

# OAKMONT NEWS

Semimonthly

The Official Newspaper of the Oakmont Village Association

November 8, 2025 • Volume 63, Number 21



Susan Chauncy, Joy Bellomo and Carol Pence (left to right) hold up frozen turkeys collected during a past turkey drive. (Photo by Julie Kiel)

## Annual Turkey Drive Set for November 22

■ News Staff

Oakmont will hold the Ninth Annual Turkey Drive from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on November 22 in the Berger parking lot. Donations of frozen turkeys benefit the Redwood Gospel Mission's Great Thanksgiving Banquet, an annual feast held at the Fairgrounds, which provides meals to over 5,000 people.

Your donation of turkeys or money can also help to provide food boxes to families in need. The drive marks the ninth year Oakmont has participated in this important community outreach.

If you are unable to purchase a turkey, you may still make a donation during the hours of the drive. Please drop off a check made payable to the Redwood Gospel Mission or call drive organizer Susan Chauncy, (775) 313-7911, to make arrangements for check pick-up.

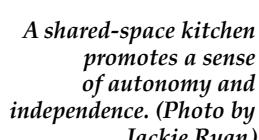
## Tour Aroha Memory Care Nov. 21

■ Jackie Ryan

Aroha Memory Care, a new residential community in Oakmont, will host an open house Nov. 21 at 3 p.m. to showcase groundbreaking design and integrated technologies to care for seniors living with dementia.



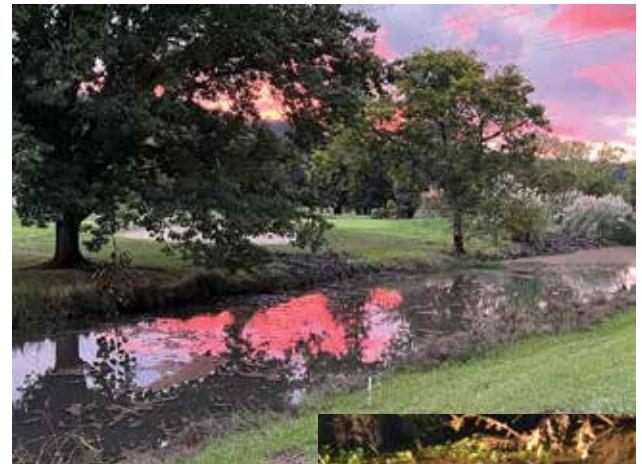
In the commercial kitchen, chefs can prepare nutritious meals for residents and their loved ones. (Photo by Jackie Ryan)



A shared-space kitchen promotes a sense of autonomy and independence. (Photo by Jackie Ryan)

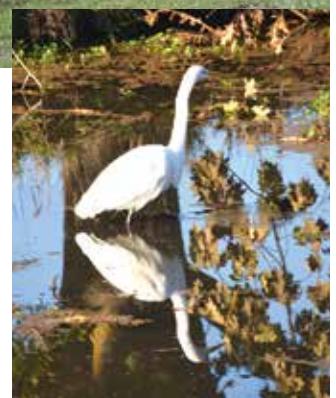
Even ahead of its planned opening later this year, Aroha was recently recognized with a national award from WTW Healthcare for innovative cognitive

See AROHA on page 4



## On the VOM 17<sup>th</sup> Fairway

Oakmont resident Ron Kaufman shared these photos he took off the Valley of the Moon 17<sup>th</sup> fairway.



## Oakmont Vets Club

■ Paul Gowins and John De Groot

### VETERANS DAY TRIBUTE

Each year in November, we as Americans pause from work, school, and other activities to honor the service of our nation's veterans. Serving this great nation and protecting our freedoms is a calling that requires perseverance and sacrifice like no other, and it is fitting that we take this day to recognize the men and women in uniform, both past and present.

This year is no exception. On Tuesday, November 11, we will gather at 10 a.m. (or earlier for coffee and donuts). In past years, we have featured presentations by a Guard from the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a talk by retired Air Force General Howell Estes, and, last year, a retired USAF physician who deployed twice to Iraq. This year, our program will feature Vets Club member and current Chair, John De Groot.

Army Specialist De Groot deployed to Vietnam in late 1962. Although he was trained as a personnel specialist, he never served in that role. Instead, he volunteered to be a door gunner with the first combatant helicopter company in Vietnam. As the U.S. effort in Southeast Asia expanded, he and his unit developed invaluable combat support experience.

Along with sharing his early experiences in the war, John will also speak about his recent Honor Flight participation. The *Press Democrat* even featured a photo of him being welcomed home.

See VETS on page 3

## Correction

The October 25 issue of the *Oakmont News* incorrectly stated that the fiscal year 2026 budget would be sent to members for a 28-day review. The budget was approved by the OVA Board at its October 21 meeting.



The OVA staff got in the spirit of Halloween on Oct. 31. Pictured left to right: Dana Walters, Mary Lantz, Anita Roraus, Sierra Dahl, Christel Antone, Todd O'Donnell, Crissi Langwell, Trace Hernandez, Amber Mariani and Dawn McFarland. (Photo by Gil Perez)

Mary Lantz (Architectural Applications Coordinator) as a butterfly. (Photo by Gil Perez)

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## Members May Now Opt-In to Electronic Voting

■ Oakmont Village Association

 Oakmont members now have the option to vote electronically starting with the 2026 OVA Board of Directors election. To participate, members must opt in by completing and returning the Electronic Voting Consent Form, which will be mailed to every Oakmont household, available at the OVA office, and posted on the OVA website at [oakmontvillage.com/electronicvoting](http://oakmontvillage.com/electronicvoting). The attached QR code will lead you to the online consent form.

The OVA office must receive the opt-in form by January 5, 2026 for it to apply to the April 2026 election. Members need to opt in only once to be eligible to vote electronically in future elections. Forms received after this date will not apply to the upcoming election but will remain valid for future elections.

Electronic voting will be conducted through Pro Elections, OVA's Inspector of Elections, using a secure, third-party system in full compliance with California Civil Code. This ensures ballots are safe, private, and properly managed.

Electronic voting offers several benefits, including the convenience of ballots delivered directly to your inbox, the security of a trusted system, and the timely delivery of election materials without the risk of postal delays.

Participation in electronic voting is voluntary. Members who do not return the opt-in form will continue to receive a traditional paper ballot by mail. Paper ballots remain available for anyone who prefers them. If you would prefer to continue voting by paper ballot, you do not need to do anything.

Consent forms can be filled out online at [oakmontvillage.com/electronicvoting](http://oakmontvillage.com/electronicvoting), or they may be printed and filled out, then returned by mail or dropped off at the OVA office (Oakmont Village Association, 6637 Oakmont Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409), or emailed to [electronicvoting@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:electronicvoting@oakmontvillage.com). Forms will be available at the OVA office.

Questions? Contact Amber Mariani at [electronicvoting@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:electronicvoting@oakmontvillage.com) or call (707) 539-1611 ext. 108.

## OVA Employee Appreciation Fund

■ Oakmont Village Association

As the seasons change and the holidays approach, many of our members have asked, "What can we do to recognize the work of the OVA staff?" In 2016, the OVA Board approved the Employee Appreciation Fund to recognize the non-management team with a special thank you in the form of a holiday bonus gift.

Donations will be distributed at year-end. Members who wish to donate may contribute via check by December 12 to the OVA Office at 6637 Oakmont Drive, Suite A.

Please make checks payable to OVA, and on the memo line, please write "EMP APP Fund" (OVA Employee Appreciation Fund).

The team at the OVA office is fortunate to work with the wonderful residents who make our job so enjoyable.

### VETS Continued from page 1



John De Groot (right) and his "guardian" Leonard at the Honor Flight Homecoming. (Photo by Karen De Groot)

may attend at no cost; a small charge applies for others. Please RSVP by calling (707) 899-1263 or calling/texting (707) 974-8898.

Live band music and a salute honoring our veterans and our country will be performed by choirs from Maria Carrillo High School. We will once again feature a Wall of Honor, currently displayed in the CAC and soon moving to the Berger Center.

Oakmont Gardens will again host a barbecue luncheon afterward. Veterans

## Together for a Sip

■ Bev Leve

Something new is brewing at the Oakmont Central Activity Center! This December, residents can enjoy a freshly made cup from a self-serve coffee machine that crafts your drink in under a minute.

This new addition, contributed by Oakmont resident and retired chef Karl Turner, combines modern style with convenience and great taste. Turner described the machine as a "work of art," and plans to use Bella Rosa organic, fair-market coffee beans.

Stay tuned for details about the grand opening in the next issue of *Oakmont News*. You won't want to miss what's percolating!



## New Horizons Band Kicks off Holidays with Free Concert

■ News Staff

The New Horizons Band of Sonoma County presents a free holiday concert on Saturday, November 22, at 2 p.m. at the Berger Center.

This festive concert will showcase a wide variety of music, from African drums and African American gospel to lively klezmer tunes. The program will also include familiar favorites such as "America the Beautiful" and the haunting theme featured in Ken Burns' acclaimed documentary *The Civil War*. Audiences will enjoy selections from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite" and Count Basie's reimagining of a 700-year-old hymn, along with other seasonal pieces celebrating the holidays.

The New Horizons Band, known for its welcoming spirit and joyful performances, invites the community to come together for an afternoon of music, camaraderie, and holiday cheer.

### Don't miss out! Open Enrollment is here!

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## AROHA Continued from page 1

care delivery aimed at improving quality of life and a vision that sets a "higher standard for excellence."

Aroha's founder, Raj Kalra MD, said optimal memory care uses an integrated approach that brings together evidence-based medicine, dentistry, design, technology, and compassionate care to create an environment that supports healthy aging.

Dr. Kalra points to recent research showing that lifestyle medicine, which focuses on preventing and managing disease through nutrition, movement, stress reduction, and meaningful social connection, can help reverse mild cognitive impairment and stabilize other forms of dementia, offering hope and a better quality of life for those living with memory loss.

Aroha is the result of nearly a year of reconstruction at the Oakmont Drive building that once housed the OVA administrative offices and dental and medical practices. Dr. Kalra said Oakmont was a natural choice for Aroha. "Oakmont's community values—connection, wellness and lifelong learning—align perfectly with our philosophy. By coming to Oakmont, we're helping residents and families stay close to the people and places they love while offering the next level of support when memory care becomes part of the journey."

The reimagined space now features 22 private suites, each with its own bath, along with shared areas for indoor and outdoor dining, activities, entertainment, a salon, and clinical care. Dr. Nisha Kalra—Dr. Raj Kalra's wife and co-founder—will provide onsite oral care services focused on optimizing oral hygiene, preventing inflammation, and supporting improved nutrition for residents.

Natural light, garden views, and biophilic connections have also been incorporated to reduce anxiety and promote calm. Dr. Kalra also said the functional layout of the building further enhances continence care, mobility, and autonomy. "It's a space that restores confidence, fosters connection, and brings back a true sense of home."

Aroha will be on the leading edge of adopting advanced technologies. The community will be first in the nation to use SafelyYou Halo, an AI-based, 24/7 monitoring system that provides fall detection, prevention and nurse call. Another tool called PalCare is for wander management, allowing care teams to respond quickly, track patterns, and deliver personalized care.

"These systems are transformative for memory care, and we're going to be combining technology monitoring systems with real-time analytics to improve resident safety and support staff efficiency," he said. "These tools don't replace the human touch—they empower it—helping our caregivers focus on connection, comfort, and dignity while giving families greater peace of mind."

Juliet Holt Klinger, a gerontologist, has joined the Aroha team to oversee the development of outcome-based programming. "It's a model that leads to measurable results," Dr. Kalra said. "Her work ensures that every resident's experience at Aroha is guided by evidence, supported by data, and grounded in empathy."

