

OAKMONT NEWS

Semimonthly

The Official Newspaper of the Oakmont Village Association

March 22, 2025 • Volume 63, Number 6

Free Spring Concert with New Horizons Band

■News Staff

Sonoma County's New Horizons Band, a talented group of music-making seniors, will present their free Spring Concert on Saturday, March 29, at 2 p.m. in the Berger Center.

The event kicks off with a spirited march by Finland's greatest composer, Jean Sibelius. From there, the audience will take a musical journey to New Orleans with Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong's timeless hits, followed by Glenn Miller's #1 classic, "A String of Pearls," which is sure to get everyone dancing.

"A Song of Hope" offers reflective moments leading to the world premiere of "Gary Matthews," a trumpet quartet commissioned in honor of a beloved Sonoma County musician. Next, the New Horizons trombones will take center stage with "Shoutin' Liza Trombone," followed by the entire brass section shining in Scott Joplin's lively "Sunflower Slow Drag."

In "Fiesta La Vida," a piece inspired by the vibrant Mariachi culture and dedicated to a young musician, you'll hear the unique rhythms and melodies of this



rich tradition.

The program continues with "Synthesis," a contemporary composition that opens with a bold fanfare and commanding percussion before highlighting the winds and strings. Finally, the concert concludes with "One Life Beautiful," an impressionistic free-form piece celebrating the beauty and significance of a single, precious life.



Aging in Place Oakmont Volunteer Helpers

■Matt Zwerling

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS: SOCIAL ISOLATION

The Oakmont Aging in Place working group invites you to an educational forum on Social Isolation.

Experiencing personal loss—such as the death of a loved one, or a decline in hearing, vision, mobility, or independence—can lead to isolation during periods of grief. This withdrawal, whether short-term or long-term, may contribute to feelings of loneliness.

The outgoing U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy, has described loneliness as an epidemic, stating: "... loneliness is like hunger and thirst, that it's a natural signal our body sends us when we're lacking something we need for survival—in this case social connection." He further emphasizes that the antidote for loneliness is community.

We encourage all Oakmont residents to join us for brief presentations and small group discussions on this vital topic. Together, we can build connections and strengthen our community.

WHEN: Saturday, April 5

WHERE: Berger Center

TIME: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Stay tuned for further updates, and let's address this important issue together.

Central Complex Project Progress Report

At the March 18 OVA board meeting director Matt Oliver gave an update on the Central Complex project. Below is his report.

I'd like to provide you with an update and some positive news regarding the Central Complex process. After the Board requested that I work closely with Nordby Construction to improve the clarity of the figures and data, I'm pleased to report that we are making significant progress.

First, it's important to clarify that, contrary to some

misconceptions, the Board has not yet received any formal cost report from Archilogix on cost figures. What we have received so far are numbers that alone don't provide a clear, comprehensive report for discussion or decision-making.

We have shared in prior meetings that Mitch Connor (Architect) did submit a report to the board, but that was his report on how he got to the different concepts and what he would recommend as phasing options. Not a cost report.

See **BOARD** on page x

OVA Reissuing Ballots in Board Election

■Oakmont Village Association

Due to the inadvertent omission of one candidate's biography in the election package, the Inspector of Elections has advised OVA to reissue ballots in the board election. Unfortunately, this means votes will not be counted until May 5. This timeframe allows the required 30 days for members to cast their ballots and accommodates the Inspector's schedule.

The new ballots are expected to be in homes by March 27, and will be printed on yellow paper. Any blue ballots that have been received by the Inspector will be discarded. **These first ballots will not be counted under any circumstances, regardless of when sent or received.** Members who have already sent in a blue ballot will need to send in a new yellow ballot for their votes to be counted.

The current OVA Board will serve until May 5, when the Annual Meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

Following the close of nominations and balloting at approximately 10:05 a.m., the ballots will be counted. Once the vote tabulation is complete, the results of the 2025 Election of Directors will be announced at 2 p.m., the new board members will be seated, and the Annual Meeting will be adjourned.

Upcoming key dates for the 2025 election:

March 27: New YELLOW ballots received

May 5: Annual Meeting

May 5: Ballot counting begins at 10:05 a.m.

May 5: Results announced at 2:00 p.m.

These seven candidates are running for four open seats on the Oakmont Village Association Board: John DeGroot, Jess Marzak, Tim Nelson, Jeff Neuman, Neill Ray, Karl Turner and Robert Williams.

For all election news and dates, plus candidate statements, please visit oakmontvillage.com/candidates.

At-a-Glance Summary March 18 OVA Board Meeting

■Harriet Palk

Consent Calendar: New Board Director of Oakmont Village Property Corporation—Gary Smith.

Committee Reports:

Architectural: Onboarding new volunteers as part of preparing for routine staff turn-over. Lots of solar applications. Otherwise, business as usual.

Oakmont Emergency Preparedness: A new FRS/GMRS antenna has been mounted on the back of the CAC building to be used by our zone communicator network radios. The height and length of the new antenna allows us to talk out to any part of Oakmont and to receive from anywhere in Oakmont. Stations have been set up at each Rec Center to talk to East, Central and West Oakmont.

Now we can support emergency communications with fewer volunteers from a single point inside the CAC. This could be critical during an extended shelter-in-place event. Weekly ham and monthly ZC radio nets are being held on schedule. Preparing for the next Fire and Earthquake Safe Fair in the Berger Center on April 24 and the next Oakmont emergency drill on April 26.

Governing Documents: A multi-phased strategy for updating the Oakmont bylaws and governing docs, which would require a community-wide vote, received approval from the Board of Directors. No timetable was included in

See **AT-A-GLANCE** on page 5



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I am an Oakmont resident, with a team focused on the details.



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OAK at the VOM Golf Club

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

Visit playvom.com for up-to-date information about happenings at the golf course and OAK restaurant.

GOLF OPERATIONS

Twilight Players Club Membership (best deal in the county!): \$39 per month; \$22 each time you play Monday through Sunday (includes weekends and holidays); \$22 rate includes green fee, shared cart, and a small bucket of range balls. Valid for both courses. Visit or call either of the golf shops at (707) 539-0415 to sign up with a golf shop associate!

Junior Golf: Our PGA Junior League Team registration links are now active on the PGA Junior League website. Start planning summer activities for the grandkids!

PGA 13U & 17U Team Registration: <https://www.pgajrleague.com/junior-league-events>.

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.

Upcoming Golf Events:

- Sunday, March 23—\$100 Range Card Sale.
- Tuesday, April 8: Par 3 Tournament, Sugarloaf GC.
- Save the Date: May 4—Cinco de Mayo Golf Event, 8:30 a.m. shotgun start.

Call the golf shop at 707-539-0415 to sign up!

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

LIVE MUSIC MONDAYS

March 24: Second Street Band

April 7: The Magic Band

April 14: Jami Jamison

April 21: Fargo Brothers

All Music Mondays are 5–7 p.m. and cash cover charge of \$8 at the door.

DJ DANCE PARTY

Thursday, March 27, 5–7 p.m.: Beatles/Stones party theme

DINNER SPECIALS

Thursday, March 20: Chicken or Steak Fajitas (\$23). Includes marinated chicken or flank steak, sautéed peppers and onions, Spanish rice, black beans, and queso fresco.

Thursday, March 27: French Dip Special (\$20). Thinly sliced prime rib on French bread with au jus, served with French fries.

EASTER BRUNCH

DATE: April 20

SEATING TIMES: 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

COST: \$65 per person (no discounts)

MENU: Eggs Benedict and Florentine, Prime rib carving station with au jus and creamy horseradish, Salmon with orange beurre blanc sauce, Omelet station, Bagel and smoked salmon, Potatoes O'Brien, Bacon and sausage, Caesar salad, Mixed green salad, Fruit salad, Assorted desserts, Brioche rolls.

RESERVATIONS: Call OAK at (707) 539-0415 ext. 5.

EVENTS

PAINT NIGHT

Painted Cellars Sonoma County presents two hours of guided painting led by a professional artist.

DATES: April 4 and May 27

TIME: 5–7 p.m. (doors open at 4:30 p.m.)

COST: \$45 per person (all art supplies included)

DETAILS: Food and drinks available for purchase.

Sign up at www.paintedcellarsoco.com.

AFTERNOON TEA PARTY

DATE: Sunday, April 13

TIME: 3–5 p.m.

COST: \$30 per person

MENU: Assorted teas, pastries, cookies, mini quiches, and sandwiches

RESERVATIONS: Call (707) 539-0415 ext. 5.

Themed party attire is welcomed and encouraged!

Official News Sources for Oakmont

■Oakmont Village Association

A lot is happening in Oakmont! To stay up to date with all things in our community, be sure to follow the official news and information sources for the Oakmont Village Association. These include:

Oakmont News newspaper (sent to your mailbox every second and fourth Saturday of the month)

Our website: oakmontvillage.com

Our e-blasts, including the *Inside Oakmont* weekly email newsletter (sent every Wednesday)

To sign up for our email newsletter and other e-blasts, visit oakmontvillage.com/signup.

Please note that any other news or information sources are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Oakmont Village Association. Rely only on the channels listed above for accurate and official updates from OVA.

Sign up for Spring Vaccination Clinics

■News Staff

If you weren't able to get all your vaccines at the last Oakmont clinic days, you're in luck. OVA is once again hosting a Vaccine Clinic Day on Friday, April 25 and Thursday, May 15 at the Berger Center, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

This vaccine clinic is offering second dose 2024-25 COVID (Pfizer), RSV (ages 60+), Shingles (Shingrix), Pneumonia (Prevnar 20) and Tetanus (Tdap).

The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that people aged 65 and older, as well as those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, receive a second dose of the 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine six months after their first dose.

You can make an appointment at www.safeway.com/vaccinations/group-clinic/OakmontSR2024.

Please bring your medical and prescription card to the clinic at the time of your appointment, your CDC vaccination card or digital record of vaccines, plus the printed version of the consent form you receive at the time of booking your appointment. There will also be consent forms at the clinic, or you can find them on the OVA website at oakmontvillage.com. If you are not insured, please prepay with the Safeway pharmacy by calling (707)766-9477. Safeway is unable to bill Kaiser members.



