

OAKMONT NEWS

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The Official Newspaper of the Oakmont Village Association

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Community Progress Update from the General Manager

■Christel Antone, OVA General Manager



AV TASK FORCE

I'd like to provide an update on the ongoing internal audit of OVA's facilities. This audit is an important part of our efforts to ensure the long-term maintenance and sustainability of our community's infrastructure. The review is designed to complement and enhance our reserve study by providing a more comprehensive picture of our future needs.

As we move forward, we are actively seeking

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OVA Election Coming May 5

■News Staff

The election for the OVA board will be held on May 5. Mailed ballots must be received by Saturday, May 3. Members may also hand deliver ballots in person at the East Rec Center on May 5 by 9:45 a.m., before the Annual Meeting begins at 10 a.m. Ballots will not be accepted after the meeting starts.

New yellow ballots were re-issued in late March, requiring the election date to move to May 5.

Seven candidates are vying for the four open positions: John DeGroot, Jess Marzak, Tim Nelson, Jeff Neuman, Neill Ray, Karl Turner, and Robert Williams. Candidate statements can be found on the OVA website.

Members may vote for up to four candidates. To establish a quorum, 807 verified ballots (25% of

See **ELECTION** on page 5

Easter Eggstravaganza A Big Hit

There were just over 160 kids in attendance and probably 300 grandparents and parents who turned out on Saturday, April 19, for the annual Easter Eggstravaganza, featuring an afternoon of bouncing, face painting and egg chasing on the Berger plaza. The annual event, sponsored by the Grandparents' Club, went incredibly smooth, especially given the number of eggs and prizes that had to be fairly distributed. No real eggs were harmed. They were brightly-colored plastic replicas filled with candy and toys.



Grandkids scrambled for brightly colored plastic eggs scattered on the lawn next to Berger. (Photo by Maureen McGettigan)

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Landscape Task Force

■Christel Antone, OVA General Manager

We'd like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to Jenny Watts, Chair of the Landscape Task Force, and to dedicated members Jeana Garcia, Carolyn Greene, and John Blevens for their ongoing commitment to enhancing and preserving the beauty of Oakmont. Their thoughtful guidance,



Left to right: Todd O'Donnell (OVA Facility Operations Manager), John Blevens (Member of Task Force), Jenny Watts (Chair of Task Force), Carolyn Greene (Member of Task Force), Jeana Garcia (Member of Task Force), and Christel Antone (OVA General Manager).

countless volunteer hours, and collaborative spirit have played a vital role in shaping our community's outdoor spaces. From advising on best practices to supporting long-term planning, their efforts make a meaningful difference every season. Thank you for helping Oakmont thrive.

Oakmont's Werner Celebrates a Century in the Arts

■Marlena Tremont

At 102, Winnifred Werner, pianist, organist and painter, has a calm radiance that belies the mighty firecracker she has always been. Born in Freemantle, Western Australia, she grew up surrounded by flowers, music and loving parents who nurtured her incredible talents.

As the story goes, Winnifred Werner was only three when she guided her father to the piano saying, "Daddy, I've got it" and then she played the melody from a movie they had seen the night before, note-for-note. By age five, she was immersed in music lessons. Some



Winnifred Werner displays two of her paintings. (Photo by Maureen McGettigan)

years later, Winnifred studied with Mrs. Bess Miller, a Scottish painter, and would become the foremost motif designer for a fashion house in Perth, painting original designs on gowns for wealthy clients.

"But I just wanted to travel," said Winnifred. "I accompanied a singer who had auditioned for the Variety Theater in Perth. When I hadn't heard from the director, I just went and knocked on his door and before you knew it, I was teaching myself to play the Hammond organ. When the

See **WERNER** on page 4



Oakmont grandkids decorated their bags in preparation for the "egg hunt" on the Berger Plaza. (Photo by Julie Kiil)

At-a-Glance Summary—April 15 OVA Board Meeting

■Harriet Palk

WEBSITE DOWNTIME

Christel Antone, general manager, said website downtime is being addressed by staff and consultants to determine the cause of the issues, including recent redesign of website pages over the past several months. OVA expects to have the site fully operational in a few weeks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Firewise: There has been an increased demand for assessments due to the non-renewal of home insurance policies. The committee has added four

See **AT-A-GLANCE** on page 3



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AT-A-GLANCE Continued from page 1

new Firewise members who are undergoing training to become certified assessors. As fire science evolves, insurance companies are beginning to require more extensive Firewise mitigation efforts. Sponsored and co-sponsored events will be announced in *Inside Oakmont* and *Oakmont News* at the appropriate time. The committee is collecting articles on Firewise tips for occasional publication.

Members are collaborating with Christel to establish new Oakmont goals for one-year, three-year, and five-year criteria to maintain its status as a Firewise USA community. The committee is actively engaged in activities with other clubs and task forces, primarily focusing on insurance-related issues. They have also updated the Firewise Provider list of vetted vendors to assist Oakmont homeowners. Finally, the committee is working collaboratively with other Oakmont organizations to provide assistance when requested or needed.

League of Oakmont Maintained Area Association: The OVA Sub-HOA Ad Hoc Committee has recommended that the OVA Board establish a formal relationship with LOMAA to better support the 37 sub-HOA boards, which represent 42% of Oakmont residents. This collaboration aims to improve education, foster collaborative planning for common strategic issues, and create a forum for sharing best practices. As part of this proposal, it was suggested that the LOMAA president provide a report to the OVA Board at least quarterly. The Board also selected Jerry Gladstone to serve as LOMAA's board liaison.

Plans are underway for LOMAA to create a sub-HOA playbook containing educational materials and to explore collective approaches to obtaining external services for cost and availability benefits. Other priorities include providing education on fire insurance options, addressing necessary CC&R changes or revisions, and developing a sub-association information hub. This hub will include a registry, governing documents, rules violations, fire insurance availability, and standardized procedures and documentation. Informational resources will also be available to realtors as they sell homes in sub-HOA areas.

Environmental Stewardship: Waste Ambassadors continue to educate neighbors about reducing

waste and proper sorting practices. However, more ambassadors are needed to expand this effort. Awareness of local bird species is also being increased through community initiatives. Six Buckeye seedlings were recently planted within protective enclosures near the Oak Restoration project area.

The second annual Habitat Garden Tour, supported by a grant from the Oakmont Community Foundation, will take place on May 3. Phase 2 of the Native Grasses Demonstration Garden is currently underway. Additionally, the Adopt-A-Creek program involves assessing nine Oakmont creeks and channels to educate homeowners about creek stewardship. This includes identifying what constitutes a flood risk, fire hazard, or erosion concern.

AV Taskforce: A Roles and Responsibilities document has been finalized to support both the IT and Maintenance teams in improving audiovisual (AV) systems. The committee is currently assessing the existing AV equipment and infrastructure to identify repair, replacement, or upgrade needs. Collaborative efforts with IT are focused on addressing technological bottlenecks, while work with Maintenance aims to optimize room setups and equipment placement.

The team is also providing training for staff and volunteers to ensure proper use of the AV systems. Efforts are being made to integrate AV systems seamlessly with other technologies and to monitor system performance for future improvements. Additionally, alongside IT and Maintenance, the team is gathering feedback and offering recommendations to OVA managers.

CENTRAL COMPLEX AREA UPDATE

Director Oliver's update on the Central Complex included his talks with Nordby on cost modeling. There is progress, but no new update to share yet. Oliver will share Nordby's findings with the board as soon as there are more details, followed by an update to the community.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS UPDATE

Director Spillman's update on the Governing Docs Committee included news about the committee's working groups that will address communications, amendments, legal compliance, and voter thresholds and quorum recommendations.

Oakmont Emergency Preparedness Task Force (OEPTF)

■ Tom Pugliese

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DRILL—SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 9–11 AM

Our spring drill will simulate a prolonged regional wind event causing power outages, blocked roads, structural damage and the potential for serious injuries. County and City agencies have issued shelter in place orders, which are expected to be in effect for several days. Normal communications are either out or overloaded as is the 911 system.

Our Emergency Communications team has been activated, and our radio networks are live. Neighborhoods with radio volunteers wearing yellow vests and carrying walkie-talkies will be contacting residents to check on their well-being. If assistance is required, these "Zone Communicators" will exercise our radio network to request assistance from within Oakmont or from County and City resources through our radio network that has direct access to the County Emergency Operations Center and Redcom. Updates on the status of the emergency from official sources will be shared with residents also through our radio network.

The purpose of these regular drills is to practice and reinforce message handling capabilities and radio protocol. Our goal is to exercise and stress our processes and systems to identify areas for potential improvement.

More neighborhoods are becoming organized under the MYN (Meet Your Neighbors) program. We encourage their involvement in our drills so that they become Oakmont-wide emergency preparedness events and not just communications exercises.

If you do not see a volunteer wearing a yellow vest in your neighborhood it may be because your neighborhood lacks radio coverage. Prior radio experience is not required. We provide radios and training to use them. The time commitment is about 9 hours annually.

