

OAKMONT NEWS

Oakmont's Semimonthly Newspaper

www.oakmontvillage.com/news

February 8, 2025 • Volume 63, Number 3

Art Association

■Elizabeth Kern

PHOTOGRAPHER JIM CODINGTON TAKES US ON A WILD ADVENTURE

DATE: Friday, February 14,

TIME: 10:30 a.m., come at 10 a.m. for refreshments

WHERE: Berger Center



Jim Codington.

Photographer Jim Codington will take us on an unforgettable journey through some of the world's most untouched and awe-inspiring landscapes. Through his lens, viewers will be transported to the remote Arctic, where they will witness breathtaking images of polar bears traversing the glacial plateaus of the extreme

north, captured through traditional photography and immersive 360-degree video footage. His expertise in wildlife photography, honed over years of exploration, allows his audience to develop a profound connection with nature that few can experience firsthand.

Jim's presentation will also take attendees soaring above the rugged Alaskan backcountry, where his compelling drone footage will offer a bird's-eye view of the untamed wilderness in search of the majestic bald eagle. But the journey does not stop there—viewers will also be treated to intimate and striking images of lions, polar bears, and bald eagles, alongside breathtaking landscapes of Iceland's glaciers and waterfalls, as well as the lush rolling plateaus of Palouse in eastern Washington.

More than just a visual spectacle, Jim's presentation is infused with riveting stories of adventure, deep respect for wildlife, and a passion for conservation. His most recent book, *Whispers in the Wild*, will also be available for attendees to purchase, with all proceeds generously donated to cheetah conservation projects in Africa.

Those in attendance will have the special opportunity to meet Jim and hear firsthand about his experiences. Having greatly enjoyed speaking at Oakmont last year, Jim is honored to return and share his latest collection of images and stories, offering his audience a rare glimpse into the wonders of the natural world.

ANNUAL ART SHOW, MARCH 21–22

The Oakmont Art Association's Annual Art Show, An Art Affaire, is coming up on Friday, March 21 from 10 a.m.–4 p.m., and Saturday, March 22 from 10 a.m.–5 p.m., at the Berger Center.

Approximately 50 artists and craft vendors will be taking part. Come see our exhibit and help support Santa Rosa High School's Art Quest program by participating in our raffle.

For more info to sign up, see our website, Oakmontart.com.

In Wake of LA, Local Officials Urge Preparedness

■Matt Zwerling, MYN Co-Chair

The fires in Los Angeles are a vivid reminder of the devastation wildfires can have on a community. Santa Rosa Fire Marshal Paul Lowenthal and Nancy Brown, Ph.D., Sonoma County preparedness manager, were keynote speakers at a recent Meet Your Neighbors (MYN). The two reminded attendees to not let their guard down and take actions for better personal preparedness. Brown reviewed critical alerts for phones, the meanings of warnings and orders, and emphasized the importance of taking one step at a time to prepare to avoid being overwhelmed.

During the recent LA fires, Lowenthal, an Altadena native, was part of the Sonoma mutual aid team fighting the Eaton Fire and served as the liaison between fire and city officials. He shared his personal experience from the recent fires in Los Angeles and Altadena, where he grew up. Referencing the 2017 Tubbs Fire here, he said the department is significantly better prepared because of increased air support, cameras and the ability to use nighttime drops of retardant, much of which was not available in 2017. Despite improved preparation and technologies, however, Lowenthal said the risk is still there, not only for fire but for earthquakes.

The theme of home preparedness was also emphasized in a January 25 Sunday Symposium with David Shew, Napa County's fire administrator, who demonstrated graphically the effectiveness of creating a non-flammable zone in the 5'-zone around your home, and installing small mesh screening on your vents that can go a long way to making your home safer.

MYN has a goal to reach all of Oakmont to be prepared at a neighborhood level. Monthly meetings, held on fourth Wednesdays at 2 p.m., have been relocated to the East Rec Center to accommodate larger audiences. MYN has now organized 55% of Oakmont neighborhoods, up from 40% a year ago.

The MYN website (oakmontvillage.com/myn) has material which can help you prepare for a disaster, wildfire or major earthquake, for evacuating or sheltering in place. Well-established, active MYN neighborhoods are important in increasing personal, neighborhood and community safety in a disaster.

The MYN team is available to assist in getting your neighborhood engaged and organized. It does not take money. It does not involve a huge time commitment. It only requires residents realizing the importance of preparedness and organizing. You can contact MYN at myn@oakmontvillage.com for assistance.

VOM Golf Course



The Valley of the Moon golf course crew mowed the turf to playable conditions following the rains.

Candidates Night Set for February 19

■News Staff

Seven candidates—John DeGroot, Jess Marzak, Tim Nelson, Jeff Neuman, Neill Ray, Karl Turner, and Robert Williams—are running for four open seats on the Oakmont Village Association Board. Community members will have the opportunity to learn more about them during Candidates Night on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m. at the Berger Center, where the candidates will introduce themselves and answer questions from residents.

Members are encouraged to submit questions to askova@oakmontvillage.com by Feb. 12. Questions must be addressed to all candidates rather than specific individuals. To ensure efficiency, submissions will be reviewed and consolidated by topic. Due to time constraints, not all questions may be selected.

Many of the candidates are also holding Meet and Greet events throughout the next two months. Residents can find a list of these events on the OVA website at oakmontvillage.com/2025-meet.

Ballots for the election will be mailed to members by March 1. Completed ballots can be mailed, or they can be delivered in person to the Annual Meeting at the Berger Center prior to the start of ballot counting at 10 a.m. Ballots will not be accepted at the OVA office.

Results of the election will be announced at the Annual Meeting on April 7.

Key dates for the 2025 election:

- Feb. 10: Campaign signs may be displayed
- Feb. 18: Candidates announced at Board Meeting
- Feb. 19: Candidates Night at 6 p.m. in Berger
- Feb. 22 and March 8: Candidate statements published in *Oakmont News*
- March 1: Member voting begins
- April 7: Annual Meeting
- April 7: Ballot counting begins at 10 a.m.



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OAK at the VOM Golf Club

■ Superintendent Andy Tittle, Golf Professional James Perkins, and General Manager Khiana Schmuhl

As the rain subsided after the new year, the crew did a great job of getting most of the turf mowed down to playable conditions. The bunker renovation and replenishment program was impacted by the weather, but we will continue to renovate and replenish over the next several months.

We managed to complete the 18th green bunker on Sugarloaf renovation the week of 1/10/25 and the 7th green bunker on Valley of the Moon the week of Jan. 20. The staff is just as excited about the improvements as the rest of us and worked extremely hard to complete the job.

The pothole filling project has begun on some of the larger holes. While not the cart path replacement we all are looking forward to, we will fill the worst of them as time allows. We managed to get the one on 17 green Valley of the Moon, a couple 17, 12, and 18 Sugarloaf. We look forward to filling the series of holes on 9 and 10 Sugarloaf fairways. One more of our goals for the near future is to improve the landscape conditions around the Sugarloaf parking lot and the maintenance yard.

We have partnered with the OVA and the aquatic weed harvesting project remains in the scheduling phase at this time. The ponds on the 17th fairway of the Valley of the Moon course and the 18th hole on the Sugarloaf course are soon to be cleaned up.

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.

GOLF OPERATIONS

Sugarloaf Clubhouse update: The Sugarloaf clubhouse reopened on Monday, January 20. If you have booked a tee time at Sugarloaf, please check into the Sugarloaf clubhouse located at 557 Oak Vista Court. The golf operations staff sincerely appreciates your patience and understanding during the temporary closure.