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■OVA Staff

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NOT ACCEPTED: Explosives or ammunition, radioactive materials, biological waste (except syringes), TVs, computer monitors and other electronics, business waste.

Online appointments are now available. To sign up, visit zerowastesonomahhwevent.as.me/Oakmont.

You can also call (707) 364-6927 to schedule an appointment. Only 100 appointments available—first-come, first-served.

Conservatives Club



■Jane Gyorgy

MARCH MEETING—

OUR CLUB AND OUR CONSTITUTION

Responses to our membership survey were discussed at our March meeting. Topics ranged from a potential name change to frequency and focus of our meetings and volunteer support of our club.

Alison Moon, Convention of States State Director, District Captain—CA 8, joined us via Zoom. A long-time volunteer for COS, she has been in her current position for three years.

Key points of Alison's talk about a potential Article V, COS were:

- Only one group is working on bringing about a COS.
- Only three issues are being proposed: 1. Limit power and Jurisdiction of the federal government; 2. Impose fiscal restraints on the federal government; 3. Establish term limits on federal officials.

• 34 states must agree to submit applications limiting the COS to the above topic(s). So far, 20 states are on board to call a COS and if called, then to discuss, draft and vote on amendment proposals germane to the topic(s) stated in the applications.

• 38 states must then ratify any amendment(s) proposal before any amendment(s) can be added to the US Constitution.

Alison pointed out, due to our founding fathers instituting monumental checks and balances to call and eventually ratify any proposed amendment(s), it is "politically impossible for any change to be made to our Constitution without the overwhelming support of 'We, The People'." They afforded us a way to counter a runaway Congress. She quoted Constitutional scholar Professor Robert Natelson saying, "There are far more checks on a runaway convention than on a runaway Congress."

Monthly meetings are on the fourth Tuesdays, 4-6 p.m., in the Berger (6633 Oakmont Dr). Food and beverage are welcome.

Members may RSVP to the emailed invitation. Non-members, and those who cannot utilize the sign-up website, please email TheNewOakmontCC@gmail.com. Include your full name and the full names of any guests you intend to bring.

Oakmont Progressives



■Ed Biglin

WORKING FAMILIES PARTY COMES TO OAKMONT

At the April meeting of the Oakmont Progressives Club, the CA Working Families Party will come to Oakmont to explain who they are, what they stand for, and how they propose to fix our political system, which they see as problematic and dysfunctional.

We will meet in the East Rec. Center on Monday, April 14, with our usual social at 6:30 and the presentation/discussion at 7 p.m.

The Working Families Party is regular people coming together across our differences to make a better future for us all. They're a multiracial party that fights for workers over bosses and people over the powerful. They work for an America which realizes the promise—unrealized in our history—of freedom and equality for all. The Party is funded entirely by its members, worker organizations and donations—it does not accept corporate money, PAC money or dark money.

The speakers are popular and familiar faces in Oakmont—they've come to talk with us about local and national issues a number of times.

• Marty Bennett, Instructor Emeritus of History at Santa Rosa Junior College, UNITE HERE Local 2, and member North Bay Working Families Party organizing committee.

• Una Glass, Executive Director Sonoma County Conservation Action and chair North Bay Working Families Party organizing committee.

• Eric Vasquez, President, Wine Country Young Democrats and member North Bay Working Families Party organizing committee.

The Party has been active in many states across the country for some years, and has elected candidates to local, state and national offices (Bernie Sanders ran in 2020 on the Working Families Party ballot in New York, for example).

All are welcome. We begin with a social at 6:30 p.m., so feel free to bring light appetizers and libations to share.

Star of the Valley Bingo

■Peter Hardy

On Tuesday, April 8, Star of the Valley will host its monthly bingo and dinner. This month we will be having a baked potato bar, chili, and ice cream for dessert.

Cost of the dinner is \$10 and bingo cards are \$2 each.

Bingo begins at 4 p.m. so it is important that you arrive at approximately 3:30 in order to purchase your dinner and bingo cards before the bingo games begin.

All are welcome. If you don't play bingo, feel free to arrive at about 5:15 p.m. and pay for dinner only.

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.

No bowling Mar. 25 (fourth Tuesday).

Bowling dates in April: Apr. 1, 8 (Play-off Tournament, 7 Teams), 15 (Week #1 Summer League), 29. No Bowling Apr. 22 (fourth Tuesday).

PARKINSON'S GROUP

It has been our privilege to have the Parkinson's Group bowl with Oakmont Lanes over the past year. It was special for us to see them have so much fun and improve their motor skills at the same time. They have created their own Oakmont Parkinson's Ping Pong Group which provides them with greater eye/hand coordination to further improve their motor skills. They now play at the West Recreation on Thursday afternoons and Sunday afternoons. Your group is always welcome in our club and the very best of luck to your exciting future.

RESULTS AS OF MAR 11 (WEEK #8, WINTER LEAGUE).

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

Men's High Games: Don Shelhart, 280; Terry Leuthner, 267; Scott Harris, 255; Charlie Ensley, 246; Gordon Freedman, 246; Frank Schepergerdes, 215.

Women's High Games: Vickie Jackanich, 279; Joanne Abrams, 270; Robin Schudel, 268; Laurel Earles, 267; Peggy Ensley, 242; Sandy Osheroff, 238; Donnarose Ilecki, 236; Elisabeth LaPointe, 205; Karen Palmiotti, 204.

Oakmont Lanes is now in our 17th year. Thanks to everyone who has made Oakmont Lanes so successful with all the fun and camaraderie you share together. If you're thinking of joining us, now is the time. Most of us have all bowled on a bowling league some time in our lives and here's your chance to do it again without the weight of a heavy bowling ball.

Come by to see us in action and join in on the fun.

Attend the 5th Annual Fire Safe Fair—April 24

■Katy Carrel, MYN Task Force Co-Chair, Fair Organizer



from a wildfire, and on being prepared for disasters.

The 2025 Fire Safe Fair highlights firewise practices and emergency preparedness, with a special focus on what residents can do to keep their homes safe. Some of this year's vendors include the Santa Rosa Fire Department, SoCo Emergency Management, CalFire, State Parks, Red Cross, Halter Project, Fire Safe Sonoma, Sonoma Ecology plus other safety and emergency groups. Oakmont committees providing information at the fair include the Firewise Resource Task Force, OEPTF (Oakmont Emergency Preparedness Task Force for communications), and MYN (Meet Your Neighbors, the official emergency prep task force. The Oakmont Technology Learning Center will also attend and help attendees install and set up emergency alerts and notifications on their cell phones.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

The fair is in need of door greeters, general helpers, and clean-up help.

- Greeters: arrive 12:45 p.m.
- Cleanup after the fair: 4-5:30 p.m.
- General help during the fair: 1:30-4 p.m.

To learn about volunteer opportunities, contact Danielle Hannigan at dani@oakmontvillage.com.

For general questions about the Fire Safe Fair, contact myn@oakmontvillage.com.

Please note: this event is only open for Oakmont residents.

The Oakmont fifth annual Fire Safe Fair is just around the corner, and the whole Oakmont community is invited. On Thursday, April 24, from 1-4 p.m. at the Berger Center, enjoy an afternoon of education and information, more than a dozen vendors, plus Mexican cuisine and refreshments that can be purchased from a local food truck.

Remember that knowledge is power, power to keep our community and your own homes as safe as possible. The participating vendors, as well as the first responders who will be attending the fair, have valuable information on actions to take on your home and property to lower the risk of home loss

BOARD Continued from page 1

Importantly, responding to other community misconceptions, the Board has not endorsed, approved, or otherwise made any decisions about any particular concept or components of any of the concepts presented at this stage.

As we work toward obtaining more accurate figures for a comprehensive report to the Board and community, several factors must be thoroughly analyzed before we can compile reliable data. Such figures will serve as framework for understanding potential expenses and exploring different scenarios. However, they remain preliminary and are not detailed enough to support Board discussion let alone decision-making at this stage.

In collaboration with Nordby, we are working diligently to identify these figures and to ensure they capture other details needing to be included in overall figures. We will also need to factor in other cost components, including architectural and engineering services, permits, and contingency amounts.

Additionally, to inform any decision-making on any master plan, the board will also utilize the OVA facilities audit to assess the current condition of our facilities, available reserve funds, and ongoing operating costs. This information will support a cost-benefit analysis to guide us toward the most effective approach for master planning efforts. A comprehensive report will be shared with the board and community once all relevant information is compiled.

I appreciate everyone's continued patience as we work through these complex details, and I will keep you informed as we make further progress.

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.

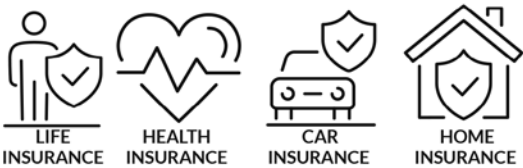


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BOARD AT-A-GLANCE Continued from page 1

the resolution that passed on a 4-2 vote. The matter was referred to the Communications Committee to propose an implementation strategy.

Meet Your Neighbors: MYN is exploring creating a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in partnership with the national CERT organization to support first responders. Plans include developing a shelter at OVA facilities for those unable to evacuate, with Red Cross assistance for cots and food. The OVA manager is discussing this proposed partnership with attorney and insurance company. Red Cross to coordinate efforts. Emergency preparedness training for administrative and maintenance staff is also in progress. Currently, 55% of homes participate in the MYN program.

Central Complex Area Update: See feature story.

Two Committees: No formal proposals have been made yet, but two committees are under discussion: one to review and closely assess information from Nordby regarding the central complex area, and the other to revive the Oakmont Community Development Committee. The latter would monitor developments affecting Oakmont, such as the old Elnoka property, the luxury hotel under construction in Kenwood, and the Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC).

Oakmont Music Lovers

■Judy Walker

DISCOVERING WOMEN COMPOSERS

In recent years, there has been a wider exposure to a growing list of female contemporary composers, with their works frequently played by major artists. However, women have composed throughout history, although, due to male-biased norms in earlier times, they were often not well recognized.