Email OakmontW6OVA@gmail.com if you would like more information about volunteering as a neighborhood radio volunteer on our Emergency Communications team.

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Bocce Club



■Mary Piumarta

ENJOYING THE WEATHER

As the weather gets warmer, the Bocce Club hours will change to 9:30 a.m., Monday through Saturday beginning May 1.

If you would like to join us and learn the game, come to the courts on the first Tuesday of the month. It is a fun game to play and easy to learn. For questions, contact Pat Paulson, (707) 953-6691. To join the club, submit an application with \$20 to the OVA office. We welcome new members.

Our latest club tournament was the Tax Time Tournament held on April 12.



Winners on Court 1 and 2 were: Barbara James, Barbara Newton, Rosie Bradley, Gale Schlee, Bruce Aiken, Chris Bradley, Donn Paulson and Chris Duda (not shown).



Winners on Court 3 were: Pat Paulson, Terry Bryant and Kathy Camp.

Winner of the 50-50 raffle was Maureen McGettigan. Hopefully she won enough to pay her taxes.

Congratulations to all!

The Mother's Day Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m.

If you are a non-member and would like to reserve the courts other than regular club times, contact Bob Swift, (707) 548-5409.

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!



■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) 539-6666.

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!

Café Mortel



■Linda Suhr

BRINGING FUNERALS BACK HOME

Since pre-Revolutionary days, American families have cared for their dead at home. The wake was an intimate time when the deceased were laid out in the parlor. Family and friends gathered to communally grieve and support each other. In the aftermath of the Civil War, with so many fallen soldiers needing to be preserved and transported from the battlefield to their distant homes, the practice of embalming took hold, and with it, the modern funeral industry was born.

Today, when it comes to taking care of their deceased loved ones, many families wish to bring that sense of community and agency back home. Cafe Mortel is honored to have an esteemed pioneer in this field, Jerrigrace Lyons, speak at our Wednesday, May 14 meeting from 3–4:15 p.m. in the East Rec.

This talk will inform you of how friends and family can create a personal ceremony or rituals for their loved one at home that may include bathing and blessing the body, building or decorating a casket, having an honoring wake and creating an altar and uniquely tailored services. You will also learn about the many new choices of disposition arising from cultural, ecological and economical needs and desires.

Jerrigrace Lyons is the founding director of the educational nonprofit, Final Passages, and is a minister, death midwife, author and educator. She has pioneered a new field of "home funeral guidance." In the past 30 years, Jerrigrace has supported hundreds of families with their family-directed home funerals. As a renowned leader, she is dedicated to transforming the way our society views death and dying. She has appeared in several major newspapers and in the PBS documentary, *A Family Undertaking*.

This meeting will also be available on Zoom (Meeting ID: 820 8891 6512, Passcode: 969618). See you there! Questions—linda@autumnoflifeplanning.com.



Jerrigrace Lyons.

WERNER

Continued from page 1

director returned from being on tour and heard me play, he just grinned from ear to ear."

For the next two years, Winnifred performed in hundreds of small Australian towns highlighted by the times she accompanied famous Irish tenor, Danny Malone, who presented her onstage at the footlights while wearing one of her hand-painted gowns.

It was becoming clear that music, art and adventure were the consistent themes in her life. Convinced by a friend to enter the Australian Amateur Hour, Winnifred handily succeeded, landing her on the cover of *Broadcaster Magazine* and a job as the pianist/organist of a show touring Queensland and New Zealand.

Weary of touring, Winnifred was accepted to the Academy of Music in Sydney New South Wales, but her father believed she had greater potential and sent her to the Royal Academy in London where she studied under the notable Professor Craxton.

Arriving at her aunt and uncle's home near London, she found a piano in such bad condition, "it needed a match put under it." The next day she set out to find her mother's old home, and her knock on the door of the majestic 1650 home was answered by a young Winnifred Askew who welcomed her in, showed her the roses her grandfather had planted years ago and offered the use of her Steinway for practice.

Later, Winnifred Askew would encourage her neighbors, Ernest Jacobs, Chairman of Lloyd's of London and his wife to let Winnifred practice on the nine-foot Beckstein concert grand piano that had once been used by Franz Liszt.

Her life became a whirlwind of opportunities. She played for the Chancellor of the Exchequer of England; a contract to play in Norway and an exciting offer from the agents for Bob Hope to play in the Isle of Man, "an offer too cold to accept."

"I wanted to do even more exciting things, so I set my sights on America," she says. "I arrived in San Francisco where I immediately landed a job at Sherman Clay the music house." One day, Winnifred saw the world-famous Australian singer, Dame Joan Sutherland in the store and she began playing "Waltzing Matilda." To her surprise, Sutherland came to her side and broke into song. "She was such a diva," Winnifred said, "I was so tickled to accompany her."

Through her teaching and concerts, Winnifred extended her circle of friends, soon meeting Melita Paul who became her lifelong friend, taking her to see the poppies in bloom on Mt. Diablo and Yosemite. At a neighbor's party, Winnifred was introduced to Archibald Werner, a spirited, internationally renowned pilot who was hired to promote flying as a modern way to travel for executives of large companies, including Howard Hughes. He served in the India-China Wing of the Army Air Corps, flew a Mach 1 flight and was featured in the *Dallas News* as the longest flying active pilot in the U.S.

When the two settled in Oakmont almost 50 years ago, they were flying their Beechcraft Bonanza to destinations across the country.

A book written by Winnifred, *My Garden of Eden* co-authored by Nancy Ferreira of Christopher Queen Galleries in Duncan Mills, CA, contains many of her watercolors and oils and appropriately, a music CD, titled, "My Favorites."

"I've always felt," says Winnifred, "that the braver you are, the more your life opens up. It just becomes beautiful. I'm glad that's how my life has turned out to be."





■Rosemary Waller

**WELCOMING BACK
NANCY ZHOU, VIOLINIST**

It's difficult to believe that I'm announcing the last concert of our season. Where did the year go? I think we've enjoyed some wonderful performances this season and I look forward to the variety of instrumentalists and music offered for our 2025-2026 programs.

Our May 2025 concert features violinist Nancy Zhou who performed here three years ago. In addition to making solo appearances in the US and internationally, she is a professor of violin at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music as well as concertmaster of the Santa Cruz Symphony. Her piano partner for this recital will be Keisuku Nakagoshi who is also based in the Bay Area and is part of the piano duo ZOFO.



Nancy Zhou.



Keisuku Nakagoshi.

After winning the 2018 Shanghai Isaac Stern Violin Competition, Nancy performed with the Munich symphony, Hong Kong Philharmonic, as well as San Diego, Kansas City and San Antonia orchestras. She is a well-respected chamber musician and has collaborated with major artists at the Verbier and Ravinia festivals amongst others.

For her Oakmont concert, she has chosen a program of three major sonatas of the violin repertoire: the Brahms no. 1, the Cesar Frank and Respighi sonatas. She will open the recital with the charming Romance no.1 by Clara Schumann.

We will continue selling 2025-2026 season passes and mini-passes at this concert—\$175 and \$90 respectively. Additionally, as a means of assessing your opinions about our programs, I will be handing out a simple survey and would really appreciate your feedback.

We really hope you can join us for this delightful event and please get the word out to your friends and neighbors. We need all the support we can get.

WHEN: Saturday, May 10 at 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

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

ELECTION Continued from page 1

membership) are required. Members who choose not to vote for any candidate can still submit a blank ballot, which will count toward the quorum. This option is noted on the back of the ballot.

Ballot counting will commence following board business, overseen by the Inspector of Elections. The Annual Meeting will reconvene at approximately 2 p.m., after the results have been tabulated, for the announcement of election outcomes.

Both the Annual Meeting and the Organizational Meeting will take place at the East Recreation Center and will be streamed online via Zoom.

Schedule of Meetings:

OVA Board Annual Meeting and Ballot Counting: 10 a.m.-1:45 p.m. East Rec Center. Zoom Webinar ID: 882 8477 8552, Passcode: 123520.

OVA Board Organizational Meeting: 2-4 p.m. East Rec Center. Zoom Webinar ID: 871 2056 1214. Passcode: 605117



■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.

UPDATED HOURS OF OPERATION

Valley of the Moon Golf Shop: Monday-Sunday, 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Sugarloaf Course Golf Shop: Monday-Sunday, 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

UPCOMING GOLF EVENTS

Cinco de Mayo Golf Event—Sunday, May 4: Valley of the Moon Golf Course, 8:30 a.m. Shotgun. Valley of the Moon Members—\$35 per player; non-members—\$80 per player. Includes Green Fee, Shared Cart Fee, Range Balls, Prize Fund, and a Taco Bar Lunch with Margarita after the round.

OAK

Updated Hours of Operation: Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Happy Hour: Monday-Thursday, 3-5 p.m.; all day on Sundays.

New Menu: Check out our new lunch and dinner menus at playvom.com/the-club/dining.