Tournaments: Book your next corporate or company golf outing with us today by calling (707) 539-0415 ext. 3 or emailing jperkins@playvom.com.

2025 Golf Memberships: Membership pricing is available for 2025. Please visit our website at www.playvom.com for pricing and membership information or swing by the golf shop to sign up for annual memberships.

Range Card Sale: February 21—one day sale only—\$100 Range Cards (\$50 savings).

Upcoming Golf Events: Sunday, Feb. 16—Couples Golf Mixer Event, Sugarloaf Golf Course; Sunday, March 16—St. Patrick's Foursome Scramble, Valley of the Moon.

OAK

Exciting Updates to Enhance Your Experience at OAK! Starting February 5, we're introducing a new counter service model at OAK to provide a more streamlined and efficient dining experience. You'll now be able to place your order at the bar, and we'll deliver it right to your table! This transition also includes moving our daily kitchen service out of the snack bar kitchen. Rest assured, OAK's operating hours will remain the same, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For our golfers on the go, we're enhancing our snack bar offerings with convenient grab-and-go options available at the snack bar window. Plus, we're expanding snack bar hours to better serve you: Mon.–Thurs., 11 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Fri.–Sun., 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

These changes will not only improve service speed but also provide expanded morning options for our weekend golfers.

Thank you for being a part of our community and for your continued support as we make these exciting improvements. We can't wait for you to experience the new and improved service at OAK!

2025 KNIFE SHARPENING SCHEDULE

WHERE: OAK parking lot, 7025 Oakmont Drive

DATE: Last Wednesday of month

TIME: 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

COST: \$8 per knife/\$14 per garden tool

VALENTINE'S 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.

LIVE MUSIC MONDAYS

February 10: Highway 12 Band

February 17: Coffey Park Band

February 24: Second Street Band

MOTOWN AND OLDIES DANCE PARTY WITH DJ DAN FEBRUARY 27, 5–7 PM

Get ready to groove the night away—join us for an unforgettable dance party filled with great music, lively vibes, and non-stop fun! \$8 cash cover charge. Reservations can be made by calling (707) 539-0415 ext. 5.

QR Codes in the Fitness Center

■ John Phillips, Fitness Instructor

If you've noticed QR codes on the machines and on the wall below the TV in the Fitness Center, you might be wondering what they're for. These codes serve different purposes to help keep the facility running smoothly.

The QR code on the wall allows members to report issues such as an out-of-service water fountain or empty cleaning wipe containers (especially when I'm not around). Scanning the code will direct you to a site where you can submit a request, and the Maintenance Department will address the issue.

The QR codes on the machines are for internal use to report non-operational equipment. However, repair request sheets are still available in the first bin near the front door. If you experience a problem with a machine, I will check it to determine if there's a genuine issue or simply an operator error.

Recently, I've received messages without names, phone numbers, or email addresses. Please include your contact information so I can respond to your concerns. For example, some members have inquired about whether turning off the Vibration Plate is necessary. The answer, which I also posted on the Board, is yes—it helps reset the programming.

Additionally, I've received notes with inappropriate language. I encourage open and respectful communication—if you have concerns, I'm happy to discuss them professionally.

For any questions, feel free to contact me via call or text at (707) 494-9086, email me at wkuout2@aol.com, or stop by the office.

Fences— Why Should We Care?

■ Chris Nota, OVA Fire Assessor

Not everyone in Oakmont is aware that if you rebuild your fence, front or backyard, you need approval from the Architectural Committee (AC). Once requested the AC will quickly review your request and share with you any requirements.

But why should we as a community care about our fences? First, we all care about the beauty of our neighborhood. Just as important though, wooden fences can play a significant role during wildfire events. The fence around your home can either help or hurt your chances that your home will be safer during a wildfire.

For years firefighters have knocked down fences in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fires based on their experience that a burning fence can play a key role in igniting a home. Now fire science research has produced evidence to support their actions from researchers with both the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) and the Institute for Business and Homes Safety (IBHS). IBHS is a non-profit funded by insurance companies to study major causes of homes destroyed in wildfires.

IBHS has found that the way fire spreads from one house to another is similar to falling dominoes. They said homeowners can most significantly reduce their wildfire risk by creating a 5-foot noncombustible buffer around their home, also known as Zone 0. This buffer reduces the chance of structural ignition from embers.

Fences also play an important role in the spread of fire. IBHS teams found evidence that flames used wooden privacy fences as their pathway to spread between homes and into the homes. Later field experiments showed wooden fences acted like matchsticks when attached to homes. Not only can the fence catch your house on fire but embers from burning fences can catch your neighbors' houses on fire.

That is why we as a community must care about fences. OVA regulations are very proactive on this issue. They recognize the threat that fences in the 5-foot zone can pose. For this reason, the Architectural Committee requires fences that are rebuilt or new installations must use nonflammable materials such as metal in this 5-foot zone. The regulation reads, "All new installations such as gates, protective patio golf screens, sheds, or a portion of fence that attaches directly to a home, and out a distance of five feet from the home or structure, must be made of metal or approved non-flammable material." This regulation protects both your home and your neighbor's home.

For those with existing wood fences, firefighters recommend that when you evacuate during a wildfire event, you prop your gate open with a heavy object or a hook so the opening creates a fire break that may stop a fence fire before it reaches your house.

Good fences make good neighbors, especially those that include non-flammable material in the last 5 feet against the house.



Pet Grooming
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Oakmont Garden Club

■Patty McHugh



STARTING TREES RIGHT: PRUNING FOR POSTERITY

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, February 12, 9:30 a.m. Social, 10–11 a.m. Program, Q&A follows

WHERE: East Rec Center, 7902 Oakmont Drive

SPEAKER: Curtis Short, ISA Certified Arborist

Healthy trees in urban gardens are essential for our enjoyment of life. Urban trees add beauty and are beneficial to our mental health. Trees are environmentally beneficial in that they reduce energy usage, remove air pollutants, filter stormwater, reduce soil erosion and cool hot city streets by providing shade and releasing water vapor.

Curtis will cover the basics on how trees grow, why we should prune young trees for structural strength and examine the branch structure concepts, presented in his own unique way using yoga positions. Unlike forest trees, urban trees grow exposed



to wind and sun without an intermingling tree community supporting their limbs. Curtis will show us that good formative pruning of young trees will build trees strong enough to withstand urban conditions without failing and will show us photos of tragic consequences of tree neglect.

There will be a question-and-answer period after the presentation. Bring your questions!

Curtis holds a Bachelor of Science degree from UC Davis in Plant Science with a Plant Pathology emphasis and has completed several courses in Landscape Architecture at UC Berkeley Cooperative Extension in San Francisco. He has been a licensed Landscape Contractor since 1989 and is a Certified Arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture.

If you have not already done so, it's time to renew your membership for 2025. The club dues are \$15 annually per household, please pay by March 1. You may pay at this club meeting or leave your check payable to Oakmont Garden Club in the club folder at the OVA. One-time guests are always welcome.

Travel and Adventure Club

■September Holstad

CHEF JOHN ASH CULINARY CRUISE

KSRO radio station and Oceania Cruises will be our guests at the February Travel and Adventure Club meeting, held on Wednesday, February 26. The meeting will be from 3–5 p.m. at the West Rec. Center and will feature an upcoming culinary Alaska cruise.

The Alaskan cruise is September 9, 2026 and will feature local celebrity chef, John Ash, providing a culinary class for each group participant on the cruise. Come to the February meeting and learn about the cruise itself and what will be featured with Chef Ash and Ketcham Estates Winery.