Aroha Memory Care is expected to open by the end of the year. Suites are still available. To learn more, visit [arohamemorycare.com](http://arohamemorycare.com).

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## Star of the Valley Church

■Barbara Gasparini and Peter Hardy

### STAR OF THE VALLEY HOSTS FESTIVE NOVEMBER EVENTS

#### HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Looking for unique holiday gifts? You're sure to find something special at the Star of the Valley Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, November 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Monsignor Fahey Parish Center, 545 White Oak Drive.

Local vendors will offer handcrafted items perfect for gifting, including greeting cards, woodwork, ornaments, tea towels, lavender products, soaps, jewelry, quilted items, pottery, pet gifts, jams, pies, and other baked goods. Raffle prizes include restaurant gift cards, wine baskets, Christmas centerpieces, a table runner with napkins, and a fully furnished Victorian dollhouse. Come shop and spark your holiday spirit!

#### VETERANS DAY BINGO

Celebrate Veterans Day Bingo at Star of the Valley on Tuesday, November 11, at 4 p.m. Guests are encouraged to arrive by 3:30 p.m. to purchase dinner and bingo cards.

Dinner includes roasted chicken tortellini soup, garlic bread and dessert.

Cost: \$10 per person; bingo cards \$2 each.

All are welcome—come enjoy dinner, games and good company!

#### NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join Star of the Valley for its annual Neighbor to Neighbor Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 16, from 8 a.m. to noon. The program supports a room at the Caritas Shelter in Santa Rosa, Nick's Pantry, and a Christmas Basket program that provides \$100 Safeway gift cards to families in need.

Breakfast includes scrambled eggs, ham, sausage, pancakes, orange juice, and coffee.

Cost: Adults \$15, children under 12 \$10.

## Cal Alumni Club of Oakmont



■Marilyn Noah

### CAL—STANFORD BIG GAME PARTY

The Cal Alumni Club of Oakmont is hosting their annual Big Game Party on Saturday, November 22 at East Rec, starting at 3:30 p.m. No charge. BYO beverage and snacks. Stanford alumni in particular are invited; individuals who did not attend either school are welcome to join.

Doors to the East Rec will open for the party 90 minutes ahead of game time. Check the club website at [www.caloakmont.org](http://www.caloakmont.org) for further details.

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## Invitation to Participate in "Winter Wonderland on the Plaza"

■OVA Staff

The Oakmont Village Association is delighted to announce the return of "Winter Wonderland on the Plaza," our 2nd annual tree lighting and festive holiday display event! This winter, the plaza outside the Berger Auditorium will once again be transformed into a sparkling Winter Wonderland Tree Grove—and OVA clubs are invited to be part of the magic.

OVA is inviting clubs to sponsor a holiday tree for \$60. Each sponsored tree offers a wonderful opportunity to showcase your club's creativity, holiday cheer, and unique personality. A total of 40 trees will be available, and all will be beautifully displayed for residents and visitors to enjoy throughout the season.

Participating clubs will be responsible for decorating their trees with LED lights and weather-resistant decorations. To keep the display safe and long-lasting, please avoid glass or edible ornaments, or any decorations that could be ruined by winter weather. OVA staff will be monitoring decoration use, and are happy to provide guidance and ideas to help make your tree shine in the grove.

The OVA has reserved the dates of Tuesday, December 2 and Wednesday, December 3 for participating clubs to decorate their trees in the Berger Plaza.

Then on the evening of Wednesday, December 3, Oakmont residents are invited to the official lighting of the trees, beginning at 5:30 p.m. This moment will mark the start of our Winter Wonderland, filling the plaza with warmth and cheer as we light up the night, enjoy cookies and hot cocoa, and celebrate the holidays together.

Last year's Winter Wonderland Tree Grove was a heartwarming highlight of the holiday season, bringing joy and connection to the community. We're thrilled to continue this new Oakmont tradition and look forward to seeing how each club adds its own festive touch this year.

To reserve your tree, please stop by the OVA office to complete a sponsorship form. The deadline to sign up is November 30. Spots are limited—so be sure to secure your tree early. Questions? Contact Amber Mariani at [amber@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:amber@oakmontvillage.com), or call her at (707) 539-1611 ext. 108.

Thank you for helping make Oakmont's holiday season bright. We can't wait to see your club's creativity light up the plaza!

## Kiwanis Club of Oakmont



■Richard Osborne

### NEW KIWANIS YEAR BEGAN OCTOBER 1

The first Shred-A-Thon is history, and The Kiwanis Club of Oakmont is excited to announce the start of a new Kiwanis year as of October 1. Our newly-elected president has convened the board to plan the 2026 budget, focused entirely on our mission: serving the children of Sonoma County. After thoughtful research and discussion, we identified outstanding organizations that are making a real difference in children's lives.

Throughout the year, representatives from each of these organizations will be invited to speak at our club meetings to share how they're helping children thrive. We'll spotlight each one here as they join us.

If supporting local youth is something you're passionate about, we warmly invite you to be part of our work. We meet Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. in the Fireside Room at the Berger Center.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Last Thursday, the Oakmont Democratic Alliance (ODA) had a bingo night fundraiser scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the East Rec. As luck (or PG&E) would have it, the power on the east side of Oakmont went out in the afternoon, and was scheduled to be restored at about 6:30 p.m. "OK, good enough," we thought, "we'll just set up at 6:30 and start our event at 7 p.m."

So at 6:30 we had about 60 people milling around outside the East Rec. and another six or seven people inside in the gloom setting up for the event. At which point some of us got a text from PG&E telling us that power would not be restored until 8:30 p.m. What to do? Reschedule (not easy, granted the demand on OVA facilities)? Cancel and refund everyone's ticket price? Difficult, since the Sonoma State Young Democrats were counting on the proceeds of this event to kick start one of their own larger events.

So, at around 6:45, Iris Harrel called Anita (at home) to ask for her thoughts on an alternate venue. Anita went into action, checked and found that the Berger was not in use that evening, said we could use it, and asked Maintenance to set up the room ASAP for our event (over 60 people at round tables), with room for appetizers, etc.

So, we told all the folks milling around to head for the Berger, while the rest of us scrambled to pack up all the food and supplies. As I left, a staff member was putting up an A-frame sign in the East Rec. parking lot and a sign on the door. By the time I arrived at the Berger a few minutes after 7 p.m., the lights and AV were on and working, the tables set up with chairs, and people were arranging the food and Bingo cards and drinks.

Our event was rescued! All thanks to the responsiveness, flexibility and competence of the OVA Staff. Please accept this note as a huge thank-you. At yesterday's Democratic Alliance Board meeting, we earmarked a good chunk of the proceeds from the event to the OVA staff Appreciation Fund.

Ed Biglin  
On behalf of the ODA Board

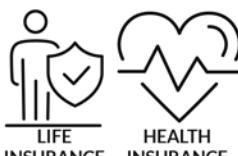


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■Larry Souza

### NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH 2025

Ring in the New Year with style! The Sha-Boom Club is inviting Oakmont residents to close out 2025 in style with its New Year's Eve Bash, set for Wednesday, December 31 at the Berger Center. The celebration promises an evening of lively music, great food, and festive fun.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., and the event runs until 10 p.m. Guests will enjoy live music by the Second Street Band, a complimentary champagne toast, and a selfie photo booth to capture the night's memories. Dinner will be provided by Sweet T's Catering, known for their delicious cuisine.

The dress code encourages guests to "Sparkle and Shine—Dress to Impress," setting the stage for a glamorous evening to welcome the new year.

Tickets are \$115 per person and can be purchased by check, payable to Sha-Boom at the OVA office. Because this popular event traditionally sells out quickly, attendees are encouraged to buy tickets early.

Groups wishing to sit together should submit all checks in the same envelope. Tables seat eight people.

For more information or questions, contact Linda Van Bockern at [ivanbockern@comcast.net](mailto:ivanbockern@comcast.net) or (707) 328-9941.

## Oakmont Men's Group

■Art Fichtenberg, Administrator  
(successor of Founder Gordon Freedman)

Over the last 14 + years, our 12-person Oakmont Men's Group has become very popular and often has a waiting list. Therefore, we will be organizing a new group for men, along the same lines as our existing group. Like our existing group, the new group will meet twice a month and will focus our discussions on issues relevant with aging men.

Such issues include, but are not limited to, the challenges of acceptance of diminished physical abilities, development of new hobbies and interests, health problems that you or your spouse/partner are facing, how aging effects relationships, the mental challenges of aging, the loss of a mate, and many other challenges that aging presents.

If you need a forum to discuss men's issues with other men in a safe and confidential place, you are invited to contact us and have your name placed on our waiting lists.

Our present group meets twice a month for two hours on the first and third Mondays from 1-3 p.m. There are no attendance requirements or dues. Our group is non-religious, non-political, and open to all men of Oakmont, married, single, gay or straight. This group has two openings, which will most likely be filled from our existing waiting list.

Once the two positions are filled, we will continue to seek new members to form the second group. Once five men have connected with us and been interviewed, the second group will begin operation.

If interested, or need more information, please contact me at (707) 484-1051 or email me at [afichtenberg@aol.com](mailto:afichtenberg@aol.com).

## Valley of the Moon Rotary Club



■Star Power

### DID YOU KNOW?

I'll bet you didn't know about the Oakmont Community Foundation, right? Well, you should know about this great organization. They provide financial support for groups or individuals who have ideas for educational and charitable projects or events that benefit Oakmont residents. Over \$400,000 has been awarded.

The Foundation Board recently expanded the qualifications for grant eligibility to allow individuals as well as clubs or OVA-approved groups to apply. They recently funded the AI speaker on October 24 at the Berger Center. OCF has assisted the Oakmont Library, Lifelong Learning, Movies at Oakmont, Grandparents Club, music, etc.

Jackie Ryan, a member of VOM Rotary, is the President of the Oakmont Community Foundation. The goal of Oakmont Community Foundation is to benefit all of Oakmont.

Also, did you know that next Friday, November 14, the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of Santa Rosa are presenting their Annual Veterans Tribute Luncheon at the Vets Memorial Building across from the fairgrounds? The keynote speaker is Colonel (retired) Misty Zelk, who is currently the Medical Director at Spring Lake Village and practicing geriatric medicine. It's been said that her talks bring everyone to tears.

Plus, a great sack lunch is provided by our very own Oakmont Village Market, a marching band and more patriotic tributes. Tickets are still available for \$20. Buy one for yourself and one for a veteran, so veterans can come for free. If you don't know a veteran, donate the ticket back and Rotary knows veterans to gift them to.

For tickets, e-mail me at [starpower7@att.net](mailto:starpower7@att.net) and I'll get back to you.

If you didn't know about the Redwood Empire Food Bank, drop in on Thursday, November 20 to hear what's happening there. Meetings are at the East Rec. Center and begin at 8 a.m.

## Oakmont Garden Club



■Patty McHugh

### CONTAINER GARDENING

**WHEN:** Wednesday, November 12, 9:30 a.m. Social, 10-11 a.m. Presentation, Q&A follows

**WHERE:** East Rec., 7902 Oakmont Drive

**SPEAKER:** Nancy Crevaling, Sonoma County Master Gardener

Nancy will cover the benefits of container gardening, what makes a suitable container, the vast types of plants that grow well in them and the best way to plant and maintain them.

Nancy has been a Master Gardener since 2009. She has been food gardening in a variety of containers since the 1970's and loves the flexibility it has given her in both apartments and houses with limited gardening space. She will have samples on hand and demonstrate how to plant a container that is healthy for you and the environment.