Lunch Menu: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dinner Menu: 4-7 p.m.

Taco Tuesdays: Taco Tuesdays are back at OAK! \$4.50 per taco with drink purchase.

Baja Fish Tacos: Fried local fish, avocado salsa verde, pickled onions

Steak Tacos: Marinated flank steak, avocado salsa verde, queso fresco, pickled onions

Shrimp Tacos: Mango salsa, lime crema, cilantro

MUSIC CALENDAR

May 5: Highway 12 Band

May 12: Third Rail Band

May 19: Jami Jamison

May 26: No music

Doors open at 4 p.m., and music starts at 5 p.m.

May 1: DJ Dance Party. Latin-themed music with a special Latin-themed menu in celebration of Cinco de Mayo, \$8 cover charge. Reservations: call (707) 539-0415 ext. 5.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Paint Night, May 27—Coastal Wildflowers: 5-7 p.m. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. \$45 per person—all art supplies included. Food and drinks available for purchase. Sign up at paintedcellarssoco.com/events/coastal-wildflowers-5-27-25.

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

REMINDERS

Fishing Prohibited: Please refrain from fishing in golf course ponds for safety reasons.

Walking Hours: For golf course walking policies, visit: www.playvom.com/the-club/walking-policies.

Sign up for Spring Vaccination Clinics

■News Staff

Appointments are now available for vaccines clinics on May 15 at the Berger from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Vaccines offered are second dose 2024-25 COVID (Pfizer), RSV (for ages 60+), Shingles (Shingrix), Pneumonia (Pnevnar 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.

Consent form: oakmontvillage.com/article/informed-consent-for-immunization.

Please bring your consent form with you to the clinic. You can download and print the form at the link above. If you are not insured, please prepay with the Safeway pharmacy by calling (707) 766-9477. Safeway is unable to bill Kaiser members.

COMMUNITY PROGRESS Continued from page 1

volunteers with expertise in key areas such as structural engineering, HVAC, plumbing, electrical systems, safety and compliance, and environmental sustainability. Your knowledge and assistance in conducting on-site reviews will help us identify any areas requiring attention and ensure a thorough, efficient process.

If you have relevant expertise and would like to participate, please reach out to OVA Facilities Operations Manager Todd O'Donnell by May 2 at todd@oakmontvillage.com.

Thank you for your support in this important initiative. We will continue to keep the board and community informed as we make progress.

STONE BRIDGE DUETS

We are in the process of finalizing the annexation of the duets and calculating the impact fees that the developer will provide to OVA. I will keep you updated on this as well.

Note: Impact fees are charges on developers by local governments or organizations (like HOAs) to help cover the costs of additional infrastructure and services needed due to new development or construction. These fees are intended to offset the financial burden that new projects may place on existing resources, such as roads, utilities, schools, or community facilities. In the context of your HOA, impact fees from the developer might go toward maintaining or upgrading facilities, infrastructure, or services that will be affected by the new development.

WEBSITE

We've been facing recurring issues on Wednesdays after sending out our weekly *Inside Oakmont* alerts. At first, we suspected the problem was caused by a surge of people clicking the link simultaneously, so we thought increasing the bandwidth would help.

However, we've discovered that the issue is more complicated than we initially realized! The website is being updated in phases, and in collaboration with a Website Consultant, we expect a permanent solution to be in place within the next few weeks.

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.

To be put on the mailing list, including Zoom, email tinaleswis31@comcast.net or call (707) 758-9739.

Tennis Club



■Diane Curtis

PREPPING FOR A SOCIAL

Oakmont Tennis Club mixers, such as the one held April 25, don't just organize themselves. While we're all sleeping late or deciding what color outfit to wear at the next event, Maureen Pennal, Judy and Frank Passaglia and Rex Fuller are working to make sure the tennis social is a success.

Judy, OTC secretary, keeps track of sign-ups, and both she and Maureen, director of tennis events, can be heard encouraging—even cajoling—members (especially women, who are often in short supply for mixed doubles) to join the fun. Rex, membership chair, sends out email alerts about the events.

Maureen, Judy and Frank, who is OTC vice president, get together when they know how many people have signed up to figure out whether they'll need to stagger starting times, how many games will be played per round and where winners and losers move after a round.

On mixer day, Maureen grabs cans of balls from her garage stash and Frank and Judy bring the sustenance they've bought the day before—muffins or fruit or something else to keep players energized.

Random draw means players don't need to come with a partner, so playing cards are distributed that allow men and women with identical numbers to find their partners. It's all love and drop shots after that.

"I love the tennis group and I enjoy coming up with ideas," said Maureen, who has been playing at Oakmont for 10 years.

"Once I get involved with something, I like to see it through," said Judy about her enjoyment of OTC work. "And Frank and I, through the tennis club, have met the nicest people." Frank, a crackerjack Oakmont player, helped Judy get back in the tennis groove during Covid. She hadn't played in 20 years because of graduate school and work.



Judy and Frank Passaglia (top), Rex Fuller (bottom left), and Maureen Pennal (bottom right).

Oakmont Singles Social Club



■Bailey Penzotti

MAY MIXER—OUTSIDE SPORTS

DATE AND TIME: Friday, May 16, 6 p.m.

LOCATION: West Rec Center—Picnic area below the swimming pool

April showers bring May flowers and sunshine for outdoor activities and socializing. We will have two or more outdoor activities for you to enjoy including Bocce Ball and Horseshoes. Members of our Oakmont Bocce Ball Club may provide a demonstration and instruction of the use of bocce ball lanes located above the picnic area. Equipment is provided.

Wear your name badge, bring a picnic style appetizer or dessert to share and your fun inspired beverage of choice (umbrella drinks anyone?).

RSVP via our website, www.oakmontsinglesocialclub.org by May 12 at 12 noon. If no computer or ability to register using your smart phone, feel free to email Kat (your new Activities Director) at KAT9433@icloud.com or me at bailey.osc1@gmail.com.

MAY BON APPETIT (OSSC MEMBERS ONLY)

WHEN: Thursday, May 1

RESTAURANT: Hang Ah Dim Sum; www.hangahdimsum.com, 2130 Armory Dr., Santa Rosa

Great Dim Sum without driving to San Francisco, this restaurant is run and managed by the same family who prepares their food to be inviting and consistent. At this Bon Appetite outing, there will be a pre-ordered meal to share with plenty of different platters to sample the variety of their offerings. We will share the cost equally (except for individual drinks) which should be around \$27–30 per person for the meal. Drinks are paid separately by each member.

Reservation is for 20. Bring cash because the restaurant will not provide separate checks! Reservation cutoff is April 28. RSVP at www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org or email Simone Smith, ssmith8151@aol.com.

For more Oakmont Singles Social Club membership visit our website at www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org.

Canine Club



■Randi Hulce

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE DOG PARK?

Happy Tails Dog Park, located at 6302 Stone Bridge Rd, is behind the Community Garden. It's open from sunrise to sunset and available to all Oakmont residents. The Dog Park is the only place in Oakmont where your pup can walk, run, and play leash-free, other than your own backyard!



Dog Park Header Club created years ago. Small Dogs at the Park taken by club member and posted in Club Newsletter

Dog Park Play Dates (rain cancels!): Doodle-De-Dum, Doodle Dog Play Date on March 29 was a doodle success! We will definitely "doodle it" again.

Rescue Dogs/Mixed Breeds—Sat. April 26, 10 a.m.–noon (35 lbs. or more)

Poodle/Havanese/Bichon—Sat., May 31, 10 a.m.–noon
Changes at the Dog Park: On March 1, small dog hours changed to daily, not just Wednesdays and Sundays! We also have summer and winter hours for small dogs weighing 25 lbs. or less:

Winter hours: 3–4 p.m., November 1–April 30

Summer hours: 9–10 a.m., May 1–October 31

We kindly request that dog owners with breeds larger than 25 lbs. respect the one-hour daily window for small dogs. Small dog owners see this as a safety issue, so we encourage respect for their concerns.

Please remember: It is your responsibility to pick up any "dog deposits" left by your dog in the park, as well as on the path leading to the dog park. Waste bags and receptacles are available throughout the park. Do not bring any dog treats, food, or drink (other than water) into the park.

LOCAL EVENTS FOR YOU AND YOUR DOG

Dogwood Animal Rescue "Spring Into Fun"

Event: Pawsarotti's Pet Store, 100 Calistoga Rd. (St. Francis Shopping Center), Santa Rosa. Saturday, April 26 from 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Oakmont Arts and Crafts Fair: Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Dr. Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Bring your pet to the craft fair for a \$20 nail trim (cash and Venmo accepted). Dogs should be on a leash, and cats should be in a carrier. No appointment is needed. Questions? Email jdecock99@yahoo.com

Star of the Valley Church

■Barbara Gasparini

DEMENTIA FORUM

Star of the Valley Church is hosting a half-day forum on Dementia Caregiving Essentials, presented by Alzheimer's Association and sponsored by Tweeten Eldercare Advisors, on Thursday, May 15 from 9 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Complimentary lunch is included.