At our April session, we will explore a number of examples covering the last three centuries representing works from Italian, French, English and American women. I will talk about their lives and share some selected examples of their works.

Hopefully you can join us for a relaxing hour of listening and discussion with no cost involved.

WHEN: Tuesday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: East Rec. Oakmont **COST:** No charge

Jazz Club Classes



■Michael James

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN OUR BAND

Join us on Wednesday, April 2, for an afternoon of music and fun at the East Recreation Center!

2-3 p.m.: Enjoy live entertainment featuring the Jazz Club Garage Band. Sing along to classics we all know and love, from "America the Beautiful" to "Give My Regards to Broadway" and more songs we've mastered over the past year.

3-4 p.m.: Participate in our Jazz Club music class! Bring your own instrument, or borrow a guitar, ukulele, percussion instrument, recorder, or harmonica. Club members Michael James, Louise Bettner, Rebecca Gilbert, Gretchen Siemens, Ray Darwin and Ron Holliday will guide you in reading, playing, and singing music.

We play a variety of genres, including jazz, country, rock, R&B, folk, and pop. Music is a fantastic way to boost your social life, coordination, memory, and creativity—plus, it's a great way to enjoy retirement with your Oakmont friends and neighbors!

COST: Jazz Club performance—free; music class—\$5 donation

We can't wait to see you there!

Playreaders



■D. Hall

FROM CRANKY WAITER TO OBNOXIOUS HOUSEGUEST...

Oakmont Playreaders keeps the entertainment rolling with two engaging productions in April. Following March's *Slow Food* by Wendy MacLeod, featuring a hilariously cranky waiter, April brings fresh performances to the stage.



Playreaders brought laughs in March with *Slow Food* by Wendy MacLeod, featuring Sandy White, Steven Levin, and John Dolan. Not pictured: Ginny Smith. (Photo by Esther Dolan).

On April 7, Sarah Shankman presents *When the World Was Green* by Sam Shepard, also known as *A Chef's Fable*. This poignant story spans five generations of feuding, bloodshed, and regret. A retired chef, serving time for a murder committed in a misguided act of vengeance, reflects on the cycle of senseless violence and redemption. Featuring Shankman and D. Hall, this play offers a touch of the fantastic and a meaningful moral about breaking the cycle of harm.

The following week, on April 14, prepare for laughs with Christopher Durang's *Wanda's Visit*. This comedy spotlights Wanda, an outrageously obnoxious houseguest guaranteed to keep you entertained. The cast includes Sandy White (producer and actor), Marcel Coder, Wes Doerr, and John Dolan.

Don't miss these delightful performances! Join the Playreaders' audience at 2 p.m. on the first two Mondays of each month in Room B (Birch) of the Central Activities Center.



■Carolita Carr

NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE CONCERT

WHERE: Berger Center

WHEN: April 26

TIME: Doors open at 5 p.m. Concert begins at 6:30

COST: \$30 per person. Each member may bring one non-member guest.

BRING: The beverage of your choice and snacks. The Picazo Food Truck will be available for dinner options.

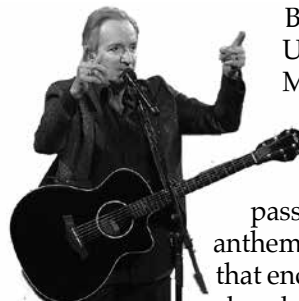
Boomers present Jack Wright's Unforgettable Music and Media Concert Experience!

Mr. Wright's highly acclaimed national touring show brings together the passionate ballads, soaring anthems and high-energy rock 'n roll that encompass Neil Diamond's five decades of superstar performances.

This memorable show is seamlessly woven together with fascinating stories, song explanations and powerful visual media that redefine the Neil Diamond tribute experience, accurately recreating the original songs and excitement of Neil Diamond's most memorable shows and multi-platinum albums.

We will have table seating, so get your reservations in now. Join us on April 26 for this fabulous show.

Join Boomers now! Don't miss any of our upcoming events. Joining is simple and only costs \$15 per year. As a member, you get an inside track to all of our parties. See oakmontboomers.org for more information.



Jack Wright.



■Marie Haverson

SHA BOOM PRESENTS: CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

It's time to gather your maracas, ponchos, and sombreros and join us for a festive night as Sha Boom Events Club celebrates Cinco de Mayo early on May 3. This lively event promises an evening of fun, music, and prizes for the best-dressed couple, the best-dressed lady, and the best-dressed gentleman. Don't miss out on the excitement of a spirited conga line!

The festivities begin as doors open at 5 p.m. Dinner will be served from 6–7 p.m., featuring a delicious menu catered by Cielito Lindo. Guests can look forward to chips and salsa, steak and chicken enchiladas, rice, beans, and tacos with both crispy and flour tortillas. Following dinner, the celebration continues with live music by the fantastic Magic Band from 7–9:30 p.m.

Tickets for the event are \$55 per person. To secure your spot, please make checks payable to Sha Boom Events Club and include the names of all attendees in a single envelope to ensure you are seated together. Each table accommodates up to eight people.

You can submit your envelope in one of three ways: 1. Drop it off at the OVA office in the Sha Boom folder; 2. Place it in Marie Haverson's mailbox, located at the far-right corner of her driveway; 3. Mail it to Marie Haverson, 7111 Oak Leaf Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95409.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (707) 539-6616.

This Cinco de Mayo celebration promises to be a night filled with laughter, music, and memorable moments. We can't wait to see you there!

Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■Richard Osborne

CASA AT KIWANIS MEETING

The popular Shred-A-Thon got back on Thursday, March 20. We hope you were able to take advantage of this money and time saving free event hosted by your Kiwanis Club of Oakmont.

At a recent club meeting, we were treated to a presentation by CASA volunteers, not a Mexican house but Court Appointed Special Advocates. This group of volunteers work directly with abused children who are in the county's care, helping the children get on with their lives and advising the court whether the parents should regain custody.



Photo by Richard Osborne.

Our wealthy community has 256 children who were abused and are under the county's care at this writing. CASA's volunteers devote countless hours gaining the trust of these children and helping them get their life back. Your Kiwanis Club was able to give a check for \$300 to support their work.

Please feel free to join us at our Thursday Breakfast meeting, 8 a.m. (yes, for some that is early, but our mission is worth it). You can email us at kiwanisclubofoakmont@gmail.com and see our website kiwanisclubofoakmont.org.

Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

SPRINGTIME TOURNAMENT—APRIL 5

The Oakmont Pétanque Club holds its 2025 season-opening Le Printemps: Homage to Spring Tournament and Potluck Picnic Lunch on Saturday, April 5. Players are encouraged to wear spring colors. The French tricolor will decorate the court.

The festivities will kick off at 9:30 a.m. at the Pétanque Courts with registration for the tournament. If you are playing, please be there by 9:30—the Oakmont courts can accommodate 18 players for tournaments. Play will begin as soon as the teams are drawn. Winners' photos will be taken at the conclusion. Spectators are welcome!

The tournament will be played in m \acute{e} lée format with randomly assigned teams as drawn and organized by Club Chair Steven Payette, with the Club's "Fanny" looking on. "The Goddess of Pétanque," Fanny is the focal point of a traditional ritual should any team suffer a 13-0 shutout loss.

A potluck picnic lunch will begin at approximately 12 noon, pending completion of the tournament. All club members, whether playing or not, and their significant others are invited. Please bring your own beverage, cups, plates, tableware, and a lunch dish to share.



2024 Springtime Tournament Winners (l to r): first place—Don McPherson and Margi Nielsen; second place—Gail Ruder and Steven Payette.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT

French in origin, Pétanque (pay-tonk), also known as Boules, has been played in Oakmont since the late 1980s. The Club, founded in 1996, encourages all Oakmonters who may be interested in playing or learning to play pétanque 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.

Pétanque is fun to play, learned quickly, and endlessly fascinating in its deeper levels of execution and strategy. Club Play days are casual friendly games with teams randomly assigned. The club has boules to lend while you're learning, and you'll be playing right away.

Oakmont Craft Guild

■Jan Decock

OAKMONT ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

The semi-annual Oakmont Arts and Crafts Fair is being held on May 3 from 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Over 40 local Artists will be selling many different types of unique hand-crafted gifts, just in time for Mother's Day.

"Birriera King" Mexican Food Truck will be offering a delicious menu including breakfast burritos. An added feature will be pet nail trims by Heather for only \$20. Heather is well known in Oakmont and we're glad to offer the convenience of an easy, no-appt-needed way to get your pet's nails trimmed. Dogs on leash, cats in carriers, please.

Vendor applications are still accepted. You can pick one up in the OVA office or request one via email at jdecoc99@yahoo.com. We're also looking for someone interested in providing baked goods for sale. Get your application in early, as the Craft Fair fills up quickly.

Free to Oakmont residents, outside Oakmont residents pay a \$20 fee. For further questions, please contact me at jdecoc99@yahoo.com.

See you there!

Café Mortel



■Linda Suhr

ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVES EVENT WITH SONOMA COUNTY END-OF-LIFE DOULA ALLIANCE

If you had a medical emergency and were incapacitated, would those around you know your wishes for treatment—what you would want and, perhaps more importantly, what you would not want? Now is a good time to review your Advance Health Care Directives and think about whether a POLST (Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment) is right for you. And do you know about Dementia Directives?

These important documents state your wishes for medical care and name the person who will make medical decisions for you if you are unable to speak for yourself. After finishing up your taxes, it's a great time to review these important documents.

In recognition of National Healthcare Decisions Day, members of Sonoma County End of Life Doula Alliance will be available at the Berger Center, Room G, on Thursday, April 17, between 1–3 p.m. with information, resources and sample templates for Advance Health Care Directives. Drop in anytime with your questions about these vital documents.

Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club

■Gary Andersen

FENG SHUI LECTURE PLUS CHINESE MUSIC AND DANCE

The Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club invites you to two free events, open to all. We are one of the newest and most exciting clubs in Oakmont. Our members enjoy monthly lunches at various local Asian restaurants as well as educational and celebratory events. We also bring awareness to the contributions and sacrifices of Asian Americans. We are now a registered 501c3 non-profit and your donations are tax deductible.

FENG SHUI LECTURE—WEST REC. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9 AT 2 PM FREE ADMISSION

The mystical secrets of Feng Shui have enhanced lives for centuries, and offers all of us tangible ways to harness the energy of the earth to stack the cards in our favor. Join us for an overview of the origins and history of Feng Shui, view some examples of great Feng Shui in our Oakmont neighborhoods, and learn what not to do with some Feng Shui faux pas.

Oakmont resident Ki Daniels attended the Western School of Feng Shui and is one of the few Feng Shui Masters cross trained in multiple schools of Feng Shui. His Holiness Grandmaster and Professor Lin Yun, founder of Buddhist Esoteric Feng Shui, proclaimed her a Feng Shui Master "having the compassion of Quan Yin and the wisdom of Buddha."

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CHINESE MUSIC AND DANCE PERFORMANCE—BERGER SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2–3 PM FREE ADMISSION

Join us for a unique music and dance performance by members the Santa Rosa Chinese Christian Church playing traditional Chinese instruments like the Er Hu (two string instrument) and Gu Zeng (Chinese plucked Zither), along with duets, a Chorus in Chinese and Cultural Dancers. Lite refreshments served.

If you have an interest in what we have to offer, please visit our website: <http://apoakmont.org>.





■Brinda Peterson

SPRINGTIME IS HERE!

We just rounded the corner from Winter to Spring. It's a hopeful season for most. We're happy to see the flowers bloom and many are already tending to their gardens. But there's another garden to which this Lenten Season directs us. This is our inner garden.



During Lent many Christians reflect on their lives and where they're going. What could use some inner change? Maybe there's an unhelpful habit or attitude we'd like to break. Or maybe we'd like to become more patient. Maybe we just want to know God more deeply.

We welcome you to join us as we reflect and prepare our inner lives for change and new life. Come see what we're like at our potluck this Sunday around noon after our morning service. Or visit any of our regular Sunday Worship Services 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.occstarosa.org, write us at occstarosa@gmail.com or call us at (707) 595-0166.

Grandparents' Club

■Leslie Brockman

REGISTER FOR EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Don't miss the fun! Grandparents' Club Easter Eggstravaganza is a popular event every year, and this year is no exception.

On April 19 from 1-2:30 p.m., the Berger Plaza will be teeming with excitement as grandchildren (from toddler through teens) will be hunting for toy/candy-filled plastic eggs, selecting their own Beanie Baby and other prizes, bouncing in one of the two Bounce Houses, getting their faces painted and their



Children gather their eggs on the Greensward. (Photo by Kathy Sowers)

own Balloon Animal. Such fun packed into 90 minutes!

Registration opened on March 1 and continues through April 15. The best way to register is to go to our website: www.oakmontgrandparents.org and either create an account or log into your already-established account. On the Events Page, register your grandchild(ren) and also find a slot where you can volunteer to help during the event. If you've not computer savvy yet, you may get a paper registration form in our folder at the OVA office.

Prices are \$10 per child for non-club members and \$7 for Grandparents' Club members. All are welcome and we hope to see you and your grandchildren there.

You are also invited to attend our next Grandparents' Club meeting on March 25 at 4 p.m. in the East Rec. Center.

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

Grandparents' Website: Oakmontgrandparentsclub.org.



A happy young lady gets her face painted. (Photo by Julie Kiil)



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Canine Club



■Randi Hulce



ANNUAL SPRING PICNIC

Have you RSVP'd yet? There's still time! Join us for the Canine Club Annual Spring Picnic on Saturday, April 12, from noon to 2 p.m. at the West Rec Picnic Area or West Rec Center (weather permitting).

RSVP by April 5 to periolinger@yahoo.com with your food choice: Burger, Garden Patty or Hot Dog.

Cost: Free (current Canine Club membership required). Oakmont Market is providing main entrées and condiments. Appetizers, salads, and desserts are potluck style. Bottled water and soda will be available, or feel free to BYOB. Plus, enjoy Pawsarotti's prize giveaways! Please leave your pooch at home for this event.

CHANGES AT THE DOG PARK

Happy Tails Dog Park (6302 Stone Bridge Rd, behind the Community Garden) is open daily from sunrise to sunset for all Oakmont residents.

New Small Dog Hours (25 lbs. or less):

- Winter Hours: 3-4 p.m., November 1-April 30
- Summer Hours: 9-10 a.m., May 1-October 31

Small dog owners appreciate having a safe space for their pups. Please respect the designated small dog hours.

Play Dates (Rain Cancels!)

Doodle Dogs: Saturday, March 29, 10 a.m.-noon (all sizes welcome).

Rescue Dogs/Mixed Breed: Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m.-noon (35 lbs. or more).

CANINE CLUB MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

As a member, you'll enjoy our weekly newsletter, which includes:

- Adoption events
- Free chipping ID events
- Dog shows
- Training and health tips
- Winery outings
- Dog treat recipes

Visit our website at www.oakmontcanineclub.org for the latest updates, event schedules, member resources, photo galleries, and more. Happy exploring!

Sleep Apnea

■Bob Flandermeyer

SLEEP APNEA MEETING ON APRIL 1

The next meeting of the Sleep Apnea Group is Tuesday, April 1 at 1 p.m. We meet in Room G of the Berger Center. Come early and bring your questions. If your equipment needs help, bring it along as well.

This is a remarkable opportunity to improve your health and live longer. Call me with questions at (707) 694-8018.

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Oakmont Art Association

■Elizabeth Kern

ANYONE CAN LEARN TO DRAW!

"Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain," based on the book by Dr. Betty Edwards, is the name of the introductory drawing class that Gail Mardfin has taught in the Oakmont Art Room in the CAC five times now! The class attracts seniors for reasons like "I had an early interest in art but life took me in another direction" or "I want to keep my brain clicking by trying new things."

Gail, who taught high school art for 20 years in New Jersey, returned to teaching art to seniors post-Covid. Students find her encouraging and helpful, and a comfortable, non-judgmental camaraderie occurs in her classes during the 8-week session. She teaches an assortment of art classes in the fall, winter, and spring.



Gail Mardfin

One student commented, "I love the way Gail instills confidence and personalizes her instruction so you end up with something you didn't know you could do!"

Gail's Drawing class emphasizes really looking and seeing in a new way. Students draw from life, not from photographs. Even experienced artists and crafters have improved their drawing skills through this method.

The next 8-week class starts on Monday, March 31 and goes from 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. The class fee is \$200 and a simple materials list will be sent when you write to gmardfin@gmail.com. Don't delay—this class is limited to 12 students.



Legion of Honor.

LEGION 100: ORIGINS ART TALK FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 10:30 AM, BERGER

Join us for an engaging presentation celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Legion of Honor. The year 2024 marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Legion of Honor, home to one of the world's outstanding collections of Rodin sculpture and European art.

The Legion of Honor owes its existence to the vision of enterprising San Franciscan Alma de Bretteville Spreckels, who set out to build a museum to showcase French art and dedicate it to the California men who died in France during World War I.

This talk tells the fascinating story of how the museum was modeled after the Legion of Honor in Paris and came to be built on a hill with a breathtaking view of the San Francisco Bay. Featuring a treasure trove of historic images, the presentation highlights some of the building's beautiful original architectural features as well as renovations undertaken over the past 100 years.

The Legion of Honor's moving inaugural ceremonies of 1924 and the art objects that were on display in the galleries on opening day will also be discussed, offering a rich exploration of an important chapter in San Francisco history.

San Francisco Legion of Honor Docent Virginia Ernster will be delivering the talk.

Oakmont Slot Car Club

■Ray Wells

EASTER SLOT-CAR RACE

I'd like to thank the OVA for approval of OSCC and hope we continue making progress with track layouts and driver participation with a planned three-monthly race schedule.

The January track was about 120 feet long with the faster cars lapping around 13 seconds. Our youngest driver was Lilly (aged 4) who managed to chase the pace car down.

The Easter meeting will run from 12 noon to 8 p.m. on Saturday April 19. We encourage you to bring grandchildren. The racing format will be adapted for the drivers present, younger drivers taking priority, however there should be two tracks in operation



catering for 12 drivers.

Driving is fun and digital control introduces lane-changes and pit stops to add challenge. All ages can drive and pick cars off the floor. The club is using Carrera 1/32 scale GT cars with the magnets removed and you may bring your own cars which might go even faster. The final 30 minutes of racing will be "anything goes" to win the Fastest Lap trophy.

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



■Judie Coleman

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

MARCH 23: GEORGIA KELLY MONDRAGÓN: WHAT MAKES IT WORK?



In Spain's Basque Region, Mondragón Cooperative Corporation is the largest and most successful complex of worker-owned businesses in the world—with over 100 businesses and 80,000 worker-owners. Mondragón has over 70 years of remarkable success and generates over 7% of Spain's GDP. They have proven that this business model works and is a viable economic option.

How did they do it? What makes it successful? Georgia will tell us all about this unique and inspiring culture of cooperation.

MARCH 30: EMILY WALSKI GENERAL VALLEJO AND HIS AMAZING FAMILY

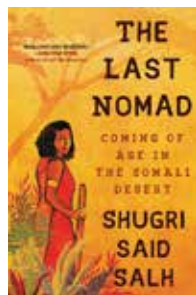
Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo was a key figure in California's history. The City of Vallejo was named after him, and the City of Benecia bears his wife's name.

General Vallejo had an amazing family: his wife (Francesca Benecia) and ten children who grew to adulthood. They were talented and unique.

Who were these people, what were they like, and what did they do? Emily loves to tell their fascinating story.



APRIL 6: SHUGRI SALH COMING OF AGE IN SOMALIA



Born in Somalia, a "spare" daughter in a large family, Shugri was sent at age six to live one year with her nomadic grandmother in the desert. Then she was raised by her strict father who insisted on her education while the women (yes, the women!) subjected her to the cultural custom of female genital mutilation.