This presentation is our last for the year 2025. At this last meeting of the year, we will be electing the club officers for 2026. There will be a call for nominees from the floor.

We'll be back in January with another seasonal-themed program.

Happy holidays to all of you from all of us! Be safe.

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## Oakmont Health Initiative Free Fitness Classes

■ Charlene Bunas

### A WISE WOMAN EXERCISES



Janet. (Photos by Charlene Buans)

Wisdom comes from North Dakota native, San Francisco transplant and former Kenwood resident, Janet. When she was eight years old, her family moved from Grand Forks (snowfall: 37.2") to San Francisco (freaky February 1976, 2").

In 1976 she moved to the bucolic hills of Kenwood. Relishing the weather in their slice of Valley of the Moon, she and her husband hiked trails around their home. The last Kenwood "snowfall" was in 2019 and because they'd moved to Oakmont in 2011, they rejoiced.

No stranger to exercise, Janet began exercising as a teenager, an attempt she says "that compensated for her love of desserts." Her teachers? Jack LaLanne and Richard Simmons.

In Kenwood, she jazzercised in the Kenwood Depot. "The Depot's storied history seeped from basalt stone walls," she says. "Built in 1887 for railroad trade, it lost its purpose when the automobile arrived. In 1940 the Women's Kenwood Improvement Club bought it for \$10 but 'only if events planned there were of community interest. And to this day, that agreement still stands."

In Oakmont Janet's introduction to OHI was when she met one of founders. "Tom Woodrum met me once and never forgot my name!" Long after Tom and Theresa moved away, Janet is still a faithful student, barely misses a class.

Or a hike. Her love of hiking takes her to both meditative (behind East Rec.) and challenging trails (Annadel). In addition to the Hiking Club, she enjoys the Singles Club, and the Needlework Club, where she knits.

Janet is motivated by "people who have lived long lives and who have sharp minds. It's because they're active and socialize with friends."

To her, fitness is "having the strength to do the activities I enjoy with ease and agility." Wisely said, Janet.

Meeting ID 850 1489 7161; Passcode: 998608.



Janet and instructor Nicole.

## InvestOAK

■ Joe Pundyk

### IS CRYPTOCURRENCY A GOOD INVESTMENT FOR YOU?

In addition to our monthly Market Review, the main subject of the November 21 meeting will be a discussion of investment in cryptocurrency.

Cryptocurrency is a rapidly evolving area of the financial market and can be very volatile. It may not be appropriate for every investor, depending on individual risk tolerance and financial goals.

The presentation will offer an overview of what is currently happening in the crypto field, using materials originally developed by Zacks Research.

Please join the next InvestOAK meeting for a lively discussion on Friday, November 21 from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Birch Room at the Central Activity Center.

## Strategies for Independence

■ Carol Smith

### CLASS ON TRUST AND ESTATE PLANNING

After a successful first class, Strategies for Independence, a recently OVA-approved group providing educational programs for members, will be offering a community session on Trust and Estate Planning. The class will take place on Wednesday, November 19 at 2 p.m. in the East Rec. Center.

We are pleased to welcome Olga Komar, attorney at law, who will speak about Trust and Estate Planning. Olga's practice focuses on these areas, and we are fortunate to have her nearby in Sonoma.

There will be time for questions during the session. For those who may wish to follow up privately, Olga's contact information will be available at the check-in desk.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to me at (707) 480-1068 (text message preferred).

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Disclaimer: This program is offered for informational and educational purposes only. OVA does not endorse any specific attorney or service provider.*

## Lawn Bowling

■ Mary Blake



### INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO BOWL?

Email us at [oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com](mailto:oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com). Training is about three lessons followed by a practice game and membership is \$20 per year.

### DAILY DRAW

Daily Draw is at 12:30 p.m. Bowlers should be there at 12:15.

### NOVICE SINGLES

As I write this, Gary Wickel will be facing Jane Beauchamp on October 31 to determine the best novice bowler in all of Oakmont. As you read this, you'll already know the winner!



Gary Wickel. Jane Beauchamp.

### MEMBER MEETING NOVEMBER 10 AT NOON

Our Annual Member Meeting is Monday, November 10, at noon. There will be food! We'll be at the East Rec. Center waiting for you! If you haven't already voted, this will be your final chance. And we'll also do our very best to answer any questions you may have.

### THANKSGIVING TOURNAMENT

We'll hold our Thanksgiving Tournament on Tuesday rather than Thursday to make it easier for you to be there.

### 2025 AWARDS GALA AND HOLIDAY PARTY AND GIFTS FOR KIDS

I wish I knew why time kept on spinning by so very quickly. It's time to think about gifts for foster children who may not receive gifts this year. We have a list and a tree in the bowls room. Follow the instructions (we need to keep track of who signed up for which children). And while you're doing that, sign up to join us for our Awards Gala and Holiday Party on Friday, December 5 at the Berger.

### COMING EVENTS

Monday November 10 at noon: Member Meeting at the East Rec. Center

Tuesday, November 25, 12:30 p.m.: Thanksgiving Tournament

Friday, December 5 at 5 p.m.: 2025 Awards Gala and Holiday Party at the Berger

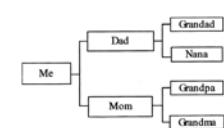
Email: [oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com](mailto:oakmontlawnbowling@gmail.com).

Website: <http://www.oakmontlawnbowling.com>.

*The Oakmont News / November 8, 2025*

## Genealogy Club

■ George McKinney



### CALIFORNIA HISTORY—WHEN DID YOUR FAMILY COME TO CALIFORNIA?

All Oakmont residents are invited to the next Genealogy Club meeting on Nov. 24, 1 p.m. at the East Rec Center.

Let's share our family stories! This session will highlight the many ways families came to California. Tell us when your family arrived—and what drew them here.



People reached California by countless paths. Your ancestors might have been:

- Indigenous peoples who have always called California home.
- Mexicans or Californios living here before statehood.
- Early settlers who crossed the Sierras.
- Gold seekers rushing west, or one of the Europeans who came to California to find gold.
- Chinese or Japanese labor migrants, or other non-Europeans who came to California.
- Families who came west after the Civil War with the transcontinental railroad.
- Migrants escaping the Dust Bowl or seeking work during the Great Depression.
- Military personnel or students who came here and stayed.

You don't need to be a genealogist to enjoy this conversation—just bring your curiosity and your family's story.

If you have a migration photo to share, please email it to [oakmontancestry@gmail.com](mailto:oakmontancestry@gmail.com).

## Oakmont Rainbow Women



■ Nancy Schmit

### MAKE A FAMILY HOLIDAY MERRY AND BRIGHT

This holiday season, the Oakmont Rainbow Women (ORW) is again sponsoring a community-wide toy drive to benefit YWCA Sonoma County ([www.ywcasc.org](http://www.ywcasc.org)).

Donations of new toys can be dropped off anytime December 1-11 at the OVA office. The most useful and appreciated donations are new toys, unwrapped and in their original packaging, for ages 0 to 16. Wrapping will be done after parents select appropriate gifts for their kids. Gift cards are also appreciated (Target, Safeway, Visa, gas), as well as art supplies, toys and warm clothes (brand new warm coats for ages 0-adult).

Other collection sites and dates: you may drop off unwrapped gifts on December 3rd at the Tree Lighting event at the Berger Plaza about 5:30 p.m. and ORW will host a "drive through" donation drop-off, where people can hand off packages without even getting out of their cars, on Saturday, December 6, between 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Berger parking lot. Look for the canopy and a smiling ORW Santa's helper.

Sadly, this year alone, Sonoma County has experienced six incidents of domestic violence resulting in the loss of life for thirteen individuals. Since 1976, YWCA Sonoma County has been our community's singular and vital provider of comprehensive domestic violence services. We operate the only 24/7 DV Crisis hotline, (707) 546-1234 from inside the walls of the only confidential Safe House shelter in Sonoma County. Learn more at [www.ywcasc.org](http://www.ywcasc.org)—and please give generously.

## Silver Guys of Oakmont

■D. Hall

### FALL POTLUCK FOR SILVER GUYS

Silver Guys of Oakmont and their invited guests will stage a fall potluck on Sunday, November 9 in the East Rec. Center from 2–4:30 p.m. As usual, bring food and beverage to share.

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

## Conservatives Club

■Jane Gyorgy



### CHRIS COLMBE TO SPEAK ON THE POTTER DAM PROJECT

The speakers for the October meeting were the North Bay Young Republicans, not Chris Colmbe, who will be speaking at our November meeting. A summary of the NBYR meeting will appear in the next issue of the *Oakmont News*.

On November 25, Chris Colmbe will join us to explain how, in his words, the Potter Dam project will impact thousands of families, farms, and businesses across three Northern counties, Sonoma, Mendocino and Marin. In his words, the removal of two dams could raise living costs, strain firefighting efforts, and put more fiscal pressure on local economies, and why, in his words, better solutions that avoid long-term damage are being overlooked.

Regardless of your political leanings, water is highly critical to every aspect of our lives and future. Please come and learn what you can do to support the continuation of the Potter Dam project. Come and find out how you can get involved.

Monthly meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 4–6 p.m. in the Berger (6633 Oakmont Dr). Food and beverage welcome.

Members, please use the sign-up button in the emailed invitation to RSVP with YES, NO, or MAYBE. Non-members, please email TheNewOakmontCC@gmail.com and include your full name and that of your guest(s).

## AARP Tax-Aide Program

■Diane Ethier

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TAX SEASON

AARP Tax-Aide program helps seniors and lower income adults prepare and file tax returns. We have a thriving program here in Oakmont, but only because we have a great group of volunteers who help greet taxpayers, organize documents and prepare the tax returns. The Tax-Aide program at Oakmont runs Mondays and Wednesdays from about 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. during tax season (February through mid-April). If those are not good days for you, we do have other nearby sites where you can help out on other days.

You do not need to have prior tax experience to be a volunteer. Training is provided as is all equipment needed. Our group is fun, collaborative and supportive. Volunteering with Tax-Aide is also a great way to exercise your brain and keep up your computer skills. Last year Tax-Aide prepared and filed over 1.2 million tax returns nationwide and over 400 just at the Oakmont site!

There are four new volunteer orientation meeting scheduled. In person at Franklin Park Clubhouse, 2995 Franklin Ave. in Santa Rosa on November 18 and December 5 or via Google Meet on November 24 and December 1. Sessions run 10–11:30 a.m. and you need only attend one of the meetings. For more information or to reserve a spot at one of our orientation meetings, please call (707) 327-2401 or send an email to TaxAideSonomaCounty@gmail.com.

## Café Mortel

■Linda Suhr



### END OF LIFE DISCUSSION

Café Mortel welcomes all Oakmonters to our discussion-in-the-round this Wednesday, Nov. 12, 3–4:15 p.m. in the East Rec. We find that talking about dying and death in a supportive setting helps us get more comfortable with the inevitable end of life. We also discuss local resources, articles, books, podcasts and other information that help us prepare. This is not a support group, rather we come to learn from each other's experiences. And we laugh! Join us, won't you?

### NEW EOL PLANNING WORKSHOP

Café Mortel will present a 6-part workshop called End-of-Life Planning with Heart beginning January, 2026. You may have a trust or will, but there is so much more to put in place in case of incapacity and for death so that others may honor your wishes.

In this workshop, we will take steps to prepare for the end of life not only in a practical way but also emotionally and mentally. Through self-exploration, we will move toward a feeling of completeness, which brings a sense of peace about our mortality.