This half-day education forum will offer insights into identifying the role of caregivers, building a support team, planning for future care changes, and exploring various respite care and housing options.

The forum will be held at the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center, 495 White Oak Drive, Santa Rosa. It is free, and registration is required. To register, go to tinyurl.com/CaregivingEssentials2025 or call (707) 573-1210.

■Pete Hardy

FIESTA BINGO ON MAY 13

Star of the Valley will present Fiesta Bingo on Tuesday, May 13, at 4 p.m. Due to the number of people who attend on a monthly basis, we ask you arrive at 3:30 p.m. in order to purchase your dinner and bingo cards so that we will start promptly at 4 p.m.

This month we will serve chicken fajitas and corn pudding for dinner and ice cream for dessert. Cost of dinner is \$10 and Bingo cards are \$2 each.

All are welcome. If you don't play bingo, join us for dinner at approximately 5:15 p.m.



Oakmont Futures

■Terrie Mui

WORKING TO PRESERVE SOLAR ENERGY CONTRACTS

A proposed piece of legislation (AB 942) in the CA General Assembly seeks to change both the level and length of the compensation that solar energy owners receive through net metering (NEM) agreements signed prior to April 2023. Those agreements, (NEM 1 and NEM 2) gave residential and commercial customers a compensation rate that was locked in for 20 years. If enacted, AB 942 would reduce that agreement to 10 years and would force customers into NEM 3, a net-billing policy that shifts from compensation based on retail energy prices to avoided costs, which has varying rates based on when that solar energy is exported.

"OFC strongly opposes AB 942 which breaks the long-standing contracts of people who installed solar power before April 2023," said George McKinney. "Before 2023, we worked hard to encourage Oakmont residents to go solar because under the NEM 1 and 2 rate structures, the pay-back time was short and the household energy costs were so significantly reduced. Hundreds of residents agreed. AB 942 breaks that contract and will push Oakmont residents into a rate structure that will result in higher energy costs and put us at the whim of energy utilities and the Public Utilities Commission."

OFC will be sending a letter in opposition to AB 942 to Oakmont's State Assemblymen Damon Connolly, who can be contacted at a12.asmdc.org.

AB 942 was introduced on March 25 by Assembly Member Lisa Calderon (D-56) and has been referred to the State Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy, awaiting further action. The bill is opposed by a broad coalition of environmental, climate, clean energy, consumer and economic justice advocates.

A full description of the bill and its status can be found at leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB942. This site also includes a link to send a comment to the bill's author, Assemblywoman Calderon.



Oakmont Music Lovers

■Judy Walker

PRESENTING MORE JOY AT OUR MAY SESSION

For our final meeting of this season, we will be entertained by Oakmont’s favorite folk music group—More Joy. They will play a selection of their newest offerings as well as some old favorites. The members (Iris Harrell, Ann Benson, Chris Finn and Debbie Knapp) will talk about their instruments and inject plenty of humor into their presentation.

As many of you know, the group has performed to packed audiences not just in Oakmont but throughout Sonoma County. We are really pleased they are willing to devote an hour to Oakmont Music Lovers and to provide a little diversion from our usual topics.

Join us for some fun on a Tuesday morning and please let your friends and neighbors know about this event.

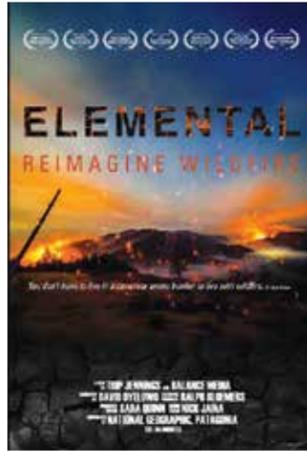
WHEN: Tuesday, May 6 at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: East Rec. **ADMISSION:** Free

Elemental: Reimagine Wildfire— A Firewise Special Showing

On Thursday, May 1 at 1 p.m. Oakmont Emergency Preparedness Task Force and the Firewise Resource Committee have arranged a special showing of the documentary *Elemental: Reimagine Wildfire* at the Berger Center.

Elemental (2023) highlights the need to rethink our approach to wildfires and preparedness. Featuring stories like the Paradise fire and expert insights, it explores fire ecology, indigenous practices, and home safety. Former U.S. Forest Service Chief Michael Dombeck calls it a visually powerful guide to protecting fire-prone communities.



After the showing of the film, there will be a panel discussion with panelists Roberta McIntyre (CEO of Firesafe Sonoma), Stuart Mitchell (Wildfire Mitigation Expert), and Firewise leaders Dave Watts and Iris Harrell.



Picazo Cafe Food Truck Coming to Oakmont

■OVA Staff

On Saturday, April 26, from 5 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., the Picazo Café food truck, a local favorite from Sonoma will be at the Berger Center parking lot.

Tables and chairs will be available at the Berger Plaza for Oakmont members to enjoy their meals.

View their restaurant menu in advance at www.picazocafe.com.



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2nd Annual Habitat Garden Tour

■Carolyn Greene, Oakmont Environmental Stewardship Task Force

Whether planning a complete revamping of your yard, or just considering adding a few plants to enhance your summer outdoor entertaining, you're invited to attend the "Habitat Garden Tour" Saturday, May 3, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., sponsored by the OVA Oakmont Environmental Stewardship Task Force (OESTF), with support from the Oakmont Community Foundation.

The tour features four eco-friendly Oakmont gardens chosen to showcase community-wide landscaping objectives of being firewise, drought-tolerant, attractive and habitat-enhancing for native wildlife, with an emphasis on use of native plant species and cultivars. Music and refreshments will enhance the festivities, and free plants, wildflower seeds and Water Smart card packets from Sonoma Water Agency will be available, while supplies last.

According to OESTF Chair Lesli Lee, each garden exhibits creative and attractive ways to balance habitat needs and landscape aesthetics with the practical realities of being firewise and drought-tolerant. "Each garden is unique, blending native and complementary plants that offer vital habitat qualities of food, water and shelter for local wildlife. It's inspiring to see what can be accomplished in our community. Plus, this is an ideal time of year to see native flora in full bloom, along with a variety of pollinators."

A special attraction this year is the new

Santa Rosa Fire Department Station 7 Demonstration Garden.
(Photo by Carolyn Greene)



Pat Parson and Marie Kay Hansen in Marie Kay's Meadowgreen #2 habitat garden, April 2024. (Photo by Lesli Lee)

professionally designed habitat garden at Santa Rosa Fire Department Station #7 on Stone Bridge Rd. Other gardens will highlight sub-HOA landscape planning efforts, eco-friendly gardening practices, firewise landscaping and use of colorful native plants that attract pollinators and other native wildlife.

Visitors should wear sturdy shoes for walking over uneven terrain, and bring water to drink, and smart phones to photograph plant lists and garden ideas to reduce paper use.

Residents may stop by these gardens any time between 10 a.m.—1 p.m.: 1. Santa Rosa Fire Station #7 (6590 Stone Bridge Rd.); 2. 6421 Meadow Creek Lane; 3. 438 Hillsdale Drive; 4. 342 Oak Leaf Circle.

For information, contact me at (805) 443-7289, cgnpark@icloud.com.



Shred-A-Thon Returns April 28

■News Staff

After two previous cancellations, the Shred-A-Thon is back! The event will take place on Monday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Berger Center Parking Lot.

Hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Oakmont, this popular event offers residents a free and secure way to dispose of old tax documents and other sensitive financial papers.

Important Guidelines:

- No looseleaf notebooks, ring binders, slides, x-rays, or similar materials: These items can jam the machine and will not be accepted.

Note: There is no need to remove staples. We apologize for the confusion in our last article.

How it works:

Kiwanis volunteers will collect up to five boxes per car. They'll take the contents to the shredding truck, then return your empty boxes to your vehicle. Volunteers will inspect boxes for prohibited items, so please double-check before coming.

Proceeds from the Shred-A-Thon support local children through the programs of the Kiwanis Club of Oakmont, part of the national Kiwanis organization dedicated to serving children.

For more information, visit kiwanisclubofoakmont.org or email kiwanisclubofoakmont@gmail.com.