The Travel and Adventure club is open to all Oakmont residents and there is no annual fee for membership. There will be wine provided by Ketcham Estates Wines. Hope to see you there.

New Social Club OMG Seeking Members

■Denise Lindsay

Oakmont Movers and Groovers (aka OMG) is excited to invite you to a preliminary meeting to discuss the formation of a new social club in Oakmont, dedicated to fostering community through music and other engaging events. Whether you are a music lover, an events enthusiast, or are simply looking to connect with fellow residence, this is the club for you.

WHEN: Sunday, February 9, 1–2 p.m.

WHERE: Birch Room, Central Activity Center, 310 White Oak Dr.

RSVP: deniselindsey444@gmail.com.

Refreshments provided by Wooden Petal.

Music at Oakmont



■Judy Walker

BLACK OAK ENSEMBLE MAKE THEIR OAKMONT DEBUT

In recent years, a number of musical artists have branched out from their original format to create other groups and get involved in new ventures. Such is the case of the long-established Lincoln Piano Trio whose members spawned three additional ensembles:

- Desirée Ruhstrat, violin and David Cunliffe, cello joined forces with the viola player Aurélian Fort Pederzoli to create the Black Oak String Trio.

- Marta Aznavoorian, piano, teamed with her sister, the cellist Ani to form Duo Aznavoorian who delighted us at their performance here last season.

- More recently, Desirée, David, Marta and Aurélian combined to launch the Chicago Piano Quartet.

The Black Oak Ensemble, founded in 2011, quickly rose to enormous success in the U.S and internationally. Praised for its "insightful, committed and masterful performances" (*Classics Today*) and "fierce eloquence" (*London Times*), this trio is one of the most innovative and exciting chamber ensembles on the international stage. Their debut album titled "Silenced Voices" is dedicated to Jewish composers, many of whom lost their lives during the Holocaust. Their programming

also includes historical gems of the string trio repertoire.

For their upcoming concert at Oakmont, they will perform an interesting combination of works by familiar names (Bach and Beethoven)

and not so well known but very accessible 20th century composers, including Gideon Klein, a Jewish composer who was deported to the Theresenstadt concentration camp where he was murdered. The program will also feature two French composers, Henri Tomasi and Jean Cras and ends with the lively "Czardas" by Vittorio Monti.

We look forward to seeing you at this first concert of 2025 and the second of our Saturday afternoon concerts.

WHEN: Saturday, February 8 at 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

COST: \$30 at the door (cash or checks only) or with a season pass



Genealogy Club

■George McKinney



RESEARCHING OLD NEWSPAPERS EXPANDING YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

The next meeting of the Oakmont Genealogy Club will meet at 1 p.m. on Feb. 24 in East Rec. and on Zoom (see below for Zoom coordinates).

The topic is researching newspapers. One of the most exciting things about the modern internet is how many old newspapers have come online and can be easily searched.

The meeting will start with a review of how this type of research is possible using OCR (Optical Character Recognition) technology. It will then look at some typical newspaper sites and examine how genealogical information can be found as well as important history information.

Finally, it will look at how to find newspapers associated with a specific state, region, or city.

All are welcome to come and learn about how to use historic newspapers.

Zoom link: Meeting ID 862 2760 9536; Passcode 030213.

The Oakmont Genealogy Club is open to all residents. If you want to be on our mailing list, contact us at oakmontancestry@gmail.com. Our website is oakmontgenclub.org.



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Shhh! It's Nesting Season

■Carolyn Greene, Oakmont
Environmental Stewardship Task Force

The days may still be chilly, but our local birds are gearing up for nesting season 2025, which begins in early February and extends until late August. According to Science Magazine and the Cornell University ornithology lab, U.S. songbird numbers have declined more than 25% in the last 50 years.

What can we do in Oakmont to help our beloved feathered wildlife?

Our biggest contribution can be to preserve habitat during nesting season. Birds nest on the ground, in shrubs, trees, and in cavities, and they need water, food and shelter to raise young. Our yard landscapes can provide habitat and be firewise as well.

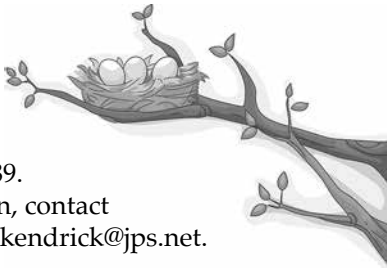
Hummingbirds, mourning doves and house finches often nest quite close to homes, sometimes even in hanging flower baskets! Doves, quail, and towhees nest close to the ground. Woodpeckers, titmice, chickadees, wrens and blue birds find nest locations in cavities, often appreciatively selecting human-provided back yard birdhouses.

Another key step is to avoid tree and shrub trimming during nesting season. Most trees are healthier when trimmed during their dormant late fall/early winter anyway. In addition to destroying nests and baby birds, tree trimming noise disrupts breeding activity and results in failed nesting. We can also keep cats indoors - the American Bird Conservancy estimates that more than 2 billion birds are killed each year by cats.

If you must trim trees during nesting season, ask your contractor to check first for nest activity and either re-schedule or contact local wildlife rescue agencies.

To learn more about Oakmont birds, join an Oakmont Birding Buddies (OBB) easy walk on Monday, February 24, 8:30-10 a.m., meet at the polo field. Contact me at cgnpark@icloud.com or (805) 443-7289.

For OBB information, contact Barbara Kendrick, bkendrick@jps.net.



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.



Jack London Park Vineyards.

FEBRUARY 13: LONG HIKE SONOMA MOUNTAIN, VINEYARD, TRAP AND RIDGE LOOP TRAIL

In Jack London State Park we will follow the Mountain and Vineyard trails and ascend the Trap Trail to Sonoma Ridge. We will complete the loop by following the Ridge Trail and return on the Mountain Trail. Bring usual gear and lunch. 8.1 Miles with 1,800 feet of elevation. Park Pass required.

Leave the Berger Center at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Frank Galli, (763) 360-9756.



Lake Lagunitas, Marin County.

FEBRUARY 20: INTERMEDIATE HIKE MARIN WATER DISTRICT, LOOP AROUND LAGUNITAS AND BON TEMPE LAKES

The rail hugs the lakes almost the whole way with beautiful views across the water. Port-a-potties at the trailhead and two other locations around the lake. Optional stop in the quaint town of Fairfax after for cold or hot drinks and pastry at the Coffee Roastery and/or ice cream at Fairfax Scoop. About 6 miles, 335 ft elevation gain. Bring lunch, water, poles if needed, sunhat and sunscreen recommended.

About 1 hour 20 minutes driving time each way. Marin Water District is not in the State or National Park system. Parking fees \$8 per vehicle, sold at kiosks near the entrance. Hike leader is Florentia Scott, (707) 591-1929, hikingscott@yahoo.com.

FEBRUARY 20: LONG HIKE MOORE CREEK AND VALENTINE VISTA LOOP

This new hike up near Lake Hennessey is in Moore Creek Park. Experience this 7.5-mile 1,150-foot elevation gain loop trail near St. Helena following along Moore Creek. This hike is generally considered a moderately challenging route that follows a partly shaded dirt trail before heading up an incline that leads to the Valentine Vista Loop sign. From here, the trail becomes narrower as it heads up the hillside via some casual switchbacks.

This hike's scenery is breathtaking, with expansive views of Napa Valley and hills. We will then follow the creek out and back a different way to the free parking lot.

Bring all essential gear, lunch and layers. Leave the Berger Center at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Scott Finn, (619) 884-0977.