The workshop dates are Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 13, Apr. 10, May 8, and Jun. 12 from 1:30–3:30 p.m. in Oakmont. The workshop will be led by me, end-of-life planning guide and doula. For more information, cost and registration, contact me at linda@autumnoflifeplanning.com.

### LOOKING FORWARD

Advance Health Care Directives with Heart is coming again in February. Details coming soon!

Final Exit Network October workshop was cancelled. It will be rescheduled in 2026.

## Oakmont Slot Car Club OSCC

■Ray Wells

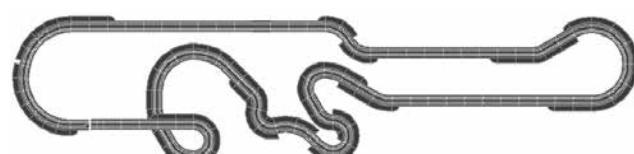
### SLOT-CARS UPDATE—NOVEMBER

All OVA residents with a proximity card are considered members of the Slot-Car Club—no membership fees required. Family members are welcome to participate in club events; all attendees are simply asked to sign the event register.

The club will host three days of racing at the Sugarloaf facility on December 27, 28 and 29, featuring two tracks and 18 Carrera digital 1/32-scale GT cars with 12 hand controllers available for use. Participants may bring their own compatible cars and controllers but should indicate this on the sign-up sheet (see below).

The smaller track will be designated for younger children and beginners. It includes crash zones to make learning more forgiving. Drivers accelerate by pressing down with their thumb and brake by lifting up before sharp turns. With seven different types of corners—some fast, some slow—practice is key to mastering the course.

The larger track will host 10-minute races each hour, with practice sessions in between. Races will include a simulated fuel mode, requiring cars to enter the pit every 15 laps or so for refueling to maintain top speed. If enough participants sign up, drivers will rotate so everyone has the chance to compete in at least one race per hour.



Track design by Ray Wells.

More information and a sign-up sheet are available in the Slot-Car Club folder at the OVA main office, where residents can pre-book a time slot. Pre-registration and driving are not required—spectators and volunteers to help marshal the cars are always welcome.

## Table Tennis Club

■Herbert Ristock



### GAME NIGHT

We're excited to announce our first OTTC Game Night on November 7 at 5:30 p.m. This will be the start of a quarterly event series, offering a fun way to connect and play together. Event details will be posted on our website: sites.google.com/view/oakttclub.

If you'd like to refresh your skills or prefer a more relaxed, social style of play, consider joining our "Just-for-Fun" group. More information is available here: sites.google.com/view/oakttclub/about/membership.

Reminder: After playing, please return all OTTC-owned equipment, including paddles, so that it's available for everyone to enjoy next time.

## Wii Bowling Oakmont Lanes



■Terry Leuthner

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

Anyone interested in joining our club, either as a team bowler or substitute, please call me at (707) 291-3023 or stop by the East Recreation Center on Tuesdays from 2–3:30 p.m. (no bowling fourth Tuesdays) to see us in action. We charge \$25 for a 10-week tournament that includes the playoffs. 2 p.m. League: 8 teams, 4 bowlers per team. Each bowler bowls 3 games and has his/her own handicap (80%) and average.

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

**Bowling dates for November:** Nov. 4 (week #11), 11 (week #12, Veterans Day Challenge), 18 (week #13). No bowling Nov. 25 (fourth Tuesday).

**Bowling dates for December:** Dec. 2, Fall League 2025 Championship Tournament at 2 p.m.; Dec. 4, Bowling Christmas Party, East Recreation, 5–8:30 p.m. No bowling Dec. 9, 16, 23 and 30—break for the Holidays.

**Oakmont Lanes Christmas Party:** Thursday, December 4 at the East Recreation from 5–8:30 p.m. Cocktails/Appetizers at 5 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m. Grab bag at 7 p.m.

### RESULTS AS OF OCTOBER 21 (WEEK #10, FALL LEAGUE)

Results are: first place, Strikers; second place, King Pins; third place, 4 Tops; fourth place, Wii Four; fifth Place, Alley Oops; sixth place, Pocket Hits; seventh place, High Rollers; eighth place, Ghosts.

**Men's High Games:** Charlie Ensley, 255; Glenn Hewitt, 245; Mike Earles, 234; Richard Adamczyk, 224; Scott Harris, 222; Rob Warren, 202; Don Shelhart, 201.

**Women's High Games:** Peggy Ensley, 268; Sandy Osherooff, 258; Joanne Abrams, 247; Laurel Earles, 244; Shirley Jamison, 220; Joanne Bender, 219; Donnarose Ilecki, 215; Karen Palmiotti, 214; Pat Scott, 210; Jeanne Harden, 201.

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

## Lifelong Learning



■ Marlena Tremont

### WINTER 2026 CLASS PREVIEW

**WHEN:** Wednesday, December 10; 2:30 p.m. music and refreshments; 3 p.m. Program begins

**WHERE:** Berger Center

#### Upcoming Classes:

- Race, Class and Gender in the American Experience
- Genetics for Non-Scientists
- Musical Theater
- The Neurology of Aging
- Playful Poetry

Registration is open! Purchase multiple classes for the same person at the same time and save 25%. Register at OakmontLL.org, complete a flyer in the OVA office or pay at the door.

#### UPCOMING DECEMBER CONCERTS



*Hella Fitzgerald.*

**Hella Fitzgerald** brings the sounds of jazz, blues, funk and R & B to Oakmont. Do you love vintage tinged soul music? This one's for you.

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 4, 7-9 p.m.

**WHERE:** Berger Center. Table seating. Tickets \$25.



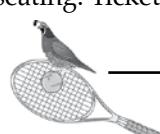
*Barbara Higbie.*

**Barbara Higbie Winter Solstice Concert:** a joyful celebration of the holiday season with an award-winning fiddler and her energetic band mates on guitar, vocals, percussion, bass, and cello.

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 18, 7-9 p.m.

**WHERE:** Berger Center. Theater seating. Tickets \$35.

## Tennis Club



■ Diane Curtis

### TENNIS CLUB ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At OTC's Oct. 20 annual meeting, Frank Passaglia was elected president and Rex Fuller vice president for 2026. Retaining their current board positions will be Judy Passaglia, secretary; Edilberto Loaiza, treasurer; and Maureen Pennal, tournament chair. Rob Swaigen will be the new social chairman. Outgoing President John Hughson will also continue to serve on the board.

Other OTC positions include Mike Scrobonia in charge of court maintenance and Diane Curtis, OTC writer for the *Oakmont News*.



*L to R: E. Loaiza, M. Pennal, J. Hughson, F. Passaglia, A. Herskovic and J. Passaglia. (Photo by Ruth Layne)*

Big thanks to these OTC stalwarts: John Hughson; Arnie Herskovic, court maintenance chief; Nominating Committee Chair Ruth Layne and committee members Bill Nasi, Neil Linnenball, Walt Kusener and Claire Tosio.

Dues, payable by January 31, will be \$30 for 2026. At its December meeting, the board plans to set dates for all tournaments and socials throughout the year.

■ Michael James

## Jazz Club Classes



### HOLIDAY DANCE PARTY!

The New Horizons 20-piece swing band will be playing all your favorite dance songs from Duke Ellington to Frank Sinatra on Wednesday, December 3. The band consists of Oakmont residents as well as many other senior citizens playing trombone, trumpet, saxophone, clarinet, piano, bass and drums. John Ray, the leader of the band, will be singing along with Lorri B.

We will have cabaret seating so you can bring your favorite food and beverage to enjoy the afternoon in the convenience of your own community. You can reserve a table of 8 to include your friends,



*Michael James (center) with Lorri B. and John Ray from the New Horizons Band.*



*New Horizons 20-piece Swing Band.*

but get your reservations in early because our event was sold out last year.

Tickets are only \$10 per person and we have a limited number of tickets available. Leave your cash or check made out to Michael James Music in the Jazz Club file at the OVA office.

The party is from 2-4 p.m. so get there early! Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Any questions call me at (559) 707-2750 or email: [mjamesblue71147@gmail.com](mailto:mjamesblue71147@gmail.com).

**WHAT:** Holiday Dance Party with the New Horizons 20-piece swing band

**WHEN:** Wednesday, December 3

**WHERE:** East Rec. Center

**TIME:** 2-4 p.m.

**COST:** \$10 tickets sold in advance



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**2025 Winter Warmth Coat Drive**  
November 10 to December 19

**Drop-off Box at McBride Realty  
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**Receive one raffle ticket for each coat you donate & enter to win a  
bottle of wine & a \$100 gift basket full of goodies for your holiday  
get-togethers. Drawing will be held December 18 at noon.**

*Please go through your closets & donate your extra coats to  
those in need. Ask your family & friends to help donate too!*

*We will be collecting coats for men, women & children.*

*Other warm and clean items accepted this year are jeans,  
sweatshirts, sweatpants, warm hats, scarves, gloves,  
sleeping bags and blankets.*



The beneficiaries of your donated items go to many local  
service providers, such as St.Vincent de Paul, Redwood Gospel Mission,  
Catholic Charities, The Living Room, Christ Methodist Church, and  
Shomrei Torah synagogue, to name a few.

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■ Greg Fauss

### THANKSGIVING AND ADVENT

Americans enjoy Thanksgiving more than any other holiday according to a YouGov survey from February 2024. In third place is Christmas, both of which are on the horizon.

We invite you to join us as we celebrate Thanksgiving a few days early on November 23 with a gratitude-themed service followed by a potluck.



Photo by G. Fauss.

And in preparation for Advent and Christmas we will be making our own Advent Wreaths from 12-1 p.m. on that same Sunday, Nov. 23, in the East Rec. Center. Everything needed will be available for free.

Our Sunday Worship Services begin at 10:30 a.m. in the East Rec. Center. For information about our Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Thursday evening survey of the Christian faith—Alpha, our Saturday Prayer meeting, and other gatherings go to <http://www.occsantarosa.org>, write us at [occsantarosa@gmail.com](mailto:occsantarosa@gmail.com) or call us at (707) 595-0166.



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## The Wildland-Urban Interface in Oakmont Village

■ Roger Biery, Firewise Task Force

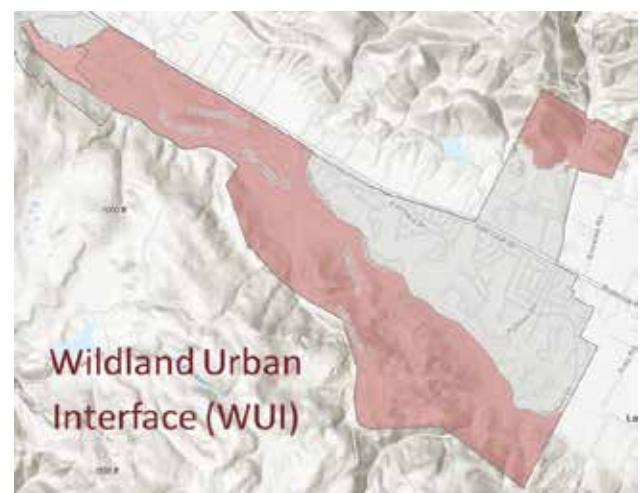
This is Part 1 about how the City of Santa Rosa and the state of California have designated areas within Oakmont Village as being vulnerable to wildfires. It is important to know these designations for your property because each imposes a different set of regulations pertaining to defensible space and other safeguards against wildfires.

In 2009, the City of Santa Rosa designated about half of Oakmont Village to be in a Wildland-Urban Interface, or WUI that rhymes with "chewy" (see map). A WUI is considered to have a significant vulnerability to wildfires.