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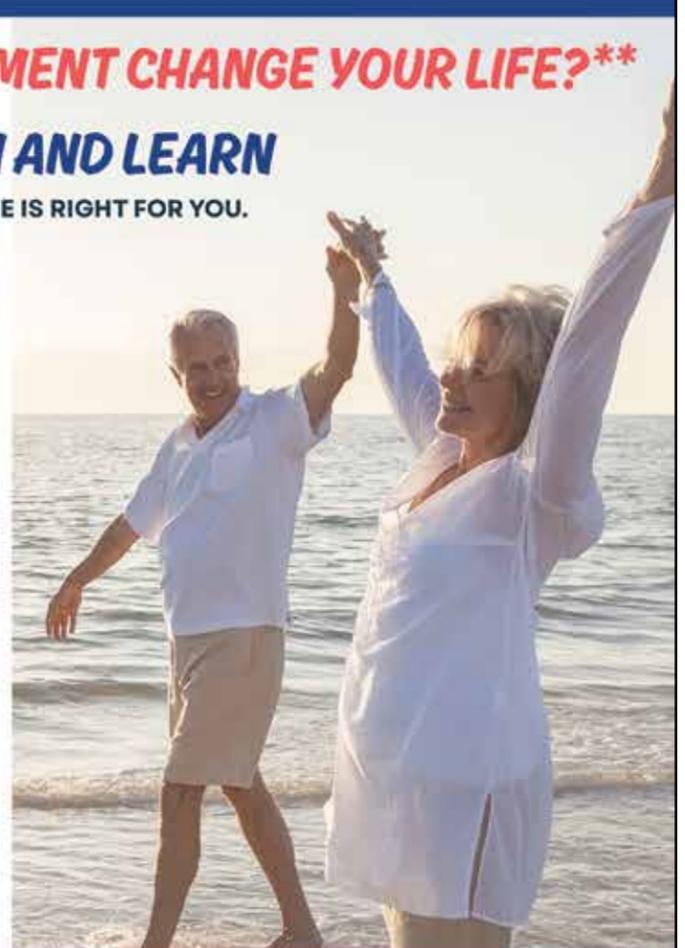
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Oakmont Art Association

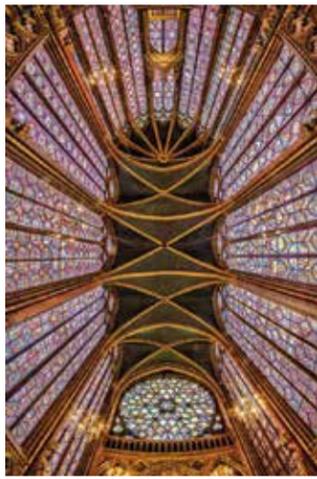
■Elizabeth Kern

ART TALK: ART CURIOSITIES IN THE HEART OF PARIS

On May 9 at 10:30 a.m., join the Art Association at the Berger Center for an engaging Art Talk, *Art Curiosities in the Heart of Paris*. This event will explore the unusual and lesser-known art and treasures found near the Seine in the heart of Paris.

Highlights include the medieval wonders of the Cluny Museum, the rich history showcased at the Carnavalet Museum, the Museum of the Army near Napoleon's tomb, and an entertaining tour of the city's hidden churches, gardens, and other rarely visited curiosities. Come early at 10 a.m. to mingle with refreshments.

Presenter Christian Quintin was born in the town of Saint Brieuc on the northern coast of Brittany, France. He studied at the Beaux Arts Academy in Paris before moving to San Francisco in 1981. He creates oils and pastel paintings as well as pen and ink and graphite



drawings, alternating between mediums. As in music each piece calls for its own instrument. Quintin's art addresses consciousness, what he sees, and what has been exhibited in many solo and international group shows. He was represented by the famed Vorpall Gallery in San Francisco and New York, which gave its first U.S. show to M.C. Escher. He was also the recipient of numerous public commissions and was represented by the Lorin Gallery in Los Angeles and Paris.

Aging in Place Forum Addresses Social Isolation

■Matt Zwerling

If you had walked into the Berger Center on the morning of Saturday, April 5, you would have seen 45 people gathered around small tables, deeply engaged in conversation. This was the second forum hosted by the Oakmont Aging in Place group, focusing on the topic of social isolation in Oakmont.



Matt Zwerling kicks off the Aging in Place forum on social isolation to a full crowd.

Louise Bettner, PhD begins her talk on "Social Isolation as We Age."



The forum wasn't about solving personal isolation or loneliness directly. Instead, it provided an opportunity for residents to share their perspectives, thoughts, and experiences of being alone, dealing with loneliness, or embracing solitude. Much like a conversation around a kitchen table, neighbors shared personal stories. Most importantly, these stories were met with attentive, non-judgmental listening from others, many of whom were strangers.

Perspectives came from diverse groups, including couples, widows, widowers, singles, caregivers, those who are unable to drive, and residents with visual or hearing impairments. Despite varying circumstances, a common thread emerged: the yearning to feel a sense of belonging, even if just for a brief moment.

While the Berger Center isn't a kitchen table or a coffee shop, the forum created a space that addressed an important need in Oakmont. These small-table community conversations proved to be a powerful way to reduce isolation.

By the end of the morning, people exchanged phone numbers and email addresses, with some committing to meet later in the week to continue the dialogue. This, perhaps, is the most enduring impact of the forum—the individual commitment to reduce isolation by engaging in meaningful conversations with neighbors.

The next Aging in Place Community Conversations forum is currently in the planning stages, so stay tuned for more information.

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Oakmont Cat Care Coop



■Mary Ellen King

NEED CARE FOR KITTY WHILE YOU ARE AWAY?

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

Marimbas and Children—Such Joy!

■Leslie Brockman

On Friday, April 4, over 200 Oakmont residents, plus parents and siblings of the students, attended a rousing concert of the Marimba Honor Band. Feet were tapping as we sang along and clapped during the many upbeat pieces, all performed by 4th–8th grade students from 15 schools in Santa Rosa.

A video about the value of music education for children was shown, and a “hat” was passed, collecting nearly \$1,200 dollars for the program! Every dollar will go towards building more marimbas and furthering this wonderful program for local students.

Play Marimba! was established in 2016 in Petaluma, when Tobias Sparks had a brilliant idea and the ability to make specialized Zimbabwean-style marimbas, in addition to composing music for the instruments. The after-school program offers a joyful music-making experience for children and teens in a technology-free, social environment that stretches mind/body coordination, establishes leadership skills, and builds confidence.

Maestra Irene



Gilchriese is the local instructor who runs the after-school program at Luther Burbank Elementary School. Her energy is palpable and contagious. Exciting news: Irene is considering offering a class or two at Oakmont Grandparents Club’s Grandparents Week in July. Maybe the grandparents will even get to try their hand at playing! More on that to come soon.

As coordinator of this concert, a privileged member of the Board of Lifelong Learning, and head of Oakmont’s Grandparents Club, I personally want to thank all those who attended and opened their

pocketbooks to donate to this rewarding cause. If you missed that opportunity, you can always donate to the program by going to their website: PlayMarimba.com or donating through Venmo: @PlayMarimba. Oakmont Lifelong Learning is excited to offer this free concert to our residents each year—date for 2026 to be announced.

Maestra Gilchriese plays along with the students, who are having a super time feeling the music! (Photos by Ray Darwin)

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 the OVA.

APRIL 27: JUROR #2

While serving as a juror in a high-profile murder trial, a family man finds himself struggling with a serious moral dilemma, one he could use to sway the jury verdict and potentially convict or free the wrong killer. 2023, R 1:47.



MAY 4:

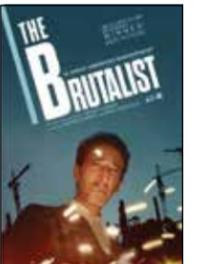
THE LAST RIFLEMAN

A WWII veteran escapes his care home in Northern Ireland and embarks on an arduous but inspirational journey to France to attend the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings, finding the courage to face the ghosts of his past. 2023, PG-13, 1:35.



MAY 11: THE BRUTALIST

A visionary architect flees post-war Europe in 1947 for a brighter future in the US and finds his life forever changed by a wealthy client. 2024, R, 3:36.



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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.

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.

Bowling date for April: Apr. 29 (week #2). No bowling Apr. 22 (fourth Tuesday).

Bowling dates for May: May 6 (week #3), 13 (week #4), 20 (week #5). No bowling May 27 (fourth Tuesday).

Easter Challenge: Challenge where a bowler must bowl a strike in the second and fourth frames (Easter 4/20) to win a \$5 gift certificate to Safeway. Winners are: Joanne Abrams, Laurel Earles, Peggy Ensley, Carol Garneau, Glenn Hewitt, Donnarose Ilecki, Elisabeth LaPointe, Sandy Osheroff, Lynda Rebsamen, Robin Schudel and Don Shelhart.

RESULTS OF APRIL 8 (WINTER LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT)

2 p.m. League: first place, Alley Oops; second place, Strikers; third place, Pocket Hits; fourth place, High Rollers; fifth place, Wii Four; sixth place, King Pins; seventh place, 4 Tops. Congratulations Alley Oops: Mike Earles, Don Shelhart, Mike Apicella, Charlie Ensley (capt). “Winter ‘25—Alley Oops” will be engraved on the Team Championship Trophy.

Men’s High Games: Don Shelhart, 279; Scott Haris, 231; Gordon Freedman, 228; Terry Leuthner, 224; Charlie Ensley, 215; Mike Earles, 209; Frank Schepergerdes, 204.