Men's Bible Study

■Lou Lacson

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Another year in the book of life. Please join us on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. at the East Rec.

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.

Let's Dance—Together!

■Terry Whitten, Instructor

LEARN TO DANCE FOXTROT IN MARCH

WHAT: Beginning Foxtrot partner dance classes

WHEN: Wednesdays, Mar. 5, 12, 19 and 26; 4-5:15 p.m.

WHERE: Lower West Rec. Center

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

RSVP: Please contact me to register in advance at twhitten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590. Class size may be limited as Foxtrot requires more space than many other dances.

I'm so glad to say that there has been a big interest in the partner dance classes I've taught in the past 3-4 months with record numbers of people attending! Foxtrot is the dance that will be taught in March. It is a classic dance done to a variety of music ranging from Frank Sinatra standards to songs by Michael Buble, Natalie Cole, Rod Stewart and even the Beatles and Stevie Wonder. It can also be danced to slower Swing and Country 2-Step music.



Over the four classes, we will build on the material taught each week so it is best to start with the first class of the month. Although we can occasionally accommodate someone starting on week two, it may not be feasible if the class has reached capacity. No partners or experience are required. Rotation of partners will be optional. Also, any ladies that want to lead and any men that want to follow are very welcome.

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

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

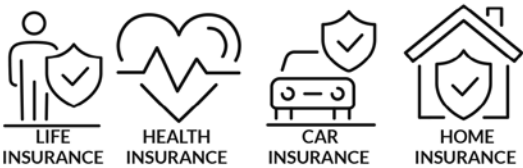


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Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■Richard Osborne

As we wrote last month, the Shred-A-Thon, coming February 13 at the Berger, is one of the Kiwanis Club of Oakmont, your local club, fund-raisers that go to supporting children in the Sonoma County area. Please remember not to bring things that cannot be shredded like plastics, etc.

Our club is on the web at kiwanisclubofoakmont.org and you can reach us at kiwanisclubofoakmont@gmail.com.

Oakmont Singles Social Club



■Bailey Penzotti

FEBRUARY MIXER—SINGLES AWARENESS AND FABULOUSNESS
DATE AND TIME: Friday, February 21, 6 p.m.
LOCATION: East Rec. Center

Singles Awareness Day was established on February 15, 2015, but started by a high school student in 2001 when he gathered with fellow students to celebrate their singleness. It was initially thought to be an antithesis to Valentine's Day, but it has evolved into something much greater: an appreciation of being Single.

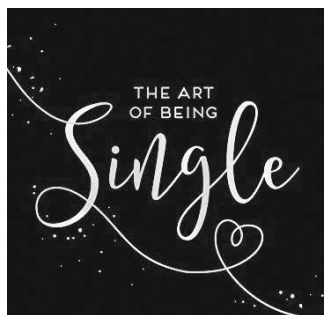


Image by Candi Williams.

It is a celebration of love in all forms recognizing the love between friends, family and yourself. Kate Bond, RN, geriatric case manager and gerontologist, and Mary Hastings, licensed Physical Therapist and fitness guru, specializing in water aerobics and

chair strength and balance will speak about some of the challenges of being Single and Solo Aging.

Please join us for an interesting presentation. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share, your beverage of choice, and wear your name badge. RSVP via our website, www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org by February 17. If no computer or ability to register using your smart phone, email Priscilla at prosllyn49@aol.com.

MARCH 6: BON APPETIT (OSSC MEMBERS ONLY)

WHEN: Thursday, March 6, meet at 5:30 p.m. to carpool from the Berger Center

RESTAURANT: East West California Mediterranean, <https://eastwestcafesantarosa.com>

A favorite among locals and visitors alike, East West Restaurant has been prospering in Santa Rosa for over 30 years. This culinary heaven is best known for the creative menu developed by brothers Nawar and Maen, and includes a large variety of tasty, fresh and local ingredients which embrace vegan and vegetarian options.

Reservation is for 20. Bring cash because the restaurant will not provide separate checks. Reservation cutoff is March 3. RSVP at www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org or email Simone Smith, ssmith8151@aol.com.

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.

Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

POPE FRANCIS PRAISES BOULES SPORTS

Boules Sports (Bocce, Pétanque, Lawn Bowls) received praise from an unanticipated aficionado recently—Pope Francis. The Pope addressed Bocce specifically but spoke generally about all of the “bowling” sports during an audience with representatives of the Italian Bowling Federation last month.

“I admit that I am fond of the game of bowls, for two reasons: the first, because it is a ‘poor’ sport, compared to those of the ‘stars’ with billionaire contracts who always fill the media. I think that bowling champions are people who work as clerks, or teachers, or plumbers. In short, normal people who have a passion for this game that is perhaps a little unfashionable, but so rich in humanity,” the Pope said.

The Pope also praised the games’ social benefits, especially since most playing fields are in small towns and villages across the countryside. “It is a sport that I associate with a certain type of sociality, of social friendship... a way of being together, of passing the time in company, a healthy and calm entertainment.” Pope Francis also applauded boules sports federations for making the sport, once dominated by older men, more inclusive. “Society has changed, and so has the sport of bowls: women and young people also play it, many people with disabilities practice it, and I congratulate you on all this,” he said.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY



Bill Whetstone (foreground) and Steven Payette (background) in their respective circles preparing to point during a recent Wednesday game.

French in origin, Pétanque (pay-tonk) has been a feature of organized play in Oakmont since the 1980s. The Club encourages Oakmonters who may be interested to come to the courts between Berger and the OVA offices at 9:45 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday for casual friendly games with teams randomly

chosen. The club has boules to lend while you're learning, and you'll be playing right away.



Branch #92

■Bern Lefson

SPEAKERS LIST THROUGH JUNE

In addition to our excellent menu our luncheons feature outstanding presenter as follows:

Feb. 11: Olivia Kristiansen of Pets Life Line

Mar. 11: Andrew Bradford, President & CEO of the Santa Rosa Symphony, will talk to us about the various programs at the Santa Rosa Symphony.

Apr. 8: City Council Member, Diana McDonald on her objectives for 2025

May 13: Eric Johnson, CEO *Press Democrat*

June 10: VOM Alliance

Non-members of SIR 92 are always welcome. Reservations are mandatory. Contact Sherry Magers for more information and to RSVP at smagers9@gmail.com.

Information on our Social club with a focus to assist the Redwood Empire Food Bank may be found at www.sir92oakmont.org.

Bocce Club



■Mary Piumarta

RESOLUTION SOLUTIONS!

If your New Year Resolutions included getting more exercise, making new friends and having more fun, then join the Bocce Club.

We currently meet six times a week, Monday through Saturday at 1 p.m. The time will change to 9:30 a.m. on May 1 and then back to 1 p.m. next November. Please feel free to attend any or all of those days that meet your schedule.

We have fun and enjoy low-key tournaments every month. During the summer, we meet a couple of times for a fun evening of appetizers and bocce. And our holiday party is always a fun event.

To join, get an application from the OVA office and submit with a \$20 annual membership fee.

Come out and learn. New Member Orientation Day is the first Tuesday of the month starting March 4.

See you on the courts!

BOCCE CLUB NEWS

New Board members are: President, Judy Aiken; Vice President, Bob Swift; Treasurer, Tony Sarram; Secretary, Ellie Baciocco; Social, Pat and Don Paulson; Court Maintenance, Larry Schlee; Publicity, Mary Piumarta.

The Valentine Tournament will be held on February 15 at 1 p.m. weather permitting. Limited to 24 participants so please come early to secure a spot in the tournament—always a fun event.