Santa Rosa's City Code Chapter 9-32 on Hazardous Vegetation and Fuels Management requires property owners within the WUI to maintain defensible space. As stated in the chapter's purpose and intent: "Benefits from defensible space and fuels mitigation include: prevent loss of lives, reduce fire suppression costs, reduce private property losses and protect natural resources from devastating wildfire."

A set of frequently asked questions about WUI vegetation management is available at [www.srcty.org/596/Wildland-Urban-Interface](http://www.srcty.org/596/Wildland-Urban-Interface). One of the questions involves inspections, which the Santa Rosa Fire Department plans to conduct in the Oakmont Village WUI in 2026 to educate residents about complying with the city's defensible space requirements.

New construction on properties within a WUI must also comply with California Building Code Chapter 7A on "Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure." Anyone wishing



to protect an existing home against the threat of wildfires, potentially as part of a "facelift" or remodel, will find these guidelines quite useful.

More information about WUIs is available at [www.srcty.org/596/Wildland-Urban-Interface](http://www.srcty.org/596/Wildland-Urban-Interface). More information about preparing for a wildfire is available at [oakmontvillage.com/firewise-resource-center](http://oakmontvillage.com/firewise-resource-center), where you can also request a Firewise Defensible Space and Home Hardening Assessment of your home.

The Santa Rosa Fire Department is in the process of updating the city's WUI map, so there may be some changes that affect Oakmont Village. One of the changes will involve the state's updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone designations, which will be covered in an upcoming edition of the *Oakmont News*.

## Oakmont Sunday Symposium

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

■Judie Coleman

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



### NOVEMBER 9: TOM JORDE SHIFTING BOUNDARIES:

#### THE PRESIDENCY AND EVOLVING POWER

In this timely talk, Prof. Jorde will examine the steady—and sometimes startling—growth of presidential power under the current administration. From declarations of various emergencies, executive orders, challenges to congressional and agency authority, and from affirming SCOTUS decisions, Prof. Jorde will examine how the Executive branch is evolving. He will explore how the precedents that are being set will impact the future of American Democracy.

### NOVEMBER 16: MILES HORTON, SONOMA CLEAN POWER GEOZONE PROJECT TURN UP THE HEAT, NOT THE BILLS!



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Join Miles Horton of Sonoma Clean Power for a fascinating look at the GeoZone effort—a once-in-a-generation effort to secure for our region affordable, reliable clean energy right beneath our feet. Whether you care about lowering bills or fighting climate change, this talk reveals how geothermal energy could quietly transform our community's future—and why it matters to all of us.

### NOVEMBER 23: DR. ALLAN BERNSTEIN MUSIC AND MEMORY: THE SOUNDTRACK OF YOUR LIFE HITTING THE RIGHT NOTE... AND THE RIGHT NEURON

Ever wonder why your favorite song can instantly transport you back to your teenage dance moves—or why grandma suddenly remembers the words to an old tune? Dr. Allan Bernstein reveals how the right tunes can spark memories, brighten moods, and even boost brain health. From childhood favorites to timeless classics, learn why music isn't just entertainment—it's a powerful tool for memory and connection at any age.



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## Art Association

■Linda O'Connor



### OAA MEMBER RECEPTION AND ART LECTURE

Join the Oakmont Art Association (OAA) for two inspiring events.

**WHAT:** Member Reception

**WHEN:** November 13, 3–5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Berger Center

OAA invites all members—new and longtime—to a lively reception at the Berger Center. Meet fellow art lovers, connect with the OAA Board, and learn about the many benefits of membership.

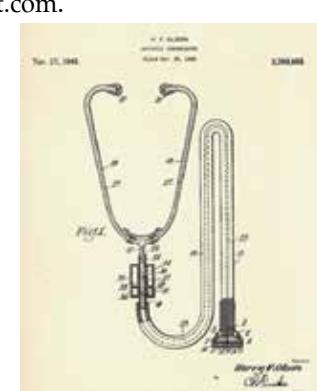
The OAA is a vibrant community of nearly 150 artists and enthusiasts dedicated to sharing the beauty and inspiration of visual art. Members enjoy monthly meetings with refreshments and presentations by accomplished artists and museum docents. The association also sponsors art-focused bus tours, hands-on classes, and critique sessions that encourage creativity and growth.

Each March, the OAA transforms the Berger Auditorium into a stunning gallery of members' paintings, crafts, and photography, with raffle proceeds supporting local art scholarships. Member works are displayed year-round at venues across Oakmont, including the Central Activities Center and the OAK Restaurant. Annual membership is \$20. Learn more at [oakmontart.com](http://oakmontart.com).

**WHAT:** "Painting the Stethoscope, Part II"

**WHEN:** November 14, Refreshments 10 a.m., Program 10:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Berger Center



Part II of "Painting the Stethoscope" continues an exploration of how artists have portrayed doctors, patients, and disease through history—from medieval depictions of plague to modern reflections on suffering and resilience.

Presenter Dr. Charlie Goldberg, a retired ER physician from Kaiser and longtime docent at SFMOMA and the Museum of the African Diaspora, brings a unique perspective shaped by his medical and artistic experiences. Now teaching at San Francisco's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Dr. Goldberg encourages interactive learning and thoughtful discussion.

  
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*Eloise Tweenen, Founder  
Oakmont resident since 2012*

## Progressives Club



■ Ed Biglin



More Joy Band.

### AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND COMMUNITY WITH "MORE JOY" FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 7 PM, BERGER

Oakmont Progressives and the Oakmont Democratic Alliance are proud to present a special evening of folk, blues, and country music, often referred to as "Americana," with thematic storytelling by one of Oakmont's favorite bands. More Joy's Iris Harrell, Ann Benson, Chris Finn, and Deborah Knapp believe in the power of music to tell stories and build community. Their shows are carefully crafted events, often exploring specific themes relevant to our times.

Proceeds support the efforts of the Oakmont Democratic Alliance and its volunteers.

For tickets, go to [www.oakmontdemocraticalliance.org](http://www.oakmontdemocraticalliance.org).



■ Don McPherson

### CELEBRATING ANOTHER GREAT YEAR

With the Oktoberfest tournament and potluck picnic lunch event in the record books, the Oakmont Pétanque Club is celebrating the end of another playing season and a very successful year.

The club held its third annual home and home match tournament against Santa Rosa's Pétanque La Rose club. A full slate of players participated in the Springtime, Bastille Day, and Oktoberfest tournaments and picnic lunches. Members enjoyed gathering for casual club play on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday mornings and continuing the tradition of two Evening Pétanque social/play nights in June and August.

The bi-weekly club column continues in the *Oakmont News* in addition to regular e-newsletters to members. The club continues to welcome new members, expanding its roster to a new record-high 77 members, and looks forward enthusiastically to planning for 2026.

## Oakmont Pétanque Club

### PÉTANQUE IN OAKMONT MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

French in origin, Pétanque (pay-tonk), also known in the United Kingdom as Boules, has been a feature of organized play in Oakmont since the 1980s. The club, founded as an OVA organization in 1996, encourages all Oakmonters who may be interested in playing or learning to play to come to the courts between Berger and the OVA offices at 9:45 a.m. on the Club Play days of Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Club Play days are casual friendly games with teams randomly chosen.

Anyone, regardless of experience, is welcome to enjoy the challenge and camaraderie of a simple game that is inexpensive, fun to play, learned quickly, and endlessly fascinating in its deeper levels of execution and strategy. The club has boules to lend while you're learning, and you'll be playing right away. The Pétanque Club has been a no-dues club since its 1996 founding—just sign up to be on the club roster and play as often as you wish.



Players in the 2025 Bastille Day Tournament.



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## Hikers

■ Scott Finn

We welcome you to join us on a hike whether you are a member yet or not and the annual membership is only \$15. Go to our website at <http://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.

### NOVEMBER 13: INTERMEDIATE HIKE MT. TAMALPAIS RIDGE

We will drive through Mill Valley to reach the ridge near Mountain Home Inn. The hike starts at the Matt Davis Trail. We will cross over several bridges over cascading creeks and pass through several skinny redwood tree forests and chaparral. The terrain is rocky in places, smooth paths, and slopes. Lunch will be at Bootjack picnic area. Then we cross the road to Troop 80 trail. About 5.5 miles, 800 ft. elevation.

Bring water, lunch, poles, sturdy shoes. Leave Berger 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Rhonda Greer, (206) 818-7389.

### NOVEMBER 13: LONG HIKE MUIR BEACH—DIAZ RIDGE



Diaz Ridge View.

This is a loop hike from the Muir Beach parking area taking in valleys and hills with great views. We start with a climb through the hamlet via a steep set of stairs to the Muir Beach overlook. After an easy walk on the cliff tops, the trail descends by switchbacks to the Redwood Creek Valley then over a ridge back to the coast. The charming Pelican Inn awaits near the Muir Beach parking area for those interested in



a beverage after the hike. Loop is approximately 9 miles with 1,600 ft. elevation gain. About an hour and 15-minute drive from Oakmont.

Meet at the Berger Center at 8 a.m., so we can beat some of the rush hour traffic. Bring water, lunch and poles, Dress in layers for the coast. Hike leader is John Schwonke, (707) 292-7359.

### NOVEMBER 20: INTERMEDIATE HIKE SUGARLOAF WATERFALL (OR VISTA)/HILLSIDE LOOP

If there has been enough rain to fill the waterfall, we will descend the Canyon trail into a lovely Redwood grove, then ascend Pony Gate to Stern, and on to the Meadow and Hillside trails. If there has not been enough rain, we will go up Lower Bald Mountain to Vista instead, then proceed up Hillside to our lunch spot at a lovely viewpoint overlooking the park (about same mileage and elevation gain either way), returning to the cars via Creekside Nature trail. 5.2 miles, 900 ft. elevation gain.

Dress in layers, bring sun hat, water, lunch, poles if needed. Leave Berger 9 a.m. Hike leader is Florentia Scott, (707) 591-1929, [hikingscott@yahoo.com](mailto:hikingscott@yahoo.com).

### NOVEMBER 20: LONG HIKE BALD MOUNTAIN IN SUGARLOAF RIDGE STATE PARK

A challenging trip to the top of the park by way of Brushy Peaks. Views into Napa Valley, and if the weather cooperates, vistas much further afield as well. 8.5 miles, 2100 ft.

Bring lunch, poles, and dress in layers for potential wind. Meet at the Berger at 8:30 a.m. Hike leader is Martin Johns, (330) 815-5167.



Sugarloaf Waterfall.

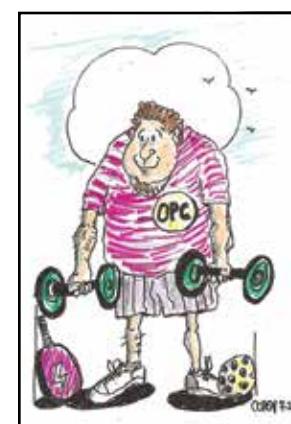
## Pickleball Corner

■ Peter Copen



### TIME TO STAY IN SHAPE

Pickleball at Oakmont is for Oakmont residents and their guests only! New Player Orientation: 9 a.m. Tuesday mornings. Contact Victoria Dettman, (707) 230-2958. Call Jim Howard at (209) 761-8517 for demo loaner. Visit our website: [oakmontpickleballclub.com](http://oakmontpickleballclub.com). Graphic by Peter Copen.



## Movies At Oakmont



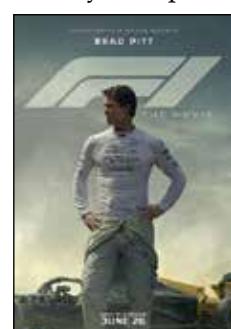
SCREENING DAY AND TIME: Sundays at 2 p.m.