Women’s High Games: Sandy Osheroff, 258; Carolita Carr, 248; Shirley Jamison, 247; Pat Scott, 240; Diane Price, 236; Laurel Earles, 234; Peggy Ensley, 228; Joanne Abrams, 219; Donnarose Ilecki, 211; Karen Palmiotti, 200; Robin Schudel, 203.

Conservatives Club



■Richard Kalayjian

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

The Conservatives Club held its monthly meeting on April 22, featuring a presentation by Santa Rosa Chief of Police John Cregan. The deadline for this article is a week and a day before our meeting, hence the cursory description of what was presented by Police Chief Cregan. He provided a PowerPoint presentation that included crime statistics, areas that have improved, and areas that need further focus.

A question-and-answer period followed, emphasizing neighborhood crime, areas of concern, auto theft, and problems with the homeless population.

Members continued with a discussion and a report on the April 10 meeting of the Steering Committee.

In honor of those who gave their all for us and our country, the May 27 meeting, so close to the Memorial Day holiday, is canceled. Please enjoy the holiday, and as always, thank a Vet!

No May meeting. We will resume in June.

Lawn Bowling



■Mary Blake

INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO BOWL?

Email us at oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com. Lessons are free.

DAILY DRAW MOVES TO MORNINGS

Our Daily Draw is Monday through Saturday. Starting May 1, show up at 12:15 p.m. to bowl at 12:30.

WHAT’S HAPPENING

With the closure of the Green for maintenance, and then rain, we’ve had to cancel our first 3 tournaments. But now the weather has turned beautiful, and it’s time to bowl.

COMING EVENTS

Monday, May 1, 9:30 a.m.: Daily Draw moves to mornings, and on the same day we have our Women’s Pairs Tournament. Sign up now if you haven’t already. Not a woman or can’t bowl—come and watch!

Tuesday, May 6, 5 p.m.: After 5 Potluck.

Thursday, May 15: Open Pairs Tournament.

Monday, May 19, 11 a.m.: We’re doing something new and very different to encourage Oakmont

residents to take up lawn bowling. Daily Draw will still start at 9:30, but we’ll open the rinks to all comers at 11 a.m. for a friendly game called “smash the jack!”

Remember, our full calendar of events is on the bulletin board outside the bowls room and calendars of socials and tournaments are on the shed. The calendar is also in the Green Book (get yours in the bowls room if you don’t have one) and on our website. You always can also email me, but I seem to be getting more and more prone to typos, so be forewarned!

Email: oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com.

Website: www.oakmontlawnbowling.com.

Women’s Pairs Tournament 2024.



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.

APRIL 28–30: SPRING 2025 TRI-NIGHTER NEVADA CITY FOOTHILLS, GRASS VALLEY

Visit the Oakmont Hiking Club website for details and full description of planned activities.



Independence Trail South Yuba River State Park.

MAY 1: SHORT HIKE TAYLOR MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK, SANTA ROSA

We explore new trails at Taylor Mountain Regional Park at a naturalist pace; 3 miles, 350’ gain and loss; newcomers welcome; hiking through grasslands and oak woodlands, IDing wildlife and wildflowers with exceptional views of the Santa Rosa plain. Bring usual items; hiking poles suggested.

Depart Berger 9 a.m.; check-in 8:50 a.m. Return by noon. Check OHC website April 30 for updates and driving directions. Hike leader is Carolyn Greene, (805) 443-7289.

MAY 8: LONG HIKE PALOMARIN TO ALAMERE FALLS VIA WILDCAT CAMP

Anyone who has done this magnificent hike will tell you it’s one of their favorites. Due to its length and distance from Oakmont, we will depart the Berger at 8 a.m.

We will begin at the Palomarin trailhead and take

the Coastal Trail to Wildcat Camp. From there, we’ll walk on the beach for about a mile with a constant view of the falls before us. Once at the falls, we will scramble up the cliff through a narrow notch and cross the stream to access the shortcut back to the Coastal Trail.



Alamere Falls from the beach.

Note that the cliff’s notch is very short and very steep, and the National Park Service recommends that it, along with the shortcut, be avoided. However, like most hikers on this trail, those of us that climbed it the past two years had no problem. The entire hike will be roughly 11 miles out and back with 1,470 feet of elevation.

To allay concerns, all of us will hike the Coastal Trail to Wildcat Camp, where we will dine on the beach with a view of the falls in the distance. From there, hikers can choose whether to continue to the falls via the beach and climb up the notch to the shortcut trail, or backtrack along the Coastal Trail. Both ways are roughly the same distance and the Coastal Trail alone is one of the best hikes on the North Coast, with or without the falls.

Low tide (1.21’) will occur at 1:55 p.m. so we should have plenty of space on the beach to enjoy the falls.

Make sure the treads on your shoes are in good shape and wear long pants to avoid poison oak that is on the shortcut back to the Coastal Trail. Bring an extra pair of footwear to leave in the car if you don’t want to travel home with wet feet.

Hike leader is Jeff Zalles, (415) 999-5333, jeffzalles@gmail.com.

New to Oakmont?

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

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

Oakmont Pétanque Club

■Don McPherson

SPRINGTIME TOURNAMENT

The April 5 Homage to Spring celebration began with the annual Spring Tournament, the first of the year. Club Chair Steven Payette, Tournament Director, handled registration of players and randomization of teams with the club's "Fanny" looking on. Fanny, "the Goddess of Pétanque," is the focal point of a traditional ritual that follows any team's losing in a 13-0 shutout. But there were no shutouts so Fanny, in the end, was not needed.

Thirteen club members competed in six teams in the tournament. In the first, qualifying round games, Don McPherson, Linda McPherson and Bill Whetstone (triples vs doubles because of uneven number of players) defeated Judy Dumm and Max Hinchman, 13-1; Steven Payette and Diane Schaap defeated Jim Knapp and Gail Ruder, 13-6; and Ellean Huff and Sophia Knapp defeated Sherry Labate and Ro Nicholson, 13-6.

Because of the two 13-6 games, a one-end playoff established the second-place team. Those set up the Concours in which the D. McPherson/L. McPherson/Whetstone team defeated the Huff/S. Knapp team, 13-1 to win first place. In the Consolante, Labate/Nicholson defeated Payette/Schaap, 13-12 to take third place, and J. Knapp/Ruder defeated Dumm/Hinchman, 13-11 to take fifth place.



Springtime Tournament (: to R): 2nd place—Ellean Huff and Sophia Knapp; 1st place—Bill Whetstone, Linda McPherson and Don McPherson. (Photo by Steven Payette)



Having a Good Time at the Springtime Tournament (L to R): Ro Nicholson, Gail Ruder, Sherry Labatte and Steven Payette. (Photo by Don McPherson)

A potluck picnic lunch at the court for club members and their spouses/partners/companions followed the announcement of winners and photos.

PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

French in origin, Pétanque (pay-tonk), also known as Boules, has been played in Oakmont since the 1980s. The Club, founded in 1996, encourages all Oakmonters who may be interested in playing or learning to play to come to the courts between Berger and the OVA offices at 9:45 a.m. on the Club Play days of Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

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

Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■Star Power

FAVORITE CHILD

Imagine that you have five or six children and someone asks you who's your favorite? How do you answer that one. You would never say out loud that Jenny or George is your favorite, but deep inside you might be thinking George, the one who excels at sports, obeys the rules, always home on time, etc. Such an enigma!

VOM Rotary has many favorites, but one that really stands out is CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate). This club has supported CASA for many years and it never hesitates to continue its support and contributions. VOM Rotary always advocates for the safety and well-being of our young people as they transition into adulthood, a sometimes-difficult job.

A recent speaker at our club was one of Oakmont's "favorite children," Bob Chapman, who has long been a CASA, but also a member of the musical group, the Mello-Tones.

The aim of CASA is this: when a child has been abused, abandoned, and/or neglected by his or her parents, the Juvenile Court Judge may determine the child should be a dependent of the court and enter foster care. If this new foster child is 7 or older, the judge will assign a CASA—a trained volunteer who advocates for the child's welfare. CASAs provide companionship and actually represent the child in court.

Drop in and meet some of Rotary's other favorites. Meetings are held most Thursdays at the East Rec from 8-9 a.m. Come a bit earlier for coffee, snacks and chat with us.

Oakmont HEARS Hearing Education, Advocacy, Research, Support



■Richard Osborne

HOW LOUD IS TOO LOUD?

It's no longer just rock concerts that pose a danger to your ears. As we age, our ability to tolerate loud sounds diminishes. Many people in Oakmont experience some degree of hearing loss, prompting us to turn up the volume to compensate. However, it's not just about the volume—it's also about the duration. Even low-level sounds, like a gardener's blower, can harm your ears when experienced for prolonged periods.

Sounds are measured in decibels (dB). While we won't dive into the technical details, the key takeaway is this: recognizing loud sounds and taking steps to protect your ears is essential. The level of protection depends on the sound source. Lowering the volume is always a good start. Moving away from a gardener reduces exposure. Covering your ears with your hands—like when your grandson shows off his motorcycle—may feel silly, but it's a smart move.

