompanied by the Grammy awarded pianist Larry Dunlap and his quartet of extraordinary musicians, including the beautiful guitar of Kai Lyons. It is seldom that we are exposed to such an incredible group of exceptional musicians playing together—you will not want to miss this concert!

WHEN: March 8, 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

WHERE: Berger Auditorium, 6683 Oakmont Drive

TICKETS: \$40. Bring or mail check to the OVA office and leave in the Jazz Club folder.

Cabernet seating. Drinks and snacks permitted. Tables for eight people may be reserved. For information, call (707) 537-7720.

Let's Dance—Together

■Terry Whitten, Instructor

LEARN TO DANCE NIGHTCLUB 2-STEP IN 2025

WHAT: Beginning Nightclub 2-Step partner dance classes

WHEN: Wednesdays, Jan. 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 from 4-5:15 p.m.

WHERE: Lower West Rec.

COST: \$10 pp for single class. \$8 pp for two or more classes purchased at same time



Nightclub 2-Step (NC2S) is one of the most popular partner dances in Sonoma County and is danced to a large variety of slower ballad type music. Examples of songs that NC2S can be danced to are: "I Will Always Love You" by Whitney Houston, "Because You Loved Me" by Celine Dion, "All of Me" by John Legend, and "Let It Be" by The Beatles. No partners are required for the classes as we will rotate partners. However, rotation of partners will be optional. Also, any ladies that want to lead and any men that want to follow are very welcome.

Because of the popularity of this dance, it will be taught over the course of two months rather than just one month. The most basic beginning steps will be taught in January and we will continue with more intermediate steps in February. All classes will build on the material taught each week. No experience is needed for starting in January but the February classes will require knowing most of the material taught in January.

Join us for a fun way to get exercise and meet great people. A number of studies also indicate that partner dancing may actually increase mental acuity and reduce the possibility of cognitive decline. Some even say that dancing makes you smarter! It is definitely good for our muscles, balance, brains and spirit!

To register or for any questions, please contact me at twhitten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590.

OVA Presents Tribute to Dionne Warwick with Jackie Gage

■OVA Staff

The OVA is happy to welcome Jackie Gage to the Berger Center on Thursday, January 30 when the Bay Area singer performs the music of Dionne Warwick. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for the 6 p.m. show. Tickets are \$30 and available at the OVA office.



Jackie Gage.

Hailing from San Francisco, Jackie Gage cut her musical teeth in the New York music scene, performing with luminary jazz artists like Theo Croker, Marc Cary, Kim Nalley, and many others.

For this performance, Jackie Gage will sing the top hits from Dionne's catalog, including favorites like "Alfie," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose?" and "That's What Friends Are For," as well as some hidden gems you know and love.

Join us as we welcome Jackie Gage and celebrate Dionne Warwick's enduring legacy.

Oakmont Singles Social Club



■Bailey Penzotti

NEW YEAR, NEW DAY AND NEW FRIENDS 2025 JANUARY OAKMONT SINGLES SOCIAL CLUB MIXER

DATE AND TIME: Friday, January 17, 6 p.m.

LOCATION: East Rec Center

Let's bring in the 2025 New Year by gathering to share holiday travels and tales and exchanging little known facts of each other. We'll offer help with our new website and ask you to check the existing roster so that we have your up-to-date information. Finally, we'll discuss what you would like to do in and for your club in 2025.

Bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and as always... your beverage of choice. Lemon water will be provided. Please wear your name badges.

RSVP by Monday, January 13 via website, www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org or to Priscilla, prosllyn49@aol.com.

Keep in mind that elections are in March, and there will be a couple of open positions including Treasurer, Communications and Co-Activity Director. The nominating committee will be working hard to reach out to members to join the board. Please give consideration, it takes a village.

DO YOU LIVE IN OAKMONT? ARE YOU SINGLE?

If so, join our club to mix and mingle with other Singles. Oakmont Singles Club offers the opportunity to network with other singles who may have your same interests as you. For more Oakmont Singles Social Club membership visit our website at www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org.