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.

### NOVEMBER 9: F1: THE MOVIE

Brad Pitt: A Formula One driver comes out of retirement to mentor and team up with a younger driver. 2025, PG-13, 2:35.



### NOVEMBER 16: BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID

Robert Redford and Paul Newman: In 1890s Wyoming, Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid lead a band of outlaws. When a train robbery goes wrong, they find themselves on the run with a posse hard on their heels. 1969, PG, 1:50.



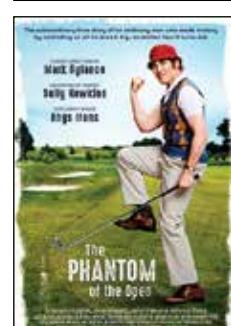
### NOVEMBER 23: MATERIALISTS

An ambitious young New York City matchmaker finds herself torn between the perfect match and her imperfect ex. 2025, R, 1:56.



### NOVEMBER 30: THE PHANTOM OF THE OPEN

Maurice Flitcroft, a dreamer and unrelenting optimist, manages to gain entry to the 1976 British Open Golf Championship qualification round despite being a complete novice. 2021, PG-13, 1:46.



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## Oakmont Parkinson's Support Group

■Christine Nota

### ACTIVITIES INCLUDE SPEAKERS, EXERCISE CLASS AND PING PONG!

The Oakmont Parkinson's Support Group meets the first Friday of every month, 10-11:30 a.m., West Recreation, upper meeting room. Most meetings include a knowledgeable speaker with expertise in Parkinson's or aging and a round robin for sharing how members are doing and anything they have experienced or learned recently about living with Parkinson's Disease (PD). The meetings welcome people with Parkinson's and their family and friends. The focus is continuing to live well despite the disease.

Support group members exercise together every Tuesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m., East Recreation Center. The class is taught by PD-Connect, a nonprofit based in Sonoma and Marin Counties. PD-Connect focuses on living well despite PD and using exercise as medicine to delay the disease.

Research has shown this is possible. PD-Connect says that "exercise is the medicine but not all exercise is created equal," which is the value of exercising with an experienced PD-Connect physical therapist. The exercise class focuses on challenging balance, agility, strength, coordination, and aerobics. Moderate to high intensity exercise is shown to help slow the progression of the disease. People with other conditions or limitations are welcome.

In addition, members of the support group formed the Oakmont Ping-Pong Parkinson Club. The club plays ping-pong twice a week at West Rec. Ping-Pong improves PD symptoms and may delay the disease. Members of the club have experienced considerable improvements in how they are feeling and they are having a blast.

If you are interested in any of these activities, please contact me at chrisnota@gmail.com.

## OakMUG Oakmont Macintosh Users Group

■Peggy Clark

### FAREWELL OAKMUG

As you are likely aware, OakMUG is nearing its conclusion. Our final meeting will be held on November 15 at 2 p.m. at the East Recreation Center.

OakMUG has been an integral part of Oakmont for many years. Initially, it was held monthly, but we subsequently transitioned to an every-other-month schedule. Notably, we organized a sign-up event for bringing treats to each meeting, and we provided coffee and tea. Those were truly memorable days.

Alan Schackman, Bette Shutt, and Peggy Clark have continued to maintain the momentum of OakMUG. However, we have decided to step back from our responsibilities and have been unable to find volunteers to assume our roles. We understand that there are individuals who would like to see OakMUG continue, but despite our repeated requests for volunteers, we have been unsuccessful.

Pat Barclay, a member of our Board of Directors, who serves as our AV representative, will be speaking at our next meeting. The topic of discussion will be Q&A. If you have any questions, please email them to me at oakmontmacusersgroup@gmail.com, and I will forward them to Pat.

In the interim, the Oakmont Technology Center will continue to offer hands-on classes in our classroom at the CAC. Additionally, Pat Barclay is always available to provide technical assistance. We also have John Wenworth from Technology Simplified to assist you with any technical inquiries you may have.

## Bocce Club

■Mary Piumarta



### NOVEMBER NEWS!

The Bocce Club days and hours have changed to Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 1 p.m. All other times are open to OVA members and guests. Court reservations must be made by contacting Bob Swift at (707) 548-5409.

For players who wish to learn the game, come to the courts on the first Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. and join in the fun. For more information, contact Pat Paulson at (707) 953-6691.

The Bocce Club's Holiday Party will be held at the East Rec. Center on December 13 at 5 p.m. Dinner will be catered and served by The Bird. Dinner includes a choice of Salmon or Rib Eye. Entertainment will be provided by The O'Hara Brothers Band. Price is \$50 for Bocce Club members and \$65 for non-members.

Announcement and reservation forms have been e-mailed to members. Also, forms are available in the Bocce Club folder at the OVA office. They must be returned in an envelope to the OVA office Bocce folder by November 28 along with a check made out to Tony Saram, club treasurer.

Dues for 2026 are \$25 and checks can be submitted with your dinner reservation form. For members who have just recently joined after September 1, your membership dues will carry over to next year.

## Playreaders

■D. Hall



### PRIESTS TO BATTLE IT OUT

On November 10, the second half of *Mass Appeal*, by Bill C. Davis, will be read by Oakmont Playreaders. It's about conflicting priorities between clergymen—one is traditional and obsequious and the other young and idealistic. John Dolan and Jim Preston are featured.

Oakmont Playreaders has a terrific group of men and women who read plays aloud and even do a bit of amateur acting before small audiences. Right now, we have a specific need for more men with a bit of the acting urge to fill out our casts. Is that you? No need to memorize lines! We read from a script. We are a friendly, supportive, totally unthreatening group and we just have fun. Come and see! For more information, call John at (831) 521-7627.

See Oakmont Playreaders the first two Mondays of every month in Room B (Birch) of the Central Activities Center at 2 p.m.

## Meditation

■Joanne Davey

### MEDITATING TOGETHER

#### WEEKLY MEDITATION SESSIONS AT CAC

"You are not just a person. You are a conscious and formless presence."—Eckhart Tolle

Our meditation circle is growing! We invite you to join one or both of our weekly drop-in meditation sessions which have been taking place for many years.

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

**Tuesdays** at 4 p.m. in the CAC Building, Art Room: A 30-min. meditation. Beginning and experienced meditators are welcome.

We approach meditation as a non-denominational practice.

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

## Governing Documents: Get Involved, Be Heard

■Jerry Gladstone, OVA-GDC Board Liaison

The Board of Directors appointed a standing committee to modify and update the OVA Governing Documents (Bylaws and CC&Rs). Why? To ensure they comply with the law, to make it easier to navigate and understand, and to better reflect Community Preferences.

There are three distinct steps to the process: modifying the vote Quorum/Thresholds to make it possible to pass a change, creating a streamlined process to make them comply with the law without burdening the membership, and gathering Oakmont Community input—your chance to suggest changes or modifications.

The entire process is monitored and checked by a dedicated Adams-Stirling attorney team and of course all changes will be put to community vote.

There has already been a Town Hall and a Fireside Chat. More informational sessions are scheduled (see Oakmont News, Oakmont website, askGDC@oakmontvillage.com, Inside Oakmont email blast, etc.).

Please get involved and informed so that OVA may move forward. The present Governing Documents are 60 years old and were written by the Oakmont Developers for their benefit. Time to update and modify for the OVA membership's benefit.

## Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) Seeking New Members

■Monica Heath, LRPC Chair

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is looking for new members who are interested in developing an overall plan for Oakmont that will help determine the direction and future of our community over the next decades. The goal of the LRPC is to create a strategic roadmap, with resident feedback, that anticipates services, needs, and wants of future generations of Oakmont residents and help prepare for those needs, including technology, land use, facilities, and opportunities to enhance the operation and communication needs of the community.

LRPC volunteers serve as a crucial connection to listening and recognizing residents current and future needs. This is an especially great opportunity for new residents to get involved in shaping the Oakmont future in which they will live. Experience in project management, planning, or communications is helpful but not required. The most essential skill: listening to others.

If you are interested, please submit a brief statement of interest and brief résumé, including relevant experience, by noon on December 1, to askOVA@oakmontvillage.com.

## Oakmont Cat Care Coop



■Mary Ellen King

### NEED CARE FOR KITTY WHILE YOU ARE AWAY?

Join the Oakmont Cat Care Coop and share the care! For Oakmont residents only. Active participation for over 15 years.

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

## Electrical Panel Safety Reminder

■ Oakmont Village Association

Homeowners are encouraged to have their electrical panels checked by a licensed electrician, especially if their homes still have the original equipment. Over time, some older panel models have been reported by industry sources to have performance or reliability concerns.

An inspection can help ensure your system is operating safely and may also be helpful for insurance purposes.

LOMAA recently published an article on updating old electrical panels, which you can read at [oakmontvillage.com/lomaa](http://oakmontvillage.com/lomaa) under "Articles" in the Library tab.

*Note: OVA does not inspect or endorse specific products or contractors. This information is provided for general awareness only.*



## Meet Your Neighbors

■ George McKinney

### STAY SAFE DURING WILDFIRE SEASON: ENCOURAGE FAMILY TO USE WATCH DUTY

As we in Oakmont know all too well, living in Sonoma County means living with the reality of wildfire threats. In recent years, our community has faced repeated evacuations, rapidly changing conditions, and the daunting task of staying informed in the midst of emergencies. For many older adults, managing instant updates and making quick evacuation decisions can be stressful and overwhelming.

One simple step can make a big difference: ask your family members who live outside the area to download and subscribe to the Watch Duty app. This free app is staffed by trained citizen reporters and provides real-time wildfire updates, including fire size, location, and evacuation notices. Many Oakmont residents already use it, but having family on the app as well creates an important layer of support.

Here's how it helps:

- Family members who follow local fire reports on Watch Duty can monitor threats to Oakmont from afar.
- They can help interpret which official updates are most urgent.
- They can call or text to remind residents if an evacuation order or warning is issued—even if those residents haven't seen the notice right away.
- They provide peace of mind, knowing that loved ones are engaged and watching over our safety.

Evacuations often have to happen quickly, and stress can cloud judgment. With trusted family members monitoring events in real time, Oakmont residents gain an extra level of reassurance and guidance when every minute counts.

Please consider asking your children, grandchildren, siblings, or close friends outside Sonoma County to download Watch Duty. It takes just a few minutes to install on either iPhone or Android devices, and it is completely free to use.

By working together and empowering our families to stay informed, we can make Oakmont a safer community during wildfire season.

## Current Events Discussion Group

■ 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. Come in person if you can; join on Zoom if you can't. If you come in person, a donation of \$1 is requested.

Issues discussed range from local to national to international. All sides of issues are encouraged.



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

If you want to be put on the mailing list, including Zoom, email [tinalewis31@comcast.net](mailto:tinalewis31@comcast.net) or call (707) 758-9739. Please note that Current Events will not meet on November 28, the day after Thanksgiving.

## Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club

■ John Tan

### GUS LEE COMING TO OAKMONT

The Asian Pacific Heritage and Culture Club is proud to welcome acclaimed author Gus Lee as the featured guest at their next meeting on Wednesday, November 12, from 2–4 p.m. at the West Rec Center.

Lee's path to becoming a writer was anything but ordinary. After attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he went on to study East Asian History and later earned a law degree from the University of California, Davis. In 1989, what began as a private family memoir at his daughter's request unexpectedly grew into his first novel, *China Boy*.



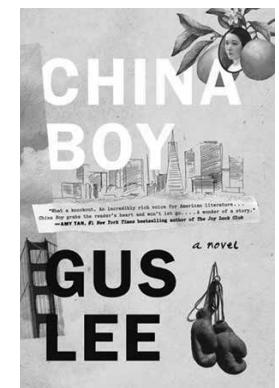
Gus Lee.