The best defense, however, comes from specialized gear. Soft earplugs, readily available at Walgreens, are discreet and effective for everyday use. For noisier activities, such as clearing your patio with a blower, consider earmuffs like those used at a shooting range—they're what I rely on.

In general, sounds at or above 85 dB pose a risk to your ears. Identifying these levels isn't always as straightforward as spotting a tangible threat like a shark. This ambiguity often leads to ignoring warnings, especially when the sound doesn't feel painful. There are smartphone apps that will alert you to the dB level.

If you have questions or concerns, feel free to reach out at oakmontheears@gmail.com.

Lifelong Learning



■Marlena Tremont



MORE JOY, "MERCY NOW" FRIDAY, MAY 16, 7 PM, BERGER CENTER THEATER SEATING. TICKETS: \$25

More Joy is a deep and delightful quartet of artists performing folk, country, and blues with songs and banter that will make you laugh or cry. With amazing harmonies, unforgettable sound, and homespun humor, Iris Harrell, Ann Benson, Chris Finn and Deborah Knapp always take the Berger stage by storm.

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

ANNIVERSARY PARTY AND FALL CLASS PREVIEW

Celebrate two decades of Lifelong Learning with Special Guest: *Press Democrat* columnist, Kerry Benefield on Wednesday, August 27 at the Berger Center.

Music and refreshments at 2:30 p.m., program at 3.

Pickleball Corner



■Peter Copen

HOW PICKLEBALL STACKS UP AGAINST OTHER SPORTS

Let's take a look at some other sports out there and see how pickleball stacks up. Here goes:

Soccer: Widely regarded as the most popular sport on the planet, soccer is easy to learn, but difficult to master. It also clearly requires a ton of athleticism and strategic thinking. But there are some issues

with it. For starters, you can't even use your hands, there isn't enough scoring, it's a bit tough to get 21 other players together, and it's pretty hard to play at any respectable level past the age of 50.

Basketball: This is also a sport that requires tons of athleticism. Plus, you can use your hands, so that's an improvement. It's also easier to get 10 people together than 22. Maybe you can still enjoy the game until you're 60, but that's even pushing it due to the non-stop running up and down the court. Plus, let's face it—the coolest parts of basketball are dunking and swishing long-distance 3-pointers. Are any of you dunking these days? (No hands up.)

Golf: OK, now here's a very different sport from the two above. Unlike soccer and basketball, golf can certainly hang with pickleball on the longevity level—

as a 75-year-old can crush a lesser skilled player in golf. What it also has going for it is being outside, which gives you the ability to enjoy nature.

So, in my totally unbiased opinion, it's concluded that the best sport is... drumroll please... Pickleball! Play on!



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

Playreaders



■D. Hall

AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHT WILLIAM INGE'S WORK ON STAGE IN OAKMONT

April concluded with a dream-filled drama and a wacky comedy by the Oakmont Playreaders.

On May 5, Steven Levin will present William Inge's lusty drama, *Glory in the Flower*, inspired by a William Wordsworth poem. Set in a small tavern along a Midwest countryside road, the play follows two groups of characters: teenagers, brimming with energy and filling the booths and dance floor with wild partying, and adults, who grew up in or frequently visited the town, sharing deep familiarity with one another.

The cast includes Steven Levin, Marcel Coder, John Dolan, Blanche Kaiser, Jeri Leeshner, Jim Preston, Jeff Sheff and Ginna Zoellner.

On May 12, Yvonne Horn and Steven Levin will reprise *Tale of Two Spectators* by Peter Manos.

The Oakmont Playreaders meet on the first two Mondays of each month at 2 p.m. in Room B (Birch) at the Central Activities Center.



Jeff Sheff, Marcel Coder, Wes Doerr and (seated) John Dolan, Sandy White. (Photo by Esther Dolan)

Oakmont Movers and Groovers



■Denise Lindsey

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bingo: Thursdays, May 8 and July 17, Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Dr. Free admission for members. Bingo Cards 2 each. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., and Bingo will begin at 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Prizes: Pretzels provided by Wooden Petal. RSVP to omgclub2025@gmail.com.

Spike Sikes and His Awesome Hotcakes: Friday, June 6, Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Dr. Tickets: 20 each. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and music from 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Country Band TBD: Friday, September 5, Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Dr. Tickets: TBD. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and music from 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Table Reservations: If you plan to enjoy the event with a group, reserve a table for 4 (limited availability) or 8. Provide all the names in your party on the reservation form in the OMG folder at the OVA office. For those events that have a cost, please make sure to include your payment along with the reservation form. Pay cash or check payable to OMG. Each member may bring 1 non-member guest. Please feel free to bring your drinks and snacks.

Become A Member: It is the perfect time to join. Annual membership dues are 10 each. The sign-up sheet is in the folder at the OVA office. Pay cash or check payable to OMG. Place in envelope marked Membership.

We want to thank everyone for being a part of our community. Your enthusiasm and support make all the difference. We cannot wait to see you at our events for a night full of fun and friendship! Questions: Email me at omgclub2025@gmail.com or call (530) 444-0734.

Oakmont Sunday Symposium

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.

APRIL 27: LISA WALTERS BETTER RELATIONSHIPS? HORSES CAN HELP!



Have you ever wanted to improve your relationships? Working with horses can teach you more than you ever imagined. Horses get us out of our "thinking mind" and into the deep, non-verbal experience of understanding and connection. Kaiser Permanente was so impressed with the effectiveness of Lisa's training, they had their medical leaders and nurses take it.

MAY 4: WEN CHEN CHINA AND NORTH KOREA AND THE IMPACT ON THE U.S.

For over 60 years, China has funded the Kim regime by contributing 90% of North Korea's export income, providing (behind the scenes) material and technology for North Korea's nuclear power. China uses this relationship as a bargaining chip with the U.S. Understanding how China functions in the world will help to understand our relationship with China.



MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 11: NO MEETING Be kind to mothers!

MAY 18: EMILY CORNELIUS (AND FRIENDS) SNEAK PEEK: WHAT'S UP AT THE 6TH STREET PLAYHOUSE



Yowza! We all love the 6th Street Playhouse—the oldest community theatre in Sonoma County. Its mission is to "engage, inspire and educate" ... and they sure do! In a lively, high-energy presentation, Emily Cornelius (and some of her friends) will tell us what the Playhouse is all about, and give us a live preview of their summer shows. Hang onto your hat! This will be fun!

Sunday Symposium will break for the summer after May 18. See you again in September!

2024–2025 OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tom Kendrick, Treasurer

(Non-voting officer)

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Christel Antone

christel@oakmontvillage.com

POOLS & JACUZZIS

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

WEST: 7 AM–9 PM

(Closes 7 PM Wednesdays for cleaning)

EAST: 6:30 AM–9 PM

(Closes 7 PM Mondays for cleaning)

CENTRAL: 5:45 AM–9 PM

(Closes 7 PM Tuesdays for cleaning)

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

CENTRAL POOL HOURS FOR PEOPLE UNDER 18:

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

Memorial Day–Labor Day: 12–4 PM daily

Children must be accompanied by an OVA member/resident or adult with a valid guest pool access card. NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY AT ANY OVA POOL. ALL FACILITIES CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY.

NEED A RIDE? GIVE A RIDE! OAKMONT VOLUNTEER HELPERS

COORDINATOR

Rides to Medical Appointments

April 16–31

Barb Lowell 707-538-0333

May 1–15

Maggie Schmidt 707-890-1347

We provide the following services to Oakmont Residents:

- Transportation to medical/dental appointments in Santa Rosa only
- Meals on Wheels 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 YOUR 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 Democratic Club

■ Sue Carrell

A PRACTICAL WINDOW ON TODAY'S WORLD ECONOMY

WHEN: May 12, 6 p.m. Socializing, 7 p.m. Program
WHERE: East Rec.

Don't miss a great opportunity, hosted by the Oakmont Democratic Club, to hear what a Professor of Economics, Jon Haveman, has to say about making sense of what's happening in our world today.

Dr. Haveman is an experienced and accomplished public speaker, with more than 400 talks under his belt. He has given classes through Oakmont Lifelong Learning in the recent past which have proven to be

very popular. As a public policy, labor market, and macroeconomic expert, he provides audiences with information that they can readily use in both their professional and personal lives to help decipher our rapidly changing world.

Jon will share his expertise with us and respond to questions and comments we may have in an informative evening. He is an economist with a demonstrated history of working in the research industry. He currently teaches at the Marin Academy in San Raphael. Skilled in Nonprofit Organizations, Analytical Skills, Government, Macroeconomics, and

International Relations, he brings these topics alive.

Don't forget to:

1. Check out the www.OakmontDemocraticAlliance.org website for the latest news, and announcements about activities inside and out of Oakmont right now.
2. Pay your annual Oakmont Democratic Club dues (\$25) on the OakmontDemclub.org website.
3. Bring snacking food and beverages for "social time."
4. Put the fourth Thursday of every month (6:30, ERC) on your calendar to come and join friends and neighbors who are working hard to unravel the changes being made in Washington D.C.