New Member Orientation is scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month. The first one will be March 4. Pat Paulson will be coordinating the event and would appreciate volunteers to help. Contact Pat at (707) 953-6691 for more information.

The Board approved purchase of three ball pick up aides for easier pick-up of balls.

A reminder to existing members to renew your membership and submit \$20 annual fee to OVA office.

OTLC

Oakmont Technology Learning Center

■Linda Canar

LOOKING FOR INSTRUCTORS—WE NEED YOU!

The Oakmont Technology Learning Center is looking for instructors that would like to share a skill or program knowledge with other residents in Oakmont. Our group is an instructional team that operates the technology classroom and conducts classes throughout the year. Classes are taught in the CAC building, across the room from the library.

We could really use some additional instructors to teach even one 2-hour class session, or two to three 2-hour sessions. A little information goes a long way and our students are very enthusiastic and ask lots of questions. Maybe you have a favorite App that you would be willing to share with others. Here is your opportunity to help Oakmont residents improve their understanding of technology. We teach the basics and a few specialty classes.

Would you like to share your understanding of using email, Windows programs, Mac programs, iOS and Android smartphone apps and tools, photo and art programs, and others. Are you experimenting with AI tools and can you share your exploration and successes?

If you're interested, please go to our website, OakmontTLC.org and send us a message. We would love to hear from you.



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.



FEBRUARY 9: WIDOW CLICQUOT

The story behind the Veuve Clicquot champagne family and business that began in the late 18th century. 2023, R, 1:30.

Movies at Oakmont will host a Super Bowl watch party at the Berger on Sunday Feb. 9 at 3:30 p.m., following the scheduled showing of *Widow Clicquot*.



FEBRUARY 16: GREEN BORDER

A family of refugees from Syria, an English teacher from Afghanistan and a border guard all meet on the Polish-Belarusian border during the most recent humanitarian crisis in Belarus. 2023, NR, 2:32.



FEBRUARY 23: FIREBRAND

Katherine Parr, the sixth wife of King Henry VIII, is named regent while the tyrant battles abroad. When the king returns, increasingly ill and paranoid, Katherine finds herself fighting for her own survival. 2023, R, 2:01.

Playreaders



■D. Hall

PRESENTATIONS GO FROM FAST BARROOM TO SLOW RESTAURANT

Sean Grennan's script *Now and Then* is Mark Rosen's February production by Oakmont Playreaders. It's a romantic comedy about what happens after "last call" in a bar. Four characters wander in and out, waxing on and on about love and about following your dreams (or not.) It has the feel of an old Hollywood movie.

Act 1 was staged on February 3 and Act 2 is coming February 10. Michael and Lisa Erwin are joined by Leslie Tuche and Wes Doerr for this cast.

Next month, Sandy White produces Wendy MacLeod's uproarious *Slow Food*. The restaurant comedy features White, John Dolan, and Steven Levin.

Join us at 2 p.m. the first two Mondays of every month in Room B (Birch) of the Central Activities Center. Arrive early to get a seat.



In January, Playreaders presented *Sylvia*, a play by A. R. Gurney. Readers were: Blanche Kaiser, Lisa Erwin, Michael Irwin, Marcel Coder, Jonathan Hayden and, crouching in front, Yvonne Horn as *Sylvia* herself. (Photo by Esther Dolan)

Jazz Club Concerts



■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 he 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 awarded pianist Larry Vuckovich and his quintet of extraordinary musicians including the beautiful guitar of Kai Lyons. It is seldom that we are hosts to such an incredible group of exceptional musicians. You will not want to miss this concert!

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

WHERE: Berger Center Auditorium, 6683 Oakmont Drive

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

Cabaret seating. Drinks and snacks permitted. Tables for eight people may be reserved.

For information, call (707) 537-7720.



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■Marlena Tremont



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UPCOMING CONCERTS

February 14—Pianist Frederick Hodges: 7 p.m.,
table seating, \$25. Complimentary chocolates provided.



Spend Valentine's Day with internationally acclaimed concert pianist Frederick Hodges. Hailed as "Extraordinary!" by critics, Hodges brilliantly captures the sounds of great pop, salon, ragtime, blues and jazz pianists of the 1920s. A CA native who began music studies at age eight, he is an Oxford graduate, a member of the Royal Society Jazz Orchestra and a fan favorite.

March 14—Blues is a Woman with Pamela Rose: 7 p.m., table seating, \$25.

Pamela Rose wants you to know that blues is not just a man and a guitar. Blues is a Woman includes song, story, and, a talented all-woman-band dedicated to the rise of female jazz musicians. Audiences will be embraced in an exhilarating decades long celebration of blueswomen who powered America's musical roots with singing and swinging: including Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, Etta James, Janis Joplin, and Bonnie Raitt.


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.

SPRING CLASS PREVIEW WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

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

Come meet the instructors of this Spring's incredible line-up of classes: *Tombstone, Arizona, October 1881; Baseball, Yesterday and Today; David Bowie: Glam Rock's Starman; and Santa Rosa's Remarkable History.*





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Oakie Folkies Music Jam Club

■Ken Smith

SINGING FOR JUSTICE, FREE FILM ABOUT FOLK SINGER FAITH PETRIC

Oakie Folkies Music Jamming Club and Sonoma County Folk Society are sponsoring a free viewing of the film, *Singing for Justice*, on Wednesday, Feb. 12 at the East Rec. Center. Doors open at 6 p.m., film starts at 6:30. Option to jam from 7:45–9:45. Limited armless chairs, bring your own for jamming. Light snacks and beverages.

Faith Petric (1915–2013) proudly called herself a radical, and she chose folk music as her vehicle for creating a more just world. A student peace activist in her twenties, she was still protesting war in her eighties. In between she aided migrant workers in California, helped build Liberty Ships during WWII, faced Cold War-era FBI surveillance, marched for racial justice in Selma, AL, and nurtured vibrant folk

music communities. A single working mother, Faith retired in 1970 and became a traveling folk singer, performing into her nineties.

Faith inspired all people to take responsibility for social change, women and elders to defy stereotypes, and everyone she met to sing along.

Singing for Justice produced and directed by award-winning Stanford historian Estelle Freedman and award-winning documentary filmmaker Christie Herring. Singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist John McCutcheon is the composer and Musical Supervisor.

Film trailer and more information: <https://singingforjustice.com>.



Faith Petric.





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Canine Club

■Randi Hulce

PULL OUT YOUR CALENDAR AND NOTE THESE DOGGY DATES

Paws for Healing comes to Sonoma County! An organization the Oakmont Canine Club is proud to sponsor, Paws for Healing is a nonprofit canine assisted therapy organization that wants you and your dog—if your dog loves people and if your dog has basic obedience skills.

This spring's Certification Training will be in Sonoma County on three consecutive Saturdays: March 15, 22, and 29. A waitlist of facilities want and need dogs to comfort folks in senior residential locations, hospitals and schools. Would your dog be a suitable candidate to cuddle with them while they get an infusion at the Cancer Center, or a dog that students can read to and improve their reading skills?

If this sounds like a volunteer activity you and your pup would love, then go to the website and learn more at www.pawsforhealing.org. Or call Oakmont resident, Donna Forst, (707) 775-9241 with any questions.





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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE DOG PARK (RAIN CANCELS!)



Big Dog Play Date: Saturday, Feb. 22, 10 a.m.–noon for dogs 35 lbs. or more.
Doodle Dog Play Date: Saturday, March 29, 10 a.m.–noon

NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN THE OAKMONT CANINE CLUB

Membership applications are available in the club folder at the OVA office. Annual dues are \$12 for an individual or \$20 for a household.