Slot-Car Club

■Ray Wells

SLOT-CAR RACING EVENT IN JANUARY

The next Oakmont Slot-Car Club Race Meeting is on Monday, January 13, 2-9 p.m. in the West Rec. Center.

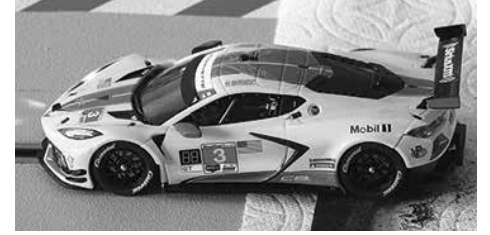


Photo by Ray Wells.

The track will be medium difficulty with two lanes and a lap of around 10 seconds, several lane changers and our signature dual lane pit stop for refueling. Our first event ran a team race for one hour which was continually hectic. This time we will alternate every half hour between open practice and a team race for the second half of each hour. We hope to have 6 teams with driver changes at refueling stops. Even if you have not signed-up, you are guaranteed to get on a team to improve your driving skills and sense of humility.

Our objective is to have fun driving 1/32-scale model cars that are evenly matched and maybe tune them up with new tires, pick-up braids and oil. We run Carrera GTD cars but other makes can be digitally chipped if you want to bring your own. There are lots of YouTube videos of Carrera slot-cars but nothing beats actually racing.

This is a new club which needs 20 members to become sanctioned. Please contact me at Raywingit@comcast.net to join the club.

OakMUG

Oakmont Macintosh Users Group

■Peggy Clark

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED GETTING AN APPLE WATCH

Have you been thinking about getting an Apple watch, or wondering if it's time to replace your existing one? John will talk about all the ways that this smartwatch can help your daily life with an emphasis on the ever-expanding health and wellness capabilities it has.

Our next meeting is on Saturday, January 18, at the East Rec. Center. Meeting starts at 2 p.m. and lasts one hour. Please arrive early (1:30) for social time and to get a good seat.

It is time to renew your dues for the year. If you are not a member and are interested in joining, please stop by and sign up at the door. Membership is \$10 per person per year. This included six presentations relating to everything apple

OakMUG has streamlined check-in. All members will receive a name tag that they will bring to each meeting. No need to check in, just show your name tag.

If you have any questions, please email us at oakmontmacusersgroup@gmail.com.



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.

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.

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) 203-2247.

GALUS PAINTING

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

WANTED: GARAGE SPACE

Looking for a clean, safe, garage space to rent for winter storage of a 1966 Classic Lincoln Continental. If you have available garage space, please contact me at: Michael Webb, (707) 833-2167 (home), (707) 483-0083 (Cell). Email: michael@ireko.com.

JOSH BEGIN

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

For all your electrical needs, including rewiring, troubleshooting, generators, panel upgrade, lighting, EV chargers, security/landscape lighting. Available 24/7. Lic. #461220. Free estimates. Call (707) 690-2541. Visit www.begintobuild.com.

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.

DOORS AND WINDOWS

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

TONY'S GARDENING SERVICES

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

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.

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.

TREE TRIMMING

Pruning, trimming, hedges, mowing. Fruit trees, stump grinding. Pressure washing. Over 20 yrs. of experience. Free estimates. Now accept credit cards. Visit website: ajyardservice.com. Call Alex, (707) 322-1646. Lic. #06530716.

THE VINE LANDSCAPING

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

PET MAN DAN

I am an established dog walker in Oakmont. I walk one dog at a time, unless you have more. Available for a dog walk in the mornings. Licensed and insured. References available. Call or text Dan Lennox, (707) 889-0205.

YARD WORK

Mowing, hedge trimming, pruning, planting, weeding, raking and dump runs. Reasonable rates. Call Erick, (707) 537-5459.

CAREGIVER

Honest, caring, reliable, with many yrs. of experience in caring for seniors: hospice, memory care, companionship, weekly showers, nights, etc. 24 hrs. of team care. Fingerprinted by the state and excellent ref. Local resident. Martha Lorenzo, (707) 308-8802.

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.