CLASSIFIEDS

BODEN PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR

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

BABE'S TRANSPORT

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

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

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

GARAGE DOOR SERVICES

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

DOORS AND WINDOWS

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

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.

YOUR PERSONAL CAREGIVER AND ADVOCATE

Available 24/7 or hourly, nights, long-term or short-term. 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. References and website. 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.

THE VINE LANDSCAPING

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

THE PET PROTECTOR AND COMPASSIONATE CAREGIVER!

Pet Sitting—small and large animals! Housesitting too! Private transportation services. Summer holidays availability. Expert and experienced caregiving for over 17 years. Overnights, 4-12-hour shifts, post-surgical, memory care, companionship. Excellent and current references available. Call/text Hillary, (707) 757-0057.

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.

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.

PAINTER/HANDYMAN

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

AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR

Heating, Cooling, service and repair. Serving Sonoma Valley. Call Vince Parish at Ridgeback Mechanical, (707) 666-5056.

HANDYMAN SERVICES

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

ONE WAY PLUMBING, INC.

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

CHRISTO TRANSPORTATION

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

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.

SONOMA VALLEY LEGAL SERVICES

Providing legal services for Estate Planning, including preparation or amendment of wills, trust, healthcare directives and powers of attorney. Family Law Mediation and other non-litigation family law services. Call for a free 30-min. consultation. Attorney Bailey Penzotti, (707) 203-2247.

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.

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.

SHORT-TERM/VACATION-RENTAL

Family/friends visiting? Beautiful guest cottages near Oakmont/Kenwood. Top-rated Airbnb/VRBO book direct/save fees! VR Lic. 24-101. www.sonomarosso.com, (707) 408-2750.

DANA'S CLEANING

Light house work, meal prep, laundry, errands. I'm also a certified caregiver of 35 years. Available after 5 p.m. weekdays and weekends, after 1:30 p.m. on Saturdays. \$35 an hour 2-hour minimum \$70 an hour for 2 people. Call or text (707) 296-4040 for an appointment.

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.

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.

To place an ad, contact: CJM Productions, 2105 Longhorn Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 • 707-206-1957 • cjmprod567@gmail.com



Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■Rich Osborne

GRANDPARENTS' CLUB SPEAKS TO KIWANIS

This month our featured speaker was Leslie Brockman, who headed up the annual Easter Eggstravanga 2025 hosted by Grandparents' Club (oakmontgrandparentsclub.org), which will have been history by the time of this printing (unless the rain got us again!).

Their Grandparents' Week is a cherished annual event held, a six-day celebration beginning with a Welcome Barbeque sponsored by Oakmont Gardens, and a lively Welcome Carnival at the Berger Plaza on Sunday. Throughout the week, grandparents and their grandchildren can participate in over 50 engaging activities, including sports, crafts, dance, music, a three-day golf clinic, toddler times, and the ever-popular Wii Bowling.

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

Cal Alumni Club of Oakmont



■Marilyn Noah

MAY DINNER AT THE SADDLE CLUB

The May Cal Alumni Club dinner is on Thursday, May 15 at 5 p.m. at the Wild Oak Saddle Club.

May's speaker will be Dr. Mary Okin, Assistant Director of The Living New Deal. This program is based out of Cal's Department of Geography and strives to conserve art and structures that have been part of American history since FDR became President in 1933. Visit their website: livingnewdeal.org.

May's menu is seared salmon, roasted potatoes, roasted vegetables, garden salad, bread and butter, and lemon bar with whipped cream for dessert.

Cost is \$62 per person. Members can register and pay for dinner on www.caloakmont.org. Dinners often sell out so if interested in attending, don't delay!

Guests are welcome at our dinner. Contact oakmontcalalums@gmail.com for details on registering as a non-member guest.

The Cal Alumni Club fundraises to support scholarships for UC Berkeley students including scholarships for Santa Rosa Junior College students transferring to Cal. We meet for dinner at the Wild Oak Saddle Club every month except June, November and December. Our annual fundraiser is a popular wine tasting in June, and we coordinate a Big Game party every year with Stanford alums. Cal graduates and friends of Cal are welcome to join the Alumni Club.

SAVE THE DATE! WINE TASTING EVENT

WHEN: Thursday, June 19, 3-5 p.m.

WHERE: Berger Center

To purchase tickets: www.caloakmont.org or email oakmontcalalums@gmail.com.

Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■Charlene Bunas

PREPARATION AND PERSPIRATION LEAD TO SATISFYING RESULTS

Gorgeous summer gardens rely on April preparations.

Mulching, pruning and planting are necessary. With luck, April showers. Specific efforts done on schedule equal beautiful and healthy results.

And so it is with exercising. Getting fit is not done in one session. It takes preparation. Being fit is respecting age, reasonable eating, restful sleep and calm reactions

to minor stresses that crop up daily. Exercise takes effort and those efforts can equal beneficial results.

Some *Farmers Almanac* followers believe in pep-talks for the best of gardens. Exercisers say they are essential for fitness. They say "be your own coach" by looking in the morning mirror and saying, "Good for



An Oakmonter June enjoys the garden. (Photo by Charlene Bunas)



Everyone loves Spring gardens (Photo by Charlene Bunas)

you, you're gonna have a health-filled day."

Gardening can be seen as part of a fitness routine. It requires movement and flexibility, needing strength, having a goal, being patient in the process and having faith the goal will be attained, one vegetable at a time. Ask any home gardener about the benefits of "home grown." Sharing a garden's yield means giving to others. Gardening, as it turns out, is quite beneficial to fitness.

Oakmont Health Initiative and gardening work synergistically. The consistency of moderate exercise produces stamina necessary for the concentrated spurt into spring gardening. April is a wonderful month to look in the mirror, nod and say, "Good for you, you're gonna have a health-filled, happy day." With that attitude, notice how your garden and your life blossom.

As in gardening, so it is with OHI: be prepared with the right tools: shoes, comfortable clothes, water and, if preferred, your own free weights, yoga mat and thera band. Always, be advised: know your body.

Mon., Wes., Fridays at 9 a.m. at the Berger Center / Zoom.

Meeting ID: 832 5893 6515. Passcode: 05343.

Water Fitness



■Valerie Hulsey

Wow, the sun has been shining and the water is warm so please join us at the West pool for 50 minutes of exercise and fun.

There is a drop-in fee of \$8 and classes are held Monday through Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

CLASSES ON FRIDAYS

July's water exercise class continues at the West Pool every Friday at 10:10 a.m. There is a drop-in fee of \$8 per class.

Or you can exercise to a recording for free on Friday at 8:50 a.m. (no instructor).

Jazz Club Classes

■Michael James



Al Ferguson.

MAKING LIVE MUSIC IN MAY

Our guest performer at our May 7 meeting is Al Ferguson. Al was one of the Hondells who performed the hit song "Little Honda" in the '60s on American Bandstand with Dick Clark. If you don't remember the song, just go to YouTube and type in Al Ferguson, "Little Honda" or The Hondells. You might not recognize Al because he was a bit younger in 1964, but you will recognize the song. It will bring back fond memories of the clothes, the dance moves and Dick Clark, who never seemed to age.

Al was honored to be inducted into the 2024 California Music Hall of Fame. He has been a resident of Oakmont for only a few years but has already established himself as a wonderful guitar teacher.

Al will be singing and playing some of his favorite songs on the guitar, which include jazz, rock and blues for the first hour and maybe, if we ask real nice, he might give us some pointers on the guitar for our second hour music lesson. He will also share some of his stories of being on the road, on the USO tour through Vietnam, rubbing shoulders with Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr. and experiences in Las Vegas, where he spent a number of years performing. One of his favorite performers was Glen Campbell, so be sure to ask Al what he thought of Glen's guitar playing.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 7, 2-3 p.m. Al Ferguson, 3-4 p.m. music class

WHERE: East Recreation Center

COST: \$5-10 suggested donation



OAKMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Loving Community. Supportive Fellowship

■Allan Lipton

SPRING INTO ACTION

Spring is the time of year when God reminds us things are not always as they seem. Over the course of a few short weeks, what appears hopelessly dead comes to life. Bleak woodlands are transformed into colorful landscapes. Trees, whose naked arms reached to heaven all winter as if pleading to be clothed, suddenly are adorned with lacy green gowns. Faded, fallen flowers that surrender to the cold now rise slowly from the earth in defiance of death.



The faithful arrival of spring every year comforts me when I'm in a situation that seems too hopeless. With God, there is no such thing. No matter how bleak the landscape of life may look, God can transform it into a glorious garden of color and fragrance.

We'd be honored to have you join us as we seek transformation in our lives.

This Sunday, April 27, we welcome you to our monthly Potluck Lunch following our morning service.

We meet for 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.occsantarosa.org, write us at occsantarosa@gmail.com or call us at (707) 595-0166.



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