When the Somali Civil War came, she fled to a refugee camp and eventually to California where she had to learn and adjust to yet another way of life. This is a powerful story of courage and resilience.

Potential New Club—Friendship Force of Oakmont

■Terry Parker

COME LEARN ABOUT A NEW CLUB

WHAT: Initial meeting of a new cultural exchange club—Friendship Force of Oakmont

WHEN: Saturday, April 5 from 2–4 p.m.

LOCATION: Suite "B" Meeting Room (adjacent to the Oakmont Village Assoc. offices) at 6637 Oakmont Drive. Free accessible parking is available.

You are warmly invited to attend the initial meeting. Beverages and light snacks will be served.

- Do you like the challenge and excitement of new people, places, and experiences?
- Are you curious about the world and enjoy learning about different cultures and ways of life?
- Do you believe that friendships among people of different nations, backgrounds, and cultures can make the world more peaceful and change how we

see the world?

If so, this club may be for you! Friendship Force is a non-profit organization which was originally founded in 1977. The primary goal is to bring people together through activities and home-stay journeys that create unforgettable experiences which build lasting bonds of friendship. There are over 300 local clubs around the world, including the Friendship Force Club of Napa-Sonoma (of which the Oakmont chapter would be a part).

During a journey, members stay in a host's home and take part in family and community life. Homestays typically include interesting sightseeing activities, with the primary goal of mutual understanding and friendship. Since it was founded in 1991, the



Napa-Sonoma club has visited numerous international and domestic locations—most recently, Canada, Japan and Brazil. This year, we plan to visit two clubs in Mexico. Club members also enjoy hosting visitors from around the world and the U.S. in our own homes during their journeys to our area.

If this sounds interesting to you, please join us on April 5 and find out more!

Contact me at terrylynparker@gmail.com.

Group photo at Shinto temple.

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.

MARCH 23: A THOUSAND AND ONE

After unapologetic and fiercely loyal Inez kidnaps her son Terry from the foster care system, mother and son set out to reclaim their sense of home, identity, and stability, in a rapidly changing New York City. 2023, R, 1:57.



MARCH 30: A REAL PAIN

Mismatched cousins reunite for a tour through Poland to honor their beloved grandmother. The adventure takes a turn when the odd-couple's old tensions resurface against the backdrop of their family history. 2024, R, 1:30.



APRIL 6: CONCLAVE

When a Cardinal is tasked with leading one of the world's most secretive and ancient events, he finds himself at the center of a web of conspiracies and intrigue that could shake the very foundation of the Catholic Church. 2024, PG, 2.



APRIL 13: SING SING

Divine G, imprisoned at Sing Sing for a crime he didn't commit, finds purpose by acting in a theatre group with other incarcerated men in this story of resilience, humanity, and the transformative power of art. 2023, R, 1:47.



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Eloise Tweeten, Founder
 Oakmont resident since 2012

Bocce Club



■Mary Piumarta

JOIN THE FUN!

The Oakmont Bocce Club welcomes new members. To get familiar with the game, join the New Member Orientation the first Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. on the Bocce courts. Then submit an application at the OVA office along with the \$20 annual membership fee (cash only).

Regular play is held Monday through Saturday at 1 p.m. during winter hours and at 9:30 a.m. in the summer. In addition, the club has monthly tournaments, picnics, and a holiday party. It is a great way to meet new friends.



At the March Orientation, member Jean Reed shows her winning form. Looking on are Diane Mohar, Jan Conklin and Marilyn McKeever. (Photo by Mary Piumarta)

■Charlene Bunas

MEET OHI CHARTER MEMBER RICHARD

Oakmont Health Initiative “charter member” Richard lived in Marin County before moving to Oakmont in 2012, the most northern home for this native son. He remembers as JoRene “auditioned” for the position of OHI instructor. “We’re blessed with JoRene as lead instructor. She has the unique ability to motivate even when you feel unmotivated. She brings great energy; she’s instructive, light hearted, cheerful and smiling! Bravo JoRene!”

Born in Southern California, Richard considers growing up in 50’s the best! “I was in Little League, rode my 10-speed bike all over, played football and once I got my driver’s license, surfed the local beaches.” He married Ann, had two children and pursued a 35-year career as a fire fighter in Marin County.

“Exercise has always been a large part of my life; it was imperative to my job.” Not only did Richard participate in group fitness classes, he played tennis, competed in 10K runs, biked and played golf.

Exercise runs in their family: Ann is a former aerobics instructor and their kids participated in baseball, soccer and swimming.

At Oakmont, no surprise, Richard swims, golfs...

and seldom misses an OHI class. When Nicole joined the OHI family as Friday morning instructor, he was one of the first to welcome her. He credits OHI for the stamina needed to swim laps, play golf... or to be one of the last couples on the New Year’s Eve dance floor.

“I come to class because I feel better! Sometimes, it takes a bit more coffee to get there, but always worth the effort. I refuse to be that old guy, even though I am... As I age, vitality, balance and flexibility have become even more important, so not going to class is not an option.”

Richard exercising and celebrating. (Photos by author)



Meditation

■Joanne Davey

MEDITATING TOGETHER WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

“Give yourself permission to allow this moment to be exactly as it is, and allow yourself to be exactly as you are.”—Jon Kabat-Zinn

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.

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■Judy Walker



WELCOME BACK TRIO ZIMBALIST

After their outstanding Music at Oakmont debut in 2022, I made a mental note—"We need to bring them back." So, it's with great pleasure that we welcome Trio Zimbalist to our April concert. Taking its name from the famed violinist Efrem Zimbalist, a towering presence at the Curtis Institute of Music, they carry on his legacy through a total commitment to artistic excellence based on their own studies at Curtis.

For their upcoming appearance they have chosen a delightful program including a work by Dvorak's son-in-law Joseph Suk, together with two pillars of the piano trio repertoire. Beethoven's so-called "Ghost" trio exposes a shift in his compositional style compared to his previous four piano trios which were mostly representative of an early classical, Haydn-esque period. This opus 70 work displays a more mature Beethoven leaning towards a greater degree of Romanticism.

The program will conclude with the much-loved Brahms trio in C major, written at a particularly prolific period in Brahms' life—around 1880—when he was working on the monumental second piano concerto and his third symphony.

Please note that we will be presenting the Program Roster for our 2025-2026 season at this concert. I think you will appreciate the variety of artists that have been engaged, so bring your checkbooks as we will be selling our full season and mini-season passes.

As previously indicated, we will also honor Bob Hayden's legacy this event. As you may know, Bob passed away on February 22.

Please join us at to not only enjoy this concert but to see what lies in store for our next season.

WHEN: Thursday, April 10 at 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

ADMISSION: \$30 at door (cash or check only) or with season pass.

Travel and Adventure Club

■September Holstad

OVERSEAS ADVENTURE TRAVEL COMES TO OAKMONT

Overseas Adventure Travel/Grand Circle travel will be our guest for the March 26 Travel and Adventure club meeting.

Many Oakmont residents love to travel with (OAT) and now you can find out why. Besides land tours, Overseas Adventure Travel also has small ship adventures to places all over the world, including Antarctica. The parent company, Grand Circle travel has been in existence since 1958 and has grown to be a major travel company. One big advantage is that single travel is not charged a double charge as they also know to be solo friendly.

Come learn more about the trips they offer and specials they will be highlighting. The Travel and Adventure club meets at the West Rec. Center on the fourth Wednesday of the month, upper level, from 3-5 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Oakmont Garden Club



■Patty McHugh

A YEAR IN THE GARDEN TOUR

In the past, the Garden Club occasionally planned field trips instead of holding in-house meetings. We're excited to bring that tradition back for the upcoming April meeting! As a result, we will not meet in the East Rec next month.

On April 9, we'll visit the Russian River Rose Nursery in Healdsburg for a special personal tour by Jan Tolmascoff, titled "A Year in the Garden." Jan rarely offers personal tours, so we're honored she is sharing her expertise with us. Her presentation will cover rose varieties, pruning, soil preparation, and planting, as well as much more.

While roses are the nursery's primary focus, they also specialize in irises and perennials that attract bees, birds, and butterflies. Although we can't guarantee an abundance of rose blooms in early April, there will be something beautiful in bloom during our visit. Many

of us may want to return later in the spring for an even fuller display. Fingers crossed for clear weather, but in case of rain, we will reschedule.

Attendance is limited, and the sign-up sheet, announced at the February meeting, filled up quickly. A waiting list is now in place, so sign-ups are closed at this time. If you need to cancel, please contact Susan Novak at susnovak3@gmail.com as soon as possible.

There is ample parking at the nursery, but we recommend carpooling. Please plan to sign in at the nursery by 9:45 a.m., as the tour begins promptly at 10 a.m. The fee is \$10 per person, payable at the nursery. Directions can be found on their website: russian-river-rose.com.

UPCOMING IN MAY:

"Honeybees, Native Bees, and Essential Pollinators," presented by Shannon Carr, Program Director, Sonoma County Beekeepers Association.

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.

MARCH 27: INTERMEDIATE HIKE INTERMEDIATE HIKE SONOMA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER (SDC)

This will be a 4-mile, 700 feet elevation hike with visits to Fern Lake, Camp Via, and the Eldridge Cemetery with an optional stop at the Ancient Redwood in Jack London State Park. During our rest stops we will discuss the SDC's history, changes that are underway and what the future might hold.

We will leave Berger Center at 9 a.m. Bring water, a snack and trekking poles. Hike leader is Ed Russell, (707) 540-4275. Rain cancels.

MARCH 27: LONG HIKE ANNADEL—HENRY'S KNOB AND LAKE ILSANJO LOOP FROM BERGER CENTER

Leaving Berger Center on foot through Wild Oak to the Richardson Trail. Looping to Henry's Knob and Lake Ilsanjo returning via North Burma to Channel Drive. Approximately 11 miles and 1,700 ft. elevation gain.



Islands in the sky from Henry's Knob.

Bring layers, poles, water and lunch. Leader is John Schwonke, (707) 292-7359.