HAIRSTYLIST

Personal In-Home Full Service. Exclusive for Oakmont members: travel fee waived. See reviews at Hairbysofia.com. Call or text, (415) 370-3126. I will come to you at your convenience!

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. Reference available. Over 350 satisfied Oakmont customers. \$60/hr., one hour minimum. (707) 293-8011.

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.

PAINTER/HANDYMAN

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

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.

GUITAR LESSONS

Cut to the chase guitar lessons by the 2024 California Music Hall of Fame recipient Al Ferguson. No reading music or theory. Just pick up the guitar and play taught. Oakmont resident. Al Ferguson, (909) 583 1342.

OAKMONT'S PAINTING SERVICES

29 years in Oakmont. Many Oakmont references. Great work at fair prices. License #1108640. Bonded and Insured. (707) 528-8222 or email OakmontsPainting@gmail.com.

HANDYMAN SERVICES

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

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.

CHRISTO TRANSPORTATION

Based in Oakmont, available for airport transport at competitive prices. Commercially insured with TCP 32055. Call Chris, (707) 205-8109.

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AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR

Cooler weather is on its way! Heating, Cooling, service and repair. Serving Sonoma Valley. Call Vince Parish at Ridgeback Mechanical, (707) 666-5056.

PET CARE SERVICES

Senior discounts. Reasonable rates. Kitty nail trim house calls, pet sitting and walks, rides to vets in Sonoma County. Local references. 20+ yrs experience. elainesteele60@yahoo.com, call/text: (510) 967-9660.

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.

KITCHEN—NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL

Have your old kitchen look like a beautiful new modern kitchen. We are offering Oakmont residents our best prices ever on kitchen remodels in January and February 2025. Bayside Remodeling and Construction specializing in Oakmont since 1986. Call John Coyle, for your free consultation and estimate, (415) 879-1634.

FREE IN-HOME PET CARE

For Oakmont residents temporarily unable to care for pets. Dog walking/care, cat care, etc. provided at no charge by Oakmont resident. Experienced. Call/text (415) 272-6511.

KNIT OR CROCHET?

Make lap blankets or shawls for people with Alzheimer's or in hospice. Choose from 32 patterns. See alicesembrace.org and Alice's Embrace Partners on Facebook. Call Marney, (530) 386-3947.

HANDYMAN/CONTRACTOR

Call FM Works with all your home improvement needs. Specializing in bathroom remodels, dump runs, home repairs, painting, windows and doors. Call Freddie at (707) 732-0102.

SONOMA COAST CLEANING COMPANY

Specializing in window cleaning and solar panel cleaning using a water purification system. We also do exterior house pressure washing along with walkways, rock walls, and BBQs. Gutter cleaning and gutter guard installation. Family-owned and operated, fully insured, many local references. Call us at (707) 291-9961.

Oakmont Village Association

OAKMONT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Hours: M–F 9 AM–5 PM—Closed 12–1 PM
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 7 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

RESIDENT ACCESS CARD.....\$30 EA

REPLACEMENTS.....\$30 EA

GUEST ACCESS CARD.....\$30 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 \$30 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, including pet appointments, in Santa Rosa only
- Meals on Wheels, 707-525-0383

COORDINATOR Rides to Medical Appointments

January 1–15

Patresa Zwerling 707-539-8996

January 16–31

Nancy MacDonald 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.

2024–2025 OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

E-mail: askova@oakmontvillage.com

Heidi Klyn, President

heidi.klyn@oakmontvillage.com

David Dearden, Vice President

david.dearden@oakmontvillage.com

Steve Spillman, Secretary

steve.spillman@oakmontvillage.com

Jerry Gladstone, Director

jerry.gladstone@oakmontvillage.com

Matt Oliver, Director

matt.oliver@oakmontvillage.com

Mark Randol, Director

mark.randol@oakmontvillage.com

Olga Ydrogo, Director

olga.ydrogo@oakmontvillage.com

Tom Kendrick, Treasurer

(Non-voting officer)
tom.kendrick@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.

Bunco Ladies Night

■Barbara Wooley



Photo by Barbara Wooley.