Membership Benefits:

1. An opportunity to mingle and socialize with other dog lovers.
2. A weekly newsletter which includes upcoming dog functions inside Oakmont, outside Oakmont activities, functions, fundraisers, and dog-related articles including wellness and training, etc.
3. A dedicated website created by a Canine Club member, solely for Canine Club members, is packed full of information regarding events, photos, and resource information.
4. An Annual Spring Picnic for all active members which includes free food and prizes.
5. An Annual Dog Show that offers discounted rates to active members.
6. An Annual Member Appreciation Party for all active members which includes food, drink and prizes

FUTURE FILE—SAVE THE DATE

Canine Club Annual Spring Picnic: Saturday, April 12, noon–2 p.m. More information and details will be coming soon.

All 2025 events are posted on our Canine Club Website at www.oakmontcanineclub.org. Please visit and you will find a Members List, a Photo Gallery, an Events Tab, In Memoriam, a Dog Walker/Pet Sitter list, and so much more valuable information.



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Oakmont Birders

■Barbara Kendrick

BIRDS WORTH WATCHING: HAWKS IN LOVE

Our two most common hawks—the Red-Tailed and the Red-Shouldered—generally mate for life, which can mean remaining together for a decade or more. But the romance doesn't go out of their relationship. In February, just as some paired Oakmonters demonstrate their continued commitment by visiting See's Candies, these hawks renew their bonds by performing what's called the sky dance.

The dance of the Redtails is especially dramatic. The male and female soar in wide circles, sometimes sticking together, sometimes separating. They will often dangle their legs down below their bodies, revealing fluffy white feathers on the thighs—an enticing maneuver known as "See My Sexy Legs." Males break away from the soaring dance to show off with some high, steep climbs and plunging descents. For added excitement, a circling pair may come together in the air, clasp each other's talons, and then spiral wildly down, separating just before hitting the ground. All this may be accompanied by one long, harsh scream—"Keearrrrrgh"—the Redtail's all-purpose call.



A Redtail. (Photo by Tom Grey)



Red-shouldered Hawk. (Photo by Tom Grey)

Red-shouldered Hawks have a similar dance but not quite so showy. A male will soar in circles and call to the female with a loud repeated "Fi-re, fi-re, fi-re, fi-re." These hawks are notoriously talkative even outside of mating season. When the female appears, the male

performs vertical ascents and dives to impress her. Then they move into the circle dance, gliding together and swooping apart with their wing and tail feathers spread wide, displaying their fine plumage.

Look up this month, especially if you hear some strident calling, and admire the sky dance of hawks in love!

Have questions about birds? Want to share a bird photo or experience? Need a "Birds Seen in Oakmont" checklist? E-mail bkendrick@jps.net.

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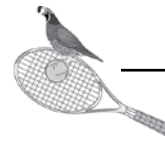
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Tennis Club



■Maureen Pennal

FEB. 15 MIXED DOUBLES TENNIS MIXER

Oakmont Tennis Club wants to welcome all the new 2025 tennis members who have recently joined OTC! We are a very active tennis group, and we encourage you to come out on Saturday, Feb. 15 for some fun Mixed Doubles Challenge Sets. If you are available for a few hours that morning, please RSVP to HelloOakmontTennis@gmail.com to sign up by Tuesday, Feb. 12 to get on the list to play (only 16 slots)! All details for this 2025 Social Mixer will be sent to those who get their entries in by the Feb. 12 deadline.

Dust off your favorite tennis shoes and get out to play. We have open drop-ins at the East Courts every Tuesday and Thursday mornings hosted by Pete Hogan, a free tennis clinic on Thursday afternoons given by Tony Agocs at the West courts, some drop-in play on Friday mornings at the West courts, and drop-in social play on Sunday afternoons around 2:30 p.m., also at the West courts.

There are quite a few regular tennis groups that play on the other days, so introduce yourself at the next opportunity and reach out to one of us at the Feb. 15 Mixed Doubles Social Event so you can connect with other players and determine what level of tennis you desire to play.

Stay fit—play tennis and enjoy the sunshine!



The Tennis Club's Winter Social was well attended on Jan. 9 at the Saddle Club. (Photo by Maureen Pennal)

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Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

FITNESS FOLLOWS THE 80% RULE

During Friday's class, instructor Nicole asked: "How would you rank your nutritional fitness? On a scale of 1 (terrible) to 10 (terrific) how's your diet? Do you get enough protein? Fruits? Vegetables? Do you stay hydrated?"

Class members called out personal assessments. The rankings went from 3 to 7. One man said, "it depends on the day."

After class, some regular members talked about what they typically eat. Sherri said she mostly skips early morning and opts for a 10:30 bowl of granola with yogurt. Kathy never skips her first meal of the day, claims she "wakes up starving" and food revs up metabolism. Her morning selections vary, but she always has Half 'n' Half with coffee.

She chuckled and added, "I'm almost 80 and give myself leeway with these 'perfectionist' platitudes."

They agreed with Barb: "Coming to these classes has helped me realize I'm not alone in striving for perfection," but, "nowadays I'm more realistic and less self-demanding."



Cary concentrates intently. (Photo by author)

In fact, studies have shown that those who demand perfectionist behavior tend to be less happy—and less healthy—that those who follow the 80% rule: at least 80% of the time, let health and nutrition be your guide; 20% of the time, relax... but be aware of self-sabotaging extremes.

As they left Berger Center, OHI members agreed that they could improve their nutritional and physical fitness levels. Several said they were registering for Nicole's Nutrition class at the YMCA. "I think Oakmont is so lucky to have her as an overall fitness guru."

To improve your fitness level and self-image: hydrate, eat well, sleep well, socialize and attend OHI classes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, 9 a.m. part of your 80% plan.

Meeting ID: 832 5893 6515. Passcode: 053432.

Meditation

■Joanne Davey

MEDITATING TOGETHER

WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

"Do you have the patience to wait till your mud settles and the water is clear? Can you remain unmoving till the right action arises by itself?"—Lao Tzu

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.

Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■John Brodey

THE BUBBLE

It's easy to see Oakmont as its own little town. To a degree, we are insulated from a lot of issues facing other parts of the city and while it affords us almost too much peace and quiet, it remains important for us to know what is going elsewhere in our community.

Our weekly breakfast meeting is one way of staying on top of those things we don't see firsthand or fully understand. Recently we heard from Marsha Lucien, executive director of the Family Justice Center. She is a dynamic and passionate advocate who has an extensive background in dealing with domestic violence and abuse.

Through Marsha's leadership, the FJC offers a unique approach to aiding women, children, elders who are victims of an array of threats to their wellbeing. What makes them special is that while there are a host of nonprofits focusing on specific victims' needs, the FJC ties them together under one roof.

The various aspects of case management include law enforcement, trauma therapy, access to safe houses, housing referrals, restraining / court orders, safety planning, transportation, clothing/food, victims' compensation etc. Normally, victims would try to go from place to place for such help. The FJC saves them that daunting task.

Another aspect is that FJC also serves as a liaison with other charities. The key is having a secure location for the women, their children and pets to go to and receive the specialized help in one place. In fact, most of the services provided have a representative on site, even a police presence. Play areas for children and living rooms where the victim remains while meeting with counselors are key to relieving the fear and stress that comes with those in crisis. They have a 24-hour crisis hotline. See more at www.fjcs.org.