APRIL 3: SHORT HIKE CRANE REGIONAL PARK

Crane Creek Regional Park features rolling grasslands and beautiful oaks east of Rohnert Park. The 128-acre park has 3.5 miles of trails and an 18-hole disc golf course. Crane Creek flows through the middle of the park. Ridges offer sweeping views of the countryside. Rain cancels.

Meet at Berger Center. Hike leader is Jan Preston, (949) 433-7330, jancooks@paccos.com.

APRIL 3: INTERMEDIATE PLUS HIKE OAT HILL MINE ROAD

Please note earlier departure time. Starting from the trailhead in Calistoga, we will hike up the historic Oat Hill Mine Road to the ruins of the Holm Place, where we will have lunch. Fabulous views of the Napa Valley, unusual rock formations, basalt



column cliffs, and wildflowers. Optional half-mile extension to see a hillside of Fawn Lilies if they're up, along with more unusual rock formations and caves.

Dress in layers and bring water, lunch, sunhats and sunscreens. Poles recommended. About 8 miles (9 with the Fawn Lily extension), 1900 ft elevation gain. Leave Berger 8:30 a.m. as parking at trailhead is limited so best to get there early. 30-minute drive to trailhead. Hike leader is Florentia Scott, (707) 591-1929, hikingscott@yahoo.com.



Oat Hill Trail.

APRIL 3: LONG HIKE THE BEST OF MT. TAM

We'll begin what has become an annual tradition at the Whitegate Ranch Trailhead off Panoramic just above the intersection with Highway 1 at Stinson Beach. We'll take a short walk to the Steep Ravine, where we'll climb to Pantol. From there, we cross the road and head to the Cataract trail via the Easy Grade Trail.

At Laural Dell, we'll head west across Ridgecrest to the Coastal Trail for what will hopefully be a colorful wildflower display. From there, it's back to Pantol via Matt Davis and then down to the trailhead through a bay forest on the Old Mine Trail.

Bring the usual: lunch, liquids, layers, and polls if you need them. Hike leader is Jeff Zalles, jeffzalles@gmail.com, (415) 999-5333. This is a 9.5-mile, 1975' hike. Depart promptly at 8 a.m.

APRIL 10: LONG HIKE RED HILL VIA HOOD REGIONAL TO SUGARLOAF MCCORMICK ADDITION

This 8.5-mile strenuous hike will have an elevation gain of 1875 ft. Many of our hikers have not been to Red Hill where the lunch time view is outstanding. We'll start from the Los Alamos lot at Hood Mtn. Regional Park, hike down to the Santa Rosa Creek and cross into the McCormick addition to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park with a stop at Margaret Spaulding's former property at the Santa Rosa Creek headwaters.

Learn about the strength and contributions of the women who owned this beautiful Sonoma County open space. Oh yes, Bonnie's Brownies will be served. Bring a lunch, lots of liquids and hiking poles are strongly encouraged.

Depart from the Berger lot at 8:30. Hike leader is Gary Andersen, (360) 778-9604.

Oakmont Democratic Club



■Sue Carrell

SAVE THESE DATES AND JOIN US

Don't miss our Democratic Alliance Socials at the East Rec. on the fourth Thursday of every month. The next one is on March 27, 6:30 p.m. Bring finger-food and your favorite beverage. Meet with friends and neighbors to find out how you can get involved. Oakmont residents can join other activists throughout the country, either by joining in Zoom meetings or by showing up at local protests. There's much work to do before November.

Don't forget to check out our Democratic Alliance website at Oakmontdemocraticalliance.org. So much information to share. We just posted a video there of a French Senator addressing his assembly about how Europe will be reacting to the recent activities of the Trump Administration with regard to Ukraine; it's worth a listen.

Oakmont Singles Social Club



■Bailey Penzotti

PUTTING A SPRING IN OUR STEPS 2025 APRIL BON APPETIT (OSSC MEMBERS ONLY) THURSDAY, APRIL 3

RESTAURANT: Union Hotel, 280 Mission Blvd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409 <https://unionhotel.com>.

Bringing people together through the warmth, comfort, and flavor of homemade Italian cuisine. With years of culinary experience passed down through their family and influences from the dishes of their home country, they provide their guests with a true taste of Italy right here in the beautiful California wine country.

Reservation is for 18. Bring cash because the restaurant will not provide separate checks! Reservation cutoff is March 31. RSVP at www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org or email Simone Smith, ssmith8151@aol.com.

APRIL MIXER

FRIDAY APRIL 18, 6 PM, EAST REC.

Spring has sprung and life is renewed. However, it can still be chilly outside so we're going to have fun and games inside. Wear your name badge, bring a springtime appetizer or dessert to share and your fun inspired beverage of choice.

RSVP via our website, www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org by April 14 at 12 noon. If no computer or ability to register using your smart phone, feel free to email Bailey at bailey.osc1@gmail.com. (We will continue to offer website help, if you are having any difficulty. Bring your devices and we'll see how we can help you.)

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.



VP Alan Schackman waiting for the blocks to fall.
(Photo by Kat Stephens)

Pickleball Corner



■Peter Copen

BEWARE THE BRITISH LOB

In British dialect the word "lob" means a slow, heavy, dull-witted person. I can surmise, with all due restraint, that is not normally the case in the Oakmont Pickleball Club. At the 3.0 to 3.5 rec level, a really good lobber can make you feel something akin to that: chasing instead of playing. Instead of just reacting and scrambling, let's flip the script—turn their best weapon against them.

Rather than treating lobs as a nuisance, use them as an opportunity to take control of the game. This strategy isn't just about defending against lobs—it's about forcing errors, disrupting their rhythm, and making the lobber regret their own game plan. How?

Step 1: Make Their Lobs a Liability: Lobbers Thrive on Comfortable Setups. Don't give it to them. How you take that away: 1. Hit to their feet; 2. Speed up the game; 3. Move them side to side.

Step 2: Use Their Own Strategy Against Them: Most Lobbers Struggle Against... Lobs! How to test their lob defense: 1. Target them with deep high lobs; 2. Make them run backwards.

Step 3: The Midcourt Trap—Where Lobbers Struggle. How to force a lobber into the midcourt: 1. Drop shots that land in the transition zone; 2. Attack their body; 3. Hit slice dinks that dies near their feet.

Step 4: Anticipate and Preempt Their Lobs. How to know when a lob is coming: 1. Watch their paddle angle; 2. Pay attention to their court position; 3. Notice their body countermove.

All you, British lobbers, are invited to take the fast boat to London.

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



Cartoon by Peter Copen.

Bellarosa Strings Plays the Music of The Beatles

■OVA Staff

The OVA is excited to announce its next concert event, Bellarosa Strings, happening on April 17. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with the show beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$30 per person and can be purchased in advance at the OVA office.



Bellarosa Strings.

An exceptional concert featuring the music of Beatles classics like "Here Comes the Sun," "Hey Jude" and "Let It Be" performed by a five-piece ensemble of guitar, violins, viola, and cello. Bellarosa Strings is a distinguished collective based in Santa Rosa, specializing in pop and rock instrumental covers.

Known for their unique twist on classics, they perform throughout Northern California, from Sonoma to Carmel. With appearances on "The Bachelor" and alongside Smokey Robinson, Bellarosa Strings enhances events with classically rooted performances from a contemporary perspective.

This is a Beatles experience for all tastes and not to be missed.

Tennis Club



■Diane Curtis

A SOCIAL AND A (BIG) TOURNAMENT

The February 15 blind-draw mixed-doubles social enjoyed a full sign-up with 16 players who powered through three no-ad sets. A few hardy players didn't stop there and continued matches after the official games.

The weather was bucolic, the Valentine's treats divine and the camaraderie undeniable.

If you haven't participated in any socials or tournaments, you're missing an excellent opportunity to get to know other players and enjoy some good tennis, so keep an eye out for the next OTC events and join in the fun.

AN INDIAN WELLS NOTE FROM OTC MEMBER MARIA SMITH

"What was fun for me this year was that I got to see Learner Tien, the kid from SoCal. This is his first major tour after the Australian Open. The practice courts are so much fun. That's one of the reasons we go there so early in the tournament. Everyone's there. The players and their coaches want to get there early and start

practicing and get a feel for the courts."

Maria and her husband Matthew get qualifying or first-round passes, which are cheaper than later tickets. "This way, we can afford to go every year or every other year. What we do is we hunker down in a stadium where we want to watch a specific match. We'll go through the list of who's playing that day. We go to where you can sit courtside. Once you stay there, nobody's going to kick you out.

The last day we were there we were two rows behind the court. Just the feeling you're right there. You feel how hard they're hitting. Last year was the first year my husband went with me. He could hear them breathing."



February 15 Social.
(Photo by Maureen Pennal)

Lawn Bowling



■Mary Blake

INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO BOWL?
Email us at oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com.
Lessons are free.

DAILY DRAW

Monday through Saturday. Show up at 12:15 to bowl at 12:30 p.m.

THE GREEN IS OPEN!

Thanks to all you very patient bowlers. The wait was longer than we hoped for, but the Green opened on a sunny, beautiful Monday, March 10. There are still some brown patches, which are probably a fungus that the landscapers will be working to get rid of.



Waiting for the Green to open, Leslie Cobb-Bruno and Bill Prouty with horseshoes.

While waiting for the grass to grow, we did have one gathering at the West Rec Horseshoe picnic area. It was wonderful to get to see some of you bowlers again. Thanks to Elizabeth Cobb-Bruno for making this happen.

2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The calendar is now available. Find it on our website, in the Green Book, and on the bulletin boards. As you probably all know by now, I usually introduce at least one mistake into anything I do, so let me know if something doesn't seem right.

APRIL EVENTS

Tuesday, April 1, 12:30 p.m.: April Fools' Day Tournament
Friday, April 25, 12:30 p.m.: Men's Pairs
EMAIL: oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com.
Website: www.oakmontlawnbowling.com.