YOUR NEW FAVORITE GAME!

Looking for a fun, low stress activity for the new year? Come on over and try Bunco—the fun, easy, no skill required dice game. Not only is Bunco loads of fun, players have the opportunity to win cash prizes! In what other game can a player literally win for losing?

Beginners are always welcome. Within a few rolls of the dice, you will be an expert Bunco player. Come on over and give it a shot. Bring a friend!

Please arrive by 6:45 p.m. for check-in. Games run from 7–9 p.m.

WHERE: Card Room, Central Activity Center

WHEN: Second and fourth Monday of each month (check Oakmont Events Calendar)

TIME: 6:45 p.m. (play is about 1-1/2 to 2 hrs.)

FEE: \$5 fee/night is required for each participant.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Jill Butler, (760) 468-1743, email: jillivannili@sbcglobal.net



■Greg Fauss

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The new year reminds me of this verse from the Bible: “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!”—2 Corinthians 5:17 NRSVUE

Newness and positive change is something we can experience at any age. Life can be beautiful despite our many challenges!

Perhaps you’ve resolved in 2025 to find a local Christian community and/or to refresh, or invest in your spiritual life? If so, maybe we could be a good fit for you.

The original developer of Oakmont, H. N. Berger, stipulated that we should exist as Oakmont’s local protestant church. Although we have no permanent building, we have met on Sunday mornings in the Berger Center up until 2019 when we were relocated to the East Rec. Center, where we now meet.

Our beliefs are simple. We center ourselves around the Bible and the Apostle’s Creed, a confession of faith dating to the 4th century and foundational to most (western) Christian denominations. We welcome

Christians of any stripe along with anyone interested in the faith or in a caring community.

With such a broad constituency we aim to honor a variety of traditions and be respectful of each other’s differing traditions, beliefs, politics, etc. As a congregation we do not belong to any particular organization, nor do we offer any formal membership. We do, however, have many volunteers and welcome more!

We aim to be a supportive, loving, Christian community that encourages one another in their spiritual development and “towards love and good deeds.” Contact us or visit us anytime. Our Annual Meeting on January 26 following the morning Sunday service might be especially interesting as you seek a local community for yourself.

For more information about our regular Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. in the East Rec. Center, our Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Saturday Prayer meeting, monthly potlucks and other gatherings go to www.occsantarosa.org, write us at occsantarosa@gmail.com or call at (707) 595-0166.



A recent potluck. (Photo by G. Fauss)



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Interim HealthCare's compassionate, licensed, and qualified care professionals can provide you or your family members with the personalized care and attention that members of our Oakmont community deserve.

- Have you or your loved one fallen?
- Had surgery recently?
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- Experienced memory loss or need help doing basic tasks?
- Need a companion to be with your loved one at home?

Contact Interim HealthCare today!

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 Santa Rosa, CA 95409
(707) 545-4986
interim.com/sonoma-county



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C21 Epic Valley of the Moon

Locally Owned—Internationally Known

May you have good health, lots of happiness, and a great New Year!



Jolene Cortright
 Broker/Owner, 707-477-6529
 CalDRE# 01469046



Randy Ruark
 707-322-2482
 CalDRE# 00337150



Paula Lewis
 707-332-0433
 CalDRE# 01716489



929 Bush Street \$539,000



6155 Orchard Place \$829,000



5674 Carriage Lane \$899,000



Denise Martin
 707-481-2794
 CalDRE# 02132458



Tierney Muscatell
 707-326-1355
 CalDRE# 02092107



6335 Pine Valley Drive \$1,000,000



7310 Oakmont Drive \$1,100,000



8812 Oakmont Drive



Carol Castetter
 858-442-0200
 CalDRE# 00974403



Mike & Leila O'Callaghan
 707-888-6583
 CalDRE# 00788134 & 00544689
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 6580 Oakmont Drive
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www.c21valleyofthemoon.com
 CalDRE# 01523620



Daniel Rogers
 707-582-2560
 CalDRE# 02051470



Shireen Ramsier
 707-494-8984
 CalDRE# 02145716