Oakmont Progressives



■Thomas Amato

SUPPORTING SONOMA COUNTY'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY

Sonoma County is home to a vibrant immigrant community, and many residents have expressed a desire to understand how they can support their neighbors during challenging times. The upcoming Oakmont Progressives general meeting will feature guest speakers Gina Garibo from the North Bay Organizing Project and Claudia Robbins from the North Bay Rapid Response Network.

The meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, February 10 at the East Rec. Center, will provide an opportunity to learn more about local efforts to assist immigrants in Sonoma County. Topics will include resources available to immigrant families and how residents can get involved in volunteer initiatives to provide support.

Gina Garibo brings a decade of experience working with immigrant communities on both sides of the border, with a focus on advocacy and education. Claudia Robbins represents the North Bay Rapid Response Network, which provides a hotline for those with immigration-related questions and organizes volunteers to ensure all community members understand their rights.

Attendees will have the chance to ask questions and explore ways they can contribute to these efforts. The event begins with a social at 6:30 p.m., where attendees are encouraged to bring a snack or beverage to share.

This meeting is co-sponsored by the Oakmont Democratic Club, and all Oakmonters are welcome to attend.

Lawn Bowling



■Mary Blake

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DAILY DRAW

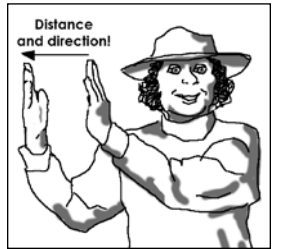
Our Daily Draw is Monday through Saturday. The daily draw is at 12:30 p.m. Show up at 12:15 to bowl at 12:30.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As you've probably already noticed, the Green is closed for maintenance through the month of February. Our first tournament will be the St Patrick's Day Tournament on Monday, March 17, and we're planning to also celebrate the re-opening of the Green. Wear some green to celebrate our re-invigorated Green!

CENTERING THE JACK

Since not much is happening until March, this seems like a good time to talk about technique. This is mainly for some of you newer bowlers, but it might serve as a refresher for more experienced members. You need to communicate clearly to someone quite a ways away and you're telling them both how far to move the Jack and which direction:



Using hand signals to center the Jack.

1. Raise your hands above your shoulders so they're easy to see.
2. To move the Jack to the right, put your hands to the right of your head. For the left, put them to the left.
3. One hand is near your head. The other goes out from there as far as you want to move the Jack. When the Jack is where it should be, you can sweep your hands down in a bow to your skip or use two thumbs up. Just make sure it's clear.

2025 MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't yet renewed, please do so absolutely, positively no later than February 15!

OLBC WEBSITE

Visit our website to see the photos from our 2024 events, check out our bylaws and our treasurer's report.

Email: oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com.

Website: www.oakmontlawnbowling.com.



Oakmont Vets Club

■Paul Gowins

SO MUCH TO SAY, SO LITTLE TIME

So much to say, and so little space to say it in. Some days just seem to be tailor made for information overload. So, I will try to do justice to all the topics competing for attention in my head and try to give clear expression to them all. And with that overstated intro I guess I better make a good case for them all.

Top of mind is my immense gratitude for our great neighbors helping to make such a wonderful dance party that was a huge success for helping send some of our own on the Honor Flight in April. I should mention here that the first flight filled up so fast that one of our chosen (Ron Holladay) unfortunately had to postpone his trip until the next flight out. I also need to add here that we had such a big success that we have booked an encore with the same swingin' band, in the same swingin' place for this April 18. Don't miss it! Get reservations early because we expect a total sellout this time.

And the final thing is to tease you with this thought. What if we told you that there will be free therapies, body work and acupuncture coming March 27 for our members to the Berger? Email pngowins@yahoo.com to sign up or call (408) 401-1320.

Watch for more information soon!

Pickleball Corner

■Peter Copen



WHAT IS DUPR?

DUPR is like your pickleball report card, but instead of an "A" or "B," you get a number that reflects your skill level. It factors in: 1. Match wins and losses; 2. The skill levels of your opponents; and 3. Scoring margins.

But like anything, it has its pros and cons.

The Good:

1. It's more fair than it used to be: By factoring in opponent skill and score margins, DUPR feels more balanced than the basic win-loss and tournament play rating systems.

2. Motivates improvement:

Tracking your DUPR over time can be super motivating, especially when you see that number climb after a killer game.

3. Useful for tournaments: Organizers love DUPR because it helps seed players accurately, therefore fewer lopsided matches and better competition.

4. Rewards effort: Played an epic match against a higher-rated opponent but lost? Your DUPR can still improve.

The Not-So-Good:

1. Too much pressure: Chasing a better DUPR can make every match feel like a final, which takes the joy out of recreational play.

2. Data drama: For DUPR to work, players need to log matches accurately and consistently—a stressor for casual games.

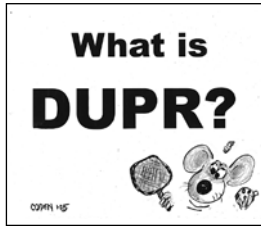
3. Sandbagging issues: Some players intentionally tank matches to keep their rating lower for tournaments.

4. Overthinking: When you're calculating how every game impacts your DUPR instead of just playing, it's easy to lose sight of why you're on the court.

Across the board, players seem to agree on one thing: DUPR is a tool, not the heart of pickleball. At the end of the day, as one player summed up perfectly, "Pickleball is about connection, not competition. If you're not having fun, what's the point?"

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 website: <https://oakmontpickleballclub.com>.



Graphic by Peter Copen.

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 1pm and tear down equipment at 3:30pm.

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

Bowling dates for March: Mar. 11, 18. No bowling Mar 4 (Primary Election) and 25 (fourth Tuesday).

Bowling dates for April: Apr. 1, 8 (week #10), 15 (Playoff Tournament, 6 teams).

Teams: Starting on Jan. 21, the Winter 2025 League reduced from 10 teams to 8 teams. Still one team is a Ghosts team (no bowlers). If you're thinking of joining us, now is the time.

RESULTS AS OF JANUARY 21 (WEEK #3, WINTER LEAGUE)

2 p.m. League: first place, 4 Tops; second place, King Pins; third place tie, Pocket Hits and High Rollers; fifth place, Wii Four; sixth place, Alley Oops; seventh place, Strikers; tenth place Ghosts.

Men's High Games: Gordon Freedman, 266; Mike Earles, 214; Scott Harris, 212; Don Shelhart, 210; Charlie Ensley, 205.

Women's High Games: Joanne Abrams, 277; Sandy Osheroff, 268; Robin Schudel, 268; Karen Palmiotti, 242; Rhonda D'Agostini, 236; Laurel Earles, 227; Elisabeth LaPointe, 218; Peggy Ensley, 215; Carolita Carr, 209; Jeanne Harden, 208.

Oakmont Lanes is starting our 17th year. Thanks to everyone who has made Oakmont Lanes so successful with all the fun and camaraderie you share together. Come by to see us in actions and join in on the fun.

InvestOAK



■Joseph Pundyk

LEARNING HOW TO BUY AND SELL EQUITIES

The subject of the next meeting of InvestOAK will concern the buying and selling of equities on the stock market. Fred Martin, who was a stock broker for many years, will be presenting the session. He is now retired and recently joined the InvestOAK Planning Committee. He is living in Oakmont.

The topic will include when to buy and sell stocks and how to use protections that are available. If there is time the discussion will include the trading of bonds, Treasuries and other monetary instruments. 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.

This meeting will take place on Friday, February 21, from 10–11.30 a.m. at the Central Activity Center, in the Birch Room. It's recommended to arrive early to obtain a good 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.