"My daughter asked me to write a family journal and it turned out to be *China Boy*," he explained in an interview. "Say you always wanted to bat .300 but had never played a game before. You're at the ballpark and they let you hit. Everything they pitch, you hit,

and you didn't even know you could hit before. That's the way I feel about writing. I never had any literary training, did any workshops. *China Boy* just happened."

*China Boy* introduced readers to Kai Ting, the American-born son of Chinese immigrants growing up in San Francisco's Panhandle neighborhood. The novel received widespread acclaim, with the *New York Times* Book Review likening it to Amy Tan's *The Joy Luck Club* and Günter Grass' *The Tin Drum*. *Time* magazine hailed it as "delightful," and it remained a bestseller for six months while earning a place on the *New York Times* list of Best 100 Books of 1991.

Don't miss this special opportunity to hear from Gus Lee about his journey as a writer and the stories that shaped his work. This free event is open to Oakmont residents and their guests.



## Soroptimist International Oakmont Wine Country

■ Karin Fitz Sanford, Co-Chair

### ANNUAL AUTHORS' BOOK FAIRE: AUTHOR SIGHTING AHEAD!

Check out over 35 author exhibitors at our fourth annual Authors' Book Faire on November 15. Hosted by the Soroptimist International of Oakmont Wine Country (SIOWC), the popular event will be held from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. at the Berger Center, 6633 Oakmont Dr.

Entrance is free for book lovers of all ages. This year's Faire will showcase award-winning novelists, journalists, first-time authors, poets, and thought leaders from across Sonoma County and beyond. They will be on hand to sign and sell their books, with subject matter ranging from Hollywood history and travel to historical fiction, self-help, science,

mysteries, and memoirs.

Light refreshments will be available, as well as food service by Tri Tip Trolley.

New this year: Spotlight Author Readings, featuring over 15 authors discussing their books and answering questions in adjacent rooms.

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. Authors look forward to the opportunity to personally meet you, while supporting this deserving fundraiser.

Mark your calendar now—this is an afternoon of storytelling you won't want to miss!



Standing, L to R: Karin Fitz Sanford, Lally Pia, Matt Brown, Nadine Condon, Judith Rivers Moore, Jeanne Miller, Ana Manwaring, Geoff Canham, and Laurie Jacobson.

Seated, L to R: Pamela Reitman, Barbara Phelan, Cathy Fisher, Lori Pappas, David Schmidt, Liz O'Connell, Julie Bennett, Astrid Harper, Justina Fruh, and Roger McPherson.

*Not pictured: Christine Banihashemi, Catharine Bramkamp, Lisa Diaz-McQuaid, Jane Futcher, Mary Gardner, Les Gee, Ronald Gibbs, Eric Goodman, Cynthia Goodwin, Paul Gullixson, Laura McHale Holland, Yvonne Horn, Joanne Howard, Carol Jacobson, Linda Lambert, Nancy Martin, Melissa Masters, Radhika Paliwa, Elizabeth Quiroz, and Rebecca Randolph.*

*(Photo by Mindy Breslin Photography)*



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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.

## 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](http://www.specialtyimprovementsunlimited.com). Call today, (707) 328-3555.

## PET MAN DAN

I am an avid walker with a dog walking business. I walk 1 dog at a time, unless you have more. I am licensed and insured, with references available. Call or text Dan Lennox, at (707) 889-0205.

## 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.

## COMPASSIONATE PERSONAL ASSISTANT/COMPANION

Errands, food prep., pet care, light housekeeping, companionship. Also, soothing professional Celtic Harp and Music for Special Occasions. 40 yrs. exp. References. Call or text Jewel at (503) 487-7338. Oakmont resident.

## YOUR FRIENDLY HANDYMAN

Oakmont's trusted resource for carpentry, drywall, electrical, plumbing, installation and assembly. Fair hourly rate. Call (707) 881-7292. Websit

## TONY'S GARDENING SERVICES

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

## GALUS PAINTING

Professional interior/exterior painting. Kitchen/Bath cabinet special. Lic. #626311. Call (707) 579-2680.

## 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.

## HOUSE CLEANING SERVICES IN OAKMONT

We do deep cleaning, move-out cleaning, and regular cleaning. 15 years of experience. Please call Noemi at Noemicleaning, LLC, (707) 228-2114.

## CHRISTO TRANSPORTATION

Based in Oakmont is available for your transportation requests at fair pricing. Our vehicles are new, well maintained and carry commercial insurance, TCP 32055. Call Chris at (707) 205-8109. [www.christolimo.com](http://www.christolimo.com).

## PRECISION TILE

Professional tile installation. Renovations. New builds. Proudly serving Sonoma County and surrounding areas. CSLB #1110538. Call Daniel, (915) 355-3213.

## RELIABLE LANDSCAPING SERVICES

Taylor's Eco-Friendly Landscaping provides reliable landscape maintenance services that are 100% electric and much quieter. We show up rain or shine, unless we notify you beforehand. Call or text Kevin at (707) 364-0210.

## THE AWAY GUY

Regular house checks, plant watering, bird feeders, out and in of trash bins, etc. \$30/visit. 25 yrs experience. References. Richard Worth, [richardworth@att.net](mailto:richardworth@att.net), (707) 529-3494.

## THE PET PROTECTOR AND COMPASSIONATE CAREGIVER!

Pet Sitting—small and large animals. Housesitting too! Private transportation services. Fall and Winter 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.

## Oakmont News

...is owned by the **Oakmont Village Association** which, through its board, sets editorial policy. The OVA has contracted with **CJM Productions** to handle typesetting, layout, printing and free distribution of the *Oakmont News*, the latter by U.S. mail, to each home via 3rd class mail.

**CJM Productions** also handles advertising for the *Oakmont News*.

**CJM Productions** and the **Oakmont Village Association** assume no responsibility for the content of any ads that appear in the *Oakmont News* nor do we endorse or recommend any product or service advertised herein.

CA law requires all CA licensed contractors to list their license number in their service advertisements. CA law also requires contractors performing work totaling \$500+ (incl. materials & labor) must be licensed by the Contractor State License Board (CSLB) to work in California. For information contact the Contractor's State License Board at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov).

## Oakmont News Classified Rates

- Classified ads of 150 spaces or less, \$25 per insert
- Pre-paid standing ads of 150 spaces or less, for a period of 3 months (6 issues) \$120
- Pre-paid standing ads of 150 spaces or less, for a period of 6 months (12 issues) \$216
- Pre-paid standing ads of 150 spaces or less, for a period of 1 year (24 issues) \$384

## DEADLINE: 10 days prior to publication.

We accept checks made to CJM Productions and mailed to 2105 Longhorn Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401; Venmo (@agnes-reznikov) or Zelle (cjmprod567@gmail.com). Tel (707) 206-1957 • [cjmprod567@gmail.com](mailto:cjmprod567@gmail.com)

# Oakmont Village Association

## OAKMONT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

Hours: M-F 9 AM-5 PM—Closed 12-1 PM  
 Tel 707-539-1611  
 6637 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A  
 OVA E-mail: [askova@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:askova@oakmontvillage.com)  
 Website: [www.oakmontvillage.com](http://www.oakmontvillage.com)  
 Book appointments with staff at: [oakmontvillage.com/staff](http://oakmontvillage.com/staff)

## MAINTENANCE OFFICE

Hours: Daily 7 AM-10 PM  
 Tel 707-539-6720  
 Maintenance Building (next to Central Auditorium)  
**CONDOMINIUM FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (CFM)**  
 OVA Accounting  
 Tel 800-585-4297

## OAKMONT NEWS

Tel 707-206-1957  
 E-mail: [cjmprod567@gmail.com](mailto:cjmprod567@gmail.com)  
**PAS MANAGEMENT COMPANY**  
 Hours: M-F 9 AM-Noon, and 1-4 PM  
 Tel 707-539-5810  
 6572 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A  
 (for Association Maintained Homes)

## ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE

Hours: M- Th 9 AM-Noon, 1-5 PM  
 Tel 707-539-1611  
 6637 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A-1  
**Community Relations Specialist**  
 Alejandra Pulido, 707-539-1611 ext. 104  
[alejandra@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:alejandra@oakmontvillage.com)  
**Architectural Applications Coordinator**  
 Mary Lantz, 707-539-1611 ext. 105  
[maryl@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:maryl@oakmontvillage.com)

## AVAILABLE IN OVA OFFICE

GAS SHUT-OFF WRENCH.....	\$12
TENNIS COURT KEY.....	\$2
RESIDENT ACCESS CARD.....	\$30 EA
REPLACEMENTS.....	\$30 EA
GUEST ACCESS CARD.....	\$30 EA

## BULLETIN BOARDS

There are three OVA bulletin boards, one at each recreation center, where OVA events can be posted. Please bring in notices to the Events Coordinator at the OVA Office. Size is limited to 8.5"x5.5". Items "For Sale", "For Rent" or "Want to Buy" can be put on a 3"x5" card and left at the OVA Office.

## LOCKER RENTALS

Annual Locker Fee \$30 (January 1–December 31). If you wish to rent a locker, come to the OVA office and give us a check, your information and the number of the locker you want to rent. You provide the lock. We can prorate the annual fee. Daily use lockers are free. NOTICE: Weekly locker inspections are done by OVA Maintenance. Locks could be sawed off with no prior notice and locker contents removed on all unpaid lockers. Items will be held in OVA Maintenance office for 30 days. If you have any questions, please contact the OVA Office M-F 707-539-1611

## GUEST PASSES

The following are OVA Guest Pass types and duration: 1) Guest from outside Sonoma County—up to 90 days; 2) House sitters—up to 90 days (OVA host must present written request to OVA Office for approval prior to visit); 3) Guests living in Sonoma County—2 days per card, and no more than 3 cards per month. Guest cards are available during regular hours in the OVA Office for a \$30 non-refundable fee. Guests accompanied by their Oakmont host are not required to have a Guest Pass.

## STREET CLEANING

City streets in Oakmont are cleaned by the city early on the fourth Friday of each month. Residents who want their streets swept should avoid street parking overnight on those days.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WRITER GUIDELINES

The *Oakmont News* welcomes letters of up to 250 words from residents to express opinion, criticism or praise. They must include the writer's name and Oakmont address, although the address won't be published. See details on how to send them at <https://oakmontvillage.com/submit>. While letters to the editor may be edited for length and spelling, they are not edited for accuracy. Opinions are that of the writer and not necessarily the Oakmont Village Association.

## POOLS & JACUZZIS

Access to OVA pools is by magnetic card. Call OVA Office, 707-539-1611 if you need a permanent new member pool access card or to register for a temporary guest pool access card.  
 WEST: 7 AM-9 PM  
 (Closes 7 PM Wednesdays for cleaning)  
 EAST: 6:30 AM-9 PM  
 (Closes 7 PM Mondays for cleaning)  
 CENTRAL: 5:45 AM-9 PM  
 (Closes 7 PM Tuesdays for cleaning)  
 JACUZZI HOURS: Same as facility. No one under 18 years in West and East pools and Jacuzzis.  
 CENTRAL POOL HOURS FOR PEOPLE UNDER 18: Labor Day-Memorial Day: 11 AM-2 PM daily  
 Memorial Day-Labor Day: 12-4 PM daily  
 Children must be accompanied by an OVA member/resident or adult with a valid guest pool access card.  
 NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY AT ANY OVA POOL.  
 ALL FACILITIES CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE IN OAKMONT

- CityBus #16 bus takes residents to 5 different shopping centers weekday mornings and around Oakmont afternoons.
- Sonoma County Transit #30 bus goes to Memorial and Kaiser Hospitals and downtown Santa Rosa. Returns via Oakmont to Sonoma.
- Schedules available at OVA office.