Oakmont Billiards Club

■Barbara Marquardt

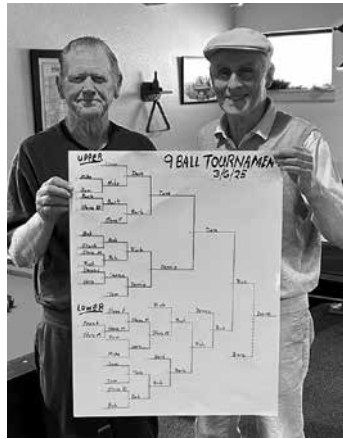
9-BALL DOUBLE ELIMINATION POOL TOURNAMENT

On March 6, the Oakmont Billiards Club held a thrilling 9-ball double-elimination tournament.

9-ball is a fast-paced and dynamic pool game that originated in the U.S. in the 1920s and rose to prominence in the 1960s. Known for its mix of skill, focus, and a touch of luck, it remains a favorite among players.

The tournament featured 13 participants who were assigned spots in the bracket. The rules were simple: win a match to advance to the next round, or lose two matches and be eliminated.

As the matches progressed, three members—Barbara Marquardt, Dennis Dickman, and Rich Winston—made it to the semi-finals, despite never having won a tournament before. Among them, Rich emerged victorious, earning the chance to compete against Dave Meek in the finals.



Dave Meek, winner (left), and Rich Winston, runner-up. (Photo by Steve Dieterle)

Dave, who had an undefeated streak in earlier rounds, faced his first loss against Rich in the finals, triggering a second and decisive match. In a nail-biting conclusion, Dave reclaimed his momentum and secured the final victory, taking the championship title, with Rich as the runner-up.

Earl "The Pearl" Strickland, one of the best 9-ball players in the world, would surely be proud of your performance, Dave!

Join the Oakmont Billiards Club and experience the excitement yourself. We play on Monday and Friday afternoons—come and join the fun!

Let's Dance Together

■Terry Whitten

SWING INTO SPRING WITH JITTERBUG SWING

WHAT: Beginning Jitterbug Swing partner dance classes

WHEN: Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and May 7, 14, 21, 28

TIME: 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 instructor, Terry Whitten to register in advance at twhitten@pacbell.net or call (415) 265-7590



Come learn some basic, fun and easy moves for Jitterbug Swing that will get you dancing together with a smile on your face. Jitterbug Swing (aka Single Time Swing) is an upbeat, fun and versatile dance that can be danced to many types of music ranging from Big Band music to Rock 'n Roll Oldies as well as many contemporary and Country tunes.

Classes will meet weekly for four sessions in April to learn the most basic steps. Then they will continue with another four sessions in May for those who want to learn pre-intermediate steps.

The classes in May require knowledge of the material taught in April. As always, it is best to come to the first class in April since each week after that will build on the material taught in the 1st week.

No partners or experience are required. We will rotate partners during the classes, although rotating is optional. Also, any ladies that want to lead and any men that want to follow are very welcome.

Join us for 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!

Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■Star Power

WELL, WELL, WELL

Valley of the Moon Rotary wants you all to be well, mentally that is. Sounds simple, but maybe not to all of us. Many folks have nobody to confide in or perhaps are ashamed to expose their feelings of hopelessness and find suicide as the only way out. This is true for, not only folks of our age, but of our young people out there trying to find their way in these tumultuous times.

VOM Rotary recently had a speaker, Dana Christian Lee, talking about this subject and introducing us to a documentary *What I Wish My Parents Knew* by the founder of "Tell My Story."

Dana talked about life's struggles and the loss of many to suicide, especially among young people. Of course, the problems and opportunities now are different even from just five years ago with the availability of drugs and weapons.

The point of the documentary, *What I Wish My Parents Knew*, written by Jason Reid, whose 14-year-old son took his life, is to wake us up to what is going on now with our precious youth. They will tell friends, but not their parents, mainly because they feel their parents are already stressed out and don't want to add to that.

Kids are brilliant and when one says, "I need to talk to you," you need to listen. Their mission in youth mental health is to get kids to talk to you. Connect with them and others trying to reach out and win their trust.

Oakmont Movers and Groovers



■Denise Lindsey

OMG KICK-OFF DANCE PARTY FEATURING EDDIE AND THE FOG

Join us for an unforgettable night of music and dancing featuring Eddie and the Fog! Whether you're a fan of Classic Rock, Funk, Blues, Disco, or Country, this band has something for everyone. Check them out on Instagram to get a taste of their incredible sound!

DATE: Saturday, April 5

TIME: 6–9 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

LOCATION: Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Drive

TICKETS: \$15. Payment can be made via cash or check at the OVA office. Please place your payment in the OMG Club folder.

TABLE RESERVATIONS: If you're planning to enjoy the event with a group, you can reserve a table for 8. Kindly provide the names of all participants on the reservation form in the event envelope along with your payment.

SEATING: Enjoy cabaret-style seating! Feel free to bring your own drinks and snacks to enhance your experience.

Questions? Contact us at: omgclub2025@gmail.com.

BECOME A MEMBER!

If you aren't a member yet, now's the perfect time to join! Sign-up forms are available in the club folder at the OVA office. Annual dues are only \$10.

We can't wait to see you there for a night full of fun, friendship, and fantastic music!

NEED A RIDE? GIVE A RIDE! OAKMONT VOLUNTEER HELPERS

COORDINATOR

Rides to Medical Appointments

March 16–31 Ron Kaufman 707-541-6713

April 1–15 Jen Rabalais 808-938-4479

We provide the following services to Oakmont Residents:

- Transportation to medical/dental appointments, including pet appointments in Santa Rosa only
- Rides to events and activities within Oakmont
- Meals on Wheels 707-525-0383

If you would like to be a volunteer, please call 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.

HOW TO CONTACT LOCAL OFFICIALS

County Supervisor Rebecca Hermosillo, District 1

Phone (707) 565-2241

Email: rebecca.hermosillo@sonoma-county.org

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

City Councilwoman Dianna MacDonald, District 3

Email: dmacdonald@srcity.org

Address: City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Ave., Rm. 10, Santa Rosa 95404

Oakmont Vets Club

■Paul Gowins

A DAY OF HEALING, LEARNING AND BODY MANAGEMENT

After several past articles packed with multiple topics and announcements, it might feel unusual to adjust to a simpler story with just a few updates. However, the Vets Club is excited to share some compelling news that's sure to hold your attention.

Our entire club has something to look forward to with our next big event, happening soon at the Berger Center on Thursday, March 27, from 2:30–5:30 p.m.

We invite you to a free "Health and Wellness Day,"

offering a wide variety of treatments and informative presentations led by top practitioners. Choose from two types of massage and bodywork, chair Pilates, acupuncture, and cutting-edge magnetic pulse therapies for heart regulation and pain management. In addition to hands-on treatments, you'll gain valuable insights into various healing disciplines and medical practices—all provided by professionals at the forefront of their fields.

And yes, it's all free!

If you'd like to participate in treatments, you'll need

to sign up in advance. Spaces are limited, so don't wait! You can reserve appointments for as many treatments as you'd like, but you must register to secure your spot.

To sign up, contact Paul at (408) 401-1320 or email pngowins@yahoo.com as soon as possible. For more details, check our website's calendar and events page or look out for the March Newsletter, available on the 20th.

Also, mark your calendars for April 18! Don't miss our dance featuring Our Swing Heroes, Death and Taxes at the Berger Center. Tickets are \$30.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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.

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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.

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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.beginnbuild.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.

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

SL ELITE SERVICES

Handyman services. Landscaping/monthly subscription optional. Junk removal, brush clearing, weed whacking and tree care. Call now and schedule your quote today (ask for German), (800) 750-8538.

YOUR PERSONAL CAREGIVER AND ADVOCATE

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

TONY'S GARDENING SERVICES

General landscape, mowing, yard maintenance (free fertilizer included, so your grass and plants can be greener than 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.

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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.

BAYSIDE REMODELING AND CONSTRUCTION

Additions, bathrooms, kitchens, roofing and complete home remodels. No job is too large. Specializing in Oakmont Since 1986, best prices for Oakmont residents. General Contractor Lic. #680332. Liability and worker's comp. ins. Local references. Call John Coyle, (415) 879-1634.

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.

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.

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.

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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.

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.

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.

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.

TIRED OF PICKING UP DOG POOP?

Pawsitively Clean is a locally owned pet waste removal service. Reliable and affordable. We scoop so you don't have to! Call, text or Email today: (707) 710-POOP (7667) or nopooleftbehind@gmail.com.

SOLAR PANEL CLEANING

Professional, insured, affordable solar panel cleaning by ProSolarClean. In business since 2012. Increase the production of your solar array and protect your solar investment. Free estimates and friendly service. Call (707) 971-0017.

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.

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: epcparas@gmail.com.

MOBILE NOTARY

Serving Oakmont and all of Sonoma County. We come to you, or meet at your favorite café, Monday–Friday and weekends. Call A. Dorfman at (510) 220-0657 or email anniednotary@gmail.com.

MASSAGE THERAPY BY BRITTANY KOOP

We moved to 4000 Montgomery Drive. Please call (707) 849-3915 to book an appointment. 20% off for Oakmont residents.

PAINTER/HANDYMAN

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

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.

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.

YARD WORK

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

To place an ad, contact: CJM Productions, 2105 Longhorn Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 • 707-206-1957 • cjprod567@gmail.com

Library Matters

■Marilyn Pahr

The library shelf realignment project is done! Thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers spending countless hours, over 15,000 books were moved. A shout-out to OVA Maintenance who reconfigured the shelves. Top shelves were lowered and bottom shelves moved higher to make them safer to reach. Your favorite authors are in new locations so stop by to rediscover them and see your refreshed library!

As part of the reconfiguration, many of the Memoir books previously shelved with biographies have been relabeled and put in their respective subject areas. Examples are Holocaust, WWII, Asia, Middle East and Music memoirs. Sports biographies have been moved to the Sports section.



Before and after the shelf realignment project.