■Carolita Carr

MARDI GRAS WITH THE FARGO BROTHERS

WHERE: Berger Center

WHEN: February 22

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

COST: \$15 per person. Each member may bring one non-member guest. Bring snacks for your table and BYOB.

Who doesn't love Mardi Gras? Our party is the next best thing to being in New Orleans. We have The Fargo Brothers, four seasoned professionals who deliver a brand of roots Rock n Roll with the fire and intensity that only four decades together can bring. Known for their vocal harmonies and tight ensemble playing, they always put on a show that is not to be missed. Wear your beads, masks and Mardi Gras colors and you will be prepared for an unforgettable evening.

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.



■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.

Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club

■Gary Andersen

DOCUMENTARY FILM AND SPEAKER HIDDEN LEGACY

WITH SHIRLEY MURAMOTO

The Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club invites you to the second our documentary film series featuring Shirley Muramoto and her film *Hidden Legacy* on Wednesday, February 19 at 2 p.m. at the East Rec Center. There is no charge and refreshments will be served.

Shirley Kazuyo Muramoto's roots in koto music grew from the dusty desert American concentration camps during WWII. Her mother, Barbara Hori (aka Kazuko Muramoto), was incarcerated at 9 years old with her family, yet still learned to play the ancient instrument from fellow internees at Topaz and Tule Lake prison camps.

In these desolate prisons, Barbara learned to play the koto by rote, with finger picks made of cow bones and tuning bridges carved by her grandfather from scraps of wood and toothbrush handles. It became the music of survival.



It has been 82 years since the Executive Order 9066 during World War II led to the forcible relocation of approximately 120,000 Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans, about two-thirds were American citizens, into American concentration camps.

The *Hidden Legacy* project researched and collected stories from former incarcerated artists who learned from some of these teachers. The questions were:

how and why did traditional Japanese arts in the camps continue, how they used creativity to practice them, and how they fashioned equipment, kimonos, instruments and so on to be able to practice them. These arts played a critical role in the lives of those incarcerated to continue to survive and help them be resilient.

After the war as many felt these traditional arts would make them appear "un-American," many shunned these arts. Now, we are learning that traditional cultural arts and music aid in survival and continue to do so today as we learn how the arts help us to understand ourselves.

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.

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.

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.

ERIC WILSON, REMODELING SPECIALISTS

Kitchens, baths, rehabs, decks, patios, roofing, plumbing, electrical, insulation. Fire and water damage repair. Quality service, reasonable rates. Proudly serving locally for over 30 years. Free estimates. Lic. #669482. Visit our website: www.specialtyimprovementsunlimited.com. Call today, (707) 328-3555.

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.

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.

NEW YEAR'S SPECIALS

Our best prices ever on all bathroom and kitchen remodels for Oakmont residents in Jan. and Feb. Have your old bathroom or kitchen look new and beautiful again. We do it all, from additions to roofing. Specializing in Oakmont since 1986. Call John Coyle, Bayside Remodeling and Construction at (415) 879-1634 for your free consultation and estimates.

PEDICURES!

SWEET TREAT FOR YOUR FEET

Give your special guy or gal the gift of pampering foot care. Nail care, foot scrub, moisturizer treatment for \$25! Call Sheri at (707) 481-9044, 4525 Montgomery Dr. Suite 19.

HELPER NEEDED

Oakmont couple seeks help for handicapped partner. Weekdays, permanent, flexible 2-3 hrs. daily. Gender irrelevant. Help with meal prep, errands, dishes, laundry, etc. No personal care needed. Driver's license required. Car provided. Call Bill, (858) 531-3361.

PRIVATE CAREGIVER

Certified CNA. 25 years of experience. Compassionate and professional. I am committed to delivering quality, individualized care with a focus on comfort, dignity, and well-being. Specialize in Parkinson's and Dementia Care. References available. Enrique, (707) 319-5353, email: epcaparas@gmail.com.

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.

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

February 1–15
Nadine Condon 602-503-8288

February 16–28
Bev Leve 707-539-2802

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 Rebecca Hermosillo
District 1**

Phone 707-565-2241

Address: 575 Administration Drive,
Rm. 100A, Santa Rosa 95403

Email: rebecca.hermosillo@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.



■Greg Fauss

LOVE

With all that's going on in our nation and in the world, love is not the first word that comes to my mind.

And then there's Valentine's Day, which is just around the corner. It's become so commercialized and doesn't always fit everyone. Many have no romantic love, or if they did, it has faded or passed on.



Our desire is to highlight and enjoy a love that is romantic of sorts, but far broader and deeper and sacrificial. This love is for everyone and never ends. Nothing can in fact separate us from it. This is the love of God which we celebrate, encourage one another with and attempt to live out.

We welcome everyone to experience this kind of love at our regular Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. in the East Rec. Center. For information about 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.



Oakmont Rainbow Women

■Jean Mills

EMPTY HOUSE TRANSFORMED INTO HOME FOR AN INDIVIDUAL IN NEED

Are you sitting in your comfy chair? Couldn't do without that microwave? Love that new picture on the wall? Oh, and that beautiful bedspread! And that nice rug in the living room! These are what makes a structure a home, a comfortable place to live.

Oakmont Rainbow Women (ORW) club members, through a collaboration with the nonprofit Welcoming Home (<https://welcominghome.org/>), are engaged in making a "home" for individuals/families trying to climb out of the vicious cycle of homelessness.

Here's how it works: local charities such as Catholic Charities (<https://www.srcharities.org/>) or The Living Room (<https://thelivingroomsc.org/>) help secure housing for struggling individuals and families. Welcoming Home then steps in to provide all that is needed to make the place an actual home. Cash donations are used to buy new beds, bedding, linens and hire movers. All the furniture, rugs, dishes, kitchenware, small kitchen appliances, shower curtains/bath accessories, artwork, cleaning supplies, etc. are donated by caring people, including many here in Oakmont.

Oakmont Rainbow Women (ORW) has for years raised funds for good causes like 10,000 Degrees (<https://10000degrees.org/>) and The Living Room. Recently, with funds from a pop-up garage sale organized by ORW member Sue Clark, ORW was thrilled to be able to sponsor the transformation of an empty apartment into a real home for a formerly unsheltered woman here in Sonoma County. When "Molly" saw her new home, she was deeply touched saying, "It's so beautiful! It's perfect!"

ORW not only fully sponsored this most recent "welcoming," members of ORW also provided the labor needed to set up this home. Members of ORW



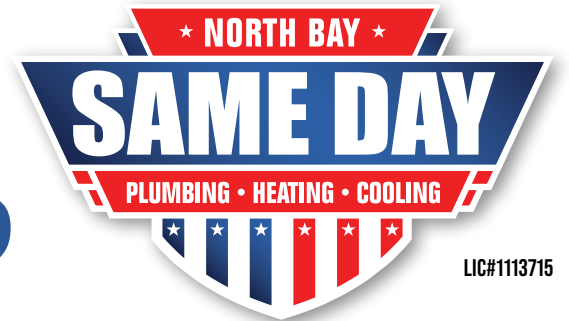
Empty room is now a bedroom.



Part of the ORW Team (L to R): Laura Kenig (team lead), Jean Mills, Debbie Seigel, Lynn Youdall and Carolyn Brown (with Oakmont resident Susi Heidenreich behind the camera).

have now donated support and labor for several "welcomings" and we are very proud to be involved in such important work. If you would like to know how you can be involved, contact our Welcoming Home Lead: Laurakenig@gmail.com.

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