## NEED A RIDE? GIVE A RIDE! OAKMONT VOLUNTEER HELPERS

We provide the following services to Oakmont Residents:

- Transportation to medical/dental appointments, including pet appointments, in Santa Rosa only
- Meals on Wheels, 707-525-0383

### COORDINATOR Rides to Medical Appointments

**November 1-15**  
 Jan Rabalais 808-938-4479  
**November 16-30**  
 Bev Leve 707-539-2802

If you would like to be a volunteer, please call 707-539-8996. Donations to Oakmont Volunteer Helpers are appreciated and tax deductible. Mail your check payable to Oakmont Volunteer Helpers, 6637 Oakmont Dr., Ste. A, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. Thank you.

Mon.-Fri. medical rides before 9 AM or after 4 PM are subject to limited volunteer driver availability. No service on weekends or holidays. Please call at least three full working days prior to appointment.

**We regret that we are unable to provide either wheelchair or emergency service.**

## STORAGE UNITS AND PAR KING

Oak Creek RV & Self Storage  
 SP176, [www.storagepro.com](http://www.storagepro.com)  
 707-913-7326

## LIBRARY

Central Activity Center, 310 White Oak Dr.  
 Hours: Daily 6 AM-9 PM. Closed Christmas Day. It is run by volunteers. All donations are gladly accepted. Materials we cannot use will be passed on to others.

## OAKMONT COMMUNITY GARDEN ON STONEBRIDGE

For more info on signing up, email [Oakmontcommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:Oakmontcommunitygarden@gmail.com). Contact for current availability.

## HAPPY TAILS DOG PARK

6302 Stone Bridge Rd  
 Open to residents of Oakmont Village Association from sunrise to sunset. Small Dog Hours are from 3-4 PM every day.

## FITNESS CENTER

Central Activity Center, 310 White Oak Dr.  
 Daily 5:45 AM-9 PM. Closed at 7 PM on Tues. for cleaning. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas day.

## BE ON OVA E-MAIL LIST

Know what's going on in Oakmont. You'll receive the weekly "Inside Oakmont" newsletter, Board Meeting notices and agendas, special notices and meeting announcements. To join the OVA's e-mail list, visit [oakmontvillage.com/inside](http://oakmontvillage.com/inside) and enter your information to subscribe.

## 2025-2026

## OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

E-mail: [askova@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:askova@oakmontvillage.com)

**Matt Oliver, President**

[matt.oliver@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:matt.oliver@oakmontvillage.com)

**Jerry Gladstone, Vice President**

[jerry.gladstone@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:jerry.gladstone@oakmontvillage.com)

**Jess Marzak, Secretary**

[jmarzak@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:jmarzak@oakmontvillage.com)

**Heidi Klyn, Director**

[heidi.klyn@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:heidi.klyn@oakmontvillage.com)

**Jeff Neuman, Director**

[jeff.neuman@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:jeff.neuman@oakmontvillage.com)

**Neill Ray, Director**

[neill.ray@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:neill.ray@oakmontvillage.com)

**Robert Williams, Director**

[robert.williams@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:robert.williams@oakmontvillage.com)

**Tom Kendrick, Treasurer**

(Non-voting officer)

[tom.kendrick@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:tom.kendrick@oakmontvillage.com)

**GENERAL MANAGER**

**Christel Antone**

[christel@oakmontvillage.com](mailto:christel@oakmontvillage.com)

## OVA BOARD MEETINGS

Townhalls 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays of the month and board meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month, 1 PM

*Always online via Zoom and in-person when possible. All residents are welcome. Information to join online is e-blasted out to the community for every meeting along with the in-person location when applicable. Sign up for e-blasts from OVA at [oakmontvillage.com/inside](http://oakmontvillage.com/inside).*

The Board of Directors of Oakmont Village Association reserves the right to select those articles submitted for publication that seem appropriate to the purpose of this association.

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS

### County Supervisor Rebecca Hermosillo

#### District 1

Phone 707-565-2241

Address: 575 Administration Drive,

Rm. 100A, Santa Rosa 95403

Email: [rebecca.hermosillo@sonoma-county.org](mailto:rebecca.hermosillo@sonoma-county.org)

### City Councilwoman Dianna MacDonald

#### District 3

Email: [dmacdona@srcity.org](mailto:dmacdona@srcity.org)

Address: City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Ave.,

Rm.10, Santa Rosa 95404

■Steve Huntley

### HAPPY TAILS DOG PARK— SMALL DOG PLAY TIME HOURS

The Happy Tails Dog Park is now reserved for small dogs less than 25 lbs. from 3–4 p.m. every day of the week through April 30, 2026 (winter hours). The summer-time small dog play time hours of 9–10 a.m. will kick in again on May 1, 2026.

The next special doggie play date is the Big Dog Play Date on Saturday, November 29, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. This special play time is for dogs 35 lbs. or more.

A reminder that the Canine Club is now offering the early dog special for current 2025 members. For current members, early renewals of your 2026 annual dues are discounted to \$10 for individuals and \$16 for households if you renew your membership before December 15.

### Canine Club



Regular membership dues are \$12 for individuals and \$20 for households. If you join the club as a new member after October 1 of any given year your membership automatically carries through to the end of the following year. Please go to <http://www.oakmontcanineclub.org> for more information.

Just down the road, Pawsarotti's Dog and Cat Boutique is hosting Paws for Healing's Meet and Greet Santa Paws on Saturday, November 15 from 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. This is the best opportunity for your doggie to sit in Santa's lap for a photo with Santa! Learn more



Bonnie.

about Paws for Healing at <http://www.pawsforhealing.org>.

Coming up next month is the Dogwood Animal Rescue Project Holiday Adoption Event which will take place on Saturday, December 13 from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. on the Berger Lawn (South Side). This event is sponsored by the Oakmont Canine Club.

Finally, just around the corner on November 16 is National Slobber Appreciation Day. As we all know, dogs that drool are dogs that rule. Find out what doggies are droolers at <http://www.nationalpetdays.com/national-slobber-appreciation-day>.



Chance.

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## Billiards Club

■ Steven Dieterle

### WHAT IS SNOOKER?

What is Snooker in the game of Billiards? Do the people of Oakmont know that there is a Billiards room?



The 10-foot Snooker Billiard Table setup for play in the Oakmont Billiards Room at the East Recreation Center.

Snooker is a British originated game in India; played on a larger table, with smaller balls and smaller pockets. A very interesting game of precision pool strokes, offense and defensive strategy and exciting camaraderie.

Snooker is played on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. and generally the first four players start a game. Additional players will play in a follow-up game, and spectators are always welcome.

As a game is being played, guidance on how to play is offered by one of the players and how to score. It really is an exciting game. One may hear "I hate this game," but the achievement of potting several balls in a row is exciting.

Come and watch or if you're interested in playing. Come at 1 p.m. on Wednesdays. There is also a set of snooker balls in the corner cabinet for everyone to use. Rules for all the billiard games are posted on the bulletin board.

Come give it a try. You may like it!

## Great Decisions

■ George McKinney

### JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS

"Great Decisions" is the United States' (and Oakmont's) largest discussion program on world affairs. It focuses on the most critical global issues facing the United States today. The program involves reading the *Great Decisions Briefing Book* and participating in a discussion group with your Oakmont neighbors. There are 30-minute videos available online to supplement the *Briefing Book*.

Early 2026 will be an especially interesting and challenging time to discuss world affairs, considering the turbulent foreign policies of the Trump Administration and the continuing global search for resolutions of the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East. These topics are included in the 2026 discussions.

You don't need to be an international affairs expert to participate. Each of us brings a fascinating personal perspective from a lifetime of learning, experiencing, and traveling. Occasionally we have a neighbor with particular knowledge of the part of the world being discussed, and we all benefit from that.

Meetings for 2026 are 10 a.m.-12 noon on Monday mornings every other week from early February through mid-May in the East Rec. Center. The eight topics for 2026 are:

- 1: America and the World: Trump 2.0 Foreign Policy.
- 2: Trump Tariffs and the Future of the World Economy.
- 3: U.S.-China Relations.
- 4: Ruptured Alliances and the Risk of Nuclear Proliferation.
- 5: Ukraine and the Future of European Security.
- 6: Multilateral Institutions in a Changing World Order.
- 7: U.S. Engagement of Africa.
- 8: The Future of Human Rights and International Law.

The only cost to participate is \$28 for the *Briefing Book*. The videos are free online.

We look forward to having you with us discussing Great Decisions.

For more information and to join a Great Decisions discussion group, contact me, Marty Behr or Alan Silow at oakmontgd@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.

■ Bailey Penzotti

### NOVEMBER MIXER—GIVING THANKS

WHEN: Sunday, November 23, 4 p.m.

WHERE: East Rec. Center

Once again, Oakmont Singles will gather for a wonderful catered Thanksgiving meal to celebrate all that we are grateful for. There will be food, fun with door prizes, a candy count, and background music for your listening pleasure.

As always, it's BYOB. To RSVP, sign-up will be through our website: <http://www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org>.

Your cost is still to be determined. We will let you know on or shortly after November 1.

This time of year is difficult for many people. In an effort to ease their burden and give a form of normalcy in their lives, please bring a donation of various items they may use such as travel sized personal hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste) bars of soap, socks, underwear, blankets, coats, sleeping bags, etc. for a gift to our Sonoma County Homeless Veterans outreach holiday drive.

The absolute deadline for our mixer is Monday, November 17. If having trouble in navigating our website, please contact Alan at [alans25028@hotmail.com](mailto:alans25028@hotmail.com). If no computer, feel free to email Kat at [KAT9433@icloud.com](mailto:KAT9433@icloud.com) for RSVP and payment options. No guests and no walk-ins will be allowed!

Remember to wear your name badge to the East Rec. Center.



### DECEMBER BON APPETIT (OSSC MEMBERS ONLY)

WHEN: Thursday, December 4

RESTAURANT: Rosso Pizzeria, 53 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa

In September, a cherished neighborhood pizzeria in Santa Rosa has reopened with new owners, but the same wood-fired soul. "Our food is created from fresh, organic, locally sourced seasonal ingredients. The Tuscan wood-burning oven gives you the true Neapolitan-style of crisp, yeasty, wood fired pizza. The wine bar boasts more than 50 wines from around the world to pair with the best pizza in Sonoma County."

Reservation is for 20. Bring cash because the restaurant will not provide separate checks! Meet at Berger Center parking lot by 5:30 p.m. to carpool to the restaurant.

Reservation cutoff is December 1 or when the 20 slots are filled. If there are 20 members confirmed before this date, you will be placed on a waitlist. RSVP on our website: <http://www.oakmontsinglessocialclub.org> or email Simone Smith, [ssmith8151@aol.com](mailto:ssmith8151@aol.com).

### DO YOU LIVE IN OAKMONT? ARE YOU SINGLE?

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



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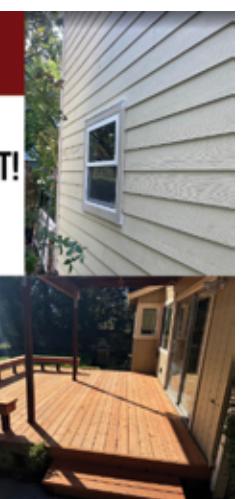
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CalDRE# 01523620



Carol Castetter  
858-442-0200  
CalDRE# 00974403



Shireen Ramsier  
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Gabriella and Stan