For your reading pleasure, with over 20,000 items all donated by the community available for Oakmont residents, you're sure to find something to enjoy—no fees, no due dates, no library cards, no sign outs—just browse and take them home or relax in the comfortable reading areas. The library is located in the CAC Central Activity Center which is opened from 6 a.m.–9 p.m., 7 days a week.

The Oakmont Village Library volunteer team welcomes you to join this active group. Each volunteer spends about four hours a month processing, sorting and shelving donations meeting posted guidelines.

To donate items, please send an email first to be sure the items fit our criteria. For example, we do not accept your old textbooks. To volunteer, donate or inquire, email oakmontvillagelibrary@gmail.com for more information.

Oakmont Birders

■Barbara Kendrick

BIRDS WORTH WATCHING: RED-WINGED BLACKBIRDS

Step outside these days in the early morning and you'll hear a lively chorus of birds. As spring arrives, everyone wants their song to be heard. And no bird does it better than the Red-winged Blackbird. The male's song, a lovely, liquid "Conk-la-ree!", is delivered with ringing enthusiasm that's a guaranteed spring pick-me-up, like seeing a daffodil flirting with the breeze.

Red-winged Blackbirds are both plentiful and unique-looking—the males, that is—to the point where almost everyone knows them. Slightly smaller than a robin, they're solid black except for their brilliant red epaulets, sometimes bordered with yellow. Females look completely different; they're mottled brown with buffy streaks like large sparrows.

These Blackbirds congregate anywhere near water: lakes, ponds, marshes, or, in Oakmont's case, golf course water hazards. They typically live in large flocks, often segregated by sex, until spring, when males stake out a nesting territory and do everything they can to attract as many females as possible. You'll see them not just down near the water but also high in trees, flashing their colorful wing patches and singing their hearts out.

They may mate with and defend as many as 15 partners in one season—quite a harem, though not always faithful (some of the chicks raised don't belong to their male defender). Females build complicated nests suspended among reeds and cattails near the water. After the young are fledged, the flocks head out for vineyards and open fields to feed on fruits and seeds into the fall and winter.

No need to be an early-bird to hear them because Red-winged Blackbirds sing all day long. They're performing now! Keep an ear out for "Conk-la-ree!"—the essence of spring.

Have questions about birds? Need a "Birds Seen in Oakmont" checklist? E-mail bkendrick@jps.net.



A female considers her options. (Photo by Tom Grey)



A male shows off. (Photos by Tom Grey)

Passages



Richard Favorite Chambers (1934-2025) passed away peacefully on Feb. 8.

Richard and his wife Vicki have been Oakmont residents since 2016. He is survived by his wife, 7 children, 12 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren. A private memorial service has already been held.

Ron Elkind, born on March 25, 1939, passed away on February 18 at 85 years old. A resident of Oakmont for 8 years, Ron was a member of SIRS and the Critter Cam Club.

There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday, April 5, 1-4 p.m. at the East Rec. Center.

ROSEMARY PARKS, RESIDENT OF OAKMONT FOR 50 YEARS, PASSES

Beloved resident of Oakmont's Belhaven Circle for 50 years, Rosemary Parks passed away peacefully at home on Friday, February 21 at the age of 101.

Rosemary will be deeply missed by the many friends she made during her life in Oakmont. She arrived in the United States from England in 1974, where she married Robert Parks. Together, they travelled extensively throughout the country until Robert's passing just five years later. Despite her loss, Rosemary chose to stay and build a life in Oakmont, a place she came to call home.

Known for her distinctive English accent, impeccable style and timeless elegance, Rosemary spent her early years in Santa Rosa as a fashion model, ballroom dancer and amateur actor. Though arthritis curtailed those pursuits, she continued to make a lasting impact through her volunteer work with VNA Hospice, the Oakmont Garden Club, and other charitable organizations.

A celebration of Rosemary's extraordinary life will take place at The Kenwood Church on Friday, April 11, at 12 noon.



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

■Marlena Tremont

SPRING CLASS PREVIEW: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, BERGER CENTER

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

BASEBALL, YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Instructor: Mick Chantler

Wednesdays, Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7 and 14, 3–5 p.m., Berger Center

6-week session. Cost: \$95

Join beloved instructor Mick Chantler as he looks at the game's colorful 150-year history and offers insights into why this priceless cultural heritage is still as relevant and engaging as ever.

DAVID BOWIE: GLAM ROCK'S STARMAN

Instructor: Richie Unterberger

Thursdays, Apr. 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 and 15, 3–5 p.m., East Rec

6-week session. Cost: \$95

Explore Bowie's peak 15 years of creativity with historical commentary and both common and rare video and audio clips.

Lifelong Learning



SANTA ROSA'S REMARKABLE HISTORY

Instructor: Bill Montgomery and special guest, Nick Tipon

Mondays, Apr. 14, 21, 29 and May 5, 3–5 p.m., Berger Center

4-week session. Cost: \$65



Bill Montgomery, renowned Santa Rosa historian, weaves a fascinating and colorful story of our city. Special guest Nick Tipon, Native American historian, shares

the culture and lives of the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo people.

TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA, OCTOBER 1881

Instructor: Dennis Cornell

Mondays, May 12 and 19, 3–5 p.m., Berger Center

2-week session. Cost: \$65

Explore the times, the place, the people and the events surrounding "The Gunfight at the OK Corral,"

a confrontation that defined the modern Western, as shown in clips from six major movies.



SANTA ROSA MARIMBA HONOR BAND FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 5 PM, BERGER CENTER

Donations appreciated.

This passionate group of young musicians wowed Oakmont in 2024 and they're back! Playing on special Zimbabwean style marimbas, these talented students create earth shaking selections of international music.

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

Experts in the Positive Approach to Care®: A Dementia Program

Interim HealthCare’s compassionate, licensed care professionals are trained in the Positive Approach to Care®, an internationally recognized dementia program specifically for people affected by dementia. We can provide you or your family members with the personalized, qualified care and attention that members of our Oakmont community deserve.

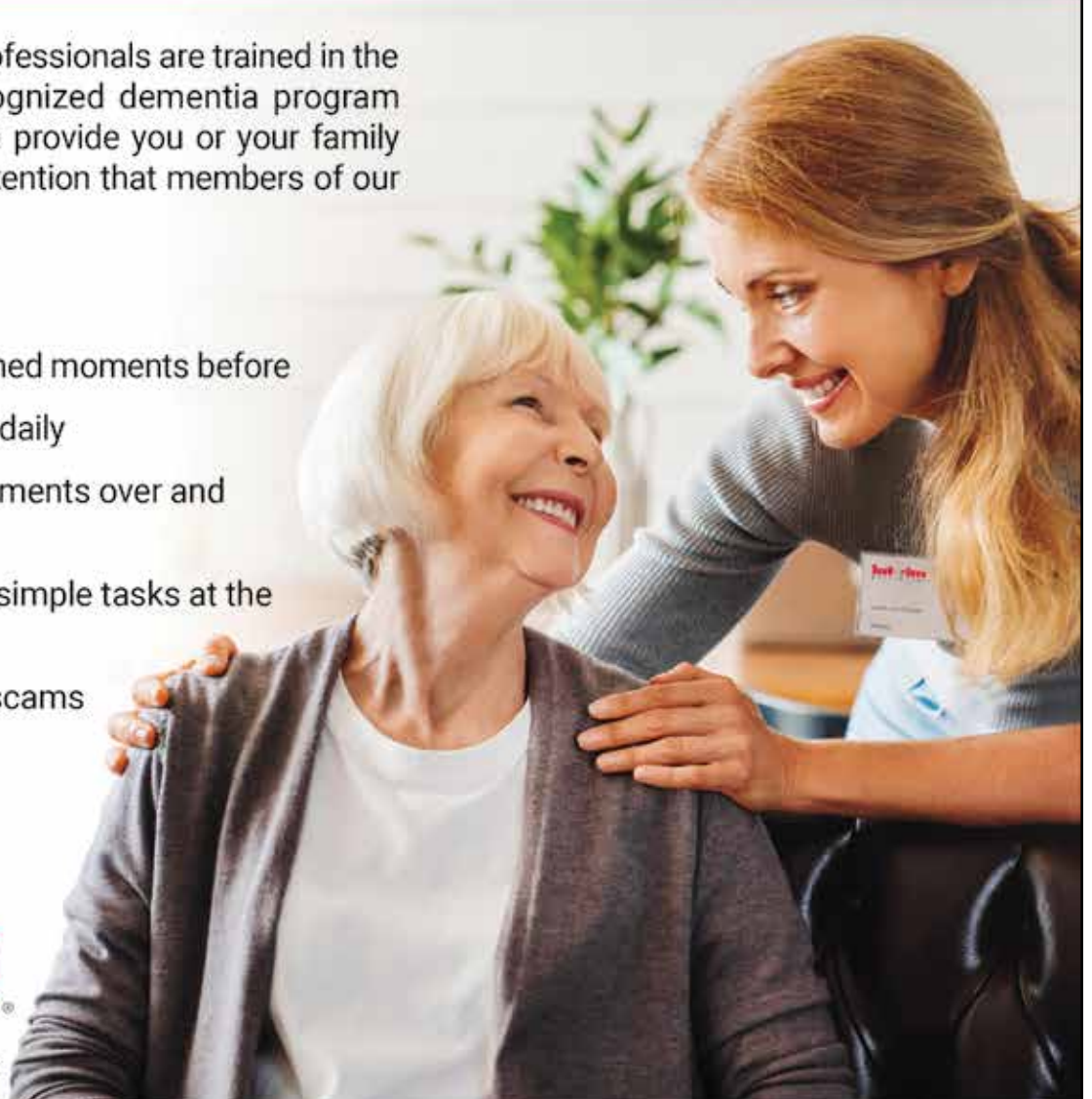
Early warning signs of Dementia:

- Short term memory loss; not recalling what happened moments before
- Word finding issues—inability to recall words used daily
- Repetition—repeating the same questions or comments over and over in same conversation
- Difficulty with multitasking—inability to complete simple tasks at the same time
- Financial missteps—falling for telephone money scams

Contact Interim HealthCare today!

6528 Oakmont Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95409
interim.com/sonoma-county

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